

An Gaidheal.



U. 417.



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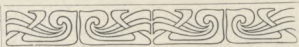
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An Gaidheal



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Leabhar XLI.]

An Dàmhar, 1945

[Earrann 1

LATHA GHILN FHIONGHUIN.

Chan fhaca duine riamh latha a b' àilte na an latha bhathas a' deanamh ath-chuimhne an Gleann Fhionghuin air togail brataich Prionnsa Tearlach. Bha an latha blàth, geal, grianach, agus gun sgòth air an adhar. B' e so Di-sathurna an 18mh là deug de 'n Lùnasdal. Is ann air an 19mh là deug a bha a' bhrtach air a togail air tùs ach seach gur h-ann air Di-Domhnaich a bha an ceann-latha sin, am bliadhna bha an cruinneachadh air a chumail air an latha roimhe.

Bu chihìn bòidheach a' mhaduinn nuair dh' fhàg mise Mansa Bhoth-chuidir aig ochd uairean, agus Bean-an-tighe agus a' bhana-sgrìobhaiche ainmeil, an t-Ollamh Agnes Mure NicCoinnich, agus a' piuthar còmhla ruinn sa' chàr. Chi sibh iomradh air mar a bhà, bho làimh an Ollamh NicCoinnich ann am Beurla, an àite eile sa' *Ghaidheal*.

Bha an t-astur fada—còrr maith is ceud mìle gun dol o dhrum an rathaid-mhòir—ach bha ùine gu leòr againn, agus gun a' chuir a' tòiseachadh gu lethuair an deidh dhà an deidh mheadhon-là. Chan fhaicheadh duine an tìde fada, agus maise is glòir is cùineachd air a' chruthachadh uile, agus a' thuilleadh air an sin, bha nìthean a' ghabh àite an cois an rathaid air an robh sinn, a' tighinn fo mo chuimhne mar a bha sinn a' dol seachad. Bha Dail an Rìgh, faisg air Tigh an Droma, far an deach an ruag air Brus còir, agus am b' èigin da teicheadh do 'n agrìe agam fhein, agus e fhèin fhalach ann an umha os cionn Loch a' Bheoil. Bha Beinn Dòbhrain air ar làmh dheis, agus Coire Cheathaich, agus Gleann Lòchaidh far an tug Donnachadh Ban Nic Còisam. Bha sin am Monadh Dubh le a' mhiltean fhiaidh; agus Monadh Rathnach agus Tigh an Rìgh; agus an sin Gleanna Comhann nan deur 's na h-èigin. Ghabh sinn aiseag Bhaile a' Chaolais. Aig an aiseag an so bha càraichean gu leòr agus mòr shluagh, chitheadh tu, air an aon thurus ruinn fhein—fir an b' ean a so san fhèilich agus mnathan 'n an tarstan, agus breacan à baile air a h-uile duine.

Chaidh sinn troimh an Ghearasdan, agus seachad Achadh an Todhair agus am Baile Ur agus seann Chasteal Inbhir Lòchaidh. Cò nach cuimhnicheadh air Latha Inbhir Lòchaidh 's air Iain Lom air mullach cnuic 's e ag amhar air an chath agus an latha a' dol le luchd a' ruin. Sin seachad air a' Chorpach far am bithe ag gabhail an aiseig le cuirp nan Cinn Fheadhna a' bhatar ag adhlacadh an Eilean I. Ghabh sinn ar dìot aig taobh Loch Ial, agus cò a' chunnaic sinn an sin san dol seachad ach mo sheann charaid Donnachadh Stiùbhard a bha gu os chionn ghòird an so air Bòrd an Aiteachais. Thug e iollach failte dhùinn san dol seachad.

Rainig sinn Gleann Fhionghuin aig uair an deidh mheadhon-là, agus bha càraichean is carbadan is busaichean, agus a h-uile seorsa uidheam-ghàilne eile ag cruinneachadh sa' Ghleann an uair sin. Bha a' ghrian 'na h-àirde 's na maise,

agus shaoileadh tu gun robh na cnuic 's na glinn ceithir thimchioll a' dèanamh iollach aobhneis, agus an Loch fhéin, cùin, réidh, le còisbhean gaoithe. Bha bratach ghorm is gheal na h-Alba a' seòladh os cionn dealbh-chruth a' Phrionnsa air mullach an tùir; agus muinntir a' B.B.C., agus luchd-nan-dealbh, agus muinntir nam paipèaran-naidheachd, le an carbadan ann am buaile ri taobh an rathaid-mhòir; agus am mòr shluagh ri cruinneachadh timchioll an tùir.

Bha am Prionnsa ag amhar air a h-uile dad a bh' ànn agus sùil aige suas an Gleann, agus mar gun bitheadh fiamh gàire air—glé ao-coltach ris mar a bha e nuair a thog e a' bhrtach air tùs, agus 'na bheachd na Gaidheil fada gun tighinn. Mhòthaich mi gu bhèil an ite a bha 'na bhoinneid briste. Sin obair duine gun dìt a bha uair a' sealg sa' Ghleann—Sasannach aineolach—a thug cuimse le a' ghunna air an ite feuch an cuireadh e as i. Rinn e sin, ach ma rinn b' fheudar dha teicheadh as an rìoghachd, agus gun tighinn tuilleadh ri bhèd do dh' Alba, agus Fear Ghlinn Alladaid air a' thòir gus a' mhòrt air son an tair agus an tàmait a thug e do 'n Phrionnsa agus do na Gaidheil.

* * * *

Bha cruinneachadh mòr mòr sluaigh timchioll an tùir—bha co-dhùibh còrr maith is dà mhìle duine—mus do thòisich a' chuirp. Chitheadh tu na Gaidheil ag cur failte air a' cheile sa' Ghaidhlig, agus mòran de leth-Ghaidheil ann an trusgan nan Gaidheil agus a' bruidhinn am Beurla. Thainig an sàr Ghaidheil sin a bha air ceann na cuideachd, Sir Iain Mac-a-Chombaich, agus chuir e failte orm an Gaidhlig, e fhein agus am Morair Seumas, agus bhruidhinn sinn an Gaidhlig. Bha mòran mòr de fhlòr Ghaidheil eile ann, a' bruidhinn na Gaidhlig, as gach càrn de 'n rìoghachd, agus a' Canada is àitean eile thairis. Bha MacDhomhnaill Duibh, Ceann Peadhna nan Camshronach, agus Cinn Fheadhna is Cinn Thighe eile ann mar an ceudna. Bha mòran a' mhuinntir a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach ann agus Niall còir agus a' bhean am broillean na cuideachd; agus Domhnall a' Chomuinn ag cumail gach nì an òrdugh mar gun biodh e 'na sheorsa de fhear-comhailtich. Agus is maith a' thigheadh sin dha.

* * * *

Thòisich, ma tha, a' chuirp dìreach aig lethuair an deidh dhà.

Dh' innis an Ridir Mac-a-Chombaich aobhar a' chruinneachadh, agus dh' iarr e air MacDhomhnaill Duibh labhairt ris a' chuideachd. Rinn esan sin gu h-ealanta. Thug e dhùinn gearr-iomradh air eachraidh Bliadhna Tearlach, agus mar a' thachair do'n Phrionnsa bho dh' fhàg e an Fhraing, agus do na Gaidheil, gus an do sheol e air ais à Loch nan Uamh an deidh Chuil-lodair.

Bha pìobaireachd againn mar bh' chòir aig tòiseachadh agus troimh an chuirp. Sheinn Niall MacGhilleathain agus Còisir Chiuil Ghaidhlig a' Ghearasdan òrain Bliadhna Tearlach dhùinn, agus rinn iad sin le loinn 's le maise,

Labhair an sin am Morair Seumas Stiubhard-Moireach ris a' mhór shluagh. Is euan cuideachd Diuc Atholl agus Marcus Thuilach Chàrdainn. Thug e òraid òrdaid dhùirdhteach dhùinn nu na Cinn Chinnidh a dh' èirich le Tearlach, agus mu na Gaidheil an uair sin agus sa' chogadh so a bha dìreach air crìochnadh, agus sa' chogadh mhór roimh an sin. Agus mus do chrìochnach e chuir e air a cheann a bhoineid leis an t-suathneas-bhàn a bha am bhoineid a shimsir fhéin, Marcus Thuilach Chàrdainn, an cogadh Tearlach. Thug so dìon bhaibhualadh bhò'n domhladas mhór sluaigh a bha ceithir thimchioll.

Labhair an sin an t-Urramach Calum MacLeod, Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, mar bu dual ann an Gaidhlig, agus is e so a thubhairt ean :—

Fhir na Cathrach,—a Mhorair Seumas, a Mhic Dhomhnaill Duibh, agus uaislean Ghaidhealach eile : Mar is maith tha fhios againh chan 'eil slugh eile san rìoghachd, no eadhon an ìmpireachd mhór Bhreatainn as dìlse agus as dùrachdaich do ar Rìgh 's ar Bànrìghinn na na Gaidheil. Chan 'eil slugh eile ànn—ged is mòr am facal e—aig a bheil a leithid a charthannas 's a choibheanas 'n an cridhe is 'n an intinn do a Mhórachd Chaoimh, Rìgh Seoras VI, agus do ar Bànrìghinn Ghràdhach 's a th' aig na Gaidheil—agus chan 'eil sinne a tha cruinn an so an diugh ceum air dheireadh sa' chùis sin. Bha an aon dhìlseachd is dhìrachd aig ar n-aithrichean do an aithrichean-san o chionn linn-tean; agus dhearbhadh iad sin do 'n t-saoghal ann a bhith seasamh 's a dìon na rìoghachd agus na h-ìmpireachd. Tha cuimhne mhaith, agus làn fhios, aig a chuid mhór againh air clùis is euchdan ann Gaidheal air sgàth crùn Bhreatainn san dà chogadh mhór mu dheireadh. Cha ruig mi leas ainmeachadh ach aon bhuidheann de na Gaidheil—se sin, an Leth-cheud 's a h-Aon.

Cìod is coireach, ma tha, gu bheil sinne, agus gur Gaidheil a' mhór chuid againn, ann an so an diugh ag cumail cuimhne air togail na Brataich san àr-a-mach ris an canar Bliadhna Thearlaich, dà cheud bliadhna air ais—àr-a-mach los crùn Bhreatainn a thoirt bho shimsirean ar Rìgh gràs-mhor 's ar Bànrìghinn ghràdhach? Innsidh mi sin dhùibh.

Tha sinn an so an diugh ag cumail cuimhne air buadhan is beannachdan àraid a nochd na Gaidheil san latha ud—buidhan is beannachdan nach do dhealachd riutha fhathast dh' aindeoin còicheadh e.

(1) An toiseach, nochd Gaidheil Bliadhna Thearlaich gun robh breithneachadh is mothachadh ceart air mar a bha chùisean. San cheart dol a mach, dh' innis na Cinn Chinnidh do Thearach nach robh rian air gun coisneadh e na bha 'na bheachd—gun armait, gun shaighdearan dèanta, agus gun innealan-cogaidh. Cha deanadh gaisge no treubhantas a mhàin a' chùis. Cha robh Ceann Cinnidh, no Ceann Tighe, nach do chuir 'na aghaidh, agus deagh fhios is breithneachadh aca cìod a ghabhadh dèanamh, agus an nì nach gabhadh dèanamh. Tha sinn an diugh ag cumail cuimhne air deagh breithneachadh nan Gaidheil.

(2) San dara h-àite tha sinn ag cumail cuimhne air dàimh is coibheanas is còraid nan Gaidheil. Nuair a thubhairt na Cinn Chinnidh ri Prionnsa Tearlach e thilleadh dhachaidh, fhreagair ean gun robh e air tighinn dachaidh—gum buineadh e dhaibh-san. Rinn sin a' chùis. Bha no beatha, sheasadh na Gaidheil an diugh fhéin. So an dara nì air a bheil sinn a' dèanamh aithrichean—agus is fhaic e ath-cheumhne a chumail air—dàimh is seasamhadh nan Gaidheil ri an daoine féin.

(3) Is e an t-reas nì air a bheil sinn ag cumail cuimhne—ged nach 'eil mòr aobhar air an sin, oir cha d'chiumhnich daoine e fhad 's a bhios an saoghal ànn—se sin gaisge nan Gaidheil. Dhearbh iadsan an gaisge ri linn cogadh Thearlaich, mar a rinn iad sa' chogadh so a tha nise crìochnaichte le clùis le h-urram, agus sa' chogadh mhór mu dheireadh. Is fhiaich gaisge is fearalas an diugh Gaidheil—mar a tha an Leth-cheud 's a h-Aon, agus na mìltean eile—cuimhne chumail air. Tha sinn a' dèanamh sin an so an diugh.

(4) Aon rud eile. Is e sin onair nan Gaidheil 'n an eigin 's 'n an teinn. Nochd is dhearbhadh iad so agus iad

fo'n choill, agus an làimh, agus am prìosan. Nochd Gaidheil cogadh Thearlaich gu bheil nìthean ànn nach gabh ceannach—gu bheil nìthean ànn nach ceannaich eir le h-òr no stòras shaoghalta—agus gu bheil nìthean ànn nach fhaod duine a reic, agus e ag gleidheadh urram agus onair féin. Nach e sin a thubhairt Mac MhicAilein ris an Americanach shaoibhir a bha smaoinneachadh gun ceannaicheadh e bhualaithe claidheamh a thug am Prionnsa d'a shimsir. "Bheir mi dhuit air," ars an Americanach, "deich mìle fichead punnad Suannach (£30,000)." Fhreagair an Gaidheil: "A dhùine, tha nìthean ànn nach gabh ceannach. Gleidhidh mi claidheamh m' aithrichean."

Tha sinn an so an diugh, mata, ag cumail cuimhne air na nìthean glòrmhor so a bhineas do na Gaidheil. Agus tha e 'na mhór thoileachas dhomhsa gu bheil iad air an cur an cèill as ùr anns a' chànain sin a bha aig gach Ceann Cinnidh agus aig gach Gaidheil eile, a bha cruinn an so an Gleann Fhionghuin air latha togail Bratach Prionnsa Tearlach.

Chrìochnach 's chuirim ainmeil so leis an Rìdir Mac-a-Chomhaich irraidh air a' mhór shluagh ceud taing a thoirt do 'n luchd-labhairt, agus do 'n luchd-seinn, agus do gach neach eile aig an robh làmh anns a' chruinneachadh ud a thoirt gu inbhe agus gu crìoch cho èlìtiche. Rinneadh sin le mòr thoghradh.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

An t-Ollamh Domhnall Seumas MacLeod,
O.B.E., H.M.C.I.S.

Tha am Fear-ceanachaidh Sgoilear ainmeil so air a dhreuchd a leigeil dheth; agus gu dearbh faodaidh e bhith riarachaidh le a shaothair is obair-latha as leth sgoil is foghlum air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Co-dhùibh tha na Gaidheil, agus na h-uile do an aithne an obair mhór a rinn e los sgoil is ionnsachadh a bhith suidhichte, ceart, agus adhartach air a' Ghaidhealtachd, làn riarachaidh le a shaothair. Agus is ann an làrachd is am palteas foghar a shaothrach a leig an t-Ollamh còir dheth uallach an latha. Chan 'eil duine eile beò an Alba an diugh a rinn barrachd air sin sgoil is ionnsachadh a bhith ceart is cothromach, 'nam farsuingeachd is 'nan doimhne—agus gu sonraichte air a' Ghaidhealtachd—na MacLeod. Agus a chum na crìche so chunnaic e bho thùs tòiseachaidh, gum feumadh a h-àite dlìgheach fhéin a bhith aig a' Gaidhlig anns na sgoiltean; agus rinn e a dhìcholl chum gum tugadh luchd-riaghlaidh an fhoghlum agus na maighistearan sgoile an t-àite sin dhì.

Tha fhios aig a h-uile duine gur h-e àrd sgoilear a th' ann fhéin, agus fear-Gaidhlig cho comasach 's a thog a' Ghaidhealtachd riamh. Tha e 'na fhìor Ghaidheal cuideachd, le gaol d' a dhaoine fhéin, agus dìleas air an tuobh anns gach dòigh. Tha ar caraid 'na bhall-beatha de 'n Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, agus bha e riamh 'na chuideachadh dhùinn ann a bhith toirt dhùinn scolaidh is comhairle a thaobh chùisean na Gaidhlig, agus a thaobh teagmh na Gaidhlig na sgoiltean. Bha e cuideachd 'na bhritheamh aig iomadh mod.

Tha an t-Ollamh MacLeod 'na dhùine caomh agus còir, agus fo dheagh chlàid aig na h-uile do an aithne e—agus chan e sin am beag. Bha e sin riamh.

Tha An Gaidheil—mar is maith tha fhios aige—ag guidhe slàinte is sineadh làithean dha, thà agus a' Ghaidhealtachd gu léir. Gun tì ean.

An t-Urr. Tomas S. Mac-a-Phearsain.—Tha sinn ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air ar caraid T. S. Mac-a-Phearsain agus air bliadhna an Inbùile aige a ruighinn mar Mhinistear an t-Sòisig an Eaglais na h-Àlba. Guma fada mhealas e a naidheachd. Bha Mgr. Mac-a-Phearsain 'na Mhinistear an Tìoradh, agus an Tairbeart Loch Fin, agus ann an Iocair, agus an Glaschu mus deachaidh e do Cheann-Joch Chille Chiarain far a bheil e agus ri fichead bliadhna.

Bha ar caraid 'na Mhinistear dìleas is dìleasdann anns gach àite bha sin; agus 'na dhùine chàirdel, còibhneil. Tha e 'na shearmonaiche comasach agus taitneach. Is

ann ainneamh a chuala sinn fear-labhairt Gaidhlig a bheireadh barr air àrd-ùrlar, agus tri buadhan an deagh labraidh air na theireadh e— 'se sin: rian, gliocas, giorrad.

Bha e o nach 'èil fhios cinn 'na bhall de 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach. Sghaothraich e greis air an Ard Chomhairle, agus eachdon greiseg 'na Fhear-gairme Comhairle a' Chlodh-bhuaidh.

Bha coinneamh mhór aca an Ceann-loch a chur fàilte air a' Mhinistear chòir, agus a leigeil fhàin dha, spèrs is gaol a choinmhthionail agus a' bhaile, dha fhéin agus d' a' chéile chaoimh. Nochdadh sin dha chan ann a mhàin le briathran beoif ach le fiodhlaean luachmhor mar a tha cloca cisteach a bhios a' bualadh le fonn binn; agus suim mhór airgid, agus бага-làimh brègha do bhean-an-tighe. Nochd a' Chléir agus càirdsan eile an deagh-ghèan dha euidheachd, agus bu mhaith leis a' Ghaidheal meal-an-naidheachd a chur air a charaid euidheachd, agus caraid na Gaidhlig 's nan Gaidheal. So, ma tha, làmh a' Ghaidheil dha.

Aonghus Robastan — The Aonghus Robastan, no Aonghus MacDonnachaigh mar a bhithear a' sgrìobhadh, air tighinn air ais do dh' Alba. Is fhaicheadh Alba 's a' Ghaidhlig sin. Thug An Gaidheal a' chomhairle air a charaid deireadh an fhoghair an uridh e Lunnainn fhàgail, seach gun deanadh e barrachd fèum le bhith chòmhnuidh an Alba. 'Ghath e ar comhairle. Mar a tha fhios aig an dùthaich uile is e Roimh Cheann Suidhe a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach a tha an Aonghus, agus far am bi easan bidh fianuis ghan agus shoilleir air a togail air taobh nan Gaidheal agus na Gaidhlighe. Tha sinn ag cur fàilte air ar caraid air ais. Tha e a' fuireach a mugh air bràighe Ghlaschu, ann an àite ris an canar Garaidh a' Mhath-gamhna.

Mòine nam beannachd.—Bha mi smaoineachadh sin an dràsda fhéin agus mi 'nam shuidhe air mullach Sìthein Lionabhair, an Cràbhlàstaidh, air taobh-siar Eilean Leodhuis, air fèasgar cùin grianach, toiseach mìos September. Chi mi mu mo choinneamh ar sud 's an so air taobh an rathaid-mhòir aon dusan cruch mhòndach, agus gach tè dhìubh cha mhòr uibhir ri beag tìgh. Tha sin an aon mhìr de'n bhaile. Tha Traigh nan Strùpan agus Traigh Mhòr Uig mu mo choinneamh, eadar trì is ceithir mìle air fad. Tha an t-barbar buidhe san deas a' feitheamh ri a ghearradh. Tha bàrr a' bhuntata leigil faicinn gu bheil e fhéin faisg air a bhith làn abach; am fear 'na thràthaich, agus cocan air a dheanamh dheth an sud 's an so, a' feitheamh ri sig a dheanamh dheth san iothlainn. Tha làn abachais is fìor phailteas air gach làimh, agus pailteas comnadh an cois sin—cruchan móra mòndach, air an stéidheachadh gu réidh riaghailteach, 'nam miann do 'n t-suil.

Gu dearb is e a' Ghaidhealtachd a tha gu maith dheth. Chan 'èil a bheag eile de'n rìoghachd a tha cho maith dheth ri an eilean iomadh dòigh; agus tha an connadh cho pàirt ri rudan eile.

Ann an so aig bonn an t-Sìthein tha cruch mhòr de mhòine na bliadhna an uridh, agus tha innte na nì connadh gu toiseach Màirt so tighinn, tha iad ag ràdh rium. Tha mòine na bliadhna-sa a mugh air a tughadh fa chomhair na h-ath bliadhna—tha i cho pàirt an sin.

Tha cion gual is connadh air a' chuid eile de 'n dùthaich ach tha gu léor is pailteas de mhòine air a' Ghaidhealtachd; agus gu dearb b' e sin an connadh tlaodhmhor—co-dhùbh mòine Chràbhlàstaidh. Tha i cho gèal lasrach san teine 's gu leughadh tu leabhar ri a solus air oidheche gheamhradh. Is minic a rinn mi e 's mi 'nam bhalach.

Is iomadh buaidh is beannachd a tha air a' mhòine. 'Nam i glan is fallain. Saoilidh tu gu bheil slàinte is leigheas san riag fhéin aig àm a buain. Agus co aige nach 'èil cuimhne air a' choibhneas 's an cur-seachad a tha 'na buain le sgìoba air a' bhlar-mhòndach latha brègha samhradh. Thig ceò na mòndach thugad am mugh air aiteal an fèasgar mar thùis bhòl-trach. Tha a' mhòine glan is furasda a laimheachadh seach an gual; agus tha i cho pàirt 's nach ruigear a leas a roinn no a riaghladh. Mòine nam beannachd, gun roinn gun ghainne. Agus faodaidh daoine fhéin a buain 's a h-àrach 's a gréidheadh. Mòine am pailteas, sin aon de bheannachdan na Gaidhealtachd an dràsda, agus mòran san rìoghachd 'gan

ragadh le cion guail. Gu dearbh faodaidh na Gaidheil a ràdh Mòine nam beannachd.

Sgrìach na faoileig.—Bha mi leughadh ann am *Punch* an la-roimhe, agus mi air mo thurus dh' ionnsaigh mo sheann colais an Eilean Leodhuis, seòrsa de dh' òran abhcaideach air an faoileig, le A.P.H. Bha sin san tréine agus mi air mo shlighe gu Caol Loch Aillie. Is ann air na faoileigan sin a tha timchioll air Drochaid nam Manach Dubha an Lunnainn, na faoileigan a tha tighinn beò air dad a thogas iad sa' pholl an sin, a bha an t-òran. Bha am bàrd ag cur ceist air an faoileig sin a tha tighinn beò ann an tìleadh 's an eabar na h-abhaine, agus a' faoighe an lòn, sìos is suas air bruach na h-abhaine; bha e ag cur ceist eòra le truas: Na smaoineach iad riann air cladaich Chornuall, far a bheil glaine is ian, agus iasg am pailteas. "Carson," ars esan ris an faoileig sin, "a tha thu tighinn beò air cloasach cait, agus air cnamhan coin, an Lunnainn, nuair a dh' fhaodadh tu a bhith an glaine is am pailteas air cladaich an lòn 's na làgaraidh?"

Bha mi 'nam shuidhe san tréine gu toisach sàmhach, agus mi 'nam bheachd fhein a' deanamh beagan feallsanachaidh air a' chùis: 's a' smaoineachadh mar a bha so coltach ri daoine a tha tighinn beò an gainne 's an salchar a' pheacaidh, an àite a bhith seòlach air cladaich glan na saorsa 's na fireantachd, os cionn cun uaibhreach a' cheartais 's na naomhachd. Bha mi meòrachadh mar so, nuair, mar gum b' eadh, a dhùsg sgrìach na faoileig mi, agus sinn dluth do 'n Strom. Dh' eiltich mo chridhe ri a sgrìach. Thug mi sùil a mach air uinneig na tréine, agus bha i an sin an sin 'na glaine is 'na grinneas a' seòlach an aghaidh an t-soirbheis. Bu mhiann sùla leam a colainn sgìobalta fhacinn, agus bu chèòl chais leam a sgrìach taitneach a chluinntinn. Cò an t-Eileanach, no am fear eile chaidh a thogail an cois cladaich, nach dean aobhneas nuair a ch' 's a chluinneas e as tr' an faoileig lurch? Cò am fear a tha mar tha mise an dràsda, 's a chòmhnuidh am meadhan na dùthcha, fad o thuinn 's o chladach, nach eiltich 'na chridhe ri sgrìach na faoileig, agus nach tog faicinn a colainn sgìobalta air sgrìach an riarachais?

Lean i, mà, do 'n Chaol sinn, i fhéin agus còmhlan eile, mar gum biodh iad ag ràdh: Eisd is faic a nise sinn, gabh do shàth 's do theannadh dhinn: agus amhairc air a seòlach mar chèòl tiamhaidh a null 's an nall, is sios is suas.

Lean iad air an "Lochness" sinn, buidheann an deidh buidhne dhìubh, agus cha b' urrainn dhomhsa gun a bhith ag éisdeachd riutha le an gogaich 's le am bridol, os cionn na gaoithe ag ràdh: Càit a bheil miann do raghainn a nis? Am measg chraobh is chnoc, no a' seòlach air bhàrr nan tonn, agus am muir caomh is ceanalta, agus a' ghaoth mar dh' iartte? Agus rinn i sgrìach an sin!

Choidil mi an oidheche sin am Baile mòr Steòrnabhaigh agus a sgrìach 'na mo chluais agus a teachdaireachd 'na mo chridhe; agus air moch mhaduinn an la-màireach dhùsg i mi le a bridol beannaichte. 'Fad cho'-la-deug bha a sgrìach 'na chèòl 's na bhaidh do m' aigne air cladaich na mara far a bheil a' ghrian a' dol sìos air taobh-siar Eilean Leodhuis—a' ghrian ghòrmhor ag cur brat òir air h-Eileana Flannach 's air Hirt agus a' deanamh beanntan òr-bhuidhe de na neòl os an cionn.

Fìrinn airson a' mhìos so.—Is beannaichte luchd-deanamh na sìthe: oir gearradh clann Dhé dhìubh.—*Mata v, 9.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

THE ROAD TO GLENFINNAN.

Eight—seven by the sun—on a blue early autumn morning. On the long green bosomy waves of the Braes of Balquhider frail streamers of white mist lifted and scattered. Beside the little hollow of the spring where a seventeenth century minister drew his water, a minister whose somewhat unorthodox fate was to end in that Secret Commonwealth of fairies which he had described with such a gusto of detail . . . beside the shadowy dimple of the spring, the game little car stood ready for her long road, hugging her carefully

hoarded petrol ration. The luncheon basket with its gay green cups was tucked in the boot, and the macintoshes followed, with a pious hope that we should never need them. Our kind host and hostess, my sister and myself, climbed in. The doors slammed, the engine purred to life. We edged carefully out, swung clear of the grey gate-posts, and the car picked up speed, running east steadily in the eye of the sun. People cried a friendly good morning from cottage doors.

King's House halt, with its noble view towards Loch Voil, was high in front. We swung left, going north now between long green hills, high already, but soft and friendly in their outline. Lochearnhead, and the long high pass of Glen Ogle, with the ghost of Wade's road below, where the other ghosts of a long dead regiment march in winter nights. I had seen the Glen last in driving phantom rain, but this morning it was a jewellery of colour. Killin: we swung west now, above the green strath of Glen Dochart, where long ago in the black months after Methven a king and queen had tramped fugitive in the heather, and Good Lord James of Douglas had guided trout. Towering ahead, the lovely peaks of Stobinian and Ben More watched our approach serenely, unchanged by ages.

Crianlarich then, and Strathfillan; and I wondered, as we passed the strewn relics of St. Fillan's Chapel, whether Bruce's known devotion to that saint went back to those wild marches among these hills. (Has any king in history ever known the soil and the folk of his country as he knew them—or demanded more from either, and received it?). Tyndrum, and a glimpse of the mighty head of Ben Lui: I knew we were passing near the springs of Tay, though the river goes far before it bears that name. There are many rivers all about that road: I thought of David's rivers in the south; but these were northern, of clear brown hill water, whose foam caught the sunlight, white in the foam of the corries. The hills were growing greater and fiercer now—Beinn Odhar, Beinn a' Chaisteal, and rising splendid, mighty Beinn Dorain, Beinn Dorain of the song.

They swept back, in grouped magnificence behind us as we passed Bridge of Orchy and climbed steadily to the vast table-land of the Muir of Rannoch, a huge and lonely expanse of loch and heather, more grimly desolate in the clear morning sun than on that blind day of February fog when Young Elrigmore stumbled unhappy across it from Inverlochy. The mountains had grown remote and strangely small, crouched at far distances. Even the great fierce heads of the Black-Mount seemed to withdraw from us. But we came at last to where Buachail Etive herds his flock of giants. They are grim, those huge hills that chain the deep of Glencoe: as grim as its story of a king's treachery—fierce, swiftly changing shapes, piled like great music in strange symmetries that reach to something far underneath the mind, and terrible in the sun of that placid weather.

Down on Levenside, then, and by the stacked slate debris of Ballachulish. Why a country that can produce such lovely roofing should import, to foul its own beauty, red asbestos. . . . But we had halted at last beside the loch, to be neatly manœuvred on to the little ferry, among foot-passengers with soft Highland voices. To sit high in the car with the lapper of little waves as we moved, instead of our own familiar purr, was a little uncanny. Then we were across, and running by kindlier hills along Loch Linnhe, blue and shimmering beneath a compact and douce white light-house. Then a plunge by a long string of gardened villas into the cramped and dismal streets of Fort William: the Highlander has not the gift of towns, and Fort William seemed as alien to that country as the foreign domination that had first built it.

We swung across the haughs that were the end of Montrose's incredible march to Inverlochy that not even our own Desert Rats have overpassed. The historian almost fell out of the car window trying to gauge the route of that battered army as it came down from the vast flanks of Beinn Nevis, that was growing steadily more huge behind us as we bowled across the flat loch head to Banavie and turned up Lochail for the last stretch of our road. We ate our lunch in the heather of Kinlochail, watched by grey fighting ships—three Mackenzies badged with holly, and one Macleod, old feuds forgotten in common memories. Then again we took

the road. It was after noon. The colours, soft in the soft West Highland light, were unbelievable—the flower of the heather, the deep sky, and ahead the sword gleam of Loch Shiel.

The high lonely pillar rose, watching the Loch, a crowd of folk already about its base. We left the car in the fragrance of a saw-mill, the work of newer war, and went down on foot, taking our places on the low circling wall. The pipes sounded again to the hills at the head of Loch Shiel, to tell them that a dead king once landed in Moidart.

AGNES MURE MACKENZIE.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

The fifth series of Concerts in aid of The Central Fund was quite successful, the sum of £78 5/- being added to the Fund as a result of four Concerts held in August last. The Northern Organiser presided at Newtonmore and Kingussie, Mr. Duncan McLeod at Aviemore, and Mr. A. M. Carmichael (Mr. Macphail's predecessor) at Corpach. Sincere thanks are due to the local Secretaries who made all the arrangements and they received useful assistance from Branch Committees. Neil MacLean and Jenny M. B. Currie were the Star Artists.

With peace reigning once more throughout the land, it is hoped to get Branches going again with a view to organising Provincial Mods wherever there is a reasonable chance of success. But it will be some time yet before demobilisation will be felt in many districts and in addition, the over 18's are still being called up.

The clamant need is to get school choirs going again as very few children, indeed, have ever attended a Gaelic Mod. A good sign however, is that from several districts enquiries are being made re Gaelic music sheets for juniors.

Another major Savings Drive is to be held in Ross-shire, from 22nd to 29th September—"Thanksgiving Week," and, in his dual capacity, the Organiser is assisting in the Western parts of that County.

The Inverness Burgh and County "Week" has been fixed for 6th to 13th October, and with a target for £400,000 intensive propaganda lies ahead, especially in such a large and scattered County.

Noted Gaelic Scholar to Retire—

Dr. D. J. MacLeod.

Dr. D. J. MacLeod, who is retiring, is a native of Lewis. He had a distinguished career at Aberdeen University where he specialised in modern languages. He held teaching appointments in Perthshire and in Inverness-shire. From Staffin he was appointed a Sub-Inspector under the Scottish Education Department. He was promoted to H.M. Inspector in 1921, and in 1938 he was appointed Chief Inspector in charge of the Highland Division, from which position he has just retired.

Dr. MacLeod received his D.Litt. from the University of Rennes for his work in translating Donnchadh Bàn's poems into French. In the Oral examination in this connection, such was his excellence that he gained this high degree with Honours. It has been said by a Frenchman that Dr. MacLeod talked French without an accent. Great as is his scholarship, he carries it very lightly. He is the friend of everyone, young and old, who are privileged to know him. In fact, it is not an exaggeration to say that Dr. D. J. is one of the best loved men in the Highlands and Islands.

He has been a tower of strength to the Gaelic Movement generally over a long period of years and has frequently acted as principal adjudicator at the National Mods of An Comunn Gàidhealach. He has been Hon. President of Ceilidh nan Gàidheal an Inbhir Nis since its formation eleven years ago and still holds this post with becoming dignity. His work for The Gaelic Society of Inverness has been invaluable.

Possibly there is no other man living to-day who is more conversant with the people of the Highlands than Dr. MacLeod, and what a fund of lore he has gathered during his visits to schools and Clachans throughout the Area. As a narrator

of subtle Sgeulachdan he stands alone. With a solemn countenance, but with a twinkle in the eye, he tells of his encounter with an old man at Bragar and the encounter is not always in his favour, but he likes to tell it.

Dr. MacLeod has also done noble service during the War by Radio propaganda and during the dark days, his Post-scripts in Gaelic helped considerably to strengthen the spirits of parents in the North and West, while their sons were fighting battles far away.

But perhaps Dr. MacLeod will be missed more by the teachers than by any other class. It is said that never was a teacher heard to say anything but kind words of the Inspector. And how near he could get to the hearts of the children on examination day. A few kindly words, in Gaelic or English, broke down the barrier between pupil and Inspector, and answers to questions came freely. It is said that Dr. MacLeod could size up a Class with a minimum of questions, such was his insight of child feeling.

By the retreat of Dr. MacLeod the Scottish Education Department has lost one of its ablest Inspectors, the schools have lost a friend indeed, but the good wishes of thousands of people throughout the Highlands and Islands goes with him in his well-earned retirement.

Is dòcha nach fhaic sinn a leithid a chaoidh, a' siubhal na Gaidhealtachd is nan Eilean.

Death of well-known Gael.

There passed away recently one of the outstanding Gaels in the Northern Area—Baillie George Soutar of Dingwall. The funeral took place in the local Churchyard. There was a very large attendance headed by the Provost and members of the Town Council, to pay their last respects.

In addition to his duties as a Magistrate, Baillie Soutar, took a lively interest in the well-being of the Burgh as a whole and any good cause claimed his loyal support. He was a perfervid Gael and lost no opportunity of lending whole-hearted support to the Gaelic cause. The National Mod held at Dingwall some years ago owed not a little of its success to the enthusiasm and business acumen of our friend.

During the war years, Baillie Soutar consistently supported all of the various funds inaugurated by An Comunn Gaidheal, for the benefit of our serving men and women.

His Music Shop in the Main street was the meeting place of Highlanders visiting the Burgh and he always carried a good stock of Gaelic books (literature and song). But of even more value to callers was the smiling countenance of the Baillie, ever ready to enter into conversation, whether on books or farming. He followed his father in the farm of Drynie, and successfully farmed it until his death.

Tha sinn 'g a mheas 'na urram gun do chuir sinn eòlas air an duine choir so agus bidh cumhaine chùbhraidh againn air, mar Ghaidheal is mar dhuinn-uasal.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Reference was made in the August number of *An Gaidheal* to proposed Concert tours to augment the Central Fund of An Comunn. The first of these for the Southern area has been arranged as follows: Strathyre, 3rd October; Dalmaily, 4th October; Taynult, 5th October. The artists, who are all well known to Highland audiences are—Mrs. Petrine Stewart, Miss Margaret MacMillan, Angus Whyte, Alasdair M. Matheson and Angus Morrison, piper and dancer.

It is hoped to continue these tours in the near future and Branch Secretaries are again reminded to bring this project before their Committees for their consideration. Every effort will be made to visit any Branch should application be made to An Comunn office.

Many Branches and Affiliated Societies have now completed their arrangements for the session, and now that peace has returned to a war torn world, a brighter outlook appears on the horizon for the advancement of Gaelic culture. The Dumfries Branch holds its opening Ceilidh on 4th October and I have accepted a kind invitation to be present. It is hoped to cover as wide an area as possible this session in order to resuscitate Branches which have lapsed during the war years.

This year, Glasgow Corporation Education Department are once more including Gaelic as a subject in their Continuation Classes. The classes will be held in Woodside School on Mondays and Wednesdays, 7.30 till 9.30 p.m. and will commence on 8th October. Miss Helen T. MacMillan will be the teacher for beginners, on Wednesdays and Miss Nan C. MacLeod will take charge of the advanced pupils on Mondays.

At the Annual General Meeting of An Comunn held in Glasgow, on 15th September, it was decided to hold the next National Mod in Aberdeen during the week ending 28th September, 1946.

REV. DR. NEIL ROSS MEMORIAL.

A Memorial to the late Dr. Neil Ross, Ex-President, is to be erected in Laggan Church, and it is felt that members of An Comunn would like to have a share in this memorial. Contributions, large or small, shall be received and acknowledged by Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer of An Comunn, 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1.

WAR MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING FUND.

The Central (War Comforts) Committee are now concentrating their energies on the above Fund, through which, it is hoped to establish permanent thanksgiving, through their children, to the men and women from the Highlands who have played such a noble part during the perilous times of the last six years. The immediate aim is to hold an Annual Holiday Camp for the children, with the ultimate objective of establishing something more permanent towards the development of their technical education.

With a view to augmenting the Fund, a Grand Concert will be held in the St. Andrew's Halls, Glasgow, on Friday, 26th October, at 7.30 p.m. It is hoped to have a very prominent Highlander in the Chair, and the following eminent artists will sustain the programme. Petrine Stewart, Helen T. MacMillan, Ethel D. Hay, Alexander Brown, Angus Whyte, Alasdair Matheson, Newhaven Fishermen's Choir, Glasgow Police Pipe Band and Troupe of Highland Dancers. The accompaniments will be in the capable hands of Miss Margaret Hill Boyle, who will also play selections on the famous organ. Tickets, price 2/6 each, may be had from An Comunn Office, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2., or from the Manager, The Highlanders' Institute, 27 Elmbank Street, Glasgow, C.2.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

The Ladies' Work Party met in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 4th September, and there was a large attendance of members.

The Scottish Woollen Council have asked the Central (War Comforts) Committee to continue the work of knitting Comforts for H.M. Forces, for a further period, and the members decided to accede to this request and that they meet on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning on 2nd October.

There is a quantity of wool on hand, and the Committee is anxious to have this made into garments, and returned to the Scottish Woollen Council on as early a date as possible.

JUNIOR LITERARY COMPETITIONS, 1945.

Adjudicator: Rev. Donald Stewart, M.A., Achnamara.

GROUP "F."—Special Competitions, conditions laid down by the donor of prizes, the late Mrs. Stewart, Simla. Essay in Gaelic on the Life of Jacob. Boys—1st (£2 and Gaelic Bible) Alasdair MacLeod, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 2nd (£1 and Gaelic Bible), Neil Campbell, Sir E. Scott School, Harris. Girls—Prizes as for Boys—1st, Barbara MacLennan, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 2nd, Jessie MacLeod, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway.

GROUP "G"—A book prize for each year of the Secondary Course beyond the Third Year is awarded to every School presenting candidates in Gaelic for the Leaving Certificates. The prizes are awarded on the marks gained in School Examinations during the session. *Dingwall Academy*—Class IV., Elizabeth K. Macrae; Class V., Alistair Polson; Class VI., Alistair M. MacLean. *Fort William Secondary School*—Class IV., Joan V. Martin; Class V., Hugh Buchanan; Class VI., Mary Lomax and Christina Macphee. *Inverness Royal Academy*—Class IV., Dolina Macdougall; Class V., Christina Robertson. *Nicolson Institute, Stornoway*—Class IV., Henrietta Macaulay and Christina MacKenzie; Class V., Jain Smith. *Oban High School*—Class IV., Donaldina Cameron; Class V., Mairi Campbell; Class VI., Anne MacPhail Cameron; Class V., Mairi Campbell; Class VI., Kate MacPhail. *Portree Secondary School*—Class IV., Malcolm M. Campbell; Class V., Murdo Campbell; Class VI., Kate Macdonald.

Prizes are offered for the foregoing competitions in the syllabus for the Aberdeen Mod which will be ready for issue shortly. Teachers are reminded that Groups A., B., C. and D., which were in abeyance during the war years, have been restored. The Committee earnestly hope that the prizes offered in these competitions will be largely taken advantage of by Teachers and Pupils in Elementary Schools. Group E. for University or Training Colleges is also restored.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bha mi am beachd beagan a ràdh an litir a' mhios a dh' fhalbh nu chuid de na mearanach a bu trice rinnadh anns na paipèaran ceasnachaidh, ach cha robh an rùm a bha feumail r' a sholar. Is ann mar a thà nach 'eil ach beagan dhiubh ris an urrainn dhuinn buntainn eadhon air a' mhios so féin. Bhreamaid sùl an toiseach, matà, air paipèar an Làn-Ghàidheil. Bha iad ann a shaoil gur e ceud (hundred) a bha anns an fhacal "cead" (am bheil cead agam falbh ?), agus a chail mar sin, brìgh nam facal buileach. Rinn ann no dhà "advice" an àite "permission" dhe. Bha e neònach uiread "s a bha ann nach do thug le ceartas ciod a bha "anarannach" (cò a thubhairt gu bheil mise anarannach ?) ag ciallachadh. Bha "Who said that I was truthful—honest—honourable—two-faced—single" is rudan neònach eile air cuid de 'n eadar-theagachadh a fhuair sinn air an fhacal so. Thug e gaire orm an uair a chunnaic mi mar a chuir am balach I—e: "Who said that I was honest?" agus anns an ath tharruing-analach "I am very happy!"

"Is e sin mo dhòchas is mo dhùil." Bha mòran a rinn "wish" de "dhòchas"; agus chan e "solemn promise" uile gu léir, ged a tha e sòluite gu léir, a tha ann an "gealladh dileas." "Cha dean mi an còrr an diugh; tha e a' fas anmoch." Chan e "visi" a tha "còrr" ag ciallachadh, agus chan e "to-night" a tha ann "an diugh." Cha mhò is e "dark" a tha ann an "anmoch," ged a tha an dorch a' tighinn an cois an anmoch gun teagamh. Thug "an dé" a dheanamh de "an diugh" mar so 'nam chumhne facal a bhiodh againn 'san àm anns an robh mise a' dol do 'n sgoil. Cha robh e air a chunntas modhail, co-dhiubh, freagarrach, dhuinn "dé" a ràdh mar fhreagairt. Is e "dé a b' àill leibh?" a bha air à mholadh dhuinn a ràdh. Mar sin, an uair a theireadh aon againn "de?", theireadh an t-aon ris an abradh se e, "Chan e 'n dé ach an diugh, teine-dé air do bhus!"

Chan 'eil "behind" (we left our enemies behind us) ag ciallachadh gun d' fhàgadh iad air deireadh, ach gun d' fhàgadh iad 'nar déidh. Cha b' urrainn dhomh a thuigsinn car son a rinn aon "draoidhean" de na "naimhdean." Thug mi an aire gun robh an dà fhocal "mar" is "mur" air an cleachdadh cearr ro thric, an dara aon far am bu chòir do 'n aon eile a bhith, "mar" air a dheanamh de "if," agus "mur" an àite "mar" (mar is trice a chi sinn thu). Mearachd eile a thatar tidheach air a dheanamh, cromag (apostrophe) a chur far am bu chòir ceanglan (hyphen) a bhith, is an ceanglan far am bu chòir do 'n cromag a bhith. Cumhnicibh nach 'eil cromag ri a cur idir, idir an déidh na litir "h," "a" huan" an àite "a huan"; agus ged a ghlùineas an "t," am bitheantas, leatha féin an ceanglan, mar "an t-uain ag Màiri," is e cromag a tha i a' tagar air uairean. Mar shoillearachadh air sin,

beachdaichibh gu cùramach air an ruith-fhacal so,—“Sud thall an t-uain ag Seumas, so a h-uain-se, sin t' uansa agus buinidh na h-uain sin eile do Chalum.”

Ann an "she is breaking sticks with an axe," bha iad ann a rinn claidheamh, òrd is clàr de 'n t-uagh. Bha e 'na ùrachadh am facal "làmhag" fhaotainn air a chleachdadh le àireamh de 'n chloinn. Rinn cuid dhrùch, is cuid sneachd de 'n cheo (mist) a bha air mullach nan beann.

Am paipèar nan Sàr-Ghàidheil, chuir e iongantas orm nach do thug ach beagan gur c'èirden fola a bha "daimhich" ag ciallachadh. Cha robh "neighbours" ro fhada air seachran. Rinn aon "strongholds" dhe; agus feumaidh mar sin gun do thog e cearr am facal, is gun do shaoil e gur e "daingneach" a bha ann.

Bha cuid nach do thug gur e an t-Agh (Providence) a bha "teir an Agh" ag ciallachadh, is nach e "those who are saving us," agus nas mò nach e "fate" no "alliance" a tha ann. Chan e "famous" a tha sòitheach feumail—an crùisean—ag ciallachadh, agus cha mhò is e "the half of a thing" a tha "a lethidh de ni" ag ciallachadh.

Is e glé theag a chleachd am facal "buie" mar Ghàidhlig fhreagarrach do "wick." Bha cuid a rinn "siobhag" dheth; agus b' e air rùn gun cleachdadh iad am facal sin gun teagamh—far am bu chòir sin a dheanamh, air-son "pith of the rushes." An uair a ràinig sibh sin, is e a rinn mòran dhiubh "an rud bog a tha am meadhan na luachair," no mineachadh eile mar sin a dheanamh dhe. Thug mi fa-near, is gheuraich e mo chàil, gun robh clann sgoile àraidh a rinn "slabhad" de "pith of the rushes." Tha mi a' tuigsinn gur e sin a theirear anns a' cheart eilean ud ri siobhag na luachair. Tha mi an dùil gur e an ciall ceart ag an fhacal "slabhad," ged thà, mi nam, seorsa de chnàimh bog, an-fhulangach, a tha ag ceangal na h-adhairc ris a' chlaigeann is a tha air a fàgail ris an uair a chailles b' no caora an adhairc. Chuir e iongantas orm mar a bha mòran nach robh, a rèir coltais, ro chinnteach ciod an luibh a bha ann an "rushes." Rinneadh cuisean, seileach, gasan, seileasdaire, is mar sin air aghaidh dhiubh.

Chan e "orain sheann daoine" a tha ann an "old folk-tales," agus mar an ceudna, carson a leanamaide fasan nan Sasunnach le "uamhas de sheann stòraidhean" a dheanamh de "great store of old-time tales." Their na Sasunnach gu bheil rud "frightfully good," no gu bheil sibh "awfully kind," ach bu chòir dhuinne rathad na bu tiorma na sin a thaghadh!

Ach tha mo rùm air teirginn orm a rithist, is slàn leibh an dràs.

Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDRUGHAILL.

AILE NA MARA.

Ag òl na gaoithe bho 'n Chuan a Siar
Le h-òl a chaoitid mi bho thuing gu clabh,
'S gu'm mo thàladh mar bha I riannh
A mach am bàgh le seòl-dar mo mhiann.

Chan ann bho thir Innis Tìle shuas
Tha m' iarraidh fhin air an iochlaint chuan
Ach bharr an taibh le a shabli air stuaigh,
Is pòg nan stamh aice amh is fuar.

Am fàileadh cùbraidh a lùig a' Chéit
Mar mhùil air ubhlan an lùchairt Néimh:
Ged b' àill lean 'anail,' 'ga taruing séimh,
Is beatha lag e do m' anam féin.

Dhèist gaeth na mara 'ga taruing suas
Thèit beatha 's near le a h-anail cuain
C'ur gleus air stamaig,' 's dath ceart air graidh,
'S ag cumail fallain an sgamhain ruaidh.

Mi 'g iarraidh comhairl' mu thogail tr
Cha ghabhainn idir bho bhil fir-iùil:
Gum b' fhallain aitreabh an leas lus cùbhr'
Na ann an liaith-chladach brèagh a' chùil.

No air a' bhàrèigh ri gèamaig dùthch'
Aig bàgh le speicean 's am palteas dhiubh,
Le coileid rotaich 's a thonnair rùit
Is cuithean copas air mol na brùc.

Mi faire làgaraid àrd nan stuagh,
 'S a criathradh dhòrnag 'na cheòl do m' chluais,
 Mo nòistean baiste 'na cleas gun truas
 Le fiamh mo bheathra 'm 'mi teicne suas.
 Ri cùine tìde 's aig ìsle tràigh
 Mi faighinn mìle rud inns 'an dhan
 Measg chlachan liath agus bhiaistean chàrn,
 Le làin is langadar donn an t-sàil.
 Agus guth ìan sgeire ri deamh ceòl
 Do mhaighdeann mhara an sealladh sgeòil,
 Le banais chliathan aig iasgan beò,
 Is paòileag bàigh ri cur fàilt air ròn.
 Ris a' Chuan a Siar mi ri grian mo bheò
 Gun teid i sìos an cian bun-sgòth,
 Agus m' anam sìorruidh air sgiath an eoin
 Ri deamh dìreach air Tìr nan Og.

M. M.

So agaibh òran eile leis an t-sàr bhàrd sin a rinn "Do 'n Bhradan" a bha sa' *Ghaidheal* mu dheireadh. Is esan a rinn an t-òran a bha sa' *Ghaidheal* besan mhiosan air ais do "Bhalach na Caonnaig" bho Eileanais; agus ch'ì sibh o 'n t-bran so nach 'eil a bheag de bhàrdachd an Gaidhlig de a seòrsa a bheir bàr òirre.

Bha a' dhà no thri mhearachdan clòid an òran a' bhradan, agus seach gu bheil iad a' mìleachd smuain a' bhàird is fheàrr dhomh an ceartachadh. 'Se sin, sa' cheud rann, an treas sreath:

Tha prais air slabhraidh thom an *finne* (chan e teine).
 A ris san treas rann, a' cheud sreath:
 Nuair chuir an dall-bhith tionndadh *smuain* (chan e snuaidhm).

A ris, san naoidheamh rann, an coigeamh sreath:
 Cha-bhithheadh blas *nam meas toirmeasg*' (chan e na meas).

Bu mhaith leinn tuilleadh bho ar caraid a dh' aithghearr.

F-d.

FAIRE M' OIGE.

Sud e m' fhàire san Earrach is crìochan mo fhradhaire sa' Chéitean.
 Tràth thilleadh gealghrian a' mhochthrath 's a h-uilinn sna cnocean ag éirigh—
 Cnoc air muin enuic anns a' Cheathramh, na mullaich 's na leacainnean éibhinn,
 Guala 's guala bhòidheach, na tomain an Còmhal 's na sléibhteann,
 Uchdach air uchdaich a' dòmhlachadh, aonach is mòinteach nam féithean.
 Seal, Sliabh Gaol a' sinedh san òghsholus fhiondearg ghréine,
 Rogha is taghadh nan sliabh, beinn-sheilge Dhiarmaid 's na Féinne,
 Druim fhada mhìn air dheagh shnaidheadh, mar bhalla a chasgadh na scisde,
 A' sruthadh 'na slioson 's ag aonadh 'na ruigheachan faon ris an réidhean.
 An rìgh an meadhon a shluaigh, deagh bhuaichail am meadhon a threudan—
 Còir gach rìgh sin, 's a urram 'na àite suidhe is éirigh;
 Sheasadh a mhuintir deas air is cli air ag amharc 's ag tìsdeachd—
 An cridhe na h-àirde-tuath sud Cruachan Beann fo bhréid ghil,
 Stuaigh a' chreim àirdghil slor bhriseadh air faire 's leus deth.
 B' e sin clach-tharruing mo shùla, an casthonn tricheannach gléghéal.
 DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

DOMHNALL SIOSAL NACH MAIREANN.

Air an tréas latha fìchead de 'n Lunasdal chualas gun do chaochail Dòmhnall Siosal, fear gléidhidh a' chùirn a chuireadh suas mar chuimhneachan air na Gàidheil a thuit am Bàr Chùil-lodair. B' e Gàidheal fùghail, saighdear calma treun agus piobaire barraichte bha 'nar caraid nach maireann.

Bha e àireamh mhór bhliadhnanach na mhaidsear phiobairean an am feachd an rìgh, sna h-Innsibh, agus an uair a thug e mach a thìde san arm fhuair e dhachaidh agus bha e ag còmhnuidh dlùth do 'n Chàrn.

Gach bliadhna bho 'n thàinig e dhachaidh bhiodh e ag cluich na pioba mòire aig a' Chàrn, air co-aimean latha air an do chuireadh am blàr, agus 's ann aig féin a bha an gnòthuch a dhòl na dàil. Chan fhaic sinn a choslas, agus cha chluinn sinn a cheòl mun Chàrn tuille, ach b'ìdh sinn 'ga chuimhneachadh agus 'ga ionndrainn gach uair a bhios e iomchuidh cruinneachadh aig àite cadail nan sàr.

Bhris air a shlàinte bho chionn còrr agus bliadhna air ais, agus ged bha e greis an làmhan nan lighichean, san tigh-eridinn an Inbhir-nis, cha robh feobhas ann dà. Mar thuirnt an sean duine, cha robh ann ach galar fada agus eug na bhun.

Thiodhlaicadh e an cladh Dheimhidh air a choigeamh latha fìchead, agus bha slugh mòr cruinn air an tòrradh aige, agus piobaire air an ceann, ag cluich na pioba mòire. Nuair dh'ìthaidh iad ris a chrò 'se am port brònach a bha e ag cluich "Cumha Mhic Shimidh" mun ràinig iad an ceann uidhe chàirich iad a chorp gu h-ìosal san uaigh, agus 'nuair bha Seirribh am adhlacaidh crìochnaichte chluich am piobaire port tiamhaidh (*Lochaber no more*).

An sin thug Alasdair Mac Neasail, Rùnaire Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir-nis, an ainm bhraich an t-Siosalaich, buidheachas do 'n chuideachd a bha an làthair. Dh' fhalbh sinn an sin, agus dh' fhàg sinn na chadal e fo sgàil nam beann àrda.
 IAIN MAC-A-PHEARSAIN.

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Leabhar XLI.]

An t-Samhuin, 1945.

[Earrann 2

RATHAIDEAN AGUS UIDHEAMAN-GIULAIN.

Ma tha daoine gu bhith chòmhnuidh ann an saorsa agus ann an soirbheachadh air a' Ghaidhealtachd a nis an deidh a' chogaidh feumaidh iomadach atharrachadh a thighinn air cùisean a thaobh nan Gaidheal seach mar a bha iad roimh an chogaidh. Thainig iomadh atharrachadh ri linn a' chogaidh fhéin. A dh' aon rud bha an òigridh cha mhòr gu léir air falbh ann an aon air choreigin de Fheachdan an Rìgh, no ann an seirbhis air choreigin fo'n chrùn, agus chunnaic iad mòran, agus thainig iad troimh mhòran, agus tha iad a nis a' tilleadh dhachaich chun na Gaidhealtachd—na thig dhachaich dhiubh—chan ann mar a dh' fhalbh iad, ach 'n an daoine tur eadar-dhealaichte. Cha bhì iad a nis riarachte leis mar a bha cùisean air a' Ghaidhealtachd mus do dh' fhalbh iad; chan urrainn dhaibh a bhith, agus cha mhò is còir dhaibh a bhith, agus iad fhéin eadar-dhealaichte.

Chunnaic iad iomadach goireas, fhad 's a bha iad air falbh, san rìoghachd-sa agus an rìoghachdan eile. Chunnaic iad gun robh iomadach comhfhurtachd agus goireas an àiteachan eile nach robh air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Chunnaic iad nach robh aobhar air an t-saoghal bh choireach nach robh na goireasan so air a' Ghaidhealtachd ach mì-chràm is beag-sgoimne an Rìghalhtais. Chunnaic iad, maille ri iomadach rud eile, gun robh uisge-phìoban sna tìghean anns a' chuid mhòr àitean san robh iad. Chunnaic iad gun tugadh muinntir an airn, no Rìghalhtais eile aig an robh gnòthach riutha, uisge-phìoban ann an là no dhà do 'n àite san robh iad mura robh e an sin roimhe. Agus an cois uisge-phìoban bha goireasan slàinte sna tìghean, nì nach fhaca iad riann ann am mòran de an tìghean fhéin air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus gu sonraichte sna h-Eileanan. Feumaidh na goireasan so, ma tha, a nis a bhith air a' Ghaidhealtachd ma tha daoine gu bhith fuireach air a' Ghaidhealtachd, riarachte agus sona le an staid. Feumaidh meadhanan-cosnaidh a bhith an iomadh àite air a' Ghaidhealtachd an toiseach, far am faightear cosnadh nuair nach bi obair fearainn ri dhèanamh, agus far am faigh muinntir aig nach 'eil fearainn idir cosnadh. Tha còir aig an Rìghalhtais air a' Ghaidhealtachd do dhaoine air a' Ghaidhealtachd, mar an àite eile—do dhaoine a shaor an rìoghachd agus an saoghal bho dhaoirs agus bho thràillealachd. Is còir an t-aon chothrom agus an aon comhfhurtachd a bhith aca air a' Ghaidhealtachd 's a tha aca an àitean eile. Cumadh na Gaidheil iad fhéin, so fa chomhair an Rìghalhtais.

Ach is ann tha mi dhuibh gu sonraichte an dràsda a thaobh rathaidean-móra agus uidheaman-giùlain air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Chan 'eil maith a bhith mu dheidhinn, cha bhì daoine a chunnaic a chaochladh nuair a bha iad air falbh riarachte dh' eusbhuidh rathaidean, agus a bhith chòmhnuidh an àitean iomallach, gun chomas falbh no tìghinn ann an tomais de chomhfhur-

tachd. Tha bailtean air a' Ghaidhealtachd—mòran dhiubh air tìr-mòr agus am barrachd anns na h-Eileanan—agus chan 'eil rathad sa fhìach rathad a ràdh ris a' dh' ùlthca idir. Tha na bailtean sin, agus na daoine a' t'nnata, lethoiresach, iomallach, agus mì-ghoiresach. An dràsda, an deidh a' chogaidh, cha bu chòir so a bhith mar so, agus is còir do 'n Rìghalhtais, so a leasachadh ma tha iad airson daoine a bhith chòmhnuidh ann an dad de lommhorachd air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Agus cha chòir do na Gaidheil a nise suidhe sìos agus a bhith samhach 'na lethidh so a shuidheachadh. Ma nì iad sin, is iongantach mura bi cùisean mar a thà iad, fad iomadh bliadhna.

Ach is e tha 'na chùis-nàire mar a bha Bòrd an Aiteachais air a' Ghaidhealtachd a thaobh rathaidean. Bha iad a' dèanamh bailtean ùra, ach ma bha rathaidean gu bhith theuch dh' fheumadh muinntir a' bhaile cuid de an saothair a thabhairt an asgaidh ann an dèanamh an rathaid sin, agus mòran nas miosa na sin, dh' fheumadh iad fhéin an rathad a chumail suas, agus chan è an Rìghalhtais. Cò riann a chuala a lethidh! Tha bhuil. Chan 'eil na rathaidean so air an cumail suas ann, agus tha na bailtean gun rathad. Shaoileadh daoine cumanta gum biodh a dh' fhios 's a mhothachadh aig bord-rìghalhtais san bith nach 'eil an so ach a bhith magadh air goireasan bhailean ùra air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus nach 'eil ann ach culaidh-bhùird do 'n t-saoghal. Ach faic thusa air bràighe nam bailtean-móra air Galldached, far am bheillear a togail bailtean ùra, is e rathaidean agus ardaidean a' cheud rud a nìtear mus togar aon tìgh, agus tha a h-ùle nì de 'n t-sòrsa so air a dhealbhadh cho brèagha 's a dh' farradh duine chum goireasan is comhfhurtachd na muinntir a bhios a chòmhnuidh, sna bailtean sin. An ann mar sin a tha Bòrd an Aiteachais a' dèanamh air a' Ghaidhealtachd? Ach tha e coltach nach 'eil feum aig na Gaidheil air rathad do am bailtean ann. Gu dearbh, ma bhitear riarachte le a lethidh so air a' Ghaidhealtachd an deidh a' chogaidh, mar as luaithe theid na bailtean so bhan is e as fheàrr dhaibh-san a th' umnta.

Cumadh a nise an òigridh a bh' air falbh an seirbhis a' chrùn fa chomhair an Rìghalhtais cor cruagh na Gaidhealtachd a thaobh rathaidean-móra, agus na tugadh iad fhèis dhaibh gus an dèan an Rìghalhtais an dèasdanas sa' chòis so. Carson nach biodh rathaidean cho pailt, agus cho maith, an Leodhus agus am Barraidh 's a tha iad air Galldached? Bu chòir an aon ruith a bhith air na rathaidean feadh na rìoghachd gu léir.

Agus a rithist is e na h-aiseagan rathaidean nan Eilean. Is còir do 'n Rìghalhtais bàtaichean-aiseig a chur anns gach àite san bheil feum orra feadh nan Eilean; agus am faradh a bhith saor agus reusanta a reir ceàrnachd eile an rìoghachd, chan e mhàin faradh dhaoine ach faradh sprèidh is bathair, agus gach nì eile. Dhèanadh sin cùisean sna h-Eileanan na bu ghòiresaich agus na bu chomhfhurtail, agus bhiodh e na bu

fhurasda do dhaoine am beòhlainte a chosnadh sna h-Eileanan, agus a bhith beò annta.

Agus cuideachd bh' eòir sgiathalain agus a h-uile seòrsa uidheam-giùlain adhair a chur air adhart leis an Rìghaltas feadh na Gaidhealtachd, agus gu sonruichte feadh nan Eilean. Bh' eòir, agus am faradh a bhith saor agus reusanta, air an aon ruith 's a th' e an àitean eile feadh na rìghachd. Togadh na Gaidheil an guth ris an Rìghaltas air son so, mura togsaoidh an Rìghaltas gu bheil iad riarachta, agus gu bheil cùisean goireasach mar a thà iad.

A nis tha ebsuidh rathaidean, agus oleas rathaidean, a' fàgail gu bheil iomadh àite agus baile air a' Ghaidhealtachd gun uidheaman-giùlain bho bhaile gu baile, agus bho àite gu àite. Tha busaichean a ruith fo reachd an Rìghaltais feadh na Gaidhealtachd eadar iomadh àite, ach dh' fhaodadh na busaichean sin a bhith na b' fheàrr agus na bu' fhrithheilich. Ach is ann tha bhochdainn ann gu bheil iomadh baile ann agus chan 'eill bus a' dol air an arainn—cuid dhiubh seach nach 'eill rathad ceart thuca, cuid eile seach gu bheil iad dhà no trì mhillean bharr a' phrìomh rathaid. Chunna mi saighdearan agus seòladairean a' falbh 's a' tighinn air làithean-saora agus am bus 'gan tigeil dà mhìle bho an dachaidh, agus iad fiuch, fur, acrach, le am màileid, chan ànn a chionn nach robh rathad chun a' bhaile aca, ach seach gun robh e bharr a' phrìomh rathaid, agus sin le reachd, no co-dhiubh le cead, ministrealachd nam uidheaman-giùlain. B' e sin Rìghaltas gun reachd! Is cinnteach nach bi iadsan a dh' fhuing so, 'n an t-ead a nis gu am bi so air a chur ceart.

Agus tha a h-uile càil tha so a' ruighinn oirme mar Chomunn. Mura bi cosnadh is comhfhurtaidh, agus cùisean goireasach, air a' Ghaidhealtachd chan fhuirich an òigridh ann, agus cha bh' dachaidhean agus teaghlachain agus òigridh ag èirigh suas air a' Ghaidhealtachd; agus far nach bi sin cha bh' cànan is oideas is oilean nan Gaidheil 'nam fallaineachd 's 'na nànt. Tha sinn mar sin an dòchas gun cothaich na Gaidheil ri linn na sìthe airson nan nìthean so a bheil dhaibh a bhith riarachta is comhfhurtaidh air a' Ghaidhealtachd cho math 's a cothaich iad ri linn cogaidh airson sìthe. Ma ni iad sin chan eagal nach èisd an Rìghaltas riutha, agus nach cuirer cùisean air a' Ghaidhealtachd mar co'ir dhaibh a bhith. Ma nìtear sin bidh còthrom nas fheàrr aig a' Ghaidhlig agus aig gach ni eile tha an crochadh rihte.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Bèarnaraidh agus an Eiphit.—Is fhada bho chéile an dà àite, Bèarnaraidh bheag an Eilean Leodhais agus an Eiphit mhór ainmeil, ach thug an cogadh faisg air a chéile iad. Thug an cogadh, tha e coltach, aithne agus eòlas do 'n Eiphit air Bèarnaraidh. Co-dhiubh bha fear a bhalach an Nèibhí—Domhnall Alaic, Phadràg Dhomhnall Iain Bhàin, & Bèstair an Craibhlataidh—ag innse dhomh agus air còinneachadh riom air Bata Steòrnabhagh, agus air a' shlighe dhachaidh an deidh tighinn as an Eiphit, agus làithean saora aige, bha e ag innse dhomh gun do leugh e ann am paiper-naidheachd Eiphiteach—*The Egyptian Mail*—ann an Àlecsandria gun robh muinntir Bèarnaraidh a' dèilidh a' chlànn a chur do 'n sgòil cho tràth 's a bha uair na sgòile ag iarraidh, leis an uair dhùbhaite shamhradh a bhith 'ga cumail aig an sgòil.

Bha am paiper Eiphiteach ag ràdh nach cuireadh iad a' chlànn cho tràth do 'n sgòil, agus aca ri astar maith a chòiseachd, seach gum feumadh iad èirigh dà uair ann an uaireadair roimh uair na gréine.

“Smaoinich,” arsa Domhnall Alaic riom, “a bhith leughadh so ann am Paiper-naidheachd Eiphiteach.” “Ta,” arsa mise, “chan 'eil mi ag ràdh idir nach 'eill feadhainn de na h-Eiphitich a leughadh Lìir Alasdair Mhòir & Bèarnaraidh, an *Gazette Steòrnabhagh*.” Rinn mo charaid gaire. “Co-dhiubh,” arsa esan, “chunna mise sud le mo dhà shùil anns an *Egyptian Mail*, agus sinn air tìr an Àlecsandria.”

Is iomadh rud iongantach a thachair ri linn a' chogaidh, agus is e so aon dhiubh—a bhith leughadh ann am paiper-naidheachd Eiphiteach mu dhòl a mach muinntir Bèarnaraidh bhig iomallaich.

Murchadh Moireach, M.A., H.M.I.S.—Tha sinn toilichte fhacinn gu bheil Mgr. Murchadh Moireach a nis os cionn Siorrachd Rois mar Fhear-cèasnachaidh Sgoilean fo 'n chrùn. Fàgaidh sin ceartas aig sgoil is ionnsachadh san t-siorrachd Ghaidhealaich sin, agus tha sinn làn chinnteach gun faigh a' Ghaidhlig a h-àite 's a' dìghe féin fo a bhàim-san. Chan 'eil fada bho dh' ainmich sinn an so san dòl seachad mar thà cho toilichte 's a bha sinn gun do chuireadh Mgr. Moireach chun na Gaidhealtachd, agus tha sinn a nis ag guidhe soirbheachadh maith dha os cionn an fhoghlaim ann an siorrachd a bhreith is arach; agus tha sinn ag cur meall-an-naidheachd air an t-siorrachd sin a thaobh ionnsachadh na Gaidhlighe sna sgoilean. Gun tì e san, caraid a' Ghaidheil 's na Gaidhlighe.

Naoi.—Cìod is aobhar gur h-e *naoi* àireamh naomh agus choimhlionta nan seann Ghaidheil? B' e seachd àireamh naomh is choimhlionta nan Iudhach agus chinneach eile, ach b' e naoi àireamh naomh nan Gaidheil. Tha na seann sgeulachdan agus na seann laoidhean làn de so. “Na 'naoi gathan gréine;” “naoi buarair na màm sìthe;” “naoi naoi ghaigeach na Féinne;” an “naoidheam fear” de mhuintir Dhùbhaich; agus na fichead eile mar sin.

Bheir mi leabhar maith Gaidhlig do 'n neach a chuireas chugam an t-aobhar as reusanta air cionnas a thachair gur h-e naoi, seach àireamh sam bith eile, àireamh naomh is coimhlionta nan Gaidheil.

Tha mo bheachd fhein agamsa, ach bu mhaith leam beachd muinntir eile; gu h-àraidh beachd na muinntir sin a tha colach ann an seann eachdraidh nan seann Ghaidheil.

Bàrr am palteas.—Bha bàrr maith air an fhoghar so. Chan fhaca mi riamh dh' agh b' bhrèagha agus bu bheartaiche na an t-arbhar ag abachadh san déis toiseach mìos September so chaidh. Sna h-Eilean Siar chan fhaca mise riamh coire bu trime agus bu mhotha sìlean na chunna mi air an fhoghar so chaidh. Chunnas mi sin aon rud air tìr-mòr na Gaidhealtachd, agus cha robh gach pòr eile ceum air dheireadh. Bha fas air leth 's a' bhliadhna gu léir. Chan 'eil eilte air a' chreag de còrna air a' Ghaidhealtachd a nis. Bha uair eile air a' chaochladh ged nach 'eill dà dh' fhios agam carson a sgeireadh dh' a chur. Is e an coire fhein aon arbhar na Gaidhealtachd a nis. Mhothaich mi cuideachd gu bheil muinntir nan Eilean a' deanamh mòran a bharrachd de thràthach air na chesladh iad. Tha sin a' fàgail an sprèidh a thatar a' beathachadh a stigh mòran nas fheàrr, on tha brìgh is susbainn anns an tràthach nach 'eil ann an comhlach lom. Tha cuimhne agam fhein nuair a bhathas a' leigil a' chruidd os mhòr an urra ris a' chonnalach, agus bha bhùil orra, bha iad iomadh uair faisg air a bhith air thogail leis a' chaoile-ghuirm. Cha deantar sin an diugh; thatar 'gan beathachadh le fas agus tha sin a' fàgail neart is beatha unnta. Tha sprèidh, agus gu h-àraidh crodh, mòran nas fheàrr agus nas eireachdaile an dreach 's an ouldah an diugh air a' Ghaidhealtachd na bha iad riamh, cia b' e dé is coireach ris an so. Theagamh gur h-e an t-còlas a tha muinntir Bòrd an Aiteachais a' toirt do dhaoine air sprèidh agus air mar is còir sprèidh a bheathachadh, mar a tha iad a' deanamh a thaobh fearainn. Co-dhiubh chan fhaicear crodh a' dol bha leis a' chaoile, agus an innibh a bhith air thogail, mar a chite aon dà fhichead bliadhna air ais. Tha na coarich air an aon rud.

Tha bunnta maith agus pailt ann am bliadhna cuideachd; agus le deich notaichean an acair a shaor chuideachadh o'n Rìghaltas faodaidh daoine aig a bheil iad a bhith làn riarachta le an cuid bhunnta ann bliadhna.

Bha fas air leth air lus an garaidh fhein ann bliadhna. Chan fhaca mi 'na mo latha càl air an robh ceirne cho mòr agus cho trom 's a bha sa' ghàrdh agam air an fhoghar-sa. Agus bha lus an garaidh eile a' reir sin.

Cha ruig duine leas innse dhomha gu bheil aobhar gearrain a' thathachan no aig crottear ann bliadhna, eadar a lethidh so a dh' fhuair, agus an saor chuideachadh a tha iad a' faighinn bho 'n Rìghaltas—na thubhairt mi airson bunnta, agus cèith notaichean is deich tasdain airson gach mairt a bheathaichean is fhein a mugh & broimn tìghe fad thair seachd-naidheach deus a' t-samhradh; agus seachd is sia sgillan an

cois a h-uile caora-uain. Agus an cois a h-uile cail tha sin, pris air a' chhómh nach cuasla riamh a leithid.

Eadar a h-uile cail a th' ànn, chan 'eil aobhar gearain aig croitearan is tuathanaich na Gaidhealtachd ann bliadhna. Gun teagamh tha saothair is anlas an cois oibair fearainn. Nach e Bhigil, am Bard Mór Rómhach, a thubhairt anns an amhran sin a rinn e air oibair fearainn: "Is e toil an Athar Shiorruidh nach biodh e fursada àiteach a dhèanamh." Ach an deidh sin 's na h-uile, tha beannachd agus riarachadh an cois oibair fearainn agus spréidhe nach 'eil an cois oibair eile air thalamh. Gu dearbha fhéin co a shamhlaicheadh e ris an oibair latha sa bhàile mhor!

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Carthannachd na Gaidhlig.—Thachair dhomh a bhith san tréine air an t-samhradh co chaidh eadar an t-Oban agus Both-chuidir. Aig fasadh a' Chrìteanlarch thainig cupal gèar—fa bhean—a steach do 'n rùm de 'n tréine san robh mi, agus iad le chéile an éideadh coltach ri a' bhàil sléibhe. Bha agiorta de bhreacan Chlann Choinnich oirre-se. Thòisich mi fhein ri bruidhinn ris-san, agus e 'na shuidhe ri mo thaobh. "Cia sa," arsa mise, "a thug sibh a' choisgeadh; an ann na h-Eileanan a bha sibh." "Is ann," arsa ean, "bha sinn trì latha san Eilean Sgìtheach, agus sinn a' siubhal sléibhe." "Glé mhaith," arsa mise, "na rinn sibh mulach Beinn na Caillich dheth?" "Cha do rinn ach chaidh sinn seachad aig a bonn," arsa ean. "Na rinn sibh an Coire Uisge dheth, a réis?" arsa mise. "Cha do rinn ach cha robh sinn fada bhuaithe," deir ean. "Mà" arsa mise, "is minic a rinn mise an dà àite dheth." Rinn sin a' chùis, thòisich an còmhraidh. Bha a bhean, agus muinntir eile seòmair na tréine san robh sinn, ag éisdeachd. Sa' chòmhradh a bh' againn thòisich e air faighneachd brìgh is ciall sinn àitean san Eilean Sgìtheach. Dh' innis mi sin dha.

Dh' fhaighnich e an robh Gaidhlig agam. Thubhairt mi ris, agus còch uile ag éisdeachd, gun robh dol an rathaid agam dhìr co-dhùbh. Bhruidhinn an uair sin duine usal—agus gu dearbha is ann air fhein a bha coltas an duine usal—agus e 'na shuidhe mu mo choinneamh, rium ann an Gaidhlig bhàth bhlasda. Ri ambarc air shaoileadh tu nach d' fhaig e Lunnainn riamh, ach abair thusa srutthan Gaidhlig riumsa. Sa' bhruidhinn a bh' againn thug e cò mi; agus arsa ean: "Tha eagal orm gun do chuir mi làmh san fhear chearr a thaobh na Gaidhlig." "Co sibh fhéin, agus cia sa a tha sibh?" arsa mise. "Thà, Iain Camshron a Lunnainn." "Direach sin," arsa mise, "tha fhios agam mu do dheidhinn glé mhaith—Mulleach, deagh Gaidheal, agus mac an deagh Gaidheil." "Bha rùm na tréine san robh sin, an uair sin cho blàth, còibheil, agus càirdheil 's ged bu chàirdèan sinn o chionn àireamh bhliadhnan. Rinn a' Gaidhlig sin. Chunnac mi a leithid ceudna a' tachairt fheadh uair."

Bha mi ann an seo deireadh September agus mi tilleadh a' Eilean Leodhais agus mi aig Orduighen Chàrlabhaigh. Bha an tréine eadar Inbhir Nis aig Peart cho làn agus a chunnaic mi riamh i, agus is e balach an Nèibh aig saighdearan an Fheadh Adhair a bha sa' chuid mhór a bh' innte. Bha iad a' tilleadh air ais, agus iad air a bhith aig an tigh air fòrlagh, agus cha mhór gun cinnneadh tu facal feadh na tréine ach Gaidhlig, agus gu h-àraidh a mugh an trannsa na tréine, agus a h-uile duine a' bruidhinn ri each a chéile.

Bha fear a muinntir ceann a deas Shassinn, fear de Fheadh an Adhair, 'na shuidhe ri mo thaobh, agus e ag gabhail ealla ris a' charthannas agus an t-saorsa bha an so. Bha e a' faicinn feadhainn de bhalaich an Nèibh aig feadhainn eile a' bruidhinn riumsa an Gaidhlig san dò seachad an trannsa na treine; agus arsa ean mu dheidhinn rium: "Is aithne do na h-uile duine tha na h-uile duine eile." Agus coltas air fhein a bhith glé anarannach 's gun e tuigsinn cìod a bha dol air adhart.

Tha carthannas sa' Gaidhlig, agus ann a bhith cleachdadh na Gaidhlig; agus bu mhór am beud gun cailleadh na Gaidheil a' charthannachd sin. Tha sinn an dòchas nach tig an latha a chailleas.

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Gaidheil Shan Francisco.—Tha buidhean de Gaidheil eudmhor ann an San Francisco agus timchill a' cheàrnach sin de Ameriga. Tha Mòd aca 'ga cumail a h-uile samhradh o chionn beagan bhliadhnan an so, agus tha an

rud sonraichte comh-cheangailte ris a' Mhòd so as còir a mholadh do muinntir nam Mòdan Dùthchail againn fhein, 'se sin, gur h-e leabhraichean Gaidhlig a thatar a' toirt mar dhùisean aig Mòd Shan Francisco. Cha bhì loro no chumhne fada air duais aigead ach bhìd loro is cumhne air leabhar maith Gaidhlig, agus bhithidh an leabhar Gaidhlig 'na mheadhon brosnachaidh air aobhar na Gaidhlig. Thug iad trì fichead leabhar Gaidhlig mar dhùisean seachad aig Mòd an t-samhradh so chaidh.

Is e ar caraid Seumas MacGaraich a tha air ceann teagsg na Gaidhlig, agus air ceann a' Mhòid, an San Francisco; agus ma tha an duine eile beò as eudmoire as leth na Gaidhlig na Seumas chan aithne dhomha e. Ach bhìd mise ag cur air Seumas còir gu bheil e uide uaireanan mòran nas farsuinge na a eòlas, co-dhùbh a eòlas air a' Gaidhealtachd agus air cor na Gaidhlig air a' Gaidhealtachd, ach an deidh sin cha bu mhise sinn ann dusan de a leithid an so.

Tha e daonna a' moladh a' Gaidheil, agus a' seirm a chùil, ach tha e trom trom air a' Chomunn Gaidhealtach, agus e ag cur as ar leth gu bheil sinn ag caitheamh mòran de 'r saothair air nìthidh nach sàsaich fìor Gaidheil agus nach riarach cuisean na Gaidhlig.

Cha mhise sinn idir comhairle a thoirt ornn, agus sinn fhein fhaincinn mar a tha Gaidheil eudmhor eile 'gar faicinn fada air faire. Tha Seumas ceart ann a bhith ag cumail na Gaidhlig, agus na Gaidhlig a mhàin fa ar comhair. Is maith an sgathan stùl caraid.

Buaicheadh am firean mi le smachd,

gabhadh mi sin gu caomh:

Gabhadh mi uith an t-achmhasan

mar oladh phrìseil mhaoth;

Cha bhris am busaidh ud mo cheann

oir fhòs teid mi 'ruighn suas,

Tràth bhios an atim ud gu tràgh

'na àm ùghair cruaidh an sràis.

* * * *

An Leabhar.—Cha 'b' ann son uair no dà uair a thog *An Gaidheil* fianus an aghaidh a chomh-luchd-dùthecha airson nach robh iad ag ceannach agus a' leughadh leabhraichean Gaidhlig. Shaoileadh duine a nis gum biodh chùisean na b' fhearr a thaobh so, oir tha mòran Gaidheil ann an dugh do an aithne Gaidhlig a leughadh agus eadhon a sgrìobhadh, thà, tha mi ag creidsinn barrachd air na bha riamh ann, a thainig sin do mar a thatar a' teagasg na Gaidhlig san sgòil.

Rud eile, shaoilinn gum biodh mòran a bharrachd de òigridh ann aig am bi iarraidh air leabhar no mìoschan Gaidhlig a leughadh a nis an deidh tilleadh dhachaidh as a' choghadh agus iad a leughadh a bheag no mhór de Gaidhlig dar a bha iad air falbh—ged nach biodh ann ach na chuir an Comunn Gaidhealach fhéin thuca.

Tha sinn an dòchas gum bi. Tha feum air. Am bheil fhios againn air an so? Gun teid deich bliadhna seachad mus reicear mile de leabhar Gaidhlig sam bith a theid a chlo dh-bhuaidh. An uair a tha na Comunn Gaidhealach ag clodh-bhuaidh leabhar as òr thatar mar as tric ag clodh-bhuaidh mìle leth-bhreac de 'n leabhar sin, agus bheir e deich bliadhna co-dhùbh m' bi iad uile air an creic. Tha sin ag ciallachadh nach 'eilear ag creic ach mu cheud de leabhar Gaidhlig sam bith an comhair na bliadhna. Chan 'eil sin mòr an coimeas ris na tha Gaidheil ann; chan 'eil, eadhon an coimeas ris na tha 'nam buill de 'n Chomunn Gaidhealach fhéin. Ach so mar a thà, agus chan 'eil maith a bhith 'ga chleith oirnn fhein no air daoine eile.

Ach tha an leabhar a mhàin ann a tha na Gaidheil ag ceannach, agus tha sinn ag creidsinn a' leughadh, 'se sin, am Biobul Gaidhlig. Tha Comunn Bhiobalach Dùthchail na h-Alba ag ràdh san iomradh a chuir iad a mach am bliadhna gun do reic iad an uiridh—sa' bhliadhna 1944.—trì mìle is ochd ceud is deich (3810). Biobul Gaidhlig. Chan 'eil teagamh nach 'eil air a chunntadh am measg so feadhainn a bha air a chraobh-sgoileadh am measg nan saighdearan, ach ged bhithfeadh fhéin tha barrachd de 'n Bhiobul Gaidhlig air a cheannach sa' bhliadhna na tha de leabhraichean Gaidhlig eile gu léir an ceann a chéile.

Tha fhios gu bheil Gaidhlig ghlan is ghriinn a' Bhiobuill 'na mheadhon mòr air ar cainnt a chumail ceart agus còthromach agus usal. Tha sin aig na Gaidheil and cois so, ach tha nas

fhearr na sin aca. Tha cuimhne agam nuair a thathas ag crùnadh Rìgh Bheatainn gu bheillear am meadhan na seirbhìs a' toirt dha Biobull, agus gu bheil Ard Easbuig Chanterbrog ag ràdh ris: So dhuibh an nì as luachmoire tha san t-saoghail —Facal Dhé. Is mathail, ma tha, gu bheil na Gaidheil ag ceannach an son leabhar Gaidhlig as fhearr agus as luachmoire a th' ann.

Firinn nas an a' mhios so. — Agus bitheadh rathad-mór an sin, agus slighe; agus goirear slighe na naomhachd dheth; cha siubhail neach neoghan tromhè; ach bitheadh e air an sonas; cha teid am fear-turuis no na daoine baoghalta air seachran ann.

Cha bhi leòman an sin, ni mò thig fiadh-bheathach millteach suas ann; chan fhaighear an sin e; ach siubhailidh a' mhuinntir shaorte ann: Agus pillidh saor-dhaoine an Tighearna, agus thig iad gu Sion le caithream, agus aoibhneas siorruidh air an cinn; gheibh iad gairdeachas agus aoibhneas, agus teichidh bròn agus Osnach air falbh.—*Isaiah, xxxv., 8-10.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Saturday, 15th September. There were 58 members present, and the President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., was in the Chair.

Minute of previous Annual Meeting was read and approved. The Annual Accounts and Balance-Sheet were considered, and the Treasurer read the Auditors' docket thereto. These were unanimously approved.

The President's resumé for the year under review and the Reports of the Standing Committees were carefully considered. Airing out of the Reports of the Propaganda Committee and the Mod and Music Committee Mr. Charles Reppke enquired, with reference to the County Music Committees, if any monetary benefit accrued to An Comunn as a result of its association with the Scottish Council of Social Service. Mr. J. M. Bannerman replied that it was hoped that the County Music Committees would promote the claims of Gaelic Music which meant more to the objects of An Comunn than monetary reward. Mr. Neil MacLean referred to the forthcoming Festival in the Cowal Area under the auspices of the S.C.S.S. (Cowal Committee) which was including Gaelic in the syllabus. Mr. Reppke was of the opinion that in so far as Kintyre was concerned, the best way to promote Gaelic Music was for the Council to give financial assistance to the Provincial Mod.

The Reports of the Standing Committees were unanimously adopted.

The Secretary intimated that there was no contested election for office on the Executive Council as only the required number were nominated. The names of those re-elected were read to the meeting. Mr. Kenneth MacDonald referred to the fact that there was no contested election of office-bearers and he was of opinion that this showed a lack of interest. He expressed the hope that before the next Annual Meeting there would be a contested election. The Secretary informed the meeting of the procedure for making nominations for vacancies on the Council. Reference was made to attendances at Executive Meetings and the President suggested that the pre-war system of printing the list of members and a note of their attendances at meetings should be reverted to. This was unanimously agreed to. Mr. MacDonald further suggested that An Comunn should form a Listening Group in connection with the B.B.C. Gaelic programmes.

The meeting considered the recommendation of the Executive Council that the Annual National Mod be restored, and the request from the Aberdeen Branch, that the Mod be held in Aberdeen during the week ending, 28th September, 1946, was unanimously approved.

Mr. J. N. MacConochie suggested that the time had arrived for the Mod and Music Committee to re-consider the maximum number of personnel allowed in choirs competing in the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield competition. He referred to the uneven balance in a choir of 26 members attempting to

interpret a six part harmony. Rev. T. M. Murchison referred to the position in the Rural Areas where in many cases it was difficult to obtain even 26 choristers. Mr. Bannerman, Convener, replied that the Mod and Music Committee would give careful consideration to the points raised at their first meeting.

The Secretary intimated that a member, Mr. John Whyte, had presented two oil paintings to An Comunn and it was left with the Secretary and Treasurer to make arrangements for the sale of these. Mr. Whyte was cordially thanked for his generous donation.

The President was cordially thanked for presiding on the call of Mr. John M. Bannerman and this terminated the meeting.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Preliminary Meeting of the Executive Council, for the appointment of Standing Committees, was held immediately following the Annual Meeting. The Finance Committee reported on having given consideration to the remit with reference to the request of the Aberdeen Branch that the services of the Northern Organiser should be made available in connection with the organisation of the proposed Mod at Aberdeen in September, 1946.

The Committee recommend that, while the Northern Organiser should give all possible assistance, it was essential that local officials should be appointed. The Committee also considered a request from the Scottish Savings Committee for the release of the Northern Organiser to organise the "Thanksgiving Week" in Inverness-shire for a period of four weeks.

The Committee recommend that the request be granted.

The President read a letter from Mr. Donald MacDonald in which he asked to be relieved from the office of Convener of the Propaganda Committee for a year and that a Vice-Convener be appointed. The Council unanimously agreed to ask Mr. MacDonald to continue as Convener and to ask the Committee to appoint a Vice-Convener at its first meeting.

The Council recorded its deep sympathy with Mr. MacDonald in the loss of his only son in Germany, and also recorded its sense of the great work which Mr. MacDonald had done on behalf of An Comunn.

The Council referred to the question of copyright and royalties and, after due consideration, a sub-committee was appointed to look into the matter and report. The Rev. T. M. Murchison asked the Sub-Committee to keep in mind what An Comunn owed to people who had contributed to An Comunn publications in the past. It was agreed that the Publications Committee should consider this matter.

The Minute was thereafter approved on the motion of Dr. Cameron.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Highland Season in Glasgow was opened on 14th September when the Central and Govan Branches of An Comunn held a Joint Concert in the St. Andrew's Hall. The Chair was occupied by Canon Duncan MacInnes, M.C., Glencoe, who was introduced by Mr. John A. Nicolson. Canon MacInnes gave an address in Gaelic and English which inspired the large audience. A first rate all Gaelic Concert was sustained by the following artists—Mary C. MacNiven, Morag MacDonald, Jean Cameron Greer, Kenneth MacRae, Alasdair Matheson, Donald MacInnes, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Choir (Conductor, J. N. MacConochie), Caledonian Strathspey and Reel Society (Sinclair Rae, Conductor), Police pipers and Dancers, with George J. Dryden, Organist and Accompanist. The success of this function was a good omen for the future.

Branches have made a good start and the prospects for the current session are very encouraging.

I paid my annual visit to the Dumfries Branch on 4th October, and had the pleasure of helping to open their 15th session. There was a good attendance in the St. George's

Hall, and Mr. Archd. MacDonald, President, was in the Chair. A splendid programme of songs and bagpipe and violin music was submitted and thoroughly enjoyed.

A Gaelic Class is being organised and the teacher, Mr. Colin Morrison, gave a most encouraging report on the Class held last year. The Gaelic Choir is being revived and Mrs. Duncan Campbell will again act as conductor. The Branch is in a very flourishing condition, and I was pleased to note the presence of Messrs. Duncan Campbell (Secretary and Treasurer) Neil MacVicar, Donald Morrison, Donald Urquhart, and the President, all of whom were present when I formed the Branch 15 years ago. I was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. Anderson during my stay. Mr. Anderson gives valuable assistance to the Secretary in arranging meetings.

The Ayr Branch is arranging for a Gaelic Class and also reviving the Gaelic Choir which helped so much at pre war Ceilidhean. The first meeting of the Branch was largely attended.

Largs Branch has also made an auspicious start with Councillor Malcolm Black, President in the Chair. Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun (Phemie Marquis) Hon. President, was also present.

I hope to visit most of the Branches in the Southern Area this session and will be pleased to hear from secretaries as to suitable dates.

AN COMUNN CONCERT TOUR.

The first of the Concert Tours, in aid of the Central Fund arranged for the Southern Area was an outstanding success, financially, socially, and from a propaganda viewpoint. Concerts were held at Strathyre, Dalmally and Taynuilt and crowded halls at each centre were the order of the day. A most enthusiastic and cordial reception was given to the party at each concert and right well did the artistes respond.

At Strathyre, the local arrangements were in the hands of Mrs. Edgar who left no stone unturned to ensure the success of the evening. The Hall was specially decorated for the occasion and the President of An Comunn, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, presided over the proceedings in his usual capable and dignified manner. A first rate concert was followed by an equally successful dance and thus the tour was set going to a wonderful start. On Thursday morning, before proceeding to Dalmally, the party visited the ancient burial ground at Balquhider which is the final resting place of Rob Roy and also paid a visit to the President and his good lady at the Manse.

At Dalmally, the party was hospitably received by Rev. Angus MacKinnon and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Kennedy of the Hotel. Mr. John Cameron and Mr. Archie Smith had made excellent arrangements and, as a result, the Hall was packed by an enthusiastic audience. Rev. Angus MacKinnon made an excellent chairman and here also the artistes responded to repeated demands for encores. On Friday morning, through the courtesy of Mr. MacKinnon, the party visited Loch Awe and the church of St. Conans in its beautiful surroundings. On such a glorious morning and amid such beautiful scenery it was indeed difficult to realise that we were living in a world which is struggling to survive the horrors of the past six years.

It was with a tinge of regret that we left our good friends at Dalmally to proceed to Taynuilt, but, our pleasure was renewed, on being welcomed by my old friend and staunch supporter of An Comunn, Mr. Peter Campbell. The weather could not have been bettered in mid-summer and even Cruachan in her majesty had doffed her cap of mist to extend a welcome.

Mrs. Bell and her Committee had everything arranged to perfection and it was with difficulty that everyone managed to gain admission to the Hall, and as I remarked later, the attendance at the concert if it had done nothing else, had proved that the spirit of Donnchadh Ban was still very much alive. Rev. Murdoch MacDonald was in the chair and right well did he perform this duty.

The sincere thanks of An Comunn are due to Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Strathyre; Mrs. C. Bell, Taynuilt; and Mr. John Cameron and Mr. Archie Smith, Dalmally; for making such excellent

arrangements which contributed greatly to the success of the tour and also to Mrs. Edgar and Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy, Dalmally, for providing hospitality for the party and last but not least to my good friends the artistes, Mrs. Peterine Stewart, Miss Margaret MacMillan, Mr. Angus Whyte, Mr. Angus Morrison, Miss Morag Bannerman, and Mr. Archie Smith. I think it is safe to say that seldom, if ever, have they excelled as they did on this occasion, and I shall always be proud to have been associated with such an excellent company in this latest effort on behalf of An Comunn. At the time of going to press, the Central Fund has benefited to the extent of a sum slightly in excess of £100 as a result of this tour. Miss MacMillan and I proceeded to Oban on Saturday and helped to sustain the programme at the opening ceilidh of the Oban Branch. The President of the Branch, Mr. Peter Fletcher was in the chair and a very successful ceilidh was held. Members will be glad to know that I called on that grand man of Gaelic song, Mr. John MacDonald, late conductor of the Oban Gaelic Choir who, I am pleased to say, is looking very fit.

Mr. Shaw will be very pleased to hear from Branch Secretaries if they wish An Comunn Concert Party to visit their district. ALASDAIR.

WAR MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING FUND.

A very successful concert and dance was held in the Shielbridge Hall, Acharacle, on Monday, 22nd September. This function was organised by Miss Lucy Cameron, Glasgow, on behalf of the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund. Needless to say Miss Cameron had the warm support of several local enthusiasts for the Gaelic cause including Mr. John Cameron, Raeland. Rev. Angus MacAskill was in the Chair and two noted Gaelic singers in Mr. Alasdair Matheson and Mr. Angus Whyte travelled from Glasgow for the occasion. They were assisted by Local artistes who contributed in no small measure to a most enjoyable evening. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and artistes was proposed by Mr. Alex. Cameron (North Argyll). The Fund benefited to the extent of £30 3s 6d. and the Central (War Comforts) Committee is very much indebted to Miss Cameron in this splendid effort.

REV. DR. NEIL ROSS MEMORIAL.

A Memorial to the late Dr. Neil Ross, Ex-President, is to be erected in Laggan Church, and it is felt that members of An Comunn would like to have a share in this memorial. Contributions, large or small, shall be received and acknowledged by Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer of An Comunn, 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGHRIDH.

Tha a' chuid mhór de m' sheanachas air a' mhios so mu laoch air a' bheil sibh uile glé eòlach, an t-Ollamh, Dòmhnall Seumas MacLeod, feachadair, no fear-ceannachaidh nan sgoltean air a' Ghàidhealtachd, 's a tha na nis a' leigeid dheth a dhreuchd. Is buidhe dhuibhse, a chlann, gun robh sibh greis fo shìl an deagh Ghàidheil ud. An uair a bha mise ann an sgoil, bha daoine eòire gun teagamh a' tighinn g' ceannachadh, ach ma bha a' bheag no mhór de Ghàidhlig aca idir, cha chuala mise facal dhi bhuaipa riannh. Tha an t-Ollamh MacLeod a nis air tì bhur fàgail, agus cho math 's 'gam bi esan a tha ag gabhail àite, bidh esan a' dh' fhalbh 'na chiall dhuibhse, a chlann. Ach is mise tha cinnteach ged a tha e a' leigeid dheth a dhreuchd gum bi a chluas ri claisreach feuch ciomar a bhios a' dol dhuibh. Mar sin, feuch nach bi sibh a' deannamh dearmad air an fhòglum tu go seachd sonraichte air a' Ghàidhlig, a tha cho dlùth d' a chridhe-san.

A nis, is e am prìomh aobhar a chuir gur e so an cuspair a thagh mi air a' mhios so gun d' fhuair mi rannan bàrdachd

bho dheach cahraid eile do 'n Ghàidhlig is dhuibhse, leis an Ollamh MacLeòid mar chuspair doibh. Tha an t-ùghdair air mhian gun toirinn-sa am follais dhuibhse iad anns an litir so, agus is ann le mòr thoileachadh a tha mise 'ga dheanadh sin : tha mi ag gabhail a' chothrom (1) gu deagh bhàrdachd a thoirt dhuibhse is do leughadairean eile a' "Ghàidheil," is (2) gu mo mheas fèin air cuspair na bàrdachd a leigeil ris.

Tha an t-ùghdair urramach a chuir chugam a' bhàrdachd—chi sibh ainm is a shloinneadh aig a bonn—a sgrìobhadh mar so.—“Tha mi ag cur chugaibh rainn a bhreac mi sios do 'n Ollamh, Dòmhnall Seumas MacLeòid. Chuireadh sibh comain orm na 'n cuireadh sibh air beulaibh na h-òigridh iad. Is aithne dhaibh uile Dòmhnall Seumas; agus is aithne dhuinne e : agus nach trugh gun tigeadh air duine bàs fhaotainn gun fios a bhith aige air meas chàich air! Tha MacLeòid 'na chliù nach beag do na Gàidheil an Albainn.” Tha seanasach beag eile aige 'na litir, ach feumar fhàgail gus an ath mhios. So agaibh na rannan.—

Buaidh is Beannachd.

A Dhòmhnall Seumas, cuiream beannachd
Nall gu àrmuinn, ann am barrachd,
A thug àite mach gu maireann,
Clù is meas, is ainm gun smal air!

Fuil mic Thoreuille trann a creubhaig,
'S fuighleach làidir, alainn Gàidheal;
An Innse-Gall ud thall a dh' èirich,
Seasmhach, càirdheil, usal, eudmhor.

Ort bha sùil luchd-éigs' is eòlais,
Sùil do mhuinntir, sùil na h-òige;
Briseadh-dùil nìor fhuair an seòrsa;
B' fhear ri leughadh thu 's ri òraid!

Beul le Fraingeis air na barraith,
Beul am Beurla shàraich Gallaibh,
Blas is ceart an cainnt an taruinn,
Ghàtha gach cànan àbhaist ma' riut.

Beul a chuireadh snas air Gàidhlig,
'S a thug togail shoilleir, àrd dhi,
Rogha ollamh nach d' thug tair dhunn,
Caraid Gàidhli'ch 's an dearbh bràthair.

Sòlas oibreach, 's i gun dith oirr!,
Sòlas còmhraig teachd gu sìth dhuit;
Sòlas càirdeas sìan nam miltean;
Fada, buan thu aig do dhìlsean.

CALUM MACGHILLEATHAIN

Tha mo rùm air teirsinn. Bha mi an dùil beagan a ràdh mu oidliche Shamhna, a bhios aginn mu na làithean a ruigeas an àireamh so sibh; ach chan 'eil de rùm agam ach na dhùraicheas dhuibh gach aighear is pailteas, noth an àibhlan gu leòr, is deagh chàil gu an cagnadh!

Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

MIANN AN FHOARRAICH DO 'N EILEAN SGIATHANACH.

Get 's tric a bhuaileas siantanna
Mu d' shecan liath-ghorm àrd,
A' dòrtadh usg' gu falaidh ort,
A lionas d' uillt gun bàrr;
'S a dh' aindeoin caochladh iarmailtean
A chuireas grian fo sgàil,
Cha sguir mi 'm feasd' a' mhiannachadh
Mu d' chreagan liath, bhith tàmh.

Is iomadh mac a dh' àraich thu,
Is 'n dràs an dùthaich chéin,
Tha ged 'na inbhe fàbharach,
Gun ghort, gun phlàigh, gun éis,
Cha bhì an iarrtus sàsaichte
Gum faigh iad tàmh fo d' sgeith,
'Gad chuimhneachadh o 'n dh' fhàg ad thu—
An t-àit' as fèarr fo 'n ghréin!

Oir 's th' thug near' 'n an òige dhaibh,
Is sòlas anns gach ceum,
Deagh-bheus is dìlseachd shònraichte.
Nach eannaich òr no sprèidh;
'S ma 's ann a' dìon na còrach iad,
No cosnadh lòn dhàilidh féin,
Tha mhìsneach dhuit thu òg anna,
'Na còmhnaidh chuir 'n àm féum'.

'Nuair thig an t-àm, gur sùndach iad,
'Dol thugad hin' air chuart;
Gur blàth an spéis 's an dùrachd dhuit,
'S gur mòr, as ùr, an uail
Gun d' altrum thu na dìlanaich
A dhion ar saors' le buaidh;
An còmhraig ghéir cha dìlaidh iad
A bhith an tús a' chruais.

Is ged bhios cuid aig amannan
Ri gearan air an t-sid',
'Nuair shéideas è 'na mheallan ort,
'S 'na dheannan troimh na glinn;
'Se sin bheir fàs, is fallaineachd,
Is maise do gach nì;
'S thig teas na grein' gu d' lagannan,
'S bi 'n toradh glan gun dith.

Bu taitneach leams' bhith 'g aithris ort,
'Na'm b' aithne dhomh, le ceòl;
Ag cuimhneachadh 's ag aideachadh
Mo thlachd dhìot o thús m' òig';
Mar dh' fhàs mo mhian' 's mar dh' abach,
'N àm allabain is bròin,
Bhith faotainn fois is fallaineachd
'Nad ghlaicadh glas fadheòidh.

ALASDAIR ROS.

5a' Chleann san robh mi òg,
An Lùnasdal, 1945.

AN SAIGHDEAR.

Carson a chath e, ean tha 'na shìneadh
Le aodann lom o ard an o smuain,
Le eanchainn nach do gheàrr troimh cheistean mòr,
Mar shaighdear gaelach sgaradh sgiath na h-oidhch'
Mar ghualainn bàta sgoltadh fearg a' chuan?
'N d' fhuair corrucich làmh an uachdair air do leòn,
'S tu streap ri creagan t' anam' anns a' cheò,
Is fàsach cogaidh 'ga do chràdh' 's gad phianadh,
Is t' intinn cheart cho tinn ri t' theoil?
Theich t' òige leis a' bhéigèile a' lot
Do chliathaich bhlàth 's a dh' fhosgail i ri gaoith
'S ri rionnagan nan speur cho fad' air falbh
Ri iochd an cridhe cruaidh an t-saobhris.

O shaighdear chailt, tha corp do dhòchais cailt,
Tha stri is buaireadh 's spàirn air sìoladh às
Aig armachd nàmhaid, armachd shearbh an t-saoidh
Aig laoch a bhruidheadh riut an cànan dàimh
Is sìth air thalainn.
Ach dh' èirich crìochan rìoghachd fo do shìl
Is dìomhaireachd a' chòmhraig 's eagal bàis
Carson a chog thu, thusa tha 'nad shìneadh?
Cha d' fhreagar e, 's bha bheul cho balbh, 's a shìl
Cho falamh ris a' bhàs. EOTN.

GLEANN COMHANN.

Bha am feasgar ag cìaradh
'S mi sìubhal troimh 'n gheann,
Ach dh' éisinn gu sìorruidh
Ri giùbhal 'n eun,
Le 'm bòidheach 's a grinneas,
'N Gleann Comhann cho séimh ;
Is thàladh am binneas
Na h-singean & nèamh.

Bha an t-arbhar cho òrach
Am mulan is cruach,
'S na dailean cho pòrach
Air còmhnard is brnach ;
'S an t-sòbhrag 's an cluaran
Cur dreach air gach ni,
Is usg as an fhuaran
Toirt àbhachd do'm chridh.

Mun cuairt air Torr Driseach
Bha àirneag is emur,
'S an gàradh cho measach
Le ìbhlán is peur ;
Bha am bradan san linne
'S damh-cròic air an t-sliabh,
'S an tighèan 'a Ghlinne
Bha measan is biadh.

Bha an iolair ag iadhadh
Mun bhinnean a b' àird',
Ach luaithe na a ghiathan
Dh' fhalbh smuaintean b' bhàird
Air ais troimh na linteann
A dh' fhàg e 'na dhéidh,
'S bha sòlas 'na inntinn
Le glòireachadh Dhé.

Baile-a-Chaolais.

ALASDAIR MACRAING.

SPAISDEIREACHD RAIBEIRT BHRUIS.

Fheara dhòirt gu tric bhuir fuil
Armuna Uallais, shaighdearan Bhruis
Tha sibh dol gu bàs 'nur tuil
No gu buaidh is g' a feabhas !
Nis an uair is nis an latha,
Sud ar nàmhaid catharra
Sud Feachd Eideird dhannarra—
Daorsa is bràighdeannas !

Có a bhithèas 'na bhrahdair ?
Cò a bhithèas 'na mheallair ?
Cò an éigin 'na thàrlaid bhios ?
Ghealtair ! Romhad ! Falbh !
Leanaibh mi gu buaidh no bàs
Fheara 'rhisgeas claidheamh gu dàn
Air son rìgh is laghannan—
Còir na h-Alba !

Aghaidh cràdh a' chruaidh-smachd
Air son cùis chruaidh bhur mac,
Dòirtidh sinn ar fuil gun rachd
Chum gum faigh iad saorsa.
Casgraidh sinn na fir gun dlìge,
Aogaidh fir-fhoirneirt d' ar brìgh,
'Sann chun na saorsa a tha ar clìth—
'S b' fheàrr am bàs na 'n daorsa !

—“Scots Wha Hae” le Raibeart Burns, air 'eadar-theangachadh o Ghallchaint na h-Alba le Seumas C. G. Griogalach.

SGEULACHDAN O 'N LOCHLANNAIS.

An Sean Cheatharnach agus an Naoidhean.

Aig an àm sin bha Bersi nan Còmrag-Deise, no Holmgang-Bersi, a' fuireach an Saurbarc. Chaidh e a choimhead air Amhlaihb agus dh' iarr e air a mhac Halldrog gu bhith 'na dhaltja aige. Dh' aontaich Amhlaihb le sin, agus thàinig Halldrog dhachaidh leis an t-sean duine, is gun e ach bliadhna a dh' aois aig an àm. Dh' fhàs Bersi car b'èòite as t-Samhradh, air chor is gun robh e air slait a dhroma 'na leabaidh a là 's a dh' oidhche. Tha e air aithris, latha bha sud, nuair a bha càch trang ris an fheur an Tunga agus nach robh a stigh ach an dithid ud, Halldrog agus Bersi, gun robh Halldrog 'na laighe ann an creathair. Chuir a' chreathal car dhith fo 'n phàisde agus thuit e a mach air an ùrlar. Cha robh Bersi air chomas cas a charachadh leis gun robh e gu bochd, agus ghabh e an rann so :—

*Is ionnan do 'n dithist, a mhicein, dhomh fhéin is duil,
le ch'ile 'nar sineadh gun sgrid, gun chomas cuir.
Bhuidhinn an dig' ort 's chuir bréiteach na h-aoise riom—
traogaidh t' euslainn ach fanachd, ach, mo ghalar, tha 'n
t-ewg 'na bhun.* (Laxdaela Saga.)

Mar a Fhuair Hallfredhar am Bàrd Lochlannach Bàs.

Bha Hallfredhar ùne fhada air thurasan agus chan fhaigheadh e fois an àite sam bith an déidh bàs Amhlaihb an rìgh. Dh' fhalbh e gu ruig an t-Suain a thadhal air a mhac Audghil a dh' fhaicinn a' bhacairteis a bh' aige. Chuir e roimhe fuireach an sin.

Bha Hallfredhar 'na dhà fhichead bliadhna ach beag nuair a shocraich e air Ioslann a thoirt air a dh' fhaotainn a chuid àirneis a dh' fhàg e an sin. Dh' fhalbh Hallfredhar Og, mac eile dha, còmhla ris, agus fhuair iad sìde ghailbheach agus miobhadh nach bu bheag air an rathad mu thuath. Ghabhadh Hallfredhar a thacan fhéin de 'n taomadh, ach, codhiùbh, bha e glé thinn. Latha a bh' ann, nuair a leig e an taoman deth rinn e suidhe air an t-slat mhóir (is fheudar nach robh na sìbil rithe aig an àm) agus a thiota bhris tonn a steach oirre agus thig e e sìos an ùrlar a' bhàta agus an t-slat air a mhuin. An sin thuir Toraid : “An d' rinn e cron ort idir, a bhràthair ?” Chunnac iad gun robh e air a ghoirteachadh agus chuidich iad sìos e gu deireadh a' bhàta ; agus ghabh iad uime, is dh' fheòrach iad dheth ciod e am beachd a bh' aige air a chor fhéin.

An s'n ciod e a chunnac iad ach bean a' tighinn an déidh a' bhàta air uise na stìbeirach. Bha i fuathasach mór agus làireach stàillinn uimpe. Choisicheadh i air crein nan tonn dìreach mar gum biodh i air fìor thalamh tioram. Sheall Hallfredhar an taobh a bha i agus dh' innis e dhaibh gum b' i sud a thamhasg no a spiorad coimheadachd fhéin. Dh' èigh e rithe : “Is ann a tha mi ag ràdh riut gu do chuir mi cùl rìgh, agus nach gabh mi gnòthuch riut tuille” (oir bha e air a dhòighean pàganach a thréigsinn.) Thuir ise : “A Thoraid, an gabh thusa rium ?” Thuir Toraid nach gabhadh. An sin thuir Hallfredhar Og : “Gabhaidh mise riut.” Le sin thionndaidh i air ball is chaidh i as an t-sealladh. An sin thuir Hallfredhar : “Dhuita, a mhic, bheir mi an claidheamh Gibb An Rìgh, ach thèid a h-uile seud eile anns a' chist maille rium, ma 's e is gun caochail mi an so air a' bhàta.” Agus ghabh e na rann so :—

Dh' fhalbhainn a nis gun smalan
na'm b' fhios domh m' anam a bhith tèarunt !
As m' òige bha mi bras 'nam bhruidhinn—
falbhaidh na h-uile, is fheadar.
Cha bu chram dhomh ni am feasda
mur b' e an t-èagal so roimh Ifrinn.
A Dhia, nuair ruigeas mi thallad
gun toir Thu dhomhsa dachaidh bhiothbhuhan.

Tacan an déidh sin chaochail e, agus chuireadh e ann an ciste agus a sheudan leis, a chleòc, a chlogaid agus 'Thàineachan, agus leig iad an t-Iomlan sìos le cliaithach a' bhàta. Thàinig a' chist air tìr an I an an Eileanan na h-Albann, agus fhuair seirbhisich an aba i. Spealg iad a' chist 'na clàraibh beaga agus thug iad leò na seudan a bh' innte. Chunnac an t-ab brudar as t-oidhche, gun tàinig Amhlaihb an rìgh far an

rohb e. Bha coltas feargach air, agus thuir e "gur ann aige a bha na droch sheirbhiseach" oir "bhris iad long mo bhàird-sa, agus ghoid iad a chuid, agus cheangail iad clach mu a mhuineal. A nis, ghaid thusa an fhirinn bhupa, airmo tachraidh nithean iongantach dhuit fhéin de nach bi tu idir buidheach."

Chuireadh na seirbhiseach an làimh, agus cha do dh' àicheid iad a bheag. Chaidh an leigeil mu sgaol. Ghlèidil iad corp Hallfredhar agus an eaglais agus chaidh a thiodhlacadh ann an dòigh ionchuidh. Rinn iad callis de na fainneach, còmhchad air son na h-altarach de 'n chleòc, agus còimleir de 'n chlogaid.

Agus is ein bas Hallfredhar ann bàrd.—(Hallfredhar Saga.)

Modh a' Bhòcaìn.

Anmoch feasgar, uair a bh' ann, bha duine àraid am mugh am bun a chuid chaoarach. Ciod e bhual trasd air an sin ach bòcan fliuch le sàl Agus thàinig an rud cho dlùth dha is nach rohb ann de ach tionndadh air fhìradh a mach air mol an dubhhladaich agus gabhail d' a chois troimh an uisge leth ri beul na tuinne. Chunnac an duine nach fhaigheadh e air adhart air an dòigh sin agus, ann am mullach na feirge—oir bha e tighinn anmoch agus cha bu mhòide sin fhaidhthig—thug e aghaidh gu h-anfhrasach air a' bhòcan, ag gabhail da le a bhata air an rohb bior iaruirin. Rinn mo laochan as air teicheadh, agus fhuair an duine tighinn suas o 'n chladach.

Cha deachaidh e fada nuair a choinnich e duine eile. Thug e a bhoinne a nuas da agus bheannaich e dha, is e air mhiann faghneachd mun rathad, agus gun e cinnteach c' àit an rohb e. Thug am fear eile a nuas ad is ceann beò slàn le chéile. Thug fear nan caorach sàthadh clis d' a bhata, agus bha e 'ga chumail eadar ceann is amhach air chor is nach b' urrainn do 'n bhòcan e fhéin a chur ri chéile a rithist; ach b' fheudair dha tionndadh air a shàil is tilleadh an car a thàinig e. Fhuair fear nan caorach an rathad is thug e a mach an tigh.

Tha an aon rud fìor mun bhuidsear agus mun bhòcan. Ma chhithear iad a' toirt an cinn bhar an guallean is gun téid rudeigin a sparradh eadar ceann is amhach, cha téid ca air iad fhéin a thàthadh ri chéile a rithist.—(Uppvåkningar og Fylgjur.)

DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

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Leabhar XLI.]

An Dùbhlachd, 1945.

[Earrann 3

A' GHÀIDHLIG BHRETONACH.

Is e Breton ainm na meoir sin de 'n chànanain Cheilteach a thatar a' bruidhinn am Breatainn Bheag, an ceann an iar-thuath na Frainge. Tha a' mheur so de 'n chànanain Cheilteach gu maith cairdeach do Ghaidhlig na Cuimrich; tha mi deanamh dheth gu bheil iad sna h-oghaichean d' a chèile. Fàgaidh sin cairdeas fad as aig a' Bhreton ris a' Ghaidhlig againn fhein. Tha iad, tha mi creidsinn, anns na dubh-oghaichean.

Is e, ma tha, Breton as cainnt mhàtharail do 'n mhòr-shluagh a tha ann am Breatainn Bheag na Frainge, agus mar a tha e nàdurach tha i glé mhùirneach aca; ann an seagh mòran nas mùirniche na tha ar Gaidhlig fhéin againne. Ach tha aobhar air an sin, mar a chì sinn.

Rud eile, tha barrachd mhòr a' bruidhinn Breton na tha bruidhinn meur sam bith eile de 'n chànanain Cheilteach. A reir cunntais a rinn muinntir Bhreatainn Bhig fhéin roimh an chogadh tha muillion agus dà cheud mìle (1,200,000) 'ga bruidhinn. Tha sin barrachd air na tha bruidhinn cànanain Cheilteach sam bith eile. Tha sin, ma tha, mar so an diugh ged nach d' fhuair i riamh a bheag de chothrom, no dad idir de chuideachadh, bho riaghaltas na Frainge. Is ann a bha e air a chaochladh; is ann a bha iad a' feuchainn ri cur as di, agus a' toirt ana-cothrom dhi mar chànanain, bho nach 'eil fhios cuin. Gnothach nàr.

* * * *

Bhà, agus thà, Riaghaltas na Frainge an aghaidh a bhith 'ga teagas anns na sgoilean, ged bha Gaidheil Bhreatainn Bhig ag guidhe agus ag aslachadh orra sin a dheanamh bho 'n bhliadhna 1830. Cha do rinn sin muthadh. Dh' aindeoin ciod a dheanadh muinntir Bhreatainn Bhig air son an cànanain mhàtharail cha tugadh Riaghaltas na Frainge éisdeachd dàibh. Bha iad, agus tha e coltach gu bheil iad fhathast, mar a bha an Riaghaltas againn fhein car greis o chionn fhada, am beachd gur h-ann a bha dà chànanain

a bhith an dùthaich a chum croin, gur h-ann a bha e a roinn an t-sluaigh 'n an dà earann, agus mar sin a chum cron na rìoghachd. Ach dh' ionnsaich an Riaghaltas againn an leasan, agus fhuair iad a mach nach ann mar sin a bha idir, ach tur eadar-dhealaichte, gu bheil claidheamh dà fhaobhair mòran nas fheàrr agus nas comasaiche na claidheamh aon fhaobhair. Fhuair iad sin a mach, agus tha fhios aig an t-saoghal mhòr air, nach 'eil sluagh eile am Breatainn, no eadhon an Impireachd mhòr Bhreatainn, as eudmoire do 'n rìoghachd agus as dilse do 'n impireachd na luchd a dà chànanain, Gaidheil na h-Alba. Nochd iad sin sa' chogadh so, agus nochd iad sa' chogadh roimhe sin, gun robh an ceum-toisich aca le an claidheamh dà-fhaobhair. Cò nach cuala feadh an t-saoghal mhòr mu dheidhinn an Roinn Gaidheilach de arm Bhreatainn, mu dheidhinn an Leth-cheud 's a h-Aon, luchd an dà chànanain, fir claidheamh an dà fhaobhair?

Ionnsaicheadh na Frangaich leasan bho 'n sin, ma bhios iad glic. Tha iad an dràsda ceàrr fad an droma, le bhith cur sios agus gun a bhith toirt a h-àite dligeach fhéin do Ghaidhlig bhlàth, bhlasda, agus dhuineil, Bhreatainn Bhig.

* * * *

Agus chan e mhàin nach 'eil Riaghaltas na Frainge a' toirt a h-àite fhéin, agus a dlige fhéin, do 'n chànanain Bhretonach sna sgoilean, ach tha iad sios oirre ann an iomadach dòigh eile. Sa' bhliadhna 1905 bha i air a casg a bhith air a cleachdadh ann an aoradh Dhé sna h-eaglaisean. Nuair a thainig a' cheud chogadh mòr cha robh sluagh eile san Fhraing a bu sheasmhaiche agus bu dilse air taobh na Frainge 's a cheartais na Gaidheil Bhreatainn Bhig; agus cha robh sluagh eile ann a dh' fhuiling barrachd na iad. Ach an deidh sin bha an aon dhimeas agus an aon ana-cothrom air a thoirt do an cànanain. Bha an nì cho faisinneach agus gun do nochd uachdaran nan Staitèan Aonaichte Uilson, agus Lloyd George, an dàimh 's an deagh-ghean ri Gaidheil Bhreatainn Bhig

a thaobh an càinain. Ach cha do rinn sin muthadh sam bith. Sa' bhliadhna 1925 thubhairt Ministear an Fhoghlum aig coinneimh fhollaiseach gum feumte a' chainnt Bhretonach a shaltair gu buileach as, chum 's nach biodh ach aon chainnt sin Fhraing uile.

* * * *

Bha an aon anacothrom air a thoirt do nì sam bith a bha air a chlodh-bhualach ann am Breton—do paipear-naidheachd, no miosachan no leabhar. Bha a h-uile dad air a dheanamh chó duilich 's a ghabhadh e deanamh, agus a h-uile ceap-starra a ghabhadh deanamh air a chur san rathad. Ach cha do mhùch, agus cha do mharbh, sin eud muinntir Bhreatainn Bhig do an càinain fhéin.

Thòisich iad ag cumail clasaichean gu bhith a' leughadh agus ag ionnsachadh Breton. Chuireadh air chois 'nam measg fhéin common ris an canar "Sgoil Bhretonach" gu bhith foghlum agus a faighinn a mach gach nì mu dheidhinn an càinain fhéin, agus gu bhith 'gan deanamh fhéin coimhlionta innte. Is ann air an oidhche, no air àm sam bith eile a tha iad saor, a bhios iad ag cruinneachadh chum na sgoile so. Thatar mar sin ag cumail suas an càinain fhéin, agus a' deanamh gach nì a ghabhas deanamh air a son, ged nach tug an Rìaghaltais aon chothrom no chuideachadh dhaibh fhathast agus an so, is ann a bha, mar gum b' eadh, iad a' toirt dùbhlain do shaorsa—saorsa an càinain do mhuinntir Bhreatainn Bhig.

* * * *

Tha sinn an dòchas a nis, an deidh na thainig an Fhraing troimhe mar rìoghachdan eile an domhain, gun tuig Rìaghaltais na Frainge gu bheil iad air an t-slighe cheàrr a thaobh càinain Bhreatainn Bhig—Breton chaomh chòir. Nan tuigeadh iad mar a tha a' Ghaidhlig Albannach a' blàthachadh agus a' beartachadh beatha is oideas is cur-seachadh na rìoghachd-sa le a céilidhean is a cruinneachaidhean, le a ceol is a Mòdan, le a litreachas is a h-ealdhain, agus le éideadh nan Gaidheal, nan tuigeadh Rìaghaltais na Frainge sin, chuireadh iad cùrsa eile oirre, agus dhèanadh iad na b' urrainn dhaibh ann a bhith cumail suas, agus a neartachadh, an dara càinain a thug Freasdal dhaibh 'n an tìr. Chitheadh iad an nì a chunnaic sinne, gur h-ann a tha so ag aonadh agus a neartachadh na rìoghachd gu h-iomlan; seadh, agus 'ga deanamh nas saobhire air iomadh dòigh, agus nas sona.

Is mór a dh' fhuing an Fhraing ann an sgoil a' chruadaill; agus dh' fhoghlum i, an sin nach 'eil maith a bhith toirt dùbhlain do shaorsa. Thig saorsa an uachdair 'na h-àm mhaith fhéin, agus bithidh i 'na beatha is 'na buannachd do 'n neach, agus do 'n tìr, a ghabhas rithe.

Sin mar a bhitheas a' chainnt Bhretonach do 'n Fhraing nuair a sguireas iad a thoirt mar gum b' eadh dùbhlain dhi, agus a bheil iad a saorsa dhi, agus a ghabhas iad rithe mar a nìgean dhligheach fhéin. Bithidh i an uair sin dhaibh air son feumna, agus air son aobhneis agus uaisleachd.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

An Nollaig.—Tha *An Gaidheal* ag guidhe beannachd is cridhealas na Nollaig do a luchd-leughaidh anns gach dachaidd anns an seas e, air Gaidhealtachd agus air Galltachd, agus feadh an t-saoghail mhóir uile. Nuair a thig Latha na Nollaig tha e an dòchas, agus a nis sith air thalaimh am measg chinneach is rìoghachdan an domhain airson na ceud Nollaig o chionn shia bliadhna, tha e an dòchas gum bi an t-sith sin a thainig an cois na Nollaig air tùs ann an cridheachan agus am measg nan Gaidheal agus gach sluagh eile feadh an t-saoghail mun iadhran. Cùmhnichidh sinn air an t-sith sin nuair a thig Latha Nollaig, latha nam beannachd. An duirt am bard:

Caomh fhailt ort a latha—a latha mo rùn—

A latha uil' airidh air moladh is cliù;

A Nollaig ged 's doilleir, leam 's soirle do ghnùis,
'S ro aobhneach do sgeula do 'n euslan 's do 'n chiùirt'.

Tha naomh cheol a' bualach mo chluasan gu h-àrd,
Guth molaidd ro usal bhios buan anns gach àit:
Mór ghloir anns na h-àirdibh do Ard-rìgh na glòir,
Air talaimh caomh shlàinte do 'n chràiteach, 's do 'n leòint!

Feuch! acair mo dhòchais, mo shòlais 's mo shith!
M' àrd aobhneis, fàth m' òrain, mo ghloir e gu cinnt';
Mo dhèidean fo thruaighe, gach uair e 's gach linn,
'S ionghnadh am chluais-sa a luaidh-san ged 's binn!

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MacDhomhnaill nan Eilean.—Tha Alasdair MacDhomhnaill Shléite, ogha agus oighre Morair MhicDhomhnaill Shléite, air ùr phòsadh. Gum meal agus gum caith e a naidheachd. Mar a bhios cuimhne aig cuid de ar luchd-leughaidh nìarbhaidh athair Alasdair—Captein Goraidh MacDhomhnaill—sa' cheud chogadh mhór. Bu mhaith a b' aithne d'hombsa Captein Goraidh MacDhomhnaill Shléite, duine ciùin, grinn, le fìor fhuiil uaisleachd nan Eilean. Agus bith cuimhne mhaith aig mòran de'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach air màthair Alasdair, boir'onnach air leth usal agus eireachdail, agus ro eudmhor air taobh a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach. Cha robh Mòd fad iomadh bliadhna mus do chaochail i aig nach robh i 'na cul-taic agus 'na cuideachadh dhuinn. Tha sinn mar sin ag guidhe gach beannachd is soirbheachadh do Alasdair Shléite air sgàth a phàrantan agus a dhaoine, agus tha e fhein làn airidh air an cliù-san. Gum meal e fhéin agus bean-na-bainne an naidheachd.

Tha e na Mhàidsear san arm, agus tha bean-na-bainne ann an seirbhis a' chrùn mar an ceudna; agus mar sin ge do phòs iad air mìos meadhonach an t-samhraidh is ann o chionn ghoidh an so a bha e conasach a' bhanais-thighe a bhith ann. Bha sin ann, agus fìor bhanais, ann an Caisteal Armadail toiseach mìos Octòbar. Bha cruinneachadh mór de mhuinntir an Eilean an lathair as gach cèrnaidh de oighreachd mhór Mhorair MhicDhomhnaill Shléite,

agus tiodhlacan pòsaidh aca do an oighre. Bha latha mór agus aobhneach aca a' leigeil fhaicinn do 'n chàraid òig le tiodhlacan is le briathran taitneach deagh-ghean is dùrachd an t-sluaigh air an oighreachd gu léir. Tha sinn ag cur ar deagh-ghean is ar dùrachd fhein an cois sin, oir is e fìor Ghaidheal a tha an Alasdair Shléite. Is ann dha bu dual. Ach mo léire, tha cinn-chinnidh eile ann do am bu dual a bhith 'nam fìor Ghaidheil ach a tha gu maith fuar a thaobh gèis is cànan is oideas nan Gaidheil. Dh'fhàg sin iadsan an diugh 'n an cinn-chinnidh fhuadain—leis an ainm gun an tairbh, agus an t-ainm fhein gu maith staoin. Chan ann mar sin a tha ar caraid Alasdair MacDhomhnaill Shléite. Agus a thaobh bean-na-bainne their sinn:

Mìle failte dhuit le d' bhréid,
Fad do ré gun robh thu slàn:
Móran làithean dhuit is sìth,
Le d' mhaithreas, 's le d' nì bhith fàs.

Gun tì iadsan; buaidh is piseach orra.

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Baile Obairadhain.—Is ann an Obairadhain a tha am Mòd Mór gu bhith deireadh September so tighinn—Mòd mór na buadha, tha fhios gum bi e ainneil.

Chan 'eil baile-mór eile an Albainn as eireachdaile na Obairadhain. Tha am baile air a thogail de chloich ghlais ghranait, agus tha sin 'ga fhàgail ag coimhead glan agus grinn. Chan aithne dhomhsa baile eile an Albainn, no an Sasainn, a tha coimhead cho glan ris.

Tha e rithis an cois na màra, le tràigh bhreàgha, gheal, ghainmhich, agus làgaraid na faire fallain daonnan a' bualadh oirre. Ged nach biodh aig baile Obairadhain ach so fhéin—muir is tràigh—cha bu bheag am beannachd e do bhaile-mór. Ach tha dà abhainn mhór mhaiseach a' dol troimh an bhaile cuideachd—Abhainn Dé agus Abhainn Deathain—leis gach beannachd a tha abhainn a' toirt do bhaile.

Tha rithist dùthaich thorach bheartach timchioll a' bhaile; agus suas Oir Dé dùthaich cho bòidheach 's a chunnaic stùil duine riann, agus chan 'eil Oir Deathain a bheag air dheireadh. Tha am baile mar sin maiseach 'na shealladh, bòidheach 'na thogail, agus beartach 'na shuidheachadh a thaobh toraidh fuinn is faire. Chan 'eil baile eile an Alba thig suas ris a thaobh éisg, agus gu sonraichte a thaobh glais-iasg. Tha mi creidsinn gu bheil barrachd glais-iasg air a thoirt air tìr an Obairadhain na tha am port-iasgaich eile an Alba.

Chan iongnadh mar sin idir ged bhiodh tlachd aig daoine a bhith fuireadh am baile cho breàgha agus cho goireasach agus cho saobhear ris. Tha sin aca, agus aig daoine eile air a bhith tadhal ann. Chi na Gaidheil nach robh riann ann, so nuair a thig iad chun a' Mhòid air an t-seachdain mu dheireadh de September, 1946. Bheireamaid a chomhairle air a h-uile duine as urrainn, iad an làithean saora ullachadh fa chomhair seachdain a' Mhòid an Obairadhain.

Rud eile. Chan 'eil daoine air an t-saoghal as còire agus as coibhneil agus as falaidhe na muinntir Obairadhain. Is ann agamsa tha fhios agus mi 'nam Mhinistear Airm còmhla riù sa' cheud chogadh mhór; agus gu maith eòlach an iomadh dachaigh aca bho 'n uair sin.

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An t-Sithchridh.—Bha banacharaid a' faighneachd dhìom an la-roimhe cìod a tha an t-sithchridh ag ciallachadh. Thubhairt i rium: “Cìod a tha, chaidh e do 'n t-sithchridh; no thainig e as an t-sithchridh, ag ciallachadh”? Tha ise gu maith eòlach is fìosrachail air gach dubhfhacal is frithfhacal tha 'n ar cànan, agus thuir mi rithe “Cìod e bhur barail fhéin”? “Tha mise,” ars ise, “a' smaoinreachadh gur h-e chaidh e as an t-sealladh gur fhios càite, tha am facal ag ciallachadh.” “Glé mhaith,” arsa mise, “tha brìgh an fhacail 'nam bheachd-sa a' fìleadh a steach sin cuideachd.”

Thubhairt mi rithe: “Theirear mu eun, no mu chreutar eile, chaidh e do 'n t-sithchridh, nuair a chaidh e do a chadal-geamhraidh, gur fhios càite—do chòs no do chùil air choreigin. Chaidh an t-eun as an t-sealladh da àite dìomhair, ach chan 'eil fhios aig duine càite. Air an làimh eile, theirear, gur tainig nì as an t-sithchridh nuair a thatar ag ciallachadh gur tainig e as dìomhaireachd air chùl gach nì.”

Mar sin, creutar sam bith, no nì sam bith, a chaidh do 'n t-sithchridh, thatar ag ciallachadh le sin, gur deachaidh e do dhìomhaireachd gur fhios càite—mar a tha na h-eoin, agus na meanbh-bheathaichean, a bhios a' dol as an t-sealladh agus nach fhaicear fad a' gheamhraidh; ged tha fhios a nis gur h-ann do dhùthchannan eile a tha na h-eoin a' dol. Theirear eadhon, chaidh e do 'n t-sithchridh, mu dheidhinn creutair nuair a thatar ag ciallachadh gun do bhàsaich e. Chaidh e do dhìomhaireachd air nach 'eil fhios càite. Thatar ag ràdh an fhacail, co-dhùibh a h-uile turas a chuala mise riann e, mar gum biodh e air a litreachadh mar so—an dithchridh, no an dithchridh. A bheil fhios de tha ceart?

Ma tha neach sam bith de ar leughadairean as urrainn am barrachd soluis a chur air ciall is brìgh an fhacail, bidh sinn fada 'na chomain, agus bidh *An Gaidheal* glé thoilichte sin a thoirt am follais.

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Manadh a' mhairbh air a' bheò.—Bha mi leughadh an la-roimhe mu dheidhinn saighdear a chaidh a leòn sa' Ghearmailt, saighdear singilte a mhuinntir Hull, agus chaidh e air ais o chionn ghoidh an so a chòimhead air an àite san deach a leòn san Ruhr. Cìod a chunnaic e an sin ach an uaigh aige fhéin, air a comharrachadh le crois, agus a ainm 's a shloinneadh is àireamh airm oirre. Bha eadhon am peileastair-comharrachaidh, a chail e nuair a chaidh a leòn, crochte ris a' chrois chuimhneachain a bh' air an uaigh aige.

Thug so 'nam chuimhne rud a thachair dhomh fhein an deidh Blàr *Vimy Ridge* sa' cheud chogadh mhór. Air an là an deidh a' Bhlàir dh' adhlac mise, le sgioba a bha agam air son sin, na thuit de 'n

réisimeid againn sa' Bhlàr; agus aig deireadh an latha chuir mi ainm is sloinneadh is àireamh airm gach aoin a dh' adhlac mi a steach do oifis na réisimeid, mar a chleachd mi bhith déanamh.

An ath latha an deidh ar bracbaist thainig an Comannair far an robh mi; agus thubhairt e: "A Phadre! bheil fhios agad gun do fhreagair fear de na dh' adhlac thu an dé ainm an diugh aig am gairm an rolla?" "Cha do fhreagair," arsa mise, "duine a dh' adhlac mise an dé sibhe an diugh, ma fhreagair chan ann sa' cholainn." "Tha e am muigh an sud," ars esan, "falbh is faic e." "Am bheil a pheileastair-comharrachaidh aige?" arsa mise. "Chan 'eil fhios agam," ars esan, "cha d' fhaighnich mi dheth."

Chaidh mi mach agus bha balach á bràighe Obairtheadain an sin. Bha e 'na chionta airm duine a dhiosc a chall; agus bha esan ag coimhead gu maith dubhach. "Tha mi toilichte d' fhaicinn, nach maith dhuinte a bhith beò le cheile," thuir mi ris. Rinn e an uair sin faite gàire.

"Am bheil do dhiosc agad?" thuir mi ris. "Chan 'eil, chaill mi e," ars esan. "Seadh," arsa mise, "and agus thog cuideigin eile e, agus chuir e 'na phòcaid e, agus thuit esan sa' bhlàr agus dh' adhlac sinne e fo d' ainm-sa. Mas e aon duine eile a tha air chall oirm nach 'eil fhios againn m' a dheidhinn is sin an duine; ach ma tha barrachd air aon duine air chall feumaidh mise dhol air ais agus faicinn a bheil peileastair-comharrachaidh mu amhaich an fhir a dh' adhlac mi fo d' ainmsa."

Is e aon saighdear a bha air chall agus gun fhios againn m' a dheidhinn, agus mar sin b' esan an duine a thuit agus a dh' adhlac mise an ainm an fhir eile. Chuir sinn a' chùis mar sin ceart.

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Trecheng.—So an t-ainm a theireadh na seann Ghaidheil ri seanfhacal anns an robh trì nithean air fhilleadh a steach. Tha grunnan maith de na trecheagan so againn a làthair fhathast, agus tha cuid dhiubh corr mór is mìle bliadhna dh' aois. Tha feadhainn de an t-seòrsa sheanfhalac so a' dol cho fada air ais ri timehioll air meadhan na naoidheamh linne—gu mu thuairam 850 A.D. Tha àireamh dhiubh a chaidh a sgrìobhadh sios mu dheireadh na ceithreamh linne deug, ach tha cruth na cainnt sam bheil iad a' dearbhadh gun robh iad an toiseach a' dol air ais gu co-dhiùbh meadhon na naoidheamh linne, mar a thubhairt mi.

So gaibh a' dhà no thri de na fìor sheann trecheagan. Cuiridh mi sios an toiseach iad mar a tha iad san t-seann Ghaidhlig, agus a rithist mar a theireadh sinn an dearbh rud ann an cainnt an latha an diugh.

(1) **Trì óible adannat seirc: gnúis, alaig, erlabhra**—'se sin, Tri éibhlean a dh' adaidheas seirc: gnúis, oilean, deas-labhradh.

(2) So fear eile. **Tri bùada téiti: ben cháem, ech maith, cú luath.** 'Se sin: Tri buadhan cruinneachaidh: bean chaomh, each maith, cù luath.

(3) **Tri hùathaid ata ferr sochaid: ùathad dagbriathar, ùathad bó hi feòr, ùathad carat im chuirm.** 'Se sin, an Gaidhlig an latha an diugh: Tri uireasbhuidhean as fheàrr na an ro-phailteas: uireasbhuidh deagh bhriathran, uireasbhuidh bhò air fear, uireasbhuidh chairdean mu chuirm.

Chi sinn, ma tha, gu bheil na trecheagan so a cheart cho greimeil, agus cho fìor, an diugh agus a bha iad o chionn mìle bliadhna air ais. Tàlaidhidh na trì nithean a tha air an ainmeachadh sa' chsùl fhear neach a dh' ionnsaigh neach eile an diugh mar a dhèanadh e an uair ul. 'Se sin, gnúis thaitneach, deagh oilean, agus cainnt chothromach. Agus chan 'eil teagamh nach 'eil na trì nithean eile a th' air ainmeachadh san dara fear ag cur loinn is mise air còmhhdail, no cruinneachadh, an diugh mar a bha san latha ud, 'se sin, bean mhaiseach, each maith, agus cù luath. A thaobh an treas seanfhacail chan 'eil agad ach éisdeachd ri foghlaidhe ann an labhairt Gaidhlig air àrd-ùrlar, no an dòigh fhollaiseach sam bith eile, agus tuigidh tu ciod a thatar ag ciallachadh le "dagbriathar," no deagh bhriathar. Cuiridh am foghlaidhe ceithear is cóig fhacal far an deanadh co-dhiùbh a dhà a chùis, agus e 'na bheachd fhéin, agus 'na aineolas, a' smaoinachadh seach gu bheil na facail binn, blasda, agus siubhlach, gu bheil sin 'na dheagh labhradh. Nì am foghlaidhe an aon nì ann a bhith sgrìobhadh cainnte. Cuiridh e aon leth-dusan facal aig an bu fauin binn taitneach gu tric an glaisean a cheile. Chan 'eil guth air an smuain, agus gur h-ann tha so a' m'icheadh na smuaine, agus 'na fìor dhroch litreachas. Tha an droch cleachdadh so aig cuid a' bhios a' sgrìobhadh Gaidhlig fhathast. Cainnt fhìlùrachail, a theirean ris an so sa' Bheurla Shasannaich. 'Se so, ma tha, bhatar ag ciallachadh le "dagbriathar" san t-seann trecheng. Tha na Gaidheil, gu h-àraidh na Gaidheil nach 'eil cleachdte air a bhith sgrìobhadh Gaidhlig, ro bhualteach do chainnt fhìlùrachail mar so. Gu dearbh bidh mi smaoinachadh uaireanan, agus mi ag éisdeachd ri feadhainn a' leughadh rud a sgrìobh iad, bidh mi smaoinachadh, nan leughadh iad cainnt de an t-seòrsa ud am Beurla, gun deanadh duine lachan gàire an clàr an aodainn aca.

Tha e fìor, ged dh' éignichear an seanfhacal cha bhreugnaichear e.

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Fuarn Sléibh.—So ainm leabhair bardachd ùr a tha tighinn a mach a dh' aithghearr. Tha òrain is dàin agus luinneagan ann; agus tha iad uile taitneach, agus làn brìgh is spiorad na bardeachd. Tha luchd-leughaidh a' Ghaidheil eòlach air cuid dhiubh a cheana. Is e *An Gaidheal* a thug beagan dhiubh am follais an toiseach. 'Se am Bard, ma tha, fear air a bheil sibh eòlach mar tha, Deòrsa Caimbeul Hay—agus an deagh bhard cuideachd. Tha an leabhar sa' bheart, agus chan fhada gu s am bi e làn ullamh agus an tuit e aisde.

Bidh fadachd oirm gu am faigh sinn deoch mhòr bhlasda agus fhionnar as an *Fhuarn Sléibh*. Innsidh

sinn tuilleadh mu a dheidhinn cho luath 's a bhrùchdas e mach.

Tha leabhar bardachd eile air a dheilbh, agus e ullamh air son na beairt, leis a' Bhana-bhard bhinn agus agus bhlasda sin, Caristona NicLeoid, sa' Chananaich. Tha iadsan a bhios a' leughadh a' Ghaidheil eòlach air binnead is ciatachd a bardachd-se cuideachd. Cuiridh sinn fàilte is furan air a leabhar-se nuair a thig e, is fhìach e sin.

Bu mhaith gun tigeadh leabhar rosg no dhà a mach a chumadh comaidh riutha.

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Firinn airson a' mhìos so.—Agus thaitinn am facal ris an rìgh agus r' a uachdaranaihbh ; agus chuir e litrichean a dh' ionnsaigh uile mhòir-roinnean an rìgh, a dh' ionnsaigh gach mòr-roinne a reir a sgrìobhadh, agus a dh' ionnsaigh gach sluagh a reir an cànain, gum bitheadh gach fear 'na uachdaran 'na thig fèin; agus gum bitheadh so air fhoillseachadh a reir cànain gach sluagh.—*Ester* i, 21, 22.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

LITIR COMMONN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bha tuille na bha mi air chomas a thoirt dhuibh agam r'a ràdh ruibh air a' mhìos a dh' fhalbh de bheachdan a' charaid ud a thug dhomh na rannan a thug mi dhuibh—rannan molaidh air an Oll. Dòmhnall Seumas MacLeòid. “Tha sùil agam an còmhnuidh air cuibhriòn na h-Oige anns a' Ghàidheil” tha e ag ràdh. “Thug sibh ni beag 'nam chumhine is tric a thug mi fa-near anns na làithean bho shean; sin “t” an àite “do.” “Sin t' uansa,” sin an cleas gun teagamh; ach a réir ceartais is e “d” a bu chòir a bhith ann, mar a tha “mo” is “m.” Tha e an sin a' toirt tarruing air mar a tha glé thrìc “t-” air a chur sìos an àite “t,” agus mar eisimpleir air sin tha e a' toirt a steach rann as “A' Bhean Uinsinn Odhar”—MacLagain—mar so.—

“Nuair a thèid i chum na h-àirigh,

Cha dean i calanas no stàth dhuit;

Millidh i t-im is do chàise

Leis na crògan puinsin!

“Carson nach deanadh ‘d’ im’ a’ chùis?” tha e a' feoraich. Mar sin, tha e ag cur aonta ris gu bheil “sin t-uansa” cearr; ach tha e ag ràdh le firinn gur e “sin d' uansa” an àite “t' uansa” a bu chòir a sgrìobhadh. Mar sin, freagairidh mise, mar am mac talla, a' cheist a chuir e, is their mi “Carson, gun teagamh?” Is cinnteach gur e “do uansa” a tha ann, leis na facail a chumail slàn; ach mar a thatar a' fuaimneachadh nam facal 'nan labhairt, tha an “d” so air a cruadhachadh, fuaim na “t” air a thoirt dhi, agus mar sin tha cuid de luchd sgrìobhadh Gàidhlig ag cleachdadh na “t” an uair a tha an fuaim sin a' tighinn roimh fhoghair. Tha mise làn riarichte gun cumamaid ris an riaghailt sin, ma tha sinn uile an co-aonta, eadhon ged is e “t' uan” a their sinn is

nach e “d' uan.” Is ann mar a tha, is iomadh facal no fuaim a their sinn, ach an uair a tha sinn a' dol g' a chur ann an sgrìobhadh tha sinn a' fuachainn ri cumail ri seann nòs ar canain a tha fuaighte ri a gnè. Dh' fhaodamaid “t' uansa” is “d' uansa” a chur air an aon ghaid ri iomadh facal no fuaim eile de 'n t-seorsa.

Is fearr domh, a nis, an còrr de mo rùm a chur gu buil ann a bhi ag innseadh dhuibh gur e ar beachd, ma theid gach ni leinn mar is math leinn, gum bi camp Commonn na h-Oigridh air a chur 'na uidheam air an t-samhradh so tighinn. Bha coinneamh aig Comhairle a' Chomuinn Mhòir an la-roimhe, agus ged a gheibh sibh slàn-iomradh oirre an cearn eile de 'n Ghàidheil so, chan 'eil math dhòmhsa gum tarruing a thoirt air a' chùis. Bha, matà, camp Commonn na h-Oigridh air aon de na nithean a bha fo ar n-aire is a tha r' a ùrachadh an ath bhliadhna. Bidh am Mòd Mòr a' dol air ghleus, agus chan 'eil fios nach bi sgoil-shamhraidh ealain-Cheilteach, ar teanga is ar ciuil, mar an ceudna 'na h-uidheam. Is e an camp as dlùithe a tha a' tighinn air ar n-aighe-ne, ged thà, agus tha làn dòchas againn gum bi sìrd air mu mhìos an Iuchair an ath-bhliadhna. Mar a tha fos agaibh, is ann an Sonachan, taobh Loch Ogha, a bha e bho 'n a chuireadh luim air, oir bha àite freagarrach an sin aig an fhear a tha sinn an diugh ag coaidh nach 'eil e leinn, Seoras Gallda, còir. Chan 'eil sinn cinnteach fathast (an uair a tha mise a' sgrìobhadh) an ann an Dail-Mhàill no c' àite am bi e; ach ni sinn ar n-uile dhichead gu e bhith an àite freagarrach, eadhon nas goireasaiche do chlànn an taobh Tuath na bha e roimhe ma theid sinn air imrich. Tha mar an ceudna fughair againn gum bi Dòmhnall Mac-a-Phearsain, “Dòmhnall nan Cleas,” mar a b' aithne do chlànn an latha ud roimh an chogadh e, air a leigeil ma-réir bho fheachd armaichte a' Chrùin fada roimh sin, is gum bi e air bhur ceann gu bhur stiùradh anns gach ni a bhios sibh ris. Chan 'eil, a nis, rùm agam gu a' bheag tuille a chur sìos ach aon ni. Is e sin gum bi Nollaig agaibh, is Bliadhna Ur dùth air an stàirnich mum bi an ath chothrom còmhraidh againn; agus mar sin, chan 'eil agam ach deagh dhùrachd na Nollaige is na Bliadhna Uire a thoirt dhuibh: Nollaig Chridheil is Bliadhna Mhath Ur do gach aon de Chomuinn na h-Oigridh is na bhuneas dhoibh, matà, agus suas i, a' Ghàidhlig!

Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council was held in Millars' Rooms, Stirling, on Friday, 9th November. The President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider, was in the Chair and the following members were present: John M. Banerman, M.A., B.Sc., Balmaha; Mrs. J. M. Banerman, Balmaha; Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow; Mrs. Iain M. Campbell (Airds); Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow; Mrs. J. Buchanan Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Strathyre; David Findlay, Ayr; Miss Anne Gunn, Glasgow; James S. W. Henderson, B.Sc., Glasgow; Mrs. Macphail Holt, Arisaig; Miss Lamont of Knockdow, M.A., B.Sc.; Miss Catherine Macdonald,

Glasgow; Roderick MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Donald Shaw MacKinnon, Edinburgh; Farquhar MacRae, M.A., B.Sc., Glasgow; Angus Robertson, Bearsden; Alexander Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Glasgow; Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., Glasgow; Dr. Colin Sinclair, Glasgow; Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban; Duncan Thomson, Glasgow. In attendance:—James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary; Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary; Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser; and Miss Ann MacKay, Junior Assistant.

Minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved on the motion of Dr. John Cameron, seconded by Mrs. Campbell (Airds).

The President welcomed the return of Mr. Angus Robertson to the Council, and assured him of their pleasure in having him with them again. The President also introduced Miss Ann MacKay who had recently been appointed Junior Assistant at Headquarters. She was a native of North Uist and was a member of the Baleshare Feach of Uist and a h-Oigridh. He expressed the hope that she would be happy with them, and he was sure that she would find the work congenial. A very cordial welcome was given to Miss MacKay by the members of the Council.

The President referred to a public meeting held at Aberdeen, on 1st November, when Office-bearers were appointed to carry out arrangements for the 1946 Mod. He was present at the meeting, along with the General Secretary and the Northern Organiser. Mr. Bannerman was unable to be present owing to a business engagement. It was a most successful meeting, there being fully 200 people present, and he felt sure that the Aberdeen Mod would be a great success. The Secretary read the names of the Office-bearers as follows: Convener, Mr. Dugald MacDonald; Vice-Convener, Mr. Charles Davidson; Hon. Secretary, Mr. James MacLeod, and Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Milne. In accordance with Bye-Law 31, these appointments have to be confirmed by the Executive Council, and, on the motion of Mrs. Edgar, seconded by Mr. J. M. Bannerman, these were unanimously approved.

The Treasurer read a Minute of the Finance Committee. The Committee reported on the appointment of Miss MacKay, and on the Central Fund which now amounts to £253. Estimates of Standing Committees were considered, and that of the Art and Industry Committee for £50 was approved. The others were deferred for further consideration.

In view of the forthcoming developments in the work of An Comunn, the proposal to terminate at the end of December, 1945, the arrangement with the Scottish Savings Committee for Mr. MacPhail's Joint Services was recommended.

The Minute was approved on the motion of the Convener, Dr. John Cameron.

Two Minutes of the Publication Committee were read. It was reported that the new series of Gaelic Text Books, edited by Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, were well advanced and in the hands of the printers. The Committee also reported on a Memorandum on new publications which had been prepared by the Convener and circulated to all members of Committee, and, to a number of others whose opinion it was thought advisable to have. The Committee made several recommendations, among them being a target of at least two works each year for the next five years; draft proposals for improving the advertising and marketing of An Comunn's publications, and to enquire into the possibility of establishing a bi-lingual quarterly magazine like the former *Celtic Review*.

The Minutes were approved on the motion of the Convener, Rev. T. M. Murchison.

The President thanked Mr. Murchison for the work he had done in preparing the Memorandum.

Minute of Meeting of Propaganda Committee was read. The President had welcomed Mr. Donald Thomson back to the Committee after his service with the Armed Forces and moved that Mr. Thomson act as Vice-Convener of the Committee until such time as the Convener, Mr. Donald MacDonald, was able to resume. Mr. Thomson kindly consented to do this service.

It was reported that two Provincial Mods had been arranged for, Lorn and Mull Provincial Mod at Oban in April, and the Lochaber Mod at Fort William in June. It had been decided

that one of the officials of An Comunn should visit the Lorn area in the near future with a view to stimulating interest in getting some active work done for the Mod.

The Minute was approved on the motion of Mr. Donald Thomson, Vice-Convener.

Two Minutes of the Art and Industry Committee were read. The Committee had arranged competitions for 1946, and these are given on another page of this issue of *An Gàidheal*.

On the motion of Mr. Donald Thomson, the Education Committee was asked to consider the prospects of holding a Summer School for Gaelic.

The Minutes were approved on the motion of the Convener, Mrs. Iain M. Campbell (Airds).

Minute of meeting of the Mod and Music Committee was read.

The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recast the Syllabus for the National Mod to be held in Aberdeen next September, by including the Junior Section which had been arranged for 1946 at Perth. The Senior Section, as arranged for Aberdeen in 1939, is recommended to be continued with the addition of a Uist and Barra Song competition.

The Committee considered the remit from the Annual General Meeting regarding the maximum number of choristers forming choirs taking part in the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield Competition. It was decided to recommend that no action be taken meantime, but, to review the position next year.

The Minute was approved on the motion of Mr. J. M. Bannerman, Convener.

Minute of Meeting of Clann an Fhraoich was read. The Committee had considered the holding of a Summer Camp in July of next year, and decided to do everything possible to have this Summer outing for members of Comunn na h-Oigridh restored. It was also decided to hold the Annual Gaelic Ceilidh in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 18th December.

The Minute was approved on the motion of Mr. Hector MacDougall, Convener.

Notice of the following motion for discussion, at next meeting, was given by Mr. John A. Nicolson: "That the question of sending the Secretary and a small concert party on a propaganda visit to our kinsfolk overseas—Canada and the United States in particular—be investigated with a view to putting such a proposal into effect during the session, 1946-47."

The date of next meeting was fixed for Friday, 18th January, 1946.

The President called on Mrs. Bannerman who explained the objects of the Central Committee in launching the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund. She suggested that officials of Affiliated Societies might be approached to give their support to the project. She also suggested the holding of Highland Games in Glasgow for the same object.

The Executive Council gave its blessing to Mrs. Bannerman's suggestions.

Mr. John A. Nicolson and Mr. Donald Shaw MacKinnon were appointed to Clann an Fhraoich Committee to give assistance in the Committee's endeavour to obtain a grant for Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Minute of Copyright Special Committee was read and approved on the motion of Mr. Angus Robertson, Convener.

The Secretary read a report on meeting of the Scottish National Film Studio. The Secretary was appointed to represent An Comunn at next meeting of the Society.

Letter was read from Lord Inverclyde with reference to desire of Celts in Brittany to renew association with their kindred in these islands. It was decided to approach the Secretary of the Celtic Congress in the first instance and ascertain whether the Congress was likely to meet in the near future.

Mrs. Macphail Holt made an appeal on behalf of the Arisaig Branch for comforts to be sent to the people of Brittany. Comforts not being available it was suggested that a parcel of Gaelic books might be sent.

Consideration of appointing a B.B.C. listening group was continued till next meeting.

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

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

NORTHERN AREA.

There were no Notes from the Northern Area, in our last issue, as the Northern Organiser was wholly engaged with the work of organising the Inverness Burgh and County Thanksgiving Week effort. This campaign, the seventh, proved eminently satisfactory, the target of £400,000 being exceeded by over £76,000.

Meetings of the Propaganda and Education Sub Committees were held on 3rd November, when several matters requiring consideration were dealt with. Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., F.E.I.S., was re-elected Convener of the Propaganda Committee and the election of a Convener for the Education Committee was delayed until the next meeting.

It is pleasing to record, that Language and Music Continuation classes are being conducted at Nethy Bridge. Both classes are under the auspices of the Inverness County Education Committee, and are conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Mathieson, Schoolhouse. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Mathieson was Music Teacher at Portree Secondary School, and Mr. Mathieson is an authority on Gaelic matters. He has on many occasions acted as Adjudicator at the Skye Provincial Mod.

A Gaelic Music class has just been started at Drumnadrochit, with Miss J. E. Mackenzie as Instructress, under the auspices of the Inverness County Education Committee.

On Wednesday, 7th November, Mr. Donald Graham, Convener, presided at a public meeting at Nairn called for the purpose of re-constituting the Nairn Branch of An Comunn. This was successfully accomplished. Mrs. Macdonald as President, the Rev. Gordon Fraser, B.D., Vice-President, and Miss Kaitriona MacDonald was appointed an Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. A general Committee of twelve members was appointed, and the annual subscription was fixed at 2s. 6d. per member. It is intended to hold monthly meetings and Ceilidhs. A Ceilidh followed the public meeting at which the Northern Organiser presided. Votes of Thanks brought a very successful evening to a close.

It is hoped to re-constitute the Banavie branch, at a meeting to be held in the Corpach Hall, on Wednesday, 14th November. As the Northern Organiser has an engagement at Lochinver that evening, Mr. Lachlan Mackinnon has kindly agreed to represent the Northern Committee at this meeting.

Aberdeen National Mod, 1946.

In order to assist the local branch with the organisation of the week ending 28th September, the Northern Organiser visited Aberdeen, and made many useful contacts, culminating in a public meeting, held in the Music Hall, under the chairmanship of the President of An Comunn Gaidhealach. It has been arranged to hold a further meeting, on 23rd November, to appoint various sub-committees with respective conveners. Mr. Macphail is also to attend this meeting.

At the request of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee, the Executive Council has agreed to terminate the agreement regarding the Northern Organiser's Part-time service with the Scottish Savings Committee as from the end of 1945. It is felt that Mr. Macphail's whole time service is now required by An Comunn.

Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis opened the twelfth session on 23rd October, with the Hon. President, Dr. D. J. MacLeod as Fear-an-tìghe. Dr. MacLeod spoke in fine idiomatic Gaelic and he was heartily thanked by Mr. Donald Graham, Vice-President. A programme of songs, dancing, and instrumental music followed. There was an attendance of over 400 which augurs well for the future of this All-Gaelic Association.

The Organiser attended meeting of An Comunn at Stirling, on Friday, 9th November, and on Saturday he gave talks at Kinlochleven in aid of the Thanksgiving Week being held there. He also visited Kinlochleven School, and had a talk with the children. He was engaged in the Fort William district, on 12th November, and now on his way to West Sutherland to assist in the Thanksgiving Week Arrangements for the County of Sutherland.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

It is with sincere regret that we have to record the passing of three of our members, Miss Eleanora Cameron, Edinburgh; Dr. Edward MacKay, Greenock, and the Rev. James Duff MacDonald, M.A., Edinburgh. Miss Cameron had been a Life Member for over 20 years and was most helpful to our cause in Edinburgh. Dr. MacKay was a Life Member for a like period and served for a term as President of the Greenock Highland Society. The Rev. Mr. MacDonald was minister of St. Oran's Gaelic Church, Edinburgh, for almost 30 years, and was whole-hearted in his support of An Comunn and all that pertained to the welfare of Highlanders in the Capital. He had been an Ordinary Member of An Comunn for 26 years.

Many Branches of An Comunn are now in full session and meeting with much support from the general public. Mr. Alasdair Matheson visited the Branches at Ayr and Stirling recently, and was much impressed by the large attendances and enthusiasm of the members. The Gaelic Class at Ayr, previously referred to, is now under the Continuation Class Code, and is being conducted by the Rev. Archie Beaton, M.A., Dundonald. Mr. Kenneth Grant, M.A., Dunblane, is a tower of strength to the members of the Stirling Branch and is teacher of the Gaelic Class there.

The Aberfeldy Branch has resumed activities. The Rev. Iain MacLellan, M.A., Weem, is President, and the acting Secretary is Mr. William Hamilton. Miss Calder, M.A., who had acted as Secretary with conspicuous success for many years had to resign owing to pressure of professional duties. Killin Branch had its opening meeting on, 16th November, and I hope to refer to this in our next number. Millhouse came severely under Wartime regulations and meetings were out of the question. The Branch is now functioning and meeting in the school at Tighnabruich. Mr. Neil MacLeod, M.A., who was recently transferred from Port Ellen School, is the new President and Miss E. Macintosh, who was responsible for the formation of the Branch, is again acting as Secretary.

Official visits to Ardnamurchan, Lorn and Mull Branches and Feachdan of Comunn na h-Oighridh are being prepared, and it is also hoped to take a Concert Party to the Oban District and Mull in the interests of the Lorn Provincial Mod and the Central Fund of An Comunn. Miss Low, Secretary of the Kilbrandon Branch has written to say that there is a demand for the Concert Party in that area and we hope to send a Party there when in the neighbourhood.

There is a large attendance at the Glasgow University Gaelic Classes conducted by Mr. Alex. Nicolson, M.A., under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association. There are also large numbers attending the Gaelic Classes conducted by the Gaelic League in the Hall, New City Road.

I paid my annual visit to the Glasgow High School Gaelic Class Ceilidh, on 10th November, and addressed the members in Gaelic and English. Mr. Matheson accompanied me and illustrated my talk with appropriate Gaelic songs.

Members and readers will be interested to know that a Junior Gaelic Class has been formed by the High School Ceilidh members, and they have a regular attendance of over 40 boys and girls. The teachers are students from Jordanhill Training College. I had the pleasure of speaking to the children at the close of their evening class and conveyed to them the best wishes of An Comunn. The Ceilidh members are to be congratulated on their enterprise, and if enthusiasm is any criterion, their effort on behalf of the children is thoroughly appreciated.

DR. NEIL ROSS MEMORIAL FUND.

This Fund will close at Headquarters of An Comunn at end of December, and anyone wishing to contribute should send their donation forthwith to the Treasurer at 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1.

CENTRAL (WAR COMFORTS) COMMITTEE.

The Concert in aid of the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund in the St. Andrew's Halls, Glasgow, on 26th October, was an outstanding event although the attendance was slightly below the usual for such concerts. The Chair was occupied by Group Captain Lord Malcolm Douglas Hamilton, O.B.E., D.F.C., and was accompanied by Her Grace The Duchess of Hamilton. Lord Malcolm was introduced by the President, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, and gave a racy address which appealed to the audience. The Concert programme was of a high order and among those who took part were Helen T. MacMillan, Petrine Stewart, Ethel D. Hay, Angus Whyte, Alex. Brown, and Alasdair Matheson. The Newhaven Fisherwomen's Choir won many new friends by their fine renderings of old favourites. The Glasgow Police Pipers and Dancers gave splendid exhibitions of their respective arts, and, to cap an excellent entertainment, there was the welcome return of Miss Margaret Hill-Boyle to a concert programme in St. Andrew's Halls. Her Organ Recital was well received and her sympathetic treatment of accompaniments brought the best out of the singers.

Mr. John M. Bannerman, deputising for Mrs. Bannerman, moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The Concert was brought to a close by the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem in Gaelic.

At the monthly meeting of the Central Work Party, on Tuesday, 6th November, an opportunity was taken to make a presentation to Miss C. M. Macpherson who has now left the service of An Comunn. The presentation took the form of a leather business case and a cheque, and was made by Mrs. Bannerman, Convener, who referred to the excellent work which Miss Macpherson had done during the 4 years she had done in the employment of An Comunn. Among others who spoke were Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Mrs. Robert Bain, Mrs. M. MacIntyre and Mrs. James T. Graham. The Secretary read an appreciation from the President, who was unable to be present. Miss Macpherson made suitable acknowledgment of the gifts.

ART AND INDUSTRY COMPETITION.

Competitions.

1. FOR THE BEST SHEPHERD'S WORKING CROMAG. Prizes—1st, retention for one year of An Comunn Gaidhealach Trophy and £2; 2nd, £1.
2. DESIGN: TEACHERS OF ART IN SCHOOLS. Celtic Design suitable for application to Table Runner, 45 inches by 12 inches. Drawings to be full size, and colouring to competitor's choice. Prizes—1st, £5; 2nd, £3; 3rd, £2.
3. JUNIORS (UNDER 18). Celtic Design to fill an oblong panel, 16 inches by 4½ inches, cut by a circle of 7 inches diameter in the centre; panel and circle to be enclosed by a double-line border. Size of drawing paper, 22 inches by 15 inches (½ Imperial). Colouring to competitor's choice.
4. CALENDAR IN CELTIC DESIGN. Wording to be in Gaelic. Prizes—1st, £3; 2nd, £2; 3rd, £1.
5. POSTER TO ADVERTISE THE MOD. Celtic Design. Dimensions, 35½ inches by 22½ inches, approximately. Colours: Black and Yellow, or Black and Green. (Wording may be had from Secretary). Prize—£10 10s.

(Entries for this competition must reach the Secretary not later than 30th March, 1946. All others as per Mod Syllabus, 13th July, 1946).

Proposed Summer School of Celtic Art.

In its endeavour to promote the study of Celtic Art, the above Committee proposes to inaugurate a Summer School, occupying a period of 3 weeks in the month of August and situated in Mid-Argyll, with a view to providing a centre where systematic instruction may be given.

As arrangements are contingent upon the nature of the response, the Committee would be grateful if persons willing

to consider enrolment as students would forward their names to the undersigned as early as possible.

NEL SHAW, Secretary,
131 West Regent Street,
Glasgow, C.2.

AN T-AILLEAGAN.

Thaing thusa a nì bhuaidhmhair
Leis an trioblaid tha 's an t-suaimeas,
Agus o 'n tha thu ciùin is àlainn
Còir fosgailte mar ora ghràs mhor
A thasgadh le Alasdair usal
Bho gach càs is ionnsaigh thruaillidh,
Is o 'n nach urrainn dhomh do shloinneadh
Air beinn air cladaich no an coille,
Mar a b' àbhaist do mo chuideachd
'S an Eilean Sgitheanach no am Muile,
No an Ratharsair nan Leòdach
No an Canada air fògradh,
Bheir thu bhuan fhìn mo smuaintean
A chionn nach fhaic mi ort an truaiche
Chosamhlach a th' air gach agas
Eile chunnaic mi an taobh so.
Tha thu mar nach do mhaoidh ort
Tim no atharachadh claidhte,
Mar gun seachnadh tu mhùir-bhàidhte
Bheir an cuan so air gach àilleachd.

SOMHAIRLE MACGHILL-EATHAIN.

ORAN DO CHEAP BREATANN.

FONN: Bithibh aotram togaibh fonn.

'S e Ceap Breatann tìr mo ghràidh,
Tìr nan craobh 's nam beanntan rìd;
'S e Ceap Breatann, tìr mo ghràidh;
Tìr is àillidh leinn air thalamh.

Bho 'n a tha mi anns an àm,
Còmhnaidh ann an tìr nam beann;
'S ged a tha mo Ghaidhlig gann,
Nì mi rann do thìr nan gleann.

Chan urrainn dhomhsa chuir air dòigh,
Na chuir sìos le briathran beoil;
Na tha mhaise agus de ghloir,
Còmhnaidh ann an tìr nam beannachd.

Aite is maiseich tha fo 'n gheinn,
Smeòrach seinn air bhàrr nan geug;
Gobhlainn-gaoithe cluich ri cheill,
'S an nead gèidhte fo na ceangail.

Feasgar foghair, àm an fheoir,
Nuair a dhùnach òran na neoil;
Ceò na mara tighinn na thòrr,
'S e na sgièd air bhàrr nan beannaibh.

Nuair theid a' ghrian do 'n àirde an Iar,
'S a thig an dealt thar an fhur,
'S binne leam guth nan lan;
Seinn cho dian air bhàrr na meangain.

Chluinntè bellchean le gllong,
Air a chroch ri taobh a ghlinn;
'S na laoiigh òga stigh 's na tuim,
'S iad fo chuing na cuileag sheangach,

Anns a gheamhradh, àm an fhuachd,
Am na bainnean, àm na luaidh;
Chluinntè gillean air cleith-luaidh,
'S gruagaich le guth cruaidh 'ga leantainn.

Nuair bhiodh am fheadh ullamh, rèidh,
Chuirte an fhidheall sin air gheus;
Dhannasmaid air ùrlar rèidh,
Gur e Cabar-feidh bu mhath leinn.

Chite cailleach ghasda chòir,
Tighinn mun cuairt a thomhas a chlà;
An cromadh aise air a dorn,
Cha robh dòigh aca air a mealladh.

'S e chuir mise an nochd fo bhàrn,
Cùmhnadhach air làithean m' oig;
'N fheadhainn a bhiodh leinn ri spòrs;
Gu bheil cuid dhiubh nach 'eil maireann.

'S ged a dh' fhalbh a chuid ud bhuaninn,
Chaidh iad anns an dachaidh bhuan;
Ann am pàileas Rìgh an t-Sluaigh;
Far am bheil sòlas buan bhios mairean.

Am Framboise fhuair mi 'm àrach òg,
Ann an bàbhadh Chlann-'ic-Leoid;
'S tric bha sinn ri mire is spòrs;
An làithean sòlasach nach maireann.

Chan urrainn dhomha leth dhiubh inns',
Na tha mhaisealachd 's an tìr;
Stadaidh mi bhò'n tha mi sgìth,
Beannachd leibh is oidheche mhath leibh.

DOMHNAIL ALASDAIR MACDHOMHNAILL.

Framboise, C.B.

AN T-ARD MHARAICHE DEARG.

Is e mo chuid de 'n t-saoghal a bhith a' fuireach taobh a stigh baile mòr, far an cluinn mi gach oidheche is latha fuaim charbadan de na h-uile seòrsa, maille ris na fuaimnean a tha, mar as trice, cum-beangailte ris na bailtean buaireasach sin. Chan e ceis-iongantais mata, ma 's e is gum bi mòran dhaoine a' deannach dheth nach bi ach còthrom glé bheag agam na nìthean sin a bhùineas do 'n dùthaich a muigh fhacinn mun cuairt; ach leis gum bheil an tigh bheag agam dùth air iomall a' bhaile, faodaidh mi a ràdh nach ann mar sin sin idir a tha a' chùis. Air an làmh eile tha an dùthaich agus a stòras, eadar eòin is ainmhidhean is fùran, glé fhaig ri air taobh; agus is e tha ann gum bheil iomadach creutair a bhùineas do 'n tìr spur, do 'n abhainn agus do 'n choille ri am faicinn a' dol is a' tighinn fad na bliadhna.

Tha abhainn làimh ruinn ris an abran an Càraid, far am bi an dòbhran donn a' snàmh agus a' bhreac a' leum. Tha an sionnach ruadh r' a' fhacinn anns a' choille a tha fagus oirnn. Tha am brù-dhearg, càirdel earbsach, còmhla ruinn daonnan, agus cuid as binne ri éisdeachd anns na làithean goirid greamhradh na a cheilear fhéin.

Bu mhath leam iomradh a thoirt air na h-eòin a chunnaic mi fhéin 'n ar measg: geallbho na callaide, breac an t-ìl, geallan uisne, lasair choille, buidheag bhealaich, dreathan-donn, uiseg, miontan, ceileriche, lòn-dubh, druid, sméarach, sgiath-dhearg, seabhag, fiteach agus faoilag. Ged a tha gach aon dhiubh sin 'n a' chùis-aiseis dhomh, is i t'éd de 'n ghné eile a tha a' toirt bàrr air mo ghairdeachas; an dealan-dè ris an abran an t-Ard Mharaiche Dearg. An uair a bhios na duilleagan a' tuiteam bhàr nan craobh agus gathan na gréine a' dearsadh air neòineanan an Fhéil Mhìcheil, is ann an sin a chithear an dealan-dè sònraichte so 'n a' laighe le a' sgiathan sgiamhach, rìomhach, sgoihte a mach air na fùran bhòidheach sin. Is e fìor gu dearbh "nach robh Solamh féin 'n a' uile ghloir air a' sgèadachadh mar aon dhiubh so."

CALLÈAN MAC NA CEARDAIDÈ.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Am Mod.—Mar a' chù sibh air duilleig eile sa' Bheurla is ann an Obairdeach na tha am Mòd gu bhith air a' chumail an ath bhliadhna. Bhatar air suidheachadh gum biodh e an Obairdeach na' bhliadhna 1939 ach bhris an cogadh a mach

goirid mus robh am Mòd gu bhith ann agus chuir sin stad air a' Mhòd agus air gach n' eile dh' a' leithid. Tha an cogadh a' nise seachad, agus tha an t-sith againn de còmhadh Dhé, agus is ann le buidheachas a' smoincheas sinn air meudachd na buadha a' fhuair sinne agus na rìoghachdan sònraichte eile air ar naimhdean. Tha sinn a' nise comasach air am Mòd a' chumail a' rithist, agus tha sinn an dòchas, agus ag creidsinn, gum bi e 'na Mhòd a' bhios airidh air ainm—Mòd Mòr na Buadha.

Bha, ma tha, cruinneachadh follaiseach an Obairdeach na air feagar ceud là na Samhna los Comhairle a' chur air bonn chum gnòthaichean a' Mhòd a' chur air aghaidh. Chruinnich àireamh mhòr Ghaidheil chun na coinneamh ann an Talla Chiuil a' bhaile; agus bha Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich a' lathair, e' fhein agus an Rùnaire agus am Feardailbhan san airde-tuath; agus bhruidhinn iad uile mu chùisean a' Mhòd, agus mar bu chòir ullachadh a' dheanamh fa a' chomhairle. Gu dearbh chan fhaic duine riamh cruinneachadh bu chridheile agus bu deònaich a' dhol an ceann grama na bha a' h-uile duine a' bha an làthair an oidheche ud.

Tha Meur sheasmhach de 'n Chomuinn Ghaidhealach an Obairdeach agus còmhla riutha-sa chaidh mòran eile a' shònrachadh mar Chomhairle chum gach ullachadh a' dheanamh fa chomhairle a' Mhòd. Tha mòran airgid r' a' chruinneachadh chum am Mòd a' chur air adhart, agus tha fhios gu toir muinntir a' Chomuinn, agus Ghaidheil eile feadh an t-saoghail mhòir, gach còmhadh is cuideachadh as urrainn dhaibh do Ghaidheil Obairdeachain.

Tha Clar-eagar a' Mhòd a' nis ullamh, agus gheibhear leth-bhreac dheth, agus fiosrachadh sam bith eile a' thaobh a' Mhòd, agus mu na comhfharpaisean, bho 'n Rùnaire a' oifis a' Chomuinn an Glaschu.

Gu dearbh bidh iomadach sùil air Obairdeachain ré na bliadhna 1946 dh' fheuch dè mar a' tha gach n' a' dol air adhart fa chomhair Mòd Mòr na Buadha.

Phàigh e an luach-aiseig.—Is minic a' phàigh na h-Eileanach luach-aiseig, agus ged nach robh iad buileach cho dona dheth ri Ionah, 'se glé bheag de chomhfhurtachd a' fhuair iad 'na òis. Bha bàiteachan nan Eilean iomadach uair 'nan cuis-nàire siron cho beag 's a' bha de rùm 's de chomhfhurtachd unnta. Iomadach uair, cha robh àite sinidh fhéin unnta, gun ghuth air àite cadail. Cuid dhiubh a' bha salach, le faileadh cha mhòr a' thachdadh tu.

Gun teagamh tha iad a' nis gu maith nas fheàrr, agus mòran barrachd comhfhurtachd aig luchd-siubhail na bha aon uair. Ach chan 'eil bàiteachan-aiseig taobh sìar na Gaidhealachd is nan Eilean math gu leòr fhathast. Tha iad ro bheag, agus ro shladach. Chan 'eil an luchd-siubhail a' fhaighinn an luach bu chòir dhaibh airson an airgid-aiseig, ged a' shaoileadh ar n-atraichean cur h-e a' th' ann sùgradh a' bhith siubhal orra an taice ris na frògan bhàta air an robh iadsan còlach. Is maith an comharra, ma tha, gur h-ann nas fheàrr a' thaobh comhfhurtachd is iusthas a' tha na bàiteachan-aiseig a' dol.

Tha mi faicinn gu bheil te' mòr air na stùic airson slioghe Steòrnabaigh, te' mòran nas iutha na bha riamh air an t-slioghe sin. Thatar ag cur feum air an sin, on tha truidhead mhòr slugh air an t-slioghe so daonnan, barrachd air na tha do ghàin eile de na h-Eileanan. Nach minic e a' chunnais sinn mnathan is nigheanan, cho maith ri fìr, 'na sléitich air brìar a' bhàta gun àite aca san oidheadh iad, agus sin ri oidhechneanan gaibheach. Tha feum, mar sin, air bhàta nas motha agus nas luaithe. Bheir an te' ur so leatha còig ceud (500) duine, agus thatar ag ràdh gum bi i nas rumail na gin a' bha riamh air an astur. Bidh còig deng ar fhichead (35) leabaidh chrùbte innte airson muinntir a' cheud luach-aiseig, agus fìchedh (20) airson muinntir an tres luach-aiseig. Tha adhartas mòr an so air gin a' bha maith nas luaithe na aon a' bha air an t-slioghe ud a' roimhe. Tha feum air an sin. Is e Uilleam Denny 's a' Bhàithrean an Dun Bhrèatainn a' tha 'ga togail. Beannachd air a' claiginn nuair a' thig i.

F.D.

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Am Faoitreach, 1946.

[Earrann 4

CANAIN BHEO.

Tha cànaibean ann a tha marbh, agus tha cànaibean ann a tha beò. Tha an Laidionn agus Sanscrit marbh, agus iomadach cànaib eile mar an ceudna. Tha a' Bheurla Shasannach beò, agus an Fhraincis, agus an cànaib Ruiseanach, agus na ceudan eile. Tha a' Ghaidhlig beò ged tha mòran 'n an cleachdadh d' a taobh a' beantainn rithe mar gum biodh i marbh.

A nis, cànaib a tha marbh tha i mar gach ni marbh eile. Cha tig tuilleadh fais oirre na tha oirre a cheana. Faodaidh an cànaib sin a tha marbh a bhith grinn, cumhachdach agus blasda gu leòr ach tha i an diugh mar a bha i na ceudan bliadhna air ais, gun fhàs gun atharrachadh eile ach mar a bha i an latha a fhuaire i bàs; agus mar sin is ann gu maith rag a bhiodh eadhon cànaib cho comasach ris an Laidionn am beul fear do an deagh aithne i, a thaobh gnòthaichean an latha an diugh, agus a thaobh suidheachadh an t-saoghail mhòir an diugh. Tha na ceudan agus na mìltean nithean agus suidheachaidhean san t-saoghal an diugh nach robh ann ri linn na Laidinn, agus mar sin air a bheil an Laidionn tur aineolach. Chan 'eil cainnt aice orra, agus bu lapach i gu dearbh ag cur an cèill ceudan rud 'ur is annasach dhi-se, rudan nach robh ann 'na latha is 'na linn. Agus an deidh sin, cha robh cainnt eile air an t-saoghal a bha na bu chomasaich is na b' ealanta na i 'na latha féin.

Tha an t-seann Ghreugais air an aon dòigh. Bu rag i air teanga fir fhileanta an diugh ann an cur an cèill nithean 'ura agus annasach an t-saoghail 'nar latha-ne—ged b' aithne dha i cho maith ri Socrates is ri Plato. Bhàsaich an t-seann Ghreugais, agus mar sin cha tàinig adhartas oirre a reir atharrachadh is fàs an t-saoghail an iomadach dòigh.

Mar sin, cànaibean a tha marbh faodaidh iad a bhith maith gu leòr agus ealanta gu leòr agus cumhachdach gu leòr air son nithean is cùisean is barailcan a bha ann 'n an latha, agus a bha am beul an t-sluaigh ri linn a' chànaib sin, ach seach gu bheil

iad marbh, agus nach 'eilear 'gan cleachdadh a nis, chan 'eil feum air domhain unnta gu bhith cur an cèill cùisean is gnòthaichean an latha an diugh.

* * * *

Tha cuid ann, agus Gaidheil a tha 'gam meas fhéin glé eudmhor cuideachd, a dheanadh cànaib marbh de 'n Ghaidhlig. Ghleidheadh iad i san staid agus anns an t-suidheachadh anns an robh i ri linn ar seanar, no ri linn ar sinneanar. Cha leigeadh iad facal 'ur, agus gu seachd sonraichte facal 'ur bho chànaib eile, a steach air a còraichean. Is ann tha so 'nam beachdan a' truaillleadh na cànaib, agus gun iad idir a' tuigsinn gun tàinig atharrachadh nach beag air a' Ghaidhealtachd—gu bheil sinn air ar cuairteachadh le nithean 'ura agus saoghal 'ur—bho linn ar seanar. Agus mar sin an àite a bhith toirt cothrom do 'n Ghaidhlig a bhith fàs, agus a bhith 'ga chomh-chur fhein ri suidheachadh na Gaidhealtachd an diugh, is ann a ghleidheadh iad i mar a bha i ri linn ar seanar, agus rag mharbh o 'n uair sin. Is trom an éire an t-aineolas, agus is ann bho mhullach an aineolais a tha so ag éirigh. Feumaidh a' Ghaidhlig fàs, agus atharrachadh, mar chànaib bheò eile—agus taing do shealbh tha i beò fallain fhathast.

* * * *

Feumaidh na h-uile cànaib iad fhéin a chomh-chur ris an t-saoghal, agus ris an àite, anns a bheil iad; agus a bhith reir gach ni is suidheachadh a tha timchioll orra. Mura dean iad sin, gheibh iad bàs, agus gabhadh cànaib eile an àite, cànaib a bhios a reir suidheachadh is dol air adhart an t-saoghail is dhaoine timchioll orra. Tha cànaibean beò a' deanamh so le bhith cùineadh fhacal 'ura agus dòigh labhairt 'ur, uaireanan air an deanamh suas bho fhacal a tha cheana 'n an cànaib fhéin, ach mòran nas trice le bhith gabhail fhacal an iasad bho chànaibean eile. Gu minic is e am facal iasaid as sgiobalta agus as freagarraich na am facal a nithear suas le bhith a' tàthadh facal no dhà 'na cheile 'n an cànaib fhéin.

So mar a tha na cànaibean a tha fìor bheò a' fàs,

cànainean mar tha a' Bheurla Shasannach agus an Fhraingeis agus an Eadailtais agus na ficheadan eile. Agus so mar a dh' fheumas a' Ghaidhlig fàs cuideachd ma tha i gu bhith 'na cànain beò 'nar latha, agus sna linntean ata ri teachd. Ach is e daoine nach 'eil a' sgrìobhadh, no a' leughadh, no eadhon a' bruidhinn a bheag de Ghaidhlig a gheibh sibh a' labhairt te teanga an aineolas a thaobh facail iasaid is facail ùra an Ghaidhlig.

Is ann le facail iasaid is le dòighean ùra a dh' fhàs a' Ghaidhlig air tūs—ag gabhail iasaid bho iomadh cànain a nuas troimh na linntean, bho 'n Laidionn is bho 'n Ghrèugais, bho 'n Norsa is bho 'n Fhraingeis, bho 'n Bheurla Shasannach is bho 'n Bheurla Ghallda, agus bho fheadhainn eile cuideachd. Agus rinn a' Ghaidhlig, mar gach cànain bheò eile, a dreach fhéin a chur air an fhacal iasaid, gus am bheil e nis cho Gaidhealach ri facal sam bith a chaidh àrach air a cagailt fhéin.

* * * *

Nuair a tha cànain beò mar so, bithidh i chum feuma, agus comh-fhreagraidh i ri ni sam bith am beul an t-sluaigh, agus bithidh i gu maith siùbhlach an sin seach gu bheil a stòras làn de gach facal is ràidhte a tha feumail air son a gnothach.

Sgrùradh, ma tha, iadsan a tha deanamh cànain mharbh de 'n Ghaidhlig de an dearg amaideachd a thaobh ar cànain bheò agus bhàth. Na biodh eagal sam bith orra nach cùm a' Ghaidhlig i fhéin glan—mar gach cànain bheò eile—mura cùm chan fhaic i bith 'ga cumail beò. Rinn i i fhéin a chumail glan a nuas troimh na linntean agus is iomadh facal iasaid a thug i fo a sgéith. Ni i an ni ceudna 'nar latha-ne cuideachd ma bheir sinn an cothrom dhi.

◆

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

A' Challainn—Bliadhna mhaith ùr dhuibh! Tha *An Gaidheal* ag cur soraidh na Bliadhna Uire oirbhe uile a tha toirt aoigheachd dha. 'Se a ghuidhe do gach fardaich ann an seas e :

Beannaich an tigh 's na bheil ann,
Eadar fhìodh is chlach is chrann,
Moran bidh, paitheas aodaich;
Slàinte dhaoine gun robh ann

A' Challainn so!

Is minic a bhiodh duan Callaig againn is sinn 'nar balaich a' dol o thigh gu tigh air oidheche Challainn. Tha fhios gum bi sin fhathast aig na balaich. Bha an duan rudeigin eadar-dhealaichte anns gach ceàrn de 'n Ghaidhealtachd a thaobh cuid de na facail ged is e an t-aon bhonnachar a bha aig na duain anns gach ceàrn. Chi sibh a trì no a ceithir dhiubh, de na fìor sheann dhuain Callaig, anns a' cheud leabhar de *Charmina Gadelica*. Ma tha gin agaibh a tha a' leughadh so aig nach 'eil *Carmina Gadelica* ceannaichibh air ball e, agus cuiridh mise mo chluas air a' gheall nach bi 'ur sùil an déidh na phàigheas sibh air an leabhar eireachdail agus ro luachmhor so; tha e mar a thubhairt Daibhidh mu dheidhinn

claidheamh Ghloith: Chan 'eil aon eile cosmhail ris.

So agaibh, ma tha, Duan Callaig a bhithinn ag cluinntinn agus a dh' ionnsaich mi 'nam bhalach; tha e an *Carmina* cuideachd :

Nis on thàinig sinn dh' an dùthaich
Dh' ùrachadh dhuibh na Callaig,
Cha ruig ùine dhuinn bhith 'g inmse,
Bha i ann ri linn ar seanar.

A' dìreadh ri tobt an tìghe,
A' tearnach aig an dorus,
Mo dhuhan a ghabhail modhail,
Mar b' eòl dhomh aig a' Challaig.

Caisean Callaig 'na mo phòcaid,
Is mòr an ceò thig as an fhear ud,
Chan 'eil aon a gheibh de àile,
Nach bi gu bràth deth fallain.

Gheibh fear-an-tìghe 'na dhorn e,
Cuiridh e shròn anns an teallaich;
Theid e deiseil air na pàisean,
Is seachd àraid bean-an-tìghe.

Gheibh a bhean e, 's i as fhiaich,
Làmh riarachaidh na Callaig,
Làmh a bhàirig còis is fù dhuinn,
Làmh gun spiocaichead gun ghainne.

Bho 'n tha tart air tighinn an dùthaich,
Is nach bi dùil againn ri annas,
Rud beag a shùgh an t-samhraidh,
B' annsa leinn e leis an aran.

Mur 'eil sin againn ri fhaotainn,
Ma dh' fhaodas tu, na cùm maille oirn;
Mise gille Mhic Dhé air Callaig,
Eirich féin is fosgail dorus.
Callainn so! Callainn so!

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An Seanailear Christison—Bidh cuimhne agaibh gun robh litir Ghaidhlig aig a' *Ghaidheal* bho 'n t-Seanailear Pìl Christison air mìos Octòbar, 1944. Tha sinn usal as a' Gaidheal ainmeil so. Is esan an t-Ard Chomann-dair a tha aig na Rìoghachdan Aonaichte os cionn an airm sna h-Innsean Duitseach a Sear—ann an Siàbha is na h-àitean sin. Nochd an Seanailear Christison comasan airm air leth, agus eòlas is gliocas cogaidh sonraichte, mar Ard Chomann-dair an airm sna h-Innsean so, agus anns gach àite eile san robh e fad a chogaidh. Tha sinn ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air, agus ag guidhe nach fhada gus an till e dhachaidh slàn fallain le crùn na buadha. Is e dlùth charaid do Chaiptein Uilleam MacAoidh an Inbhir Nis a tha san t-Seanailear ghaiseil. Tha sin fhéin ag innse gur h-e Gaidheal eudmhor is dileas a th' ann, agus fìor charaid a' *Ghaidheil*. Tha *An Gaidheal* 'ga ruighinn ann an Siàbha. Gun ti esan agus na laoch a tha maille ris.

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Colbh Iaipur—Tha troimhe-chéile agus aimhreit gu leòr an India. Cha b' ann an diugh no an

dé a thòisich sin. Tha muinntir India—co-dhìubh an àireamh as àrd-labhairiche dhiubh—ag iarraidh riaghladh na dùthcha a bhith gu tur agus gu h-ìomlan 'n an làmhhan fhéin. Tha sin ceàrt gu leòr nam biodh iad air an aon ràmh, no eadhon air aon leth-dusan ràmh, los so a dhèanamh; ach tha iad an aghaidh a chèile cho mòr agus gur ann a rachadh an dùthaich a dhòlaidh nam fagadh Breatainn dhaibh fhéin iad. Cha bhì comaidh aig na Mohametaich ris na Hindùich, agus a rithis tha cinnidh, no castaichean mar a theirear ri an India, 'nam measg fhéin aig nach bi buntannas aig an dara h-aon ris an aon eile; agus eadhon feadhainn eile cho suarach aig càch agus nach 'eil cast idir aca. Chan 'eil rian mar sin an dràsda air àrd-riaghladh na dùthcha a thoirt gu tur 'n an làmhhan fhéin. Cha b' e riaghladh no riaghailt a bhiodh ann. Ach tha Breatainn ag oibreachadh a dh' ionnsaigh so; agus an uair a thig cùisean gu inbhe tha e ceàrt gum bi riaghladh India an làmhhan nan Inneanach fhéin.

Thug an rud a th' ann 'nam chuimhne colbh mòr àrd ann an Delhi air beulaibh Tigh a' Bhiceroi—'se sin, Tigh Fear-ionaid an Rìgh—ris an canar Colbh Iapur. Agus is e a bhuail gu sonraichte ri m' inntinn an nì so tha sgrìobhte air bonn a' chuilbh :

Ann an smuain creideamh,
Ann am facal gliocas,
Ann an gnìomh gaige,
Ann am beatha seirbhis,

Mar so gum biodh India mòr.

Gu dearbh chan olc am facal-suaicheantais so do thìr sam bith, no do dhuine sam bith. Is ann a mhiannaich mi e do an Gaidhealtachd againn fhéin. An dubhairt Seoin Carsuel còir : Bitheadh amhluidh.

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Cùirt Nuremberg.—Tha a' chùirt mhòr agus chudthromach so 'na suidhe fhathast nuair a tha sinn a' sgrìobhadh so aig meadhan mìos na Dùbhlachd. Is e cùirt shonraichte tha so da-rìribh, cùirt a tha toirt breith air daoine olc agus aingidh a bha 'nam meadhan air a' chogadh mhòr agus sgrìosal a thainig a nis gu crìch a chur air bonn. Riamh gus an so, cha robh ànn ach gun robh an ruag a' dol air rioghadh, no air rioghachdan, agus ged b' iad bu choireach, agus a b' aobhar do 'n chogadh briseadh a mach, bha an luchd-riaghlaidh agus na ciontaich a' faighinn as, co-dhìubh le am beatha. Ach a nis, air son na ceud uaire an eachdraidh an t-saoghail, tha na Rioghachdan Aonaichte air cùirt a chur air chois chum breith a thoirt air luchd-ihil nan Nàsach sa' chogadh eagallach air an deach crìoch. Tha aon fhichead de na daoine borba agus aingidh so a' seasamh cùirt an Nuremberg, agus bithidh am binn air a toirt a mach a dh' aithghearr. Chuir cuid eile dhiubh làmh 'n am beatha fhéin, agus chaidh feadhainn eile dhiubh as an rathad ri linn a' chogaidh. Tha fhios aig an t-saoghal air gnìomharran olc agus oillteil nan Gearmailteach so a tha seasamh cùirt air son am beatha—mòrt agus marbhadh agus ìomadach gnìomh aingidh eile nach cualas a riamh a leithid.

Bithidh a' chùirt so, agus a bhinn a bheir i a mach, 'na suileagan do 'n t-saoghal, agus 'na rabhadh do dhaoine aingidh linntean an deidh so.

Nach maith gun tainig an saoghal gu leithid a dh' lre agus gu bheil a nis, mar a thubhairt Dia : Ged dh' iadhadh làmh mo làimh cha teid an t-aingidh as gun pheanas.

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U.N.O. — So seòrsa de fhar-ainm a thugadh air a' Chomunn a tha nis air a chur air chois chum sith a chumail eadar rioghachdan an domhain uile. Dh' aontaich leth-cheud is aon rioghachd is stàta gun seasadh iad a chèile anns an t-sith a chumail eadar uile chinneach an domhain; agus tha riochdaire o gach cinneach de 'n leth-cheud 's a h-aon a deanamh suas a' Chomuinn mhòir chumhachdaich ris an canar UNO. Tha iad an dràsda 'n an suidhe an Lunnainn a deanamh suas riaghailtean is dòigh oibreachaidh a' Chomuinn; agus thatar dìreach air suidheachadh gur h-ann an Stàitean America a bhitheas àite ceann-gnothoichean UNO gu seasmach.

Feumaidh, tha fhios, cumhachd airm a bhith aca los am breith a chur an gnìomh a thaobh rioghachd, no cinneach, a bhreias a mach le cogadh.

Bithidh an Comunn chumhachdach so, a thaobh an t-saoghail uile, agus uile stàitean an domhain, mar a tha cumhachd rioghachd a thaobh briseadh lagh na rioghachd sin fhéin. Nitear peanas, no cuirear an làimh, an neach no a' bhuidheann a bhreias lagh na rioghachd sin; agus nitear sin le cumhachd na rioghachd. Nitear tre UNO an t-aon rud a thaobh stàta no rioghachd a bhreias lagh eadar-rioghachdan, no eadar-chinneach, le tòiseachadh ri cogadh ri rioghachd no stàit eile.

Is minic a thainig maith a' olc, agus dh' éirich so bho 'n chogadh mhòr oillte a thainig a nis gu crìch. Tha fhios gum bi deagh-ghean dhaoine glìce agus cneasda air UNO, agus beannachd Dhé os cionn nan uile.

Is ann o na litrichean-cinn sna facail Bheurla *United Nations Organisation* a tha UNO, 'se sin, Comunn nan Cinneach Aonaichte; agus tha mar a thubhairt mi, leth-cheud 's a h-aon dhiubh am bu'nn a cheile a' deanamh suas a' chomuinn chumhachdaich so. Saoilidh sinne gur maith am manadh air a' Chomuinn leth-cheud 's a h-aon stàit a bhith air a chùil; co-dhìubh gabhar leisgeul nan Gaidheal, aig a bheil Leth-cheud 's a h-Aon cho mùirneach, ann a bhith smaoinneachadh so.

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Naoi.—Is e dithis a chuir dad chugam mu dheidhinn na bha mi ag ràdh a thaobh *naoi* a bhith 'na àireamh naomh agus coimhionta aig na seann Gaidheil. Dh' innis deagh charaid a' *Ghaidheil*, Aonghus MacDhomhnaill an Glaschu, dhomh rann a bha ann am faidheadaireachd a rinn Coinneach Odhar a thaobh loc a bha san Eilean Sgrìtheamh; agus is ann air son an rann so, agus mar a tha *naoi* air ainmeachadh ann, a thug mo charaid domh an eachdraidh.

Bha luchd cuimseach mòr—mu thri mìle dh' fhad agus mìle de leud—ann an Cille Mhoire ris an abradh

iad Loch Chalum Chille, agus an teis meadhoin an locha bha eaglais bheag. Tha an làrach aice ri fhaicinn agus an latha an diugh. Tha iad ag ràdh gun do rinn Coinneach Odhar faidheadaireachd mu thimchioll an loch so, ag ràdh gun rachadh a thràghadh, agus gum bitheadh feur gorm a' fàs air a ghrund. Chaidh an loch a thràghadh ceart gu leòr o chionn ceud bliadhna air ais, agus tha an diugh feur gorm a' fàs air a ghrund cho beairteach 's a tha air ùrlar Alba, agus còir aig an toirearan a tha mu thimchioll air an roinn fhéin dheth. Bha so am faidheadaireachd Choinnich Uidhir cuideachd: gun tuiteadh beithair air an taobh an iar dheth, agus gun togte eaglais air an taobh an ear. Thogadh an eaglais cinnteach gu leòr, an t-seann Eaglais Shaor, agus t' eile o 'n uair sin—an Eaglais Aonaichte. Mu thimchioll a' bheithir, tha mo charaid ag ràdh, nach urrainn dha dad a ràdh le firinn, ach tha sloc mòr faisg air far an robh bruaich an iar an loch mu nach 'eil beul-aithris fhéin ag ràdh facal. Ach a thaobh na h-eaglaise, bha anns an fhadheadaireachd gun tuiteadh i 'na broinn; agus so mar a chuir Coinneach e; thuir e gum biodh innte aig an àm

“Naoi naoidheanan gun ainm,
Naoi aig am bi ainm is cuid,
Bidh guth an teagasg 'n an cluais
Is tuitidh i nuas air am muin.”

Cha do thachair sin fhathast co-dhiùbh, agus tha sinn an dòchas nach tachair, ach ri àm na stoirme ainneil a bha ann mu dheireadh a' cheud chogaidh mhòir, chaidh an Eaglais Aonaichte a leagail agus am mullach aice a ghiùlan air uhd na stoirme gu ruige nam monaidhean mu mhìle air falbh. 'Se an eaglais a thogadh 'na h-aite Eaglais na sgrè an diugh, agus an deagh Ghaidheal 'na dheagh Mhinistèir innte, mo charaid Murchadh MacLeod.

Sin mu fhadheadaireachd Choinnich Uidhir agus a naoi. A nis chan 'eil e 'na chleachdadh aig a' Ghaidheal a bhith toirt cluas do neach a bhruidhneas ris san dol seachd ach 'na chànan fhéin. Chan 'eil e 'ga mheas ceart gum freagar e ach anns a' chànan a bhruidhneas e ri duine. Ach air an trobha so chuir fìor charaid na Gaidhlig, agus dlùth charaid a' Ghaidheil, iomradh rùdeigin fada chugam am Beurla air mura a tha e a' smaoineachadh mar a dh' éirich naoi gu bhith 'na àireamh coimhlionta am measg nan Gaidheal; agus seach gu bheil a bheachdan ag co-fhreagart ri beachdan mhòran eile bheir mi duibh e mar a tha e sa' Bheurla, uaireigin eile. Ach an deidh a h-uile cail a th' ann, chan 'eil an t-aobhar ud 'ga mo làn riarachadh-sa. Carson nach meudaichte trì, dà nair cho maith ri trì uairean mar tha esan ag ràdh, agus a leithid sin? Tha mise de 'n bheachd gu bheil naoi mar àireamh sonraichte mòran nas sine na na drùidhean—gu bheil e dol air ais gu leanabachd ar cinneach, nuair a bhiodh iad ag cunntadh am meuran a mhàin, agus mar leanab, nach robh iad ag cunntadh na h-òrdaig, no na corraig, leis an robh iad ag cunntadh na naoi eile. Bha a h-uile tomhais is àireamh air an làmban an toiseach, mar cromadh, agus réis, a dh' fhad. Ach chan 'eil an so ach mo bheachd fhéin. Ach co-dhiùbh tha mi toirt taing do mo charaid Iomhar MacSporain air son a shaotrach; is fhìach i sin.

An Gaidheal.—Gu robh mìle maith aig cairdean a' Ghaidheil.—agus tha iad lionnbor—air son a' mhiseachd 's an coibhneas a nochd iad dha ré na bliadhna a chaidh seachad. Faoaidh e ràdh le firinn nach 'eil cèarn de mhòr-òrnnear comhfhaitheachd Bhreatainn as nach d' fhuair e litir, ag innse dha an togail cridhe, agus an t-eòlas, agus an riarachadh, a tha e toirt do Ghaidheil sna h-aitean sgapte sin; agus an t-rean eile thairis cuideachd. Fhuair, agus tha e a' faighinn, moladh agus miseachd air Gaidhealtachd is air Gaidhachd, sa' bhaile-mhòr agus san dùthaich; agus a nis aig àm bliadhna ùire bu mhaith leis innse do a chairdean lionnbor—ged nach urrainn e an ainmeachadh air an ceann—cho taingeil 's a tha e air son an cuideachaidh 's an coibhneas. Feuchaidh e ri bhith airidh air am moladh 's air an deagh-ghean sa' bhliadhna so mar an ceudna, le còmhadh an tì a chuidich gus an so e.

Tha fear de àrd sgoilearan na riochachd ag ràdh: “anns a' mhiosachan so tha sibh a' togail cuimhneachan a bhithes nas maireannaich na umha ann an eachdraidh litreachas na Gaidhlig . . . ma rinn na “rations” seachad air a thomaid gu dearbh cha tug iad an smior à òraidean is briathran an Fhìr-dheasachaidh. Tha iad sin cho fad léirsinn-each, foghlumte is snasail 's a bha iad bho thoiseach, gun dubhar no sgaile tionndaidh.”

Tha fear-Gaidhlig eile cho mòr 's a th' againn ag ràdh: “tha togail inntinn is fiosrachadh is stiùradh air nithean aimsireil is spioradail ann daonna; agus guma fada a bhithes e fo 'ur stiùradh.”

Tha bean usal a' moladh a' Ghaidheil air son na tha e a' toirt am follais de bhardachd an latha an diugh.

Agus so bho sgoilear eile: “I think that “An Gaidheal” is one of the best magazines in any language that I know, and is edited with great distinction.”

Agus so bho leughadair còir a tha air sia is ceithir fichead bliadhna a dhùnadh: “My hand is very shaky—86 past—but I trust you can read it. I always enjoy “An Gaidheal,” as I enjoy all that comes from your pen. Your “Latha Ghlinn Fhionghuin” in this month's “An Gaidheal” is very fine indeed; so are all the contents of every “An Gaidheal.”

Agus na ficheadan eile air an aon dòigh so. Agus tha sinn gu seachd sonraiche 'n an comain-san a chuir thugainn annas an laimhe—cuid ann an rosg agus cuid eile ann am bardachd—chuir sin snas air 'a Ghaidheil agus tlachd 'na bhriathran. Gun tì iadsan. Tha sinn 'n an comain uile. Agus tha sinn an dòchas gum faigh na cairdean do an aithne *An Gaidheil*—agus tromhpa-san cairdean ùire—an dearbh thòileachadh, agus an t-aon riarachadh, troimh an bhliadhna so mar an ceudna. Ni sinn ar dìchioll chum na crìche sin.

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Pìob nan Dos.—Bha mi leughadh an la-roimhe gun do chuir Comhairle Comunnan Gaidhealach Dhun Eideann ceud agus sia deug is dà fhichead Pìob Mhàla dh' ionnsaigh Phrìosanach is muinntir eile am Feachd an Rìgh ri linn a' chogaidh.

Rinn iad iomadach comhfhurtachd eile a chur thuca cuideachd, ach tha iad ri am moladh gu sonraichte air son nam pìoban.

Nuair a thòisich an cogadh chuir Gaidheil Dhun Eideann Comhairle air bonn, a bha ceangal ri chéile gach Comunn Gaidhealach de gach seòrsa a bha an Dun Eideann chum comhfhurtachdan a chur a dh' ionnsaigh nan gillean agus nan nigheanan a bha air falbh sa' chogadh. Rinn a' Chomhairle so obair mhór agus ionmholta, agus, mar a thubhairt mi, cha b' e so dad bu lugha de'n deagh obair a rinn iad—ceud gu leth agus sia Pìob Mhàla a chur a dh' ionnsaigh na bha air falbh. A thuilleadh air an so, chuir iad ceithir is ceithir fichead sionnsair ionnsachaidh thuca cuideachd, los gum biodh cothrom ionnsachadh cluiche na pìoba acasan aig an robh iarraidh air sin a dheanamh.

Tha fhios gum bi barrachd mór phlòbairean, agus tuilleadh maith ciuil, san dùthaich a nis an deidh do na pìobairean so tighinn dhachaidh. Tha sinn an dòchas nach fhàg na pìoban san arm, ma dh' fhàgas cha dean iad uibhir a dh' fheum an sin ri linn na sìthe 's a dheanadh iad sgapte feadh na Gaidhealtachd. Ciod as maisiche ri fhacinn, no as taitniche ri éisdeachd, na gille eireachdail 'na làn uidheam, agus a' phìob an deagh ghleus, ag cluiche air taobh na beinne, no am muigh an eithear, air latha ciùin samhraidh, no air feasgar fann foghair? Tha beatha is misneachd ann an ceol binn mar so, thà agus togail spioraid is intinn. Is minic a thug a' phìob sin dhuinn ag caismeachd ri linn cogaidh. Tha fìor sheanfhacal ag ràdh: Is càid gach ceol co cruit, 'se sin, Is naomh gach ceol gu cruit. Bha mar gum b' eadh ceol na cruite, no na clàrsaich, a' dol thairis air gach ceol eile ged bu naomh iad uile. Tha a' chlàrsach binn agus naomh ann an seòmair seasgair, ach thoir dhomhsa ceol mór na pìoba air leathad cuic no an cois a' chladaich latha ciùin samhraidh no feasgar fann foghair.

Bha na Gaidheil riamb déidheil air ceol. Tha iad sin fhathast, ged tha beagan ann a chaidh a thruaillleadh le creud fuadain, agus a tha cur sìos air 'nam beachd fhéin.

Tha na Gaidheil mar sin fo chomain aig Comhairle Comunnan Gaidhealach Dhun Eideann air son nan innealan-ciùil a thug iad do ar saighdearan gaisgeil ann an latha am feuma. Gu dearbh tha cuimhne aig mòran againn fhathast gur h-e port air a' phìob a thogadh ar cridhe, agus a dheanadh ar ceum aotrom, ri linn cogaidh—gu h-àraidh am port sin: “Tha thid agam fhin a bhith falbh dhachaidh dìreach dh' ionnsaigh na tìr as na dh' fhalbh mi.”

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Firinn airson a' mhìos so.—Chuala gach aon iad a' labhairt 'n an cànanain féin.

Tha sinne 'gan cluinntinn gach aon 'n an cànanain féin anns an do rugadh sinn.—*Gníomharan* II—6 7 8.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Is cinnteach gur e a' chòir deagh dhùrachd na Nollaige is na Bliadhna Uire a thoirt dhuibh am fìor thoiseach mo sheanachais air a' mhìos so. Mar sin féin e, mata, slàinte, sonas, sìth, saibheas is soirbheachadh gun robh agaibhe, a chlànn, is gach aon is caomh leibh ré na bliadhna a tha an nis a' tighinn á beairt. Is cinnteach gun robh bhur làithean cridheil is bhur làithean bròin aig mòran dhihbh ré na bliadhna a tha air trial, is cha deach am bròn air iomrall air Athair na Cloinne na bu mhò. Is e ar dòchas gur e na's lugha dhe sin is na's motha de gach toileachas-inntinn a bhios againn ré na bliadhna a tha an nis air tighinn òrnn, le tomhas de shìth aig an t-saoghal, ni nach robh fathast air a luighneasachadh dhuinn mun àm so an uiridh, leis gach amharus is gamhlas air an cur air chùl.

A nis, mar a dh' innsadh dhuibh mar thà, tha céilidh ri bhith aig Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich (aig a bheil a sgiath thairis air Comunn na h-Oigridh an Aitreabh nan Gaidheal, an Glaschu, am beagan; làithean bho 'n àm 'sa bheil mise a' sgrìobhadh ach bidh e seachad is e "a sheann sgeul mun ruig mo bhriathran-sa is an "Gaidheal" sibhse. Chan 'eil agam an ceartair ach a ràdh gu bheil mi an dòchas gum bi cuid de 'n Oigridh, a tha a nis air tighinn gu inbhe a bhith air an urradh féin, maille ruin an sin. Cuiridh sinn fàilte urra uile. Bidh sinn ag innsadh dhuibh anns an ath Litir ciamar a théid dhuinn.

Bha mi mar an ceudna ag innsadh dhuibh gu bheil sinn a' deanamh ar dìochill gu Camp na h-Oigridh ath-chur air bhonn air an t-Samhradh so tighinn, ged nach 'eil fathast ni r' a chur ris na dh' innsadh dhuibh mar thà; ach cha chùm sinn an cleith oirbh ni sam bith a bhios againn r' a innsadh—is ann a bhios fadal oirn gum am bi e 'nar comas ar sgeul-rùn a leigeil ris dhuibh!

Tha mi a nis a' dol a thoirt dhuibh sreathan bàrdachd a chuir deagh charaid dhuibh féin is dhomhsa chugam, is gun fios nach faodadh rùm a bhi an Litir a' mhìos so dhoibh. Is ann dhoibh a bhithreas, oir is math is fhiach iad a bhith air an toirt am follais, cho math ris na beachdan a tha air am fìlleadh anna. Tha an cuspair a' tighinn glé dlùth air mo chridhe féin, a' cheart chuspair a bha leth ri cridhe a' Bhàird Ilich an uair a sgrìobh e *Eirinn ag Gul*, a tha a' tòiseachadh mar so:—

“Eilean iomallach na h-Eòrpa,

Tìr as bòidhech' fo cheann-bhrat speur!”

Tuigidh sibh gu bheil an taobh blàth sin a bu dùth dhuinn uile a bhith againn ri ar co-bhràithrean an Eirinn aig an ùghdair. An cois na litreach so tha deagh dhearbhadh air nach e briathran a mhàin a tha aig ar caraid r' an riarachadh òrnn, oir fillte cùl na duilleige bha barantas banca air-son còig tasdain-fhichead mar tabhartas dhuinn. “Bu mhath leam” tha e ag ràdh, “ni-eigin a dheanamh air sgàth bhur n-Oigridh, agus so agaibh beagan a chuireas sibh san sporan air-son ullachaidh campa.” So agaibh a' bhardachd, is ainm an deagh urra a rinn i air a chur sìos foidhe. Air chùl taing a thoirt dha an

so, tha mise a' sgrìobhadh chuige gu pearsanta 's a' toirt taing dha bhuaim féin is bhuaihb-se.

AN T-IOMRAHADH DO SRUTH NA MAOILE.

"Airdre is Naois a' tilleadh, manadh am bàis air cuan; Colum 's a' mhuintir a' tighinn, am beannachd buan; Eubha rinn Sombairle Buidhe a' chuala càch San eilean thug dìon do 'n Bhrusach bu chruaidhe càs. Aiseag aig laoch gu Eirinn, targaid is lann, Còmhrag is cathan fuilteach, 's an call gun cheann; Alasdair air cuan le ghillean a' tilleadh air ais Làidir gu tìr an sinnsear, armuinn neo-thais; Aiseag aig ceòlraidh Eireann, flidh is bàrd, Clàrsair is seanchaidh le chéile, am muir gu làn: Cladach an diugh gun ghillean, a null no 'n nall, Mo thruaighe! an call 's am milleadh, is Eirinn thall!"

—*Calum MacGhilleathain.*

A nis, bho 'n a tha leth-chromadh eile de 'n cholbh so agam fathast, tha mi, mar chriochnachadh seanachais, a' dol a dh' innsadh naidheachd bheag sgoile dhuibh.

An latha a bha an so; bha Dòmhnall fada air deireadh air a' chòrr mun do ràinig e an sgoil. "Cìod a bha 'gad chumail gun an àm so de 'n latha, a Dhòmhnall?," dh' fheòraich am maighstir-sgoile is e glé fheargach. "O," arsa Dòmhnall, "tha a' mhòine cho gann oirn, 's bha an teine cho beag, 's bha a' phoit bhrochain a' buirearach 's a' buirearach 's a' buirearach, agus theach nach goileadh i gu sìorruidh! Sin agaibh dé a dh' fhàg mise cho fada an diugh."

Cha d' thubhairt am maighstir-sgoile còir an còrr!

Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MAC DHUGHAILL.

Tha sinn glé dhùilich gun d' fhuair Eachann, Athair na Cloinne, buille ghoirt o chionn ghòird an so. Chaochail an nighean bu shine a bh' aige. Bha i pòsa agus dh' fhàg i teaghlach as a déidh—boirionnach glèice, gasda. Tha comh-fhairreachdan aig a' Ghaidheal, agus aig muinntir Comunn na h-Oigridh gu léir, ris an teaghlach a dh' fhàg i, agus ri a h-athair 's ri a màthair is ris an teaghlach aca, 'n am bròn is 'n an ionndrainn.—F.D.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

Meetings of the Northern Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees were held at Inverness on Saturday, 17th November, when there were representative attendances. On that evening, the Organiser was present at the November Meeting of Ceilidh nan Gàidheal an Inbhir Nis. The Speaker for the evening was Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., F.E.I.S., Vice-President, and he took as his subject, *The Life and Poetry of Rob Donn*, the Sutherland Bard. Mr. Graham related many interesting incidents in the Bard's life, and also recited several of his best compositions. The Talk was very much enjoyed and the Ceilidh Secretary thanked Mr. Graham for his scholarly and interesting address. The December meeting of the Ceilidh will have another distinguished Highlander as Oraidiche:—Dr. J. A. MacLean, Director of Education for the County of Inverness.

A meeting of the Aberdeen National Victory Mod General Committee was held on Friday, 23rd November, at which the

Convener, Mr. Dugald MacDonald presided. The meeting was a most harmonious one and eight Sub-Committees were appointed to cover all the activities of the Mod. The following is a List of the Committees with the respective Conveners:—

Finance Committee	Mr. A. E. Milne, Advocate.
Hall Committee	Mr. Hugh D. Welsh.
Publicity and Propaganda,	Mr. David McCulloch.
Local Board and Residence,	Rev. A. MacKinnon.
Youth Affiliation	Professor Noble.
Ladies	Mrs. MacDonald, Stonehaven.
Entertainments	Captain and Mrs. Blair.

The Aberdeen people are determined that the Victory Mod shall rank at least as high in achievement as any previously held, and the enthusiasm shown so far, tends to this being achieved. The Convener has a fine body of men and women working in harmony, with one end in view, i.e., to make the Victory Mod worthy of the name. It is interesting to note that several of the leading Gaelic Choirs have already booked accommodation at Aberdeen.

Inverness Gaelic Choir. The Inverness Gaelic Musical Association has decided to put forward a Choir to the Aberdeen Victory Mod, and practices have already begun.

The Kilmallie Branch was re-constituted recently, and meetings are to be held in The Hall, Corpach, on the second Wednesday of each month. Visitors will be welcomed on these evenings. The Office-bearers are President, Mr. Hugh; Macpherson; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Dugald Cameron; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Iain Kennedy.

On Tuesday, 27th November, a large number of Gaelic enthusiasts gathered in the Lesser Town Hall, Dingwall. The object of the meeting was to re-constitute the local Branch. Rev. Malcolm MacLean, M.A., just back from war service, presided, and gave an encouraging address in Gaelic and English. The Northern Organiser also spoke in both languages. It was the unanimous wish of those present, that the Branch should commence activities as early as possible. Mr. Alasdair Fraser, M.A., who has been a tower of strength to the Gaelic movement over a number of years, was appointed Hon. President; Ex-Provost John MacRae, President; Miss Lydia Ross, M.A., Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Wm. Matheson, Hon. Treasurer. Fourteen ladies and gentlemen form the General Committee. Ceilidhs are to be held regularly, and arrangements are being made for a Continuation Class in Gaelic, under the auspices of the Ross-shire Education Committee. Consideration is to be given to the question of holding a local Mod next summer.

The Lochaber Provincial Mod Syllabus is now in the Printer's hands, and copies will be in the various districts before this appears in print. To ensure the financial success of this Mod, a Gaelic Concert is to be held at Fort William under the auspices of the local Branch, in aid of the Mod Funds.

The Organiser will be in Lewis from 6th to 14th December, and an account of this visit will appear in the February issue. Bliadhna mhath ùr dhuibh uile, a' chairdean.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

I attended the first meeting of the Killin Branch, on 16th November. The Rev. Donald Thomson presided in the absence of the President, Mr. MacCraw, and there was a good attendance of former members and friends. Mr. James Anderson, Secretary, had arranged a nice programme of Gaelic songs and instrumental music and a service of tea was provided. Addresses in Gaelic and English were given by the Chairman and myself and these were followed by the re-election of former Office-bearers and members of Committee. The name of Mr. Stewart Cunningham, Headmaster, was added as one of the Vice-Presidents. The Branch will now meet regularly as in pre-war years.

On 22nd November, I attended a meeting of the Gaelic Society of Perth and addressed the members on the post-war aims of An Comunn with particular reference to National and Provincial Mods. Readers will recall that the Annual Meeting of 1938 decided to hold the 1940 National Mod in the city of

Pertin, and that a local Committee had been formed. A certain amount of preparatory work had been done and is now being resumed for the Mod of 1947.

The Chair was occupied by Chief Dempster who made sympathetic reference to the absence of Mrs. Hutton owing to indisposition. The usual programmes of Gaelic and Scots songs was submitted, and bagpipe selections were played by Pipe-Major MacPhie. Votes of thanks were moved in Gaelic and English by Mr. John MacDonald.

In last number, I referred to the desire of the members of the Millhouse Branch to resume activities and I attended the first meeting of this Branch in the School, Tighnabruich, on 30th November. Mr. Neil MacLeod, M.A., President, was in the chair. The accommodation was fully taxed and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. A Ladies' Choir, conducted by Miss MacIntosh, secretary, rendered several Gaelic songs and there was no lack of talent among members of the audience. Bagpipe selections were played by Mr. James Nicolson, Vice-President. Tea was served by the lady members. It was altogether a happy meeting, and the success of the Branch is already assured. Several members of the Kilfinan Branch were present, and arrangements are proceeding to restart meetings in this Lochfynside village and I hope to be present at the opening meeting.

On Tuesday morning, 4th December, I made tracks for Ardnamurchan via Fort William and Ardgour, and attended a meeting of the Strontian Branch in the evening. Mr. Alex. Cameron (North Argyll), presided over a good attendance of former members and, during the evening, the Branch was re-formed. Mr. John MacIntyre is President and Miss Phemie Munro, Edinalline, Strontian, is Secretary. Several Gaelic songs were sung during the evening and the lady members served a nice tea.

On the following day I visited the School and enrolled 9 members (5 girls and 4 boys) into Communn na h-Oigridh. I addressed all the children in the School and hope to enrol a few more members on my next visit.

On that same evening I travelled to Acharacle by bus and on the following morning, accompanied by the Rev. Angus MacAskill, I visited the local school and enrolled 13 members (9 girls and 4 boys). Nearly all the children in this school are Gaelic speaking but, unfortunately, neither the Headmaster nor his assistant knows Gaelic. Mr. MacAskill is kindly arranging to bring the children together, and preparing them for an all Gaelic ceilidh of their own. The proceeds of this Ceilidh will go towards the cost of badges.

After completing enrolment at Acharacle School I proceeded across the Shiel to Inverness-shire and called at Mingarry School. The number of children attending this school is 7 and all were enrolled into Communn na h-Oigridh—2 girls and 5 boys. The children are taught Gaelic in the school, and Miss Macpherson, the teacher, also gives them Gaelic songs. These children made a very successful appearance at the Communn Concert held in Acharacle in September.

Owing to recent deaths in the district no Ceilidh was held in Acharacle this time.

I had intended to include Kilchoan in this itinerary but the date did not suit local circumstances. I hope, however, to call there later and have the Branch re-formed. It was also my intention to call at Glenborrodale School on the way to Kilchoan but this visit had perforce to be cancelled. The Rev. Mr. MacAskill kindly agreed to deputise for me and to enrol the Gaelic speaking pupils in this School where I had formed a Feachd on a previous occasion. There is a good Gaelic teacher in this school, Miss MacDiarmid, who acted for a term as secretary of the Kildalton Branch in Islay. There were a few children absent when I visited Acharacle School and Mr. MacAskill will enrol these on a suitable date.

I retraced my steps to Ardgour on Friday, 7th December, and attended a largely attended meeting in the Memorial Hall there in the evening. The Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour presided, and an excellent programme of Gaelic songs was gone through. Mr. Donald Cameron of Salachan played selections on the bagpipes. The Branch was reformed with the Rev. A. D. MacLean, B.D., as President, and Mr. Donald Cameron, M.C., Salachan, as Secretary.

The Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod Committee held a meeting recently at Strontian and decided, owing to transport difficulties and the lack of music instruction, not to hold a Mod in 1946, but to make every effort to resume in 1947. The Lochaber Provincial Mod is open to competitors from the Ardnamurchan Mod area, and steps will be taken to take advantage of this concession.

I returned to Headquarters, on 8th December, and left again for the Lorn district on the 11th. A largely attended meeting was held at Connel that evening presided over by the Rev. D. A. MacCallum, to whom we are much indebted for making all local arrangements. Mr. Donald Thomson, Oban, acting Convener of the Propaganda Committee, was present with a number of Gaelic singers and a piper. A first rate programme was submitted by this party, and they had the assistance of two local singers. After service of tea and addresses by the Chairman, Mr. Thomson and myself the Branch was re-formed. Mr. George W. MacIsaac is President, and Miss Morag MacEachen, Burnside, Connel, is Secretary. The Branch will do all it can to help the Mod at Oban in April.

I visited Benderloch, on the 12th, and made preliminary arrangements for a meeting of the Branch early in the new year.

In the evening I attended a Ceilidh of the Appin Branch presided over by the Rev. John MacDonald, M.A., Mr. Macpherson, President, was unable to take his customary place in the chair owing to indisposition. Sympathetic reference was made to the passing of Mr. Boa a strong supporter of long standing. Songs were contributed by local members and tea was served by lady members. A collection was taken during the evening, and I was handed the sum of £2 5s. for the Central Fund of An Communn.

Mr. Alasdair Matheson was present at the third Ceilidh of the Largs Branch, on 13th December. He was accompanied by Miss Ina MacLellan and both helped to sustain a fine programme of Gaelic and Scots songs. The President, Mr. Malcolm Black, was in the chair and he was accompanied by Mrs. John R. Colquhoun, Hon. President. Meetings of this Branch are well supported locally, and give much pleasure to Highlanders resident in the vicinity.

It was found impossible to arrange a sequence of meetings for the Concert Party referred to previously but arrangements are made for an early visit to Kinlochleven and Mull.

MR. ALEXANDER FRASER.

We regret to record the passing of Mr. Alexander Fraser at his home in Bishopston, Renfrewshire, on 12th December. Mr. Fraser had been a member of the Executive Council of An Communn for 40 years, at first representing the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association and for 33 years an elected member. He succeeded the late Provost MacFarlan as Convener of the Finance Committee in 1920 and faithfully and diligently carried out that duty until 1938, when he resigned owing to a breakdown in health. He was most regular in his attendance at meetings and took an active part in the discussions. During his term as Convener of the Finance Committee he kept a firm grip of the financial affairs of An Communn. He was for 6 years a Vice-President of the Association.

Mr. Fraser was a good singer of Gaelic songs and was a member of the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Choir. He often acted as presenter at special Gaelic religious services in and around Glasgow.

It can be truly said of Alex. Fraser that few members gave more unstinted service to An Communn, and the cause of Gaelic, and those who were associated with him on the Council and Standing Committees will readily grant him an honoured place on the roll of our remembrance.

He was a native of Stratherrick and Gaelic was his mother tongue.

The sincere sympathy of our members is extended to his widow and son.

AIR A' CHNOC.

[Is e Oran Mór MhicLeoid a bhios na mnathan a' seinn ann an comhfharpais Orain Mhóir aig Mod na Buadha an Obairdeachain aig deireadh September so tighinn. Tha e air aon òran cho comasach agus cho tiachdmhor 's a tha againn an Gaidhlig. 'Se Ruairidh MacGhille Mhoire—an Clàrsair Dall mar a theirtir ris gu cumanta—a rinn e. Is ann de Chlann a' Bhriathna a bha Ruairidh. Bha a shiainsrean 'nam brihteamhanan aig Clann 'icLeoid Leodhus; agus bu dhubh-ogha an Clàrsair Dall do Iain Håboist, an Brihteasamh Leodhusach mu dheireadh. Bu mhac e do Fear Bhràgair, Iain MacGhille Mhoire, a bha ainmeil 'na latha agus r6 iomadhi linn, air son a uaisleachd 's a ghluicais, ealantaic 's a gheurich.

Tha sgeul air gun do thachair do Fear Bhràgair so—athair Ruairidh Dhoill—tadhal air Iarla Sheiphoirt an Steòrnabhagh agus gun do leum madadh coin air aig an dorus-mbòr, ach ma leum, thug Fear Bhràgair am bata dha mun t-àròin agus dh' fhalbh e san donalac. Thainig fear de na seirbhisich aig Sheiphoirt a mach agus thug e aghaidh air MacGhille Mhoire air son a dhiol air a' oibh, ach ma thug, cha do rinn am fear eile ach eagal de 'n bhata thoirt dha mun chabard; agus as a' bhòilich e bh' ann thainig Sheiphoirt fhéin a mach agus dh' fharraid e ciod air an aon sgothail a bha ceàrr. Fbreagair Fear Bhràgair:

Balach is balgair tighearna
Dithis nach còir leigil leò,
Buail am balach air a' obarbad
'S buail am balgair air an t-àròin.

Bha Fear Bhràgair 'na dhùine cothromach agus saobhair a reir an latha a bh' ann, agus thug e àrd fhoghlum do a chéithreas mhac. Is ann san sgoil an Inbhir Nis a bha Ruairidh nuair a ghabh e a' bhreac, agus chaill e a fhradharc ri a linn.

Chùm sin e gun a dhol air adhart air son na ministrealachd mar a bha dùil aige. Bha dithis bhàrthrean aige 'nam ministearan—Aonghus is Iain—agus fear eile, Murchadh, 'na ghobba. 'Se bàrd maith a bha an Aonghus cuideachd, ach chan fhaca mi riann dad a rinn Iain, ma rinn e bàrdech. Co-dhùibh thug athair àrd fhoghlum cùil do Ruairidh agus e nise dall, agus chuir e eadhon do Eirinn a dh' ionnsachadh cluiche na clàrsach. Bha e 'na chlàrsair barraichte, agus 'na bhàrd comasach.

An deidh dha tilleadh d' Eirinn thachair e ri Iain Breac MacLeoid, Ceann Feadhna Leodsich Dhun Bheagain, an Dun Eideann, agus ghabh Ruairidh aige mar Chlàrsair. Thug e dha gabhail Thoghta Mór an Glinn Eilig mar dhùis Clàrsair; agus sin far an robh a dhachaidh fhad 's a bha Iain Breac beò. 'Se Duine falaideh, fosgarra, agus sàr Cheann Cinnidh a bha an Iain Breac, agus cha robh dìth no deireas air Ruairidh fhad 's a bha Iain Breac 'na Cheann Cinnidh, ach an uair a chaochail ean sa' bhliadhna 1693 bha a mbac Ruairidh, a fhuair àite mar Cheann Cinnidh, tur eadar-dhealichte ri a bhaire, agus thug e gabhail Thoghta Mhòir bho 'n Chlàrsair agus b' gigin da an àite fhagail. Is e Buail e a' Chlàrsair a threair ri mur de 'n ghabhail sin agus an latha an diugh. Is ann an uair a bha e a' fàgail Thoghta Mór a rinn e an t-òran so sa' bhliadhna, 1694, agus e 'a' triall gu port' air a sheilge dhachaidh do Leodhus, far an do chaochail e 'na shlean aois.

Chan e mhàin gun còir do 'n luchd-seinn aithne a bhith aca air eachdraidh is brìg an òrain a bhios iad a' seinn, agus air ciall gach faeil, ach ma thà làn riarachadh gu bhith aig luchd-eisdeachd is còir dhaibh-san cuideachd an t-aon eòlas a bhith aca air eachdraidh is brìg is ciall an òrain. Is sin an t-aobbar gu bheil *Aa Gaidheal* 'ga thoirt seachad an so air a' chnoc agus am bi fhios aig a b-uile duine air

ORAN MOR MHC LEIOD.

GLEUS F.

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An àm éirigh gu moch
Ann an teaghlach gun sprochd, gun ghruaim;
Chluinntea gleadhraich nan dos,
Is a céile 'na cois o'n t-suain:
'Nuair a ghabhadh i làn,
'S i gu cuireadh o-n-àird na fhuair;
Le meòir fhileanta bhinn,
'S iad gu ruitb-leumach, dìonach, luath.

Bhiodh a rianadair féin,
Cur an ire gur b-e bhiodh ann;
'S e 'g éirigh 'nam measg,
'S an éibhe gu tric 'na cheann:
Ged a b'ard leinn a fuaim,
Cha tuisirneadh 's sinn gu teann;
Chuirreach tagradh an chluais,
Le h-aidmheil gu luath 's gu mall.

LEIS A' CHLARSÀIR DHALL.
AM FOKN BHO IAIN CAMSHRON.

'Nuair a chuir' i 'na tàmh,
Le furtachd 'na fardaich féin;
Dhòmbsa b'fhurasda ràgh
Gum bu chuireideach' gair nan teud.
Le iomairt dhà làmh,
Ag cur a binneis do chàob an céill;
'S gum bu shiùbhlaich an chluais
Modhan' lùghmhor le luasgan mbeur.

Thoir teachdaireachd bhuam,
Le deatam' gu Ruairidh Oig;
Agus innis dha féin
Cuid d'a chunnart ged 's e MacLeòid.
E bh' 'g amharc 'na dhéidh,
Air an Iain a dh' eug 's nach beò;
Ge bu shaoibhir a chùil
Chan fhàgadb e'n Dùn gun cheòl.

¹ treogbaid = gréim, pian.
² tuisirneadh = troimhe-chéile.
³ chuireidach = coibhneach.
⁴ Modhan = fuaim binn.
⁵ deatam = dealas.

A' BHEINN.

Dhìrich mi beinn an uamhais
'N uair a shaoil mi gun b' e t' fheum,
'S cha robh oidhche no latha
Nach do shracadh mi le d' bhead.

Ged reubadh an sud m' amhach
Le cion analach 's le fuachd,
Chum mi orm anns an dicheall
Gu fras-mhullach nan cruach.

Bha am biod trom air a' chridhe,
A' meillearachd feòla gu goirt,
An aingealach 'nam eanchainn,
Gun aon dòchas air a thoirt.

Ach cha bu shuarach a' chreachainn
Ged a bha i mar am bàs,
B' uasal a' chreag am mullach
Ge b' e an-ìochd a càrn.

Sud a' chreag a b' àirde
A ràinig mo chas-as riannh,
Ach aig gach òirleach d' a h-àirde
Tha mo thàmhail mìle shìos.

SOMHAILE MAC GHILL-EATHAIN.

NA TUINN RIS NA CARRAIGEAN.

A' mhuir fo chobhair ris na carraigeann,
an caraich iad le d' chòmhrach?
Saoghal nan gineal falbanach,
an tress' am marbh no 'm beò ann?

Am bi cinnt nam marbh a' meatachadh
na beatha is na h-òige,
Is am meòir chànna mu 'r buinn luaineach
'gar toirt 's nuas 'n an còrdaibh?

Am bi gach smuain a smuaineachadh
'na cheangal cruaidh mu 'r còmhradh;
Is cainnt àrsaidh 'na sean bhuarach dhùinn
nuair bhios smuain ùr 'ga tòirreach?

*Cìod e ma chruthaicheadh an talamh so
le cìadaichean gu 'r cròthadh!
A' mhuir, mo mhuir-ea, tha 'n speur rionnagach
le gothaibh saor ag ulfhàirì cìrnnè.*

DEORSA CAIMEUL HAY.

TALADH CUAIN.

(O IAIN MASEFIELD).

Tha m' èigin sìos chun a' chuain a ris, gu aonranachd mara is speur
'S chan iarr mi càil ach soitheach àrd is leus nan rionnag gheur,
Is breab na stiùr' is ceol na goaith is crith nan geal-shiùil mhòr
Is ceathach liath air aodann cuain is briseadh faire is ceò.

Tha m' èigin sìos chun a' chuain a ris, oir tha glòdh nan trom mhuir-làn
Cho làidir is cho cumhachdach 's nach fhàid mi bhith am thàmh,
'S chan iarr mi càil ach ràn na goaith 's na sgòthan geal air agèith,
Is cathadh mara 's crathadh chop is faoilteagan le 'n èigh.

Tha m' èigin sìos chun a' chuain a ris, gu beatha luaineach cheàird,
Gu slighe na faoilte 's slighe na sìr 's a ghaoth mar agian cho gearrt',
'S chan iarr mi càil ach ageulachd mhear o sheol'dair mar mi fèin
Is cadaid cùin is aisling chaomh is deireadh air an sgeul.

EON.

AIR AN DUTHAICH.

Bho 'n a tha obsair an fhoghair seachad againn agus na h-oidhcheannan air fàs gu maith fada tha tuille cothrom air beagan leughaidh is sgrìobhaidh a dheanadh. Mar sin chan 'eil leigseul agam tuille nach fheuch mi ris an arud a chaidh iarraidh orm a dheanadh—'se sin, beagan fhacal a sgrìobhaidh air obair tuathanachais, no air rud sam bith a bhùineas do 'n duthaich—càdhon air an t-side fhéin.

Tha feum air an t-side—gu dearb, ged is tric a bhiteas sin 'ga càineadh! Tha i cho caochlaideach anns na cèarnaichean tha so, agus tha i 'na cuspair-bruidhinn againn daonna. Faodaidh sibh bhì cinnteach, ma 's ann 'ga moladh a tha sibh an diugh gun h-ann 'ga càineadh a bhios sibh ann màireach!

Co-dhùbh, cha robh moran abhair-gearain am bliadhna a thaobh na side agus duine sam bith aig an robh bàrr nach d' fhuair a ghabhail fada roimh so—'s ann aig fhéin a bha a' choire. Gun teagamh bha uisge gu leòr ann toiseach an t-samhraidh agus fuachd 'na chois, ach bha fàs maith ann agus mu 'n tàinig àm gearradh an fheòir bha bàrr trom air na daltean uile.

Bha na seann daoine sa' Ghleann so ag innseadh dhomh nach bu chiumhneach leò am fear a bhì air a' ghabhail cho tràth agus a bha e air an fhoghar so. Bha an t-arbhar air an aon dòigh. 'Se glè bheag coirce a tha 'ga chur san àite so a nis, ged a bha uair ann, nuair a bha a chuid deth aig a h-uile duine.

'Se obair nam fiadh as motha a chuir stad air sin ged tha gnothuch aig cion daoine ris cuideachd. Tha na féidh an deidh sgrìos a dheanadh air na croitean an so, agus tha mi cinnteach nach e so 't-sòn bìte far am bheil iad ri cron. Gun teagamh sam bith 'se fìor bheathach eirc-shàdail a tha san fhìadh nuair a tha e sa' mhòd aig eòrachd air an iarrainn a thigheil idir, ach nuair a tha e sa' mhòd aig eòrachd air an talamh-bàrr 'se am peilear an t-aon rud a thig da. Cha bhiodh e duilich dhomh tuille a ràdh mun cuairt air na féidh ach foghaidh sin an dràsda!

Tha na croitearan ag cur buntàta a h-uile bliadhna agus mar sa trice tha iad a' faighinn bàrr maith deth ged is ann san sòn talamh a tha iad 'ga chur bliadhna an deidh bliadhna. Tha mòran leasachaidh a' dol air, agus sùgh maith air chumail sa' ghrund. Cho fìd 's a chuala mi bha buntàta maith aig a h-uile duine am bliadhna ged a bha mòran ag gearain air cho salach agus a bha e.

Tha feum mhòr air a' bhuntàta ann an àiteachan iomallach mar so, gu sonraichte sna h-amannan so; cha ghabh e ruith a mach do 'n bhùth a dh' iarraidh rùdeigin a 'n dìnnear an so, agus is iomadh duine a bhios a' deansadh dìnnear mhaith de bhuntata, bainne is càise! Cha di-chiumhich sinn an cupan t' a thig sa a deidh; cho beag 's gum bheil an 'ration' chan fhaic mi nach bidh esan ann!

Tha spréidh a' dol a steach do 'n gheamhradh ann an corr maith, agus tha cothrom aca ged a thigeadh droch-shìde toiseach an earraich. Gu dearb tha dòchas againn nach tig sneachd is reothadh mar a thainig an uridh ach ged a thigeadh, bidh sinn nas deiseile air a shon am bliadhna. Ged a tha sinn ri taobh a' chuain an so laigh an sneachd uine mhòr agus e gle dhomhan cuideachd—rud nach do thachair bho chionn àireamh mhòr bliadhnanach. Bha beagan call sna caoraich ach cha bu mhòr e seach iomadh àite air feadh na dùthcha.

Bu mhaith leam facal no dhà a thoirt seachad air na caoraich Shealtanaich a th' againn an so ach tha mi a' smaointeachd gum bheil an t-àm dhomh tighinn gu crìch. Faodaidh gum bidh cothrom air a sin fhathast.

Samalamant,
Mùideart.

GRAHAM CROLL.

AILEAN MAC NEACHDAIN NACH MAIREANN.

Chaochail an deagh Ghaidheal so air an 26mh là de 'n Dàmhair.

Le a bhàs chaill a Ghaidhlig deagh chul-taic ann an Aththorcuil, chionn 'is sin a chànan a b' ionmhunn leis, agus bha e bho 'n as cuimhne leamsa na cheann-suidhe air meur a Chomunn ann an sin.

Bha spéis mhòr aige de na sean òran Ghaidhlig, thlachd ann ar eacraidhneach maiseach, air cleachdaidhean clàiteach, agus gach dultachas urramach a bh' againne mar shluagh.

Cha robh mòran ann san àite a b' fhearr a sheinneadh òran Ghaidhlig 's a dh' innsadh seùl, 's mar sin 's tric a chuir e sunnd air e aighe aig na Cèitidhean gasda a bh' againn' anns na làithean sona dh' fhalbh.

Cò bu ghasda na Ailean còir mun cuairt na cagaite aige fhéin. Gheibhte coibhneas, mùirn agus àbhaich da riribh an sin.

Mu bha buadhanan thlachdmhor ceangailt ris, bha deagh chul-taic aige airson an coimhleadh gu h-eireachdail 'n chéile chòir, borionnach falaidh anns gach seagh. Foadaidh sinn gu deimhinn a' cheart ionmradh thoirt air an teaghlach aca, agus bean a mhic, caile shnasail & Ceann-a-tuath Uibhist.

Fad dh' fhuichead bliadhna bha e a' togail nan Salm ann an eaglais na sgrìre, agus 's ann aig a bha gnòthuch ris.

Chruinnich mòran dh' ionnsaigh an tiodhlaicadh, agus rinn an t-Urramach Aonghus MacAsgail, Ministear na h-Eaglaise—anns an robh e airson iomaidh bliadhna 'na sheirbheiseach dileas agus 'na fhear comanachaidh gràdhach—agus an t-Urramach Niall G. Dombhallach, Cill-a-chòmhain, a mhòr chuid de 'n t-sheirbheas adhlacaidh anns a' chànan a' b' ionmhunn leis—a Ghaidhlig bhinn, bhlasda.

A chuid de Phàireas da.

TAOBH-TUATH EARRAGHAIDHEAL.

CENTRAL (WAR COMFORTS) COMMITTEE.

A Whist Drive was held by the ladies of the Work Party on Tuesday afternoon, 4th December. Unfortunately, the weather clerk had ruled that the day was to be devoted to heavy fog, accompanied by a "Glasgow Drizzle," and this had its effect on the attendance. However, a sum of three pounds was added to the Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund. The prize-winners were—1st, Mrs. Calder; 2nd (equal) Mrs. Stevenson and Mrs. Stewart.

At a meeting of the Central Committee held in the Highlanders' Institute, on Thursday, 6th December, it was reported that there was a keen desire on the part of those responsible for the working of the Arvs Club to continue the work in peace-time although on a smaller scale. The Committee viewed the proposal with favour and several members spoke in appreciative terms of the great work done by the Club during the war years, under the excellent guidance of Rev. John MacLeod.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

To enable An Comunn to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign now that the war is over, 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 Gaidheal."

Previously acknowledged	£283 16 6
Neil Cameron, Esq., Sunderland	20 —
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Facal san dealachadh.—Tha *An Gaidheal* ag cur faileis is furan air na gillean agus air na h-ingeannan a bh' air falbh an scribhis 's chruin, agus a tha nis a' tilleadh dhachaigh. Is iomadh ruid a chunnaic iad, agus a thachair riutha, fhad 's a bha iad air falbh, air nach robh iad còlach air a' Ghaidhealtachd—iomadh rud neòach agus iomadh cleachdadh bohd nach fhuichead iad air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Chunnaic iad nach 'eil iteanan gun nan eun a' thad fad is idir cho bòidheach 's a bha dh' aig cuid de dhaoine. Bithidh, mar sin, meas na motha, agus dh' iad nas seasmhaiche aca a nis anns na nithean maith agus maiseach a tha againn air a' Ghaidhealtachd—ag air dachaidh fhéin—ar creidsinn agus ar chànan, ar còl agus ar cleachdaidhean, agus modh ar n-athraichean. Is ann do bhrìgh gu bheil *An Gaidheal*, agus an Comunn Gaidhealach, a' seasamh air son na nithean ionmholta so a bhineas do ar daoine a tha sinn ag iarraidh orrasan a nis cuideachadh leinn. Tha fhios gun dèan iad sin.—Am Fear-dessaichidh.

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An Gaidheal



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH

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Leabhar XLI

An Gearran, 1946

[Earrann 5

AN RIAN GREINE.

Is minic a smaoinech mi, agus mi ag coimhead ris na speuran air oidhe rionnagach gheamhraidh, air an nì a thuir an Salmadair: “Nuair a dh' amhairceas mi air do nèamhan, obair do mheur, air a' ghealach agus na reultaibh a shuidhich thu, cò e an duine gum fiosaicheadh tu e”? Tha glòir nan speuran air oidhe rionnagach gheamhraidh cho òrdhearc agus cho iongantach agus nach urrainn dhuinn gun a bhith mothachail air lughad is ann-unnèachd mhic an duine. Ach an deidh sin uile, tha nì san duine a tha nas comasaiche agus nas cumhachdaiche agus nas glòrmhoire na na reultan, agus uile chruinne an adhair. Mar a thubhairt an Salmadair fhéin san dearbh òran ud: “Rinn thu e beagan nas isle na na h-inglean, agus chrùn thu e le glòir agus le h-urram; thug thu uachdarannachd dha os cionn oibre do làmh; chuir thu gach nì fo a chosaibh; caoraich agus buar uile, agus mar an ceudna ainmhidhean na macharach, eunlaith nan speur, agus iasg na mara a shiubhlas air slighe nan cuan.”

Tha an duine comasach air beachdachadh agus air gabhail a steach glòir agus mòr iongantais cruthachadh Dhé, agus mar sin amhare ris a' Chruithear agus urram agus moladh a thoirt dha, air son mòr iongantais a cruthachaidh. Chithear so, gu soilleir a' oidheche r'onnagach gheamhraidh.

Tha na speuradairean ag ràdh gum faicear deich mille reul no rionnag, (10,000) ris an rath-dhorch leis an t-sùil luim, ach chunnaic mi gun robh an Speuradair Rìoghail ag ràdh o chionn ghoirid an so nach faicear san adhar aig an aon àm ach mu thuirtear treas cuid an àireamh so. Tha na speuradairean ag ràdh cuideachd gu bheil na reultan cho fada bho chéile—ged a shaoileas sinne gu bheil iad cha mhór a' bualadh 'na chéile—agus gu bheil an t-adhar cho fàs, dh' aindeoin na tha de reultan do-àireamh ann, agus a bhiodh an Roinn Eòrpa ged nach biodh creutar

beò a chòmhnuidh innte ach aon speach a mhàin. Sin mar a chuir *Jeans* e.

Faodaidh tu mar sin a ràdh, gu bheil an cruthachadh—do ar n-intinn-ne co-dhiùbh—cho farsuing agus nach ruig sinn air a mheudachd; tha e neo-chrìochnaichte dhuinn.

Ach tha mìr beag dheth—beag ann a coimh-choimeas ris a' chruthachadh gu léir—air am bu mhaith leam beachdachadh, a' chuibhrionn sin dheth ris an canar an Rian Gréine. 'Se sin a' ghrian agus na cuspairean a tha dol mun cuairt dhi. Tha an talamh am measg nan cuspairean sin, agus na reultan ris an canar na planaidean. Tha iad uile a' dol mun cuairt de 'n ghréin, agus mar gum b' eadh an crochadh air a' ghréin; agus is ann bho 'n ghréin a tha iad uile a' faotainn an soluis. 'Se gluasadach, no sìubhlach, a tha am facal planaìd ag ciallachadh, facal a thug a' Ghaidhlig agus iomadach cànan eile an iasad bho 'n Ghrèigais.

Tha na planaidean, ma tha, mar an talamh gun solus unnta fhéin, ach 'ga faotainn bho 'n ghréin mar a tha a' ghealach. Tha a' ghrian agus na reultan suidhichte eile—oir is e grìanan a tha unnta-san cuideachd, ged a ch'ì sinne cho beag iad seach gu bheil iad cho cian fhad air falbh—tha a' ghrian agus na reultan suidhichte a tha do-àireamh sna speuran a' dealrachadh le an solus fhéin, ach tha ghealach agus na planaidean a' soillseachadh le solus na gréine mar a dhealraicheas sgàthan nuair a bhualas gathan soluis air.

Is e mar sin an Rian Gréine, na speuran so anns a bheil a' ghrian 'nam meadhon, agus timchioll a bheil iad a' dol mun cuairt; agus a tha an crochadh air a' ghréin. Agus is e planaidean a tha unnta uile ged a bhithear ag ainmeachadh na gèalaich leatha fhéin, mar bhean-choimheadaich a tha aig an talamh.

Ged nach 'eil san Rian Ghréine ach mìr glé bheag de 'n chruthachadh uile tha meudachd is farsuingeachd do-thuigsinn ann, tha còig mille muillion mìle

(5000,000,000) sa' choislinn aige, no san aisil a tha mar gum b' eadh a' dol troimhe.

Agus an deidh sin uile chan 'eil e ach mar bhoinne as a' chuan an comhard ris a' chruitheachd gu h-ìomlan. Mar a thubhairt am bard:

Ge d' thionndadh ghrian gu neo-n' ris,
'S gach nì fa chuir a' soluis mhóir;
'S co beag bhiodh t' oibre 'g ionndrain uath '
'S bhiodh an cuan ag ionndrain sìle mheòir.

Tha ochd planaidean anns an Rian Ghréine, leis an talamh, no a naoi leis a' ghealach. Theirear na planaidean iochdrach, no na planaidean a stigh, ris na reultan a tha eadar an talamh 's a ghrian agus as fhaise air a' ghréin. Is iad sin Mercurius agus Bhenus; ach bitear uaireanan ag cumtadh na talmhainn agus Màrs am measg nan planaidean iochdrach. So mar a tha iad a reir an astair bho 'n ghréin: Mercurius, Bhenus, an Talamh, Màrs. Theirear na planaidean meanbha riutha so cuideachd; agus uaireanan eile na troichean planaidean. Tha an Talamh trì deng agus ceithir fichead muillion mìle bho 'n ghréin (93,000,000)—astar cho fada agus nach 'eil e furasda do 'n inntinn gréim a dheanamh air.

'Se na planaidean uachdrach, no na planaidean a muigh, na reultan sin san Rian Gréine a tha nas fhaide air falbh bho 'n ghréin na an Talamh. Is iad sin Màrs, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, agus Neptunus. Is ann ainneamh a chithear Uranus leis an t-suil luim—gun ghlaineachan-meadaichidh—agus chan fhaicear Neptunus idir gun ghlaineachan-meadaichidh gu maith làidir.

* * * *

Sin, na tha, an Rian Gréine, anns a bheil an solus as motha, a' ghrian, a' riaghladh an là, agus an solus as lugha, a' ghealach a' riaghladh na h-oidhe, agus an àite 's am feum fhéin aig gach cruinne eile a tha san Rian Gréine. Bha na Gaidheil riamh a' tuigsinn buadhan is beannachdan na gréine agus na gealaich, agus, chan 'eil teagamh, nam planaidean agus nan reultan suidhichte, na rionnagan do-àireamh, a tha ann an cruthachadh mòr Dhé. Bha iad a' togail suas an inntinn agus an anam bho na cuspairean glòrthor so dh' ionnsaigh an tì a chruithaich iad, a dh' ionnsaigh—an duirt iad fhéin,—Rìgh na Gile is Rìgh na Gréine. Bhà agus thà iad a thaobh na nithean so mar a tha an dàn 'g chur:

Na speuran àrd as àille dreach
'S a sgaoil an gorm-bhrat cian a mach,
Le 'n reultaibh dealrach maiseach grinn,
Tha seinn d' an Cruithear co-sheirm bhinn.
Tha ghrian gun sgiòs a là gu là
A' sgaoilidh cliù a Dia 's gach àit,
'S ag glaochaidh feadh gach tìr fa leth,
" Cia treun an Dia thug dhomh mo bhith! "

An-moch trath dh' aomas neòil nan speur,
Togaidh a' ghealach a' tair an seul;
'S do 'n talamh, chluinn le tosd a guth,
Innsidh i có thug dhi a cruth.

Na mìlte reul tha dh' ise dlàth,
Gach solus eile 's lòchran iùil,
Canaidh an seul so fad is cian,
O 'n àird an ear gu ruig an iar.

Sàmhach is ciùin ged tha an triall
Mun talamh dh'orchha so ag iadh';
Guth ged nach cluinnear fòs no fuaim
'N an imeachd dealrach tosdach shuas,
Gidheadh le cluasaibh tuigse glic
Cluinnear am fonn 's an ceol gu tric,
A' seinn gun tàmh air feadh gach linn,
" Is tusa, Dhia, a chruithaich sinn."

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

An t-Easbuig Coinneach Grand—Tha am Pàp air an Urramach Coinneach Grand ainmeachadh gu bhith 'na Easbuig Earra Ghaidheal agus nan Eilean. Tha so a' toirt fìor riarachadh do 'n *Ghaidheal* agus do mhóran Ghaidheil eile nach buin idir do chreud an Easbuig chòir cho maith 's a tha e, 'na thòileachadh dhaibh-san a tha de chreideamh an t-sagairt.

Bha an t-Athair Grand 'na phrìosanach sa' Ghearmailt còmhla ris na balaich Ghaidhealaich, agus e 'na Phadre san roinn Ghaidhealach de 'n arm, fad chòig bliadhna; agus is ann an sin a nochd e dhaibh-san a bha còmhla ris gur sàr Ghaidheil agus fìor dhuine usal e, agus an Crìosdaidh iriosal.

Bha e 'na mheadhon, còmhla ri feadhainn eile, air meur de 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach a chur air bonn ann an aon de na Stalagan Gearmailteach, agus clasaichean Gaidhlig agus ciùil a chur air chois; agus bha e fhein 'na fhear-teagasg na Gaidhlighe unnta. Bidh cuimhne agaibh gun do chuir an Comunn Ghaidhealach na ceudan de leabhraichean Gaidhlig chun nan clasaichean so sa' Ghearmailt. Chan 'eil duine a chuir là eòlais air an Athair Grand an sin—agus chuir na gillean Ghaidhealach gu léir eòlas maith air—nach tog cliù a' Phadre Ghrannaidh.

Bha mar sin teistean maith a' mhinistear airm so an iomadh ceàrn de 'n Ghaidhealtachd—agus, mar a thubhairt mi, an àitean agus am measg dhaoine nach buin idir d' a chreud fhéin. Tha mar sin deagh-ghean mhóran Ghaidheil aig an Easbuig chòir ann a bhith gabhail na dreuchd naomh agus chudthromaich so os làimh.

Buinidh e do Ghearasdan Loch Abair, agus tha e 'na Ghaidheil cho dileas, agus cho eudmhor, 's a tha an Gaidheil usal a bha 'na Easbuig Chaitliceach Earra Ghaidheil agus nan Eilean roimhe—an t-Urramach Domhnall Caimbeul a tha nis 'na Ard Easbuig Ghlaschu—agus fòghmaidh sin.

Tha *An Gaidheil* ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air Caitlichean Earra Ghaidheil agus nan Eilean, agus ag guidhe gun bi gach beannachd aca an cois a leithid a Ghaidheil a bhith os an eionn an nithibh spioradail, agus aig an aon àm ag guidhe sonas is soirbheachadh do 'n Easbuig chòir 'na dhreuchd chudthromaich.

Na Ceud Làithean.—Is e so ainm leabhair—no mar a tha e sa' Bheurla *The Former Days*—a chuir an t-Ollamh Urramach Tormod MacGhilleathain a mach o chionn ghoidir an so. Tha an leabhar ag innsè mu dheidhinn suidheachaidh an Eilein Sgitheanaich, agus staid dhaoine ànn, nuair a bha an t-ghàdar 'na bhalach—thà, agus mar a tha cùisean ann an diugh. Sin gliocas, maille ri tlachd an leabhair, gu bheil e a' teagasg mòran de nithean matha agus feumail, agus gun thu mothachail gu bheil e dèanamh sin—nuair a tha thu an dùil gun h-ann a tha thu a mhàin a' ruith nan cladaichean, agus ag éisdeachd ri seann sgeulachd malle ris an ùghdar.

Tha earrann mhàith de eachdraidh nan Gaidheal an so, agus cuibhrionn mhàith de ghné cridhe a' Ghaidheil san leabhar—cuid is an còir dhuinn uail a dhèanamh, agus cuid eile as an còir dhuinn nàire a bhàith oirn. Agus is e a' bhochdainn gun h-e an ni as miosa a th' ann ni a ghabh sinn mar Ghaidheil am fuadain bho chinnich eile, mar a tha cuingead a thaobh cràbhaidh is creidimh, agus mi-chneasdachd ri ar co-chreutairean an cois sin.

Chan 'eil duine beò an diugh, ged is mór am facal e, a sgrìobhas Beurla le snas is blas nas fhèarr na an t-Ollamh Tormod MacGhilleathain; agus tha sin, tha sinne ag creidsinn, a chionn gu bheil dà thaobh air a' pheann aige—taobh Beurla agus taobh Gaidhlig. Is e an taobh Beurla as motha a chleachd ar caraid, agus cha do chleachd fear eile an taobh sin le barrachd snais is comais na e. Tha, ma tha, seòrsa de dh'fharmad againne nach do chleachd e an taobh eile na bu trice; nan robh e air sin a dheanamh tha fhios gun robh an t-aon snas is gheur air a' Ghaidhlig aige 's a tha air a' Bheurla aige. Co-dhiùbh, tha an leabhar so am Beurla, agus am Beurla mhaiseach shoilleir a thuingeas a h-uile duine; agus bheiramaid a chomhairle air na Gaidheil an leabhar a leughadh. Ma gheibh iad ri cheannach e ceannaicheadh iad e, ach mura faigh feuchadh iad ri fhaighinn an iasad. Is fhèarr e gu mór na iasad mine—ni e barrachd beathachaidh orra, agus bheir e barrachd riarachaidh dhàibh. Ma leughas iad aon uair e, leughaidh iad a ris 's a ris e; theid mise an urras air an sin.

Bu chòir do na Gaidheil a bhith usal 's Tormod MacGhilleathain, agus as a shaothair mhór as leth ar daoine. Tha na Gaidheil do an fhèarr as aithne nithean matha agus maiseach ann an sin, fìor usal as, agus a' toirt mìle taing dha—tha *An Gaidheil* air fear dhiùbh—agus an dòchas guma fada bhios e cur a mach leabhair anns am bi uiread de thàbhachd, agus de gliocas, 's a tha anns Na Ceud Làithean—*The Former Days*.

* * * *

An t-sidhchrìdh.—Tha mi fada an comain nan cairdean còire—agus cha mhise a mhàin ach uile leughadairean a' *Ghaidheil*—a chuir chugam am fiosrachadh agus am beachdan mu dheidhinn an t-sidhchrìdh. Chì sibh na sgrìobh iad mun chuspair so air duilleig eile, san oisean sin a tha eadar sinn fein. Cha bhì teagamh sam bith aig gin againn ann ciod a tha an t-sidhchrìdh ag ciallachadh an deidh na litrichean acasan a leughadh. So mar a theid eòlas

a mheudachadh, agus ni na h-uaislean sin ann an dòigh usal mar so. Gu robh mìle maith aca.

* * * *

An eisneachan.—Chuala mi seann rann a bha ag radh:

An eisneachan 's an fhìonach bhiorach

Fìar an t-samhraidh is an ime.

Bhatar de 'n bharaill gun robh barrachd ime sa' bhainne a bhiodh aig a' chròdh dar a bhiodh iad ag inghilt far an robh an dà sheòrsa feoir so ri fàs. Tha mi eòlach gu leòr air an fhìonaich. Cò bha riamh air àirigh, no air mòintich nach 'eil eòlach air an fhìonaich—feur làidir cruinn biorach. Cha thric a chithear fùr, no sìthein a' fàs am measg na fìonaich, agus ma chlì tha ma fùr sin faicsinneach agus sonraichte da-riribh. Is e sin a bha Donnachadh Bàn ag ciallachadh an òran Iain Caimbeul a' Bhanca, a th' againn air duilleig eile, nuair a thubhairt e mu dheidhinn a charaid:

Fùr am measg fìonaich thu.

Bha cuid de luchd-deasachaidh bardach Dhonnchaidh Bhàin nach robh a' tuigsinn ciod a bh' ann am fìonach, no fìneach.

Ach mu dheidhinn eisneachan, is e feur lethann gorm mar am fochann a tha ànn-san. Cò a dh' innsas dhomh an t-ainm luibheanach aige? No eadhon ciod a theirear ris sa' Bheurla?

Bheir mi ùnsa de shùcàran còmhraidh do 'n cheud neach a chuireas so chugam.

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An t-Àireamh Naoi.—So agaih bho mo charaid Calum Moireasdan, am Maighistear Sgoile, ann an Glaschu. Cha robh dad a dh' fhios aige gun robh mise a' bruidhinn san àireamh so na *Ghaidheil* air speurdaireachd, agus tha mar sin na tha e ag radh car freagarrach. Tha *An Gaidheil* 'na chomain. "Tha am feallsanach Greugach—Aristotle—ag ràdh gur e àireamh deich an t-àireamh iomlan agus naomh aig an Sgoil ris an abraist na Pythagoraich (timchioll 550 B.C.), agus gun mheas iad an t-àireamh sin iomlan agus naomh seach gu robh iad de 'n bheachd gu robh deich planaidean a' triall troimh na speuran, ged nach 'eil (tha Aristotle ag ràdh) ri 'm faicinn ach naoi. Bhiodh e iongantach ma tha, mura biodh na Gaidheil eòlach air na naoi planaidean faicsinneach a tha am feallsanach ag ainmeachadh. Mar sin tha e furasd a chreidsinn gun an bho an aithne agus an eòlas air na naoi planaidean ud a thainig àireamh naoi gu bhì araon comhlionta agus naomh am measg nan seann Ghaidheil.

Saoilidh mi gu bheil cunntadh meuran nan làmh buileach leanabail agus rudeigin lethchiallach mar mhineachadh air bhur ceist."

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An Gaidheil an Astràlia.—Is iomad ceàrnaidh de 'n t-saoghal anns a bheil *An Gaidheil* a' fàotainn di-beatha; agus tha cairdean aige an Astràlia a tha cho dileas dha 's a tha an Codaich am Barraidh agus fòghnaidh sin. Is ann an Astràlia a tha dlùth charaid còir nan Eileanach Iain Moffat-Pender—Iain Mór an Fhèilidh, an duirt iad fhèin—

agus grunnan mór eile coltach ris. Is ann an Astràlia a tha an seann bhàrd ciatach Iain MacGhillinnein — Iain Dubh Mac Dhòmhnaill 'ic Iain, an duirt na h-eòlach. Thug *An Gaidheal* bàrdachd bho làimhsan am follais uair is uair, agus b' fhiach i sin.

Ann an cois soraichd Bliadhna Uire a chuir e chun a' *Ghaidheil* tha a' bhàrdachd chiatnach sa leanas. Tha sinn an comain ar seann charaid caomh air a son. Gun ti esan; agus tha *An Gaidheal* ag guidhe gach beannachd dha fhéin sa' bhliadhna 1946. Cuirream thuige an t-soraichd Bliadhna Uire so a chuir bàrd barrachtae sa na h-Eileana Siar chun a' *Ghaidheil* :

"Slàinte, sonas, sealbh is aoibhneas,
"S beannachd Dhé an cois gach coibhneis."

So, ma tha, bàrdachd ar caraid :

DOIGH RIAGHAILT NAN GAIDHEIL
AIR SON FAD-SHAOGHALACHD.

BIADH-MAIDNE.

Gu d' bhiahd-maidne gabh lite agus bainne
'S pailteas fm sgaol't' air deagh aran corc'
Aran geal air a ròstadh san àmhainn
'S ugh circ' chuireas slàinte 'na d' chor.

Air uairean gabh muic-fheoil is uighean
Ath-neartaichte le gruth agus càis
Aran min a bheir urachd do d' stamaig
'S cupan tì mar chul-taic' anns gach càs.

DIOTHAD.

Aon latha gabh buntata agus sgadan
Biahd tha anabarrach coimhliant 'na stàth
Le càl agus tùrnaip is currain
'S marag phlumbais aig deireadh gach tràth.

An ath latha gabh enaracha an toiseach
Le mult-fheoil is mart-fheoil gu leòr,
'S lus an blasd' sa a ghàradh mar annas
Cuir blas taitneach ro annamh 'nan còir.

Uair eile gabh an t-iasg a bu mhath leat
Bodach-ruadh, no deagh adag as fhearr,
Ceann-cropigdh cùbhradh mar anflan,
Air gach marag san tìr a' toirt bàrr.

SUIFEIR.

Tha gu leòr sa' chorn-chlàr gu do shuipeir
Bho na fheadhan bha againn mu thràth
Air an deagh dheanadh suas ged bhiodh iad
car fuar
Ni cairteal na h-uaireach iad blàth.

IONNLAD.

Na bi caomhnadh a' bhùrn gu do ghlanadh
Tha uisge gu pailt' anns gach àit'.
Mur 'eil tobair aig làimh air son failleadh
Leig fras fhuar mu do cholainn gach là.

* * * *

An t-Urramach Aonghus Boid, M.A.—
Chaochail am Ministear còir sin Mgr. Aonghus
Boideach a bha suas ri cóig bliadhna fichead 'na
Mhinistear sgre an Gleann Urchadain. Bhuineadh

e do Uibhist agus lean gràdh nan Eilean agus fìor
uaisleachd a' Ghaidheil ris fad a bheatha. Bha e 'na
dhuine blàth-chridheach agus coibhneil, agus 'na
Mhinistear dileas agus dleasdhanach. Bha e cuideachd
'na fhear-dùthcha maith, agus ùidh aige daonnan
an an leas is soirbheachadh nan Gaidheil. An
turus mu dheireadh a choinnich mi ris—air an t-
samhradh so chaidh, an Inbhir Nis—is ann a' bruidhinn
air cìod a ghabhadh dèanamh chum maith na
Gaidhealtachd, a nis an deidh a' chogadh, a bha e.
Bha e 'na fhear-Gaidhlig comasach, agus gaol mór
aige air cànan a mhàthar. Bha e fada mhór 'na
bhall de 'n Chomunn Gaidheilach agus glé eudmhor
ann a bhith cur air adhart chisean a' Chomuinn san
àirde tuath. Is e bràthair dha a th' ann am Mgr.
Alasdair, Ministear na h-Eaglaise Gaidhlig an Inbhir
Nis. Bidh caoidh is ionndrain air ar caraid caomh
an measg nan Gaidheil san taobh-tuath agus sna
h-Eileana Siar.

* * * *

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Am feud
thusa cumhachdan mìlse Phleiaides a cheangal, no
ceanglaichean Orioin fhuasgladh? An toir thu mach
Madsarot 'n a òm? no an stiùir thu Arcturus maille
r' a mhacaibh? An aithne dhuit reachdan na nèamh?
An suidhich thu an uachdaranachd air an talamh?
An tog thu suas a dh' ionnsaigh nan neul do ghuth
air chor as gum còmhdaich pailteas uisgeachan thu?
An cuir thu uait dealanaich, agus an téid iad, agus an
abair iad riut, tha sinn an so?—*Iob xxxviii, 31-35.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.



LITIR COMMONN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bha mi ag innseadh dhuibh an litir a' mhios a dh'
fhalbh gun robh céilidh a' dol a bhith aig Clann an
Fhraoich, an Aitreach nan Gaidheal an Glaschu,
goirid an déidh dhomh a bhith a' sgrìobhadh; gun
robh fuighair againn ri cuid de Chomunn na h-Oigridh
a bhith leinn, agus gum bithinn a' toirt dhuibh sgeul
air an litir a' mhios so. Is e seann sgeul a tha ann an
diugh, theagham, ach leis gu bheil mìos fada eadar
gach "Gaidheal" agus gu bheil an clo-bhualadair
daonnan a' tagar gum feum gach facal a tha againn
ri thoirt dhà a bhith aige an deagh àm, feumaidh sinn
cur suas le leithid sin.

Bha, matà, ceilidh gasda againn, eadhon ged nach
robh uiread an làthair 's a bu mhath leinn, no, air-son
na codach sin, a dh' fhaodadh a bhith leinn. Ach
bha na bha ann dealasach, fìor smior na cloinne, agus
bha sinn ro thoilichte gun robh an t-Ollamh, Alasdair
MacDhòmhnaill, Ministear Eaglais Chalum Chille an
Glaschu, maille ruinn, is gun do ghabh e àite fìr-tighe
air cheann na cuideachd; agus ghiulain e an
dleasanas sin gu sùndach, somalta, is gu sgoinneil,
ag cur ri cridhealas is caidreas na h-oidheche 'na
dheagh dhòigh chàirdèil féin, le sgeoil is seanachas.
Cha robh facal an sud ach Gàidhlig. Bha seinn òran
againn, is bha innseadh sgeulachdan againn; agus
cìod a tha agaibh air ach gun robh an oidheche ud

Còisir nan Eilean (Comunn Ubhist is Bharraidh) air chléidh anns an Aitreach, is an uair a chuala iad gun robh Clann an Fhraoich fo na h-aon chabair, thainig buidheann dhiubh, le an ceann-suidhe, Dòmhnall MacGhille-Mhoire, 'gan treorchadh, is thug iad dhuinn deagh chuideachadh an seinn òran. Bha Niall againn féin leinn, Iain Óg MacGhille-na-Brataich is Eilidh NicGhille-mhaoil, agus thug iad dhuinn òran an deídh òrain, le Móróg NicGhille-na-Brataich aig a' bhinneadan. Thug Murchadh Mac-Leoid dhuinn seanachas sunndach; agus 'nam measgan a thainig òrnn bho Còisir nan Eilean, is càirdean eile a thug sùil a steach, bha Móróg Nic-Coinnich, Catriona Nic-a-Chléirich, Dòmhnall Mac-a-Bhiocair, Alasdair MacAonghais agus Tormad MacGhilleathain.

Bha ti againn, le aran milis, breacagan coirce is caise, an t-aran coirce air a dheagh ghréidheadh le bean chaomh Néill againn féin, is gach ni air a riarachadh leatha féin is na mnathan eile a bha leinn. Uile gu léir. bha oidhche chridheil againn, agus b' iadsan a dh' fhaodadh a bhith leinn, ach nach do thog ceann, a chaill air. A nis, tha sinn an dùil céilidh mar so a bhith againn gach geamhradh bho so am mach, agus tha sinn an dòchas gun cuir gach ball de Chlann an Fhraoich is de Chomunn na h-Oigridh a bhios air a chomas bann orra féin a bhith an sud gus an cuir sinne fálte orrasan is an cuir iadsan fálte air a chéile is òirne.

Dh' innis mi naidheachd dhuibh air Dòmhnall Beag is a' phoit bhrochain an litir a' mhios a dh' fhalbh, agus tha mi a' dol a dh' innseadh té eile dhuibh an dràs, ach de atharrachadh seorsa. Bha Mór Nighean Fhionnlaigh, a bha beò an linn mo sheanar-sa, air chuiart an Tobar-Mhoire, is an uair a rinn i "céilidh fada nan Eileanach," bha i an ullra air an aiseag fhaotainn dhachaidh cho luath 's a thigheadh an cothrom "na rathad. Air do smag a thàinig gu caladh tràth 'sa mhaduinn a bhi, a réir coltais, a' deanamh deas gu cur ri cuan a rithist, chaidh bean-moghraidh sìos chon na lamraig le a màileid "na h-achlais: "A bheil sibh a' tadhal an Colla, a dhaoine coire?" dh' fheoraich ise. Fhreagair aon de 'n sgìobair-trìbh a bha òirne (is a réir na sgeoil, bha e anns a' mhonadh an latha a bha bòidheachd is grinneas air a riarachadh) agus b' an glé ghruamach na bha a freagairt,—"Chan 'eil sinne a' dol do Cholla no mar astar dhà; is ann do Loch Alainn a tha sinn a' dol!"

"Matà," arsa Nighean Fhionnlaigh, is i a' sgìobalachadh a màileid leatha, "gum faicheadh am Freasdal gur sibhse a tha feumail air a dhol do Loch Alainn, nan deanadh e àlainn sibh!" Sin againn nàdur de thiolpàireachd air an fhacal "àlainn," agus tha mòran de naidheachdan beaga de 'n t-seorsa sin r' am faotainn thall 's a bhios. Bu ghasda co-chruinneachadh a bhith air a dheanamh dhiubh. Tha fios againn an fhreagairt a tha air a ràdh a thug Iain MacOdrum do Sheumas MacMhuirich an uair a dh' fheoraich an diulnach sin dhe an robh "ni aige air an Fhèin," agus an fhreagairt a thug Donnchadh Bàn do 'n ghasan a dh' fheoraich dhe am b' esan "a rinn Beinn Dòbhrain." A bheil aon againn a bheir dhuinn

ni ùr de 'n t-seorsa sin? So agaibh, an nis, seanachas beag a rinn mi féin suas anns a bheil cuid de gach caochladh ciall a tha aig an fhacal "crann" air a thoir a steach. Bheir mi leabhar Gàidhlig do 'n balach no do 'n chaileig a chuireas chugam an seanachas as fearr anns a bheil facal eile mar so air a tharruing a steach.

"Bha an t-anmoch air tighinn, is dh' fhuasgail sinn na h-eich as a' chrann. Thog sinn òrnn is chuir sinn an sgoth 'na h-uidheam. Thog sinn an crann, is chuir sinn ri cuan. Rinn sinn deagh iasgach. Bha dà chrann sgadain againn, is tromlach de iasg eile mun do chuir an crann-arainn car dhe os cionn a' Chùirn. An uair a thainig sinn dhachaidh roinn sinn an t-iasg, is chuir sinn crainn air; agus bha sinn deas gu gabhail mu thàmh is an crann air an dorus mun robh e uair 'sa mhaduinn."

Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHAN MACDUGHAILL.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

From 5th to 14th December, the Organiser was in Lewis in the interests of An Comunn and The Scottish Savings Committee. The major part of the Island was covered, i.e. Carloway, Shawbost, Bragar, Barvas, Airidhantium, Galsion, Cross, Swainbost, North Dell, Ness, Skigertsa, Laxdale, Beck, Tong, North Tolsta, Sandwick, Knock, Bayble, Garraobh, Aird, Portnaguran, Achmore, Loch Croistean, Crowlsta, Valtos, Mangersta, Islivig, Breanish, Stornoway, Keose, Balallan, Kershadar, Cromore, Marvig, and Gravir.

The following enrolments were made in Comunn na h-Oigridh Feachdan:—Knock, 14; Bragar, 17; Valtos, 14; Crowlsta, 3; Kershadar, 7; Cromore, 9; Planascar, 8; Sandwick, 19. Badges were also given to members previously enrolled.

There are requests from several of the Feachdan for Gaelic Plays suitable for children, and copies of the late Mr. Marjoribanks' Plays are being forwarded.

The Organiser was present at a meeting of the Lewis Branch Committee at Stornoway, when arrangements were made to hold an all-Gaelic Ceilidh on Friday, 14th December. It was decided also to fix the membership at 2/6 per member per annum. Mr. James Thomson, M.A., is the new President, Mr. Alasdair Urquhart, M.A., Hon. Secretary; and Mr. Angus MacDonald, Hon. Treasurer. A donation of £10 was made to the Central Fund of An Comunn.

Mr. Macphail was present at the December Ceilidh and the Hall of the Martin Memorial Church was taxed to the utmost. The President gave an excellent address and the Organiser outlined the activities of An Comunn in the post-war period, and hoped that the Island of Lewis would be well represented at the National Victory Mod to be held in Aberdeen during the last week of September, 1946. The all-Gaelic programme was of the usual high standard, agus bha a' Chéilidh aig a h-àirde 'nuair a b' fheudar do 'n Fhear-Deilbhe deannamh air an "Loch Nis" is i a' fagail aig aon-uair deug. Thug e a mach Baile Inbhir Nis an ath latha agus air oidhche sin bha e air ceann a' dheannamh mar Rùnaire aig Cèilidh fogharras Cèilidh nan Gàidheal an Inbhir Nis. B' Oraidiche na h-oidhche sin an t-Ollann Iain A. MacGhilleathain, Fear-Stiùraidh an Fhoghlainn an Siorrachd Inbhir Nis. Ghabh an t-Ollann mar chuspair—"Bardachd Eòghain Mhic Lachlainn" agus mhìnich e ionadh rud ann am beatha a' Bhaird air nach robh sinn uile mion-eòlach. Thug Ceann-Suidhe Urramach na Ceilidh taing chridheil do 'n Ollann airson na h-Oraide agus thubhairt e gun robh Siorrachd Inbhir Nis fortanach an da-

riubh, le Fear-Stiùiridh comasach coltach ri Mgr. MacGilleathain, air ceann foghlaim na cloinne, aig an òmhorraichte so.

On December 19th, the Organiser presided at the first Ceilidh of the Nairn Branch, since it was re-constituted recently. There was a large attendance and a fine programme of songs, stories, instrumental music and Highland Dancing was enjoyed by all present. This Branch is to hold monthly meetings throughout the Session and there is a suggestion that a Junior Gaelic Choir might be formed under the auspices of the Branch.

On Saturday, 22nd December, the Organiser had the pleasure of a call from Mr. James MacLeod, M.A., Secretary to the Aberdeen National Victory Mod. He was on his way to his native Coigeach, for the Christmas vacation. Arrangements seem to be progressing favourably in Aberdeen, and the Committee is working wholeheartedly for the success of the Victory Mod.

During the last days of the old year, the Organiser visited Badenoch in the interests of An Comunn and Savings.

On January 3rd, he attended a meeting of the Newtonmore Branch, when it was decided to form a Senior Gaelic Choir to be conducted as a Continuation Class under the auspices of the Inverness County Education Committee. Application has been made for a teacher.

The first Ceilidh of the newly re-constituted Dingwall Branch was held in the Lesser Town Hall recently, with Mr. Iain MacLeod, Torgorm, as Fear-an-Tighe. The programme submitted was most varied and the audience highly appreciative. Mr. A. R. MacKenzie, President of the Tain Branch, was present, and exhorted all Gaels in the district to support the Dingwall Branch.

Pioneer Work for the Blind.—Mr John R. MacKenzie, General Superintendent of the Institute for the Blind at Inverness, is to be congratulated on his laudable efforts for the members of the Institute whose native language is Gaelic. About four years ago, Mr. Mackenzie started Gaelic Classes. They proved successful. His blind pupils who had previously little opportunity of learning, and in consequence, could not spell the simplest Gaelic words, settled down to learning with enthusiasm. It was interesting work, but Mr. MacKenzie found himself handicapped by having no books in Gaelic for his pupils to read. But he overcame this difficulty, ably assisted by Miss Cameron, the Blind Institute Librarian: he set to work on the novel idea of preparing Braille books in Gaelic. One or two books and a number of articles were transcribed and the blind pupils were able to read their native tongue for the first time. Mr. Mackenzie and Miss Cameron are to be heartily congratulated on their enterprise.

Captain Wm. MacKay, Mr. John N. MacLeod and the Organiser represented An Comunn at the funeral of the late Rev. Angus Boyd, M.A., Glenurquhart, on Monday, 7th January. Mr. Boyd was a member of An Comunn and of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee, and always proved himself a stalwart in the Gaelic Cause. He had been Parish Minister at Glenurquhart for nearly a quarter of a century, and took an active part in everything pertaining to the good of the people. He will be sadly missed in the Glen and throughout the Highlands and Islands.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

I paid my annual visit to the Motherwell and Wishaw Highland Association, on 15th December, and was accompanied by Miss Ina MacLellan and Mr. Alasdair Matheson as vocalists. I had the honour of presiding over a very large gathering of members in Fraser's Tea Rooms, supported by Mr. Lachlan MacLachlan, President, and Ex-Provost Morris who represents the Association on the Executive Council. An excellent programme was submitted, and tea was served. The monthly meetings of this Association are splendidly supported locally, and members are well catered for by way of appropriate Gaelic and Scottish songs and music.

The Govan and Glasgow (Central) Branches have resumed their monthly Concerts, and the first of these was held in the Glasgow High School Hall, on 19th January, where I had the

honour of presiding. The joint Committee were fortunate in securing a let of this excellent Hall, the entrance to which is from Holland Street. The next Concert will be held on Saturday, 23rd February, at 7.30 p.m. Admission is 2/-.

The action of the officials of the Oban Branch in making the final allotment of War Comforts to their members on service, is to be commended. In addition to presenting their 54 members, with the usual Christmas-time gifts, they enrolled them as Representative Branch Members of An Comunn, thus ensuring that each member will receive a copy of *An Gaidheal* for a whole year at least.

CONCERT TOUR.

The second Concert Tour of An Comunn Branches in the Southern Area has just been completed, and in all respects, it has been an outstanding success. The party consisted of the General Secretary, Mr. Neil Shaw; Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Mr. Angus Whyte, both of whom are Mod Goid Medallists, and also life members of An Comunn, and once more I had the honour of accompanying the party. It was intended that Miss Ina MacLellan would also be one of the party, but, unfortunately, a family bereavement prevented this happening.

Members will recall that on the first tour, the Concert Party was greeted with excellent weather, but on this occasion it was very stormy and wet, and when we arrived at Kinlochleven it was with difficulty that one battled against the elements. We could be excused for thinking that the adverse weather conditions might affect the attendance. Imagine our surprise to find a packed hall, and a most enthusiastic audience presided over by the genial Rev. Malcolm MacCorquodale, a loyal supporter of An Comunn and president of the local branch, who extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Shaw and the Concert Party. Mr. Finlay MacDonald and his Committee left no stone unturned in completing arrangements locally and the result was a highly successful concert followed by an equally successful dance to which local artistes gave considerable aid.

The following morning the party proceeded to Fort William and gave a concert in the Town Hall supported by local artistes. Mr. Angus Whyte, president of the local Branch is due sincere thanks for making arrangements locally. The chair was occupied by Mr. Donald G. Duff, and Dr. Isaac MacIver proposed a vote of thanks.

On our way to Lochaline we were joined by a party of four New Zealand Nursing Sisters who were very disappointed at having missed the concert in Fort William. It turned out that they were on 14 days U.K. leave from their Army Station in Italy, and had come to the Highlands to visit the land of their forebears. The invitation was extended to them to accompany our party to Lochaline and they were delighted to accept. The names of these ladies will be of interest to members—Jean Munro, who claimed Inverness connections, Alexandria Glass, whose father was a Gaelic speaker, who emigrated from Glasgow, Lorraine Morris, also of Scottish descent, and Vera Ogle, who had heard so much about the beauty of the Highlands from Scottish friends in New Zealand. I need hardly add that having seen part of the Highlands her opinion was strongly confirmed. One of the incidents which I shall always remember from this tour was Mr. Shaw, standing in the bow of the "Lochinar" and pointing out to those four colonials the various landmarks and islands all around us, also the story behind the Lady Rock, Duart Castle, and many others. Indeed they were fortunate to have such a personality as Mr. Shaw to act as "guide" during their visit, and I am sure when they return to New Zealand, they will carry many happy memories of their visit to the Highlands. Incidentally, before they parted company with us, I had the pleasure of making them members of An Comunn.

The party was given a real Highland welcome in Lochaline where Miss MacVicar had attended to every detail in making the local arrangements. Rev. Hector MacSween, president of the Branch was in the chair, and the concert was enjoyed by all present, and especially by our friends from New Zealand

one of whom, Miss Morris, to the delight of the audience sang very sweetly in Maori and also in English. Next morning we went down to the pier to see our colonial friends off but such was the wild weather that the "Lochinvar" could not call on her way to Oban so they came with us to Salen (Mull) where again we were all so well received by a long-standing supporter of An Comunn in Mr. Alex. Whyte and his good lady of the Hotel. An excellent programme was submitted at the concert at which Capt. Scott of Aros House presided. A special thrill for the audience was given when I invited the New Zealand girls to come on the platform and join Petrine, Angus and myself in singing the Port-a-Beul *Fear a' Phige* which they did to perfection thereby giving the lie to those who maintain that Gaelic is a difficult language to learn. Mr. Archie MacDougall is due our sincere thanks for his hard work locally.

Next morning we took leave of our colonial friends and proceeded to Tobermory where Miss MacArthur had everything ready. Rev. William Matheson presided, and everyone was agreed that the concert was an enjoyable one also the dance which followed. We were indebted to our old friends Dennis MacNeill, Donald Gillies, Piper Livingston and Mrs. Boyd for their assistance with the programme at both Salen and Tobermory.

Our last concert in Mull was held at Bunessan where again we had the assistance of local artistes and where Mr. Donald MacKechnie, one time member of the "G.G." Choir had everything arranged to perfection. Rev. Kenneth MacMillan presided. It should be added that part of the programme at each concert was a stirring address in Gaelic and English by Mr. Shaw, who explained the activities of An Comunn during the war, and also appealed to his audience to maintain their interest in Gaelic, and to see to it that their children were given every opportunity to learn it and speak it, not only in school, but within their own homes.

The tour was completed at Connel Ferry by a well attended concert and dance although the night was wet and stormy. Mr. Donald Thomson, Convener of the Propaganda Committee, was in the Chair and we are indebted to Mr. MacIsaac, president, and Miss Morag MacEachan, secretary of the local Branch for making such excellent arrangements.

In conclusion, there are several things which I shall always remember from this latest tour, firstly, the grand welcome extended to the party at each centre visited, especially to Mr. Shaw who is held in the highest esteem by both young and old throughout the Highlands. Secondly, the pleasure and happy memories created for our friends from New Zealand and last, but not least, the delightful singing of my good friends Petrine M. Stewart and Angus Whyte who enhanced an already high reputation among present day Gaelic singers. Mr. Shaw and I are grateful to them for once more, at no small inconvenience to themselves, giving of their time and talent to the service of An Comunn in its effort to revive its branches in the Highlands.

ALASDAIR.

WAR MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING FUND.

A meeting convened under the joint auspices of the Advisory Committee and the Central (War Comforts) committee of An Comunn was held in the Ca'doro Restaurant, Glasgow, on Monday, 14th January, at 7.30 p.m.

An invitation had been extended to all Societies in affiliation with An Comunn and these were well represented. The President Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, presided, and he explained that the purpose of the meeting was to establish, through co-operation among the various Highland Societies, some form of permanent thanksgiving for the sacrifice made by many Highlanders during the last war. He felt that we could best do so by helping the youth of the Highlands and as an initial step we should aim at establishing an annual summer camp for Comunn na h-Oigridh, and also equip the Feachdan throughout the Highlands with a supply of sports gear, indoor games, etc.

Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Convener of the Central (War Comforts) Committee, said that it would only be fitting that the great work which had been done during the war years by her Committee should be continued in the manner outlined by the President, and she appealed for the full co-operation of affiliated Societies towards this end.

Among those who spoke in whole-hearted approval of the scheme were Mr. John Murray, Sutherland Association; Miss C. Graham, Uist and Barra Association; Mr. Tom Cameron, Clan Cameron; Mr. Duncan Thomson, Arran Society; Mr. Donald MacKay, Jura Association; Mr. Malcolm MacIntyre, Mid-Argyll Association; Mr. Lachlan MacLachlan, Motherwell and Wishaw Highland Association.

The President thereupon tested the meeting as to whether it was in favour of proceeding with the scheme and on a show of hands, it was found to be unanimously in favour. It was decided to give the delegates the opportunity of reporting back to their respective Societies before forming a Committee, and to call a further meeting in the near future.

On the call of Mr. J. M. Bannerman, the President was thanked for presiding, and, in acknowledging, Mr. MacLeod thanked Mrs. Bannerman. This terminated a most harmonious and informative meeting. During the course of the evening, tea was served to the delegates.

LEABHRAICHEAN.

The Scottish Tartans.—This is an informative and well illustrated book, published by W. & A. K. Johnston, Ltd., Edinburgh, at 7/6. It has an historical introduction with regard to the Clan system, and it also gives the historical setting of each Clan. The various tartans are well illustrated and a clansman shown wearing his clan tartan. An alphabetical list of family names is given showing the tartans they are entitled to wear. A list of the Badges of the Chiefs of the various Clans is also given.

We have pleasure in recommending this attractively got up and useful and informative book. C. McL.

Bealoideas.—Tha sinn ag cur fàilte air an leabhar thomhasach, a chaidh a chur air bhonn ann an Eirinn a dh' sgrìobhadh gu bhith cruinneachadh agus ag cur a mach beul-aithris se bann oideas na dùthcha; agus chleachd iad a bhith cur sin a mach 'na leabhar dà uair sa' bhliadhna, ach tha iad an dràsda ag cur a mach an dà àireamh sig an son àm 'na aon leabhar. Is e am *Bealoideas* so leabhar na bliadhna 1944, ged is ann deireadh na bliadhna an uiridh a thainig e a mach.

'Se am facal-suaicheantais a tha sig a' Chomunn: "Cruinnichibh am biadh briste a tha thuilleadh ann, chum nach caillear a bheag." Agus thatar a' dhanamh sin— biadh blasda, agus biadh fallain, mirean beaga agus mirean mòra, biadh briste de gach seòrsa. Tha sgeulachdan is seanchasas sa' *Bealoideas* so—tha gu leòr dhiubh—agus solus is mìnachadh air seann rudan agus seann ràidhean, agus a leithid sin. Tha cuid dhiubh a tha againn air a' Ghaidhealtachd againn fhein dirrach mar a tha iad an Eirinn, cuid eile air atharrachadh dreach. Mar sin is maith as fhiach de Ghaidheil na h-Alba an leabhar a lughadh. Agus tha a' chuid mhòr d'eth an Gaidheil. Ach is ann sa' chorra-litir, no an clòdh na h-Eireann, a tha e, agus fagaidh sin e nas dorra ri lughadh do Ghaidheil na h-Alba; ach is maith is fhiach do dh' fhoghlumichean an leabhar a cheannach 's a lughadh. Tha beagan d'eth am Beurla Shasannach agus is ann litir Ròmanach a tha sin. Tha *Bealoideas* air a dheasachadh le Seumas O Duillearga, air a bheil cuid againn eòlach; agus tha sgeul aige fhéin ann air "Madadh dubh nan oichd cos." Tha seanchas aig "An T-Seabhag" ann cuideachd, agus aig feadhainn eile air am bheillear eòlach a bhos an so.

Tha *Bealoideas* air a chur a mach le Comunn Bealoideas na h-Eireann agus gheibhear ri cheannach e air deich taidain (10/-) bho The Educational Company of Ireland, 87 Talbot Street, Baile Atha Cliath.

C. McL.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Iain Caimbeul a' bhanna.—So òran mór nam fear a bhios iad a' seinn aig a' Mhòd Mhòr an Obairdeadhan deireadh September so tighinn. Is e Donnchadh Bàn Mac an t Saoir a rinn e, agus tha sin fhein ag innse gur h-òran e a tha arson tomadach agus tiachdmhor. Tha an t-òran mar sin gun teagamh, agus blada agus mór da-riubh. Tha fhios aig a h-uile duine—ged nach misde e innse a rithist—gur h-e Donnchadh Bàn aon de shair bhàird na Gaidhealtachd, agus eadhon Alba gu léir. Ged nach deasadh e de bhàrdachd ach “Moladh Beinn Dóbhraín” agus “Màiri Bhàn Og” dh' fhàgadh sin fhein e am measg sàir bhàird na Gaidhealtachd.

Ma tha neach agabh aig nach 'eil a leabhar bàrdachd bheirinn a chomhairle oirbh a cheannach air ball agus an còrr de na h-oidhchean fada carraich a chur seachd 'ga leughadh—co-dhùbbh gach oidhche a bhios saor agaibh.

Rugadh agus dh' àraicheadh Donnchadh Bàn an Druim Liathgart an Gleann Urchaidh. B' 'e là a bhreith an 20mh a' Mhàirt 1724, agus chaochail e beatha air 14mh là a' Mhàigh 1812, agus e ceithir fichead bliadhna 's a h-aois.

Bha e muigh ri Bliadhna Thearlaich—air taobh Rìgh Deòrsa—agus is ann an deigh Bèir na h-Eaglaise agus a rinn e a cheud òran—air mar a thachair air an làtha sin. Chaill e fhéin a chlàidheamh.

An deigh cogadh Thearlaich bha e 'na fhorsair frithe aig Iarla Bhraghaid Albainn am Beinn Dóbhraín agus an Coire a' Cheathach. Bha e greis sin aon dreuchd aig Diuc Earra Ghaidheal am Buachaill Eitidh. Chaidh e air ais do 'n arm, agus fa-dhòidh bha e an Gearr Baile Dhun Eideann. Is ann

an sin a bha e nuair a chaochail e, agus tha e fhéin agus Màiri Bhàn Og air an tiodhlacadh ann an Cladh nam Manach Liath an Dun Eideann, agus an deagh Charragh Cuimhne air an duslach aca an sin.

Is ann an Dun Eideann a bha Iain Caimbeul, d' a bheil an t-òran so, 'na Bhancair; agus bha e 'na dheagh charaid agus 'na fhìor chul-taice do 'n Bhàrd mar a bha e do iomadh neach eile. Bhùineadh e do theaghlach Iarla Bhraghaid Albainn, agus is ann am Fionn Loraig a thogadh Iain Caimbeul. Fhuair e àrd fhoghlum, agus a oideas agus an togail a b' fheàrr.

Bha e an toiseach greis 'na fhear-lagha an Dun Eideann ach an deigh sin chaidh e do sheirbhis Banca Rìoghail na h-Albann, air tùs 'na Rùnaire agus an deigh sin 'na Ionmhasair a' Bhanca sin. Cha robh Gaidheal eile beò 'na latha bu chliùitiche agus bu choibhneile na Iain Caimbeul a' Bhanca—duine air leth còir agus fialaidh ris a' bhòchd agus ris an fheumach. Bhiodh e fhein a' stri ri bàrdachd. Agus bha e 'na Ghaidheal cho dileas agus cho eudmhor agus an uair a rugadh a cheud mhac dha gun do sgrìobh Iarla Bhraghaid Albainn thuige ag ràdh: Tha mi làn chinnteach gun ionnsaich thu a' Ghaidhlig dha. Bha Iain Caimbeul cuideachd air aon dhùbh-san a bha 'nam meadhon air Seumas MacMhuirich a chur feadh na Gaidhealtachd a thional laoidhean Oisein.

So, ma tha, an seorsa duine do an do rinn Donnchadh Bàn an t-òran so—fìor duine usal agus càir Ghaidheal, dùth charaid do 'n Bhàrd agus a dheagh fhear-cùideachaidh. Bha an duine 'na dhùine mór agus eircheadail anns gach dòigh, bha am Bàrd 'na bhàrd mór agus eircheadail mar an ceudna, agus seinneadh an luchd-seinn an t-òran ann an dòigh mhór agus eircheadail; agus ma ni iad sin, ni an luchd-èisdeachd gairdeachas ann a bhith ag èisdeachd riu. So a nis an t-òran.

IAIN CAIMBEUL A' BHANCA.

LE DONNCHADH BÀN.

AM FÒNN BÈO IAIN CAMSHRON.

GLEUS Aò.

{ : s . s d : - . r : f m : - : s	m : d : r d : - : s . f m : - . d : m s : - }
Iain Caimbeul a' Bhanna,	Gum faicinn thu slàn, Fhìr a chumail na dàimh,
{ : l s : f : m r - : s	d : r : f m . s : - : f m : d : r d : - }
Gam buineadh bhi mór,	Le d' chridhe fial fearail Thug barrachd air càch,
{ : s l : - . s : l s - : m	r : m r r d : - d . d : m d . d : m }
An iomadaibh càs	A thuilleadh nan slògh. Fhuair thu meas nach 'eil tric,
{ d . d : m r . d : d d . l : s	m . m : f l . l : s m . r r }
Ann am measg Bhreatainnach,	Banc an òir bhi fo d' sgòid, Ann an còir dhleasdànach;
{ : s d : r : f m . s : - : s	m : d : r d : - : s l : - . s : l s : - }
Na th'ann chan e 'm beagan	'S e 'm freasdal ri d' stàid. Fo leagadh do làmh.
{ : m s : m : r d : - }	
'S gu freagradh do bheòil.	

Do smaointean glùce
Le mìneach 's le cèill,
Do thuigse ghlan, gheur,
'S desigh thuitseas beòil:
Gun thùsneadh,¹ gun bhrìstheadh,
Gun trioblaid fo 'n ghréin
A b' fhiosrach mi féin.
Is misid thu bhi d' chòir.
'S iomadh ghibt a tha nis,
Lionmhòr tric minic ort,
Iùil is fios, mùirn is mìos,
Flùr am measg finich² thu,
An uaisle le epiorad
Air mhìreadh ad chàil,³
'S tu iriosal, bàidheil,
Cinneadail,⁴ còir.

¹ thùsneadh = mulad.² finich no fionach = feur mòiptich.³ eàil = aorabh.⁴ cinneadail = dàimheil.

B' e do mhiann a' luchd ealaidh,
Pìob sgalanta, chruaidh,
Le cairteam cho luath
'S a ghearradh na meoir;
Puirit shùbhhlacha, mheara,
Is fir allail⁵ cur suas
Ann an talla nam buadh
Bu bharrail⁶ mun stòr.
Cruite cùil, tòrman ùr,
'S e gu dlùth ruith-leumach,
Feadaìn lom⁷, chruinne, dhonn⁸,
'Thogadh fonn mìreanach;
Clàrsach le grinneas,
Bu bhinn-fhaclach fuaim,
'S cha philleadh⁹ tu 'n duais
'N uair shreadh tu ceòl.

⁵ a = de.⁶ allail = usal, ainneil.⁷ bharrail = grunn, òirdhearc.⁸ philleadh = cumail air ais.

"ANAIL A' GHÀIDHEIL AM MULLACH."

I.

"Anail a' Ghaidheil am mullach."—
Tha mulad air m' uail, mo luchd-dùthcha,
Nach cìtichin na sean-fhacail chearbach,
'S gun m' earb'-sa as uail mo luchd-cinnidh.

Bha uair bha na faicil sin fìor,
Agus fhathast, math-dh' fhaoidte am blàr,
No san àr-fhacail choimhich air uair,
Chuinnear mullach nam pìob
'S bidh 'n iobart dol suas,
Agus molaidh an saoghal bhur meastachd
A tha beò ged a chaill sibh am breacan.

A' dìreadh 'sa' dìreadh gun anail—
'S air uachdar mo chuimhne tha 'n sgeul
Bh' aig a' Ghròig air a lethidh so dhìreadh.
Tha Sisyphus beò ann an Albainn
'S chlach-mhòr nas truite 'n nas truite.
Gabh t' anail, gabh t' anail a dhùine,
Tha d' fhuilt gu bhì mach air do bheul.

Chan e idir gun iarrainn-sa teàrnadh
No éirigh ùr-fhacal 'nar linn-ne
Mar " Gleidheadh na Gàidheil an còmhnard "
No " Seachnadh nan Gàidheil air beanntan."
Dh' iarrainn-sa dìreadh is dìreadh
Gu deireadh 's ceann-uidhe na tìme
Ri sine no fiath
Ag iadachadh Ebberest.

Chan 'eil beinn ann an Albainn
Air an cuireadh tu ainm dhomh,
Beinn Labhair no Cruachan,
Sìdh-chaileann no 'm Buachaill ;
Sgurr nan Gillean no Cliseam,
Beinn Mhòr Asaint no 'n Isean,
Càrn Gorm no Beinn Uais
Stob Innean, Beinn Nìbheis,
An taice ri d' mhòrachd-s'
Ach mar chuilean ri leòmhann
O Bheinn Ebberest òr-dhearc,
Samhla mullach an èilae.

II.

Tha alltan a' teàrnadh
Bho na h-àrd-stècan bòidheach
'S a' ruighinn a' chòmhnard ;
A' teàrnadh troimh linn-tean
An t-sneachd is nan craobh
Bho uachdar na beinne
Bho thoiseach gu deireadh
An t-saoghail.
Gu leumnach, gu luaineach,
No dorch le neòil ghruamach
'S air uairean gu ciùin,
Troimh linn-tean na h-Albainn,
Na thig is na dh' fhalbh dhiubh
Alltan mo rùn—
Alltan na h-Albainn ;
Ciùin, luaineach no leumnach
Deoch uasal do 'n fheumnach
Ma shìreas e thù,
Alltan nan Garbh-Chrioch.

Laigh air a bhruaic
Is òl as gun chualch
Cho domhainn
Ri d' roghainn
Mur foghann ceud uair
'S ma bhàiseas an lì

Troimh dhumbhlach do chridh'
Bidh na h-àirdean
'Gad thlàdh
Le gàbhadh an strì.

A shruthain, a shruthain,
Bì fhathast a' sìubhal
Gluaisidh ondhail a' gheamhraidh
Balbh-shruth do shamhraidh,
Thig piseach an earraich
Gu h-aighearach mear ort
Le easan
Is fuadach nan geasan
'S a' gilead an t-sneachda
Eiridh iodhainneachd eachdraidh.

Is lorgaidh tu fhéin ann an Albainn,
Ma thilgeas tu 'n dalla-bhrat, Ebberest.
Gheibh thu air mullach a' Chuilthinn
Ard-dhùilgheadas sìridh, is àrdan
Mont Blanc agus Ìra,
'S air stho Meall nan Tarmachan
Airdean na cruinne.

RUADH RÌGH.

LEANNAN.

A ghràidh, nam biodh fhios aig do bhòichead
Air giorrad do làithean 's mo bhòrn,
Cha leumadh gruin air d' sodann brasmhor
'S cha tholladh tu m' chridhe le leòn.
Tha do bhilean mar dhearg-fhuilt an ùr-ròis
A chaochail le gealladh an t-samhraidh,
Is òr-ghathan d' fhuilt mar na sleaghan
A cheus Crìosd air a' chrois . . . no mar lanntaibh
A' deàrradh an coimeamh na gréine,
No mar lotan an eilthach na Féinne.

Thig do chorp, a leannan, gu duslach
'S cha bhì cuimhne ort, a ghràidh, ach oidhch',
No air ceol do ghuth mar an aiseag
A' dìreadh air sgìathan na goitih.
Tionndaidh do shùil bho mo shùilean
Oir annta tha eagal a' bhàis . . .
Chan 'eil mis' ann cuideachd ach boillsgeadh
'S cha bhì d' sgàthan a' soillsgeadh a' Mhàigh.
Eirich is blàtha ann ad aodann
'S cuir do cheann air mo bhroilleach, a ghràidh.

EORN.

EADAR SINN FHEIN.

An t-Sidhchridh.

A Charaid,—Bha teaghlach ann am Uibhist anns an robh an
t-ainm Dubh-sìdh a' tighinn a nuas bho ghlinn gu ghlin. Bha
fear dhiubh air an robh an t-ainm ri cuimhne nam beò. A réir
innsè sgeòil, 's e duine car neo àbhaisteach 'na chaithe-beatha
air an tugadh an t-ainm air ths. Air uairean rachadh e as an
t-sealladh, agus a dhubbh no a dhath cha robh ri fhaicinn air
talamh na Crìosdachd. Dè cha robh ! 'S ann a bha e air
falbh an cuideachd nan daoine-sìdh, agus 's e as dòcha gum
biodh latha is bliadhna air ruith mun togadh e ceann !

Chan 'eil mi dol a stad a dh' fhaighneachd do dhiubh as e
sin eachdraidh an duine no nach e. 'S e th' orm gum abradh
iad mu a lethidh sin de dhùine " gum biodh e a' dol dh' an
t-sìodhraidh," i.e., cuideachd nam daoine-sìdh. (Cf. eachdraidh,
Iaochraidh, agus a shamhal sin.) Ar leam gur h-e so am
facal air a bheil sibh ag iarraidh an tuilleadh sois an ann
àireamh na Dudaich de 'n Ghàidheal.—Is mise, 70e.,

U. M.

Eilean Mhuile,
14/12/45.

Urramaich Shuaire—Bhàdhna mhath ùr dhuibh agus mòran dìthb! Tuilleadh neird do ur n-aigne agus do ur peann anns a' bhliadhna tha romhainn!

Is e facal glè iongantach a tha san fhacal *sithchridh* a thug sibh f' ar comhair an "Gaidheal" na Dùbhlachd. Tha am facair ag ràdh gur e as ciall da "the beyond, euphemism for death;" agus tha sin a' freagairt ris a' chiall a thug *An Gaidheal* dhuinn air a shon.

Tha mise de 'n bhàrair gh h-ann mar so a bu chòir a litreachadh—*sithchridh*, agus gur h-e as ciall da "cridhe an t-sidhein." Tràth an eachdraidh nan Gaidheal bhàth ag amharc air an t-sidhean mar ionad-còmhnaidh ceud luchd-àiteachaidh na tìre, mar bha Tuatha Dé Danann agus feadhainn eile de 'n t-seòrsa sin. 'Na dhéidh sin b' e an sidhean àite adhlacaidh nan rìghrean agus nan uaislean. Mar sin chan 'eil teagamh nach robh na Gaidheil ag amharc air an t-sidhean mar chridhe na diombaireachd a bha falach bhuaitha staid an duine an déidh a' bhàis. Nach beag an t-iongnadh, ma ta, ged robh am mac-meanmain a' faicinn an t-sidhean a' fosgladh air a' mharbh-mheadhon-oidheche agus a' bruchdadh a mach sluaigh beag neo-shaoghalta!

Is e no bhàrailsa, air son nas fhàich i, air an fhacal, *sithchridh*, staid no ionad dìomhair, am bàs, an saoghal neo-fhaicsinneach, "far nach 'eil fhios càite," an taobh thall; etc., etc.

Le gach beannachd is gach deagh dhtrachd o

LACHLANN MACFHOINGHUN.

An Gearradan.

3/1/46.

SIR,

An diechridh or An dithechridh.

It is believed that these forms are corruptions of an original form *An t-siochaireachd* : the state of being warflike or fairylile: (from *sithich* or *sitheach* plus 'fear' plus abstract noun ending). Compare the Irish form *An t-siochraicheadh*, from Wörterbuch (Irish Text) by Ernest Windisch, which means 'the fairy state, the fairy cult, or the fairies.'

Thus the expression used in *An Gaidheal* would appear to mean 'Off with the fairies' or 'off to goodness knows where.'

NOTE.—*Sith*, *siodh*, or *sith* (old form *sid*) was originally a cairn or conical tumulus used as an underground residence during the Bronze Age. From the dimensions of doors, passages, etc. it is clear that these mounds were representative of a small race of men. According to an old heroic tale 'Togaill Buidne dá Derga,' they were red in colour and rode red horses. In one view the fairies of any one race are the people of the preceding race, the Fomors for the Fir Bolgs, the Fir Bolgs for the Dananns, and the Dananns for us. The word *sith* was later applied indifferently to the hillocks and their inhabitants without the explanatory *doine*, *mnanan*, etc. For full notes on the etymology of this word see Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, December, 1893.

Yours, etc.,

EDWARD PURSELL.

Campbeltown.

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Leabhar XLI

Am Màrt, 1946

[Earrann 6

AM B.B.C. AGUS A' GHÀIDHLIG.

Chan 'eil teagamh sam bith nach tug am B.B.C. togail do 'n Ghaidhlig, togail nach tug dad sam bith eile dhi a thàinig 'na luib o chionn linntean. Thatar ag éisdeachd ris a' B.B.C. a nis anns gach àite is ceàrn de 'n Ghaidhealtachd. Chan 'eil cùil no céal anns na h-Eileanan as iomallaiche anns nach 'eil frithead a nis, agus mar sin cluinnear sna h-àitean sin gach facal Gaidhlig a thatar a' labhairt, no a' seinn, air a' B.B.C.

Tha na Gaidheil mar sin gu léir, ge b' e àite anns am bi iad—tuath no deas, siar no sear, air an dùthaich no am baile-mór—tha iad comasach air a' Ghaidhlig as fhèarr a chluinntinn, araon ann an labhairt agus ann an seinn.

Cha b' ann mar sin a chleachd na Gaidheil a bhith. Cha chluinneadh iad ach an dualchainnt is an gnathas-cainnt a bha sa' sgre aca fhéin. Agus an rud ris an robh iad cleachdte, agus a bha iad daonnan ag cluinntinn, bha iad a' smaoineachadh gur h-e sin a mhàin a bha ceart; agus gu robh gach dualchainnt eile ceàrr, no co-dhiùbh nach robh i cho maith ris a' Ghaidhlig aca-san.

Tha atharrachadh dualchainnt sa' h-uile cànain. Tha a' cheart uibhir de dhualchainntean sa' Bheurla 's a tha sa' Ghaidhlig—thà agus barrachd—ach bha mòran a bharrachd a' leughadh na Beurla na bha leughadh na Gaidhlig, agus thug sin eòlas do 'n luchd-Beurla air dualchainntean eile na Beurla, agus air faicail is gnathasan-cainnte air nach robh iad eòlach 'n an gnàth-bhruidhinn. Dh' fhàg so luchd na Beurla na b' eòlaiche air a' Bheurla litreachail na bha na Gaidheil air a' Ghaidhlig litreachail. Dh' fhàg, agus bha na Gaidheil de 'n bheachd—tha mi ag ciallachadh na Gaidheil an cumantas—nach b' fhiach dualchainnt eile ach a' Ghaidhlig aca fhéin. Theireadh muinntir Earra Ghaidheal gur h-e droch Ghaidhlig a bha aca an Cataibh—abair Gaidhlig Rob Dhuinn—agus theireadh

muinntir Chataibh gur h-e droch Ghaidhlig a bha aca am Muile. Theireadh muinntir Leodhuis gur h-e droch Ghaidhlig a bha aca an Earra Ghaidheal, agus theireadh muinntir Bharraidh gur h-e fìor droch Ghaidhlig a bha aca an Ile. Cha robh an dara h-aon cleachdte air a bhith cluinntinn dualchainnt na h-aoin eile. Bha atharrachadh blais air gach dualchainnt agus mar sin bhiodh 'deasbud mu dheidhinn càit an robh a' Ghaidhlig a' b' fhèarr. Bha iad tur aineolach air dualchainnt cacha a chéile agus air blas Gaidhlig cacha a chéile; agus an rud nach b' aithne dhaibh, bha e 'nam beachd-san na bu mhiosa na an rud a bha aca fhéin.

Ach a nis troimh an B.B.C. cluinnear a' Ghaidhlig as fhèarr. Chan 'eil duine a dh' éisdeas ris an Radio nach cluinn cuid de 'n litreachas as fhèarr a tha againn an Gaidhlig. Cluinnidh iad a h-uile seòrsa dualchainnt, agus seach gu bheil a' chainnt air an labhairt le daoine foghlumte, agus fiosrachail 'n an cànain fhéin tha, mar gum b' eadh, blas sonraichte oirre, ach tha am blas sin air a thogail an àirde gu inbhe litreachail. Cluinnear a nis troimh an B.B.C. Uibhisteach a' labhairt le blas nan Eilean ach air dòigh fìor litreachail, agus Earra-Ghaidhealach le blas an deasaich ach gu litreachail, agus an Leodhusach ann an dòigh a thaitneas ris an Tirisdeach.

Tha am B.B.C. air a' Ghaidhlig a thogail gu bhith 'na h-aon cànain litreachail agus usal, an àite a bhith 'na h-aon mhìrean de dh' atharrachadh dhualchainntean. Thatar 'nan comain air son so; agus cha b' iongnadh ge do bhitheadh.

Tha a rithist a bhith ag éisdeachd ris na naidheachdan a' toirt eòlais do na Gaidheil air ainmean rìoghachdan is àitean eile feadh an t-saoghail mhóir—ainmean air nach robh iad eòlach ach a mhàin am Beurla; ach bho thàinig an Radio tha iad 'gan cluinntinn mar is còir ann an Gaidhlig. Thàinig cruinne-eòlas an Gaidhlig an cois a' B.B.C., agus

iomadach rud eile a thaobh dùthchannan cèin. Tha seo a nis aig na Gaidheil 'n an cànan fhéin, a thaing sin do 'n B.B.C.

* * * *

Tha mar an ceudna iomadach facal ùr, agus dòigh ùr air a bhith cur ghnòthaichean, againn cuideachd an Gaidhlig tre 'n B.B.C. Ged dh' fhaodas seo a bhith car annasach do ar cluais an toiseach chan fhada gus am fàs sinn cleachdte ris an dòigh cannta so. Dé an nì ùr nach 'eil annasach an toiseach, agus tha mìle rud ùr aig a B.B.C. ri chur an cèill dhùinn an diugh, agus gu maith tric feumaidh a' chainnt a bhith ùr cuideachd. Ach le cleachdadh fàsar suas ris, agus tha sin ceud uair nas fheàrr na bhith 'ga ràdh an cànan choimhich mar a tha a' Bheurla Shasannach.

Feumaidh, ma ta, ann an nithean ùra mar so, gum bi uaireanan atharrachadh dòigh, agus atharrachadh fhacal, air a chleachdadh seach gum bi atharrachadh dhaoine eòlach is foghlumte 'gan cleachdadh, ach ri ùine ni an dòigh as freagarraiche agus am facal as fheàrr gréim air ar n-intinn, agus leanaidh sin ruinn mar chòmhradh cumanta.

Gu leibheadh tha seorsa de fhreacha-dìde ànn, daoine a bhios a' faotainn coire do gach dòigh air leth agus do gach facal ùr-dheanta seach nach b' e sin an dòigh-san agus am facal-san—gealtairan a bhios a' lùgadh air cùl gàraidh gus nach fhaicear iad, agus nach bi fhios ó iad. Chan 'eil feum air domhain an sin. Cha toir duine ceart sam bith cluas do nì gun urra. Ach le bhith toirt am beachdan, agus an, deanadasan, air an ceann fhéin do 'n B.B.C. agus do gach buidheann eile ris a bheil a leithid so an urra, mar a tha an Comunn Gaidhealach, ni iad feum, agus gheibh am facal éisdeachd.

* * * *

Tha mar sin fhios aig a h-uile duine aig a bheil dad a thaingis gu bheil Gaidhlig na Gaidhealtachd mòran nas coimhlionta agus nas litreachail an diugh troimh an B.B.C. na bha i an uair a thòisich an Radio an toiseach. Chan 'eil dà dhèanaim air an sin, agus tha e mar chorachd oirne uile gach cuideachadh is misneachd as urrainn dhùinn a thoirt do 'n B.B.C. Ma tha reir ar beachd-ne cron 'n an cleachdadh sgrìobhamaid thuca—Jorgaidh am B.B.C. an Glaschu iad—agus innseamaid dhaibh mar a shaoileas sinn a ghabhas an cron sin, no an uireasbhuidh sin, a leasachadh; agus ma tha nithean dìreach mar bu mhiann leinn innseamaid sin dhaibh cuideachd, agus iarramaid orra iad a leantainn air an raoin sin, co-dhùibh car greis. Is fheàrde each maith a mholadh cho maith ri cruidhean a chur air. Tha fhios, mar dhaoine glìce agus tuigseach, gum bi iad 'nar comain na nì sinn so.

Agus is cinnteach nach ann air a shon fhéin a mhàin a tha *An Gaidheal* a' labhairt nuair a their e: Gu robh mìle maith aig muinntir a' B.B.C. air son an togail a tha iad a' toirt do chànan agus do chùisean nan Gaidheil.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

U.N.O.—Tha na ceud choinneamhan a bha aig U.N.O. a nis air sgaoladh gus an coinnich iad a rithist. Mar a tha fhios aig an t-saoghal is ann an Lunnainn a bha iad cruinn air an trobha so; agus is ann a' réiteachadh chùisean, agus a' leaghad nam bunaitèan air an togar an aireabhadh eireachdail so a chum sith an domhain, a bhatar a' beachdachadh gu sonraichte sna ceud choinneamhan so. Chan e nach robh nithean mòra agus cudthromach eile fa an comair, mar a bha deasbud mun Ghréig agus mu Pherisia agus mu Indonesia, agus mu àitean eile. Ach is e an nì mòr agus sonraichte, gu bheil a nis an comunn cunbhadhach so, chum sith an t-saoghal, air a stéidheachadh gu daingeann. Thatar an dòchas gur h-e so ceud thòiseachadh “Pàrlamaid mhic-anduine is aonachd stàitean nan uile chineach”: agus gu bheil an t-àm a nis air tòiseachadh anns am bi an fhàidheadaireachd mhòr agus bheannaichte sin air a coimhlionadh a tha ag ràdh: “Buailidh iad an claidhean gu coltair, agus an sleaghan gu corranan-sgathaidh; cha tog cinneach claidheamh an aghaidh cinnich, agus chan fhoghlum iad cogadh nas mò.”

Is ann an Ameriga a bhios dachaidh U.N.O. Tha sin a nis air a shuidheachadh—mu dheich mìle fichead a mach air bràighe New York, an ear-thuath air a' bhaile-mhòr sin.

Ragnaich a' chòmhdhail mhòr gum biodh Bolgach 'na Cheann Suidhe air U.N.O., fear Paul Henri Spaak; agus ragnaich iad Lochlannach á Niorraibh gu bhith 'na Arl Rùnaire, fear d' an ainm Trygve Lie.

Gu dearbh tha aobhar aig na Gaidheil cho maith ri cinnich eile—oir is mòr a dh' fhuiling iadsan air tàilleamh cogaidh anns gach linn—tha aobhar aca a bhith toirt clùid do Dia air son U.N.O. ma dh' fhuadaicheas e cogadh as an t-saoghal-sa o so a mach. Cò nach cuideachadh le Còmhdhail ann Cinneach Aonaichte?

* * * *

A' Ghréig.—Bha a' Ghréig 'na meadhon deasbud cho mòr 's a bha aig U.N.O., no Còmhdhail nan Cinneach Aonaichte, bho shuidh iad an Lunnainn. Tha e coltach gu bheil seorsa de dh' an-amharus aig cuid de luchd-riaghlaidh Rusia a thaobh Bhreatainn, agus cò a theireadh nach 'eil beagan de dh' an-amharus aig cuid de mhuintir Bhreatainn a thaobh Rusia. Is iomadh leigseul a tha aig an earrach air a bhith fuar, agus mar sin bha Rusia a' faotainn coire de Bhreatainn a chionn ar saighdearan a bhith fhathast sa' Ghréig. Dhearbhadh gu soilleir gur h-ann air iartras ard-riaghladh na Gréige, agus a chum na sìthe chumail sa' Ghréig, a bha na saighdearan againne sam dùthaich sin. An deidh mòran deasbud chaidh so a dheanamh soilleir do riochdairan Rusia sa' Còmhdhail; agus a cheart cho luath 's nach biodh iarraidh orra ànn, gum biodh gach saighdear Breatainnach air a thoirt as. Chaidh a' chùis fhagail mar sin; agus bhatar riarichte taobh air thaobh.

Thatar an dòchas gur h-ann a ni an deasbud a bh' ànn an cairdeas a tha eadar Rusia agus Breatainn nas

soilleire dhaibh fhein agus do 'n t-saoghal, agus mar sin nas seasmhaiche. Cha sheas cairdeas air lethchois, agus mar sin le bhith tuigsinn a cheile nas fhèarr bidh an cairdeas nas blàithe agus nas seasmhaiche.

A thaobh na Gréige bhia duine coir a' faotainn coire do 'n *Ghaidheal* ann am paipear-naidheachd seachdanach airson, 'na bheachd-san, aineolas is cion foghlum a' *Gaidheil* a thaobh na Gréige agus a canain. Bha *An Gaidheal* ag ràdh o chionn mìos no dhà an so—agus e a' bruidhinn air cànaicnean—gun robh an t-seann Ghrèugais marbh, mar a thà i. Is ann a chomh-dhùin an duine bochd so gun robh *An Gaidheal* cho aineolach agus nach robh fhios aige gun robh Ghrèugais an là-an-diugh an idir—bròinean! Ma tha air caraid cho eòlach agus cho fiosraichte sa' chàinain Ghrèugach bho latha Homer agus an là-an-diugh 's a tha *An Gaidheal*, chan eagal da. Ach bha son Chonan san Fhèinn. Chan ann gun fhios carson a ni an clamhan fead; agus bha seanfhaical eile ag ràdh: Chan uaisle duine na cheird. Ach is ann tha bhochdainn ann gu bheil, tha e coltach, aon duine ann nach 'eil cho usal ri a cheird. Tha *An Gaidheal* ag guidhe dha na gràsan sin anns a bheil carthannas cridhe agus treibhdhreachd intinn a' fàs.

* * * *

Cill Bhrìghde.—Cho fada 's a tha mo chuimhne a' dol chan 'eil ainm-àite eile san dùthaich as bitheanta na Cill Bhrìghde. Tha na s'cheadan dhìubb an sud 's an so feadh na rìoghachd. Gu dearbh chan 'eil mi ag ràdh gun rachainn fada ceàrr ge do chanainn gu bheil aon cheud Cille Bhrìghde an Alba gu léir. Tha na ceallan so air an ainmeachadh air a' bhoirionnach bheannaichte sin, a' bhan-naomh Bhrìghde, a thainig a nall à Éirinn leis an t-Soisgeul sa' chòigeamh linn:

“Erighde bhòidheach, òigh nam mìle beus.”
Ma bha i sa' h-uile h-àite a tha air ainmeachadh oirre feumaidh gun robh i gu maith siùbhlach agus saothrachail. Ach chan 'eil teagamh nach ann a dh' ainmeachadh mòran de na h-àitean oirre le a luchd-leannuinn mar chuimhneachan air am mnaoith dhìadhaidh. Co-dhùit h, bha i 'na boirionnach sonraichte. Rugadh i an Dun Dealgain mu thuiream na bliadhna 450, agus cha robh i ach ochd bliadhna deug nuair chaidh a cur air leth mar Bhan-naomh.

Chuir i baile Chrìosduidhean air bonn an Cill Dara a mach air bràighe Ehaile Atha Cliath; agus is ann air Cill Dara a bha i air a h-ainmeachadh o bha a mach. B' e so a ceanna-thaile, agus is ann an so a bha i a' tilleadh an deidh a sgrìoban leis an t-Soisgeul feadh Alba is Éirinn. Bha seanfhaical aca a bha ag ràdh: Cridhe na h-Éireann, Cill Dara.

Is e Cill Bhrìghde ann an Srath an Eilein Spìthanach a thug so 'na mo chuimhne. Chunnaic mi gun roth Chìit an Fhearainn ann an sin uaireigin roimh an Ehladhna Uir, agus muinntir Chille Bhrìghde air iarraidh orra tighinn ann, agus iad ag iarraidh isleachadh air a' mhàl. Is e fear de na bailtean ùra a tha an Cill Bhrìghde so, baile a bha air a mheas gu maith torach, agus 'na dheagh thalamh sprèidh, nuair a b' aithne dhomhsa an toiseach e. Bha e an uair sin 'na ghabhail-tuathanachais aig aon duine—fìor àite

bòidheach, an àchlais Loch Slaopainn, ri taobh nan Torran, agus mu astar trì mìle bho 'n t-Sìdhean far an do rugadh Uilleam Ros am Bard. Tha Gleann Shuardail a' laighe gu bòidheach, fassgach, eadar an Ath-leathain agus Cill Bhrìghde fad shia mìle. Tha mar a thubhairt mi an Sìdhean, mu dhà mhìle gu leth a mach as an Ath-leathain agus mu trì mìle bho Chill Bhrìghde, ach chan 'eil a bheag de àraichean nan tobbtaichean fhéin an diugh far an d' àraicheadh Uilleam Ros; ach tha an Sìdhean 'na àite bòidheach, agus fradharcach air a' Ghleann gu léir. Tha Coire Chataigeam an fassgadh Beinn na Caillich air do làimh dheis is tu ag amharc siar ri Cill Bhrìghde. Bha Uilleam Ros 'na chnap balaich, aona bliadhna deug, nuair a thadhail an t-Ollamh mòr Sasannach an Coire Chataigeam—turus mun do dh' fhàg Bosuel iomradh fìor thatneach againn.

Tha Cill Chrò am meadhan a' Ghlinne far an robh eaglais na sgrìe fad linntean an deidh dhaibh Cill Bhrìghde fhàgail, agus far a bheil cladh na sgrìe fhathast; agus Loch Chille Chrò ri a taobh. Glé fhaig air a' chladh 's air iarach na h-eaglaise, tha Tobar Tà, tobar a bha ainmeil sa seann linntean agus Coinneach Odhar air fàidheadaireachd a dheanamh mu a deidhinn. Bha e air aithris gun dubhairt Coinneach:—

Tobar sin is Tobar Tà,
Tobar aig an cuirear blàr,
Marbhar Torcul nan trì Torcuil
Air latha fìuich aig Tobar Tà.

Cha chuala mi an deach an fhàidheadaireachd a choimhlionadh no nach deach. Ach chaidh mi thar mo sheanchais!

Chunnaic mi, ma tha, gur h-ann a dh' àrdaich Cuirt an Fhearainn am màl air na ceithir lotaichean a tha an Cill Bhrìghde, an àite am màl isleachadh. An uair a smaoinicheas duine air, tha so ceart gu leòr ma bha muinntir Cùirt an Fhearainn dearbhte nach robh am màl àrd gu leòr, agus tha e coltach gun robh iad sin. Tha uachdaran fearainn cho feumadh air ceartas ri neach sam bith eile, agus is ann chum ceartas a thoirt do na h-uile a tha Cùirt an Fhearainn àn. Sa' chùis so is e Bord an Aiteachais as uachdaran; agus is e am Bord so uachdaran fearainn am mò tha an Alba. Nuair a chunnaic mi gur h-e am Bord as uachdaran air Cill Bhrìghde is ann a thainig seorsa de chianalas orm nach b' e MacFhionghuin an t-Sratha, no Morair nan Eilean, a b' uachdaran air, mar a bha an aon uair. Chan e nach bitinn-sa pailt cho riarachte—agus gu dearbh nan innis an fhlirinn mòran na bu riarachte—nan robh muinntir Chille Bhrìghde air isleachadh fhaighinn sa' mhàl. Chan 'eil sin 'na ionghnadh, b' eòlach air a chéile sinn aon uair, agus gu dearbh cha bu dhroch eòlas a bh' eadarainn.

* * * *

Na subhailcean seasmhach.—Tha *Anna Dhonn* ag iarraidh oirnn innse an so san dè seachd cionnas a chuirear an Gaidhlig na *Cardinal Virtues*, mar a theirear an Beurla. Tha mi dèanamh dheth gur h-ann mar so a chuirear an Gaidhlig iad: (1) Gliocas, (2) Ceartas, (3) Stumachd, (4) Gaisge. Thèagamh gu bheil dòigh eile air an cur, ma tha bu

mhaith leinn a chluinntinn. Shaoilinn gum biodh, (4) misneachd, no cruadalas, faisg air a bhith cho maith ri gaisge. Co-dhiùb tha sinn an dòchas gun riarach so Anna. Tha *An Gaidheal* 'na comain air son a facal misnich fhéin.

* * * * *

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Chan 'eil ni air bith foluichte, nach foillsichear; no uaigneach, air nach faighear fios. Air an aobhar sin ge b' e ni a labhair sibh san dorchedas cluinnear e san t-solus: agus an nì a labhair sibh sa' chluais ann an seòmraichibh uaigneach éighear e air mullach nan tighean.—*Lucas xii, 2-3.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.



LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bha mi aig coinneamh-ghnothaich shònraichte an Glaschu bh' chionn ghoirid, agus dh' ùraich i seann chuimhne dhomh air na làithean a bha mi, mar a tha sibhse an diugh, anns an sgoil. Ach is éigin dhomh an toiseach innseadh dhuibh ciod a' choinneamh a a bha an so. Tha matà, comunn an sud ris an abrar Comunn Gàidhealach nam Ban-usal: iomgadh gu bheil cuid agaibhse nach cualla riamh iomradh air, gun t'ghinn air fios a bhith agaibh air a ghnè no obair. Chaidh a chur air bhonn bho chionn glé dhlùth air ceud bliadhna: tha mi an dùil nach bi ach ceithir bliadhna gus am bi Ard-fhéis a' cheud aige air e gheidheadh.

B' iad mnathan-usal an Dun-éideann is an Glaschu a chuir air bhonn e is a tha 'ga gr'ùlan air aghaidh bliadhna an déidh bliadhna, mar a tha aon a' leigeil dhith a dleasanais no a' dol gu a duais ann an Rìoghachd nam Flath, té eile ag gabhail làimhe anns ar obair, is i mar sin air a giùlan air aghaidh. B' e am prìomh-àobhar do'n chomunn so a bhith air a chur air stéid an toiseach, adhartachadh a chur an cùisean spioradail agus fòghlum na h-òige air a' Ghàidhealtachd, ann an sgoiltean fhosgadh far nach robh iad, agus b' iomadh sin roinn-dùthcha air a' Ghàidhealtachd anns nach robh sgoil an uair ud, oir b' iad so na làithean roimh Achd an Fhòghlaim a thugadh dhuinn an 1872. A nis, leis gun do chuir an comunn so làmh ann am fòghlum na cloinne le sgoiltean fhosgladh, tha mi an dùil gum biodh e glé fireagarrach gun gabhainn-sa e mar chuspair-seanachais mìos de na mìosan, agus is e so am mìos. Is mise a' bha thall 's a chunnaic,' oir gus an robh mi dà bhliadhna dheug, b' ann an sgoil nam Ban-usal a bha mi a' dol thall an sud air an leanaig réidh air taobh tuath an rathaid os cionn an t-Sruth Fhraoich. Is beò mo chuimhne air an sgoil ud, gach uinneag is gach còmhla, gach toll a bha an clachan a' bhalla is na sgoiltean anns an ùrlar far am biodhmaid ag call nam peansalan! Bha fios againn cùin a thigeadh a' ghrian a steach air na h-uinneagan 's a dh' fhàgadh i sinn, agus bha comharradh againn air a' bhalla leis an tuigeamaid dé an uair a bhiodh e,

cùin a bu chòir dhuinn a bhith a' faotainn a mach a chluich agus gu faotainn na-sgòil.

Is e gleann òga a bhiodh a' toirt a mach an fhòghlum chòlaisdeach a bha againn mar mhaighstirean-sgoile, agus is math a rinn iad sin, an cuid fòghlum a thoir a mach, ged a thuit cuid dhuibh anns a' chath mun do ràinig iad a' bheag de aois. Thug a' cheud fhear fo an robh mise a mach a' mhinistrealachd, duine air an robh mise, mar a th'òill e. Chan 'eil ro fhada bho 'n a shiubhal e. Bha fear eile a dh' fhòghlum sgìl léigh, maille ri searmonachadh, agus ràinig e inbhe air an measg dhaoine dubha is buidhe anns na trean thall. Bha e iomadh bliadhna 'na Ard-léigh air ceann ospadal lobarh an Corea. Leig e dheth a dreuchd bho chionn bhliadhnanachan, is tha e a nis a chòmhnuidh an Astràilia.

B' e an latha mòr leinn anns an sgoil ud thar uile làithean na bliadhna uile gu léir an latha a thigeadh a' Bhean-usal, cheanalta, Miss Rainey, "gar ceasnachadh," mar a theireamaid; ach cha bhiodh an ceasnachadh trom, agus b' e ar moladh (theagmha gun robh cuid a thoilleadh sin, ach cuid nach thoilleadh!) a gheibheamaid, is daonnan tlabharts beag air choir-eigin aice do gach aon againn. B' i a' Bhean-usal so piuthar do 'n Phrionnsapal Rainey, agus b' iise sin an fhìor bhean-ussal. Tha cuimhne againn aon samhradh gu sònraichte an uair a bha fiughair ris na gun do chuir am maighstir-sgoil sinn a mach ris na cuic is na bruthaichean a bhuan roid is a chruinneachadh fhìrlàin fhiaidhach sam bith a bha fo bhlàth gu an crochadh is an suidheachadh mun cuairt a' bhalla air a ceann. Rinn sinne an cruinneachadh sin gu math is gu ro-mhath, agus an uair a thàinig a' Bhean-usal chaomh an larmhàireach, bha an tigh-sgoil gu grinn, glan roimhe, le deagh bhòladh na roid is nam blàthan a bha 'na luib ag cur gean anns gach cridhe; agus is ann an gnùis na mnaoi-ussal ud a bha an aoibh an uair a thug i fa-near an deasachadh a rinneadh air a ceann agus an fhàilte a chuireadh oirre!

Sin agaibh cuid de na cuimhneachain a dh' ùraich a' choinneamh ud aig an robh mi dhòmhsa, agus bha mi a' r' mhiann gum biodh fios agaibhse air. Bha iomadh nì eile nach 'eil an rùm againn gu chur sìos an so—an dàra smuain a' togail smuain eile, is iad uile a' sgaoleadh dealbh nam làithean a dh' aom fa-chomhair shùl na h-inntinn. Ràinig mo smuain-cuimhne eadhon an sgor ud aig bonn a' Chnuic Shioltaich a bha againn mar stòr gu gleidheadh nam fòidean mònachd a dh' fheumamaid a bhith againn air cheann an teine an àm an fhuaich.

Is sgapte an còmhlan a bha an sud cho cridheil anns na làithean sona a bhà; chan 'eil eadhon ach trian dhuibh air fhàgail, agus an còrr, is cuid dhuibh a thuit a mach as an iomairt glé thràth, a tha bho chionn iomadh bliadhna an Tir nan Sonn is an Aigh, far is e ar dòchas, an deach gach deur a sguabadh air falbh bho an sùil.

Chan 'eil an rùm againn gu a' bheag tuille a ràdh. Tha fiughair againn gum bi sgeul againn dhuibh anns an ath litir mun champ samhraidh, agus chan abair mi an còrr air a' cheann sin an ceartair. A nis, a

bheil an agabh a chual riamh am facal so, no aig a bheil fios ciod is cialla dha—"Fiath na Feòin?"—
Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDUGHAILL.

NEW GAELIC PUBLICATIONS.

Plans and Prospects.

By Rev. T. M. MURCHISON, Convener, Publications Committee.

As has already been reported in *An Gaidheal*, the Publications Committee, with the approval of the Executive Council, has agreed on certain lines of action whereby it is hoped to accelerate the rate of publication of suitable Gaelic reading material. Thanks are due to the Gaelic scholars, writers, teachers, and others, whom we consulted, and who readily gave valuable advice on various points.

We believe that the Gaelic-reading public is much larger than is generally supposed, not only in this country but abroad, and our first task must be to provide an abundant and varied supply of good and interesting reading material.

It is proposed that, while An Comunn may on occasion assist the publication of more academic works, the production of standard texts and definitive editions of Gaelic authors should be left to the Scottish Gaelic Texts Society, and that educational text-books should be the concern of the Gaelic Advisory Committee of the E.I.S., in co-operation with An Comunn. An Comunn would thus concern itself primarily with the production of interesting popular literature, well printed, attractively produced, and low priced.

We have under consideration various important matters, such as advertising and marketing and relations with, and remuneration of, writers, artists, and editors. But our first concern is to find sufficient material in order to produce at least two books per year in the next five years, and, if possible, to exceed that target.

We have in hand the material for several books of Gaelic stories—some unpublished traditional "Sgeulachdan," some translations, and some original material—as well as essays and articles on current topics by well known Gaelic scholars.

But there is much more that we need, if there is to be a steady stream of Gaelic publications issuing from the press over the next few years. In the hope that many who read this article may be encouraged to write, or to submit MSS which they may have in readiness, I give here some indication of the kind of material we want.

- (1) *New Material*.—Works of imagination. Novels (historical, sociological, detective). Essays (historical, literary, critical, current affairs). Short stories. Biography. Serious historical writing. There is great need, in particular, for interesting narrative for children's reading; e.g. stories based on the wealth of Gaelic *Sgeulachdan* and folk-lore, stories of the modern world, stories about animals and birds (like Kenneth Graham's *Wind in the Willows* and Kenneth MacLeod's *Latha is Bliadhna leis na h-Eòin*). The three chief requirements in all such material are: (a) good idiomatic Gaelic (either fully inflected literary Gaelic or genuine dialect), (b) interesting subject-matter and treatment (stuff that will be read for the sheer interest of the narrative), (c) accuracy of information (particularly in historical writing). It will be noted that nothing has been said about poetry. Poetry cannot be produced to order in the same way as, for example, novels and essays can be. But we are prepared to consider for publication original poetry of high quality, including new poetry that is not a mere echo of our traditional poetry.

- (2) *Old Material*.—Much good material lies buried in various Gaelic magazines and periodicals; as, e.g., the old *Gaidheal*, our own *Gaidheal*, *Mac Talla*, *Celtic*

Review, *Celtic Magazine*, *Celtic Monthly*, *Alba*, *Guth na Bliadhna*, Transactions of Inverness Gaelic Society and of Glasgow Gaelic Society, *Life and Work* (Gaelic Supplement), old files of *Northern Chronicle* and other newspapers, etc., etc. There are also some old Gaelic books, now out-of-print, which might be edited to conform to modern standards of orthography and re-issued. Suggestions will be welcomed.

- (3) *Translations*.—Consideration will be given to good translations from other languages, Irish, English, etc. It should be stated that there is not much point in translating into Gaelic English classics which practically all Gaelic readers can read for themselves in the original, so that the most likely source for material under this category is translation from languages other than English. But the original must be worth translating, and the translation must not be a mere word-for-word rendering nor a loose paraphrase. Good translation, which to the uninitiated seems easy, is really a most difficult undertaking.

In all three categories listed above, it will help greatly if those who have material of the kind indicated, or who feel they might set about preparing such material, would in the first instance communicate with us. Every encouragement will be given to writers to embark on the preparation of works that appeal to them, provided that the Publication Committee thinks that such works are likely to be suitable for publication. We want to publish stuff that we think will sell. Writers will be remunerated by fees or by royalties. Full-length books of the kind we have in mind should extend to about 30,000 to 40,000 words; but smaller works of about 20,000 words may also be published. If a writer has only a few short stories to offer, these might be used in a composite work including similar writings by other people.

Another project for which we invite the co-operation of as large a number of people as possible is the publication of a *Glossary of New Words and Terms*.

It is unnecessary to stress the need for such a Glossary nor to urge that An Comunn ought to undertake the task. There is a great and increasing number of words and ideas in modern discourse for which there is no generally accepted native Gaelic equivalent. Each Gaelic writer and speaker is left to his own devices and ingenuity, so that we find, on the one hand, clumsy and inelegant paraphrases and circumlocutions or far-fetched and obscure neologisms built up from old Gaelic roots, and, on the other hand, English and other foreign words borrowed wholesale and without any attempt at moulding them in Gaelic form.

A few years ago Mr. John Lorne Campbell wrote that, because of the decline in the number of monoglot Gaelic speakers, the Gaelic language has lost the power to coin new words or even to assimilate and Gaelicise new borrowings. In any case, the situation at present is anything but satisfactory, and it is surely the function of An Comunn to give a lead. Some years ago An Comunn did attempt the task, but on a limited scale, and a list of words appeared in *An Gaidheal*. Two or three similar attempts have been made in other quarters.

In Eire, for years past, booklets have been issued setting forth Irish equivalents for new words and ideas, and these, I understand, are now being gathered into a comprehensive dictionary. In any attempt we may make along these lines it will be advisable to pay attention to what has been done in Eire, for we must not allow the two sister languages to develop in isolation from each other.

In undertaking the compilation of such a Glossary as I have proposed, I would suggest the following necessary steps:

- (1) A panel of linguistic experts to supervise the undertaking and collate and sift the material; persons whose linguistic equipment is not limited to Gaelic and English. Other living modern languages are tackling the same problem.
- (2) Prepare lists of the most common and most useful modern words and terms for which there is no generally accepted native Gaelic equivalent.

- (3) Circulate these lists (a) to various people asking them to suggest suitable Gaelic equivalents, and (b) to correspondents in various districts of the *Gaidhealtachd* and ask them to indicate the new terms and words actually in use locally by native Gaelic speakers.
 - (4) Scan Gaelic publications (especially periodicals) of the past fifty years to discover what Gaelic equivalents have actually been used by Writers.
 - (5) Sift and collate all the material thus collected and have it submitted to the judgment of the panel of experts already referred to, and print their findings and proposals in *An Gaidheal* and invite constructive criticism.
 - (6) Publish the final lists in book or booklet form.
- This undertaking will take time, but, if it is to be done at all, it must be done as thoroughly as possible, and the sooner we begin the better.

What we want to begin with is:

- (a) People who will send in lists of new words and terms for which there is need of an agreed Gaelic equivalent, offering (if they wish) their own suggested equivalents.
- (b) People who will volunteer to read through books and periodicals of the past fifty or so years. Those willing to do this might please first write and tell us what books and periodicals they can most easily deal with.
- (c) People in various districts who will send in lists of new words in actual use locally and report on how Gaelic speakers are dealing with the problem in actual current speech.

If this task is to be undertaken wholeheartedly and scientifically, there will be a vast amount of material to be dealt with, and therefore it will greatly help in organising and classifying the material if all who take part in this co-operative effort will agree to present their material in the same form. I would suggest the use of slips of paper, approximately 2 inches by 5½ inches in size (say, a quarto sheet cut into eight slips); each slip to have a separate word with Gaelic equivalent (indicating gender, genitive singular and nominative plural in the case of nouns, and the chief parts of verbs), with name and date of book or periodical, page, and name of author, or (if from current speech) exact locality where heard; also a phrase or sentence illustrating use of the equivalent; name of correspondent should also be written on the slip. This method may seem wasteful of paper, but it will save the trouble and cost of transcribing, and An Comunn will no doubt gladly repay to correspondents the cost of paper used.

All communications relating to matters discussed in this article should be sent to the Secretary of An Comunn, or, if correspondence is desired on any point, to the Convener of the Publications Committee, c/o the Secretary.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in Millars' Rooms, Stirling, on Friday, 18th January, 1946. The President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider, was in the Chair and the following members were present: Col. D. C. G. Ballingall, Kippen; Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow; Archd. Cameron, Largs; Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Strathyre; Miss Anne Gunn, Glasgow; Kenneth MacDonald, M.A., B.Sc., Glasgow; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Neil MacEachain, Greenock; Rev. John MacKay, M.A., Glasgow; John MacKay, Edinburgh; Donald M. MacPhail, B.L., Edinburgh; Wm. C. Macrae, Garrowhill; Angus Matheson, M.A., Glasgow; Donald Morrison, Glasgow; Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Glasgow; Angus Robertson, Bearsden; Mrs. Elizabeth Shaw, Edinburgh; Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban; Duncan Thomson Glasgow. In attendance—James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary; Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary, and Miss Ann MacKay, Junior Assistant.

Minute of previous meeting was read and approved, and apologies for absence intimated from several members.

The Secretary read a letter from Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Largs, resigning from the Executive Council and the Standing Committees of which she was a member, owing to her inability to travel to meetings. Mrs. Colquhoun's resignation was accepted with sincere regret by the members and the President paid tribute to the excellent work which she had done for An Comunn and for the movement in general.

The President asked the members to be upstanding while he made reference to the passing of Mr. Alexander Fraser who had been a member of the Council for the long term of 40 years, six of which he served as Vice-President. As Convener of the Finance Committee, a position he held for 18 years, Mr. Fraser had been very earnest in his endeavours to conserve the finances of An Comunn. He was of a warm hearted and friendly disposition and they mourned his passing. They expressed their deep sympathy with his widow and son.

The President also referred to the passing of Mrs. William MacKay, Inverness, and they recorded their deep sense of the loss sustained by their valued member and friend, Capt. William MacKay, by the death of his devoted wife.

It was reported to the meeting that Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, had been admitted to the Royal Infirmary, Inverness, with threatened mastoid. It had been learned that Mr. MacPhail was making favourable progress towards recovery and the Secretary was asked to convey to him the best wishes of the members and to express the hope that he would soon be restored to his usual good health and cheerfulness.

The Treasurer read a Minute of the Finance Committee and on the motion of the Convener, Dr. John Cameron, the Minute was adopted.

Minute of Education Committee was read, and in the absence of the Convener, Mr. Farquhar MacRae, Mr. John A. Nicolson moved its adoption. He said that the Committee was concerned about the position of Gaelic teaching in Primary Schools throughout the Highlands and steps would have to be taken to obtain Gaelic teachers for these schools. Schools in Gaelic speaking areas should be inspected by Gaelic speaking Inspectors capable of assessing the progress being made in the language. The Committee recommended that an approach be made to the Scottish Education Department. Mr. Donald Thomson asked if, before sending a deputation to the Department, An Comunn were in possession of fresh material as they already knew the attitude of the Department. Mr. Nicolson replied that the whole point exercising the minds of the members was that the teaching of Gaelic in the Primary Schools was not effective. He took it that the E.I.S. were not satisfied on this point either.

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald pointed out that it was laid down that Gaelic "shall be taught" in these areas, and they wanted to bring home to the Department that they were alive to this matter and they wished the Department to do something to implement the requirements. The Committee is prepared to consider the holding of a Summer School of Gaelic if a sufficient number of students apply.

The Minute was adopted.

Minute of Publication Committee was read. It was noted that good progress was being made with the production of the new series of Gaelic Readers. The Committee recommended that steps be taken to gather material for a Glossary of new words and terms with Gaelic equivalents, especially popular and current words for which there exists no generally accepted native Gaelic equivalent. The Committee also recommended that it be authorised, in consultation with the Editor, to appoint a small Magazine Committee to assist the Editor in planning the general policy of the Magazine.

The Rev. T. M. Murchison, Convener, in moving adoption of the Minute referred in detail to the Committee's recommendations.

Mr. John A. Nicolson doubted if it was necessary to form a Magazine Committee and after several members had expressed their views it was resolved to delete the paragraph referring to the Magazine Sub-Committee.

The question of advertisements was raised and it was agreed that an effort be made to increase this source of revenue.

The Minute as amended was adopted.

Minute of meeting of Propaganda Committee was read. The Committee had reconsidered the question of whether Kinlochleven should be included in the Oban or Lochaber Mod areas. Reviewing the question of transport the Committee decided to recommend that those resident in Kinlochleven be allowed to compete at Oban or Fort William, or both. Satisfactory reports of visits to Branches were recorded.

On the motion of Mr. Donald Thomson, Acting Convener, the Minute was adopted.

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald referred to sound films by the M.O.I. and recommended that the Executive should take up the matter of securing Gaelic sound tracks recorded on M.O.I. films showing in the Highlands. The suggestion was adopted.

Minute of meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read. The Committee expressed satisfaction with the arrangements, and progress being made by the Local Mod Committee under the Convenship of Mr. Dugald MacDonald.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, a member of Committee.

Minute of meeting of Clann an Fhraich Committee was read. The Convener Mr. Hector MacDougall, speaking in Gaelic, referred to the generous response made by the Governors of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust to the Committee's application for a new car and assistance to replenish and remove the Camp equipment. The location of the Camp proposed for this summer is still undecided and the Convener and Secretary are to explore possibilities of a suitable camping situation.

The Minute was adopted.

Minute of Special Committee on re-organisation was read. The Committee had reviewed summarised statement of previous findings and made several recommendations regarding re-organisation of Branch membership and grouping on a regional basis. The General Secretary and Northern Organiser were asked to explain these suggestions to the various Branches.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of the President.

The motion with reference to sending the Secretary and a Concert Party on a proposed tour to Canada and the U.S.A., and of which previous notice had been given by Mr. John A. Nicolson, was put to the meeting. Mr. Nicolson, speaking to the motion, said that An Comunn claimed to be the representative of Gaels and the Gaelic speaking people throughout the world and the vast majority of their friends and Gaelic speakers were to be found in every part of the world and particularly in Canada and the U.S.A. No party would be more welcome and such a deputation would add greatly to our prestige. He moved that the Executive should prepare for sending such a deputation during 1946-47.

Dr. Cameron spoke from the point of view of finance. The general expenses of An Comunn were increasing enormously and he suggested that the matter should be deferred until An Comunn was on a better financial basis. Several members spoke and a number of suggestions were put forward. Finally it was agreed to make enquiry as to probable cost and to amend the motion to read as follows: "That the question of sending the Secretary and a Concert Party on a friendly mission to our kinsfolk overseas—Canada and the United States in particular—be investigated forthwith with a view to putting such a proposal into effect."

It was agreed to remit to the Advisory Committee the task of making investigation and that powers be given the Committee to co-opt members for this purpose. The President proposed that Mr. Nicolson be a member and this was agreed to.

The suggestion that a B.B.C. Listening Group be appointed was discussed. Mr. Kenneth MacDonald moved that such a Group be appointed by the Executive Council for the purpose of noting types of programmes broadcast. Mr. Angus Robertson opposed the setting up of such a Group and he was supported by Dr. Cameron. Other members expressed their views and thereafter the Chairman asked for a show of hands. This resulted in an equal division and the President declared the status quo.

The date of the Gaelic meeting of the Executive Council was fixed for Friday, 6th April.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Lorn and Mull Provincial Mod which was to have taken place in Oban, in April, has had to be postponed until 7th June. The reason for this is that the Argyllshire Gathering Hall is undergoing extensive repairs and will not be available until then.

The Kintyre Junior Mod will be held in Campbeltown on 10th May, and the Lochgilphead Junior Mod on 11th June. The Glasgow Mod, promoted by a Joint Committee of the Govan and Glasgow (Central Branches) will be held in the Highlanders' Institute on 31st May and 1st June. As formerly, there will be an informal Ceilidh on Thursday, 30th May. Copies of the syllabus for this Mod may be had from this office, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

Mr. Alasdair Matheson was present at a Ceilidh of the Edinburgh Branch in the Borderers' Union Hall, on 19th January. He was accompanied by Miss Helen T. MacMillan, Mod Gold Medalist. Mr. John MacKay, President, was in the Chair and there was a splendid turn-out of members and friends. The meetings of this Branch have been very successful and this may be taken as a good augury for the success of the Annual Concert to be held on 26th April.

The Stirling Branch had a splendid attendance at their Ceilidh on 18th January. Mrs. Petrine Stewart and Mr. Angus Whyte, Mod Gold Medalists, were present, and helped to sustain an interesting programme. The Gaelic Class conducted by Mr. Kenneth Grant is also proving very successful.

The Ayr Branch continues to have good meetings and the Gaelic Class, although small in numbers, is fostering the spirit desired by the Office-bearers of the Branch.

Mr. Neil MacLean has over 40 pupils taking Gaelic in the Dunoon Grammar School. This Class is under the auspices of the Evening Continuation Class Code.

I presided at a Ceilidh of the Skelmorlie and District Highland Association on 5th February. There was a good attendance, and I had with me Miss Ina MacLellan and Mr. Alasdair Matheson to sustain the Gaelic part of the programme. Mr. D. C. MacLeod, Hon. President, was unable to be present, but Mr. Malcolm Ramsay, the President, was his usual genial self and helping to promote good fellowship.

On 9th February I presided over the weekly Concert of the Paisley Highlanders' Association. The attendance at these Saturday night meetings is being well maintained, and the Gaelic side of the programme is always well represented. The Misses Helen and Margaret MacMillan were the Gaelic artists on this occasion.

Under the auspices of the Evening Continuation Class Code a most successful Gaelic Class is being conducted by the Rev. A. C. MacGillivray, minister of St. Columba's Church, Paisley.

I attended, along with Mrs. Barron and Mr. Graham, General Treasurer, a meeting of the Aros Club Committee in Greenock on the evening of 11th February. There was a good attendance of members, and the Rev. J. M. MacLeod, Convener, presided. Satisfactory reports were given by the local Secretary and Treasurer.

Full use is being made of the Club by members of the Royal and Merchant Navies and by the Wrens whose own Club has closed down. The facilities for reading, writing, and recreation, afforded by the Club are very much appreciated. It is expected that the Naval Base at Greenock will close down very soon, and when this takes place there will be no call for a continuance of the Aros Club. A further meeting of the local Committee will be held early in April.

An ni nach cluinn thu an diugh chan aithris thu am màireach.—What you do not hear to-day you will not report tomorrow.

Is fhiaich deagh sgeul a h-aithris a rithist.—A good story is worth repeating.

Measair an t-amadan glic ma chumas e theanga.—The fool may pass for wise if he holds his tongue.

VICTORY MOD.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Aberdeen, 24th to 27th September, 1946.

The prospects of a successful gathering at Aberdeen in September of this year are very encouraging. The Local Committee are working strenuously towards this end, and the various Sub-Committees are leaving no stone unturned to attain the maximum result from their efforts.

On 9th February a Coffee Morning was held, for which about 250 tickets were disposed of a week in advance. A Highland Ball to be held in the Northern Hotel on 22nd March is sure to attract a large attendance. Tickets (price one guinea each) may be had from Mr. James MacLeod, Local Secretary, 101 Hilton Street, or from members of Committee. In addition to these outstanding attractions, Whist Drives, Jumble Sales, a series of Plays, etc., are being arranged, and the aggregate result of these is sure to produce a substantial amount towards the Mod Fund.

The Joint Committee of the Glasgow Branches are supporting the appeal for funds and are likely to make a generous contribution.

O 's tu 's gur a tu th' air m' aire.—Is e so an t-òran mu dheireadh a sheinear ann an deuchainn nam hoirionnach air son Bonn Oir a' Mhòid an Ohaireadhain. Seinnidh na mnathan e so agus oran eile a roghnaicheas iad fhein. Bidh na comharran a choisneas a' cheud sia as mò a gheihh san Oran Mhòr, agus an òran comhfharpais Sheumais Ghrand, air an cur an ceann a chéile còmhla ris na comharran a choisneas iad sa' chomhfharpais so (45 an Clar-Iomairt a' Mhòid), agus is e an t-éas as mò a choisneas de chomharran unnta uile a gheihh Bonn Snaicheartais Oir a' Mhòid—'se sin, Bonn Oir nam han.

'Se òran gaol a tha an so. Chan 'eil long air cò a rinn e ; ach tha e 'na òran gaol cho eudmhor agus cho drùidhteach 's a tha againn ann an Gàidhlig. Tha an t-séis agus a' cheud trì rann cho cothromach agus cho math 's a dh' iarrach duine ann an òran gaol—hlàth, beò-choibhinn, tuigseach agus taitneach—ach cha lu mhiseid e ged bhiodh an rann mu dheireadh air fhàgail as. Is e ni a tha cu-comasach tachairt a tha san rann so, agus is e droch al, agus comharra air droch caladhain, a tha an sin ; cainnt spleadhach nach còir a seinn. Ach tha e' cluid eile de 'n òran taitneach agus tiamaidh, air a lasadh le teas ghràdh. So, ma tha, an t-òran:—

O 'S TU 'S GUR A TU TH' AIR M' AIRE.

AM FONN BRO F. M. NIC GILLE MHOIRE.

GLEUS Ab.

Séist

{ (s.) : s, l | d : r, m : d, l | s : m : m | m : r, m : s, m | r : m }
O 's tu 's gur a tu th' air m' aire, O 's tu 's gur a tu th' air m' aire,

{ s : l, s | s : m, r : d, l | s : d, f, m, s | m : r, t : d, t, l : l : l }
'S tu fhéin a robh 'na tigh-nàn dlùth fainear dhomh, 's gur goirt mo shùgradh o'n dh'fhàg thu'm baile.

'S tric a bha sinn fo gàil an eilich!
Ann an smùdan¹ an lùih an t-seilich,
Bàrr an fhraoch dhùinn 'na choinneillean geala,
Is féidh a' mhònaidh 'nan luchd faire.
O's tu 's gur a tu, etc.

An oidheche bhà sinn air èird an fhìrich²,
Bu leam do phògan 'n le deòin do mhìre,
An lùih do hìreacain gun d' rinn mi suidhe;
'S gum h'fhèar do chòmhradh na òr na cruinne,
O's tu 's gur a tu, etc.

¹ Eilich = creige, sean Gàidhlig *aiteach* = creag.

² smùdan = duhhar chraohh.

Thug thu'n ear dhìom is thug thu'n iar dhìom,
Thug thu ghealach is thug thu ghrian dhìom,
Is thug thu 'n crìdhe a bha 'nam chlàidh dhìom;
Cha mhòr, a ghaol, nach d' thug 's mo Dhia dhìom.
O's tu 's gur a tu, etc.

Ach ged a rohh mi fo 'n fhòid am màireach,
An leabaidd leasail fo leacaidh bàna,
Is mi gum dèisgeadh le brachd slànthe
Na'n tigeadh gaolán⁴ 's e shuidhe làmh rium.
O's tu 's gur a tu, etc.

³ fhìrich = mòinteach.

⁴ gaolán = fear mo ghaol.

F.D.

Buidheachas.—Tha mòran ri ar làimh—gu h-àraidh de bhàrachd—nach urrainn *An Gàidheal* a thoirt leis air a' mhòs so, ged h'hioidh miann na caillich sa' chruaich mhònach aige, mar a thà. Tha sinn an comain nam hard agus

ar cairdean eile. Chi iad ri tìde toradh an saothrach an achlais a' *Gàidheal*. Agus rud eile, chi iad gun do chuir so suigeart 'na cheum.—F-d.

AIR AN DUTHAICH.

Tha sinn a nis aig toiseach an earrach ach cò shaoileadh sin! Bho 'n a thainig ann mìos so a stigh bha side glé fhliuch is stoirmeil againn—gu dearbh bha i mar sin hho toiseach na bliadhna. Tha sinn tric gu leor gun na litrichean fhaighinn leis nach urrainn do'n bhàta am port fhàgail, agus air uairean chan fhaigh sinn 'rations' air an là as àbhaist. 'Nuair a thachras so cuinnidh sibh gearran ag duine no dhà leis gun do rholh an slucar dhaibh tillan aiseidh is luath, no theagamh an t-im no an ti!

Cò-dhùibh, bha geamhradh glé fhosgaithe againn fhathast agus tha an sreud uile ann an suidheachadh maith. Cho fad 's nach tigh sneachd is rothadh mar a thainig mun àm so an uiridh cha bhìi son reusan-gearain ann.

Gum teagamh tha a h-uile àite 'na cabar leis na hh' ann de dh' uisge agus cha b' uilear dhuibh Wellingtons a lhi oirbh arann dol fheadh slat hho 'n tigh. Chan 'eil na rataidhean againn maith cò-dhùibh—'s gann a theireadh sibh rataidhean

riù—agus ri side mar so tha iad dìreach sgreataidh. Tha sinn còrr is sia mìle bho cheann an rathaid mhòir 's e sin a dol mu dheas—agus thairis air naoi mìle bho 'n 'station' far am bheil an rathad mòr a' toiseachadh air an taobh eile.

Tha sin ag cur 'nam chumhne an cruinneachadh a' bh' againn aig a' Bhliadhna Uir agus mar a choisich mu fhichead duine—fir is nigheanan—thairis air sia mìle dh' ionnsaigh an dannsa. Bha a' cheart astar aca ri dhol dhachaidh 'nuair a sgoail sinn air còig uairean 'sa mhaduinn ach ma bha, cha rohh ann aithreachas orra gun d' thug iad sgrìob cho fada. Gu fortanach bha oidheche bhrèagha ann agus ràinig a h-uile duine a tigh fhein aig seachd uairean sa mhaduinn, a cheart cho tioram agus a bha e 'ga fhàgail ag beul na h-oidheche—air an taobh a muigh cò-dhùibh! Ged a tha sinn ann an àite iomallach an so bha còrr is 80 duine air a' Bhàl agus chaidh oidheche ghrinn a chur seachad le dannsadh is òrain. Leis gur h-é a' Bhliadhna Uir a bh' ann bha dràm no dhà a' dol, agus cha lu mhiseid duine sam bith sin. Bha e 'na chòis-ìoghaidh dhùinn cho pailt agus a bha an luchd ciùil—sann

a bha sianar phobairean ann, triuir fhidhleirean, fear a' chluicheadh air a' bhosa agus dithis a' chluicheadh am piana. Tha mi de 'n beachd nach ann tric a tha na h-uibhir sin còmhla aig damna anns na h-àiteachan so.

B' iad na seann dannsaidhean a bh' againn cha mhòr uile, agus chaidh iomadh boinne falluis a chall air an tàilleamh. Tha mi toilichte a ràdh gur h-i a' Ghàidhlig a' chànan nàdurra aig neart dha na bha cruinn an oidhech ud—tha mi ag creidsinn nach robh ann thar dusan aig nach robh i gu coimhionta.

Ged a choisicheas daoine a leithid a dh' astar a dh' ionnsaigh Bal mar sin, chan ann tric a ni iad e, agus tha fhios nach 'eil coire ri chur orra.

Nam biodh rathad mòr a' tighinn cho fada ris an àite, dheanadh e feum uamhasach ann an iomadh dòigh. Bheireadh e tuille misnich do dhaoine fuireach san àite nan robh fhios aca nach ruigeadh iad a leas bhi an eisimeil bàta airson faighinn air falbh.

Nuair a bhiteas sinn ag cur sreud do 'n mhargadh tha sinn am feum an tigh fhàgail leò aig aon uair deug an là roimh 'n àm, agus bidh sinn neart de 'n là air an rathad mu 'n rug sinn an 'station'; bidh iad ri chur air an trèine an oidhech sin fhéin, agus bidh iad an sin gu maduinn.

Ma theid gnòthuichean gu math ruigidh iad am margadh anns a' Ghearsadan uaireigin roimh mheadhon là, agus theid an reic. Ma 's e àm a' gheamhraidh a th'ann bidh e dorcha mus faigh sinn de 'n trèine—is sinn dol dhachaidh, agus bidh sràid glé fhada againn mus bi sinn 'nar tighnean fein aig aon-uair deug a dh' oidhech. Seallaibh a nis an goireas agus an t-socair a bhiodh ann dhuinn fein agus do na bheathaichean nam biodh rathad ann, agus gum faigheadh làraidh chun an tìghe. Cha ruigeadh a leas an tigh fhàgail gu maduinn na Faidhreach, agus dh' fhaodadh bhì aig an tìghe a ris trath san fheasgar gum bhì oidhech air falbh idir. A' bharrachd air sin bhiodh coitas fada na b' fheàrr air an stoc nuair a rachadh an reic, agus nan tacrachd gum biodh a' phris ro dhona dh' fhaodadh duine a' chuid bheathaichean a 'thoir dhachaidh gun an reic idir. Mar a tha cùisean an drèda 'sann fìor uair ainneam as fhiach do dhuine sin a' dheanamh,—s' fheàrr an reic air prìs bhòch na bhì ris an dragh agus ris a' chosgais 'gan toirt dhachaidh.

Their feadhainn ruinn—"tha sibh a' cheart cho math gun an rathad mòr a bh' againh, cha deanadh e ach an t-hìte a mhlèadh; seallaibh cho math agus a bha daoine a' faighinn air adhart roimhe na gun aca ach an casan fein agus bàtaichean beaga airson an toirt air falbh bhò 'n tìghe"—agus mar sin air adhart. Fhadaidh sin a bhì ceart gu leòr ach tha gnòthuichean air an atharrachadh a nis agus an rud a dh' fhoghainn an é, chan fhoghainn e an diugh idir.

Chan 'eil mi ag ràdh nach robh na daoine, a bha beò ann an àiteachan iomallach mar tha so bhò chionn leth-cheud no tuille bhliadhnaich na bu toilichte na tha slugh an là 'n diugh, agus tha mi làn-chinnteach gum robh iad na bu chruaidhalach agus na b' fhallaine. Bha iad a tighinn beò air toradh an àite, agus 'se glé bheag a dh' fheumadh iad fhaighinn dhachaidh. Bha teaghlachan mòra ann agus soillidh mi gun robh iad na bu dìchiollaiche na tha iad a nis—bha iad ag obreachadh a h-uile mìr dhe 'n talamh, 'ga leasachadh le inear is feamainn, agus thigeadh bàrr dheth nach fhaic sibh an diugh. Bha a ris an cuan mòr ri 'n taobh agus am palteas éisg ri fhaighinn le beagan saothrach.

Bha luchd-cèirde a' fuireach anns a' bhaile—figheadairean, greusaichean, tàillearean 's an leithid, agus gheibheadh duine aodach math agus cais-bheart air glé bheag cosgais. Bhiodh na mnathan ri sniomh, agus bha a h-uile calanais eile, agus chumadh iad aodach ris a' chloinn aca gun a bh' ceannach ach glé bheag.

A nis chan 'eil thar triuir san àite a chuireas cuibheall-shiomh an gréum, agus chan 'eil aon fhear-cèirde mar mhiltean dhuinn. Tha an slugh air fàs cho annamh, agus an talamh air dol air ais, agus nach 'eil e idir furasda do dhuine a' bheò a dheanamh ann.

Tha sinn ag cluinntinn gum bheil mòran ag iarraidh na bailtean mòra fhàgail agus an dachaidh a dheanamh air an dòthaich agus tha sin còltach gu leòr, ach chan 'eil mi a' smaointeachadh gum bheil mòran a thigeadh do dh' àite mar so gun rathad, agus gum ghroisean eile, a chleachd iad san bailtean.

Faigheamaid tìghean car math anns am bi tuille 's dh' sheòmar, uisge a stigh gun a bhì am feum dol theaghamh ceud slat chun an tobar, agus goireas no dhà eile, agus an uair sin fadcaidh gum bi na daoine a th' ann nas toilichte fuireach san àite, agus fadchann eile tighinn an àite na feadhach a dh' fhalbh cheana. GRAHAM CROLL

EADAR SINN FHEIN.

Dear Sir,—An Comunn is considering the publication of new books, including school text-books. This appears to provide an opportunity of reducing to one form those troublesome *eu* and *ia* spellings of the same word e.g. *ceutach*, *ciatach*. The former is said to be 'south and standard,' the latter 'north and dialectic.' The matter is not so simple as that, and poets (both north and south) use either form to suit rhyme schemes.

I suggest that in these parallel forms, we should now revert to the older *ea*, e.g. we should drop both *ceud* and *ciad* and write *ead*; *neal* for *neul*, *nial*, etc.

Uniformity in spelling does not, of course, guarantee uniformity in pronunciation. Thus *far* (grass) and *far* (askew), have different vowel sounds; and while all write *dèan*, there are various pronunciations of the word.

The proposed reform involves only one letter, but it would be a real service to writers and teachers of Gaelic. All those interested might indicate approval or disapproval to the Editor, who, I am sure, will be glad to summarise the correspondence.—CEAG MÌTOR.

Sidhchridh.

A' Charaid,—Am faod mi cur ris na tha ann an *Gaidheal* a' Ghearrain air an fhacal againn gum bheil facal cosmhuil a' togail a chinn ann an Tàin Bo Cualnge?

Nuair a bha Chuchullain a' cath ri Ferdiaid, agus e 'na dhubb éigin, smaointich e air a chaireadan-sith, agus air ball bha dithis dhiubh 'g a chobhair. Chan fhaca Ferdiaid na daoine-sith, ach mthòthaich e gum robh triuir 'na aghaidh, agus ars esan:—

"Tha 'do caraid *shidhchuire*-si!' gad chuideachadh a' Chuchullain.' Agus a ribist, 'Chunnaic 'na *sidhcairi*' Chuchullain air a leonadh 'ce.' Tha am facal so beò an Gaidhlig Eireannach an diugh 's a chumadh *sìoth-chuire* (*fairytroop*: *cuire*=*band*, *beck*, *troop*, *host*).

Is dòcha gur e so am facal againe Sidhchridh. Foadar—*achd* a chur ris, agus an sin tha againn am facal a thug Mgr. Pursell far comhair; ach tha 'sìoth-chuire' leis fhinn nas dlùithe air sidhchridh. Mar sin tha 'n chaidh e do 'n t-sidhchridh' a' ciallachadh—*His gons to the Fairies, Fairyland, Fairy* no a leithid sin, agus tha a h-uile ciall eile a' th' aige a' leantainn.—Le meas, H. COMYNS MITTLAND.

14 Grosvenor Crescent,
Edinburgh, 5 Gearran, 1946.

Uasal Ionmhuinn,—Your note on *finich* in "John Campbell" overlooks several points.

- (1) *finich* associates with *minic*: the stressed vowel is clearly short, and the poet had too good an ear to rhyme *minic* with *finiach*. The latter word, with variants *finiach* and *finiach*, is well known in Lewis; but I fancy that, if Donnchadh Bàn kenw this grass, he would have noted it in "*Coire a' Chealchaidh*" or in "*Oran an t-Samhraidh*."
- (2) Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair has *finichd* (jet) in his Vocabulary; we find it in MacAlpine and MacBain; *cho dubh ri finichd* is quoted by Dwelly and MacLennan. The forms *finich*, *finiche*, *finichd*, *finic* are confusing, but not surprising.
- (3) Rev. Robert Kirk, who was not unknown in Balquhidder, includes *finnic* in his Vocabulary, and here we are close to the Donnchadh Bàn country.

Sir,—After six months back here in the Gaidhealtachd I should like, in view of the delightful encouragement of any language except our own, to offer two prizes of £1 and 10s. for the best translation (to be adjudicated by Eabhann MacDhughail) of the following French sentence: "*Quand un peuple tombe esclave, s' il tient sa langue, il tient la clé que de ses chaînes le délivre.*"

This means "When a race is enslaved, if it keeps its language, it retains the key of its deliverance."

This original idea should appeal equally to the teachers of languages hardly still of paramount importance, but of intrinsic value.—Is mise le meas, ALEXANDER M'KECHNE

Dunheanish House,

Oban, Argyll, 5th February, 1946.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

To enable An Comunn to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign now that the war is over, 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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An Gaidheal



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
AN COMUNN GÀIDHEALACH

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Leabhar XLI.]

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[Earrann 7

BIADH IS BEOSHLAINT.

Bha an seanfhacal ag ràdh: Cha daor am biadh ma gheibhear e. Is e sin an cunnart as motha an diugh, nach 'eil am biadh ànn r' a cheannach. Tha e furasda thuigsinn nach 'eil am biadh pailte, cho luath is so an deidh a' chogaidh, san Eòrpa agus anns na ceàrnaidhean eile a bha air am milleadh le sgrìos cogaidh. Ach chan e sin a mhàin a rinn an cron, ach gun robh fìor dhroch fhoghar an ceàrnaidhean eile far an do chleachd bàrr maith cruithneachd a bhith. Dh' fhàg, ma tha, an dà chuid so—sgrìos cogaidh is cion àiteachadh an cois sin, agus droch fhoghar air a' bhliadhna a chaidh ann an cuid de dhùthchannan na cruithneachd—dh' fhàg sin an saoghal an diugh ann an cunnart gainne bidh.

Chan e nach 'eil cuid de dhùthchannan ann, anns a bheil biadh pailt gu leòr mura biodh an urra riutha ach muinntir na dùthcha sin fhéin, ach tha an éighe riutha à dhùthchannan eile idè cobhair a dheanamh orra-san 'nan airc. Chaidh a dhèanamh faicsinneach agus soilleir do 'n t-saoghal aig còmhhdail mhòr U.N.O. an Lunnainn, aig tòiseach an earrach so chaidh, gu bheil na tha de bhìadh sin t-saoghal air an àm gann gu leòr, ged dhèante roinn a' mhic 's an athar air eadar rìoghachdan is dùthchannan an domhain gu léir. Chan e sin a mhàin ach tha cunnart mòr gun éirich gort ann an cuid de dhùthchannan, mar a tha India, agus feadhainn de dhùthchannan na h-Eòrpa. Agus an cois goirte bidh tha plàighean tinne's gu minic ag éirigh; agus ma thachras sin, tha e buailteach gun sgaol a' phlàigh feadh an t-saoghail.

* * * *

Tha, mar sin, gairm ris na h-uile, iad a bhith faiceallach air a' bhìadh a th' aca—gun ana-caitheamh no mì-mheas a dhèanamh air gnè bidh sam bith a th' aca. Cha chòir a bhith tàrmusach mu bhìadh sam bith, agus an saoghal 'na leithid a shuidheachadh a thaobh bidh. Fhad 's a tha daoine a' faighinn am beòshlaint de bhìadh fallain sam bith cha chòir a bhith tàrmusach. Is fheàrr biadh sam. bith nan

t-acras. An duirt an seanfhacal: Cha dean goile acrach casaid air biadh. Agus a reithist: Is maith an còcair an t-acras. Tha mi ag creidsinn nach 'eil mòran a theireadh gur h-e biadh càilmhor a tha ann am fuarag eòrna, ach bu chàilmhor i do mhac an Treas Rìgh Raibeart, Alasdair Stiùbhart Iarla Mharr, agus e 'ga tholladh leis an acras. Bha e fo 'n choill an Loch Abar, agus Domhnall Ballach air an ruag a chur air ann am blàr saig Inbhir Lòchaidh (1451). Thachair bean bhochd ris an Gleann Ruaidh, agus dh' iarr e biadh oirre agus e gu bhith marbh leis an acras. Thuirt i ris nach robh aice de bhìadh an domhain ach làn an duirn de mhìn eòrna, agus thug i sin dha. Shuidh e air bruaich an uillt—Allt Achadh na Beithich—agus thug e dheth a bhròg agus rinn e fuarag dheth an sàil a bhròg. An deidh dha ithe thubhairt e:

Is maith an còcair an t-acras
'S maig a rinn tarceis air biadh,
Fuarag eòrna an sàil mo bhròige
Bìadh a b' fheàrr a fhuair mi riannh.

Tha, ma tha, an éighe ruinne air a' Ghaidhealtachd, mar ann an àitean eile, a bhith cùramach mun bhìadh a th' againn, agus gun a bhith tàrmusach mu bhìadh sam bith.

* * * *

Tha gairm eile ri tuathanaich, agus ris a h-uile seòrsa luchd-fearainn, iad am barrachd àiteachaidh a dhèanamh air an earrach so. Is mór an cuideachadh a rinn na bhatar a' dèanamh de dh' àiteach ris an rìoghachd agann fhein ri linn a' chogaidh. Bha leis an sin, daoine air an dùthaich, mòran a b' fheàrr dheth na muinntir nam bailtean mòra a thaobh bidh; agus bha a' Ghaidhealtachd cho maith dheth ri ceàrnaidh sam bith eile de 'n rìoghachd. Is ann tha mise de 'n bheachd nach robh ceàrnaidh air bith eile de 'n rìoghachd cho maith dheth ris a' Ghaidhealtachd.

Is còir, ma tha, do na Gaidheil a nis—agus fhios gum bi cùisean cruaidh a thaobh bidh air son bliadhna no dhà eile co-dhiubh—is còir dhaibh na ghabhas dèanamh a chur de gach pòr, agus gu h-àraidh de na

pòran sin as fheumaile dhaibh-san air son bidh, mar a tha bunntàta gu sonraichte. Cha bhì acras air duine fhad 's a bhios bunntàta aige—agus, a theagamh, annlan éisg leis.

Tha coirce is eòrna feumail cuideachd ma 'se 's gum bi cùisean cho cruaidh 's gun tig air daoine feum a dheanamh dhiubh—'se sin am bleith air son mine. Ach ged nach rachadh am bleith idir tha an dà phòr so feumail a chum spréidh a bheathachadh. Agus tha e ro iomchuidh cuideachd na ghabhas dèanamh de fheur a chaoineachadh fa chomhair 's gheamhraidh do 'n spréidh. Tha, a rithist, càl agus currain agus luibhean gàraidh eile ro fheumail, agus is e an t-amadan air an dùthaich a nì dearmad orra-san.

Ach an deidh maith na bà 's a mheanbh-chruaidh, is e na cearcan creutairean cho feumail 's a bha ànn ri linn a' chogaidh; agus thà, agus bithidh, iad sin fhathast ma gheibh iad an àite is an cuibhrionn fhéin. Bha móran air 's Ghaidhealtachd—gus an tàinig an cogadh fhéin—nach robh a' toirt an àite dlùgheach do na cearcan, ach chunnaic iad an uair sin cho feumail 's a tha iad. Chan 'eil beathach beò eile timchioll tìghe as fhéarr a phàigheas do dhuine na a' chear na tha i de threubh cheart, agus ma tha i a' faotainn ceartais a thaobh blàthais is beathachaidh. Is fhìach coirce is eòrna a thogail ged nach biodh ànn ach beathachadh nan cearc fhéin.

* * * *

Ma nì na Gaidheil an t-àiteach as còir dhaibh—agus gun leud na coise fhàgail bàn—chan eagal gum bi cùisean nas cruaidhe orra na bha iad ri linn a' chogaidh a thaobh bidh; agus tha fhios aca fhéin nach robh aobhar gearain aca an uair sin. Mura dèan iad sin, is iongantach mura bi gainne orra, agus mura bi cùisean gu maith dòlum. Ma bhios a' ghainne arain ann, a tha an Rìaghaltas ag ràdh a bhitheas air an t-saoghal, chan fhaighear r' a cheannach an rud nach 'eil ann; agus an duirt an seanfhacal: Is maith a' bhean-tìghe a bheir a nuas an rud nach 'eil shuas. Ach ma chuirear fo àiteach gach ceap a ghabhas àiteach bidh rud sig daoine fhéin an uair sin air 's Ghaidhealtachd—biadh fallain a dh' éirich riutha fhéin,—agus bidh beòshlaint mhaith aca a dh' àindec gainne ann an ceàrnaidhean eile de 'n t-saoghal. Agus bithidh an seanfhacal eile aca fhéin air a choimhlionadh d' an taobh: Mar as gainne am biadh 's ann as fial a roinn; agus bidh gné nan Gaidheil a thaobh falaidheach is aoigheachd air a riarachadh, eadhon an àm gainne an t-saoghail mhóir, agus bidh e fìor d' an taobh-san gur fhéarr iomall a' phailteis na teismeadh na 'ghanntair.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

An rud nach cluinn cluas cha ghluais cridhe. —Tha cinnich an t-saoghail glé an-fhoiseil bho sguir an cogadh. Tha sin, ann an seagh, nàdurach gu leòr. Bha an cogadh cho uamhasach agus gun do chriothnaich e bunaiten an domhain, agus dòigh

tighinn-beò nan uile chinneach. Chan 'eil nì mar a bha e roimh an chogadh. Ach is ann tha bhochdainn ann an dràsda gu bheil seorsa de dh' fhéicheanas am measg nan Rìoghachdan Aonaichte fhéin, agus gu h-àraidh eadar Russia air an dara làimh agus Breatainn is America air an làimh eile. Chan 'eil eadhon am blàth-eadaras, agus an aonachd sheasmhach, bu chòir eadar Breatainn agus Stàitean Aonaichte America—co-dhiùbh sòlaidh duine so leis an t-seorsa bruidhinn a bhios aig cuid de dhaoine.

Ach tha fhios nach 'eil an so ach mar a tha daoine gu h-àrd-labhrach an dràsda; agus an nì a labhrar an aon oisean de 'n t-saoghal sa' mhaduinn tha e air aithris a rithist—agus gu tric chan ann mar a labhradh e—air an fheasgar feadh an t-saoghail uile. Eadar an Radio agus na paipearan-naidheachd chan 'eil nì cruthaichte a nis an uaigneas; tha gach nì a labhras fear am Mosco air éiseachd am bagan uairean a thìde am Bèarnaraidh 's am Barraidh, cho maith ri ann an Lunnainn.

Tha mise de 'n bharail gur h-e an t-àrd-labhradh so am measg dhaoine móra an t-saoghail a tha fàgail an t-saoghail cho an-fhoiseil, agus cho mì-riaraichte 's a thà e. Is iomadh rud a smoinneas duine air, nach còir éigheach air na cnuic. Ach sin mar a tha cùisean an t-saoghail agus gnothaichean chinneach an diugh—chan 'eil nì diomhair, no an uaigneas, ach 'ga éigheach feadh an domhain uile. Tha sin a' fàgail cuid de dhaoine an-fhoiseil. Tha an fhìrinn fhéin, le bhith 'ga h-éigheach air na cnuic, uaireanan sàraichte, agus eadhon searbh. Cha bu mhisde an saoghal ge do sguireadh cuid a dhaoine de an àrd-bhruidhinn oir an rud nach cluinn cluas cha ghluais cridhe.

* * * *

Tiugainn dhachaidh.—Bha an seanfhacal ag radh: “Mo chuid fhéin, mo bhean fhéin, is tiugainn dhachaidh, na trì facail as blaisde th' ann.” Tha na ceudan an dràsda a' tilleadh air ais an deidh a' chogaidh, à feachdan an Rìgh, a tha faighinn ‘tiugainn dhachaidh’ nas blaisde is nas mìlse na nì sam bith eile a chluinneas iad. Is ann an uair tha daoine air falbh bho 'n dachaidh a thuigeas iad luach, agus blàths, agus seasgairachd, na dachaidh. Sin an t-aon àite a mhàin anns am faigh gach duine—ge b' e dé an gné dhuine bhios ànn—sin an t-aon àite a mhàin ann sam faigh gach duine làn fhois agus fìor sheasgairachd—far a bheil gràdh is coibhneas is aobhneas luchd a ghaoil.

Tha, ma tha, a nis an deidh a' chogaidh agus iad a' faighinn an saorsa, gillean agus nigeanan, anns gach ceàrnaidh de 'n t-saoghal ann an robh iad ri linn a' chogaidh, ag ràdh riutha fhéin, agus ri each a chéile: Tiugainn dhachaidh.

Tha fàilte is dì-beatha romhpa aig an dachaidh. Cha dean e muthadh sam bith cruth na dachaidh sin—biodh i mór no beag, àrd no ìosal—tha i aobhneas is saobhir le gràdh na th' innte. Chan 'eil fhios có as aobhniche, iadsan a th' aig an tigh, no iadsan a tha tighinn dhachaidh.

Is iomadh rud a chunnaic, agus a chuala, iadsan a bha air falbh sa' chogaidh, agus is iomadh fiosrachadh agus eadhon fulangas troimh 'n tàinig iad, anns gach dùthaich chéin agus neónach anns an robh iad. Bidh oghaichean is iaroghaichean nan gillean is nan nigheanan ud ag ràdh ris na ginealaichean ata ri teachd, gun robh an seanair no an seanamhair-san ann an India, no san Eiphit, no am Palestin, no an Innis Tìle, no an iomadach àite eile, ri linn a' chogaidh mhóir mu dheireadh. Bidh feadhainn nach fhac a' Ghearmailt no an Eadailt no na h-àitean ud a dh' ainmich mi, gu maith eòlach unnta le bhith cluinntinn mu 'n deidhinn bho an athraichean, no bho màthraichean.

Cuimhnichemaid sin, ma tha, an dràsda—gu bheil iadsan a tha tighinn dhachaidh as gach ceàrn de 'n t-saoghal an deidh a' chogaidh, gu bheil iad làn eòlais agus fiosrachaidh mu dheidhinn iomadh àite, agus iomadh cleachdadh neónach, agus thugamaid dhaibh eòlas air gach nì maith agus maiseach, air gach cleachdadh glan agus gleusda, a bha air a' n-athraichean—nithean pailt cho maith, agus mar as tric mòran nas fhèarr na tha an àite sam bith eile air an t-saoghal. Is mise bha thall 's a chunnaic. Tha, mata, so a' toirt am barrachd aobhneis dhaibh-san a tha tighinn dhachaidh—agus fhios aca air na chunnaic iad, agus cuimhne aca air na tha romhpa. Is iad a dh' fhaodas a ràdh :

So agaibh an obair bheir togail do' m' chridh,'

Bhith stiùradh mo chasan do' m' dhachaidh bhig fhìn

Aig crìochnachadh saothair an là dhomh.

Gu dearbh tha an t-òran "Mo Dhachaidh" ro fhreagarach a bhith air bilean na tha ri tighinn dhachaidh. Mura bi e 'nam bilean bidh e 'nan cridheachan. Is e òran tlachdmhor is taitneach a tha san òran so co-dhiùbh, a réir a ghné chan 'eil òran eile againn a bheir bàrr air, agus e freagrach air neach sam bith a their : Tiugainn dhachaidh.

Tha cuimhne agam, nuair a dh' adhlac sinn a' Bhana Ghaidheal ussal agus òirdhearc sin, a' Bhean Burnley Caimbeul Ormadail, gun do chluich am plobair aice am port so, Mo Dhachaidh, air a' phlob, agus sinn 'ga giùlan chun a' chlaidh an Ormadail.

Tiugainn dhachaidh! gu tìr ar sinnsear agus gu luchd ar gaol, agus fa-dheòidh eadhon gu ùir ar n-athraichean.

Chan ionghnadh idir ge do bhiodh an tìr sin, agus a cànan, agus a ceol, agus a creideamh, mùirneach againne—Gaidhealtachd ar gaol, tìr ar daoine—agus ar dachaidh.

* * * * *
Fàilte a' chruidh.—'Se sin gnùst san dol seachad. Is e thug so 'nam chuimhne gun robh mi air chéilidh an oidhche roimhe air mo charaid Fear Bhàrr Chrich shuas am Bràighe an so. Tha mo charaid cho làn de sheann eachdradh na Gaidhealtachd, agus de sheann rudan eile a bhùneas do na Gaidheil, 's a tha an t-ugh de 'n bhiaidh. Bha sinn an oidhche so a' bruidhinn air spréidh, mar as tric a bhà, agus gu sonraichte air a' phrìs mhór a bh' air crodh aig féill

Pheairt goirid roimh an sud. Is e an tarbh a fhuair a' phris a thug bàrr air prìs an t-saoghail mhóir air tarbh gus an sud, a thog ar seachas. Dh' aontaich sinn le chéile gum b' uamhasach a' phris ceithir mìle deug is cóig ceud gini (14,500), no cóig mìle deug dà cheug is cóig ar fhichead pundo Sasannach (£15,225), air aon bheathach cruidh, air fheabhas. Agus a ris ceithir mìle deug (14,000) gini air tarbh eile an ath là an deidh sin. Bha sinn ag ràdh gum b' e an dà tharbh air faiche iad. Tha mi ag creidsinn nach fhacas dà tharbh dh' an leithid ri taobh a chéile bho chuir an Donn Cualnge agus Fionn Beannach faile a' chruidh, air a chéile, agus a mharbh an Donn Cualnge Fionn Beannach mar a tha e air innse dhuinn ann an sreulach Tàin Bó Chualnge.

"A bheil cuimhne agaibh," arsa mise ri mo charaid, "air a' bhruidhinn na bha eadar an tarbh Gaidhealach agus an tarbh Gallda?" "Chan 'eil mi smaoinichadh gu bheil," deir esan. "Thubhairt, ma tha, an tarbh Gaidhealach":

'S ann air an druim fhraoich a rugadh mi,

'S ann air an druim fhraoich a rugadh mi,

'S ann air an druim fhraoich a rugadh mi,

'S air bainne bó gaol a thogadh mi.

Fhreagair an tarbh Gallda:—

Air làr an tigh mhóir a rugadh mi,

Air làr an tigh mhóir a rugadh mi,

Air làr an tigh mhóir a rugadh mi,

'S air mìl 's air beòir 's air fìon 's air feoir a thogadh mi.

Thoisich iad ri sabaid, agus ma thòisich cha do sguir iad gus an do mharbh an tarbh Gaidhealach an tarbh Gallda.

"Seadh," arsa mo charaid, "agus an cuala sibh fhéin fàilte bó na beinne air bó na bàthach?" "Ma chuala cha chuimhne leam," arsa mise.

Arsa bó na beinne ri bó na bàthach:—

Mù-ó, cìod e do bhiaidh?

Mu-ó, fiar is fodar, fhreagar ise.

Arsa bó na bàthach ri bó na beinne:

Mù-ó cìod e do bhiaidh?

Mù-ó, cìob is ceanchain, fhreagar ise.

Có dh' innseas dhomh dé an seòrsa feoir a th' ann an ceanchain?

* * * *

Ceàrnag nan Gaidheil.—So ainm a tha air duilleig a tha ann am paipear a bhios caraid ag cur chugam á California—paipear ris an canar *The Maple Leaf*—dà-mhiosach, no paipear a tha tighinn a mach a h-uile dà mhìos. Is e naidheachdan mu na Gaidheil, agus mu ghnothaichean a bhùneas do na Gaidheil, air taobh sìar America agus Chanaada a bhios air an duilleig so. Glé thrìc bidh nithean geur, agus eadhon leamh, ann a thaobh nan Gaidheil is an cànan aig an tigh; ach mar as trice is e an fhìrinn a th' ann, ged tha an fhìrinn air uaireanan searbh.

So rud a thatar ag ràdh, sa' cheàrnag so, anns an àireamh mu dheireadh a thainig chugam: "Tha na Gaidheil a' toirt cuideachadh do 'n Bheurla gach là sa' bhliadhna; ceannaichidh na Gaidheil leabhar Beurla,

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

agus paipair Beurla, ach cha toir iad seachad dà sgillinn chum paipair Gaidhlig a bhith aca !”

Agus, an àite eile, tha e ag ràdh : “ Ma bhios sibh an dèidh air deagh Ghaidhlig a leughadh carson nach sgrìobh sibh dh' ionnsaigh Rùnair a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich aig 131 *West Regent Street*, an Glaschu, Albainn, agus iarr air *An Gaidheal* a chur do 'r n-ionnsaigh gun dàil. Tha pris a' phaipair luachmhor so, dà sgillinn. Gheibh sibh am mìosachan so, *An Gaidheal*, fad bliadhna airson trì tasdain, saor leis a' phost.”

Thatar a' toirt an earail so am Beurla, earail a tha cheart cho feumach a bhith air a toirt seachad an Alba 's a tha i an Amèrica :

“Advice to newsagents and booksellers! If you have anything in Gaelic to sell, don't hide it under the counter like rationed bacon—put it in the window in full view. That's how books are sold. An creid thu mi? Bithibh glie, agus gabh mo chomhairle.”

Bha Mòd aca a' Bhan-cùbhar air a' mhìos so chaidh, Mòd a bha glé shoirbheachail, agus a thug miseach is togail cridhe do mhòran air taobh siar Chanada agus Amèrica.

Tha Mòd gu bhith aca an San Francisco cuideachd air mìos a' Chéitein. 'Se ar caraid eudmhor, Seumas MacGaraidh, sgiobair a' Mhòid so, agus tha grunnan Ghaidheal eudmhor eile aige ag iomrann air an tobbt amar, agus ag cumail ùbhrach na Gaidhlig a' dol. Is iongantach mura sàth i i fèin a seachd fad suas air glasaich, far nach ruig a' ghaoth i, is far nach sgrèidh a' ghrian i, is far nach bi beadagain a' bhaile-mhòir a' fanaid oirre. Gun ti na seòid !

* * * * *

An eisneachán.—A thaobh an fheoir so, cha do chuir duine chugam an t-ainm luibheanach aige, no mar a dh' ainmichear am Beurla e, no dad sam bith eile mu dheidhinn. Chan 'eil fios nach ann tha sin 'na bheannachd dhomhsa. Co-dhiùbh bha mi smaoineachadh an deidh làimhe cionnas a b' urrainn mi mo ghealladh a choimhlionadh. Càit am faighinn-sa ùnnsa de shùcaran còmhraidh ? Tha mi làn chreidsinn nach 'eil a leithid a ni ri fhaotainn an diugh. Ach co-dhiùbh cha do chuir aon duine dad chugam mun chùis.

Tha eagal orm nach 'eil a' Ghaidhlig aig mòran dhaoine cho maith 's a tha iad fhéin am beachd. Tuigidh iad, agus is toil leo, cainnt shìmplidh na cloinne bige ; agus molaidd iad cainnt a thuingeas iad fhéin agus gun an stòras fhacal an Gaidhlig ach gann, ach an uair a thig e, gu cainnt nach 'eil an diugh an cleachdadh gu bitheanta, agus cainnt air gnothaichean is cùisean an t-saoghail mhóir, is e tha sin 'nam beachd-san cainnt dhulicil agus dhorch. Tha bhùil air an treadh !

* * * * *

Firinn airson a' mhìos so.—Agus thubhairt Iosa riù, Is mise aran na beatha ; an ti a thig do m' ionnsaigh-sa, cha bhi ocras gu bràth air ; agus an ti a chreideas annam-sa, cha bhi tart gu bràth air.—*Eoin vi., 35.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

Bha mi an dùil gum biodh sgeul agam dhuibh an litir a' mhìos so air c'àite bheil Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh ri bhith am bliadhna, ach cha d' fhuair sinn tighinn gu co-dhunadh fathast. Is ann mar a thà, dìreach an uair a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh so, gu bheil Niall agus mi fèin a' deanamh deas gu tarruing a mach air cuairt-fhorfhais feuch ciod an t-àite as freagarraiche a chi sinn gu camp a chur air bhonn ann. Tha mi an dùil gun ruig sinn, co-dhiùbh, cho fada tuath ri Gearasdan Inbhir-Lòchaidh ; agus bidh sinn, air a chùl sin, a' tadhal an àitean eile nas fhaide mu dheas, mar a tha Dail-mhàli agus a' Chrìanlaraich, gu beachd a gabhail air gach taobh co-cheangailte ri làrach campa. Mar a thuingear, tha tuille na aon taobh ri sealltainn ris, raon air an cuirear suas bùthan-cadail, fagach bhò na h-àirdean as cumnartaiche, raon-cluich, uisge òil is nigheadh agus togail dhìonach anns an grèidhear biadh. Faodaidh e bhith, ma chi sinn làrach a thig ruinn gur ann (air dhuinn a mholadh ris an Ard-chomhairle) a shuidhichear oirre mar làrach maireannach, co-dhiùbh, gus am faic sinn gu bheil àite air choir-eigin eile, 's a tha nas freagarraiche do ar feum, r' a sholar. Feumaidh sinn a bhith faidhid-inneach (agus nach e “faidhidinn” ar suaicheantas !) gus am faic sinn gu bheil an t-ionad a tha bhuainn, is ionad freagarach, 'nar glaic. Ach, fathast, chan 'eil ro mhòr de ùine againn gu a call, agus tha mi dearbhte gum bi sgeul chinnteach againn dhuibh anns an ath litir, eadhon mur cluinn sibh air dhòigh eile e roimhe sin.

Dh' fhaodainn innseadh dhuibh gu bheil Dòmhnall nan Cleas, mar a bhaisteadh e le clann-camp nan làithean roimh an chogadh, air a leigeil ma-sgoail bhò Fheachd an Rìgh, agus gum bi e a' dol 'na èideadh air cheann na h-Oigridh gun mhòran dàil a nis. Bidh Dòmhnall ùr dhuibhse, is sibhse ùr dhàsan, oir tha an t-àl a bha anns a' champ a ghleidheadh mu dheireadh an uair a bha esan ann an diugh air leum as an gartain is iad 'nam fir 's 'nam mnathan !

A nis, bidh cuimhne agaibh air an iarrtas is an tairge a chuir mi fo bhur comhair an litir àireamh a' Ghearrainn—còmhradh beag a dheanamh suas is a chur chugam anns am bi facal mar a tha “crann,” aig a bheil tuille na aon chiall, is gach ciall dhuibh sin air a chleachdadh. Matà, cha d' fhuair mi aon fhacal bho aon agaibh fathast ; agus cha mhò a thug aon sam bith dhomh barail air ciod, 'nur beachd, is ciall do 'n fhacal ud eile a thug mi dhuibh—“Fiath na Fèoin.” Tha mi a' tuigsinn, ged thà, gun do chòrd mo sheanachas mu làithean m' òige fèin an spoil Comunn nam Ban-uasal ri, an dà chuid, òigridh is inbhidh ; is bha feadhainn a dh' iarr orm tuille innseadh mun sgoil ud. Ciod am fios nach dean mi sin, is an ùine gun a bhith fada.

Tha deagh charaid dhuibhse, a chlann, is dhòmhsa a' sgrìobhadh chugam, agus a' buntainn ri ni a b' fhiach dhuibh beachd a gabhail air ; agus cha sibhse, a chlann, a mhàin, ach inbhidh mar an ceudna. 'S agaibh a bhriathran fèin, le beagan giorrachaidh air a dheanamh orra.

"Chuala mi bho chionn ghoird neach ag ràdh 'muintir Albainn,' agus thug sin a steach orm cho tric 's a tha sinn a' dol iomrall leis an fhacal "Alba." So an co-chur ceart,—Tha Alba ag iarraidh air muintir Albainn fuireach an Albainn.' Tha 'Eire' a rithist air a mhi-cheleachdadh anns an dearbh dhòigh,—Is e Eire, Eireann is Eirinn a tha ceart. Tha 'gobha' air a' cheart ruith,—gobha, gobhann agus gobhainn. Beachdaichibh air so,—Thubhairt an Gobha Ruadh ri mac a' Ghobhann Bhàin gur ann aig a' Ghobhainn Dhubh a bha a' choire.' Is tric a leughas mi 'gobhainn' far am bu chòir 'gobha' a bhith, agus 'gobha' is 'gobhainn' an àite 'gobhann.' An latha-roimhe fhuaire mi 'gobhann' aig a' Ghuinneach an àite 'gobha,' am bàrdachd Rob Dhuinn."

Tha e an sin ag ràdh, leis an t-sean-duine, "an car a theid san t-sean mhaide gur duilich a thoirt as," ach gur e "an t-ionnsachadh òg an t-ionnsachadh bòidheach." A thaobh an aoim nu d'heireadh de 'n dà shean-fhacal so, dh' fhaodainn innsadh dhuibh gur ann mar a tha e againne an Colla," 'S e 'n t-ionnsachadh òg a ni 'm fòghlum gun taing!'"

A nis, bho 'n is e an òigridh ris a bheil ar seanachas is a tha a' tighinn fa-near dhuinn, carson is ann mar sin a tha an facal air a litreachadh anns an Fhacclair Ghàidhlig, is nach è "ògraidh?" Is e "ògraidh" (no theagamb, "ògaraidh") a theireadh mo mhàthair, agus, ma 's math mo chumhne, gach duine eile mun cuairt. Is e "ògraidh" a theireadh Seòras còir nach maireann, ged is fhada bhuaith mise bho bhith a' tagar gun robh aon a dh' fhòghluim a' Ghàidhlig an deidh tha òige fhàgail 'na dhèidh daonnan ceart! Ach is ann bho "òg" a tha an facal air a thogail, is carson a bhioraicheamaid e leis an "i" a tharuing a steach ann? Ach is dòcha gur fearr an cuilean bag a tha 'na chadal fhàgail anns a' chùil far a bheil e eagal gur ann a theannas e ri comhartaich! Bhur Caraid Dileas,
EACHANN MACDRUGHAILL.

GAELIC ETYMOLOGICAL NOTES.

CUS.

As to the origin of "cus," "much, many; too much, too many," MacBain's Dictionary offers no suggestion.

It is to be noted that the word is (1) confined to Northern Scottish Gaelic—it does not occur in Southern Scottish Gaelic or in Irish, (2) it is colloquial—"mòran" being used in literature. Both facts point to a non-Gaelic origin and apply equally to such words as *nàbaidh* and *cnéabailte*, which are derived from the Norse "*náðbi*," "a neighbour, *coimhearsnach*," and "*knébelti*," "knee-belt, i.e., garter, *gartan*."

One should therefore seek the source of "cus" likewise in Norse. The word "kös" is suitable phonetically and semantically. For the phonetic development compare stong which gives Stung, the name of a headland in Uig, Lewis. For the semantic development compare the phrases "cus na 's fheàrr" and "tòrr na 's fheàrr," "a heap better," colloquially for *mòran na 's fheàrr*.

Kös survives in Modern Icelandic and in the Shetland Norn vocurs as a pronoun or adverb. The extended usage is thus a Gaelic development.

The original meaning of "cus" readily explains how one word can signify greatness or excess in number or quantity.

We need not pursue the origin of "cus" beyond the Norse "kös", with which the Slavonic "*kus*" (a lump) and even the Finnish "*kosa*" may be connected.

TRAILL.

Tráill, "a slave, villain," is derived from the English "thrall"—not from the Norse cognate *threll*, as MacBain leads the way in suggesting.

Thrall actually occurs in the following Hebridean place-names: *Triallabreck*, *Thrall's Slope*, the name of no less than three islets off Benbecula; *Triallagarr*, *Thrall's enclosure*, in Bernera, Harris; *Triallabh*, *Thrall's Hill*, near Laxay, Lewis, and *Triallabhat*, *Thrall's Loch* in the north of Lewis.

These place-names clearly show the development of Norse *æ* to be *ia* in Gaelic, not *a* as *tráill* would require.

Ardrossan.

K. C. CRAIG.

THE NUMBER NINE IN CELTIC LORE.

The records we have of Celtic legend, whether written or oral, show that there were certainly mystic or conventional numbers in common use. The two great periods of ancient Celtic history were the Cuchulainn or Classical period and the Fingalian period. The former is generally taken as being in the first century and the latter as being in the third. It is remarkable that mystic numbers are much more prevalent in the so-called later period, a circumstance which requires consideration.

The tales of the Cuchulainn period were essentially aristocratic in character, were handed down by the bards, and found little foothold among the common people, especially in Scotland. The Fingalian legends really belong to a pre-Aryan and pre-Christian race, inhabiting both Ireland and Scotland, and were widely known among the common people. They include a vast amount of the flosam and jetsam of a time when hunting and close intimacy with nature prevailed. The Fianna were very much part and parcel of universal nature. Finn was the equal of the gods, while Cuchulainn was their inferior. The Cuchulainn period, indeed, deals with a time when men tilled the soil and lived in villages and when there was no need to consider every bird-ery, every rustle in the night and every change in the day or the season, and it was the habit of mind of the pre-Aryan race which remained, coloured though it might be by the Christians of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Thus we need not marvel if our mystic numbers appear to have a religious significance, for many pagan usages, and modes of thought, passed into the Christian period with, perhaps, a new or an additional meaning. It is not surprising, therefore, that our pursuit of the origin of the mystic numbers takes us, not through the dust of the Red Branch chariots, but among the woods and hills which were the real home of the Fianna.

Let us then examine the Fingalian legend and determine what these mystic numbers are. We shall find that two numbers predominate—nine and three. Of the two, the number three is found many times oftener than its close relative. As for Finn himself, whatever anyone said of him he was three times better. About him he had three cup-bearers and twice three doorkeepers, while under his command there were three hundred full-grown hounds. Every man under him was bound to three things—to take no cattle by oppression, to refuse no man as to cattle or riches, and never to fall back before nine fighting men.

Of the purely fighting forces there were three battalions, each divided into three companies, making nine companies in all. Each chief man of the Fianna had three times nine fighting men under him, and all smaller parties were in threes or multiples of three.

During the night the protection of Finn's men was vested in three watches, each of whom kept guard for the time it took one third of a log to burn. Apart from this, the night was normally divided into three parts—the first part for drinking and eating, the second for music and the delights of the mind, and the third for sleep. So far as the demands of hospitality

are concerned, visits generally lasted three days and three nights. Presumably longer visits than this became visitations. Incidentally, though the ancient harp of Ireland had ten strings, the harp of the Sidhe had only three—the iron string for grief, the bronze string for laughter, and the silver string for sleep.

The magic numbers entered into even the manly sports. When the Men of Dea played the Fianna at hurling, the match lasted three days and three nights, and the Men of Dea brought these three things with them—crimson nuts, apples and rowan berries. It would be pleasant to record that the result was three hails to nil in favour of the Fianna, but the score does not appear to have mattered in these strenuous days when the wind was probably much longer than the memory.

The bodily comfort of the Fianna was attended to by the fifty best sewing women in Ireland, of whom three were set to make music for the rest on silver harps—the origin, no doubt, of our more recent labour songs. It is interesting to note that in the sewing hall the fire was lit only three times a year, less for reasons of economy than to prevent damage by smoke to the delicate work of white hands.

Even in these far-off days late frosts were a source of worry to lovers of fruit, for we learn that three times a year, in autumn, winter, and spring, three flocks of birds came from the western sea with beaks of bone and fiery breath, destroying every living thing.

The Fianna always greeted their friends with three kisses and three shouts of welcome. Warning cries and groans were also three-fold. For example, the Fianna gave three heavy groans when Diarmaid died. Witches and hags were met with in threes, as for example the Three Shapes out of the valley of the Yew Tree that fought against Finn. Needless to say they gave three screeches. Then there were the three she-wolves of the Cave of Cruchan whom Caoilte turned into human form by his harping.

In war it usually took three blows to finish off an opponent, as when Diarmaid killed Seabhan (the Surly One) of Lochlainn. The accomplishments of Diarmaid in the gentler arts were well known, but it is less well known that he cured the daughter of the King-under-Wave with three draughts from the spring of the Plain of Wonder (magh an Longnaidh). It is presumed that the draughts were either very small or their potency had been very much reduced owing to the war then raging. Again the three sons of the King of Iruath protected Finn against Aincel, Digbail and Espaid (Ill-wishing, Harm, and Want), by a hound, which, three times every day, went round Finn and three times licked him. In the realm of magic, there might also be mentioned the Gold Cup of Manannan which excelled even the modern method of testing the truthfulness of witnesses by keeping tally of their heartbeats. When three lying words were spoken, the Cup broke into three pieces, but when three true words were spoken, it became as good as before. This suggests that one should be very careful of the woman who makes the oft-heard complaint that she has not a whole dish in the house. In the same realm we read of the Magic Rider of Manannan who remained under water for nine waves and came up dry with the tenth. Then, though there were three birds in Tir-nan-Beo, the blue, the green, and the speckled, the Magic Rem had nine horns, thus putting the St. Kilda sheep in the shade with their modest four. There were also, of course, the Three Waves of Ireland, and the Nine Purple Hazels of Buan, to say nothing of the Three Children of Lir and their nine hundred years on the water—three hundred of them on Loch Daibréach, three hundred on Sruth na Maoile and three hundred in the bay of the men of Domnann.

Many incidents of the time show the preponderance of the numbers three and nine. Caoilte was given a house of nine doors to house the birds and animals of Ireland. At the Battle of Fiantraigh three sisters from Tir-nan-óg helped the Fianna with Druid mists against Daire Donn, the High King of the Great World. From the tree on which Lugh hung the head of Balor of the Evil Eye there later rose a mist which killed nine of the Fianna, and then other nine, while nine were blinded. Again in the time for the Lir of Sidhe Fionnachaidh and Ilbrece of Eas Ruadh, Caoilte was rewarded for his help by nine

rich cloaks, nine long swords and nine hounds, together with three kisses from the daughter of Eleanor of Brugh na Boinne. Incidentally he stayed three days and three nights in the fairy hill to be cured of a wound.

We come to the conclusion, therefore, that of old three and nine were very significant numbers and were more prevalent in the Fingalian period because it represented an older period when men were very close to nature. We see also that far more of the lore of this period has come down to us than of the classical period of Cuchulainn. Thus, even now-a-days, three and nine still retain something of the potency of old. We still love to try three times, we pay tribute with the honours three, we give three cheers for those we admire greatly, and for those whose gallantry or nobility leads us captive we give three times three. Why is this?

The writer believes that the explanation is simple though it takes us far back into pre-Christian times. In the beginning, the Druids created the world. They said so. They created it out of three elements—earth, water, and fire. So they said. The significant number, the mystical number, the Druid number, the father and mother of all numbers was three. It was very much to be worshipped. Nine times was three times three—thrice worshipful.

“The weird sisters, hand in hand,
Posters of the sea and land,
Thus do go about, about :
Thrice to thine, and thrice to mine,
And thrice again to make up nine,—
Peace—the charm’s wound up.”

The Witches in *Macbeth*.

EDWARD PURSELL.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

It is unfortunate that the Northern Organiser should be laid aside by illness at this time. These “Notes” are being written in the Royal Northern Infirmary, Inverness, on 10th March, and it is expected he will be able to resume duty very shortly.

Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon and his Committee are working hard preparing for the Lochaber Provincial Mod to be held in June, and already several functions have been held for the purpose of meeting Mod expenses. The Mod area is a very large one, including the Ardgour Mod district, Kinlochleven, as far West as Mallig, and the Great Glen including Glenurquhart. Junior and Senior Choirs are in course of training, and the prospects for the Lochaber Mod are very good.

On 12th March, the Dingwall Branch is to decide as to whether it will be possible to hold a local Mod at Dingwall in the course of this session.

A series of Gaelic Concerts is to be held in the Northern Area during the first week of April, and once again Neil McLean and Jenny M. B. Currie are to be the Star Artists. They will be ably supported by local talent. These Concerts are to be held at Kiltarlity, Leacainn, Dingwall, and Golspie, and the proceeds will be devoted to The Central Fund of An Comunn. Mr. Neil McLean is to act as Precentor at a Gaelic Service to be held in the I. D. Asylum Hall, Leacainn, on Sunday, 7th April, and Mr. and Mrs. MacLean are to give a selection of choice Gaelic songs in the Royal Northern Infirmary, Inverness, during their visit to the North.

Many enquiries are being received regarding the venue and date of the next Gaelic Camp for Comunn na h-Oigridh members. Mr. Hugh Smith, M.A., Headmaster at Iochdar, South Uist, and who, by the way has just been appointed Headmaster at Brebig, Barra, writes as follows:—

“A nis, mu Champa Comunn na h-Oigridh. Tha mi 'n dochas gum bi Campa ann am bliadhna. Chuir mi ceist air na sgolearan agus cha robh duine nach do chuir lamh suas ag iarraidh chun a' Champa agus a' bhàn-sgoilear cuid eachd—Morag Nic 'Ille mhòire, bha i feis iomadh

Campa 'na caileig, ma tha cuimhne agad. Theid is e ann einnteach. Airson mi fein, ge b' e caite am bith e, cha bhi mi a' feitheamh ach am Brath. Agus Seoras Gallda coir, Sith aig anam."

Mr. Smith attended every Camp at Sonachan and as Seoras himself said, over and over again "Cha bhiodh an Campa idir coart gun Eoghan coir a bhi cuide riunn." Mr. Smith has been on service from 1940 and was recently demobilised. We wish him luck in his new appointment, in his native Barra.

Miss Margaret MacDonald, who was in the service of An Comunn as Itinerant Teacher of Gaelic Music, has just been appointed Interim Itinerant Teacher of Music at Portree Secondary School and adjacent schools in Skye. Miss MacDonald should prove very successful in her new sphere of labour, having had several years experience of similar work throughout the Highlands and Islands. She was the lady Mod Gold Medalist at the Fort William National Mod in 1932.

The Wick Branch continues to hold its regular meetings and Ceilidhs. On 1st March, the Lecturer was the County Medical Officer—Dr. R. F. MacDonald, and his subject "Medicine and the Highlands." A musical programme followed.

The Glen Urquhart Gaelic Music Class is making good progress and valuable propaganda work is being done by staging Gaelic Concerts in the surrounding villages from time to time.

A successful Gaelic Music Class is being conducted at Newtonmore, with Miss Margot Campbell as Teacher, and Mr. MacConnachie is conducting a similar class at Kilmallie, Lochaber, in preparation for the local Mod, and also the National Victory Mod.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Dumfries Branch closed for the session with a Ceilidh on 21st March. The Secretary (Mr. Duncan Campbell) reports that the monthly meetings were well attended throughout the session and that the Office-bearers are well satisfied with the work done. The Gaelic Choir under the leadership of Mrs. Campbell put in some hard practice, and were able to contribute handsomely to the musical part of the evenings' entertainments.

Following on the appeal made by the Rev. B. B. Blackwood at the Concert in Campbeltown when An Comunn Concert Party visited the town there has been a splendid response from the local people. No less than 40 have enrolled for a Gaelic Reading Circle and the Branch is fortunate in having in the Town a Gaelic speaking teacher who undertook to conduct the Class. This is Miss MacNeill, a native of Barra, who is meantime teaching in the R.C. School in Campbeltown. The Branch fully intends to press for a recognition of Gaelic in one or other of the local schools.

At the Glasgow Branches Concert on 23rd February when Mr. Dugald MacDonald, Convener of the Aberdeen Mod Local Committee presided, there was a large attendance and a first class programme was submitted. Mr. MacDonald was handed a cheque for £100 towards the National Mod Fund—a praiseworthy gesture by the Office-bearers of the Joint Branches Committee.

The Glasgow Mod promoted by this Committee will be held in the Highlanders' Institute on 31st May and 1st June. Entries for this Mod close on 15th April.

PRESIDENT HONOURED.

Just as we are going to press it has been announced that the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity is being conferred by Edinburgh University on the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider, President of An Comunn and Editor of *An Gaidheal*. We heartily congratulate our President on this well-merited honour.

N. S.

MID-ARGYLL—KINTYRE CONCERT TOUR.

The third concert tour arranged for the Southern Area was held during week commencing 18th February. The Party consisted of Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Miss Ina MacLellan, Mr. Angus Whyte, Mr. Shaw and myself. The first concert was held at Inveraray, where we were most hospitably received by Mr. James Carmichael of the Argyll Arms Hotel. The Garrison Cinema was placed at our disposal for the concert by the Officer Commanding the Polish Forces and in addition to a splendid attendance of local people the audience was augmented by 500 Polish soldiers. An enjoyable dance followed and we are indebted to Miss Hebe MacGugan and Mr. J. Gillies for the excellent arrangements made locally.

Next day we proceeded to Campbeltown and again we had a full house. For the first time to my knowledge, the national system of rationing was employed in disposing of tickets for a Gaelic Concert, such was the demand for admission. It was unfortunate that many good friends were unable to get tickets. However, it is to be hoped that next time An Comunn Concert Party visits Campbeltown, the Victoria Hall will be in use after having completed its war service. Rev. B. B. Blackwood, a staunch supporter of An Comunn, was in the Chair and gave an inspiring address in Gaelic and English, urging his hearers to do their utmost to keep the Gaelic flag flying high in Campbeltown and suggesting a Gaelic Class, which I understand, has now been started as a result of his earnest appeal. The concert and dance which followed was enjoyed by all present. Mr. Charles Reppke, another Gaelic enthusiast, is due our sincere thanks for his good work in attending to the local arrangements. On Wednesday we arrived at Tarbert to find that Miss Margaret MacDougall had everything arranged to perfection. Here also the order of the day was house full and the artistes had to respond to repeated demands for encores. The dance which followed was very enjoyable. At Lochgilphead, as is always the case when a Gaelic Concert is held, the Drill Hall was fully taxed for accommodation. Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Crawford, and members of their Committee left no stone unturned to make the function the great success it proved to be. The Tour was brought to a close at Kilmartin. Although it had rained incessantly throughout the day this did not damp the enthusiasm of our friends who came from far and near and the hall was taxed to its utmost. We have pleasure in recording our sincere thanks to Mr. Calum Clark, President of the local Branch, Mr. Archd. MacArthur, Secretary, and their Committee for their whole-hearted support.

It should be mentioned that Mr. Shaw addressed each Gathering in Gaelic and English and made a strong appeal for new members of An Comunn. As a result two Life Members and twelve Ordinary Members were added to the Roll.

Once more, I should like to record our sincere thanks to Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Miss Ina MacLellan, and Mr. Angus Whyte for their outstanding services so ungrudgingly given to An Comunn, and also to Mr. Alex. Brown, the Mod Medalist who gave us such valuable assistance at Inveraray, Lochgilphead, and Kilmartin, and last but not least to all the local artistes who contributed in no small measure to the success of the Tour as a result of which the Central Fund will benefit by a sum in excess of £100.

ALASDAIR.

CENTRAL (WAR COMFORTS) COMMITTEE.

The scope of this Committee's work has been extended to embrace a War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund. A General Council has been formed with a nucleus of members of the Advisory Committee of An Comunn, the Central (War Comforts) Committee, and representatives of Affiliated Societies. The General Council have several schemes envisaged for raising money, and a full report of their proposed activities will appear in the next issue.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Cailin donn a' chuailein réidh.—Is e so an t-òran mu dheireadh a sheinnear an comhfharpais nam fear air son Bonn Oir a' Mhòid do na fir. Seinnidh na fir e so agus òran eile a ragnaicheas iad fhéin. Bidh na comharran a choisneas a' cheud shia as mò a gheibh, san Oran Mhór agus an comhfharpais Sheumais Ghrann, air an cur an ceann a chèile còmhla ris na comharran a gheibh iad sa' comhfharpais no (45 an Clar-iomairt a' Mhòid), agus is e am fear as mò aig am bi comharran unnta uile a choisneas Bonn Suaicheantais Oir a' Mhòid—se sin Bonn Oir nam Fear.

Is e òran gaol a tha an so—òran beag lurach, glé shimplidh agus glé shoilleir. Tha e 'na òran tiamhaidh drùidhteach,

agus am bàrd ag ràdh gun do thréig a leannan e; ach an deidh sin, tha mi deanamh dheth, nach tug e suas dòchas nach fhaigh e fhathast i—co-dhùibh, tha esan an trom ghaol oirre, agus tha e leantainn air a moladh, agus air a bòidheach a chur an cèill. Tha e a' smaoineachadh gun tàlaidh sin i, agus co aige tha fhios nach do thàlaidh ?

Tha an t-òran gun urra mar a tha iomadach deagh òran gaol eile a tha againn an Gaidhlig. Tha na faclair soilleir gu leòr, agus mar sin cha ruig mi leas am mineachadh.

Is e ar caraid—caraid na Gaidhlig, agus caraid ceol na Gaidhlig—Iain MacDhomhnaill san Oban Iatharnach a rinn am fonn; agus tha am fonn so, mar a tha iomadach fonn eile a rinn e, tiamhaidh agus taitneach da-rìribh. Tha ceol nan Gaidheal fo chomain aig ar caraid caomh. Gun ti esan. So, ma tha, am fonn 's an t-òran:—

CAILIN DONN A' CHUAILEIN REIDH

Gleus C.

Am fonn le Iain Mac Dhòmhnail, san Oban.

{ : | s : m : - : d : - : m | s : - : l | d' : - : - | l : - : s | d' : - : l | s : - : m | r : - }

A chailin donn a' chuailein réidh, Hà' ho ró mar tha mi'd dhéidh.

{ : s | d' : - : r' | m' : - : r' | m' : - : d' | l : - : s | s : - : l | d' : - : r' | d' : l : - : s : - }

A ghruagach dhonn tha ris an spréidh, Bho'n thréig thu mi tha mulad orm.

{ : l | s : - : m | d : - : m | s : - : l | d' : - : }

A chailin donn a' chuailein réidh.

'S e rud an gaol nach faodar àicheadh,
Tha e ceangailte ri nàdur;
Faodaidh mise sin a ràitin.
Bho 'n shàruich e gu buileach mi.

A chailin donn na 'm biodh tu deònach,
Is gun deànadh tu mo phòsadh,
B' fheàrr leam thu air bheagan stòrais
Na mòran òir le iomadh te.

O, gur math thig sin do m' ghràdhse,
Bròg dhubb, dhionach, bhleach, shàileach,
Ribeannan is curac ard
Air àilleagan nan cruinneagan.

Gur e mise tha gu brònach,
Ann an so a' deanamh òrain,
'S eagal orm nach cuir mi 'n dòigh
Do bhòidheach is do luraichead.

F-D

TRIATH IS DREATHAN.

AN GUTH.

AM FUEHRER 'NA SHINEADH.

'N deidh cur agus call an latha,
Slànuihear stuaigh bhaoith
A dh'òl a' ghaoth 's a shaoil an t-àgh,
E pronn a muigh is pronn a stigh,
A chùrradh thar ghearain
Troimh 'theanga gu ròmban.
E guidh' air a' bhàs
Deanamh na b' fheàrr na mhathair ris
Agus sin gu grad.

THAING DREATHAN-DONN.

Sealán a' leum, agus sealán a' tàmh,
Sheall e air a' chlosaich troimh 'n chàs,
A' faicinn a' chàraidh staid.
Chruinnich e cholainn
'S thog e ri falbh,
Ach mu'n do fhalbh,
Thig e bhàrr a theangaidh bhig:
'Big—ig !

Cha do bhuail mi air aon a riamh,
'S cha do rinn mi sabaid a riamh,
'S cha do chail mi sabaid a riamh,
Sin agadsa sin;
Tha mise falbh."

M. M.

Thoir an aghaidh air t' fhiach :
dearbh do shianadh bho 'n teine :
na seachainn do churadh
am bruailean na beithreach.

Do chridhe 'na leòb glas neo-tharbhadh
nach d' laigh fo chur searbh na gaillinn,
far nach cinnich miann no smaoin
leis am faod thu a dhol thairis
air a' bhalla bhios 'gad chròthadh
bho bhith comhradh fù ri d' leannan,
chan ann aghaidh ri aghaidh,
ach anam ri anam.

Mar so an Guth—
guth ìeal suaire,
ach buan neo-fhàillinnreach,
a' sìor shuathadh
mar chaoin-anail o'n àmh
air teudan na càirsach
chaidh a chàradh anns a' chré.

DUBH-GHLEUS.

ORAN NA SITHE.

'Se so a' bhliadhna shùlasach
Chaidh stad air còmhstri dhaoir ;
Is sgair an dòrtadh fola
Air an talamh le droch dhaoine :
'S bho 'n chaidh an ainmheir thairis,
Rinn an sgaradh anns an t-saoghal,
Naof aobhneach an diugh ri aithris
Gu bheil againn a nis saors'.

Bidh cuimhne air an t-samhradh so,
Ri fad gach àm is linn,
Cho fad 's bhios grian is gealach ann,
Cladach agus tir :
'N uair strìochd am murtair Gearmailteach
'S chaidh armailtean fo chis ;
'Nuair sgrios iad sìos na h-ainmhidhean
Do 'm b' ainm na Japanese.

Chan ioghriachd leam ged b' aobhneach
Bhiodh na roinntean 's an Roinn-Eorp' ;
Iad-san fhuair na h-uamhasan
Na truaigheachan bha mòr :
Le gainne bhidh is fauchd aca,
Gun ghual, gun nì, gun dòigh,
Gu nàmhaid mhallaicht chumhachdach,
Rinn usail ri fuail a dhòirt'.

Lugh sibh mu na daingnichean
Do 'n ainm an 'Atlantic Wall' ;
Chaidh thogail leis a' Ghearmailteach
Air 'oost' 'no Fraing' gun 'n Spàinn ;
Cho fada suas ri Lochlainn
Bha chuid mèinnean air gach tràigh ;
'Se deiseal le chuid champaichean
Gu naimhdean chur 'nan smàil.

Aig Normandaidh gun d' sheall iad dha
Nach b' ann mar sid a bha ;
'Nuair dhòirt iad na Commandos air
Air maduinn noch Di-màirt ;
Chaidh armailtean taobh Shasainn
Gu chuid chladachichean an sàs ;
Cha b' fhada sheas am balla ud
Bha e mar ghainneamh air an tràigh.

Nis gun dean mi dùnsadh
Is clùit thòirt air na seòid ;
A bhunnachd dhùinn an t-sìth
A ni sinn cinnteach ri ar beò :
'S an inneal-sgrìos a dh' islich
Hiroshima mhòr
Chuir sid air chrith am milltear
Hirohito an Tokio.

CALUM MACNEACAIL.

Is e Calum MacNeacail an Camas Tìanabhaig san Eilean
Sgitheanach a rinn an t-òran so aig crìochnachadh a' chogaidh.
Tha *An Gaidheal* 'na chomainn air son an t-òran a thòirt dha
airson a leughadairean. Is ann air fonn : "Guma slàn a chi
mi mo chailin dileas donn" a' bhios e feinein 'ga sheinne. Tha
greis o thòisich air caraid air bàrdachd agus is dòcha gun teid
aig a' *Ghaidheal* air tuilleadh de annas a làimhe a thòirt am
follais uaireigin eile. Cumadh e a' bheart a' dol.—F.d.

DOMHNALL OG.

(O Ghaidhlig na h-Eireann.)

A Dhomhnaill Oig, ma thèid thu thar faireg,
thoir mi fhéin leat is na deán dearmad,
is bidh agad fàidhrean là féille is margaidh,
is nighean Rìgh Ghréige mar chéile leapach dhuit.

Ma thèid thu a null tha combarradh agam ort,
tha cùl fionn agus dà shùil ghlais agad,
dà chasrag dheug 'nad chùil buidhe baglachach,
air dhath beul-nam-bó is mar ròs air dhreachmhoireachd.

Is annoch an raoir a labhair an gobhair ort,
labhair an naosg anns a' chaochan domhain ort,
is tu 'nad fhalbhanch a' nair 'sa chòille fhalachaidh,
is gun robh thu gun chéile e a chaoidh gus am faigh mi thu.

Gheall thu dhomhas, is dh' innis th' u breug dhomh,
gun biodh tu romhag air crò nan caorach ;
leig mi fead agus trì cheud éigh ort,
is chs d' fhuair mi ann ach usain a' méilich.

Gheall thu dhomhas, nì bu deasair dhuit,
luingeas òir fo rò-chroinn airgid,
dà bhaile dheug de bhaitean margaidh,
is cùirt bhràgh aolta taobh na faireg.

Gheall thu dhomhas, nì nach b' fheudar,
gun tugadh tu làmhainnean de chraiceann éisg dhomh,
gun tugadh tu brògan de chraiceann ein domh,
is deise de 'n t-sìoda bu daoire bha 'n Eirinn.

A Dhomhnaill Oig, gum b' fheàrridh thu mis' agad,
na bean usal usabhreach iomarach ;
leiginn bó, chuirinn car de 'n mhuidhe dhuit,
is na 'n tigeachd e cruaidh ort bhuailinn buille dhuit.

DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

EADRAINN FHIN.

Dear Sir,—When I read Creag Mhor's letter in your March
number I rubbed my eyes in amazement—could it be true
that common sense was at last returning to those who love
the "seann-chainnt" and its literature! Well, apparently
it is, but beware! those wicked Irish write "ceud" and
"ciad" as "céad," and as they are doing everything possible
to preserve and improve their language this might be a bad
example to another sister race whose educational policy seems
to be based on assisting the turnovers of Hollywood.

My revolutionary idea of about eight years ago that a
certain amount of collaboration between the Irish and our-
selves regarding spelling and new words was most unpopular
at the time, but still the Gaelic in Cape Wrath and the Gaolunn
in Cape Chan Island is the same language, and people who
try to pretend to the contrary are out for one thing alone—
to kill Gaelic for their own narrow-minded purposes.

To me a Gael from Kerry or a Gael from Lewis is only
one person—a Gael, with the same mind and very nearly
the same language as myself.

When I hear that song starting "A Chlanna nan Gaidheal
ri guallaidh le chéile," I often think it is the most pathetic
song in the whole language. But it is never too late to mend!
—Mise le meas, ALASDAIR MAC EACH TIGHEARNA.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

To enable An Comunn to meet its various obligations,
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FACAL SAN DEALACHADH.

Cuimhnic Mòd Mòr Obair-dhain agus cuir do làmh 'na do sporan 'ga chuideachadh. Nach cuala tu? An làmh a bheir is i a gheibh. Agus nìear carn mòr de chlachan beaga. Tha iomachd dòigh air làmh chuideachadh a thoirt do Mhòd Mòr na Buadh, agus tha an dòigh so cho feumail ri dòigh eile. Tha sinn uile ag cur romhainn gun bi am Mòd so ainmeil anns a h-uile dòigh a ghabhar e; agus so ann dòigh anns an urrainn a h-uile duine a bheag no mhòr a chuideachadh a dheanmah leis.—F.d.

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The study and cultivation of Gaelic Literature, History, Music, and Art,

The native industries of the Highlands of Scotland, and

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EDITOR:—Rev. MALCOLM MACLEOD, M.A., *Manse of Balquhiddier, Lochearnhead, Perthshire, to whom all literary communications should be addressed. Telephone:—Strathyre 235. Business and other communications to 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Telephone:—Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XLI.]

An Cèitein, 1946.

[Earrann 8

COMHFHURTACHD AGUS CAINNT.

Tha ceangal nach beag eadar comhfhurtachd agus litreachas. Nuair a tha sluagh daonnach, agus gu h-ìomlan, an sàs ann a bhith cosnadh am bith-beò chan 'eil cothrom no iarraidh aca air litreachas a leughadh, no gu seachd sonraichte litreachas a sgrìobhadh. Tha am beatha air a toirt suas gu bhith cosnadh nan nithean sin a tha feumail air son am bith-beò—air son nan nithean sin a dh'itheas iad, agus a dh'òlas iad, agus a chuireas iad umhpa. Nuair nach 'eil aig daoine ach mar gum b' eadh feumalachd an latha, agus gun chinnt air cia a tha thig feumalachd an ath latha, chan 'eil iarraidh aca air cur-seachad, no sòghalas, mar a gheibhear bho litreachas. Chan 'eil ànn ach gu bheil an smuaintean, agus an iarratasan, air cionnas a gheibh iad na dh'itheas iad, agus na chuireas iad umhpa. Tha eadhon an cainnt fhéin mar as trice air na nithean so agus cionnas a choisneas iad iad. Bidh an cuid bhriathran, agus an doigh labhairt aca, a reir nan nithean so, agus a reir nithean eile a tha comh-cheangailte ri 'm bith-beò. Fhad 's a tha beatha lom a mhàin aig duine, no aig sluagh, chan 'eil iarraidh aige air nithean nach buin gu tur do a bhith-beò. Tha easbhuidh palteis, no easbhuidh comhfhurtachd, ag cuingealachd bhriathran, agus na saorsa cainnte, a tha duine, no sluagh, ag cleachdadh. Agus is ann an uair a tha seorsa de phailteas aig daoine, agus a tha iad rudeigin comhfhurtail, agus a bheag no mhór de chinnt aca gum mair sin, is ànn a tha iad a' tòiseachadh air iarraidh a bhith aca air litreachas—co-dhiùbh a tha an litreachas sin sgrìobhte, no 'na bheul-aithris, mar a bha móran de na sgeulachdan againn, agus móran de bhardachd mar a bha laoidhean Oisein.

Fhad, ma tha, 's a tha sluagh an gainne, chan urrainn móran càlach a bhith aca do litreachas. Cha bhi móran ùidh aca ann an leughadh mas urrainn dhaibh leughadh a dheanamh. Cha mhò bhios càil aca do sgrìobhadh ged a b' urrainn dhaibh sgrìobhadh a dheanamh. Tha mar sin, daoine aig a bheil beatha lom air an cuingealachadh ann an cainnt mar ann an iomadach rud eile. Tha iad ag cleachdadh nam bhriathran sin a mhàin a tha feumail ann a bhith cur an cèill agus a' deanamh iomraidh air na dh'itheas iad, agus na dh'olas iad, agus na chuireas iad umhpa. Tha mar sin cainnt nan cinneach sin, aig an robh beatha car lom, rudeigin gann agus lom mar an ceudna.

Is ann an uair a bhiodh an leòr nam broinn a dh'èisdeadh sluagh ri sgeulachdan agus ri bardachd. Is luaithe deoch na sgeul, thubhairt an seanfhacal. Agus tha so fìor a thaobh bith cuideachd. Feumaidh sluagh a bhith rudeigin comhfhurtail mus gabh iad tlachd—mus bi e 'nan comas tlachd a ghabhail—ann an litreachas.

* * * * *

Cha robh a bheag de chomhfhurtachd air a' Ghaidhealtachd gus an so fhéin. Bha gun teagamh beagan dhaoine ànn aig an robh feumalachd na beatha so, gun móran dh' a thuilleadh. Ach cha robh a bheag a bharrachd aig móran; agus is e beatha glé lom a bha aig a' chumantas. Bha daoine ag obrachadh gu cruaidh a' feuchainn ri bith-beò a thoirt as an talamh, no as an fhaireg, ach an deidh sin cha robh aca ach beatha lom. Cha robh a' chomhfhurtachd ànn. Is ann a tha e 'na iongnadh leinne cionnas a bha iad beò idir, ach nan inniste an fhìrinn cha robh am beò ann ach glé dhòlum air iomadh uair.

Dh'fhàg so nach robh càil no iarraidh aca air litreachas—gu sonraichte ann an leughadh no an

sgriobhadh. Dh' fhàg sin nach 'eil litreachas, air cùis is gnothaichean an latha, aig na Gaidheil idir. Am beagan litreachais a bh' aca is e sgeulachdan is ranntaichead mu chùisean is gnothaichean nach buineadh do am beatha chumanta idir, no nithean a bh' ann cian fhad an t-saoghail roimh an latha-san. Dh' fhàg cion comhfhurtachd—maille ri iomadh rud eile, ach b' e so aon de na prìomh aobharan—dh' fhàg cion comhfurtachd, nach robh agus nach 'eil a bheag fhathast, againn de litreachas a tha 'na sgàthan air caithe-beatha agus gnothaichean an latha anns an robh daoine beò. Cha robh ùine no càil aig na Gaidheil bhochda air litreachas a chumadh agus a sgrìobhadh, cha robh dad f' an comhair ach am bith-beò fhaotainn air dhòigh air choreigin. Mar sin bha an cainnt, ann an iomadh cùis is gnothaich, gann agus lom, agus am briathran air an cuingealachadh ris na nithean sin bu trice a bha 'nan inntinn, agus bu bhith-eanta a bha air am bilean. Thà, agus bhà, ceangal nach beag eadar comhfurtachd agus cainnt, agus gu seachd sonraichte eadar comhfurtachd agus litreachas.

Nuair a tha sluagh gu maith dheth, agus am beartas a tha feumail aca, chan 'eil iomagain orra cionnas a gheibh iad an ath thràth-bidh, no eadhon cionnas a gheibh iad am bith-beò an ath-bhladhna, agus mar sin tha ùin agus cothrom aca beachdachadh air cor dhaoine eile timchioll orra, agus air suidheachadh an àite sa' bheil iad, agus an uair sin bidh iarraidh aig cuid air na ch' iad, agus na tha tachairt, a sgrìobhadh, agus aig cuid eile air leughadh na tha sgrìobhte. Tha so a' toirt dhuinn litreachas. Is ann a' tomhas de chomhfurtachd a tha litreachas ag èirigh.

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Rud eile. Far a bheil gainne agus bochdainn tha sin gu minic air a cheangal ri cànan is cainnt nan daoine sin aig a bheil gainne agus a tha ann am bochdainn. Thatar le muinntir eile a' deanamh dìmeas is tàire air a' chànan sin mar a thatar a' deanamh air an t-sluagh a tha 'ga bruidhinn. Sin mar a thachair do 'n Ghaidhlig. Agus bha so air a dhèanamh cho fada air a' Ghaidhlig agus gun do chreid na Gaidheil fhéin fo dheireadh gun robh i na b' isle agus na bu diblidhe na cànan sin bith eile—agus gu seachd sonraichte na a' Bheurla Shasannach. Rud uamhasach, agus rud nàr.

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Cha b' ann roimh an àm mar sin a thainig comhfurtachd is pailteas chun na Ghaidhealtachd. Cha ruig a leas sinne, no duine sam bith eile, a bhith smaoinneachadh gum bi a' Ghaidhlig slàn fallain, agus pailt bhriathrach, fhad 's a bhios gainne is mì-chomhfurtachd am measg nan Gaidheil. Tha e mar sin ceart agus deasdanach do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach, agus do gach Comunn eile a tha ag cumail suas na Gaidhlig, agus a th' air son gum fàs a litreachas, tha e ceart agus deasdanach dhaibh seasamh gu daingean air son comhfurtachd is pailteas a bhith air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Ma tha cion cosnaidh agus gainne gu bhith oirne, luchd na Gaidhlig, cha bhì a' Ghaidhlig ach fann is diblidh. Tha comhfurtachd is cainnt glé cheangailte ri chèile.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Am nan uan beaga.—Tha mi deanamh dheth nach 'eil mir eile de 'n bhliadhna as ion-mhiannaichte na deireadh an Earraich.

Ged chrìonas lus chan fhaigh e bàs
Thig fhàs ri ùin a nìos.

Tha an cruthachadh uile mar gum b' eadh ri mosgladh agus ag ath-nuadhachadh òige. Tha gach lus is craobh is bile feoir a' dùsgadh as an cadal geamhraidh, agus a' tòiseachadh ri nochdadh gu bheil iad beò. Tha ni-eigin anns an àile fhéin a tha toirt beatha do gach ni a dh' fhàsas as an talamh. Tha gach creutair cruthaichte a' faireachdainn a' bheòthalachd a tha an so—ainmhidh an fhuinn, agus iasg na mara, agus eunlaith an adhair. Agus tha a chuid fhéin dheth a' ruigsinn air mac an duine, a' toirt dha mothachadh air 'na spiorad fhéin, agus comas a bhith 'ga fhaicinn sa' chruthachadh uile. Tha beatha san Earrach, beatha a tha ruighinn air gach beò chreutair. Tha eunlaith an adhair a' tòiseachadh ri seinn agus ri crònan. Tha a dhùrdan fhéin aig eun na mara. Tha mar gum b' eadh, beatha is gràdh is carthannas an cois an Earraich a tha ag cur na h-ealtainn a sheinn 'sa a shùgradh. An diugh fhéin—tha mi a' sgrìobhadh so mu mheadhon mìos deireannach an Earraich—an diugh fhéin, ann an càinealachadh an latha, bha an lion-dubh ag cur nam both dheth ann am preas san lios agam air cùl a' Mhansa, agus an uiseag san speur le a ceol mìlis fhéin, agus na h-eòin bhuchallach eile ag ceilearachd ceithir timchioll le aobhneas beatha is gràdh.

Tha beatha is aobhneas is carthannas san Earrach a tha ag cur a' chruthachaidh uile—eadar fhonn is eunlaith is ainmhidh—air ghluasad le aobhneas beatha nuadh. Ach am measg nan uile aobhneas so tha mi smaoinneachadh nach 'eil ni eile as tainne na bhith faicinn nan uan beaga ri leum is ri réis air an réidhle no air leathad onic ri cùl gaoithe is aghaidh gréine. Tha maise is grinneas r' a fhaicinn 'nan giùlan, agus saorsa is neochiontachd 'nan sùgradh. Tha iad a' toirt 'nar cuimhne agus fa chomhair ar n-aighe Uan Dhé a tha toirt air falbh peacaidhean an t-saoghail, agus a tha toirt earrach beatha, agus saorsa is neochiontachd dhuinn.

Tha gun teagamh beannachd is beathachadh do spiorad an duine ann a bhith faicinn agus a' faireachdainn an Earraich le a aobhneas. Chan e nach 'eil fuachd uaireanan as t-earrach. Bha an seanfhacal ag radh: Cha tig fuachd gun tig Earrach 's cha tig crannadh gun tig Màrt. Ach an deidh sin tha a' ghrian a' fàs làidir, agus tha beatha an àile an Earraich; agus is e deireadh an Earraich àm nan uan beaga—àm tàlaidh ar spioraid gu Uan Dhé, agus gu òigealachd is neochiontachd a ghràidh-san.

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Donnachadh Bàn agus meal -an-naidheachd.
—Am measg nan sgaoth litrichean a fhuair mise ag cur meal-an-naidheachd orm nuair a rinn Oilthigh Dun-éideann Ollamh dhìom bha mòran mór dhiubh ann an Gaidhlig mar bu dual. Chan e sin uile e, ach

an fheadhainn bu chomasaich an cumadh, agus bu ghrinnean mar briathran a fhuair mi, is ann an Gaidhlig a bha iad. Agus an cois aon litir Ghaidhlig bha meal-an-naidheachd an trì no ceithir a dhòighean mar a chuireadh Donnachadh Bàn an Bàrd e. Bha so bho aon de sgoilearan mòra na dùthaich, agus Gaidheal cho clùiteach agus cho tuigseach 's a th' againn. So iad, ma tha :

- (1) Muintir Dun-éidinn—"Daoine uaisle ciallach nach tug riamh ach a' bhreith cheart."
- (2) "Fhuair thu urram gach cùise
On a b'urrainn thu ghiùlan."
- (3) "Tha bunntan is léirsinn
Gu léir ann ad phearsa."
- (4) "Tha sgeul ùr an tràth so 's dùthaich
'S chuir e sund ro mhòr oirn."

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MacFhionghuin an t-Sratha.—Chunnaic mi sa' phaigear-naidheachd air an t-seachdain so gu bheil Ceann Feadhna Chlann MhicFhionghuin suas ri ceud bliadhna dh' aois—tha e ochd deug is ceithir fichead. Bha uair a bha eòlas maith agam air an duine ghrinn so agus e an uair sin a' fuireach ann an Srath Mhic Fhionghuin, ged nach buineadh ploc de fhearran athraichean dha. Bha e an uair sin a chòmhnuidh an Aird an t-Sratha, faisg air "Cill mo Ruibhe fo sgiath a' chuain." Ach tha e nis o chionn iomadh bliadhna a' fuireach faisg air Farais, e fhéin agus a nighean a tha ag gabhail roimhe. Chunnaic mi gun tàinig e do Ghlaschu air ceann-là a bhreith, agus e a' tòiseachadh san ochd deug 's an ceithir fichead bliadhna, a chumail còmhhdail ri àireamh mhaith de a chinneadh. Thug Morair Probaist Ghlaschu dinnear dha; agus chan e mhàin gun do labhair e an latha sin aig coinneamh de a chinneadh ach bha e an làthair aig cèilidh a chum iad dha air an fheasgar. Tha stuth an t-seann Ghaidheil san t-seann laoch!

'Na dòighe bha e ainmeil ann an cluiche crioit; agus tha mise an làn chreidsinn, nan robh an cothrom air bhith aige, gum bitheadh e cheart cho maith air iomain, oir is e fìor dhuine làidir fuaigailte bh' ann nuair a b' aithne dhomhsa an toiseach e. Bha e an uair sin a' fuireach mar a thubhairt mi an dùthaich a shìmsear san Eilean Sgitheamh, e fhéin agus a chéile uasal nach maireann a nis, agus buadhan an fhìor Cheann Cinnidh orra le chéile. Bha iad uasal, grinn, cùramach, le chéile, agus esan mar shàr Cheann Cinnidh do shluagh an àite. Tha cuimhne agam gun do chum mi aoradh follaiseach iomadach uair san tigh aca agus iad fada bho eaglais, an iarradas fhéin. Bha ùidh aig na h-uile san t-Srath dha an uair sin, agus tha fhios gu bheil fhathast acasan do an aithne e. B' eudair dha an t-àite fhàgail, agus nach bu leis fein an tigh san robh e fuireach, agus rinn e a dhachaidh fagus do Farais far a bheil e fhathast, mar a thubhairt mi.

Bha mi uair no dhà aig na còmhdailean a bhiodh aige an Glaschu, agus an Dun Eideann, chum a bhith coimneachadh r' a chinneadh, agus bu thoirteil coibh-

neil e fhéin mar Cheann Cinnidh. Tha sinn an dòchas gun dean e an ceud dheth co-dhùbbh.

Is e a thainig a steach gu làidir orm, agus mi a' leughadh mu dheidhinn, agus a meòrachadh air na nithean so, a bheil fhios cia lìon Ceann Cinnidh Gaidhealach a tha àn a nis a labhras cainnt an athraichean. No a bheil Ceann Cinnidh idir ann a bhruidhneas gu saorsaineal, òrdail, an Gaidhlig r' a chinneadh. Tha fhios agam gu bheil oighre Ceann Cinnidh no dhà ann a bhruidhneas agus a leughas 's a sgrìobhas a' Ghaidhlig cho maith riussa ach cha dean mo chumhne dhomh an dràsda grém air Cinn Cinnidh ach dithis a mhàin aig a bheil a' Ghaidhlig an Diuc Athole agus MacGille-bhràth. Fheara! nach ann air a' Ghaidhlig agus air a' Gaidhealtachd a thainig an dà latha. Ach dh' fhàg sin nach 'eil ann a cumantas, ann an Ceann Cinnidh an diugh, ach an t-ainm gun an tairbh. Agus cha tig an latha a bhios an seann inbhe agus an sean àite aig na Cinn Cinnidh Gaidhealach agus am bi a' Ghaidhlig aca cho maith ris a' Bheurla. Gun so, chan 'eil iad cho a' magadh orra fhéin le bhith smaoiniachadh gu bheil inbhe is àite Ceann Cinnidh aca, co-dhùbbh inbhe is àite an fhìor Cheann Cinnidh. Fàgaidh sinn mar sin e.

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An t-Ollamh Uilleam P. Milne.—Tha sinn ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air ar caraid an t-Ollamh Milne. Dh' ionnsaich e a' Ghaidhlig an deidh dha tighinn gu ìre, agus cha b' ann aon uair no dà uair a bha mìr Gaidhlig bho a làimh aig a' Ghaidheal. Tha Oilthigh Obairdhan a' toirt an urram LL.D. dha, agus gu dearbh is airidh air e. Tha e o chionn ùine mhòr 'na Phrofeasar air matamataicean an Oilthigh Leeds, agus tha e nis, aig deireadh mìos na Sultuine, a' leigeil dheth an dreuchd sin. Cha shaoil duine air ri fhaicinn gu bheil e aig aois dreuchd a leigeil dheth, tha e cho sgafta 's a bha e riamh. Guma fada bhithes esan mar sin. Tha an t-Ollamh Milne cho eudmhor ri duine a th' againn air taobh na Gaidhlig, agus air son maith is leas nan Gaidheal. Tha sinn ag cur fàilte is meal-an-naidheachd air, agus guma fada chaitheas e an t-urram ur so.

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An t-Urramach Gilleasbuig Caimbeul nach maireann.—Chaochail an duine caomh so air an aona là fichead de 'n Mhàirt so chaidh. Bha e bliadhna is an ceithir fichead a dh' aois, agus is ann am Paislig, far an robh an coimhthional mu dheireadh aige, a chaochail e. Bha e 'na Mhinistear sgrìre an grunnan àitean—an Ceann Loch Spelbhe am Muile, ann an Cill Chòmhghain, agus an Cill Mhàrtuinn, agus an Ionbhar Aora, ann am Muc-càrn, agus fa dheòidh an Eaglais Chalium Chille am Paislig. Bha e air an coimhthional sin a leigeil dheth o chionn bheagan bhliadhnanach an so.

Bha Gilleasbuig Caimbeul 'na Mhinistear dìleas agus còir, agus 'na duine daimheil agus carthannach; agus meas maith air anns gach sgrìre ann an robh e, agus am measg Ghaidheil anns gach àite an robh aithne air. Bha e 'na fhìor Ghaidheal, deas 'nar cànan agus dìleas do ar daoine. Bhiodh e gu minic

againn 'na bhritheamh aig Mòid, agus cha b' urrainn duine a bhith na bu gheurchuisich agus na bu choibhneil san dreuchd so na e. Bha gibhte shonraichte aige ann a bhith labhairt cainnt ghrinn, eireachdail, araon an Gàidhlig agus am Beurla—searmonaiche taitneach agus toirtel. Bha an aon ghìbht aige ann a bhith sgrìobhadh Beurla, ach ma sgrìobh e dad riamh an Gàidhlig chan fhaca mi e. Bu mhór an call nach do sgrìobh e rudeigin an cànan a mhàthar; nan robh e air sin a dhèanamh bhiodh an sgrìobhadh sin 'na fhìor litreachas.

Bidh na Gaidheil an iomadh àite ag ionndrain Ghilleasbuig Caimbeul còir, agus bidh comh-fhàreachdainn aig mòran ris an triuir nighean a dh'fhàg e 'ga chaoidh.

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Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Dh' amhairc mise air a shlighibh, agus leighisidh mi e; seadh, treoraichidh mi e, agus aisgidh mi sòlasan dhasan, agus d' a luchd-bròin. Is mi a chruthaicheas toradh nam bilean; sìth, sìth dhasan a tha fad as, agus dhasan a tha dlùth, deir an Tighearna; agus slànuidhidh mi e.—*Isaiah* lvii., 18-19.



LITIR COMMONN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Thubhairt mi ruibh an litir a' Ghiblein gun robh mi ionnas cinnteach gun biodh sgeul agam dhuibh an litir a' mhios so air a' champ, is c' àite bheil e ri bhith. Chuir mi cìoch air an litir sin dìreach an uair a bha Niall 's mi féin a' togail òirn a' baile a dheanamh forbhas feuch c' àite an soileamaid a bu fhreagarraiche an camp a chur 'na uidheam. B' i sud a' chuairt thoil-intinneach, oir bha e 'na ùrachadh mòr, ged nach b' i sud a' chuairt air am biodhmaid idir, an sealladh a bha an sud fhaoitinn de Thir nam Beann, le sneachd a' gheamhraidh fathast air na monaidhean, an t-adhar glan, ach gun robh corra neul aotrom, glas a' réiseadh bho àirde gun àirde thar bhèideanan nam beann, is grian an earraich ag cur blàiths anns an fhìor-thìr, ged a bha an fhìrth-thìr mar sud còmhdaichte le brat a' gheamhraidh. Bha sinn an Dail-Mhàill, thadhail sinn anns a' Chrìanlaraich, thug sinn sìil air Callart, oir ri linn coibhneas an deagh Ghàidheil, Aonghas MacGhille-bhàin anns a' Ghearasdan, a thachair òirn le a charbad ola anns a' Chrìanlaraich 's a thug sinn suas troimh Ghleann-a-comhann gun ruig dorus ar tigh-cadail anns a' Ghearasdan, fhuair sinn an cothrom a b' fhearr air a' phàirc a bha 'nar tairgse an Callart fhaicinn anns an dol seachad gun dragh gun udmhail sam bith. Ach gu sgeul ghoirid a dheanamh de sgeul fhada, ràinig sinn an Gearasdan, agus ghabh sinn beachd air pàirc ghùirm, bhòidhich, is i tioram le ruith an uisge dhith, a tha air baile-fearainn na h-Annaid, mar mhìle de astar bho ionad-stad na tréan anns a' Chorpach, thall fa-chomhair Beinn Neibhis. Tha an tuathanach còir do 'm buin a' phàirc so, Mgr. Mac-an-Uidheir, 'ga cur 'nar tairgse gu toilteach. Tha uisge-òil an camp pioba laimh rithe, all uisge-ruith de am faodair feann nigheadh a dheanamh mar chrich dhi aig a bonn—

uisge a tha cho glan a' ruith an uas bho 'n fhìrth-thìr 's mur a biodh bùrn na pioba eile cho goireasach 's gu 'm faodte feum òil a dheanamh dheth gun athadh gun amharus.

Thachair Dòmhnall nan Cleas agus Lachunn MacFhionghuinn, Maighstir sgoil Gàidhlig a' Ghearasdan, òirn cha mhór cho luath 's a ràinig sinn, is bha sinn uile còmhla an uair a thug sinn an t-sùil mhean ud air pàirc ar roghainn, agus bha sinn uile co-antachail gur e sud an dearbh bhàd a bu fhreagarraiche a b' urrainn dhuinn a thaghadh. Leig sinn ris ar beachd anns a' chùis do 'n Ard-chomhairle an uair a choinnich sinn an Sruighlea air a' cheud Aoine de 'n Ghiblein. B' i sud coinneamh bhliadhnaid na Gàidhlig a mhàin, agus saoilibh nach è a bha uile gu léir freagarrach gur ann aiceise a bhiodh a' chùis r' a chur an leth-taobh c' àite bheil an camp ri bhith. Rinn iad sin gu h-aon-guthach; agus b' ann a réir mar a mholadh leinne a "bha thall 's a chunnaic" a sheulaich iad gur ann am pàirc so na h-Annaid a bhitheas e. An sin, bidh e goireasach gu h-àraidh do chlann nan Eileanan am Mach—Innse Gall, a réir cuid; ach cha toigh leam an t-ainm coirbte sin idir a thugadh orra an uair a bha ceannas aig an allmharach air an fhonn.

Bidh e freagarrach do chlann an Eilein Sgitheanaich mar an ceudna, agus taobh an iar-thuath na Gàidhealtachd an coitcheannas; agus ged nach 'eil e cho goireasach do na h-Eileanan Deasach is do mhòr-thìr Earra-Ghàidheal 's a bha Dail-Mhàill, is e nach faighear dìreach ann an cnap-starra as miosa anns a' chùis. Ach chan 'eil e duilich air chor sam bith faotainn as an Oban do 'n Ghearasdan, agus tha an t-Oban féin 'na chachleith gu faotainn á, is do, gach cearn de Earra-Ghàidheal as am bi dhùil againne gun tig duine cloinne idir òirn.

Agus ged a bhitheadh e rud beag duilich faotainn do 'n Ghearasdan á cuid de chearnan, nach 'eil an dùthaich a tha air a fosgladh fa-chomhair na sùla 'na deagh dhuais ceann-slighe! Lochabar nan Craobh is nan gaisgeach; Garbh-chrìochan nan Sonn; Loch Tréig; Creag Ghuanach (no Uanach); an t-Sròn anns an robh Comhachag Dhòmhnail MhicFhionnlaigh nan Dàn; Spùr Finnisgeig na Glaisteig; Caisteal Inbhir-Lòchaidh; Braigheachan Iain Luim; Dùthaich Loch-iall; Gleann Fhionghain na cathream, Bliadhna Thearlaich, agus Fambair Mór nam Beann, Beinn Neibhis, thall an sud fa chomhair nan sùl bho ám éirigh gu ám dol a laighe!

Bidh dorsan a' chaimp fosgailte bho Dior-daoin, an 18mh de 'n Iuchar, gu Di-sathuirne, an 10mh de 'n Lùghnasdal, 's an ùine sin air "roinn mhic is athar" air a dheanamh oirre eadar na balaich is na caileagan, oir tha iad daonnan air an cumail air-leth mar sin, balaich a mhàin, is caileagan a mhàin. Gheibh sibh sanas gun dàil mu gach ni a bhios reutanach dhuibh fios a bhith gaibh air an ám togail am mach ri Annaid a' Ghearasdan.

Tha cuimhne againne a bhios ag gabhail chùisean os-laimeh gur e ginealach nach robh anns a' champ riamh a bhios againn am bliadhna. Tha iadsan a bha an "Camp Sona Shonachain" taobh Loch Obha a

heachd bliadhna an t-samhraidh so an diugh 'nam fír 's 'nam mthann; co-dhiubh, tha iad os cionn aise campa. Ach nach ann is dòcha gum bi cuid dhiubh a bhios leinn mar luchd-ùil; agus co-dhiubh a bhiteas no nach bi, bidh feadhainn eile ann gus gach cuideachadh is comhairle fheumail a thoirt dhuibhse a bhios air bhur n-aineol.

Bithibh, matà, a' deanamh deas; biodh bhur sùil biorach is bhur cluas ri claisteachd gus a' cheud rabhadh a chuirear am mach a bhith agaibh mar bhur cuid féin. Mar a thubhairt am fear eile e, matà, "chi sinn thall sibh!" agus—

Bidh camp againn 'san Annaid,
A bhios farumach gu leòr;
Bidh seinn is ceòl is aighear ann,
'S na 's math leinn air a' bhòrd.
'S na Gàidhlig chaomh ri n-atraichean,
Bhios againn air gach seòl;
Cha tréig sinn i r' maireann
Do an anam a tha beò!

Bhur Caraíd Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

AN ARD CHOMHAIRLE.

Chumhadh Coinneamh Gàidhlig na h-Ard Chomhairle an Sruighlea air Di-haoine, an coisgeamh là de 'n Ghiblein. Bha an Ceann Suidhe, an t-Urr. Calum MacLeod, A.M., anns a' chathair, agus bha na buill a leanas an làthair:—Coirneal D. C. G. Ballingall, Cespán; A' Bhean Uasal Chaimbeul (na h-Airdean) A' Bhean Uasal Dunlop, Glaschu; A' Bhean Uasal Edgar, Srath-thìre; Jain MacAoidh, Dùn-èideann; An t-Urr. Tomas M. MacCalmain, A.M., Glaschu; A' Mhgr. Catriona NicDhòmhnaill, Glaschu; Eachann MacDhùghail, Glaschu; Eachann MacFhionghuin, A.M., an Gearasdan; Donnchadh MacGhilleathain, Glaschu; Murchadh MacLeod, A.M., Glaschu; Alasdair MacNeacail, A.M., Glaschu; Fearchar MacRath, B.Sc., Glaschu; An t-Urr. Dòmhnall MacThómais, B.D., Cillhinn; Dòmhnall MacThómais, A.M., an t-Oban. A' frithealadh—Niall MacGhille Sheathanaich, Rùnaire, agus Alasdair MacMhathair, Iar-Rùnaire.

Leughadh Gearr-sheanach na Coinneimh roimhe, chaidh gabhail ris agus chuir Fear na Cathrach a làmh ris.

Leughadh tagraidhean neo-làthaireachd bho àireamh de bhùil na Comhairle.

Chuir an Ceann Suidhe fàilte fhranach air Mgr. Lachlann MacFhionghuin agus Mgr. Dòmhnall MacGhilleathain a bha a' frithealadh air son na ceud uaire mar riochdairean aig an Ard Chomhairle.

Labhair an t-Urr. Tómas M. MacCalmain an ainm nam ball agus chuir e meal-an-naidheachd air a' Cheann Suidhe agus Oilthigh Dhùn-èideann gu bhi a' toirt urram D.D. dha. Rinn e iomradh air an obair mhaith a rinn an Ceann Suidhe agus gum bu mthà a b' airidh e air an urram. Ghuidh e saoghal fada dha a ghàlan an Ard urram so.

Thug an Ceann Suidhe taing do Mhgr. MacCalmain agus do na buill air son an deagh-ghean agus an dùrachd.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Earail. Thughadh aire do iarrtas na h-Ard Chomhairle mu bheachdachadh air cuairt do Chanada agus do na Stàitean Aonaichte agus thughadh seòladh air mar a gheibheadh fios mu chosdas an turais agus brath air mar rachadh gabhail ris na teachdairean.

Chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh air iarrtas a' Chinn Suidhe.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Fhòghluim. Thug a' Chomhairle aithisg air Sgoil Shamhradh a bhios air a cumail an Sgoil Inbhir-lochaidh bho 'n treas là fheadh de 'n Iuchar gu dara là an Lùnasdal. Tha so an co-

bhanu ri Bòrd an Fhòghluim a ghitlanas gach cosdas comh-cheangailte ris an Sgoil. Bidh Gàidhlig air a teagasg bho 9.30 gu 11.30 gach maduinn agus anns na feasgair bidh deasboireachd agus bruidhinn air cuspairean comh-cheangailte ris a' Ghàidhealtachd. Thatar am beachd obair caldhain is gnòmhachas, mar tha snìomh, càrdadh is figheadh 's an leitheadan sin, a bhi air am foilleachadh. Bidh ceòl is litreachas na Gàidhlig a' faighinn àite sònraichte mar an ceudna. Bidh e mar fhàicheibh orrasan a fhrithelas na nithean sin a chur air adhart 'n an roinnean fa leth a chum is gun gabh an slugh ùidh anna agus gum bi iad air an cumail suas.

Tha Mgr. Lachlann MacFhionghuin gu bhi 'n a cheannard air an sgoil agus gheibh e cuideachadh bho luchd-teagaisg eile aig am bheil colas eagnaigh air na cuspairean a theid a thoirt fa chomhar an luchd frithealaidh.

Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh air iarrtas an Fhir-ghairme, Mgr. Fearchar MacRath.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Chlodh-bhuilaidh. Bha a' Chomhairle ag cluithachadh leabhar a chur a mach aig àm a' Mhòid Nàiseanta anns am bi earrannan rosg an Gàidhlig 's am Beurla air an sgrìobhadh a dh' aon ghnòthach air son an leabhair so. Bheirear mar ainm air "Alba" agus bidh e air a reic air leth-chrun.

Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh air iarrtas an Fhir-ghairme, an t-Urr. Tómas M. MacCalmain.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Chraobh-gaoilidh. Rinn a' Chomhairle iomradh air Mòdan a tha ri bhith air an cumail an Ceannloch Chille Chiarain, Glaschu, Ceann Lochgilb, san Oban agus anns a' Ghearasdan. Chuireadh cuairt air mòran de na Meuran leis an Rùnaire agus cuideachd chùil a chuir trì cheud pùnd Sasannach ri ionmhas a' Chomunn. Tha a' Chomhairle fo mhòr chomain dhoibhsan a tha ag cuideachadh ann a bhì ag cur ri ionmhas a' Chomunn.

Tha a' Chomhairle toilichte a chur an cèill gu bheil Fear-deilbhe na h-Airde Tuath, Mgr. Dòmhnall MacPhàil, a rithis air ceann a dheasdanais gu slàn fallain.

Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh air iarrtas Mhgr. Eachainn MhicDhùghail, Fear gairme na Fo-Chomhairle mu Dheas.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Ghnìomhaeais is nan Ealhdhan.

Tha a' Chomhairle air ullachadh a dheanamh a chum Sgoil Shamhradh a chumail ma thig àireamh gu leòr de oileanach air an aghaidh. Bidh an Sgoil air son Ealhdhan Ceilteach a mhàir agus bidh i air a cumail am baile Cheann Lochgilb rè thrì seachdainean san Lùnasdal, a' tòiseachadh air a' cheud latha. Cuirear cìs 35/- air inbhall agus 25/- air oigrìdh fo ochd bliadhna deug a dh' aois.

Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh air iarrtas na Mnà Uaisle Chaimbeul (na h-Airdean) Bean-ghairme na Comhairle.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Mhòid 's a' Chùil.

Ghabh a' Chomhairle ri aithisg na Fo-Chomhairle a chuireadh air bonn a dheanamh agus thag-eagair na h-Oigrìdh air son Mòd na h-ath bhliadhna agus cluadh iomradh mar an ceudna gu robh a' Chomhairle Ionadail an Obair-dheathain a' soir-bheachadh gu math ann a bhì ag ullachadh air son Mòd na bliadhna so.

Chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh air iarrtas na Mnà Uaisle Dunlop, aon de bhùil na Comhairle.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle Clann an Fhraoich.

Rinn am Fear-gairme agus an Rùnaire fiosrachadh mu àite freagarrach far an cumeadh Campa na bliadhna so agus tha a' Chomhairle ag cluithachadh gun cumar an Campa san Annaid, àite seasgair, goirteasach faiseig air a' Chorpach an Lochabar. Theid an Camp fhiosgladh air an 18mh là de 'n Iuchar agus a dhùnadh air 10mh là an Lùnasdal. Bidh Mgr. Dòmhnall MacPhàil, Fear-deilbhe na h-Airde Tuath 'n a Cheannard air a' Champa.

Thughadh aithisg gu bheil Mgr. Dòmhnall Mac a' Phearsain a nis air aise agus ceann a ghnòthaich mar bha e roimhe ach gum bi bhe sònraichte aige ri thoirt do 'n òigrìdh a tha air an sgoil fhàgail.

Chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh air iarrtas an Fhir-ghairme, Mgr. Eachann MacDhùghail.

Thug an Ceann Suidhe aithris air coinneamhan na Comhairle Meadhnaicheil comb-cheangailte ris a' mhaoin air a thatar a' tionnal fo 'n ainm Cuimhneachan is Breith-buidheachais. Fhritheil e fh in aig cuid de na coinneamhan agus thuir e gu robh am maoin so  an airidh air cuideachadh.

Leughadh Iomradh air coinneimh de 'n Chomhairle Araid a tha a' beachdachadh air coirichean a' Chomuinn air c el is air riosg a tha air a chraobh-sgaicheadh air an fhrithead is air aithris air claran sile. Chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh air iarrtas a' Chinn Suidhe.

Sh nraicheadh gum biodh an ath Choinneamh air a cumail air a' choigeamh la de 'n Iuchar.

Thugadh taing chridheil do Fhear na Cathrach.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

A series of four Concerts in aid of The Central Fund was staged in the Northern Area from 2nd to 5th April, inclusive. The places selected were Kiltarlity, Leacainn, Dingwall, and Golspie. All of these efforts proved eminently successful, and the enthusiasm shown augers well for the post-war Drive on behalf of our language and music. While a full financial settlement is not yet available, it is expected that over  130 will be added to the Fund from these efforts.

At Kiltarlity, Mr. John N. MacLeod (Alasdair M r), presided and gave a stirring address in Gaelic and English. The various Concert items were introduced by the Northern Organiser. Neil MacLean and Jenny M. B. Currie, the star artistes, were ably supported by excellent local talent. Sincere thanks are due to Mrs. MacLaren who made all the local arrangements, and to many kind friends who assisted her.

On the following evening, Dr. Wm. McWilliam presided in the Recreation Hall of the Mental Hospital, Leacainn, and explained that the Concert fulfilled a two-fold mission:—to provide a first-class entertainment for over 200 of the patients and also to assist An Comunn in its Propaganda and Educational Drive. Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., F.E.I.S., Convener, Northern Propaganda Committee, thanked Dr. McWilliam very warmly for his keen and practical interest in the cause of An Comunn, and for granting the use of the spacious Hall free of charge. Neil MacLean and Jenny M. B. Currie were again the star artistes, and they met with a most cordial reception. Excellent local talent was available and one and all of these gave of their best. It may be mentioned that in proposing a comprehensive vote of thanks, to the artistes, the Chairman said that he could not help making special mention of Angus MacLeod, Scalpary, for his admirable renderings of several Gaelic songs in the old traditional manner.

From Leacainn to Dingwall, and a full Hall eager to hear Gaelic Song, Helen R. MacRae, Myles MacInnes and a strong supporting programme excelled themselves. Mr. Murdo MacLean, Muir of Ord, gave an inspiring address in Gaelic and English, and the votes of thanks were proposed by the Northern Organiser. Sincere thanks are due to the Dingwall Branch for sponsoring this Concert and especially to Miss Lydia Ross, Hon Secretary who worked so hard, but who had the satisfaction of seeing her work crowned with success.

The tour was brought to a close by a great gathering in Golspie Drill Hall, Sutherland. Under the Chairmanship of the Branch President Mr. George Grant, C.C., a most excellent programme was submitted. In addition to Neil and Jenny, Christy Campbell (Durness), Pipe-Major Donald MacLeod and his Troupe of Highland Dancers, there was a strong supporting programme, among which must be mentioned Misses J. MacKay and J. Millar, whose rendering of Gaelic Duets was listened to with rapt attention. The votes of thanks were proposed by the Northern Organiser, and heartily responded to. Among the audience were two ladies who had travelled all the way from Kinlochbervie, a distance of over 70 miles.

Hospitality was provided at Kiltarlity by Mr. and Mrs. Haechke, Ballindoun, and by Dr. and Mrs. McWilliam at the Leacainn. Thanks are also due to Miss MacKenzie, Garve

Hotel, and to Mr. Evan MacKay, Dingwall, for services rendered and also to many other good Gaelic who in their own way helped in no small measure to make the tour such a success.

"OFF THE RECORD."

In addition to singing at all four Concerts, Neil MacLean and Jenny M. B. Currie, with Miss Jessie MacDonald, M.A., at the piano, gave a delightful recital of Gaelic and Scots Songs in the Royal Northern Infirmary, Inverness. Patients interested were taken from all the wards, several on their beds, and at the close of an hours' entertainment, the thanks of all were voiced by one of the patients. The Medical Superintendent and the Matron were members of this rather unusual gathering, and they also expressed sincere thanks to Mr. MacPhail for bringing such talented singers to the Infirmary. They hoped the experiment might be repeated soon!

At the Gaelic Service in the Mental Hospital, Leacainn, on Sunday, April 7th, Neil MacLean acted as Precentor in the old way of chanting the line, and the patients entered heartily into the singing of the Psalms they probably heard in their mothers' knee and love so well. Rev. Alex. Boyd, M.A., Chaplain, conducted the service.

A little gathering took place in the residence of Dr. McWilliam, Leacainn, in the evening, and as the first engagement, was in the Royal Northern Infirmary, among the sick and suffering, so it ended, appropriately, in the Doctor's hospitable home, by the singing of the 23rd Psalm, led by Neil MacLean.

THE LESSON TO BE LEARNED.

That there is strong support for the ideals of An Comunn was evident everywhere, and given a good lead, An Comunn can be assured of wholehearted support in the new Drive for our Language, Music, Culture, and all the word Gaelic connotes.

The Organiser along with Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, visited the site for the 1946 Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp at Annat, Lochaber, on Tuesday, 9th April.

On Wednesday, 10th, Mr. Macphail presided at the final Ceilidh of the Session at Nairn. There was a satisfactory attendance, and an appeal was made for financial support for the Aberdeen National Victory Mod. The Branch is to organise a special function for this object.

The Elgin Branch is to hold the last Ceilidh of the Session on Wednesday, 17th April, with Mr. D. C. Cowan, Branch President, as Fear-an-tighe.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

I paid my annual visit to the Dundee Branch on 29th March. There was a splendid gathering of members and friends and I was pleased to be informed of good work being done during the session. The Gaelic Class conducted by Mr. Roderick MacDonald continues to attract a satisfactory number of students and good progress is being made. The normal activities of the Branch have been well supported, and altogether a splendid session closed with a happy and successful ceilidh.

The Ayr Branch brought a very successful session to a close on 9th April, and I had the pleasure of attending and thanking the members for their good work. The new President of the Branch is Mr. Alexander MacKechnie, a native of Jura and a distinguished pupil of Oban High School. His predecessor was Mr. Colin MacDougall, a native of Lewis, who gave valuable service to the Branch as a teacher of Gaelic. Mr. David Findlay is still Secretary and he leaves no stone unturned to make the meetings successful. The Branch is promoting a Grand Concert in the Town Hall, on 24th April, at which Mr. John M. Bannerman is to preside.

I presided at a Ceilidh of the Dull W.R.I. at Camserney on 12th March, and conducted it in the old time manner of story telling, and singing of Gaelic songs. Mrs. Stewart (Fasnacloch), the first person to sing a Port- -Beul in Mod competition, is the President, and arranges these ceilidhean for the benefit and entertainment of the members of the Institute, among

whom are quite a number of Gaelic speakers. One old lady of 84 years from Aberfeldy said she enjoyed every moment of the Ceilidh.

The following are the dates of this year's Provincial Mods:—Kintyre Junior Mod, Campbeltown on 10th May. Glasgow Mod on 31st May and 1st June in Highlanders' Institute. Oban, Mull, and Lorn Mod in Oban on 7th June. Lochgilphead Junior Mod on 11th June. Lochaber Mod at Fort William on 21st June.

PERTSHIRE CONCERT TOUR.

The fourth Concert Tour arranged for the Southern Area was held during week commencing 18th March and the Party again included Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Miss Ina MacLellan, Mr. Shaw, and myself. The first concert was held at Killin where we had a fine attendance. Mr. James McRae, president of the Branch presided, and the artistes responded to repeated demands for encores. We are indebted to Mr. James Anderson, the secretary for making the local arrangements which meant so much in the success which attended the concert.

On Tuesday, we proceeded to Kenmore, the beautiful village at the head of Loch Tay, where Mrs. MacLaren, Branch Secretary, had everything arranged to perfection, the hall platform being beautifully decorated for the occasion. We were greeted by a packed and enthusiastic audience. Mrs. MacLaren and her Committee are due our sincere thanks for the good work they are doing for the Gaelic cause in Kenmore.

The attendance at Aberfeldy was marred to a certain extent by another counter attraction, but such happenings are difficult to avoid when one is on tour. However, the enthusiasm of those present was very evident, and the performance of the local artistes was of a high standard as was indeed the whole concert. We were all very glad to hear our old friend Stewart Robertson singing with that same enthusiastic spirit that gained him the Mod Gold Medal as far back as 1919. I hope when I reach his age I shall be able to please an audience in the same way as Stewart does but I very much doubt it. Provost Haggart, O.B.E., occupied the Chair, and, after hearing the Concert, and Mr. Shaw's address on the work, aim, and objects of An Comunn both he and his good lady became Life Members. Several of those present became Ordinary Members. Our cordial thanks are recorded herewith to Mr. James Hamilton who undertook the local arrangements, and to Mr. Tom Stewart, and his good lady (Petrine) for providing hospitality for the Party.

Next day we made for Pitlochry and had a first rate concert at which Mr. John Anderson, presided. This Branch has lapsed during the war years, and it is pleasing therefore to report that an effort is now being made to have it reconstituted. A meeting of all interested was called for 4th April, but at time of going to press, we have not heard the result. However, I am sure, that under the guidance of Mr. Anderson, there could be but one outcome, and before long the Pitlochry Branch will function with its old fire and enthusiasm and play its part in reviving the Perthshire Provincial Mod next year. Meantime we record our sincere thanks to Mr. Anderson for making the local arrangements for the concert, and also to Mr. James MacDonald of the Craigower Hotel to whom we are indebted for his kind hospitality.

The Tour was brought to a close on a high note of satisfaction at Kinloch Rannoch. As members are no doubt aware, the local hall was destroyed by fire a few years ago, so the concert was held in the Dunalastair Hotel. As happened at Campbeltown on our last Tour, when many who sought admission were unable to get into the hall, so it was at Kinloch Rannoch. However, I am told that plans are afoot for a new hall to be ready in June, and this very much alive Branch have engaged the Concert Party for a return visit on behalf of the Aberdeen Mod Fund. Members far and wide, and, indeed, all who have attended the National Mod, will be pleased to know that our old friend James Grant Scott, president of the Branch, presided at the concert. He is as fit

and hearty as ever, and is looking forward to renewing acquaintance with old friends at the Aberdeen Mod this year. Mr. Archd. Robertson, the local secretary, left no stone unturned to ensure the success of the Gathering and we are indebted to the Branch for providing hospitality for the Party at the Hotel. At Kinloch Rannoch the Party was re-inforced by my good friend Angus Whyte, the Mod Medallist, and rarely has he been heard to sing to better advantage.

Once more, on behalf of An Comunn, I must record sincere thanks to Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Miss Ina MacLellan and Mr. Angus Whyte for their invaluable assistance and co-operation in making these Tours the outstanding success they have been. In many of the places visited during the past winter, their names were only known through the medium of the press and their voices through the radio. I know the Branches of An Comunn were indeed grateful to them for visiting them in person, and it must have been a source of satisfaction to themselves to note how well they were received by the various audiences. I should also like to thank the many local artistes who did so much to help sustain the programmes and also Mr. Shaw who played a vital part in propagating the work of An Comunn.

In conclusion, I would add that it is hoped to bring the Concert Party to Appin, Ardgour, Strontian, Lismore, and Benderloch at the beginning of May, and arrangements are at present being made towards that end.

Members will be glad to note that as a result of these Tours to date the Central Fund has benefited by over £320.

ALASDAIR.

THE KELTIC LANGUAGES.

Apropos recent correspondence in your interesting journal, a brief review of the present state of the Keltic languages may be of interest to your readers.

IRELAND.

Notwithstanding many "fairytale" to the contrary, Irish-Gaelic as a living language is now in *extremis*. During the campaign of Daniel O'Connell (1828-9), Gaelic was the home language of quite three-fourths of the population of Ireland. The Liberator (*sic*), although a native speaker, scorned the use of his mother-tongue when addressing his fellow-countrymen. In 1830 the *signum* (a notched stick) was introduced so that children could be punished the next day in school for making use of Gaelic in their homes.

In 1870, the Imperial Government offered to pay 10/- for every pupil that passed in Irish, but the clerical school-managers turned down the offer.

In 1898, the Gaelic League was founded with a weekly paper and monthly Journal while the Anglo-Irish daily and weekly press carried columns of Gaelic matter. When the Free State-cum-Republic was set up, the language was used as a political red herring and the Gaelic press disappeared. It can be truly said the Irish threw away their fine old language—the language in which S. Patricius preached the gospel.

ISLE OF MAN.

Manx-Gaelic as a spoken tongue lingered on until World War I, since when it has practically died out. In 1768 the clergy of the Established Church in the island were instructed to prepare a translation of the Bible in Manx. None of those men was a Gaelic scholar, but with the assistance of the rectory menials a strange thing happened: the words of Holy Writ were reproduced in the ungrammatical language of the kitchen and the stable. Needless to say only one edition of this curious work appeared, the orthography used being as fantastic as the diction itself.

A pretence is still made of reading out the titles of the laws in Manx, but no one understands what is being read.

Like the Irish, the Manx people have thrown away their old language: they now gibber in an uncouth jargon made up from a mixture of the different Teutonic dialects spoken on the adjoining coasts.

SCOTLAND.

Gaelic as a spoken tongue is rapidly declining in Scotland. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Education Act of 1918, Gaelic is not being taught in the schools of many districts where Gaelic is the language of the home. Since World War I, most Scotch-Gaelic Journals and periodicals have ceased to appear, while many native speakers hold the opinion that there is no money in Gaelic: perhaps the time is not far ahead when Gaelic will not be an exception in this respect.

Native speakers in Scotland rightly complain of singers, who are quite ignorant of Gaelic, being allowed to compete at the various *mòid*. It is common knowledge that many of these competitors sing in parrot fashion: although able to say what the subject of the song is, some competitors have been known to win prizes although quite unable to translate even the simplest word when pointed out in the text. It ought not to be forgotten that people attending *mòid* pay to enjoy native talent and not to be fobbed off with a fake.

WALES.

Notwithstanding the unwavering patriotism of the Welsh people and their resistance to teutonization for over a millennium and a half, the Cymric language is slowly but surely retreating into the country districts; even the support of the present-day native press does not seem to be able to stop the rot. Most of the young town dwellers in Wales are hypnotized by the argot of Hollywood or the gibberish of the English-speaking slummies of the border cities.

BRITTANY.

As in Ireland, the *signum* was used in Brittany to help kill the native language. During the Nazi occupation, Bretons were stupid enough to allow themselves to be taken in by the flapping of *agents provocateurs* of "oil and water" nationalism. The Breton language has now been suppressed while numbers of native speakers are incarcerated in concentration camps: they failed to learn anything from the fate which befell the Basque nationalists.

Most Kelts fail to realize that although the Keltic languages may have been permitted to flourish during the Middle Ages; yet, should a Keltic language now-a-days become a support of pseudo-nationalism, it may very likely become strictly *verboten* in the New Order.

THE REMEDY.

When a people throws away its language, it sells its birth-right for a mess of pottage if it does not literally throw away its soul: literary initiative withers while the people loses caste and character.

The Keltic languages are worthy of preservation as living languages if they contain the phonetic key to most other languages. In order to prevent their further decay (1) only native speakers should be trained as teachers; (2) an academy should be established for the purpose of constructing new words from native roots; (3) a yearly prize of £100 should be offered for a modern work of about 40,000 words; (4) Keltic matter that has already appeared in obscure or out of print Journals should be republished with translations in cheap editions; and (5) native speakers should be encouraged to take a pride in their language by making use of it on all possible occasions.

INNIS AN FHIRINN IS CUIR NAIRE AIR AN DIABHOL.

MHAG MO REUSAN.

Mhag mo reusan air mo chridhe
Air grodadh do mo reul:
Chuir thusa ghloic ri àilleachd
Neo-r-thaig do thuigse fhéin,
Ach chan e an claidheadh
A bha 'nad dhúil do bheud.
Bha eagal ort roimh mhaoin-shruth
An anacothroim ghéir,
Ach cha robh roimh mhaoin-shruth
An t-suarachais 's nam breug.

SOMHAIRLE MACGHILL-EATHAIN.

BITH AGUS BEATHA AGUS
BITHBHUANTACHD.

BITH.

Bho thall a nall,
Tháinig guth
Bha mi ánn,
'S tha mi ánn
An diugh.

BEATHA.

An t-adhar os mo chionn,
An talmh fo mo bhonn,
'S mi slán,
Ruigidh mi abhainn
Is théid mi thairis
Gu bráth.

BITHBHUANTACHD.

An ceann,
Gun ám,
Mi fás,
Bho mhaitheas,
Gu Flaithias,
Gu grádh.

M. M.

ALLTAN BEINN.

Alltán beinn, alltán beinn,
Dol síos 'na dheann gu cuan,
Cha till iad rium a chaoihrí m' bheò
Na láithean cóir chaidh uainn.

Alltán beinn, alltán beinn,
Dol síos 'na dheann gu cuan,
Do thorman milis is do ghair
Is ribhinn bhán nan dual.

Alltán beinn, alltán beinn,
Dol síos 'na dheann gu cuan,
Cha théid mi mar riut ann an tráth-s',
Ach slán leat gus an uair.

M. M.

CRIOCH NA CRICH.

A radain bhreun na h-òtraich
le do chòta sleamhuin,
an tu dh' ith adha mhín na h-adaig,
a bha air falach ?

Adha reamhar bhuidhe-bhàn,
bh' air a tasgadh tearaint slán,
gu curamach air clár 'an eúil,
'n aite nach cuireadh cat no cù,
srón no fàicail, ionga no spóg,
gus an tigeadh árd thrath-nòin,
'n uair bha dhùil a bruidh le taois
'an ceann-croaic brianca maoth.

Dh' ith thu an adha,
's tu a dh' ith,
adha na h-adaig,
adha do chrich.

A radain riabhaich, a mhic na meirle,
mur a seachainn thu an fhàrdach,
sgriosaidh mi thu fein 's do chàirdcean,
eadar fhìrionn 's bhoirionn 's àlach.
Tha an ribe biahtá 'na do làrach,
le feol is càis a ni do fhàladh,
càis a ni d' ad chumnean fàileadh,
air a ghleacaid fòl cho càilbhon,
's gun spion thu i a dh' aona ghlàmag,
spionadh a bheir gliog a bhàis ort.

Cha 'n ith thu adha,
cha 'n ith a nis.
'S ann tha d' adha
fhéin ris.

N. T. M.

ORAN LUÀIDH.

O ho ao nach till thu, Dhomhnaill ?
O hi ri nach till thu, Dhomhnaill ?

Là dhomh 's mi falbh na mòintich,
Cha robh uisge mór no ceò ann,
Grian gheal air aghaidh nam mòrbheann,
Thàinig mo leannan 'nam chomhdha,
Shuidh sinn air taobh cnocean bòdhaich.
Theann sinn ri mire 's ri gòraich.
'Se thàinig as a sin dòbheirt.
Bhagair e mo léine shroiceadh
'S rinn e liadan beag dhe m' chòta,
Chuir e falt mo chinn fo bhòrgan,
Thug e air mo shùilean dòrtadh.

Fhir ud a shiubhlas a' mhòinteach
Air an tig na h-airm an òrdan—
Claidheamh is sgiath, bogha 's dòrlach,
Fois air do cheum, 's bidh sinn comhla.
Soraich bhuan gu m' phìuthar do Chnòideort,
Innis dhi mar dh' èirich dhomhsa,
Rinn mi diolan roimh 'n phòsadh
Thuit mi le glas ghiollan gòrach
Nach tug cir no stìm no bròg dhomh,
Nach tug fainne bharr a mheòr dhomh
'S nach tug am bréid, 'se bu chòir dha.

Bheir soraich bhuan fhìn gu m' eòlas
Do Sgorabreac ann bidh a' chòisir,
Do thig mór an ùrlair chomhnaid
Far an cluinnte pìob is òrgan,
Ruithle mór air ùrlair comhnaid
Ri pìob bheag nam feadan còmhlar,
Teuraichean 'gan cur an òrdan,
Gloinneachan 'gan cur air bhòrdan
'S truinnsar staoin 's a thaobh air òradh.

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K. C. CRAIG, Ardrossan.

Tha mi fada an comain mo charaid K. C. Craig, M.A., Oid-ionnsachaidh na Gaidhlighe an Oilthigh Dhun-eidinn air son an òrain ghriinn so a chur chugam. Thug e sìos an t-òran bho bheulachas ann an Uibhist. Tha sinn an dòchas gun tuit tuilleadh d' a leithid so 'na lion—F.d.

EADAR SINN FHEIN.

Dear Sir,—Perhaps you will permit one or two notes on the song *Caitin Donn a' Chuailein Rèidh*, which in turn suggest some remarks on Gaelic singing, particularly at the Mòd.

There are at least two published versions, which have only chorus and one verse in common, one in Sinclair's *Oranaiche* and one in the *MacDonald Collection*. There are also traditional versions of words and air current in Lewis and Aist.

The version printed in your April number is word for word as in the *Oranaiche*, with two exceptions, upon which I should like to comment. "Bho" is inserted in the fourth line of the first verse, and "òir" in the fourth line of the second verse. This gives us a syllable before the initial stress, which does violence to the metre, except when the previous line ends on a stress, as in the last verse. The conclusion is that in each case the reading in the *Oranaiche* is correct as it stands.

The insertion of "òir" raises an interesting point. It represents the requirement of an ear attuned only to metre thought of in terms of stress. But the old folk-singers were more skilled in the art of words-and-music than to be content, as most of us have been since the days of Neil MacLeod, with a monotonous succession of regularly spaced stresses. Provided the number of syllables was correct, the stresses could occur anywhere. The line under consideration, from which "òir" should be omitted, is an example.

It may be asked how such a line should be sung. Sometime⁸ irregularity of stress involves a change in the time-signature of a bar of the music, but as a rule what happens is that the musical accent and word-stress are counterposed. Using Mr. MacDonald's air, the traditional singer would negotiate it like this—

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} s : 1 : - : - | d' : r' : - : - | d' : 1 : - : - | s : - : - \end{array} \right\}$$

Na mór - an le iomadh té

The musician will recognize this as syncopation. Our ancestors knew all about it, and used it in moderation, centuries before its modern vogue. The surprising fact is that its existence in Gaelic music has passed unrecognized in our song collections, and that editors have just blundered when they have come up against it. Even such an assiduous student of our music as the late Malcolm Macfarlane always went wrong when dealing with irregular stress.

This suggests two requirements for improving the standard of solo singing at the Mòd :

(1) Competitors should be encouraged to study the changes that should be made in the time-value of the notes as each verse of a song may require. At present they fear that they will be penalised for so doing by the non-Gaelic adjudicator, and make a virtue of sticking limpet-close to music which often fits only the first verse.

(2) The task of editing the words and music for solo singing should be taken more seriously. On the musical side, a standard as high as, say, that of Amy Murray in *Father Allan's Island* should be the aim. Exactness of notation requires the use of staff, though the sol-fa could also be printed. At present settings are far too bare and pedestrian : grace-note and appoggiatura and variation of rhythm are ignored ; and the consequence is that our native music, as the world hears it, is not the thing of beauty that it once was, and that still can be,—Miss le spéis, U. M.

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N. SHAW, Secretary.

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Leabhar XLI.]

An t-Og-mhòs, 1946.

[Earrann 9

SLIGHEAN NAN EILEAN.

Bha mi air gnothach Eaglais o chionn ghoidid an so a' dol troimh na h-Eileanan Siar, troimh na h-uile mìr dhiubh eadar Stoth Nis agus Ceann Bharraidh. Thug mo ghnòthach mi do na h-uile h-àite a b' iomallaiche na chéile anns gach eilean—mór is beag—agus mar sin chunnaic mi, agus ghabh mi beachd air cor na dùthcha, agus air suidheachadh is cùisean dhaoine unnta.

Agus ged is ann air rathaidean is slighean anns na h-Eileanan a tha mi dol a bhruidhinn an dràsda faodaidh mi ràdh an toiseach gu bheil a' Ghaidhlig, cànan air n-athraichean, cho beò fallain sna h-Eileanan 's a bha i riamh. Is ann ainneamh, ainneamh, air bàta no air tìr, am bus no an eithear-aiseig, a bhruidhinn mi ach Gaidhlig; agus bha a' Ghaidhlig air a bhruidhinn rium cho comhnard, ealanta, 's a dh' iarrainn-sa no duine eile.

Tha anns gach eilean is àite san robh mi, daoine riarachta, comhfhurtaid, agus tighean matha seasgair aca, mar a chì duine sam bith a theid feadh nan Eilean. Tha an òigridh air tilleadh dhachaidh an deidh a' chogaidh—co-dhiùb' a' chuid mhòr dhiùb'—agus iad làn riarachta suidhe sìos agus a dhòl air thigheadas far an do thogadh iad, ma gheibh iad meadhon-cosnaidh sam bith.

* * * * *

Tha mòran obair-chlòitean sna h-Eileanan, agus chan 'eil teagamh nach gabh so a mheudachadh—eadar obair-bearta agus a h-uile h-obair eile a tha an cois calanais is deanamh chlòitean. Tha còir an obair so a mheudachadh sna h-Eileanan, agus a' chuid mhòr suas rithe mar tha, agus cha bhì each fada 'ga h-ionnsachadh. Tha sin ceangailte ris na h-Eileanaich, gun ionnsaich is gun dèan iad nì sam bith a chì iad.

Tha, ma tha, còir aig an Rìghaltas a nis cothrom a thoirt do na gillean agus do na h-ingeanan a bha air falbh sa' chogadh, beartan is gnothaichean eile calanais fhaotainn, leis an coisinn iad am beòshlaint,

agus gum fuirich iad air an dùthaich. Sin agus bàtaichean isgaich de gach seòrsa—bàtaichean sgadain agus bàtaichean glais-iasg, agus cithrichean ghìomach cuideachd; sin agus beagan fearainn air an tog daoine òga tighean matha, agus as am faigh iad am feumalachd fhéin de bhuntàta, agus de arbhar a chumas bó no dhà. Tha còir aig an Rìghaltas air so a dhèanamh. Agus ma chumas na h-Eileanaich fhéin am feuman daonnan fa chomhair an Rìghaltais chan 'eil teagamh nach deanar so dhaibh.

Ach tha e buailteach do na Gaidheil a bhith sàmhach, agus nithean a ghabhail mar a bhitheas iad, gu bog balbh, mar gum b' e toil an Fhreasdail cùisean a bhith mar a thà iad. Ach chan 'eil an sin ach faoinas. Is e toil an Fhreasdail, iad an toinieg agus a' ghaige a thug am Freadail dhaibh a chleachdadh, agus feum a dheanamh dheth, los iad féin agus muintir eile a bhith gu dòigheil, comhfhurtaid—a' deanamh seirbhis do chach a chéile agus do 'n Dia a thug na comasan sin dhaibh—agus a bhith aoibhneach an lathair Dhé is dhaoine.

* * * * *

Ach is ann a tha mi an dràsda dhiùb' a thaobh slighean nan Eilean. Air tìr-mòr faodaidh rathad-an-rìgh neach a thoirt do àite sam bith, 'se sin ma tha rathad-an-rìgh ànn. Mura h-eil faodar rathad a dheanamh ànn; agus is còir rathad-mòr a bhith dh' ionnsaigh gach baile is àite sa' bheil daoine beò agus a' seasamh na rìghachd. Ach sna h-Eileanan cha ghabh rathad-mòr a dheanamh eadar eilean is eilean, chan 'eil ann ach a' mhuir. Ach thatar cho feumach air slighe air an so 's a thatar air rathaidean air tìr. Agus is còir rathaidean a bhith air tìr sna h-Eileanan mar a tha an àitean eile san rìghachd—rathaidean eadar bhaile is baile, far an teid uidheam-giùlain sam bith, agus tre an ruig sluagh air na bùitean as an ceannaich iad am feumalachd de nì sam bith tha dhith orra. Is còir cuideachd aiseg a bhith ri fhaotainn bhò thir-mòr chun nan Eilean, agus bhò eilean gu eilean. Tha na h-aiseagan a cheart cho feumail sna h-Eileanan 's a tha rathad-mòr an

rioh air tìr-mór. Is e na h-aiseagan, maille ri ròidean, slighean nan Eilean. Tha e mar sin a cheart cho dleasdhanach do 'n Riaghaltas aiseagan a chur air bonn, agus an cumail suas, agus iad a bhith cho saor agus cho furasda 's a tha e bhith ag imeachd air an rathad-mhór. Is e bàta-na-smùid rathad-an-rìgh do na h-Eileanan agus asda, agus is e na h-aiseagan slighean nan Eilean; agus ma tha an Riaghaltas air son daoine bhith beò sna ceàrnaidhean so de 'n rioghachd—agus is maith a sheas na h-Eileanaich an rioghachd ri linn a' chogaidh, agus ri linn gach cogadh eile a bh' àn, a' dìon 's a gleidheadh na rioghachd—ma thà, is còir do 'n Riaghaltas na h-aiseagan a bhith cho riaghailteach, agus cho seasmhach, agus cho saor, 's a tha slighean eile na rioghachd, mar a tha rathad na tréine agus rathad-mór an rìgh.

Ach eadhon air tìr tha rathad-mór an rìgh 'na chuis-nàire do 'n Riaghaltas ann an cuid de na h-Eileanan Siar, gu sonraichte an cuid de Leodhas agus de na Hearadh. Chan 'eil duine beò a chunnaic a leithid! Chan 'eil umta ach ainneachas ròidean. Chan 'eil maith a bhith mu dheidhinn is ann is còir ròidean na rioghachd a bhith fo stiùradh agus fo riaghladh na riogheachd mar a tha an Post Oifis. An uair sin bidh rathaidean feadh na rioghachd gu léir air an aon ruith. Chan ann mar a tha iad an dràsda—an fheadhainn a tha fagus do bhaile Inbhir Nis nas fheàrr na tha na ròidean a tha an iomall na siorrachd, agus tha an fheadhainn a tha sna h-Eileanan nas miosa uile. Tha a leithid ceudna a thaobh Inbhir Pheofharain agus eileanan siorrachd Rois. An cumantas, mar as fhaide air falbh bho cheanna-bhàile na siorrachd is ann as miosa na rathaidean-móra, agus is anns na h-Eileanan as miosa iad uile.

Cha bhi so ceart gu bràth gus am bi na rathaidean-móra agus slighean eile na dùthcha mar a tha an Post Oifis, fo riaghladh na rioghachd. Agus is còir na sgiathalain a bhith air an aon dòigh. Is iadsan slighe eile nan Eilean. Tha iad feumail an dràsda sna h-Eileanan, ach tha an faradh aca fada mhór ro dhaor, agus gu sonraichte eadar na h-eileanan fhein.

* * * *

Ach a thaobh rathaidean agus slighean eile nan Eilean is e tha 'na chuis ionghnaidh uile gun robh Bord an Aiteachais ag cur dhaoine am bailtean ùra agus nach robh iad a' toirt rathad-mór do na daoine sin. Nach b' e na laoch muinntir Bord an Aiteachais—a deanamh bhailtean gun rathad thuca! Agus chan e sin uile e. Bha iad uaireanan a toirt ceum rathaid chun a' bhaile ùir ach bha aig muinntir a' bhaile ri ubhbir de an saothair a thoirt an asgaidh ann a bhith deanamh a' cheum leibidich sin fhéin.

Tha an t-ám aig na h-Eileanaich air dùsgadh a nis an deidh dh'ibh tighinn as a' chogadh. Bha mi air mo chuiris so ann am baile a rinn Bord an Aiteachais ann an aon de na h-Eileanan, agus ged tha e sia mìle bho 'n phort sa' bheil am Bàta a' tadhal chan 'eil rathad-mór idir thuige—dh' fhàg Bord an Aiteachais mar sud iad an deidh a' cheud chogaidh mhóir, agus

tha iad mar sin fhathast. Is ann air aiseag a chaidh mise ann, 's a thainn mi as, agus chosg an t-aiseag dhomh còig tasdain fhichead. Nach 'eil a nis a thàlde aig na h-Eileanaich innse do 'n t-saoghal an staid thruagh anns a bheil iad a thaobh slighean nan Eilean, los gun gabh an Riaghaltas nàire agus gun leasaichear cùisean. Tha làn fheum air.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Slighe an adhair.—Gu dearbh b' e sin an t-slighe aithghearr agus shocair—slighe dhìreach agus sheasgair an comhard ri Bàta agus ri Bus. Air mo chuairt an so an Imse Ghall ghabh mi an sgiathalain á Beinn a Bhaodhla do Steòrnabhagh, astar eadar Bàta is Bus, mar a tha iad a' dol an dràsda, a bheireadh suas ri dà latha bhuam.

Chaidh mi air bord an sgiathalain am Beinn a Bhaodhla aig deich mionaidean gu uair an deidh mheadhon-là (12.50 p.m.) agus bha sinn an Steòrnabhagh aig còig mionaidean fhichead an deidh uair (1.25 p.m.), dìreach leth-uair a fhìche is còig mionaidean.

Chan 'eil teagamh nach e so slighe nan Eilean nam bitheadh gu leòr de sgiathalain a' ruith feadh nan Eilean, agus sin tric gu leòr; agus cuideachd cadar na h-Eileanan is tìr-mór, araon air Gaidhealtachd is air Galldachd.

Bha an latha ud air an tàinig mi á Beinn a' Bhaodhla cho brèagha, grianach, 's a dh' iarradh duine beò. Chithinn gach àite fodham, agus timchioll oirn, agus fada air faire, fad an t-siubhal. Thainn sinn seachad os cionn tighcan is bailtean beaga Uibhist—os cionn Loch nan Madadh agus Loch Portain is Bagh a' Chàis is Hógh Beag—seachad an sin os cionn Ródail is Bàigh na Hearadh, gus am faca sinn an Tairbeart fodhainn, agus seachad os cionn Coalas Scalpaich, agus Loch Siofort agus Bailtean nan Loch an Leodhas. Dh' aithnichinn Baile Ailein agus Lacsaidh, agus grunnan eile de bhailtean nan Loch, os cionn Leirbhoist gus an robh sinn seachad os cionn Aranaid agus Eilean na Cobhail gus an do thèarn sinn sìos air fasadh a' sgiathalain air bràighe Steòrnabhagh. Cha shaoilinn gun robh mi air dad ach suidhe imte am Beinn a Bhaodhla nuair a bha sinn a rithist air an làr an Steòrnabhagh.

'Se so, da-riribh, slighe nan Eilean nam biodh gu leòr de sgiathalain ann, agus gum biodh iad saor gu leòr air son a' chumantais.

* * * *

Cha duine e an t-aodach.—Is minic a bhios mi smaoineachadh, agus e ag cur tàmailt orm, ciod is coireach gu bheil Goill is Sasannaich gu bitheanta a' leigeil orra nuair a bhios iad sgrìob sa' Ghaidhealtachd, gu bheil iad fhéin nas glìce, agus nas ealanta, agus nas fiosraichte na na Gaidheil. An e mìl-mhodhalachd nan daoine so, no ciod e? Is minic a chuir so ionghnadh agus tàmailt orm-sa ag eisdachd ris, agus chan urrainn mi gun seasamh air taobh mo dhaoine uair sam bith a chluineas mi e.

Tha cuimhne agam gun deach mi steach do Bhus na Hearadh an Steòrnabhagh uair is mi dol gu Tairbeart na Hearadh. Bha am Bus cha mhór làn, agus bha gille ann agus smùid air, agus e dol dhachaidh á Glaschu agus lathaichean saora aige. Tha e coltach gun d' aithnich e mise ged nach b' aithne dhomhsa esan. Dh' innis e do na bha sa' Bhus an seorsa duine a bh' unnam, agus rinn e àite dhomh ri a thaobh. Rinn mise cainnt ris, agus bha sinn a' dol air adhart agus an do ràinig sinn gualainn a' Chliseim. Bha càr beag an sin air stad am meadhan an rathaaid agus dithis fhear san deise Ghaidhealach, agus fèileadh ùr nodha am fear orra, a' feuchainn ris a' chàr a chur a dhol. Stad am Bus agus chaidh fear-stiùraidh a' Bhus a mach a thoirt làmh chuidich dhàibh. Ach cha robh an càr beag ag gluasad. Thuir mo charaid a bha leis an daorach rium fhèin: "Leig a mach mi ach an cuir mi an càr ceat dhàibh." "Fuirich far a bheil thu," thuir mi fhèin ris agus fhios agam nach seasadh e ceart air a chasan. "Ach!" ars esan, "tha mise eòlach air càraichean," 's e leum a mach. An tiota bha e ann am boinneid a' chàir agus càch aige air an cur a thaobh. Chaidh mi fhèin a mach agus sheas mi ri taobh an dithis a bha san deise Ghaidhealach, agus leis an robh an càr. Bhruidhinn mi an Gaidhlig riutha ach cò bha so ach dithis Shasannach. Ann an còig mionaidean bha an càr a' dol aig mo charaid air an robh smùid, ged nach seasadh e ceart air a' chasan.

Thuir fear de fhir an fhéilidh rium, agus e 'na sheasamh ri mi thaobh: "Dé do bheachd air an sud?" "Thà," ars mi, "gu bheil ann Ghaidheal 's an daorach air nas tùraile na dithis Shasannach 'nan làn thoinis, gun daorach idir!" Thug e sùil orm 's cha dubhairt e facl, is rinn càch gàire.

Ord agus tarag shia òirleach.—Bha banais sa' bhaile—an oidhche a phòs Ciorstaidh Anna Chalum Sheòrais—agus bha bean àraidh a' dol dh' ionnsaigh tigh na bainne nuair a thachair dithis ghillean òga rithe nach d' aithnich i—coigrich á baile eile—agus aig àite-tionndadh nan càraichean thainig iad far an robh i agus thuir fear aca rithe: "Gabhaibh mo leisgeul, an aithne dhuibh tigh anns am faigh sinn òrd agus tarag shia òirleach agus bò againn air a dhol as a caoldruim?"

"Na bhleoghainn sibh i"? thuir a' bhean riù, "Cha do bhleoghainn," ars iadsan. "Fiachaibh a null do thigh 'Iudais'—an tigh sin mu 'r coinneamh." Fhuair iad òrd is tarag an sin, agus chuir iad a' bhò 'na caoldruim. B' e so buideal lionna agus iad a' toirt an tùc as!

Aois clann-nighean an Rubha.—Air a' Ghaidhealtachd, mar a tha fhios againh, tha e 'na chleachdadh gu tric aig muinntir aos àite a bhith togail seorsa de dhroch alladh—eadar fealla-dhà 's dha-rìribh—air muinntir àite eile.

Bidh feadhainn an Leodhus ag ràdh nach fhàs clann-nighean an Rubha nas sine na aois àraidh—gun bi iad a' stad aig an aois sin fhéin,—ceithir bliadhna fichead!

"Aois clann-nighean an Rubha: ceithir bliadhna fichead"! theirear.

Ach is e a dh' fhaodadh clann-nighean an Rubha a fhreagairt, gun robh iadsan cho deanta agus cho eireachdail 'nam fìor òige 's ged bhithheadh iad ceithir bliadhna fichead; agus cuideachd, gun robh iad am meadhan an latha ag coimhead cho òg 's cho maiseach is ged nach biodh iad ach ceithir bliadhna fichead.

Pòg agus co'-là-deug de thide mhaith.—Bha banacharaid ag innse dhomh an là-roimhe gun robh i 'na seasamh air ceidhe-mór Steòrnabhagh ri linn a' chogaidh agus am Bàta a' tighinn a steach. Tha e 'na chleachdadh aig muinntir Steòrnabhagh a bhith cruinneachadh sìos chun a' cheidhe nuair tha am Bàta a' tighinn, agus mar is trice tha dùmhladas mór sluaigh ann. Air an turas a bha 'n so, ma tha, bha mo banacharaid ag ràdh gun fàsa i gille òg a' tighinn gu tìr agus gille òg éile 'ga choinneachadh air a' cheidhe—fear a' tighinn is fear a' falbh, agus deise an Nèibhi orra le chéile.

Rug iad air glaicean a chéile agus phòg an dara fear am fear eile; agus an sin thubhairt fear aca ri charaid agus e ag amharc air: "Bha a' ghiosag ud cho maith ri co'-la-deug de thide mhaith."

Atharrachadh trusgain.—Bha fear agus smùid air a' dol a steach do thigh-òsda an Steòrnabhagh. Is e fear de na dorsan sin a bhios a' dol muir cuairt 's mun cuairt a bh' air an tigh-òsda. Lean esan air dol mun cuairt 's mun cuairt 's gun mothachadh stad aige. Bha e mar sin a' dol a mach 's a steach, is cha robh e a' tuigsinn air an t-saoghal dé bu chiall do na bh' ann. Bha e an turas so a' dol mun cuairt agus chunnaic e boirionnach 'na seasamh a stigh, agus nuair a ràinig e an taobh a muigh bha boirionnach eile 'na seasamh air taobh a muigh an doruis. Shaoil esan gun h-e an ao boirionnach a bh' ann, ach an deidh sin mhottaic e gun robh atharrachadh trusgain orra. "Tà," ars esan ris an dara te, "cha robh thu fada ag atharrachadh do thrusgain."

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Agus bithidh rathad-mór an sin, agus slighe; agus goirear slighe 'na naomhachd dheth; cha sibhail neach neòghlan troimhe; ach bithidh e air an son-san; cha teid am fear-turuis no na daoine baoghalta air seacharan ann.—*Isaiah xxxv.*, 8.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi cinnteach gun d' thug e mor thoileachadh, co dhiubh a bhithas no nach bi e 'nur comas uile gu léir a bhith leinn anns a' champ, fha'ninn an litir àireimh a' Chéitein (no dòigh sam bith eile anns an cuala sibh e) gu bheil camp na h-Oigridh ri dol 'na uidheam air an t-samhradh so, agus an t-ionad freagarrach anns a bheil e ri bhith. Dh' innis mi

dhuibh gur ann air baile-fcàrainn na h-Annaid, dlùth air a' Chorpach, ann an Lochabar, a tha e ri bhith; agus dh'innis mi dhuibh gum bi e a' fosgladh air Diardaoin, an t-ochdamh la-deug de 'n Iuchar, na caileagan an toiseach, is an sin na balaich. Bidh na bithean 'gam pasgadh seachad Di-sathuirne, an deicheadh latha de 'n Lùghnasdal, ach bidh cothrom aig aon sam bith do nach bi e freagarraich faotainn gu a dhachaidh fuireach ann gu toiseach na seachdnuach.

An àm dhomh a bh' a' sgrìobhadh tha foibrheasan is fiosan a' tighinn òirn bu gach taobh, tuath is deas, is cheana tha uiread ainmeanann air tighinn a steach 's gu bheil sinn cinnteach á cuideachd shùndach a bhith shuas an sud anns an Annaid.

Nuair thig an samhradh grianach oirn,

Gach nì a réir ar miann againn,

Bidh camp ri taobh Loch-Iall againn,

'S cò dh' iarradh na bu b' fhearr!

Bidh iomain is seinn òran ann;

Bidh pioaireachd is ceòl againn;

Bidh iomairt de gach seòrs againn,

'S a' Ghàidhlig chòir an àird!

Dh' fhaodainn inneadh dhuibh gu bheil dearbhadh againn gum faigh sinn sealbh gu ar feum gu còcaireachd is eile air cuid de 'n airebhadh a bha aig a' Chàbhlach Rìoghail an àm a' chogaidh ri oir a' chamuis, glé dlùth do phàirc laraich a' chaimp, cho dlùth 's gum faodte spitheag a chathail bho 'n dara aon gas an aon eile. Chan 'eil mi ag ciallachadh le so gum molamaid do na balaich no do na caileagan teannadh ri spitheagan a chathail taobh no taobh eile ach aon taobh a mhàin; agus is e sin am mach ri aghaidh na stuidhe feuch cò an spitheag as motha a nì de stàdagan air aghaidh an uisge mun sluigear suas i. Sin cluich a bhìomaid glé thoigheach oirre an uair a bha mise 'nam bhalach, cathadh spitheag is a seòladh bhàtaichean sealadair! A thaobh na h-aitreibh so a bhùneas do 'n Chàbhlach Rìoghail, chan 'eil iadsan ag cur feum oirre an nis, agus tha làn-fhìnghair againn gum faigh sinn cead ar feum féin a dheanamh dhi. Ma gheibh sinn sin, bidh i ro uiseil dhuinn gu biadh a dheasachadh, oir tha gach goireas air a cheann sin innte, àitean-teine is àmhuinnean, agus an t-uisge air tionndadh na cnaige an cinn phlòban is gu léir.

Thug mi fa-near anns an litir mu dheireadh an dùthaich òirdhearce, le eachdradh urramach fuaighte rithe, a bhios air a fosgladh dhuibhse a bhios anns a' champ ud an Lochabar nan Craobh. Tha mi an dòchas gun uidheamaich sibhse sibh féin an eachdradh is cruinne-eolas nan cearnan ud cho math 's a bhios 'nur comas an dà chuid mun ruig sibh idir agus an déidh dhuibh ruigheachd. Tha eagal mór orm nach 'eil uiread eòlais aig cloinn an la-diugh air na nithean sin 's a bu chòir a bhith aca; agus tha sgeul agam dhuibh gu sin a dhearbhadh.

Bha mi latha bho chionn greis air ais, agus cha bu latha eile e ach am feasgar roimh choimeasladh Latha Chulodair, am mach a' ruamhar anns an iomaire bheag a tha agam air a' bhruthach ud thall. Bha clann na sgoile a' faotainn na réir, agus thainig dà

bhalachan mu aois dhèich no dusan bliadhna an rathad a bhà mi. Chaidh sinn gu seanachas. Bidh mise daonnan a' feòraich an ainmeanann is an sloinnidhean de chloinn a bhios a' deanamh seanachais rium mar sud, agus ciod a b' ainmeanann do 'n dà ghiollan so ach Ailean Chamshron is Iain Stiubhart. Thug na h-ainmean ud gluasad air m' aigne, agus am feasgar a bha ann! Prionnsa Tearlach, Loch-Iall, Culodair is iomadh taobh is smuain eile a dhùisg iad 'nam inntinn.

Dh' fhiach mi ri fhaotainn am mach bho na balaich so an robh eòlas sam bith aca air na tachartasan mòra ud anns an robh làmh cho treun aig an dà fhine do 'm buineadh iad, ach cha robh! Cha chuala iad riamh iomradh air Prionnsa Tearlach no air Culodair! Cha robh toirt-fa-near aig a' Chamshronach air an fhine allaid do 'm buineadh e, is cha mhò a bha fios aig an Stiubhartach gum bu "rioghail a dhream!"

Bha, an nis, na balaich ud air an teagasg ann an sgoil baile-mhòir, far nach bu chòir an teagasg a bhith claoch no easbhuidheach, ach b' e sud an toradh a dh' fhiosraich mise. Faodaidh gum abair cuid nach 'eil feum sam bith aig cloinn air a leithid sin de theagasg, ach chan 'eil mise de 'n bheachd sin. Chuimhnich mi an sin air cuid de na nithean air an robh fios agam féin an uair a bha mi an aois a bha iadsan, is air an d' fhuair mi eòlas bho na seann daoine, cho math ris an deagh mhaighstir sgoile a bha againn. Is dòcha gun till mi ri sin uair eile.

An nis, is còir dhomh ainmeachadh an so (ged is dòcha gu bheil e taobh am mach de obair Comunn na h-Oigridh) gun do ràinig beagan oidhirpean mi a rinneadh air ràdh sònraichte Frangach, mar a leigeadh ris an "Gàidheal" a' Mhàrt, an litir bho 'n deagh Ghàidheal, Alasdair Mac Each-thighearna, a thionndadh gu Gàidhlig. Dh' ainmeachadh mise 'nam bhreitheamh air an dà oidhirp a b' fhearr, ged nach 'eil a' bheag de eòlas agam air Frainceis. Leis gun d' thugadh seachad ciall nam facal ann am Beurla, ged thà, is dòcha nach teid sin a dheanamh thar mo chomais. Tha mi a' tuigsinn gur e a bha am beachd an tabhartacha a' chomb-fharpais so a chumhnglachadh ri Comunn na h-Oigridh a mhàin; agus is e sin a b' aobhar air mise a bhith air m' ainmeachadh 'nam bhreitheamh. Ach cha do rinneadh sin soilleir, agus is e a thachair gun do ghabh inbheic làmh anns a' chùis. Is ann mar a thà nach 'eil (cho fada 's a thuigeas mise) aon de na h-oidhirpean a ràinig sinn bho laimh na h-Oigridh, agus tha mise ro dhùilich nach 'eil. Tha aon dhiubh an Gàidhlig na h-Eireann. So aigabh, a nis, an dà oidhirp, 'nam bheachd-sa, a b' fhearr de na ràinig sinn.

(1) "Tha iuchair na saorsa aig cinneach fo dhaorsas, ma chumas e suas a chainnt," bho Dr. A. B. Flett, 15 Sràid Mhic-an-Fhùcadair, Dun-èideann. agus

(2) "An uair a bhios cinneach air an cur fo dhaorsas, cumaidh iad gréim air iuchair an saorsa ma labhras iad an cànan fhéin," bho Iain N. MacLeoid, Briarslaic, Rathad an Aiseig, a' Mhanachainn.—

Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDUGHAILL

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

The final Ceilidh of the Elgin Branch was presided over by the President, Mr. D. C. Cowan, and there was an attendance of over 100. A fine programme had been arranged by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Nicol Campbell, who, by the way was attending in his official capacity for the last time. Mr Campbell has now retired after over 40 years service with H. M. Customs and Excise, and is to live in Inverness. Warm tributes to his work on behalf of the local Branch were paid by the President, and the Northern Organiser in tendering thanks on behalf of the Northern Sub-Committee observed that what was Elgin's loss would be Inverness's gain. We wish this son of Glenorchy many happy days in his retirement.

GLEN-URQUHART GAELIC MUSIC CLASS.

This Class, conducted by the Inverness County Education Committee and An Comunn, has completed its agreed on period of 20 weeks, but at the request of the Class members, a further period of 10 weeks has been agreed to. The attendance has been very good throughout, and many young men and women demobbed from the Services joined the Class on their return to the Glen.

Similar Classes at Abernethy and Newtonmore have been equally successful.

The Kilmallie Gaelic Choir has been meeting weekly throughout the Session under the baton of Mr. MacConnachie, with Mr. Alasdair Carmichael as Gaelic adviser.

CONCERT TOUR.

From the recent series of four Concerts, at which Neil MacLean and Jenny M. B. Currie were the star artistes, a sum of £140 18s. 11d. has been sent to The Central Fund.

The Organiser recently paid a visit to Duncraig Agricultural School, Ross-shire, and was pleasantly surprised when he was met at the station platform by over 40 girl students, many of whom he had known as primary school scholars in Wester Ross and Lewis. He was shown over the Castle by the Matron, and later in the evening, the Interim Headmaster, Mr. Ligertwood, very kindly explained the Scheme in detail. Together, they visited the garden, which, by the way, is fully three acres in extent, and also the Farm, which in due course will be included in the Scheme. What struck the Organiser most was the fine physical appearance of the 50-odd girls in residence there, and the happy expression on every face. Whatever may be their final choice of career, there is no doubt about this—these girls have benefited enormously from their stay at Duncraig—good food, regular hours, early to bed and early to rise, and a kindly discipline show their own results. This is a new field of research in the North, and one likely to yield good fruit in the years to come.

SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

The work of Mr. Donald Macpherson, Physical and Recreational Organiser, was warmly commented on by one of the Barra representatives at a meeting of the County Education Committee recently. There is a vast field in the North and West in this phase of Highland education, and where instruction and advice is given in the native language, the response is at once apparent. Mr. Macpherson is at present in Uist on similar work.

The Organiser has just completed a visit of three days, to the Lochaber Mod Area and matters there are progressing very favourably. The Lochaber Provincial Mod promises to be one of the most successful yet held in that area. Music and Gaelic adjudicators have been appointed and three Halls will be necessary to complete this Mod in one day. The date is 21st June, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., 18 Grange Terrace, Fort William, All entries must be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary before June 1st.

During Mr. Macphail's visit to Mallaig, the Headmaster, Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., arranged that he should meet and address the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year pupils in the School. Several boys and girls expressed a desire to attend the Camp at Annat, and enrolments may be expected after the parents have been consulted.

At Arisaig, Mr. Simon MacDonald, Headmaster, had arranged a meeting and Ceilidh and a pleasant evening was spent with Song, story and Bagpipe Music, with Mr. McDonald as Fear-an-Tighe. During the day, Mr. Macphail visited the school and enrolled 7 girls and 3 boys in the local Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh. Several children expressed a desire to attend the Annat Camp and this matter is having attention.

At Annat, the Organiser had an interview with the Naval Base Welfare Officer in regard to details re Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp. All these were satisfactorily arranged and everything is now in order as far as Hall and cooking arrangements are concerned.

The Annual General Meeting of the Golspie Branch was held on Thursday, 9th May, with Mr. George Grant, C.C., President, in the Chair. Satisfactory reports were submitted by Miss Anne Beaton, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and these were unanimously approved. Mr. Macphail thanked the Branch for good work done in the district, and he was instructed to endeavour to make arrangements for the supply of a Gaelic Music Teacher for the area early next Session, with a view to holding a local Mod next year. Mr. Grant continues as President and Miss Beaton as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer for another year.

Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis has just completed its 12th Session. At the Annual Meeting held recently, Mr. Donald MacDonald, who has held the Office of President since its inception, intimated that he wished to resign. Mr. Farquhar MacLeod, who has been Minute Secretary for the past eight years was unanimously appointed President. Reference was made to the excellent services rendered by Mr. MacDonald, and it was unanimously decided to make him an Honorary member (Ball-Urramach) in terms of the Constitution. Miss Anne MacLean, who has been Hon. Treasurer for a number of years also intimated that she wished to resign and the appointment of a successor was left in abeyance.

Mr. Donald MacPhail who has been Hon. Secretary since the formation of the Ceilidh continues in that Office, but Mr. Stewart MacInnes who was his assistant last Session, had to resign for business reasons, and Mr. Calum MacDonald, Keeper of the Castle, was appointed in his stead.

It was decided to continue affiliation with An Comunn Gaidhealach and several donations were made to deserving causes.

CENTRAL (WAR COMFORTS) COMMITTEE.

Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund.

Contributions are coming in steadily for the above Fund, but special mention should be made of the excellent gesture of the Glasgow Uist and Barra Association, who, at their Annual Meeting decided to donate the splendid sum of £100 to the Fund. This action is very much appreciated, and gives the Committee great encouragement to proceed with the work which lies before them.

The Committee are busy making preparations to augment the Fund, and the ladies of the Work Party are holding a Bring and Buy and Jumble Sale in the Highlanders' Institute, on Saturday, 15th June. Contributions in cash or kind will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Secretary, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2.

The Highland Games Committee have arranged to hold a Grand Shinty Match at Scotstoun Showground, on Saturday, 5th October, when two prominent teams will take part. Although the date is as yet far off, shinty enthusiasts in the West of Scotland will welcome this revival of one of the oldest and most popular of Highland sporting events which lapsed during the war in this area.

The Pipe Band Committee are at present making arrangements to hold a Grand Pipe Band Contest and Highland Dancing Competition in Glasgow, on Saturday, 24th August, at a venue yet to be selected. It is understood that this will attract some 25 Bands and the Committee are indeed fortunate

in having the full co-operation of the Scottish Pipe Band Association. In addition to the piping and dancing, there will be a special exhibition of Highland Field Events by a team of well-known athletes.

The Magistrates of the City of Glasgow have kindly granted permission for the Committee to hold a Flag Day in the City, on 16th November, in aid of the Fund.

KINTYRE JUNIOR MOD.

The first post-war Mod was held at Campbeltown, on 10th May, in ideal Mod weather. Entries, which created a record for the Junior Section, were received from all parts of the peninsula and Lochgilphead. A welcome addition to the Literary and Oral Sections was the entries from Keil School, Clachan. All the boys were native speakers and they distinguished themselves in both sections.

There were large attendances of the general public at each Hall during the day, and for the evening Concert, over which Miss G. M. Hall of Tangy, President of Campbeltown Branch, presided, the largest available Hall was packed to its utmost capacity. The programme was sustained by the first-prize winners, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Neil MacLean.

The standard of Gaelic and Music was very high and reflected great credit on pupils and teachers alike. There is a definite revival for Gaelic in the area and members of the local Branch are quite alive to the need for supplying the demand for instruction in the language.

Arrangements for the day's proceedings were carefully planned, and much credit is due the officials for the manner in which these were carried out. Mr. Peter J. Campbell has been Secretary of the Campbeltown Branch since it was formed in 1921, and at this, the 18th Mod, he had the able assistance of Mr. Charles Reppke who worked assiduously to make the Mod the success it undoubtedly was. Mention must also be made of the services rendered by the local clergy, of all denominations, as chairmen of proceedings.

The Adjudicators were—Literary—Rev. T. S. Macpherson and Neil Shaw. Oral—Rev. Angus J. MacVicar, M.A. Vocal (Gaelic)—John A. Nicolson, M.A., and Neil Shaw. Music—Mr. and Mrs. Neil MacLean and Miss Mairi Pate.

The following is the list of first-prize winners:—

Literary.—Letter in Gaelic, Archd. MacKinnon; Writing from Dictation, Archd. MacKinnon; Translation from Gaelic into English, Archd. MacKinnon; Reproduction in Gaelic of story read in English, John Morrison. *Oral*.—Reading Poetry, John Morrison; Reading Prose, John Morrison; Reciting "An Coleach" from memory, John Morrison; Gaelic Conversation, Archd. MacKinnon; Reciting Scripture from Memory, John Morrison. *Solo Singing*.—Girls (own choice).—Rhona MacShannon. Boys (own choice), Robert Wallace. Girls and Boys (not over 14 years, Helen Martin (all of Campbeltown). Girls and Boys (over 14 and under 16), Effie Stewart, Southend. Girls and Boys (not over 12), Elaine MacIntosh, Carradale. Duet, Nan MacKinlay and Marion MacLellan, Campbeltown. Girls and Boys (over 16 and under 18), Netta Cameron, Southend. Unison Singing (under 12 years), Highland Church Junior Choir. Unison Singing (under 16 years), Highland Church Junior Choir. Choral Singing in two part harmony (Tangy Shield), Lochgilphead Junior Choir.

MacMaster Campbell Memorial Medals.—Rhona MacShannon and Robert Wallace.

AN GAIDHEAL.

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NORTH ARGYLL—LORN TOUR.

The last Concert Tour of the season arranged for the Southern Area was held during week commencing 6th May. In many respects this latest Tour was similar to the first one which took place last autumn especially in regard to the glorious weather which attended us during the week. The Party consisted of Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Miss Ina MacLellan and myself, Mr. Shaw being unable to accompany us on this occasion on account of having to attend the Kintyre Provincial Mod at Campbeltown and duties in the office.

The first concert was held at Appin where Mrs. MacColl and Miss Anne Scott Rae had attended to the local arrangements. Rev. John MacDonald was in the Chair, and we were well supported by local artistes including Miss Bessie Campbell, Mod Medallist, who is now living at Fasnacloch.

On Tuesday, we proceeded to Ardrou where Mr. D. Cameron, Salachan, Secretary of the local Branch had every detail arranged to perfection. The Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardrou presided, and there was a fine attendance of friends from the surrounding district. The following day, after having paid a brief visit to Salachan House where we were most hospitably entertained by Mr. Cameron and his good lady, we arrived at Strontian and here, for the first time this year, I heard the melodious notes of the cuckoo. In all my many sojourns through the Highlands seldom have I seen a more beautiful picture than that presented on this glorious day in May, with the afternoon sun glinting on the placid blue waters of Loch Sunart, and the hills of Morvern rising so majestically in splendour, proud of the fact that they occupied such a prominent place in the beautiful scene below them. Above all this, to us so used to the hustle and bustle of the city, the strange quiet and peacefulness all around, broken only by the sweet notes of the cuckoo and here and there the echoing wail of a hungry gull in search of food over the loch.

As I reflected in the scene around me, I realised that it was little wonder indeed, that our Gaelic Bards were so inspired to write such wonderfully expressive poetry. The concert in the evening was very well attended, and Mr. Alasdair Cameron, perhaps better known to members over a wide area under his pen-name of "North Argyll," was in the Chair. The feature of a strong supporting programme was the singing of Mr. D. Cameron who is now approaching his 80th year. Our thanks are recorded to Miss Phemie Munro who was responsible for the local arrangements.

On the way to Lismore, we halted at Duror, and called on Mrs. Malloch who, for many years, played a prominent part in An Comunn Branch at Crianlarich. She is now Vice-President of the Duror Branch. We also paid a visit to the school where we were entertained by the children whose delightful singing of four Gaelic songs was one of the highlights of our Tour. Mrs. Hunter, the teacher is to be congratulated on the excellent standard attained by those children both in Gaelic and Music. Unfortunately, the concert at Lismore clashed with the Oban Sales, and as a result we did not have the attendance which we might otherwise have expected. Nevertheless, we had a very happy evening and Lismore is indeed fortunate in having such a high standard among its local artistes. The Rev. Iain Carmichael, who was until recently minister of Martin's Memorial Church in Stornoway, presided at the concert, and we are indebted to Miss Anne Scott Rae and Mr. James MacDougall for attending to local arrangements.

On Friday, the Tour was brought to a close by an excellent concert at Benderloch where in addition to being strongly supported by local artistes the party was reinforced by our good friend Angus Whyte. The Rev. A. MacDonald, Ardchattan, was in the Chair, and there was a splendid attendance, thus the tour was brought to a close on a high note of satisfaction. We extend our sincere thanks to Miss Crerar and her Committee who did so much to make the function the success it was.

Members will be pleased to note that as a result of these Tours, and in addition to the valuable propaganda seeds which were sown on behalf of An Comunn, the Central Fund has

benefited in the region of £400. To all who contributed in any way, I should like to tender most sincere and cordial thanks but I must make special mention of my good friends Petrine M. Stewart, Ina MacLellan, and Angus Whyte, who, without thought for reward or favour have done so much to help me during the past winter to further the cause of An Comunn, and also Mr. Shaw whose guidance and experience has been invaluable. My only regret is that we were unable to visit all the places we should have liked to but to do so would have

required a full-time job in itself. However, we look forward to covering these areas next winter when it is to be hoped that An Comunn activities will be resumed on a full pre-war scale. In conclusion, I would add that although we have evidence that Gaelic has not been getting its rightful place in parts of the Southern Highlands there is also evidence that this state of affairs is being tackled most vigorously in some areas, and we are hopeful that this reaction will spread throughout the whole area.

ALASDAIR.

NA CNUIC 'S NA GLINN.

Bha am fonn so air a thoirt sìos mar a sheinn Bean Dhomhnaill MhicGhilleathain, am Baile Mhàrtainn, an Tìrìodh, e. Is ann as a' chruinneachadh a rinn Annag C. NicGhille Bhàin, agus leis an d' fhuair i duais aig a' Mhòd, a thàinig e. 'Se Niall MacGhilleathain nach maireann a rinn a t-òran—F.d.

GLEUS—D. *Moderato.**Séist.*

{ : f | m : - : s | r : - : d | m : - : f | s : - : s | l : - : s | d' : - : t | l : - : - | s : - }

Na cnuic 's na glinn a bh' fheàrr leam fhìn, Sìod cnuic na tìr a dh' fhàg mi,

{ : f | m : s : - | r : - : d | f : - : s | l : - : l | s : - : m | d' : - : m | r : - : - | d : - ||

An Eilean Thìrìodh taic nan tonn, Far 'n cluinn thu fonn na Gàidhlig.

Rann.

{ : s | d' : - : r' | m' : - : r' | d' : - : l | s : - : s | d' : - : r' | m' : - : s | s : - : - | m : - }

Chan iarrainn fhìn nas fheàrr fo'n ghréin, Bhi còmhuidh ré mo là - sa,

{ : s | d' : - : r' | m' : - : r' | d' : - : l | d' : - : l | s : - : m | s : - : m | r : - : - | d : - ||

Ach taobh a chaoil le luchd mo ghaoil, A stigh aig taobh a' Charnain.

'S lìonmhor òganach smiorail cruaidh,
Chaidh arach suas ri m' là-sa,
A stiùradh long air bhàr nan tonn,
Nuair bhiodh muir trom ri gairich.

Chi thu cibeir dìreadh suas,
Le cà 's e cuallach chaorach,
Is maighdeann òg le cùach 'na dòrn,
'S i bleoghainn bó air àirigh.

Nam faighinn trian na bheil am mhiann,
Mu 'n tigeadh crìoch mo là-sa,
Mu 'n duin mo shùil sa' chlà nach dùisg,
B' e sud an ùir a bh' fheàrr leam.

AN EALA AONRANACH.

Bha an là a' triall is ciar na h-oidhch'
A' tighinn air iarmaid, ian, is craoibh
Nuair chualas glòdh leam taobh na beinn
B' e eala aonranach ri seinn.

Gun aon de 'n ealtainn faisg 'na pàirt,
I sgaoleadh sgiath ri leud nan àrd,
Le ionndrain ann an com a gràidh,
I falamh lom air chall air càch.

Bha pìob a h-òrgain, ceòlmhor, cìthin,
Mar òran brònach òighe rùin,
'Se sin thug smuaisleachadh 'nam smaoin :
An ceòl cho àlainn 'sa càs neo-chaomh.

Laigh mi air meomhreachadh leam fhìn,
Air daoine 's eoin is dòigh an crìdh' :
An uair tha òran bròin is dìth
Cho àlainn ceol ri òran sìth'.

An ann an luach a' chuspair crìdh' ?
An ann bho leagadh, staid na sìth' ?
Eala ri caoineadh an t-aon nì
Ri clann nan daoine 'le gaol is dìth.

'N dean eala lùns' 's a mìnich bàrd
De 'n tobair fhìor an nì-s' tha àrd ?
Is gabhail leam-s' : am fonn 's a chràidh
Gur h-àrd toirt gleang air pongan gràidh.

Nach fhaodadh eala franadh fuaim
A chur a mach bho h-anam graum
Nam b' e sin nàdur àrd a ghé
A bhith coinneachadh càis an gràinde teud' ?

Ach ian na mais, mì-mhais cha d' rinn,
Bha 'crìdhe tais 's neo-bhras ri linn
Lean i a sgiath ri leud na h-oidhch'
Le crìdh' ag iarraidh 's bial ri caoidh.

Leat, eal', a' triall ag iarquin chàich
Theid sinn air sgiath a dh' iarraidh tàimh ;
Far nach tig crìoch air grian no là
'S ar cupan mianna sìorruidh làn.

M.M.

LEIG DHIOT AN T-IOMAGAIN.

Leig dhiot an t-iomagain, a chridhe, a chridhe,
Tosd, na bi furachail, fuirich gu là :
Tha mhaduinn ag glassadh, is siubhlaidh do shnighe,
Thig solus a dh' aindheoin dé their thu an drásd.'
Thàinig a' mhaduinn, le caithream nan sméarach,
Gàrdachas eumlaith 'gam thàladh o m' shuain,
Is ge do bha ise 'na laighe gun chòmhradh,
Dh' éirich a' ghrian a' broilleach a' chruain.

RUADH RIGH.

IOMACHEIST.

Tha leanabh 'na mo chridhe
Tha 'cadai anns an dorch,
A ghluaisèas san trom-laighe
Gus àite-dìon a lorg.

Cha lorg thu 'n feasdha fhasadh
Gu briseadh-fàire nuadh,
'S gach là aig crìoch a turuis,
Tha ghrian dol sìos sa' chruain.

RUADH RIGH.

D.D. AIRSON AR FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

Fhìr-dheasachaidh,—Bidh mi fada ann bhur comain ma
chuireas sibh an litir ghoirid so anns an ath àireimh de 'n
Ghaidheal.

Tha mi cinnteach nach 'eil mi ag ràdh ach na bu toigh leis
a h-uile leughadair de 'n *Ghaidheal* a ràdh, agus mise
'nam leughadair cumanta, 'nuair a their mi cho toilichte agus
cho uasal as an Fhear-dheasachaidh againn agus a tha sinn
uile a chionn 's gum bheil e a' faotainn D. D. bho Oil-thigh
Dhun-Fàideann an samhradh so ! Is esan a tha a' dèilig air an
urram so. Dh' oibrich e gum stad iomadh bliadhna air taobh
na Gàidhlig agus nan Gàidheal le eud agus le eòlas. Gach
uile mìos bheir e dhuinn earrannan uidheil ann an Gàidhlig
bhlàth, shnasmhor, agus làn de bhrigh, air eachdraidh,
lìreacas, dèanadasan an là an duigh agus nan làithean a
chaidh seachad, agus air fir agus mathan an t-saoghail
Cheiltich. Tha Oilthigh Dhun-Eideann a' dèanamh gu math
ag cur an urram so air ar caraid aron foghlumte agus
coibhneil, a chionn a shaothrach airson na Gàidhlig; agus is
sinne uile a tha ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air aig an àm so.
Tha sinn ag guidhe gur fada a mhealas e, agus a sheilbhicheas
e, an t-urram 'r so, agus a leanas e air ar chùisean Gàidhlig
a stùradh.—Is mise,
UILEAM P. MILNE.

Oilthigh, Leeds.

COTHROM—IS ANACOTHROM.

B'e feasgar na h-Aoine a bha ann, an cianalas 'gam léirèadh,
mi gabhail sìos am Mol-a-tuath, agus farmadagam ri mo
choimprean a bha faighinn air falbh do iomadh cèrnaidh de
'n eilean. Ach cha b' ionann dhaibh-san is dhòmhas—cha
rùigeadh iad air an sgòil Di-Iuin.

Cha robh iadsan gun fhios an a' oidhche sin a bheiridh
dhachaigh iad, no am blaiseadh an t-eun beag an t-uisge mus
fhaiceadh iad an tigh am màireach.

Ràinig mi a' charbad far an robh dithis no trìùir de sheann
daoine agus beagan bhòireannach le am basgaidhean. Bha e
mu lethuair an dèidh sia, agus c' àit an robh Seumas? C' àit
ach an 'tigh a sheanar,' far am b' abhaist d' a bhith. Bha e
cho math domh suidhe ged bha deagh fhios agam gur ann
'n nam sheasam a chuirinn seachad cuid mhath de 'n t-slighe,
oir bha mòran ri dol dhachaigh air a' charbad is.

Co-dhùbh chruinnich na daoine mu sheachd uairean,
agus bhùrùch iad a steach gun an gann b' urrainn dhomh m'
anail a tharraing, ach cha d' fhalbh sinn fhathast: bha m'
padhadh a ris air fear na dhithis dol suas Ceàn-a'-Bhàighe agus
cha chasgadh an lot ach leann an 'Royal.'

Mu dhèireadh thall bha sinn air an rathad ge nach robh

sinn daonnan air a mheadhon. Bha sinn mar agadan am
baraile, agus mise smuaineachadh air cho rathail is cho math
dheist is a bha muinntir an Rudha a gheibh bho 'n tigh is
chuisse cha mhòr aig uair 'sam bith a thogras iad. Cha b' ann
mar sin dhòmhas an oidhche sin oir bha an aon uair deug ann
na buillean an uair a fuair mis as a' charbad an dèidh dhomh
dhol innte aig còig agus Seumas air a' rìud rium nach fhuireadh
e rium nam bithinn na b' fhaide na sin.

A nis cha shaoileadh duine leth uiread d'heist nam b' e
carbad shàbhailt air an robh sinn air falbh, ach bha i sud 'n
glaig a dh' fhaodadh bristeadh no a dhol as a chèile uair 'sam
bith—mar is tric a thachair, agus cha b' e Seumas fhéin a'
chuideachd a bu shàbhailte falbh comhla ris. "O Sheumais
ghòraich chòir, is iomadh duine a fuair galair a bhàis air do
sgàth, agus is iomadh cridhe thug leum a chochull ri gabhail
an lùib comhla riad." V.

FAILTE AIR AN T-SAIGHDEAR.

Dé air thalamh tha cho binn no cho brèagha no cho ceòlmhor
ri caisimeachd na pioba—

"Cridhe toirt breab as, is e 'ga freagairt
Ann am beadradh intinn."

Air an naoidheamh leth de 'n Ogmhios a chaidh cò
thàinig a dh' aon ghnòthach a chluiche do 'n sgoil ach piobairean
is drumairean nan Sìofortach is nan Camshronach. Bha
ciucharan min uisge ann an uair a thàinig iad ach cha b' fhada
bha e togail. Bu bhòidheach an sealladh gun teagmha, a'
bhuidheann-chiùil le fèilèadh beag preasach, snasail, eireach-
dail, a' chlann mu'n cuairt air lann is gèradh "ag omh-
fhreagairt min" ris a' cheòl a bha cho tursach is cho sìogaidh is
cho àlainn, na craobhan 'nan làn-éideadh gorm mar bhra-
th-fhasgaidh air an fhaiche. Mar a bha iad ag gabhail seachad,
is air an ais is air an adhart, cho òrdail, is cho tapaidh is cho
direach 'nan cumadh, cha b' urrainn do neach ach a bhith
smuaineachadh air gach buaidh fhuiltèach, gharg, ghoirt, a
thug iad a mach air an ar-fhaichean céine. Thòisich iad, mar
bu chubhaidh, le "Eilean an Fhraoich," bho 'n sin gu 'Rathad
nan Eilean' agus am port sgariteil neo-bhàsmhor, 'Dh' ith
na coin na maragan.' Timcheòl a' ghàraidh air beulaibh na
sgoile chuinnteadh farum ceann nam balach—is nan cailteagan
—a' bualadh gu riaghalteach.

Thàinig smudhan uisge rithist ach dé dhe sin, bha an ceòl
ag còrdadh ri beag is mòr, agus dé bha smòd uisge dol a
dheanamh air a' Ghaidheal? Cha b' ann de shìol a' phoca-
shalainn esan.

Thàinig crìoch air a' chuirim, dh' fhalbh na piobairean ach
thug iad togail cridhe is imtinnè duinne le 'n teachd agus
dh' fhag iad againn deilbh a bheir, tha mi creidsinn, mòr-
sholas do iomadh balach a bha ann an éisdeachd, an uair a
bhios e fhathast a' toirt a' bheil air laithean mòraige ìve. IV.

[Thug mi, an dà earann so a' leabhar Bliadhnaiche Sgoil Mhic
Neacail an Steòrnabhagh. Chì sibh le blasad is ceartas no
Gaidhlighe cho math 's a tha an cànan air a teagasg san sgoil
mhòr sin.—F-d.]

EADAR SINN FHEIN.

Dear Sir,—Some of the statements of your correspondent
Innis an Fhìrinn, etc., about the Manx version of the Scriptures
are incorrect or misleading.

"In 1768, the clergy of the Established Church in the
island were instructed to prepare a translation of the Bible in
Manx." The work of translation had begun long before that,
and the N.T. had been published only in 1767.

"Needless to say, only one edition of this curious work
(the Manx Bible) appeared." Actually, two editions of the
Bible as such appeared, in 1775 and 1819. But the statement
is otherwise misleading, as will be seen from the following list
of Manx scriptures:—

1748, Matthew.	1775, Pulpit Bible.
1763-1767, N.T.	1810, N.T.
1771-1773, O.T.	1815, N.T.
1772-1773, O.T.	1819, Bible.
1775, N.T. revised.	1824, N.T.

"With the assistance of the rectory menials, a strange thing happened: the words of Holy Writ were reproduced in the ungrammatical language of the kitchen and the stable." According to Reid in his *Bibliotheca* "The Manks (language) is, however, sadly corrupted, and has a vast mixture of Saxon words, yet the translation of the Scriptures into it is much happier and more idiomatic, than those either in Irish or Gaelic." Professor D. Mackinnon's references to the version in his paper on the Dialects of Scottish Gaelic appear to imply some respect for it. Moreover, it is unlikely that the translator of the Twelve Prophets, W. Fitzsimmons, an Episcopalian parson in Edinburgh, could have derived much assistance from his "rectory menials," whether in kitchen or stable.

If the version was made, doubtless for good reasons, in the idiom of unlettered speakers of Manx rather than according to the rules of Erse grammarians, one should remember the charges of barbarism and illiteracy brought by the pagans against the language of the Bible in the early centuries and the proud reply of the learned champions of Christianity, boasting of the triumph of fisherman's solecism over Attic Syllogism.

ANGUS.

Sir,—On my occasional visits to Eire I have noticed that our Gaelic brethren in our Mother Country have taken a fancy to our Gaelic songs. I have heard the Eriskay Love Song sung by a little girl in Donegal, "Mo Dhachaidh bhig fhéin" by massed choirs in Dublin, "Mo righinn óg," etc.

I would, therefore, suggest that as a change we might put some of the Irish masterpieces into Scottish Gaelic. Therefore, to encourage our students, I will willingly present £5 to the best translation of "Rose Catha na Mumhan" (the Munster War Song, written by Pierce Fitzgerald, in 1745, when the Irish hoped for the results of our rebellion), with a second prize of £2 for the runners-up.

The original words in Irish will be gladly supplied by the writer of this letter; the arbiter will, I trust, be the Editor of *An Gaidheal*.

The first verse—in an indifferent English Translation of the undersigned—is as follows

By the sweet song of the bridge and breeze
Carried o'er the west of the seas,
Gladly I hear that our King is near
To banish our sorrow and our fear.
Methinks that Munster will gaily greet
The sight of the white sails of his fleet
With whisk of waves and splash of the spray
Boldly returns our hero to stay.

Rose Catha na Mumhan,
Pierce Fitzgerald, 1745.

Mise le meas,
ALEXANDER MCKEHEINIE.

Dnnheanish House,
Oban,
Argyll, 10th May, 1946.

SUMMER SCHOOL ON SOCIAL LIFE AND ACTIVITIES IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS.

Inverlochty, 23rd July to 2nd August, 1946.

This Summer School is being organised primarily for the benefit of the Gaelic-speaking communities in the Highlands and Islands. Its purpose is to give to interested persons living in these communities an opportunity of meeting together to explore ways and means of helping their neighbours:—

- (1) to make a more enjoyable and satisfying use of their leisure time, and
- (2) to maintain the Gaelic language and extend Gaelic culture

through the development of more and better community facilities for social life, and for a wider variety of recreational, cultural, and informal educational activities.

The school is open to all men and women of 20 and over who are interested in its objects, especially those who are taking,

or are willing to take, an active part in developing facilities for the general benefit of Gaelic-speaking localities.

Application should reach the Secretary, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, not later than 8th June. Forms supplied on application.

PROPOSED SUMMER SCHOOL OF CELTIC ART.

Lochgilphead, 1st to 22nd August, 1946.

Intending students for this School are respectfully asked to enrol at once with the Secretary, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Fee for full course of three weeks, 35s.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

To enable An Comunn to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign now that the war is over, 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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	<hr/>
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AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH

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Leabhar XLI.]

An t-Iuchar, 1946.

[Earrann 10

AN T-URRAMACH CALUM MACLEOID.

Labhradh an sanas-ionndrainn a leanas le Aonghas MacDhonnchaidh air an Ròd-àile air a' cheathramh latha fichead de 'n Og-mhios.

Chuireadh mar fhiachaibh orm-sa—dleasdanas nach 'eil soirbh ri dheanamh, eadhoin mu eolach-rathaid, gun tighinn air dlùth charaid—sgiala-bàis a thoirt do bhur n-éisdeachd air a' Ghàidheal spioradail, dhùth-chasail, an t-Urramach Calum MacLeòid, ministear soisgeil sgrè Bhothchuidir, agus Ceann Suidhe air a' Chomunn Ghàidhealach. Air a' chiad Sàbaid de 'n mhios a dh' fhalbh, chaidh a bhualadh sìos aig obair a Mhaighstir anns a' chùbaid; is d'earbh chrìoch—mar is aithne dòmh-sa—a ragnaicheadh fear, chan e mhàin a thrèibhdhireachd, ach a threubhantais.

Bha e dlùth d' a nàistinn is d' a bhodhaig fhallain gu robh a chàirdean—a tha, gum teagamh, lionmhor—a' crochadh ris an dòchas agus, mar an ceudna, an guidhe, gum faicte dh' aithghearr e os cionn a thrioblaid an ceann gach gnòthuich air an do bhuilic e a thlachd 's a shaothrachadh.

Cha leigear a leas iomradh gum b' e eilean Leodhais, ionad a ghin, a ghràidh is àraich. Ach a chionn nach 'eil dùthaich aig mnaoi, no aig nìnistear, chuir an t-Urramach Calum MacLeòid seachad a' chuid bu mhòtha de shoghal a dheanadais—a bha maraon

eireachdail agus ionnsaichte—ann an sgìrean eile de dh' Alba. Thug a Mhàthair Oideis, Oilèid Dhun-eid-eann, da, Céum-asgnaidh Dotair Dé-fadha, urram nach do mheal e.

B' e sàruchadh an turais a rinn e air gnòthuch na h-eaglais beagan sheachdainean air ais air feadh nan Eilean, a ghiorraich a làithean. Oir b' esan seirbhiseach nach caomhnadh ceann no colann.

Bha e 'na fhòghlumach Ceilteach, eagnaigh, cothromach agus ealanta. Chu do shuidh mi riamh 'na chuideachd gun cur ri m' eòlas—aideachadh is math a thuigeas leughadairean *A' Ghàidheil*. Tha mi taingeil gun d' fhuair mi aithne dhiamhair air Calum MacLeòid, mar dhuine taibseach agus mar theachdaire spioradail. Bha tàladh coibhneis ann am fiamh a ghàire, is beannachadh bho shuas an lasair a shùla. Ach, cha tig e domh a bhith tuilleadh is féineil. Oir tha càirdean na bith-bhuantachd 'g a fheitheamh thall; ach leanaidh sùil ar n-ionndrainn a thriall d' a dhachaidh; is nuair a chailleas sinn sealladh air a reul san astar, cuimhnichemaid gu bheil fios againn far am faighear e. Chan 'eil e ach ceum air thoiseach oirn.

THE LATE REV. MALCOLM MACLEOD, M.A., F.S.A.Scot.

President of An Comunn Gaidhealach and Editor of *An Gaidheal*.



It is with very great regret that many will have heard of the death on 21st June of the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod. As Deputy of the Church of Scotland's Highlands and Islands Committee, he had just completed an extensive and arduous tour of the congregations and mission-stations in the Outer Isles, from which tour he returned home, obviously fatigued and suffering from what appeared to be a bad chill. With his high sense of duty, however, he insisted on attending some at least of the General Assembly meetings, and it was while engaged in his usual Sunday duties at the Church of Balquhiddier, that he was overcome by physical weakness and had to be conveyed to the Manse. His condition worsened, and he was removed to the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, where he passed away.

There can be no doubt that, because of his many interests and activities, he had been working at the limit of his strength for some time past, for it was characteristic of him not to spare himself in whatever he felt was worth doing.

To us who knew him so well it seemed that he was but at the height of his powers with years of service still ahead of him, and his many friends were rejoicing in the news that his Alma Mater was about to confer on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, a deserved distinction which many felt to be overdue. By a strange and sad coincidence his death occurred on the evening originally fixed for the presentation to him by his parishioners and friends of suitable gifts in recognition of the honour he was about to receive.

Malcolm MacLeod was born in Uig, Lewis, in 1881, and was educated at the Nicolson Institute, Stornoway, the High School of Glasgow, and the University and New College, Edinburgh. He was minister successively at Broadford, Skye (1910-16), Lochgilphead (1916-24), John Knox Church, Glasgow (1924-37), and at Balquhiddier from 1937 to the time of his death. During the First World War he was on active service on the Western Front as a chaplain with the 51st (Highland) Division from 1915 to 1917.

There are few among the present members who have served An Comunn Gaidhealach so long and continuously and so wholeheartedly. For many years he was a member of the Executive Council, and for a long period was Convener of the Education Committee. In 1936, he became Editor of *An Gaidheal*, and after a period as Vice-President he became President of An Comunn in 1938, and continued both as Editor and President until his death.

Mr. MacLeod was a scholar of distinction, and was at home in several fields of study, especially the Classics, Archaeology, and Scottish and Highland History. He had a good working knowledge of several modern languages and was widely read in English Literature. But Celtic studies, and especially Gaelic language and literature, were his special province, ever since the days when he was a favourite pupil of the late Professor Donald Mackinnon. Well-grounded as he was in the older periods of Gaelic, few, if any, among us had a more profound knowledge than he of modern Gaelic, both literary and colloquial. He had a superb command of richly idiomatic Gaelic, and in his speaking and writing of it was always clear, vivid, and forceful, ever able to press home his meaning with a shrewd and pithy saying or tale in a manner somewhat reminiscent of "Caraid nan Gaidheal."

Malcolm MacLeod, however, was first and foremost a minister of the Gospel. That was his first and chief task, and, with a strong sense of vocation, he never allowed any other interest or activity to take precedence over the duties of his calling. As a preacher, both in English and in Gaelic, he was much more than competent. He had a truly homiletic gift, and his pulpit discourses were marked by clear thought, orderliness, and freshness, illumined by apt illustrations from his wide reading and his varied experience of life, while his conduct of public worship was deeply devotional.

It is, however, as a pastor that Mr. MacLeod will best be remembered by those who were privileged to have him as their minister. Assiduous in visitation, and a wise and kindly guide and comforter in times of affliction and stress, it was in the homes of his people that he won their affection.

Mr. MacLeod also had administrative capacity of no mean order, and he served on many committees

and public bodies. He was a member of the MacCaig Trust and of the Highlands and Islands Trust, and he served for several years as Convener of the Church's Highlands and Islands Committee. Last year, on the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Roderick MacLeod from the post of Superintendent of Highland Missions, Mr. MacLeod was appointed to succeed him as part-time Deputy in charge of Highland Missions.

In addition to his writings for *An Gaidheal*, Mr. MacLeod wrote many articles in "Life and Work" (Gaelic Supplement) and other periodicals. In 1935 he edited "An Laoideadair," a collection of Gaelic hymns published by the Church of Scotland. As long ago as 1913 he published a small book, "Comasan na h-Urnuigh," a translation of J. H. Oldham's "The Possibilities of Prayer," a little classic in content and language.

Readers of *An Gaidheal* need no reminder of the freshness and distinction with which he edited this Magazine, although it was with some reluctance that he accepted the Publication Committee's invitation

to become Editor. As Convener of the Education Committee, and many times as language adjudicator at provincial and national Mods, and especially as President of An Comunn during these past eight trying years, he rendered outstanding service, for which we ought to be very grateful.

It was my privilege to be his assistant in John Knox Church in 1930-32, and to enjoy his friendship through many years. He was a man of many friendships, among high and low; genial and kindly and humorous, and yet purposeful, holding his convictions strongly and expressing them forcefully, mentally vigorous and spiritually disciplined, his home-going has left a serious blank in our ranks, and his forthright personality will be missed for many a day.

We place on record our deep sympathy with Mrs. MacLeod and their two daughters, the elder of whom hears the news of her father's death in far-away West Africa.

"Air chuimhne gu bràth bithidh am firean."

T. M. MURCHISON.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi anabarrach toilichte á mar a tha cùisean a' dol leinn 'nar deasachadh air cheann a' chaimp, Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh anns an Annaid, a bhios 'na uidheam an ùine glé ghoirid an nis. Tha cheana ainmeanan ceud, eadar bhalaich is chailleagan, air tighinn chugainn, tuille de na cailleagan na tha againn de bhalaich gun teagamh, ach leis gur iad na cailleagan a bhios a' tighinn an toiseach, faodaidh e bhith gur ann a streapas àireamh nam balach na 's dlùithe air àireamh nan cailleagan mu 'n ruith an ùine a tha fathast eadar sinn is am nam balach; ma ni iad sin, ni iad gu math, agus bidh an camp as motha a bha againn fathast againn an Lochabar am bliadhna.

Tha mi, an nis, a' dol a dh'innseadh duibhras bhig dhuibh. Tha Gàidheal coir—chan 'eil mi ag innseadh fathast có e, eagal gur ann a dh' éireas cnap-starra ris nach 'eil suil againn anns a' chùis a tha e ann am an amharc—seadh, tha Gàidheal coir do an deagh aithne a' Ghàidhlig a sgrìobhadh, is mar an ceudna deagh aithne aige air ciod a tha clann toigheach air a bhith a' leughadh, an déidh crìoch a chur air cuid an sgrìobhadh de leabhraichean beag a tha e am beachd a shineadh gu saor agus an asgaidh do gach balach a bhios anns a' chaimp, is do na cailleagan cuideachd, ged is ann air na balaich as freagarraiche an leughadh a tha ann. Tha na duilleagan air a bheil e 'nam làimh air a' mhionaid uair, agus anns an litir a chuir e chugam an cois a' bhuaigain anns a bheil iad, tha an duine coir ag radh, "Tràth sa' mhaduinn an dugh thàinig smuain chugam gum faodainn rud-eigin a dheanamh air sgàth Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh."

Tha e an sin ag innseadh dhomh am prìomh-aobhar a chuir gum do sgrìobh se e; ach ch'ì sibh sin anns an

leabhran an uair a gheibh sibh e. Tha mi an dùil cho fada 's a thuigeas mi gum bi corr is leth-cheud taobh-duilleig ann. Chan abair mi ach sin uime an ceartair na 's fhaide na ma tha e an comas a' chlo-bhualadair an leabhran a bhith aige deas, le làithean saora is eile a tha a' tighinn oirn eadar so is sin a ghleheadh anns an amharc, gum bi e deas. Tha e deas mar tha ach obair a' chlo-bhualadair a mhàin. Cumaibh, matà, bhur cluas ri clasteachd is bhur suil biorach ri faire, is cha mhòr nach toir mise mo ghealladh dhuibh gum bi leabhran beag a chòrdas ruibh 'nur làimh an uair a ruigeas sibh, co-dhiubh mu 'm fàg sibh, an camp.

An nis, a thaobh nam paiperan ceasnachaidh air cheann an t-samhraidh so, tha iad againn deas gu an cur chugaibh an uair a tha mise a' sgrìobhadh, agus mu 'n ruig mo bhriathran sibhse bidh na paiperan féin agaibh-se, co-dhiubh sibhse a chuir air an tòir; agus sibhse a leughas so is nach do rinn sin fathast, no aon de na cinn-fheachd as bhur leth, bithibh cinnteach gum bi sibh an am an ath bhliadhna.

An nis, bho 'n a tha cromadh de 'n cholbh so agam fathast gu m' fheum a dheanamh dheth, so agaibh sgeul bheag a leabhar a sgrìobh a' cheart Ghaidheal a tha a' dol a thoirt dhuibhse an leabhrain ud eile air an d' thug mi iomradh, 's a chuir e am mach mar tha.

Ràinig fear-siubhail tigh tuathanaich glé amnoch. An déidh na tràth shuipearach ghabh an seann duine an Leabhar, agus b' ann mu Shamson a bha an caibidil a leugh e. Chaidh am fear-siubhail agus an treabaiche, Aonghas, fhàgail ag cracaireachd ri taobh an teine an uair a chaidh càch a laighe. Arsa am fear-siubhail, "Agus ma dh' fhaodas mi faighneadh mu thimchioll an duine làidir ud mu 'n robh an seann duine a' leughadh, a bheil iomradh sam bith air cia as a bha e?" "Bhul," arsa Aonghas, "chan

'eil fìor chinnt agam fhìn, ach tha mi a' smuaineachadh gun cuala mi uair-eigin gur ann a dh' fhlor shìol Chinntàile sin thall a bha e." "Bha mi a' deanamh dheth sin," arsa am fear-siubhail; "is e an dearg Chrathach mòr a bhiodh ann." "Gun teagamh sam bith; gun teagamh sam bith!" arsa Aonghas gu sòlaime.

An nis, bidh an Camp 'na uidheam mu 'm bi an ath chagar againn r' a chèile, is mar sin chan 'eil agam ach "slàn leibh" a thairgse dhuibh an dràs, le làn dhùil bhur faicinn ann an Lochabar nan Craobh fo bhlàths gréine an Iuchair so tighinn.—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL,

EILTHIREACHD BHUAN.

Luchd gaol a bha againn
An dachaidhean cruinn,
Chan 'eil iad sa' bhaile
'S cha tachair iad ruinn;
Tha iad bho ar n-eòlas
Mar eòin anns an oidhch'—
Am falach air faicsinn
Ach maireann an cuimhn'.

Chaidh iad air thurus
Do 'n chill, do 'n chill,
'S cha till iad tuilleadh,
Cha till, cha till!

Tha dachaidh ann falamh
Gun teine, gun bhlàths;
Tha creathail gun leanabh
Air bathais an làir
Tha bàt' air a tarraing
Air cladach a' bhàigh
'S an sgiobadh 'nan cadal
Aig cala gu bràth.

An till iad tuilleadh,
An till, an till?
Cha till iad tuilleadh,
Cha till, cha till!

Théid sinn as an deidhidh
Do 'n eilthir tha thall,
A null air an aiseag
'S cha tig sinn a nall;
Chan fhan sinn sa' bhaile,
Ged mhaireadh bail' ann;
Am bàs bheir e leis sinn,
'S ar beath' aig a ceann.

Théid sinn air thurus
Do 'n chill, do 'n chill,
'S cha till sinn tuilleadh
Cha till, cha till!

M. M.

AN GRADH.

So thuir Sàtan mu an ghràdh
A bh' anns a' ghàradh roimh na h-ùbhlàn:
"Shaoil mi e cho bog 's cho blàth
'S gun deanadh càil sam bith a chùis air:
Dh' fheuch mi air le beatha 's bàs
'S a h-uile càil gu thoirt gu ghluinean;
Nuair a shaoil mi e ri làr
Is ann a thuir e: 'Tàrr mu m' chùlaibh'."

M. M.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

The Organiser was present at the Annual General Meeting of the Glen Urquhart Branch, when the President, Mr. Rob. Gollan, paid a warm tribute to the late Rev. Angus Boyd, M.A., for his faithful work in connection with the Branch activities and also to the Gaelic cause in general. Mr. Donald Cumming of Borlum was appointed President; Mr. MacLean, Balmain, and Miss Tolmie, Vice-Presidents; Mr. A. J. MacCuisi, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, with Mr. Donnie Fraser as his Assistant. A very successful Gaelic Music Class has been conducted throughout the Session and the Gaelic Choir is to compete at the Lochaber Provincial Mod and the National Mod this year. In addition, the Choir is to take part in the Festival supported by the Inverness County Music Committee (Gaelic Section).

Mr. Pat. Cameron has resigned from the Presidentship of the Abernethy Branch and he is succeeded by Mr. Jas. MacAulay, former Vice-President. Special tributes were paid to Mr. Cameron's consistent services to the Branch and it is pleasing to note that he retains the office of Hon. Treasurer. Mr. J. M. Matheson, M.A. continues as Hon. Secretary. Like Glen Urquhart, the Branch has a Gaelic Choir, and also has a Gaelic language class under its wing. The Choir is to compete at the National Mod and is also to take part in the Inverness County Music Festival (Gaelic Section).

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH CAMP.—In view of the large number of girls enrolled for the Summer Camp at Annat, Mr. MacPhail recently visited the area and conferred with the Naval Base Welfare Officer re accommodation, etc. Details were satisfactorily arranged. The largest number of girls to attend a Camp previously was 41, and this year that number will probably be doubled. One of the most interesting and satisfactory items of news, in connection with the Camp, is that several of the children who attended before the war, and, who are now grown up, have offered to come as Helpers and these offers were gladly accepted. Sister Joan Campbell, Roag, Skye, who is to be in charge as nurse, attended several Camps as a member of the Portree Feachd. Misses Jessie MacLean and Catherine Buchanan, now students at the Domestic Science College, Glasgow, who are coming as helpers, have also attended several of the Camps as members of North and South Uist Feachdan respectively. It is most heartening to find that girls still retain happy memories of former Camps and are willing to assist in the supervision of the post-war efforts.

LOCHABER PROVINCIAL MOD.—The programme for this Mod is now ready, and the entries must be considered satisfactory in all the circumstances—on the 200 mark. The Mod Committee had decided to include the Ardgour Provincial Mod Area for this year, and it is rather disappointing to find that no entries have been received from that quarter. The Oral entries are again satisfactory—25 in the Junior Section and 47 in the Senior Section. The Mod area is fast becoming industrialised and, if Gaelic is to retain its position, intensive propaganda work lies ahead. It is a fact that children of Gaelic-speaking parents know little of their native language, and, unless this state of affairs changes, there is little hope for the language, especially in those parts which have become

industrialised. "S e chi na big a ni na big 'S e chluinnas iad a chanas iad." Sincere thanks are due to Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon and his Committee for the splendid work they are doing for Gaelic in the area. The Rev. Dominic MacKellaig who did excellent work in Barra, is now at Roy Bridge and the Mod Committee have honoured him and themselves by inviting him to preside at the afternoon session of the Mod. The Rev. gentleman is assured of a warm welcome at this, his first public appearance in his new sphere of labour, and the Gaelic Cause will find in him a staunch supporter.

ABERDEEN BRANCH.—The Aberdeen Branch has made a donation annually to a Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh selected by one of their members. At the Annual Meeting held recently, it was decided to make a donation of two guineas to be used to the best advantage at this year's Camp to be held at Annat. Sincere thanks are due to this Branch for their warm and practical interest in Gaelic Youth.

INVERNESS OFFICE.—Arrangements had been made for the formal opening of the Office for the Northern Area on June 15th, by the President of An Comunn. Owing to the sudden illness of the President, Mr. Macleod, however, this ceremony has been postponed, but it is hoped to arrange a date in the not too distant future which will be suitable for the President. The members of the Northern Committees were looking forward to meeting An Comunn President and learned with profound regret of his being laid aside by illness. It is the sincere wish of the members that he may soon be restored to health and vigour again.

DINGWALL BRANCH.—At a recent meeting of the Dingwall Branch it was decided to make a Donation of £5 5s. to the Aberdeen National Victory Mod, and a Donation of £2 2s. to the Central Fund.

NAIRN BRANCH.—The Nairn Branch is to make a contribution to the Central Fund and is also to organise a Coffee Morning in aid of the National Mod Funds.

GLASGOW PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Fourth Glasgow and District Mod, promoted by the Central and Govan Branches of An Comunn, was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Friday and Saturday, 31st May and 1st June, 1946. The proceedings were opened with an informal ceilidh on the Thursday evening when Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary of An Comunn, presided over a good attendance and the programme submitted was a most enjoyable one.

The Junior competitions were held on Friday evening, and there was keen competition for the various awards. Mr. Donald Morrison, President of the Federation of Highland Societies, was in the Chair and there was a large attendance who took a keen interest in the competitions. It is worthy of note that the Junior Choral Competition was wholly sustained by three Glasgow School Choirs, and their teachers are to be heartily congratulated on the splendid performance of each choir. It was only by the slightest margin that Queen's Park School gained the honour over their rivals who finished with equal marks.

The Senior competitions on Saturday afternoon also provided excellent fare, and a large audience gathered to listen to the various competitors. The high standard attained in the Oral Competitions was one of the most pleasing features of the Mod, and, indeed, the winning Dialogue was easily the best seen in Glasgow for many years. Mrs. Ena Craig, President of the Glasgow Skye Association, presided over the Senior Session.

The adjudicators, whose decisions met with wholehearted approval and whose task at times was, as they admitted themselves, no easy one, were as follows:—Gaelic—Mr. Neil MacLeod, M.A., Tighnabruich, and Mr. George Morrison, M.A., Glasgow, both of whom are natives of Lewis; and for Music—Miss Mairi H. Pate and Mr. James D. Hourston, who are well-known as teachers of music under Glasgow Education Department.

On the Saturday evening the Mod was brought to a close with a Grand Concert in the Glasgow High School Hall which was filled to capacity, and the large audience showed its appreciation of an excellent programme which was sustained by the leading prize-winners assisted by three of our leading Mod Medalists in the persons of Neil MacLean, Jenny Currie, and Kitty MacLeod, all of whom were in excellent voice and responded to repeated demands for encores. Mr. Neil Shaw announced the items on the programme in his customary efficient way and Mrs. Shaw presented the prizes to the various winners. Mr. Hugh Sinclair proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Shaw, and to the hard-working officials, Mr. Murdo MacLeod and Mr. Neil Ferguson, Joint Secretaries, and Mr. Donald MacCulloch, Treasurer. Mr. John A. Nicolson, Mod Convener, made a stirring speech in Gaelic and English and removed some doubts which had unfortunately arisen during the war years to the effect that the Glasgow Mod was aspiring to take the place of the National Mod, which has of course been in abeyance until this year. However, as was pointed out, most emphatically this was not the case. He thanked all those who had supported the Mod and had a special word of praise to those competitors who had no Highland connection whatsoever but who had learned the language sufficiently well to perform at the Mod.

It should also be mentioned that a very successful dance was held after the competitions on Friday, for the benefit of competitors and friends. Mr. Neil Ferguson was M.C. and music was provided by Young's Ceilidh Band.

LIST OF FIRST PRIZE-WINNERS.

JUNIOR SECTION.

Recitation of Poem, "An Coleach,"—Christina C. Dick, Glasgow. Reading Unseen Passage of Prose.—Sheila A. MacDougall, Glasgow. Sgeulachd (Own Choice).—Christina C. Dick.

Solo Singing (under 12 years)—Christina MacBride, Glasgow. Solo Singing (Girls 12 to 16)—Margaret MacKenzie, Glasgow. Solo Singing (Boys 12 to 16)—Alasdair H. MacDougall, Glasgow. Choral Singing (Unison)—Queen's Park Secondary School Choir (Conductor, Hume D. Robertson).

Violin—Iain A. MacDonald, Glasgow. Piping (March)—John D. Burgess, Edinburgh. Strathspey and Reel—John D. Burgess, Edinburgh. Piano (Playing of March, Strathspey, and Reel)—Marion Kennedy, Glasgow.

SENIOR SECTION.

Recitation of Prose—Joan MacDonald, Glasgow. Recitation of Poem—Williamina N. Young, Glasgow. Dialogue—Williamina N. Young and Kate MacDonald.

Solo Singing (Female Voices)—Mrs. Isabel Campbell, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing (Male Voices)—Neil MacCalman, Islay. Duet Singing—Mrs. I. Campbell and Mrs. A. Crawford, Lochgilphead.

AROS CLUB.

The Aros Club in Greenock was officially closed on 30th April, and a final meeting of the Committee was held on 13th May.

During the two years of its existence the Club served a most useful purpose, and was frequented by a large number of men of the Royal and Merchant Navies. Many letters of appreciation were received by the managers, Miss MacNiven, and men from all parts said that it was one of the best Clubs they had the privilege of attending. The name "Aros" is now known to men who are sailing the seven seas and recalls happy memories of the homely comforts it provided. When other institutions in the town had closed down, Aros Club became a haven of rest for men and women of other services, and they also spoke highly of its friendly atmosphere.

The Committee felt that the closing of "Aros" should be marked by a Social function, and Mrs. Lauder kindly undertook to make the arrangements. This function was held in the R.P. Hall, Jamaica Street, Greenock, on 28th May.

In the unavoidable absence of the President of An Comunn, Mr. James T. Graham, Treasurer, occupied the Chair, and he

made appropriate reference to the splendid work performed by the Convener, the Rev. John M. MacLeod, and Miss MacNiven, manageress. Mr. MacLeod had arranged for the buying of the furnishings and the equipping of the Club with all that was required to make it comfortable. He left nothing undone that was likely to make the Club a resting place for those who had endured so much on our behalf. Miss MacNiven had proved herself a capable and sympathetic matron, and her management of the Club was all that could be desired. As a token of appreciation and recognition of their services Mr. Graham, on behalf of the Committee, presented Mr. MacLeod with a Radio Set and Miss MacNiven with a wallet of notes. Both made suitable acknowledgment of the gifts and recalled happy memories of the Club.

Tea was served by the lady members who were thanked by Mr. Neil Shaw.

Mrs. Lauder took charge of the Musical programme which followed, and which was sustained by members of the Greenock Gaelic Choir.

Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow, was also present representing the Central (War Comforts) Committee.

ABERDEEN VICTORY MOD.

A meeting of the Local Committee was held in the Imperial Hotel, Aberdeen, on Friday, 31st May. Mr. Dugald MacDonald, Convener, presided and the Mod and Music Committee was represented by Mr. John M. Bannerman, Convener, and Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary.

Mr. James MacLeod, Local Secretary, submitted reports of the work of the Sub-Committees and these showed that the members had put in a very strenuous time throughout the winter, and that preparations for the Victory Mod had been well and successfully organised. The financial statement was also most satisfactory.

Arrangements for the Mod week will be similar to those existing in previous years. Three Concerts will be held, viz., Junior Concert on Tuesday, 24th September; Rural Choir Concert on Thursday, 26th September; and the Grand Closing Concert on Friday, 27th September. Seats will be reserved for members of An Comunn up to 31st August. Full particulars will be given in the August number of the magazine, but any member wishing to make early reservation may do so by writing to the Secretary, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Members who intend being present at the Civic Reception on the evening of 26th September, should kindly notify the Secretary before end of August.

LOCHGILPHEAD JUNIOR MOD.

The second Junior Mod promoted by the Lochgilphead Branch of An Comunn was held in the Drill Hall, Lochgilphead, on Tuesday, 11th June.

There was a total entry of 197 and an encouraging feature was the number of children (12) who entered for the recitation. This was won by John MacVicar, Cairnbaan, a native Gaelic speaker of 6 or 7 years of age, and his announcement of the title of the piece, "An Coileach," and his style of delivery was one of the highlights of the evening programme.

Junior Choirs were forward from Cairnbaan, Tayvallich and Lochgilphead, and all gave splendid renderings of the test pieces. Much credit is due the instructors, Mrs. Brown, Miss Gillies, and Mrs. Crawford, for the time and care devoted to the training of the children.

During the afternoon session, the Hall was completely filled, and great interest was taken in the proceedings.

At the evening Concert prize-winners were assisted by Mrs. Petrine Stewart, Alex. Brown, and Alasdair Matheson. Prizes were presented by Mrs. Ross, Tigh na Linne, and a number of these were valuable Gaelic books donated by Dr. Ross.

The Rev. Donald Stewart, M.A., Achnamara, presided, and votes of thanks were proposed by Mrs. Campbell and Miss Campbell of Inverneill, M.B.E.

Cordial thanks are due Mrs. Campbell, President of the local Branch, and her hard-working Committee for the smooth working of the arrangements and for the general success of the Mod. That their services were appreciated was shown by the exceptionally large attendance at the closing concert.

The adjudicators were:—Oral—Rev. D. Stewart, M.A., and Neil Shaw. Gaelic Vocal—Rev. Alex. MacDonald, Ardchattan. Gaelic Music—Malcolm G. MacCallum, L.R.A.M., Campbelltown. Piping and Dancing—Pipe Major Robert Reid, Glasgow.

The following is the list of first prize-winners—Oral—Reciting "An Coileach," John MacVicar, Cairnbaan. Reading with expression—Jean MacVicar, Lochgilphead.

Solo Singing, Boys and Girls (under 12)—Malcolm MacLachlan, Tayvallich.

Solo Singing, Girls (12-16)—Jean Montgomery, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing, Boys (12-16)—John Ross, Tayvallich. Solo Singing, Girls (own choice)—Catriona Leitch, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing, Boys (own choice)—Duncan MacDonald, Tayvallich. Duet Singing—Mairi and Catriona Leitch, Lochgilphead. Unison Singing—Lochgilphead Junior Choir. Choral Singing—Lochgilphead Junior Choir.

Special Competition—Singing of 23rd Psalm to tune 'Crimond' (prizes presented by Miss Carmichael, Invershuna) Duncan MacDonald, Tayvallich.

Pianoforte Playing—Jean Lamont, Ardrishaig. Chanter Playing—Charles Ferguson, Kilmartin.

Gaelic in Glasgow Schools.

It is reported that, if there is a sufficient response, classes in Gaelic for post-primary pupils will be started in two of the Glasgow Schools—Bellahouston Academy for the south side of the city, and Woodside Secondary School for the north side—after the summer holidays. This will be a beginning towards a full course for the Leaving Certificate. At present Gaelic is only taught in Glasgow at evening continuation classes.

This follows upon an enquiry into the number of Gaelic-speaking children in Glasgow Schools which was sponsored by the Federation of Highland Associations of Glasgow and An Comunn, for the conducting of which thanks are due to the Director of Education for the City of Glasgow, Dr. Mackintosh.

MILTON AG GAIRM AIR A' CHEOLRAIDH NEAMHAIDH.

(EADAR-THRANOICHTÈ O' N' BHEULLA.)

Mu 'n cheud eas-umhlachd dhaoine agus meas
Na craoibh ud thoir mistigte de 'n tug am blas
Basaill am bàs do 'n t-saoghal 's ar n-uile luchd,
Seinn Thusa, Cheòraidh Nèamhaidh, Thusa dheuchd
Air creachainn dhlomhair Oreb no Shìna!
An cìobair ud a thug do d' roghainn sluagh
Prìomh oilean mar a dh' èirich tìalamh 's nèamh
A mach à neòini; no ma 's e Sìon Bheimn
As docha Leat, no Sìloa, an t-alt!
Tha faisg air teampull Dhè, à sin a mach
Gaiream Du cheudneachadh do m' rannachd dhàin
Nach Iarr air fiteig mhèadhonach dhol suas
Os cionn na beinn Adhonnaidhich, 's i an tòir
Air nach do dh' fheuchadh ann an rosg no rann;
'S gu h-àraidh Thusa, Spioraid, leis an miann,
'S os cionn gach teampull, cridhe ìonaic glan,
Thair teasgach dhomh oir 's aithne dhuit; o 'n thùs
Bha Thusa Ìthair, 's sgiath na cumhadh sìnt!
'Nad shuidh mar chalamair air an aigean mhóir
A rinn Thu torrach. Na the annam dorch
Dean soilleir; na the iséal tog 's cùm suas
A chum gu ceann na h-argumaidhe so,
Ge arld, gun cuir mi freasdaid Dhé an cèill
'S gum fìreanaich mi dhòigh ri clann nan daoine.'

SOMHAIRLE MACGRILL-EATHAIN.

DA ORAN.

I.

Feasgar.

Chuala mi isean ri seinn
 'S an fheasgar air ciaradh le ceò,
 Mar bhàrd anns na linntean a dh' fhalbh
 A' tàladh a chruitean gu ceòl.
 Bha 'n t-eun ud mar Bheethoven mòr
 Ag cluiche an onfhadh an t-saoghail
 Am meadhon na spàirn is na strì
 Tha glasadh ar n-anma 's ar gaoil,
 Is sinne mar ghuth an eòin mhaioith
 A sheinneas an eoinneamh na h-oidhch,
 A sheinneas air seirbhead na gaoith,
 Mar ridir ag cath ris an anmoich
 Baiteal an fhamhair 's an t-saoidh.
 Leum rionnag a cibineachd an adhair
 'S a' ghealach mar thargaidh gheal-òir.
 O gun tuiteadh na craobhan mun cuairt oirn
 'S gum faiceadh sinn brìgh cheart na sgeòil.

II.

Fàsach.

Ràinig mi fàsach gun eòlas,
 Creagan is muir aig am bonn;
 Ni cha robh cinneadh fo 'n iarmailt,
 Cha robh cur no buain air an fhonn.
 Bha beucaich a' chuain 'na mo chluasan,
 Aimhreit is cothachadh cruaidh,
 'S a' ghrian a' boillsgeadh 's na speuran
 Mar fhuil a' dòrtadh á luaidh.
 Chuala mi bagairt nam faoileag
 'S an éigheachd air fàsach na tràigh,
 Mar anam a chail a cheann-uidhe,
 Air a cheusadh le an-ìochd is cràidh.
 B' e talamh gun bheartas 's gun shòlas
 Air na laigh mo shùilean 's iad sgith
 C' àite bheil toradh nan linntean?
 C' àite bheil aobhneas na sìth?

Eoin.

CUMHNEACHAIN NA H-OIGE.

LE AONGHUS MAC-A'-PHEARSAIN.

Is e Aonghus Mac-a'-Phearsain, a tha an dràsda ag cumail
 Tigh-Osda Inbhrean an Cataibh, a rinn an t-òran so. Bha
 Aonghus 'na phlobaire ainmeil 'na latha, agus is lùthmhor a
 mheòir fhathast air sionnsair. Rugadh is thogadh e an Lagan
 Choinnich am Baidèanach, agus is ann air cuairt a thug e do

sgir a bhreith is àraich a tha e deanamh luaidh san òran. Is i a'
 bhana-bhàrd, Bean Choinnich MhicLeòid sa' Chananaich, a
 chuir am fonn air; agus tha mi 'na comain-se air son an òran
 's an fhuin a chur chugam.—F.d.

{ s₁ . s₁ | l₁ . l₁ : d . r | m : l . s | m : r . d | t₁ . l₁ : s₁ . }

Tha na monaidhean cho rioghail, Cur fàilt agus mulad orm,

{ . s₁ | l₁ : d . r | m : l . s | m : d . t₁ | l₁ : - . }

Na beanntan a dhirich mi Nuair bha mi òg

{ . s | l . t : d' . t | l : s . s | m : r . r | m : m . }


Na fàsaichean cho lionmhor 'Gam fhàgail cho cianail,

{ . s₁ | l₁ . t : d . r | m : l̂ : s | m . r : d . t₁ | l₁ : - . ||

Osnaidhean 'gam phianadh Is iargainn 'gam leòn.

Tha gach eas agus allan
 Rì ceòl agus dannsadh
 Cur 'na mo chumhne
 Na balaich 's na seòid,
 An tigh san deach m' àrach
 A nise 'na fhàsach
 'S a' phlobaireachd bha àlainn
 Air a càradh fo 'n fhòd.

Ach thig là agus ceartas
 Do na Gaidheil ghlan ghasda,
 'S cha bhì iad air am fuadach
 Air son airgid no òir;
 Na fèidh bidh air an sgiùrsadh
 Rì mullaichean Dhruim Uachdair
 Nuair thilleas na daoin' uaisle
 Gu glinn ghorm an òig.

Deagh shoraith agus shlàint' dhuit, 
 Lagain àill nan gruagach,
 Far an tric a ghabh mi cuairt
 Le na caileagan òg.
 An uair thig ceann mo làithean
 'S an cadal nach fhàg mi,
 B' e mo dhùrachd bhith air m' fhàgail
 Sa' chlachan 'n an còir.

PROPOSED SUMMER SCHOOL OF CELTIC ART.

Lochgìlphhead, 1st to 22nd August, 1946.

Intending students for this School are respectfully asked
 to enrol at once with the Secretary, An Comunn Gàidhealach,
 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Fee for full course of three
 weeks, 35s.

AN GAIDHEAL.

Volume XL (October, 1944 to September, 1945 inclusive)
 of AN GAIDHEAL bound in cloth can now be had from
 An Comunn Gàidhealach Office, 131 West Regent Street,
 Glasgow, price, 3/6, postage, 4d.

EADAR SINN FHEIN.

WANTED—A MORE VIGOROUS POLICY.

A Charaid.—Now that An Comunn is looking to the future and making its plans, may I make a strong plea for the broadening of its basis and a wider interpretation of its aims?

Having been out of the picture during the war years, I can view the situation with greater clarity, and I am convinced that, if the Gaelic revival is to succeed as it must, then An Comunn must come out four-square as a national organisation in the widest possible sense and not remain, as so many regard it, a purely Highland Association.

It must make its appeal to Scotland as a whole, not only to native speakers in and outside the Gaidhealtachd, for this next decade will decide the fate of the language. The Gaelic is a national heritage, the very fountain of Scottish culture, and as such is the birthright of every Scot. It is manifestly, then, the duty of An Comunn to ensure that opportunity and encouragement be given to everyone to acquire the language, irrespective of their geographical location.

The spirit of renaissance is abroad and, given the correct approach, the Gaelic cause can be greatly advanced. The maintenance of a Highland Line in anything but a geographical sense will be a cardinal error of major importance, and should be avoided at all costs as being inimical to the revival. The work, activities, and propaganda must be projected into the main stream of the cultural renaissance, and not kept aloof and in isolation.

Quite apart from an increasing number of people anxious to learn Gaelic, there is a large body of support for An Comunn's policy for the Gaidhealtachd and for Gaelic being a second language in secondary schools elsewhere, which has not been exploited. This potential of goodwill must be harnessed to the cause and used to strengthen the power and influence of An Comunn, for it is increasingly obvious that the Government will only give Gaelic its rightful place in our national life when the demand becomes increasingly vocal and widespread.

The lessons to be learned from the Welsh movement should be taken tent of, for, withal their lack of official status as a nation, they have secured much greater recognition than we have, wholly on account of their unity and militant campaigning. I would wish to see An Comunn adopting a more vigorous propagation of its policies and casting aside for ever the limited and conservative approach.—Is mise le meas,

J. H. MILLER

54 Arrowsmith Avenue,
Glasgow, W.3.

NORSE SURVIVALS.

Sir,—I read, with much interest, Mr. K. C. Craig's "Gaelic Etymological Notes" in the April issue of *An Gaidheal*. I have often thought that the old Norse language must have been spoken in isolated places in the Nor-West almost within living memory. I have heard old people, talking of such places in the larger of the Outer Islands, say: "Bha cainnt aca dhaibh fhéin nach tuigeadh duine eile"; and I have heard my own father say of our native village of Strath, Gairloch: "Tha mi creidsinn nach 'eil duine beò an duigh aig am bheil fhios air seann ainm an àite-sa, Udalar." This lost old name must have been known to all only a generation or two back, and it is evidently the Norse for "Outer-dale."

Most of the place-names of the district are Norse, including one very interesting one, in English "Camustrollvaig Bay," to which each succeeding language has added its own word for "bay," the original Norse being "Troll-vic" ("Fairy-bay"). But, apart from place-names, there are not only Norse names for persons and articles, but I believe whole Norse phrases.

Take this one, for instance. At the end of our night games, played in bright star-light or in moon-light, in winter, when the outlying stragglers were being called in, the call was something that sounded like "Doostoolagan" with the stress on the second "oo." I have heard several attempts to give an original Gaelic form to that curious word, which sounded so eerie on the night air as the searchers shouted it from different quarters in the dark.

Perhaps Mr. Craig could give a Norse rendering. I know that in modern Norwegian "Dyast" (pronounced something between "Doost" and "Dust") means "strife" or "struggle"; and that "ut-læggen" (pronounced like "oolleggen") might mean "a laying-off" or "a giving-up." Do we not have here the recall shout of the viking pirates at the end of a night raid on the coast?

There is another mystery word which I would like to have an explanation of. When the boys went "air Chaluinn" in groups, each having a pillow-slip stitched by one side of its open end across his back from shoulder to shoulder, as a receptacle for the good things the good wives of the township had prepared for the occasion, they used a word which sounded like "Chulanóg," repeated once or twice in a serious and dignified tone on their approach to the door, and at intervals as a sort of stop as each in turn repeated his "duan" while knocking gently with his club on the doorpost. What is "Chulanóg"? Is it a rendering by Norse-speaking people of "Calluinn a' Bhuilg" and again modified by Gaelic; or is "Calluinn a' Bhuilg" a nearer approach to Gaelic of some Norse invitation to fill the "balg" or sack?

The "duans" were begging petitions, and, in Gairloch, while some of them were old standard compositions, others were facetious rhymes composed by local experts in duan-making, and serving only a season or two like music-hall ditties. Of these the following is, I think, worthy of preservation, if the space for it can be afforded in *An Gaidheal*. It gives such a picture of abject poverty and frustration occasioned by the inconsiderate conduct of a cow.

"Is mise mac Iain Duibh na Feannaig;
'S léir mo bhochdainn 's mi gun sodach,
Le mo dhà chois chaoil, chruaidh,
'S dhath na luathain air am faobhar.

"Chaidh am buntata oirn a dhòlaidh;
Cha robh toradh air a' bharr;
Cha robh againn ach beagan eòrna,
Is dh'ith a' bhò e fhuaire am bàs. Chulanóg!"

Yours truly,

ALEXANDER MACINTYRE.

Drumandaroch,
Airdrie.

AN EISNEACHAN.

A Charaid,—Nam bheachd fhéin 's e "Festuca Elatior" (Tall fescue grass) as the Irish idiom is our bhrioghmhór so.—Is mise, le meas,

IOMHAR MACSPORAIN.

Tigh Da-bharr,
Ceann-Loch-Chille-Chiarain.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS.

From

1st JUNE, 1945 to 31st MAY, 1946.

LIFE.

Allan, John M., Helensburgh.
Angus, Mrs. James, Edinburgh, 10.
Bell, A. J., Alloway.
Black, Donald, Strontian.
Cameron, Lieut. J. L., Helensburgh.
Carmichael, James, Inveraray.
Clark, Mrs. M., Inveraray.
Connelly, John, Glasgow, E.2.
Fletcher, B. D., Rev. Angus, Tarbert, Argyll.
Gemmill, William, Bonawe.
Haggart, O.B.E., J.P., Provost J. D., Aberfeldy.
Haggart, O.B.E., J.P., Mrs. J. D., Aberfeldy.
Heppburn, Miss Mary, Braemar.
Howard, Frank G., near Chester.
Hunter, Lt.-Col. T. Harris, Perth.

Hutton, Mrs., Perth.
 Johnstone, Mrs. Bessie, Inverness.
 Kelso, Mrs., Glasgow, W.1.
 Kerr, T. Leeds, 6.
 Livingston, M.D., F.R.C.S., Ed, John, Barrow-in-Furness.
 MacBride, Miss Mairi, Mull.
 McCall, Mrs., Glasgow, W.1.
 Macdonald, Rev. Alexander, Ardochattan.
 MacDonald, Miss Margaret, Portree.
 MacGillivray, M.A., Rev. A. C., Paisley.
 MacKechnie, Alasdair, Ayr.
 MacKenzie, Miss Jessie A., Glasgow, W.2.
 MacKinnon, Norman, Hamilton.
 MacLachlan, D. A., Oban.
 MacLeod, Major C. I. N., Inverness.
 MacLeod, Mrs. C. I. N., Inverness.
 MacLeod, William, Stornoway.
 Macmillan, D.A., Miss C., Portree.
 MacPhee, Mrs. Jessie M., Glasgow, N.W.
 Macpherson, Miss C. M., Glasgow, S.1.
 Macpherson, Major Ewen, Oxford.
 MacVicar, Donald, Glasgow, W.2.
 Malcolm, C. R. S., Lochgilphead.
 Malcolm, Mrs. W., Dunoon.
 Morrison, J.P., Stornoway.
 Paterson, Hugh, Coupar Angus.
 Ramsay, Malcolm, Wemyss Bay.
 Robbie, Gordon J., Dundee.
 Seaton, Mrs. James, Pitlochry.
 Sempill, J.P., The Hon. Miss Margt. Forbes, Little Fintray.
 Smith, Murdo, Glasgow, C.2.
 Steele, M.A., John F., Portree.
 Stewart, Mrs. Petrine M., Aberfeldy.
 White, Angus, Fort William.
 Whyte, Mrs. Angus, Glasgow, S.W.2.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

To enable An Comunn to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign now that the war is over, 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."

Previously acknowledged	£789	2	6
Mrs. Hutton, Perth	—	7	—
"Calltunnin"	1	15	—
Cruachan Branch	3	3	—
Mrs. Marjorie Matheson, Arisaig	—	5	—
Miss Flora H. Kennedy, Whitehouse	—	5	—
Donald Skinner, Esq., Portmahomack	—	5	—
Ewen MacLean, Esq., Strontian	1	—	—
Glen Urquhart Branch	1	1	—
Mrs. J. L. MacKinnon, Gourrock	—	10	—
Aberdeen Branch	—	2	—
Elgin Branch	—	1	—
Net proceeds of Mr. Matheson's Tour in Lorn and Ardnamurchan	38	5	5
As at 31st May, 1946	£839	—	11
Dingwall Branch	2	2	—

£841 2 11

NATIONAL MOD, ABERDEEN.

Donations, 1946.

Previously acknowledged	£335	8	2
Iain MacLeod, Esq., Torgorm	—	10	—
Donald MacColl, Esq., Wembley	—	5	—
Mrs. J. L. MacKinnon, Gourrock	—	10	—
Elgin Branch	—	2	10
As at 31st May, 1946	£349	3	2
Miss Iseabal Murray, London	—	5	—
Bute Branch	—	5	—
Dingwall Branch	—	5	—
Lewis Branch	—	10	—
Miss Edith L. O. Taylor	—	1	—
	£370	14	2

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

Donation List.

Comforts Fund.

Previously acknowledged	£2,146	17	4
As at 31st May, 1946	£2,146	17	4

Gaelic Literature Fund.

Previously acknowledged	£268	7	—
John Grant, Edinburgh, understated in January Magazine	—	—	6
John MacPhee, Esq., Glasgow	—	2	6
As at 31st May, 1946	£268	10	—

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Previously acknowledged	£4,381	17	10
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Leabhar XLI.]

An Lùnasdal, 1946.

[Earrann 11

AR DUTHAICH AGUS AR DAOINE.

Aig a' choinneamh mu dheireadh de Chomhairle Ghnìomhaich a' Chomuinn Gàidhealach leughadh litir bho'n Ollamh Urramac Renwick, Ard-fhear-teagaisg an Colaisde na h-Eaglais Shaoir an Dun-éideann. Anns an litir so bha e a' tagradh taic do na beachdan a chuir e fa chomhair Ard-sheanadh na h-Eaglais aige aig deireadh a' Chéitein so chaidh.

Rugadh is thogadh an t-Ollamh air taobh an iar Siorrachd Rois. Bha e suas ri fichead bliadhna 'na fhear-teagaisg an America-a-Deas, agus an uair a thill e do dhùthaich àraich beagan bhliadhnan air ais is ann a chuir e uamhas air mar a dh' fhalbh na daoine agus an ìre gus an d' fhàsaicheadh na sgìrean Gàidhealach. Air leis, cuideachd, gu bheil spiorad eu-dòchasach air greimeachadh air cridheachan a' mhòr-chuid de na Gàidheil. Tha e mar sin a' togail a ghutha feuch an deanar oidhirp eile leis na Gàidheil, gualainn ri gualainn, air a' Ghàidhealtachd agus air a' Ghalldachd, gus chùisean aimsireil na dùthcha mu thùath a leasachadh.

Ciod air bith beachd gach aoin fa leth air na meadhanan-leasachaidh a tha an t-Ollamh ag comhairleachadh dhuinn, tha na Gàidheil uile 'na chomainn air son gun do thog e a ghuth mu shuidheachadh ar dùthcha agus ar daoine, agus gu sonraichte air son gu bheil e ag cuimhneachadh dhuinn, ged is math a bhith gearan agus a' trod agus ag iarraidh air an Rìghaltas gnothaichean a ghabhail os làimh, gu bheil mòran a dh' fhaodamaid fhéin a dheanamh, nan rachamaid 'na char gu h-antaichte agus gu sundach.

Aig a' cheart àm feumar a ràdh gu bheil mòran 'nar measg fhéin anns a' Chomuinn Gàidhealach aig a bheil fhios gle mhath mu 'n t-suidheachadh, agus a chuidich le barrachd is aon oidhirp anns an fhichead bliadhna mu dheireadh gus ceartas fhaotainn do shluagh na Gàidhealtachd. Cha do shoirbhich leis na h-oidhirpean sin mar a dh' iarramaid, agus mar sin is math gu bheil sinn air a' gairm as ùr gu bhith dol ann badaibh na h-oibre neo-sheachanta so.

Tha obair fhéin aig a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealach ri dheanamh mar Chomuinn a tha, anns a' cheud dol-amach, a' strì ri cannt is litreachas is ealdhain nan Gàidheal a chur am feabhas, agus mar sin cha chòir do 'n Chomuinn mar chomuinn tionndadh a thaobh gu obair sam bith eile. "An uair a bhithas sinn ri maorach, bitheamaid ri maorach." A dh' aindeoin sin, faodaidh buill a' Chomuinn agus Gàidheil eile, an taic a thoirt do chomuinn eile a bha agus a tha a' strì ri cor aimsireil ar daoine agus ar dùthcha a leasachadh.

Is iomadh rannsachadh is sgrùdadh a rinneadh eadar an da chogadh mhòr. Anns na h-ochd bliadhna mu dheireadh thugadh am follais earalan Comhairle-rannsachaidh na Gàidhealtachd fo stiùradh Mhàidseir Hilleary, earalan na comhairle a bha rannsachadh chùisean-fearainn, agus aon no dhà a bharrachd. An uiridh bha taghadh-parlamaid againn, agus aig an àm sin chualas iomadh barail air gu dé as còir a dheanamh a chum maith na Gàidhealtachd. Cha mhòr a' bhuil a lean fhathast air na h-oidhirpean sin; ach chan fhaod sinn fannachadh no fàs coma. Bitheamaid a' brosnachadh nan comhairleachd-siorrachd agus nam ball-parlamaid, agus togamaid air guth aig guth cothrom gus an tuig an Rìghaltas gum feum iad aig a' cheum as lugha ubhir spéis a' nochdadh do 'n Ghàidhealtachd 's a tha iad a' nochdadh do threan céine.

Bu mhath leinne mar Chomuinn gum biodh meur de 'n Chomuinn Ghàidhealach anns gach baile is sgìreachd air feadh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean. Ach bu mhath, mar an ceudna, gum biodh anns gach sgìr is baile buidheann bheag de mhuintir an àite, a chruinneachadh an ceann a chéile bho àm gu àm, 's dòcha uair sa' mhios, a bheachdachadh mu dhòighean air chùisean a cheartachadh 'nan sgrì fhéin agus san dùthaich gu h-ìomlan. Uair no dhà anns a' bhliadhna dh' fhaodadh riochdairean bho na buidhean beaga sin tighinn còmhla a chur an cèll na 's còir a dheanamh—seorsa de Pharlamaid Ghàidhealach. Nan robh a leithid

sin againn, cha bhiodh e cho furasda do 'n Rìaghaltas an Lùnnainn no an Dum-éideann cùl-làimhe a thionndadh ruinn. Chan 'eil math a bhith bruidhinn mur an téid sinn gu gnìomh, agus an uair a thèid sinn gu gnìomh air sgàth na Gàidhealtachd rachamaid ris gualainn ri gualainn.

Tha son ni cìnteach. Cha mhair a' Ghàidhlig ma thèid a' Ghàidhealtachd fàs. Mar sin, deanamaid gach dìchioll anns a' Chomunn so air sgàth na cànaine agus gach ni a tha co-cheangailte rithe; ach na deanamaid dearmad air na meadhanan eile a tha fosgailte dhuinn tre am faod sinn feuchainn ri cor aimsireil na Gàidhealtachd a chur am feabhas.

Tha feum air iomadh rud—cothrom-cosnaidh, tìghean freagarrach, goireasan-siubhail, agus mòran eile—ach tha an duine ag cur feum air barrachd na combhfurtachd d' a chorp. Is e biadh is faghadh a' cheud rud, ach cha leòir sin. Tha an duine, dìreach a chionn agus gur duine e agus nach e ainmhidh, a' miannachadh tuilleadh na sin. Tha intinn is spiorad aige, agus feumar ullachadh a dheanamh fa chomhair sin. Is ann do bhrìgh so a tha feum air obair a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich.

Bha fòghlum is ealdhain aig na Gàidheil mu 'n robh sgoilearachd nan sgoilean riamh aca, agus tha feum aig Gàidheil (agus Goill) an latha an diugh gum biodh barrachd aca na a mhàin comas leughaidh is sgrìobhaidh is cunntais. Bha agus tha òigridh na Gàidhealtachd comharraichte air son an tìdh ann an àrd-fhòghlum, agus feumar an cothrom sin a chumail riutha. Ach bu mhaith cuideachd gum biodh Gàidheil òga air an teagasg ann an ionnsachadh agus ealdhain a dh' uidheamaicheadh iad air son beatha thoilichte a chur seachad 'nan tìr féin. Agus chan 'eil fòghlum de 'n t-seòrsa sin a' stad aig aois ceithir-bliadhna-deug no fichead bliadhna; tha e a' marsainn fad beatha an duine. Cha mhotha na sin a tha e r' a fhaotainn anns an sgoil a mhàin. B' ann anns na seann chéilidhean (le ceòl is sgeulachd is eachdraidh is sean-fhacail) a ghéiric air sinnsearan an tuigse agus am breithneachadh agus a fhuair iad farsaingeachd intinn. Bu mhaith fhaicinn anns gach baile agus sgrèachd talla no tigh anns an crunnicheadh muinntir an àite an ceann a chèile gu céilidh agus gu deasbuid; àite anns am biodh àireamh mhaith leabhraichean r' an leughadh, beairt-radio ris an éisdeadh iad, cuirmean-cìuil is dealbhan-chluicheadh is dealbhan-glusadach; na seann nithean agus na nithean ùra am measg a chèile, agus gach fearas-chuideachd a tha iomchuidh agus ceart.

Tha feum mar an ceudna air Colaiste a shuidheachadh an àit-eigin sa' Ghàidhealtachd, coltach ri "Colaiste an a' Phobuill" mar a tha aca o chionn iomadh bliadhna an Denmark agus san t-Suain, a dh' ionnsaigh an tìgeadh sean is òg air son eadar seachdain is trì mìosan, bho àm gu àm, a chum an aigidhean a chumail o mheirgeadh agus beachdan ùra agus spionnadh intinnleil fhaotainn.

Annas gach cothrom-fòghlum a dh' ainmich mi, bho'n phàisde a tha air ùr-bhruidhinn a dh' ionnsaigh an t-seann duine air a' phension, bu mhaith leam gum biodh an t-àite as dlìghe dh' aig ar cànan fhéin, a'

Ghàidhlig, agus gach ni co-cheangailte rithe—lìtreachas, eachdraidh, feallsanachd, ceòl, ealdhain. Bu mhian leinn uile a' Ghàidhealtachd fhaicinn air a h-àiteachadh le sluagh toilichte, soirbheachail, ach chan e a' Ghàidhealtachd a bhios innte ma is e a' Bheurla Shasannach a chluinnear anns gach gàradh-sgoile agus aig gach oisinn-tìghe. Tha na h-Eireannaich agus na Cuimrich air na cànainean Ceilteach aca fhéin ath-bheothachadh gu ìre mhóir, agus faodaidh sinne cuideachd a' Ghàidhlig a dhearbhadh mar inneal a tha cho freagarrach agus cho sùbailte ri cainnt sam bith a chum gnothaichean an latha an diugh a chur an cèill.

Is e leas na cànaine prìomh-obair a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich. Cheana tha cothroman sonraichte aig a' Chomuinn air dol am bad na h-oibre sin làmh air làmh ri luchd-riaghlaidh an fhòghlum. Dh' fhàg Seòras Gallda nach maireann dìleab phrìseil againn an uair a stéidhich e Comunn na h-Òigridh. Chan 'eil sinn idir gann de dhaoine agus de mhnanach a tha deònach an neart agus an tìne a chosg ann an obair a' Chomuinn, agus tha iad làn-uidheamaichte air son na h-oibre. Dh' fhàgadh againn deagh eisimpleir na feadhna nach maireann a shaothraich romhainn ann an obair a' Chomuinn. Tha luchd-dàimh Ceilteach againn an tìrean eile—an Eirinn, sa' Chumrich, an Eilean Mhanainn, san Fhraing, an Astralia, an New Zealand, an Canada, anns na Stàitean Aonaichte, agus an iomadh cèrnaidh eile. Tha an sùil oirnn, agus cha diùlt iad an coibhair.

Tha e 'na cheist oirnn an d' rinn sinn fhathast làn-feum de ar cothroman.

Togamaid an àird ar bratach, agus rachamaid air adhart. Cha dean caoidh nan làithean a dh' aom feum. Tha latha ùr a' briseadh oirnn, agus anns an latha ùr sin, anns am faicear iomadh atharrachadh air cor agus beachdan sluagh an t-saoghail mhóir, feuchamaid gum bi na Gàidheil agus na Ceiltich a' deanamh an cuid fhéin ann an togail suas na h-àiteibh a tha luchd an deagh-gheam a' miannachadh air son a' chinne-daonna, far am bi saorsa agus soirbheachadh ceart, sìth agus ceartas, aig gach cinneach is sluagh air ghaidh na talmhainn. Dhuinne, mar Ghàidheil, buinidh ar prìomh-dhleasnas do ar daoine agus ar dùthaich fhéin.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

LAMH UR AIR AN STUIUR.—Aig toiseach an Ogmhios, an uair a thàinig tìneas air an fhear-dheasachaidh nach maireann, an t-Urr. Calum MacLeòid, chuir e fios thugam-sa feuch an gabhainn cùram de 'n Ghàidheil air son mìos no dhà. Gheall mise gu feuchainn ris an eathar a chumail far nan sgeirean gum bi biodh an sgiobair còir e fhéin air chomas tilleadh r' a dhleasnas. Ach mo thruaighe! cha b' e sin a bha an dàn dha. An uair a bha Gàidheil a' mhìos mu dheireadh air tì a bhith an cùl, thàinig sgeul-bàis ar caraid, agus b' fheudar atharrachadh a dhèanamh gus iomradh a thoirt air fhéin agus air luach a shaothrach do 'n Chomuinn agus do 'n Ghàidhealtachd. Bithidh mòr-iomdramain air làmh ar caraid chaoimh anns na duilleagan so fad iomadh latha is bliadhna, agus is mòr am beud gu bheil feum air fear-deasachaidh ùr.

Tha Comhairle Ghnìomhaich a' Chomuinn air cùram a' Ghàidheil earbaidh riumsa, agus gu dearbh is ann le mòr-

mhothachadh air cudthrom an uallaich so a tha mi 'ga ghabhail orm. An uair a chumhnicheas mi air ainmean agus obair na feadhna a bha air cheann a' *Ghàidheil* roimhe so, chan ann le cridhe aotrom a tha mi ag gabhail na h-obire so làimh. Ach ni mi mo dhìchioll, agus nas fhèarr na sin chan urrainn neach sam bith a dheanamh.

Bha mi an dùil nach biodh agam ach feuchainn ris a' bhàta a chumail air a' cùrsa air son mìos no dhà, ach is ann a' bha a nise ri deanamh a mach do 'n chuan mhòr agus am bàta fo làn-aodach. Tha mi an dòchas, agus tha mi cinnteach, gu faigh mi gach cuideachadh as urrainn bhupa-san uile a b' àbhaist a bhith cuideachadh leis an fhear-dheasachaidh nach b' fèarr, agus tha mi an dòchas mar an ceudna gum bi feadhainn eile a' tairgse an còbhair.

Ged a tha agam-sa ris a' *Ghàidheil* a dheasachadh air son a' chlo, cha turr sin gu bheil agam ris a h-uile facal anns a' mhìosachan a sgrìobhadh. Feuchaidh mi ri mo chuid sgrìobhadh fhèin a chumail cho goirid 's is urrainn, agus bu mhaht leam daoine eile a bhrosnachadh gu sgrìobhadh, an Gàidhlig agus am Beurla, agus an cuid sgrìobhadh, an rosg agus am bàrdach, a thoirt am follais anns na duilleagan so. Naidheachd ur no seann ghealachd, òran no còmhraidh, eachdraidh no beachdan mu chùisean an latha an diugh—sin an seòrsa nìthan a tha sinn ag iarraidh air son a' *Ghàidheil*, ma tha iad sgrìobhte ann an Gàidhlig fhallaing, shimplidh, no ann am Beurla chlo-thromaich. Ma tha feadhainn ann, a bhruidhneas a' Ghàidhlig gu math, ach aig nach 'eil miseach gu tèid aca air a sgrìobhadh agus a lreuchdadh ann an dòigh a fhreagras air a' chlo, na beachd sin iad. Cuiridh sinn ceartaichadh air an lreuchdadh a réir gnàths an latha an diugh. Cha chuir sinn an clò ni sam bith a bhiodh an dèidh-làimhe 'na sobhar-nàire dhuinne no dhaibh-san a sgrìobh e.

Cuiribh, matà, a steach na tha a' gabhail agus feuchaidh sinn ri thoirt am follais an so. Is e a' bhochdainn, gun tà, gu bheil an *Gàidheil* bochd cho caol stiallach seach mar a b' àbhaist dha agus gun chomas aige uibhir a thoirt leis agus a bu mhiann leis, ach tha sinn an dòchas nach mar a' ghainne-phàipeir tuilleadh is fada, agus mar sin an ùine gheàrr gum bi an *Gàidheil* aig a sheann mheadachd a rithisd.

AINMEAN PEARSANTA.—Ann an coaclachd àitean de 'n Ghàidhealtachd tha dòighean eadar-dhealaichte aca air a bhith ag cur Beurla air ainmean Gàidhlig agus ag cur Gàidhlig air ainmean Beurla. San taobh tuath their iad "Eoghann" ri Ewen agus "Uisean" ri Hugh, ach an Earraghadhail their e "Eoghann" ri Hugh. A rithisd, their cuid gur e an t-ainm Beurla fa chomhair an ainm "Fionnghal" *Finella*, agus gur e a' Ghàidhlig cheart air *Flora* "Flòraidh." Is aithne do na h-uile ainm na h-ainnir choimh, Fionnghal NicDhòmhnaill. Am bu chòir dhuinn a ràdh *Finella MacDonald* anns a' Bheurla no "Flòraidh NicDhòmhnaill" anns a' Ghàidhlig? Anns an ochdamh linn deug bha àireamh mhìneastaran air a' Ghàidhealtachd air an robh an t-ainm Beurla *Aeneas*, mar a bha *Aeneas MacAmhlaidh* air a' Chomraich, agus *Aenas Sage* an Loch Carrann. An e so "Aonghas" anns a' Ghàidhlig, agus ma's e, carson nach abradh iad *Angus* anns a' Bheurla? An e gu robh iad cho dèidheil air ainmean Laidionn is Greugach? Air son an ainm Gàidhlig *Mòr* no *Mòrag* their cuid anns a' Bheurla *Sarah* agus their feadhainn eile *Marion*. Bu mhaht leam cluinntinn bhò chuid-eigin mu 'n chuspair so.

AN CEANNAICHEAR NA MAIRBH?—Bha neach ag innseadh dhomh an latha roimhe mu rud a chuir mòr-iongnadh orm. Ann an sgrì nach ainmich mi an teis-meadhan na Gàidhealtachd tha seann chladh, far am b' àbhaist dà chinneadh a bhith tòrradh nam marbh fad cheudan de bhliadhnanach. Beagan bhliadhnanach air ais chaidh an oighreachd a reic, agus tha an t-uchdaran ùr (Sasannach, ged a tha ainm Albannach air) a' dèiltdh cead a thoirt tuilleadh thòrraidhean a bhith sa' chladh sin, agus tha e a' bacadh dhaoine o bhith dol a dh'fhàicinn aigean an sinneasan agus an luchd-dàimh. Agus, a réir coltais, tha an lagh a' toirt tàid dha, a chionn agus nach d' rinnadh iomradh sam bith air a' chladh so anns na paipearan-lagha ris an do chuir e a làmh an uair a cheannachd e an oighreachd. Sòilidh mi fhéin gur e ni maslach a tha an so, ma's fìor na dh' innseadh dhomh.

GLIOSAS NAN GAIDHEAL.—"Chan e gogadh nan ceann a ni an t-iomram." "Saoilidh am fear a tha 'na thàmh gur e fhéin as fhèarr làmh air an stùir."

* * * *

FRIRIN AIR SON A' MHIOS SO.—Tionndaidh e an doinnion gu feadh, agus bhithidh a tonnan 'nan tàmh. An sin bhithidh iad ait, a chionn gum bi iad samhach, agus bheir e iad do 'n chladh as miannach leotha. *Salm cvi. 29-30.*

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bidh an Camp Samhraidh shuas an sud anns an Annait 'na uidheam fada mun ruig na tha mise ag cur sìos an so an dràs bhur sùilean-sa, agus is ann mar a bhitheas gum bi leth-ùine nan caileag aig a crìch, is na balaich le fughair 'nan sùilean is rudhadh 'nan graidhean air an t-slighe ann, mur bi cheana air ruigheachd. Ach an uair a tha mise a' sgrìobhadh is e stùil air aghaidh a dh' fheumar a dheanamh fathast. Ged is e sin féin a tha ann, tha gealltanas againn gu bheil cuairt thoil-inntinneach ri bhith agaih-se uile a thàinig a na thig gu fonn ion-mhiannaichte an taobh-dùthecha anns a bheil an camp 'na uidheam, Lochabar nan Craobh, is rogha fuinn na Gàidhealtachd.

An uair a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh tha fìor bhlàths an t-samhraidh air cromadh oirn, agus mur an robh an t-Og-mhios ro ghrianach, an ni nach robh e gun teagamh, is ann mar sin as dealasaiche ar fughair is ar dùil ris an aimsir thioram, fèin a tha a nis air tighinn. Tha làn-dhùil agam féin sàth mo bheòil de àille glan nan braigheachan ud fhaotainn, is maille ri sin eòlas oirbhe, co-dhiubh is iad na caileagan no na balaich a bhios cruinn an uair a bheir mi mo chuart. Agus ma's ann air feadh leth-ùine nan caileag, an rud as dòcha gur ann, a ruigeas mi, creideadh na balaich mur faigh mi suas g'an amharc-san nach e idir dìth m' iarrtais air a bhith leotha is aobhar, ach nach bi an comas agam. Is dòcha an uair a bhios na balaich anns a' champ gur ann a bhios mise air chuart anns an eilean bheag ud ris an abair iadsan a bhios a' tarruing asainne a bhùineas dha "an t-Eilean Creagach" is maig a chòimeaste "ri Dun-bheagan no Dun-tuilm." Cìod am fios nach innis mi dhuibh uair-eigin cò a thubhairt sin cuideachd an toiseach, agus cìod an t-aobhar a bha aice, oir is e "ise" a bha ann, air a ràdh.

Dh' innis mi dhuibh an litir a' mhìos Iuchar gun robh dùil againn leabhran beag a bhith deas gu fear an t-aon de na bhios anns a' champ a chur 'nan làimh. Tha sinn ionnas cinnteach a nis gum bi na leabhran deas. Tha an ceartair ann an clò, is gun r' a dheanamh ach beagan ceartaichaidh a thaobh mhearachdan clò, a chothromachadh is a chumseachadh 'na dhuilleagan is a cheangal 'na leabhar. Chan abair mi an còrr uime an so, oir chì sibh an leabhar féin an ùine gheàrr, agus, theagamh, mun leugh sibh mo bhriathran-sa.

Ach feumaidh mi innseadh dhuibh cò a tha ag cur na comaine so oirbh : tha Gàidheil còir, an Lìghiche Alasdair Mac-an-t-Saoir shuas an Ard-ruighe (*Aidrie*);

agus le innseadh dhuibh có an duine còir a tha a' deanamh an deagh ghnomha so is còir dhomh innseadh dhuibh, agus tha mi duilich nach e sgeul nas fearr a tha agam, nach 'eil a shlàinte an ceartair cho math 's a bu mthach leinn uile i a bhith; ged thà, tha aobhar dòchais againn gun tig feàird oirre gu goirid agus gum bi an Gàidheal caomh so air a chasan meara mun teid a bheag de ùine seachad. Agus ann a bhith ag innseadh dhuibh mu 'n leabhnan so, is còir dhomh innseadh dhuibh mu chàirden eile mar an ceudna a tha ag cur an làimhe fhialaidh 'nan sporan as bhur leth. Tha dà ghini air tighinn chun an ionmhasair bho Ghàidheil Obar-dheathain, agus dà phund 's a deich bho Ghàidheal thar-chuan, Iain G. MacNeacail, an Doire na Coille-thuathaich, Winnipeg, an Canada. Feuchaibh ris a sin a nis! Tha bhur n-ainm air dol eadhon cho fada ri Canada!! Agus ciod a tha agaibhse r' a thogail as a sin? Tha dìreach so: gum feum sibhse a bhith dileas do 'n aobhar a bha san amharc aig Clann an Fhraoich is an Comunn Gàidhealach an uair a thug iad bith dhuibhse mar Chomunn Oigridh is a ghabh iad sibh a steach fo an sgeith. Is e an deasnas sin a' Ghàidhlig a chumail suas le bhith 'ga cleachdadh is 'ga sìor-chleachdadh, gun lasachadh gun sglòs. Is ann a chionn gur e sin ceann bhur seid 's bhur siubhal agus bhur croch àraidh a tha na càirden so ag gabhail taobh ruibh is a' leigeil ris gur e an iartas bhur cuideachadh. Tha an smuain sin, mar a thubhairt mi, a' sparradh an deasnas so oirnn; agus is cuid de 'n deasnas sin nach dì-chuimhnich sinn comain.

Tha paipèaran-ceanachaidh an t-samhraidh so uile air tighinn a stigh a nis, ach cha d' fhuair sinn an sgrùdadh fathast; ja fhuaireann a dheanamh is e an cumntas agus an roinn fo cheannaidh nan sgoiltean, maille ri co-dhiubh is e làn no sàr-Ghàidheal air cheann a bheil iad a' seasamh. Uile gu léir tha 161 a sheas an ceasnachadh, agus ged a tha iad uile r' ann moladh, tha sinn a' deanamh fughair shonraichte ri dà ainm—da phiuthair—á sgoil Uachdar-àrd-thir, an iomall an ear-dheas Sierramachd Pheairt. Is e raon ùr a tha an so do Chomunn na h-Oigridh, agus tha dòchas againn gur ann a' dol ris an àireimh a bhitheas 'na dhéidh so anns an t-sierramachd àillidh sin.

So agaibh clàr a leigeas ris an àireamh as gach sgoil, etc.

Sgoil.	Sar-Ghaidheal.	Lan-Ghaidheal.
Tigh-a-ghèarraidh (Uidhist)	.. 4	5
Ròdal (Na Hearadh)	.. —	5
Eòlagarraidh (Barraidh)	.. —	17
Bodha-mór (Ile) 6	13
Bagh-a-chasteil (Barraidh)	.. 3	6
Leòdamas (Port Eilidh)	.. 1	3
Plana-sgeir 1	6
Cornaig-mhór (Tìridhe) 9	10
Uachdar-àrd-thir (Peairt) —	2
Dalabrog (Uidhist) 6	23
Tairbeart na Hearadh 17	14
Torlum —	10

Uile gu léir .. 47 114

A nis, tha mise cinnteach gu robh sibhse, a chlann, mar a bha sinn uile, ro dhuilich an uair a chuala sibh gun tàinig am bàs air an Ceann-suidhe, an t-Urr. Calum MacLeòid. B' ann an déidh do litir a' mhìos a dh' fhalbh mo lamh-sa fhàgail a thachair an call so dhuinn, agus mar sin cha robh an cothrom agamsa facal a ràdh mu a bhàs. Thugadh iomradh air ar call le feadhainn eile an àireamh a' mhìos a dh' fhalbh ach bu toigh leamsa mar an ceudna clach bheag a chur an càrn a chuimhne an so, eadhon ged a tha tomhas ùine air dol seachad a nis bho 'n a shiubhal e. Bidh sinn uile, matà, 'ga chuimhneachadh 's 'ga ionndrainn, oir cha bhì a àite mar cheann is mar chombhairliche air a' Chomunn Ghàidhealach furasda a Ionadh.—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

CUIRM-CHIUL FEACHD PHORT-RIGHEADH.

Bha cuirm mhór eireachdail aig Feachd Phort-righeadh air oidheche Dì-haoine an 28mh latha de 'n Og-mhìos. Bha iad an sin as gach cèarn de 'n Eilean, agus chan 'eil fhios agam fhathast ciamar a bha e comasach gabhail ris a' mheud is a bha san làthair. Ma bha dùil aca ri àbhachdas is cridhealas de gach seòrsa, fhuair iad sin ann pailteas agus sin ann deagh Ghàidhlig.

Thàinig ar caraid Aonghas MacDhonnchaidh na h-uile ceum a baile mór Ghlaschu, agus thug e dhuinn òraid bhrosnachail mar is math as aithne dha, agus an déidh sin thòisich a' chuirm. Agus b' e sin a' chuirm—òrain aon-neach, òrain-càraid, òrain bho chòisirean na sgoile, aithris bàrdachd, dealbh-chluich, eòid-fidhle, agus piobareachd—gach ni a shàsachadh crìdhe an fhìor Ghàidheil.

Feumar na caileagan is na balaich a mholadh, agus cho fad is a tha an leithid againn faodar misneach a ghabhail a thaobh na seann chànan; ach, thar nan uile, is còir taing a thoirt do ar caraid Iain Steele a tha a' brosnachadh ar n-oigridh gu a leithid de ìre. Agus tha ar taing mar an ceudna aig a' mhaighdean NicMhaolain air son a saothair is a dilseachd, agus aig a' mhaighdean Peigi NicDhòmhnaill agus na trì Còisirean fo a stiùradh.

Cha chreid mi gun cuala mi riamh aithris bàrdachd cho éibhinn is a fhuair sinn bho Dhòmhnall MacGhille-mhoire an uair a labhair e "Faclan do Pheasan Laoigh," agus laogh cho cuilbheartach chan fhacas a leithid air tìr-mór no eilean.

Cha robh an Dealbh-chluich dad air dheireadh agus tha sinn an dòchas gun d' fhuair Aonghas MacCoinnich do na Hearadh a dh' aindeoin gach cnap-starradh san t-slighe an àm cogaidh, ach is dòcha gum bi fios aig Aonghas fhéin air a sin.

Tha iomadh latha bho 'n a bha a leithid de Chuirm sin eilean, agus is e dòchas gach aoin nach bi fada gus am faigh iad sanas air a leithid eile.

Agus a nis bu chaomh leam aon fhacal eile a chantainn—cho moiteil agus a tha mi as a' cheannard is a' bhan-cheannard. Bu laghach a chuir esan fàilt air Fear na Cathrach, agus bu phongail a thug ise taing dha as leth Feachd Phort-rìghheadh. Mo bheannachd aca.

DOMHNALL.

CEISTEAN ANNS A' CHUNNTAS AIBIDILEACH.

1. Thuir Màiri ri Cailean 's e farraid a h-aois dhith, "Tha balach sa' bhaile 's tha mise a thri aoisean; Còig bliadhna bho 'n uiridh cha robh mi ach dùbailt' Na h-aois a bhios esan ma chi e bhliadh'n ùr so. Innis dhomh a nise, de m' aois agus aois-san ?

2. Bha gur air cearc Anna is shuidhicheadh linn. Chaidh cuid dhith a dholaich 's bha cuid dhith a chinn; Bha ochd uibhean fallain mar ri dhà chaidh a dhith, 'S an aghaidh gach coilich bha dh' eireagan trì. Is e trì de na h-uibhean, matà, chaidh a dhith. Dé àireamh nan eireag bh' aig Anna san linn ?

3. Bha peasan de bhalach cur corruich air Ruairidh—Ach theich e 'na dheannaibh 's am bodach 'ga ruagadh. Bha a cheumannan còig mar na trì dheanadh Ruairidh, 'S bha trì dhiubh cho fada ri dhà an duin'-uasail. Dé nise do bharail, cé bhuing an ruaig dhiubh ?

4. Chaidh cuideachd bho 'n bhaile gu ruig an tràigh fhaochag, Thog iad cud agus deich de phocannan maoraich; Ma roinneas sinn sin am measg an luchd saothrach Bidh poc' anns gach earrann thar àireamh nan daoine. Dé àireamh na cuideachd bha togail nam faochag ?

5. Chuir Domhnall is Anna aon iomair buntàta; Bha de shùlean 's gach ròd 's a bha ròdan buntàt' ann. Nuair thàinig am foghar bha fàs air gach bàrr dhiubh Leth àireamh nan sùl bha 's gach ròd de bhuntàta; Bha dà mhìle 's dà fhichead 's a h-ochd a nis fàs ann; Dé àireamh nan ròd bh' anns an iomair bhuntàta ?

6. Dh' fhasdaidh mi cuideachd de fhir agus ghruagaich, 'S mi dèidheil air deireadh chur air obair na buana. Bha trìùir ann de fhearaibh mu choinneamh gach gruagaich, Is phàidh mi gu geanail aig tasdan san uair iad, Ged nach tug mi ach leth-ùiread sin do na gruagaich. Dé an àireamh a bh' ann de fhir agus ghruagaich, Ma 's e ochd tasdain fhichead a phàidh mi san uair dhaibh ?

Aonghas MacDhonnchaidh.

Bhuineadh am fear a rinn na rannan so do 'n Eilean Sgitheanach, agus goidir an dèidh dha inbhe M.A. a chosnadh a' Oil-thigh Ghlaschu chaochail e a'reamh bhliadhnan air ais. Is e a' bha ann sgoilear math Gàidhlig agus balach gasda, agus is mòr am beud nach maireann e. B' ann fo ualach an tinnise a rinn e stri ri foghlam a thoirt a mach, agus b' ann gle òigineach a bha e an uair a shuidh e fo sgrùdaidhean-foghlum an Oil-thigh. Dh' fhag e deagh eisimpleir air dèidheil agus misneach fo mhòr-fhulangas. Chuireadh na rannan so an ob' an toiseach ann an Oisinn, leshbran a chuireadh a mach le Comann Oiseanach Oil-thigh Ghlaschu.

Gheibhear na freagairtean air taobh-duilleig 104. Is dòcha gu bheil na ceistean so car doirbh air son na feadhna as òige, ach tha cuid dhiubh nas fhasa na càch. Bitheadh mi an comain neach air bith, sean no òg, a chuireas thugam rannan, sgeulachdan, duanagan, toimhsheach, is ni air bith eile, a bhios freagarrach air son "Oisinn na h-Oigridh."—F.d.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE PRESIDENT.

After a brief Service in the Victoria Infirmary Chapel, conducted by the Rev. John MacKay, of Gorbals-John Knox Church, the mortal remains of the late Rev. Malcolm MacLeod were conveyed from Glasgow on 24th June, and on the following day the funeral was held at Balquhiddier. It was a sunny summer day, and the beautiful Church of Balquhiddier was filled to capacity with a very large congregation of parishioners from all districts of the parish, friends from all over Scotland and from England, and representatives of the various associations and ecclesiastical and public bodies with which Mr. MacLeod had been associated.

The coffin was placed in front of the pulpit and communion table and reposed between two of the several ancient relics in the Church, which reflect the antiquity of Christianity in that parish—the carved stone of St. Angus and the old stone Baptismal Font. Upon and around the coffin, which was draped with the purple D.D. hood of Edinburgh University, lay masses of flowers.

The Service in the Church was conducted by members of the Presbytery, the Rev. A. Dingwall (Moderator), Rev. A. M. Campbell, Rev. T. Skeoch, and the Rev. Martin MacRae. The Service was in English, but included a Gaelic Prayer offered by Mr. MacRae.

Members of the Kirk Session carried the coffin from the Church to the grave, under the shade of trees on the brae in the upper part of the churchyard. There the Committal Service, which was entirely in Gaelic, was conducted by the Rev. T. M. Murchison. At the close, a piper played "MacCrimmon's Lament," followed by "MacLeod's March" as Reveille.

And so, with simple ceremony, in sadness but illumined by the hope of the Gospel, there was laid to rest all that was mortal of one who in his time had cherished and shown forth the best traditions of our people. For him, as for all who share the Faith, the laying aside of the burden of mortality was by the entrance upon a higher service.

BALQUHIDDER, 25/6/46.

Not where the wave beats on his native Isle,
But 'mong the hills he's laid to rest.
This summer afternoon he sleeps
As in Avilion's vale beyond the West.

The Paraphrase is sung within the walls,
(Of bread and raiment he hath need no more),
The Prayer is offered, and to Churchyard kept
We take our way. His fitful fever 's o'er.

In ancient tongue the Burial is said,
The pipes meet lamentation play
For Calum, worthy Gael and true—
Then rouse they in the March-away.

SEUMAS.



AN T-URRAMACH CALUM MACLEOID

NACH MAIREANN.

Thàinig sheul air cruaidh,
Gun do chuir iad san uaigh thu,
Leòdaich urramach usal,
Bàigheil, càrdaile, gun mheang.

Tha do chàirdean ri cumha,
'S lionmhor iad na dùbhaich,
Do chorp àlainn bhith 'n tasgadh
Cist dhìonaich sa' chhill.

Ach b' e deòin an Ard-Fhrasdaid
Dorus bhualach san fheasgar,
Ghairm a sheirbhiseach teistid
Gu àros nan naomh.

TAOBH-TUATH ÈARRAGHAIDHEAL.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council was held in the North Church Hall, Stirling, on Friday, 5th July, 1946. The following Members were present:—

Col. C. D. G. Ballingall, Kippen; John M. Bannerman, M.A., B.Sc., Balmaha; Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Balmaha; Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow; Miss C. B. Cameron, Glasgow; Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow; Pat Cameron, Nethy Bridge; Nicol Campbell, Inverness; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Strathrye; Miss Anne Gunn, Glasgow; Miss Lamont of Knockdow, M.A., B.Sc., J.P.; Rev. Alexander MacDonald, D.D., Glasgow; Miss Catherine MacDonald, Glasgow; Donald MacDonald, Inverness; Dugald MacDonald, Stonehaven; Roderick MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Hector MacIver, M.A., Edinburgh; Alexander MacKay, Edinburgh; Rev. John MacKay, M.A., Glasgow; John MacKay, Edinburgh; Donald Shaw MacKinnon, Edinburgh; Donald MacLean, Glasgow; Murdo MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Murdo MacLeod, Edinburgh; Donald M. MacPhail, B.L., Edinburgh; Farquhar MacRae, M.A., B.Sc., F.E.I.S., Glasgow; Angus Matheson, M.A., Glasgow; Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Glasgow; Angus Robertson, Bearsden; Mrs. Elizabeth Shaw, Edinburgh; Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban.

In attendance:—James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary; Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary, and Donald Macphail, Northern Organiser.

The Secretary referred to the vacant chair and said that, in ordinary circumstances, the Senior Vice-President would be called upon to proceed in the absence of the President. On this occasion the chair was vacant owing to the passing of our esteemed President, and, in accordance with "Rule 43 of the Constitution and Rules of the Association, "The Executive Council shall have power to fill any vacancies which may occur between Annual Meetings in their own number, or in the offices of President or Vice-President, and such appointments shall continue in force until the ensuing Annual Meeting." On the motion of Dr. John Cameron, Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness, Senior Vice-President, was appointed President until the Annual Meeting takes place. Mr. MacDonald took the chair and invited the other two Vice-Presidents, Mr. John M. Bannerman and Dr. John Cameron, to accompany him to the platform. In thanking the members for the honour they had done him, Mr. MacDonald asked the members to be understanding while he made the following reference to the passing of the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, President of An Comunn.

"An Mhnathan 's a Dhaoin-uaisle—Is e gu dearbh buille throm a thuit oirn uile le crìch aithghearr a' Chinn Suidhe, an t-Urramach Calum MacLeod. Is beag a shaoil sinn binc gheag air ais gun biodh an Sàr Ghàidheal urramach agus ar Fear-ùil 'na shineadh anns a' chiste chaoil ag am so.

"Is dòcha nach 'eil son againn a thuing gu buileach an obair mhòr a rinn e 'na latha air son ar cànan 's ar ceòl, agus gu h-àraidh Litreachas nan Gàidheal, gun a bhith a' dì-chuimhneachadh gach oidhirp a rinn e air son leas a dhaoine ann an iomadh dòigh. Rinn e obair ionmholta mar Cheann Suidhe a' Chomuinn fad oich bliadhna agus stiùir e sinn le crìche bhàth agus intinn shoilleir ams na bliadhnach dorcha sin. A bharrachd air sin bha e 'n a Fhear-deasachaidh air mìosachan a' Chomuinn re dheich bliadhna. Thog e *An Gàidheal* gu inbhe àird le fìor spòilearachd, chan ann a mhàin an Gàidhlig ach ann an cànaichean Ceilteach eile. Bìdh gach earrann a thàinig a mach fo a làmh-san 'nan carragh-cuimhne air Calum MacLeod cho fad 's a bhios nach bea a leughas Gàidhlig. Agus cha do sheachainn e son chothrom air staid na Gàidhealtachd is nan Gàidheal a thoirt fa chomhair an Ardrìghaltach, ag gearan nach 'eil na Gàidheal a' faighinn cothrom na Féinne agus nach d' fhuair riamh.

Choisinn e agus fhuair e àrd-urram bho Oilthigh Dhun-éideann—D.D., ach, mo chreach, cha robh e an dàn gun biodh an t-urram so air a bhuileachadh air gu pearsanta. Thàinig am bàs aithghearr eatorra.

"Tha sinn an diugh 'ga chaoidh mar Fhear-Èil is mar charaid, a bha gu nàdurra coibhneil agus tuigsach. Cha bhì e furasdaid am bhearn a rinn a bhas a lìonadh, ach b'ìdh cuimhne chùbhrasaidh againn uile air a' Cheann Suidhe.

A Chuid de Phàrras dha.

"Cha dì-chuimhnich sinn a bhannrach agus an teaghlach 'nan anararachd agus dh' iarrainn gun cuireadh an Rùnaire fìos thuca a leigil ris am meas a bha aig a' Chomuinn air an fhear nach maireann agus gur e ar dòchas agus air guidhe gun biodh Dia uile-chumhachdach leotha-san 'nan éigin agus 'nan trioblaid."

The Minute of Meeting held on 5th April was read, approved and signed; and apologies were intimated from several members of the Council. The Minute of Finance Committee was read by the Treasurer, and Dr. John Cameron, Convener, suggested that approval of the minute be taken along with the Financial Statements later on.

Minute of Meeting of Education Committee was read. The Committee reported that the Summer School on Social Life and Activity in the Highlands and Islands, to be held at Inverlochy, had to be cancelled. The school, which was being organised in conjunction with the Scottish Education Department, was primarily for the benefit of the Gaelic-speaking community of the Highlands and Islands, and the Committee regretted that the support given was so meagre and the hope was expressed that the Department would give a similar opportunity next year, and that full advantage would be taken of it. The Committee recommended that the Education Committees of the Gaelic-speaking communities be approached with a view to receiving a deputation from An Comunn on the position of Gaelic in the Primary Schools. The Minute was approved on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Farquhar MacRae, seconded by Mr. Donald Thomson.

The Minute of Publication Committee was read. The Committee reported that two of the volumes of the new series of "Gaelic Readers" are now in type and that the miscellany *Alba* is in course of being set up in type. The editorship of *An Gàidheal* being vacant owing to the death of Rev. Malcolm Macleod, it was moved, seconded and agreed to recommend to the Executive Council that the Rev. T. M. Murchison be appointed Editor.

The Committee recommended that at the Aberdeen Mod there should be a Book-Stall showing An Comunn's publications. The Minute was approved on the motion of Mr. Farquhar MacRae, seconded by Mr. Angus Matheson. Thereafter the Convener, Rev. T. M. Murchison, gave a résumé of the work which the Publication Committee has in hand and hopes to complete in the very near future.

The Minute of Meeting of Propaganda Committee was read. The Committee reported that the response to the Committee's advertisement for the post of Music Teacher was so meagre that it was decided to defer consideration of the appointment, and that the post be re-advertised giving more details.

Arising from the Minute of the Northern Sub-Committee, it was noted that a statement had been made by a member to the effect that the Gaelic-speaking people were being detached from An Comunn in the Gaelic-speaking areas. This part of the Minute was remitted to the Northern Sub-Committee for further consideration. The Committee recommended that the Assistant Secretary be encouraged to arrange Concert Tours for next session on similar lines to those given this year which proved to be of immense value. In moving the adoption of the Minutes, Mr. Donald Thomson, Acting Convener, said that the time had come for An Comunn to launch its Post-War Propaganda Campaign, and that this should be done at the National Mod at Aberdeen. The Minute was approved.

The Minute of Meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read. The Convener had reported on his visit to Aberdeen along with the General Secretary. Arrangements to date were very satisfactory and the local committee was doing all in its power to ensure the success of the Mod. The Secretary reported that he had been in communication with the Secretary of the Perth Gaelic Society re the 1947 Mod. Copy of letter received by that Society from the Perth City Chamberlain was read, from which it was noted that the City Hall was still requisitioned, and no guarantee could be given that it would be free in September, 1947. The Secretary further reported that, since the meeting of the Committee, he had been in telephonic communication with the City Chamberlain's office, and that he was assured the hall would be available for the Mod in September, 1947. The Minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. John M. Bannerman. Mr. Dugald MacDonald, Convener of the Aberdeen Mod Local Committee was present, and, on being invited to speak, gave details of the work being done by his committee in Aberdeen, and he assured the meeting that everything was being done to make the Mod a success in every possible way.

The Treasurer presented his accounts for the year, and gave details of the various items as summarised in the printed report. There was a Revenue Deficiency of £345 0s. 0d. against a surplus of £118 0s. 0d. for the previous year. This disparity was chiefly accounted for by increase in staff salaries following the return of the Assistant Secretary from War Service, and the termination of the arrangement with the Scottish Savings Committee for the sharing of the salary and expenses of the Northern Organiser. There was also a diminution in subscriptions and donations to the Central Fund. Dr. Cameron, in moving adoption of the Minute and the Financial Statement, referred to the Concert Tours which were the means of raising almost £600 0s. 0d. for the Central Fund. The Finance Committee resolved to recommend to the Executive Council that the Office Organisation, Staffing, and Conditions of Service be considered, and that a remit be made to a Sub-Committee for consideration and report. After discussion, it was agreed to remit this to the special reorganisation committee and it was also agreed to enlarge that committee by adding conveners of standing committees. The Minutes of the Finance Committee and the Treasurer's accounts for the year 1945/46 were unanimously approved. Reports of Standing Committees were approved on the motion of the Chairman.

Mrs. Bannerman reported on the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund and gave details of efforts envisaged to augment the Fund.

There was some discussion as to possible conflict of interest between the Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund and the Central Fund of An Comunn. It was finally agreed to remit consideration of this matter to the Finance Committee with power to consult the Central War Comforts Committee.

Nominations were received for offices of President, Vice-President, and ten elected members of the Executive Council, and, on the motion of Dr. John Cameron, it was agreed to re-appoint the auditors, Messrs. Gillespie and Anderson.

Notices of Motion were received as follows:—

By the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, per Mrs. Barron:—
 "That there be two classes of certificate issued to vocal competitors at the Mod Gaelic Test: Certificate "A" to be issued after special examination to persons who are native or fluent Gaelic speakers—such certificates to exempt the holder from any future test. Certificate "B" to less fluent Gaelic speakers. Such certificate to be valid for the current Mod only."

By Mr. Nicol Campbell, Inverness:—

"That Rule 23 of the Constitution and Rules be amended by substituting "Perth" for "Stirling."

By Mr. Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban:—

"That Byelaw 20 be amended to read as follows:—Office-Bearers and elected members of the Executive Council shall be entitled to travelling expenses in so far as these are in excess of 10/-, attending meetings of the Association and of the Executive Council, except (1) the Annual Meeting of the Association and (2) the Preliminary Meeting of the Executive Council."

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Highlands and Islands Education Trust, intimating a vacancy among the Governors of the Trust to be filled up by a representative of An Comunn. On the motion of the Rev. T. M. Murchison, it was unanimously agreed to appoint the Rev. John MacKay, M.A. to succeed the late President as Governor of the Highlands and Islands Education Trust.

A letter was read from Professor A. M. Renwick, D.D., D.Litt., of the Free Church College, Edinburgh, regarding the depopulation of the Highlands, and suggesting the formation of a Highland Development Company. After consideration, it was agreed to ask the Secretary to suggest to Professor Renwick that he communicate with the Highland Development League in Glasgow, asking them to convene a meeting which he could address on the aims which he outlined in his letter.

A letter from the Scottish War Memorials Advisory Council was read. The Council stated that all organisations associated with it were asked to make a contribution to the funds of the Council to enable its work to be continued. The letter was remitted to the Finance Committee for consideration.

A vote of Thanks to the Chairman, terminated the meeting.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

THE LATE PRESIDENT.

The news of the death of the President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, came as a great shock to the people of the North and West. He was held in the highest respect in all parts, where he was well-known as a powerful and eloquent preacher and as a man of outstanding gifts in Gaelic literature. The monthly magazine *An Gaidheal*, which he edited so successfully over a period of years, was eagerly read, and the editorials contained much authentic information regarding old literature and also candid comment on current affairs. To-day the North and West mourn the loss of a warm-hearted Gael, proud of the rock from which he had sprung, and at all times eager and willing to take his share in every effort likely to prove beneficial to his people. Sincere sympathy for his wife and two daughters goes out in full measure from the Northern Area.

GAELIC CAMP.

At the time of writing these Notes, the final touches are being put to the arrangements for the first post-war Camp of Comunn na h-Oigridh. It is expected that there will be nearly 100 boys and girls in attendance. The intricacies of rationing are adding considerably to the work on this occasion, but everything is now more or less arranged. It is interesting to note that the Kilmallie Highland Games Committee have included competitions for the girls at the Annual Games, and the B.B.C. have again very kindly granted facilities for a Broadcast from the Camp.

LOCHABER PROVINCIAL MOD.

The second post-war Mod was held at Fort William on 21st June and proved entirely successful.

The Fort William Branch made all the arrangements, and Mr. Whyte, President, Mr. Lachlan Mackinnon, Hon. Secretary, and Miss MacInnes, Hon. Treasurer, together with a willing Committee, are to be heartily congratulated on the great success which attended the Mod.

The entries were satisfactory in both Junior and Senior sections. The Music adjudicators were Mr. Herbert Wiseman and Mrs. Finlayson, while the Gaelic adjudication was entrusted to Messrs. Donald Graham, M.A., Hugh Macphee, and John Mackinnon, M.A., and the Northern Organiser, the latter as judge in the Junior oral section.

The General Secretary had been invited to declare the Mod open but he was unavoidably prevented from doing so. In Mr. Shaw's absence, Mr. Donald Graham deputised for him. At this ceremony, the Rev. Dominic MacKellaig, Roy Bridge, was Chairman, and his eloquent address in Gaelic, exhorting all Gaels to be up and doing in the Cause so dear to the hearts of all true Highlanders, evoked keen applause from a crowded hall.

The Grand Concert following the Mod, sustained by First-Prize winners, supported by Petrine Stewart and Alasdair Matheson, was of a high standard. Dr. J. A. MacLean, Director of Education, presided, and gave an inspiring address, and Mrs. Mairi MacIntyre gracefully presented the prizes.

LIST OF FIRST-PRIZE WINNERS.

JUNIOR ORAL DELIVERY.

Reciting—Christine MacLeod, Kinlochel. Reading—Catherine MacDonald, Kinlochel. Reciting Set Piece—Catherine Morrison, Fort William Secondary School. Reading Unseen Prose—Catherine Morrison, Reading Set Piece—Catherine Morrison. Reading of Scripture—Catherine Morrison.

JUNIOR—VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing (Girls under 12)—Moira Carmichael, Banavie. Solo Singing (Boys under 12)—Iain Wynne, Banavie. Solo Singing (Girls, 12-16)—Ishbel MacLellan. Solo Singing (Boys, 12-16)—Thomas MacKenna. Solo Singing (Boys and Girls, 12-16)—Thomas MacKenna. Duet Singing—Fiona Cameron and Eileen MacIntosh, Fort William Secondary School.

JUNIOR CHOIR COMPETITIONS.

Unison Singing—Banavie School Choir. Choral Singing—Fort William Secondary School Choir.

SENIOR ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading Unseen Prose—Donald John MacLennan, Fort William Secondary School. Reciting—Donald John MacLennan. Reading—Catherine MacDonnell, Fort William Secondary School. Competition arranged by Judges—Donald John MacLennan.

SENIOR—VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing (Ladies)—Anne MacIntosh, Nether Lochaber. Solo Singing (Men)—Richard MacGuire, Kinlochleven. Solo Singing (Open)—Freda Ralston, Onich. Duet Singing—Mrs. MacLennan and A. M. Carmichael, Banavie. Quartette Singing—Kilmallie Quartette A. Choral Singing (Ladies)—Fort William Secondary School Choir.

CHALLENGE SHIELD COMPETITION.

Choral Singing—Glenurquhart Gaelic Choir. Unison Singing—Glenurquhart Gaelic Choir.

TROPHIES AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

The Kilmallie Cuach, presented by the Kilmallie Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach for Excellence in Oral Competitions—Catherine Morrison, Fort William Secondary School. Special Prize presented by An Comunn Abranch in Junior Oral Competition—Christine MacLeod, Kinlochel. Special Prize presented by An Comunn Abranch in Senior Oral Competition—Donald John MacLennan, Fort William Secondary School. Special Prize awarded by Mrs. Ryan, Roy Bridge,

for Solo Singing: Ladies, Anne MacIntosh, Nether Lochaber; Men, Richard MacGuire, Kinlochleven. Lochaber Cuach (for best Lady Soloist)—Mrs. MacLennan, Fort William. Glengarry Cup presented by Glengarry Branch (for best Male Soloist)—Richard MacGuire. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. D. MacGregor, Fort Augustus, for Junior Unison Singing—Banavie School Choir. Challenge Shield presented by Lochaber & District Co-operative for Junior Choral Singing—Fort William School Choir. Challenge Shield presented by Comunn Gaidhealach a' Ghearsdain for Senior Choral Singing—Glenurquhart Gaelic Choir.

VICTORY MOD—ABERDEEN.

The dates of the Aberdeen Victory Mod are 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th September. The Daily Sessions and Evening Concerts will be held in the Music Hall, and the Concerts have been arranged as follows:—

JUNIOR CONCERT, 24th September, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 2/- (Reserved) and 1/-, including tax.

RURAL CHOIR CONCERT, 26th September, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 2/- (Reserved), 2/6, and 1/-, including tax.

MOD GRAND CONCERT, 27th September, at 7.45 p.m. Tickets, 5/- (Reserved), 3/6, and 2/6, including tax.

Special allowance is made for *Members Only* to reserve seats for the Concerts until 31st August, and application should be made to An Comunn Office as soon as possible before that date. Members wishing to attend the *Civic Reception* on 25th September must notify the *Secretary* before 28th August. No application will be accepted after this date.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

The Editor will be glad to consider manuscripts for publication in this Magazine, in Gaelic or English, both prose and poetry, on topics of general interest, and especially on subjects of special interest to Highland and Gaelic-speaking readers. Manuscripts should be typewritten or in legible handwriting, and in either case ample space should be left between the lines, with writing on one side of the paper only. It should be understood, however, that, while the paper scarcity continues, there may be some delay in publishing all the material accepted.

FREAGAIRTEAN DO NA CEISTEAN ANNS A' CHUNNTAS AIBIDILEACH.

(faic taobh-duilleig 101).

1. Bha Màiri ceithir air fhichead, agus bha am balach o chd bliadhna a dh'aois.
2. Bha naoi eireagan aig Anna san linn.
3. Is e am balach a bhuing an ruag.
4. Bha deichnear a' togail nam faochag.
5. B' e àireamh nan ròd anns gach ìomair sia-deug.
6. Aon air fhichead de fhir, agus ceithir-deug de ghrugaich.

AN GAIDHEAL.

Volume XL (October, 1944 to September, 1945 inclusive) of AN GAIDHEAL bound in cloth can now be had from An Comunn Gaidhealach Office, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, price, 3/6, postage, 4d.

"ALBA."

A Scottish Miscellany in Gaelic and English.

Preparations are being made to publish a Miscellany of Gaelic and English prose and poetry, entitled *Alba*. It will consist of about sixty pages, with coloured cover-design, and will sell at 2/6 per copy.

Alba will contain a number of photographic illustrations of aspects of Highland life and activity—carding, weaving, fishing, agriculture, etc. As a tribute to himself and to the Highland men and women who served in the war, the front-piece will be a portrait of that gallant soldier, Brigadier Lorne Campbell, V.C., D.S.O.

This miscellany is intended as a medium for the encouragement of new writing in Gaelic prose and poetry, and for discussion in Gaelic and English of Highland economic and social affairs, and of the various aspects of our Celtic heritage, not forgetting our fellow-Celts in other countries. Among the contributions are: "Obair na Gàidhlighe in Eirinn" by the well-known Irish writer, "An Seabhaic"; "The best way of augmenting the modern vocabulary of the Gaelic language without damaging its structure," by the Swedish philologist, Nils Holmer; poems in Scots and Gaelic by Douglas Young, George Campbell Hay, Sòmhlaire MacGilleathain, and Ruairidh MacThomais; Calum Iain MacLean writes about the work of the Irish Folklore Commission; George Bain deals with "Scotland's Neglected Celtic Art Heritage." Other articles are concerned with Highland culture, the present position of Gaelic, Highland reconstruction, pìobaireachd, and the clarsach, and there are original short stories and essays by both new and well-known writers.

It is hoped that *Alba* will be published in time for the National Mod at Aberdeen, towards the end of September, but, owing to the pressure of work in the printing trade at the present time, no guarantee can be given of the date of publication.

In order to meet the heavy costs of production and to justify the low selling price of 2/6, it is necessary that the whole edition should be sold as soon as possible. *Alba* is being published for An Comunn Gàidhealach, to which any profits on the publication will accrue.

Will all those who desire a copy or copies please send their order without delay to An Comunn office. Branches might order several copies for sale to members and others.

If this issue of *Alba* proves successful, it is hoped to make it an annual, or even a quarterly, publication.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

PROPOSED PAN-CELTIC REVIEW.

Welcome news comes from France that an Inter-Celtic Review is to begin publication, to consist of contributions in all the Celtic languages. It is to be called "*Al Liamm*" (The Bond). It is not stated how frequently the Review is to appear. The annual subscription is 10/-, and should be sent to:—

M. Pierre Le Bihan,
6 rue du Marechal Joffre,
Versailles—S et O—France.

(C.C.P. 5349—06 Paris).

Gaelic articles on any Celtic subject will be welcomed. Literary communications should be addressed to:—

A. Latimer,
24 rue Ed. Nocard,
St. Maurice (Seine),
France.

It is much to be hoped that the various branches of the Celtic peoples—in Scotland, Ireland, Wales, the Isle of Man, and Brittany, and in other parts of the world—will more and more be brought into closer fellowship in defence of, and for the further development of, their ancient heritage. One way in which this has been done in the past is through the Celtic Congress, which it is proposed to resume in the near future.

But a pan-Celtic periodical will also be a strong bond of union. It is significant and heartening that this move originates among the Celts of France, who have of late years especially been undergoing severe trials.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS.

From 1st JUNE, 1945 to 31st MAY, 1946.

ORDINARY.

Bangor-Jones, A., Anglesey.
Byars, John, Newburgh, Fife.
Campbell, Miss Jan, Campbelltown.
Campbell, Mrs. K., Campbelltown.
Carmichael, Miss Dina, Greenock.
Chisholm, Alexander Stuart, Canada.
Douglas, Mrs. A., Glasgow, W.1.
Ferguson, Murdoch, Glasgow, C.3.
Fleit, Dr. A. B., Edinburgh, 3.
Fraser, Mrs. A., Kingussie.
Fraser, Mrs. George, Campbelltown.
Glass, Nurse Alexandria, C.M.F.
Harder, D. Cameron, Canada.
Johnson, James, Glasgow, C.2.
Johnson, Mrs. James, Glasgow, C.2.
Keay, Mrs. J., Glasgow, C.3.
Kelley, M.M., Cpl. P. Douglas, India Command.
Kennedy, Angus, Edinburgh.
Laundy, Seumas, Brussels.
Leland, Lloyd, Canada.
Livingstone, Farquhar, Luss.
Macaskill, John, Harris.
MacDonald, Angus Alex., Aherfeldy.
MacDonald, Rev. Angus, Skye.
MacDonald, Miss Catherine, Glasgow.
MacDhèrre, Mrs. H., Campbelltown.
MacInnes, Alexander, Pitlochry.
MacInnes, Mrs. Alexander, Pitlochry.
MacKay, Alexander, Glasgow, S.2.
MacKay, Miss Ann, Glasgow, C.4.
MacKay, Roderick, North Uist.
MacKenzie, Miss Christie, Beaulieu.
MacKenzie, John E., Inverness.
MacKenzie, M. Ardersier, Inverness-shire.
MacKinnon, M.A., Rev. Christopher, Crianlarich.
MacKinnon, Rev. Donald J., Skye.
MacKinnon, Neil, Oban.
MacKinnon, Miss P., Edinburgh.
MacLaren, Mrs. Ann, Kenmore.
MacLean, Donald, Glasgow, S.W.2.
MacLeish, John M., Thurso.
MacLeod, M.A., Rev. Alexander M., Perthshire.
MacLeod, Dr. K. I. E., Strathpeffer.
MacLeod, Mrs. K. I. E., Strathpeffer.
MacMaster, J. F., Cheshire.
Macpherson, Duncan, Speanbridge.
MacSwan, Alexander, Aherfeldy.
MacSween, Duncan, Greenock.
Mathieson, M.A., John, Nethy Bridge.
Menzies, Hector, Lochgilphead.
Millar, Ian, Greenock.
Morris, Nurse L. J., C.M.F.
Munro, Nurse Jean E., C.M.F.
Ogle, Nurse Vera, C.M.F.
Reid, Mrs. Ann M., Glasgow, W.2.
Robertson, M.A., Hume D., Glasgow, S.2.
Ross, M.A., Miss Lydia, Dingwall.
Scott, The Hon. Mrs. Anne Seton, Perthshire.
Shulver, Mrs., Campbelltown.
Sillars, Mrs., Campbelltown.
Smith, M.A., Rev. Callum, Stornoway.
Smith, Iain, Aberdeen.
Smith, M.A., Rev. Roderick, Muir of Ords.
Watson, Aleck, Paisley.
Wilson, James, Glasgow, C.4.
Wyllie, Mrs. James, Campbelltown.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

To enable An Comunn to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign now that the war is over, 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., 6 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

Dingwall Branch	£2 2 —
Manchester Branch	2 2 —
Edinburgh Tir nam Beann Association	5 — —
Wick Branch	2 2 —
John Campbell, Esq., Bearsden	5 — —
Manning Macdonald, Esq., U.S.A.	5 — —
John Byars, Esq., Newburgh	5 — —
Alex. Macpherson, Esq., Canada	2 6 —
Dr. T. K. Munro, Glasgow, C.3.	1 1 —

£13 4 6

NATIONAL MOD, ABERDEEN.

Donations, 1946.

Previously acknowledged	£370 14 2
RECEIVED AT HEAD OFFICE—	
Glasgow Skye Association	2 2 —
Oban Branch	10 — —
Lochinver Branch	2 10 —
Rev. Donald Stewart, M.A., Lochgilphead	5 — —
Mrs. M. A. MacIntyre, Carbridge	3 3 —
Malcolm MacLean, Esq., Tobermory	10 — —
RECEIVED AT ABERDEEN—	
Scottish Literature and Song Association per Mrs. Macarthur	15 — —

Mrs. H. B. MacLeod, Aberdeen	1 — —
F. Fowler, Esq., Aberdeen	10 — —
J. M. Hobbs, Esq., Fort William	5 — —
Ceildh nan Gaidheal, Inverness	2 2 —
Dr. Esslemont, Aberdeen	1 1 —
Proceeds of Concert at Braes of Rannoch, per James Scott, Esq.	10 — —
James Dingwall, Esq., Culbokie	1 — 6
H. J. Gray, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen	2 2 —
R. Esslemont, Esq., 26 Rubislan Den North	2 2 —
David Stewart, Esq., Banchory Devenick	2 2 —
Proceeds of Concert, per J. Scott, Esq., Kin- loch Rannoch	17 — —
John Campbell, Esq., Aberdeen	2 — —

£450 3 8

WAR MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING FUND.

Previously acknowledged	£757 12 10
Mrs. Gilbert George, Dorset	10 — —
Mrs. Collins, Rowardennan	2 — —
Oban Branch	10 — —
Comunn Tir nam Beann an Dun-eideann	5 — —
Ceildh nan Gaidheal an Inbhirnis	5 5 —
Lt. Comm. and Mrs. E. J. Fergusson of Baledmund	5 — —
Mrs. Charles Herdman, Shipton on Stour	5 — —
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Leabhar XLI.]

An t-Sultuin, 1946.

[Earrann 12

COR NA GÀIDHLIG AN DIUGH.

Is e prìomh-rùn a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealach a bhith brosnachadh agus ag adhartachadh teagasg agus cleachdadh na Gàidhlig. Ma dh'fhàilnicheas sinn ann an rùn sin, faodaidh sinn géilleadh agus an Comunn a chur á bith, ciod air bith a thachras do cheòl agus ealdhain nan Gàidheal. Is cubhaidh dhùinn mar sin a bhith doannan ag gabhail beachd air cor agus suidheachadh na cànaine, agus a bhith cur na ceiste ruinn féin, "A bheil sinn a' deanamh ar làn-dhìchill anns a' chùis, agus a bheil na h-oidhirpean againn ag giùlan toraidh, no a bheil dòighean eile ann a bu chòir dhùinn fheuchainn?"

Is mithich dhùinn cuideachd freagair chothromach a thoirt do'n cheist: "Carson a chumamaid beò a' Ghàidhlig? Gu dé feum a tha innte?" Cha dean e a' chùis a bhith seachnadh na ceiste sin agus ag ràdh, "Is suarach a' cheist sin, agus is suarach an Gàidheal a smaoinicheadh oirre." Chan 'eil iad idir tearc, eadhon am measg Ghàidheal, a tha teagmhach mu'n bhuannachd a bhiodh ann dhaibh a' Ghàidhlig a chleachdadh agus a theagasg do an cloinn.

Cha smaoinichinn fhéin gu bràth air faighneachd, "Gu dé feum a tha anns a' Ghàidhlig?", ach tha mi a' tachairt air cus dhaoine a bhios ag cur na ceiste sin rium. Feumaidh sinne, mar Chomuinn, a dheanamh cho soilleir 's is urrainn do an leithidean sin carson a tha sinn ri dìchioll air sgàth na Gàidhlig agus carson a bu chòir dhaibh-san an taic a chur ris an obair mhòir so. Agus chan e mhàin na Gàidheil choma ach mar an ceudna sluagh na h-Albann uile, oir chan e a tha anns a' Ghàidhlig càinain a bhùineas do'n dùthaich mu thuath agus do na h-eileanan a mhàin, ach do'n dùthaich uile, bhò'n Chaol Arach gu Abhainn Tuisid, bhò'n Pharbh gu Maol nan Gall. Bha latha ann agus b'i a' Ghàidhlig càinain na h-Albann uile, agus tha oòir aig sluagh na h-Albann air a' chàinain fhathast, agus feumar an cur 'nam faireachadh d'a taobh.

Bheireamaid stùil, matà, air cor na Gàidhlig an diugh, feuch ciod a ghabhas fòghlum bhò'n t-suidheachadh anns am bheil i an ceartair. Ann an suidheachadh na Gàidhlig mar a tha i an dràsda chì sinn nithean eu-dòchasach agus mar an ceudna nithean dòchasach, agus chì sinn cuideachd dòigh no dhà anns a faodamaid barrachd dìchill a dheanamh a chum leas ar càinain.

Amharcamaid an toiseach air taobh dorcha na cùise.

(1) Tha àireamh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig a' sìor-dhol nas lugha gach bliadhna. Chan 'eil àicheadh air sin. B'ann an 1881 a rinneadh cunntas an toiseach air àireamh sluagh na h-Albann aig an robh Gàidhlig, agus aig an am sin b'e an àireamh 230,000. Aig a' chunntas mu dheireadh a rinneadh ann an 1931 cha robh àireamh luchd na Gàidhlig ach beagan is leth sin, mu 136,000.

(2) Tha àireamh mhòr de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig ag còmhnaidh an taobh a mach de'n Ghàidhealtachd. Sin ri ràdh, tha iad a' fuireach agus ag obair an teis-meadhan càinain choimhich, agus mar sin gun uiread cothroma a bhith cleachdadh an cainte féin, agus iomadh leisgeal aca gu bhith 'ga dearmad agus 'ga dì-chuimhneachadh.

(3) Eadhon ann measg luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig anns a' Ghàidhealtachd tha a' Bheurla a' tolladh a steach nas motha agus nas motha, agus sin anns na h-àitean as iomallaiche, agus mar sin tha a' Ghàidhlig air a lagachadh 'na tìr féin.

(4) Dhiubh-san a tha fhathast ag cleachdadh na Gàidhlig, air a' Ghàidhealtachd agus air Gaidhachd, saoidh mi (ged nach urrainn mi so a dhearbhadh) gu bheil a' mhòr-chuid os cionn dà fhichead bliadhna a dh'aois. Sin ri ràdh, is i a' Ghàidhlig càinain na h-aoise agus chan 'eil i gus an ìre a bu mhath leinn air bilean na h-òigridh. Gle thrìc, ged a dh'fhaodas a' Ghàidhlig a bhith aig na pàrantan, chan 'eil i aig a' chloinn a tha fàs suas anns na h-aoon dachaidhean riutha.

(5) Ged a tha mòran ionnsachaidh agus leughaidh 'ga dheanamh air a' Ghàidhlig, chan 'eil an so mar as trice ach mar a dh'ionnsachadh neach cànan choinneach sam bith, Fraingeis no Laidinn. Thàtar ag amharc air a' Ghàidhlig mar chur-seachad agus chan ann mar inneal feumail ann an cùisean na beatha làthail.

(6) Is e an cnap-starradh as motha a tha 'far comhair, chan e "mìorun mòr nan Gall," ach, mar a thuirrt Iain MacPhàidhean nach maireann, "fuarachd nan Gàidheal"—cho coma agus a tha uibhir de na Gàidheil mu'n cànan fèin, agus eadhon cho naimhdeil agus a tha feadhainn dhiubh an aghaidh na Gàidhlig. Ged is nàrach e ri innseadh, is fìor e, gu bheil Gàidheil ann a bhios a' magadh air a' Ghàidhlig agus ar cur an suarachas gach oidhirp a thàtar a' deanamh air sgàth na Gàidhlig. Do an leithidhean sin chan 'eil ann an obair a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich ach amadeas agus dìomhanas, agus cha bhì cuid no gnothach aca anns an aobhar. Tha an spiorad coma sin ag éirigh bho'n leisg, agus tha an spiorad naimhdeil sin ag éirigh bho'n tur-aineolas.

* * * *

Sin, matà, cuid co-dhiubh de na nithean a dh'fhaodas ar fàgail ann an dibheal-misnich a thaobh na Gàidhlig, agus sin na nithean a tha a' tromachadh an uallaich a tha oirne nar Chomunn agus air gach buidheann eile a tha air an aon ràmh ruinn. Ach seallamaid air taobh eile na cùise, oir tha taobh eile ann, agus is math gu bheil. Cìod iad na nithean a tha togail dòchais agus a' misneachadh na feadhna aig am bheil ùidh anns an t-seann chànan ?

(1) Saoilidh mi gu bheil barrachd spéis ann an duigh do'n Ghàidhlig na bha ann riamh roimhe, cadhòn 'nam measg-san nach 'eil idir 'nan Gàidheil. Ma tha cus de na Gàidheil coma co-dhiubh agus feadhainn dhiubh naimhdeil d'a taobh, is lìonmhor na Goill agus na coigrich a tha gabhail tlachd 'nar cànan. Ri linn a' chogaidh an uair a bha uibhir de choigrich 'nar dùthaich, Pòlaich is seòrsachan eile, chan e beagan dhiubh idir a rinn oidhirp air a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh. Ann an campaichean-prìosain na Gearmailt bha Goill ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig. Tha fhìos againn uile air an tlachd a ghabh sgoilearan mòra na h-Eòrpa anns a' Ghàidhlig o chionn iomadh bliadhna, agus iad a' tighinn 'nar measg a dheanamh rannsachaidh mu'n chaintinn againn agus mu na dual-chaintean Gàidhealach—na h-Ollamhan Maistrander, Carl Borgstrom, Nils Holmer, agus an leithid sin. Cò nach cuala mu'n Athair Urramach Cyril Dieckhoff, Ruisianach a dh'ionnsaich a' Ghàidhlig agus a chuir a mach Faclair Gàidhlig agus sgrìobhadh eile 'nar cànan ? Anns a' Chomunn so bitheadh clùid fad iomadh bliadhna air Seòras Marjoribanks nach maireann agus air Caitean Iain Moffatt-Pender, dithis Ghall a dh'ionnsaich a' Ghàidhlig, a sgrìobh agus a labhair innte gu h-ealanta, agus a rinn cuideachadh mòr anns an aobhar. Agus chan 'eil ann an fheadhainn a dh'ainmich mi ach beagan as a' mhòran a tha ri saothair ann an aobhar na Gàidhlig.

(2) Tha àite aig a' Ghàidhlig anns na sgoilean agus anns na h-oil-thighean agus anns na colaisdean. Chan 'eil sinn idir riarachtaiche leis an àite a tha aice, agus bu chòir dhuinn tuilleadh saothrach a dheanamh anns a' chùis so; ach cha bhiodh ann ach an dearg ladarnas a bhith dearmad dìlseachd agus dìchioll mòr-chuid an luchd-teagaisg anns na sgoilean, àrd is ìosal. Bitheamaid taingeil air son na thàtar a' deanamh cheana, agus biodh sin 'na bhrosnachadh dhuinne agus dhaibh-san.

(3) Tha daoine a' faicinn agus a' tuigsinn a' chunnairt a tha a' bagairt air a' Ghàidhlig. Is dòcha nach 'eil àireamh nan daoine a tha a' tuigsinn luach na Gàidhlig agus a' faicinn a' chunnairt cho mòr 's a bu mthath leinn, ach chan ann ri àireamh cheann ach ri dìlseachd nan daoine eudmhor, tearc 's gu bheil iad, a tha ar n-earbsa. Is teasa a' bhuidheann bheag dhìleas na a' bhuidheann mhòr choma.

(4) Tha eisimpleir againn bho chinnich is dhùthchannan eile aig an robh an cànan fèin ann an droch chàs ach a rinn an gnothach le dealas is saothair air an cainnt ath-bheothachadh agus an cuid litreachais a chur am feabhas. Gun a bhith bruidhinn idir air ar comh-Cheiltich, na h-Eireannaich agus na Cuimric, ged a tha mòran againn ri ionnsachadh bhuaipa-san, tha cànan eile ann a bha air an ùr-bheothachadh— an t-seann Eabhra ann am Palastan, cànan nan *Czechs*, *Afrikaans* ann an Africa-a-deas, Greugaich, agus mòran eile. A bharrachd air sin, ged nach 'eil ach mu 136,000 an Albainn an duigh a' labhairt na Gàidhlig, faodaidh sinn àireamh mthath mhlèan eile a chur ri sin, oir ann an Canada tha a' Ghàidhlig fhathast beòthail agus fallain; agus an coimeas ri na tha a' labhairt na Gàidhlig tha cànan eile ann aig a bheil nas lugha suaigh 'gan labhairt, ach a dh'aindeoin sin tha iad beòthail agus ag giùlan toradh an litreachais. An coimeas ris na 168,000 (am Breatainn agus an Canada) aig a bheil a' Ghàidhlig, chan 'eil ach mu 100,000 aig a bheil *Icelandic*.

* * * *

Tha aobharan dòchais ann, ach chan fhaod na h-aobharan dòchais sin ar cur gu pasgadh làmh is suain-cadail. Chan 'eil e fhathast ro annoch dol an car ar cànan a chuideachadh agus a chur am feabhas mar nach d'rinn sinn riamh roimhe, ach tha gach bliadhna agus latha a' fàgail an t-suidheachaidh nas duilghe. So gnothach a tha cur feum air cabgaig.

Ann an àireamhan eile de'n *Ghàidheil* an deidh so, bheil sinn sùil air na h-oidhirpean a tha sinn cheana a' deanamh air sgàth na Gàidhlig, feuch cìod na dòighean eile a dh'fhaodamaid fheuchainn, agus cìod na nithean a tha sinn a' deanamh a dh'fhaodamaid a dheanamh nas fhèarr.

Chan fhaod uabhar meallta ar sùilean a dhalladh. An neach a their gu bheil na h-uile nithean cho math 's is urrainn a bhith, sin fear nach dean adhartas a chaoidh. Am fear a nì geur-rannsachadh air fhéin agus air a saothair agus a tha ullamh a ràdh, "Rinn mi mearachd," sin fear a tha nochdadh gu bheil e nas glie an duigh na bha e an dé, agus is leis-san an latha màireach.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

A' GHAIHDHLIG AN GLASCHU IS AN LUNNAINN.—Mar a chaidh innseadh ann an *Gaidheal* an Iuchair, rithaich Comhairle-fhòghluim Baile Ghlaschu gum biodh cothroun aig sgoilearan òga air a' gheamhradh so Gàidhlig a ghabhail mar chuspair-fòghluim ann an dà àrd-spoil an Glaschu—*Bella-houston* agus *Woodside*. Is duilleh ri ràdh nach robh àireamh mòr gu leòir air beachd an cothroun a ghabhail, agus mar sin tha an gnòthach air a chur dheist air son bliadhna eile. Tha aobhar no dhà a dh' fhaodamaid a thoirt air aghaidh air son nach do ghabh barrachd ris a' chothroun. Ach tha sinn an dòchas gum brisear an cothroun an ath bliadhna, agus gun deantar ullachadh nas fhearr roimh-làimh, araon le muinntir an Fhòghluim agus le pàrantan Gàidhealach sa' bhaile.

Ged nach bi a' Ghàidhlig 'ga teagas anns na h-àrd-sgoillean an Glaschu, cha tuit sin nach 'eil air a teagas idir an Glaschu. Tha àireamh chlasaichean air an cumail gach geamhradh, agus dh'fhaodadh fada barrachd a bhith air an cumail nan robh Gàidheil Ghlaschu cho eudmhor 's a bu chòir.

Chi mi gu bheil Comhairle-riaghalaidh Sìorrachd Lunnainn ag cur chlasaichean Gàidhlig air chois air a' gheamhradh so— an dà chuid a' Ghàidhlig Albannach agus a' Ghàidhlig Eireannach.

“MAIRI AILEIN.”—Is tric a chuala sinn an t-òran, “Far an robh mi 'n raoir.” Is minic a smaoinich sinn, “Co i Màiri Ailein?”

“Cha robh leam ach Màiri Ailein

Far an robh mi 'n raoir.”

Mar a tha fhios aig na h-uile, is e Niall MacLeòid a rinn an t-òran so, agus tha greis a bhliadhnaichan o'n dh'èug e. Ach mhair Màiri Ailein beò agus an t-samhradh so fhéin. B'i sin a' bhean-usal Màiri NicGilleathain, an Gleann-dál, san Eilean Sgitheanach, agus chualas sgeul a bàis aig toiseach an Iuchair.

A' GHAIHDHEALTACHD AGUS NA DEALBHAN-GLUASADACH.—Chan 'eil fada bhàidh chunnacs leotha-san a bhios a' tadhal nan dealbh-thighean dealbh-glusadach no film fo'n ainm, “*I know where I'm going.*” Chaidh a' mhòr-chuid de'n dealbh-chluich so fhilmeadh ann an eilean Muile, agus rinnadh gu fior-mhath i, gu sònraichte dealb na stoirn aig Coire Bhrèacain.

Tha dà dealbh-chluich eile 'gam filmeadh aig an am. Aon dhiubh san Eilean Sgitheanach, fo'n ainm “*The Brothers*”; agus aon eile, mu Bhliadhna Thearlach, 'ga deanamh an Lochabar. Bithidh dealbh-chluich a' Phrionnsa uile ann an eachladh dhath, agus tha a' chuideachd a tha air ceann na h-oibre an dòchas gun téid sea air dathan iongantach an fhoghair air monaidhan na Gàidhealtachd a chur fa chomhair an t-saoghail.

Tha iomadh cuspair ann an eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd agus ann an suidheachadh na dùthcha mu thuath aig an am so, a bharrachd air maise nan beann, nan gleann, 's nan eileanan, a dh'fhaodadh obair gu leòir a chumail ri muinntir nan dealbhan glusadach.

TIGH-FOILLSEACHAIS A' GHEARASDAIN.—O chionn ghoirid thàinig orm cuairt a thoirt air feadh na dùthcha mu'n cuairt air Lochabar agus Beinn Nimheis, air cheann deasnais a dh'earbhadh rium agus ri feadhainn eile a bha comhla rium. Air dhomh dà fheasgar a chur seachad an Gearasdan Lochabar, sheall mi stigh air an tigh-foillseachais (no “*West Highland Museum*”) a tha aca an sin. Tha àireamh bhliadhnaichan o chunnac mi roimhe e, agus anns an ùine sin tha mòran de nithean as ùr air an cur ris a' chruinneachadh. Gheibhear an so gnòthaichean is innealan de gach seòrsa, uidheam-cogaidh is uidheam-sithe, gach ni ag cur soilleireachd air dòigh-beatha nan Gàidheal anns na làithean a dh'aoim. Tha crùineachadh eile de'n t-seòrsa so ann an Cinn a' Ghhithisach, far an do shuidhich a' mhaighdean-usal I. F. Grand na thrus i fhéin de sheann innealan is a' chumail nan Gàidheal. Is bochd nach robh barrachd cuideachaidh air a thoirt dhaibh-san a tha air chùl na h-oibre so, agus is math a dh'fhaodadh tigh-foillseachais de'n t-seòrsa so a bhith an iomadh àite eile air feadh na Gàidhealtachd.

MOD OBAR-DHEADHAIN.—Mus téid an *Gaidheal* air a chuairt a rithidh, bithidh am Mòd mòr seachad. A réir na tha Niall ag innseadh air duilleig eile tha àireamh mhòr 'gan ullachadh fein fa chomhair nan comh-fharpuisean, agus tha fhios gum bi crùineachadh mòr sluaigh ri fhaicinn ann am baile-mòr an ear-thuath. Tha Gàidheil Obar-dheadhain air saothair anabarrach a dheanamh, agus tha an Comunn fada 'nan comain air son gach ullachadh a tha iad a' deanamh. Bheir am Mòd so togail dà-rirebh do dh' aobhar na Gàidhlig agus bithidh e 'na mhiseachadh agus 'na bhrosnachadh dhùinn uile dol an ear na dh'earbhadh rium a chum leas na càisane.

TRÌ CUNNARTAN MORA NA GAIDHEALTACHD.—Dùthaich gun daoine, tìr gun teanga, Gàidheil gun Ghàidhlig.

FIRINN AIR AON A' MHIOS SO.—Togaidh iad suas na seann làraichean, càirichidh iad r'a chèile na h-ionadan sgoilte o chian; ath-nuadhachidh iad na bailtean briste, ionadan fassaichte nan iomadh linn. *Isaiah lxi.4.*

LITIR COMMUN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi a' sgrìobhadh litir a' mhios so nas tràithe na tha mi an cumantas, agus is e an t-aobhar gu bheil mi an ull a' togail orm “rathad nan Eilean,” ged nach 'eil mi air an ruithe so a' dol “rathad Lochabar” no “nam mullaichean.” Is ann troimh an Mhonadh Mheadhonach is rathad an Obain a tha mi a' dol, is an sin troimh Chaol Muile is a nunn chon an eilein bhig anns an d'fhuair mi m'àrach. Agus ann a bhith a' bruidhinn mu mhonaidhean 's mu mhullaichean, saoil mise c'hit a bheil am monadh ris an abrar “Monadh Choir'-each”?’ So agaidh mar a chuir esan e, agus le “esan” tha mi ag ciallachadh Lachunn na Gàidhlig againn féin, oir dh'innseadh dhomh gur e a thubhairt na briathran so—“Shàraich Monadh Choir'-each thu, ged bu treun an gallan thu, 's poca mar phoca nan Abrach tarsuinn air do dhruinnich”?

Agus chan fhaod sinn Lochabar fhàgail aige sin; agus tha mi a' nis a' dol a dh' innseadh dhuibhse nach robh anns a' champ shuas anns an Annaid 's nach fhaca chùisean air bhur son fhéin mu'n chuairt a thug mi is mar a rinn mi cadal ann oidheche shuas an sud maille ris a' chloinn. B'ann an co'la-deug nan caileagan a bha mi ann; ach mu'n teid mi nas fhaide feumaidh mi mo leisgal a ghabhail do na balaich a chionn nach deach mi suas g'an amharc-san. Bu mhatheam leam sin a dheanamh gun teagamh, ach cha b'urrainn dhomh a chionn gu bheil taruing làidir orm, mar a thubhairt mi, taobh eile, is nach 'eil math dhomh a diùltainn. Mar sin chan 'eil atharrachadh air; ach geallaidh mi ma bhios sinn uile slàn is air a chomas, is mise fathast an inbhe athar dhuibhse, gur ann an uair a bhios na balaich anns a' champ a bheir mi mo chuairt an ath bhliadhna.

Bha sinn anabarrach mi-fhortanach a thaobh sìde ann bhliadhna; agus cha do chuir e ionghnadh sam bith orm, ged bu duilich leam e, an uair a chuala mi gu robh mòran as na h-Eileanan a Mach do'm b'èiginn leigeil dheth an dachaidhean fhàgail ri linn na sìde a bhith cho bristeach. Ach, fathast, thàinig ceithir caileagan fichead air chùl inbheach gu camp. Thàinig iad á Barraidh, Uidhist, an t-Eilean Sgitheanach, is eadhon cho fada deas ri Ile, agus creidibh an uair a

chunnaic mise iad nach robh an t-aithreachas air aon diubh gun tàinig.

Air mo rathad suas, thuig mi air smùidrich nan allt leis na monaidhean air gach taobh, cho math ri sadadh nam fras, nam meall, is nam boinneachan mòra air uinneagan carbad a' ghad-ròid air an robh mi, gu robh dòrtaidhean tromha uisge an sud; agus mar a b'fhaide a bha sinn a' dol mu thuath b'ann a bu mhiosa comharraidhean na h-aimsir. An uair a ràinig sinn a' Chorpach bha nàdur de bhriseadh turaidh ann; ach cha robh ann ach fois bheag a ghabh fámhair mòr nan sian gus an tuille deuchainn a chur oirn. Ach dh'inns na Dòmhnail dhomh gu robh iad a nis air neo-ar-thaing na side, oir gun tug iad a nuas a' chlànn na pàilliuann uile gu léir, is gu robh iad gu tioram, seasgar, le leapanan-làir air an suidheachadh dhaibh an aon de sheòmraichean na Cabhlaich a bha fo an cuimrig, is an taic an t-seòmair grèidhidh is ithinnich.

An uair a ghabh sinn gréim, is deagh ghréim—is có a bha air an aon charbad rium a' dol suas do'n champ ach Fionnlagh MacDhòmhnaill an B.B.C.—seadh, an uair a fhuair sinn gréim, chuir mi féin fáilte air a' chloinn, is fhreagar Ceit NicDhòmhnaill á Gleann-dail—"An Gleann san robh mi òg"—mi as leth na cloinne uile. Theann iad an sin, fo stiùradh Eilidh NicGhille-mhaoil is Seonag Chaimbeul, a' mhaighdean-eiridinn, agus fo shùil gheur Fhionnlagh, le ni sònraichte aige-san anns an amharc, air seinn, seanachas, is dannsadh. Thug iad dhuihne toil-intinn; agus tha mi an dùil gu robh gach mi a bha iad a' deanamh 'na thoil-intinn dhaibh féin mar an ceudna. Agus tha mi an dùil sibhse (agus tha mi an so a' labhairt ri innbich cho math ris a' chloinn) a chuala iad air oidheche Dhiardaoin 'na dhéidh an uair a bha iad air an radio, gun aontaich sibh leam gun d'rinn iad fìor mbath.

Tha mi a nis a' dol a dh' innsadh dhuibh gearr-seugel nach tug iad dhuibh an oidheche ud. Sibhse do'n aithne Dòmhnall nan Cleas, tha fios agaibh gu bheil e car mar a tha mi féin, a' teannadh ri tugh a chinn a chall! Matà, bha e an sud latha ag gabhail crònan beag dha féin is gun toirt-fa-near aige gu robh aon de na caileagan san éisdeachd. So agaibh an cronan a bha aige:

"Shuidh mi aig tobar an fhuar-uisge;
Chìr mi mo cheann 's dh'fhàg mi ghrug ann;
Dh'fhàg mi falt mo chinn 'na dhual ann."

Agus is ann a ghabh e clisgeadh an uair a fhreagar ise a bha anns an éisdeachd, cho deas ris an fhùdar, "Feumaidh gun d'fhàg thu e an àit-eigin, a Dhòmhnail!"

Shìl is shìl i an oidheche sin; agus bu bheag cadail a fhuair aon againn le uisge, teine-adhair, is tàirneanach, gun an robh e uairean sa' mhadaoin. Ach bha sinn uile toilichte gu robh a' chlann làimh ruinn gu tioram, seasgar, ged a bha i cho gabhbeach a muigh. A bheil fios agaibh, a nis, ciod air an do chuimhnich mi 's mi a' feitheamh an dealanach agus ag éisdeachd ris an tàirneanach is ris an uisge? Chuimhnich air an oidheche ud eile, dà cheud bliadhna air ais, an uair a

thog Dòmhnall MacLeòid air a mach ri cuan leis an ocd-rámhach, oidheche fhiaidhaich, e féin aig an stiùir is am Prionnsa Tearlach, a phrionnsa dligheach féin, 'na shuidhe eadar a dha ghlùn, a' sìreadh tèaruinteachd, is an duathalas air an tòir!

An larna-mhàireach bha a' mhadaoin a b'àille ann, le grian ghlan a' taomadh a blàthais oirn, is gaoth fhionnar, shunndach bho'n iar-thuath nach robh fada a' tiormachadh nam pàilliu is an achaidh anns an robh iad. Ach leis gu robh a' chlànn anns an talla bhos co-dhiubh, dh'fhan iad innte an oidheche sin fathast. An déidh na dinnearach thog na caileagan orra fo stiùradh Eilidh, Sheonag, is Dhòmhnail nan Cleas; thug iad orra an Gearasdan air carbad gu nithean a bheiradh toileachadh dhaibh an sin fhaicinn. Bh' iad an Gleann Fhionghuin is aig Carragh-cuimhne nam Fìneachan roimh sin; is chan 'eil cunntas agamsa air gach sealladh is cuairt eile a thugadh dhaibh roimh 's 'na dhéidh.

Mu'n d'fhàg mi mo bheannachd aca, bha mi ro thoilichte gu robh e 'nam chomas breacadh de'n leabhran bheag air an tug mi iomradh mar thà a shìneadh do gach caileig anns a' champ, is chaidh air an urra a chur an leth-taobh air cheann nam balach an' uair a ruigeadh iadsan. Dh' inns mi dhuibh gur e an Gàidheal ceanalta, suairce, an Lìgiche Alasdair Mac-an-t-Saoir anns an Ard-ruighe (á Srath Ghearr-loch), a sgrìobh e is a chosg ri a chur an clò air son na cloinne. Thugadh gealladh dhomh, is tha mi cinnteach gun coimhlonar an gealladh, gun sgrìobh té de na caileagan, is a rithist fear de na bùlaibh, a thoirt taing do'n Lìgiche chòir.—Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Càineadh an Rodain

(ANN AM FEALA-DHA).

Bha e air a ràdh gu minic leis na seann daoine gur e an dòigh as fheàrr sam bith air rodan fhuaich air falbh bho'n tìr òran a dheanamh 'ga dhì-moladh agus a sheinn dha. Nam biodh an òran gearr-chuiseach gu léir, cha b'eagal gu faicte an rodan no aon de shliochd anns an nàbhadh air son iomadh bliadhna 'na dhéidh sin. Agus nam biodh na rannan fìor mbath, is docha nach faicte an rodan a chaidh litheadh.

Tha rodan odhar, biastail,
Gun iarraidh air tighinn do'n bhaile,
Is fheusag chaol air liathadh,
Barr ciar oirre 's i air failleadh;
Cluasan biorach, slìoma,
Gu dìreach air barr a chlaiginn;
Chunnaic mise an dé e,
Is dréin air 'na shuidh air cabar.

Tha meudachd ann nach gann,
Is dannsaidh e a' leum ri fhaileas;
A dhruim air a shliobadh
Gu sìodanna sìos a' laiseadh;
Shìlean mar phloc prìne
Gu bideach 'na cheann a' lasadh;
Cuip de earball litheach
A' dìreadh a mach ri ambaich.

Chan 'eil fios dé 'n dùthaich
 No chùil anns an robh thu fantainn
 Mu 'n tàinig thu an taobh do
 Le t'ùnrachdan dubha carach ;
 Bidh tu falbh is craos ort,
 A' slaodadh gach baid is anairt
 A stigh gu do thigh caol
 Chum do dhaoine a bhith 'gan garadh.

'S iomadh ni tha ceàrr ort,
 Air nàire cha d'fhuair thu aithne.
 Cha dean e feum do chàineadh,
 'S roimh bhàrdachd cha ghabh thu athadh.
 'S ann agad a tha chàil
 Tha gràineil a' dol thar labhairt;
 Ghoideadh tu 's glas-làmh ort
 Am buntata 's mi 'gad ambarc.

Chan 'eil cat san dùthaich
 Bheir sùil le miann air d'fheanadh,
 Teichidh iad sna cùilean
 Le dùrdan 's iad air an sgreamhadh ;
 Bheir na coin an cùl dhuit,,
 A' lìugadh a null ri balla,
 'S an earbail air an lùbadh
 Gu h-umhail a stigh fo'n casan.

Nuair shineas tu air biogail
 Cha bhinn a bhios leam an caithream,
 Am port bha ag do shinnsear
 Cha sgithich thu dheth ri d' mhaireann ;
 Nuair theannas tu ri t'là
 A thàladh an tuill a' bhalla,
 Is mise dh'iarraidh àrca
 Fo d'chàirean a bhith 'gad ghagadh.

Tha gach òic is tuailleas
 Riut fuaighte 's cha tig iad asd,
 Cleasan nach 'eil usal
 'S cha dual dhaibh bhith dol á cleachdadh ;
 Cha b'e gaoth ar buannachd
 A dh'fhuadaich thu gu ar cala,
 'S ma thàrr do threubh do'n àire
 Bha Noah san tràth 'nà chadal !

Ach mur dean thu m'fhàgail
 Gu sàraich mi thu le rannan ;
 Seinnidh mi dhuit aoir
 A ni gaoidis do chuirp a bhearradh.
 Ni pioaire do sgrìsadh
 Gu sumhail a mach o'n bhaile,
 Is bheir thu Timbuctoo ort,
 A dhiùlnaich, 's thu 'na do dheannaibh.

TORMOD DOMENALLACH.

SGIOBA IREACHD.

Bha seachdnar mhac aig Raghnaill, agus b'e an tiomnadh a rinn e dhaibh fear mu seach a bhith 'na sgiobair. Is e bun a bha so nach b'fhada gus an d'rinn iad ceann mu ic, agus chuir iad a' bhrìlinn 'na clàran.

Sin, matà, sgiobaireachd Chlann Raghnaill. B.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Arrangements are well in hand for the Aberdeen Victory Mod which opens in the Music Hall, Aberdeen, on Tuesday, the 26th of this month. While the total entries received have not reached the high peak attained in 1938, they must nevertheless be considered highly satisfactory. The total is 620 and is compiled as follows:—

JUNIOR.		SENIOR.	
Literary	70	Literary	42
Oral	25	Oral	44
Solo and Duet ..	45	Solo and Duet ..	303
Choral	12	Choral	45
	—	Celtic	4
	152	Clarsach	14
	—	Instrumental ..	16
	—		—
	—		468
	—		—

There are 49 competitors aspiring for the Mod Gold Medals—25 Ladies and 24 Men. The medals of course are awarded to the competitors gaining the highest aggregate in the Oran Mor, "James Grant Memorial," and Gold Medal Final Competitions. The Oban and Lorn Medal claims the attention of 48 aspirants, while other popular competitions are those confined to members of An Comunn and its affiliated societies for both male and female voices.

The supreme award for Choral singing at the Mod, the "Lovat and Tullibardine Shield," has drawn entries from two new choirs who are making their debut at a National Mod, namely, Glasgow Islay Choir and Uist and Barra Association Choir. In addition, entries have been received from Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, Govan Gaelic Choir, Greenock Gaelic Choir, and Oban Gaelic Choir. There are four Rural Choirs entered for the "Lorn Shield," and two for the "Sheriff MacMaster Campbell Memorial Cuach."

The Junior Section will, as in former years, be carried through on the Tuesday, and the Junior Concert will be held in the evening. The following competitions in the Senior Section will take place on the Wednesday—Nos. 46, 47, 49, 50, 51, 66, 67, and 69. The official opening of the Mod will take place at 12 o'clock noon, and the Civic Reception will be held in the evening.

Thursday forenoon will be devoted to the Gold Medal Final Competition, Oral, and Clarsach. In the afternoon the Rural Choirs will compete, and in the evening the Rural Choirs Concert will be held. In this respect Choir secretaries are reminded that all prize-winning choirs must attend this concert.

Friday's programme will be sustained by Choral, Quartette, Duet, and Instrumental competitions. Once more the Committee earnestly and respectfully urge all conductors and chorists to be in their places on the platform in good time so that the concert may start as advertised.

The prices of tickets for the various concerts are as follows:—Junior, 2/- (Reserved), and 1/-. Rural Choirs, 3/6 (Reserved), 2/6 and 1/-. Grand, 5/- (Reserved), 3/6 and 2/6. (All Including Tax).

From 6th September these are obtainable from Messrs. Paterson Sons & Marr Wood, 183 Union Street, Aberdeen, with whom all tickets have been deposited.

In connection with the Mod being held in Aberdeen, it is interesting to recall that it was from the Aberdeen Station of the B.B.C. that Gaelic was first broadcast on the air. This was a religious service on Sunday, 2nd December, 1923, conducted by the Rev. John Bain, who was then minister of the High Church, Aberdeen. The Director of the Aberdeen Station of the B.B.C. at that time was Mr. R. G. Jeffrey, and the choir of the Aberdeen University Celtic Society assisted with the praise. This service, like all succeeding ones, was greatly appreciated by Highlanders at home and abroad. A Gaelic religious service will be broadcast on the Sunday following the Mod, i.e. 29th September, at 11 a.m. from King's College Chapel, Old Aberdeen. The preacher will be the Rev. Alexander MacDonald, D.D., St. Columba's, Glasgow.

AN SULAIRE.

Tha an t-eun tapaidh so eòlach air oirthir nan Eileanan Breatainn. Is ann air eileanan beaga, creagach a tha a dhachaidh, far an dean e tàmh na h-oidhche agus far an neadh e agus an tog e a'.

Is ann ainneamh a chithear air muir e 'na thàmh ach a' sìor-iasgach, a' sgiahtalach gu dian, luath, agus a' bualadh sìos do 'n fhaighe gu minic o àirde a chuireas iongnadh air duine.

A ràir an eòlais a fhuair eadh orra, tha mu fhichead àite-comhnaidh aca air feadh an t-saoghail, anns a bheil mu 167,000 eun a' neadachadh gach bliadhna, agus tha mu 109,000 aca sin anns na h-Eileanan Breatainn, agus a' mhòr-roinn aca an Albainn.

Air Gàidhealtachd Albainn tha am meall as motha aca eadar Hiort is Sùla-sgeir.

Bha uair a bha meas mòr air isean reamhar an t-sùlaire, an guga, mar shùthiomn bhlasda, bhrìgh-mhor.

BODACHAN.

SGEULACHD BHEAG.

Tha e cumanta gu leòr do Shasannach a dh'ol do Ghàidhealtachd agus tigh is fearann a cheannach, agus fuireach ann. Dh'fhàs fear dhiubh sin tinn. Dh'fhaighnich seana-bhean an aite, "Ciamar a tha an Sasannach an diugh?"

Thubhairt a caraid, "Is ann glé thinn a tha e gu dearbh."

Fhreagair a' bhean le tras, "Nach truagh do'n duine bhochd e bhith cho tinn, agus gun fhacal Gàidhich aige leis an dean e through air a shon féin!" A. McA.

SEANCHAS.

Bha Dòmhnall gu math tron air mac na braiche, agus mu dheireadh bhualadh e le tinneas. Thàinig an lighiche a dh'amharc air, agus thuir e ris nach biodh e beò ach bliadhna.

"Tapadh leibh, a dhotair," arsa Dòmhnall. "Rinn sibh glé mhath rium, agus gun latha idir air a ghealltainn dhuibh fhéin." I. N. McL.

THE PRINCE IN FLIGHT.

Donald Macleod and Flora Macdonald to the Rescue.

By ANGUS DUNCAN.

"All this should be written down," said Dr. Johnson, when he heard from her own lips the story of Flora Macdonald's part in Prince Charlie's escape.

This was in the year 1773, when Dr. Johnson and his companion, James Boswell, made their famous Tour, and after Johnson had slept in the bed in which the weary Wanderer had lain in Kingsburgh House, Isle of Skye, on Sunday night, June 29, 1746. Boswell, who systematically wrote up his daily journal, required no such hint, and gives us, with the aid of additional information sent him later by the Laird of Rassay and other eye-witnesses, a graphic account of the Prince's adventures from the time Flora Macdonald came on the scene until the day when the Chief of MacKinnon personally conducted him from Skye to the mainland.

THE LYON IN MOURNING.

Unknown to the distinguished travellers of 1773, a full record of events connected with "The Forty-five," and of the part played by those who made the Prince's escape possible, had been compiled by Bishop Robert Forbes, M.A., whose Jacobite zeal led to his arrest early in September 1745. First-hand accounts are given in this collection, which was published in full only fifty years ago with the bishop's own title, "The Lyon in Mourning"; and here we may read the story of the Prince's flight, and his many narrow escapes, as told by those

who were his guides and companions and hosts, during the five months following his disastrous defeat on Drumossie Moor.

Where all concerned played their part so nobly and so successfully, the honours might be regarded as even. Nevertheless, it may be claimed that a particularly hazardous duty was entrusted to two of these, namely, Donald Macleod and Flora Macdonald.

THE PRINCE'S PILOT.

Donald Macleod comes into the story two months before Culloden. We then find him on a visit to Inverness for a cargo of meal, and detained by bad weather long enough to witness the retreat of Loudon's forces from the town and the entry of the Prince's army on February 18, 1746.

Six weeks later, this tenant-farmer and business man from the Dunvegan district of Skye appears in the role of adventurer, accompanying Aeneas Macdonald, one of "the seven men of Moidart" who came over from France with the Prince, on a perilous trip to Barra, with the seas swarming with vigilant sloops, and the clansmen in the government service scouring the coasts. Donald Macleod, who was chosen on account of his knowledge of the various sea routes, eluded the enemy, and, skipping from island to island—Barra, Canna, Eigg, safely returned to Moidart.

Only a few days later, as the two men were about to set out for Inverness with the French gold brought from Barra, a letter from the Prince conveying the dire news of Culloden reached them, and Aeneas Macdonald at once proceeded, as requested by the Prince, to meet him at Borrodale, where he first landed nine months earlier. It is not surprising that when the Prince rejected young Clanranald's suggestion to hide for some time on the mainland instead of seeking the uncertain shelter of the Islands, Donald Macleod should be asked to take charge. In this way began an association that lasted two months between Charles Edward Stuart and his faithful pilot, Donald Macleod.

ESCAPE TO THE LONG ISLAND.

Donald Macleod's loyalty to the fugitive Prince was severely tested on their first journey together, when the eight-oared boat provided for the Prince and his small retinue was overtaken by the worst storm the sixty-eight-year old pilot ever experienced. Driven by the tempest for more than seventy miles in a north-westerly direction, at daybreak they found themselves on the Benbecula coast, where a landing was safely made.

Two nights later, the whole party set off in the same boat for Scalpay of Harris, which was reached before dawn on the last day of April. Donald Campbell, the principal tenant of the island (where there are Campbells with good boats to this day), was known to Macleod, and to his care the Prince was committed. Macleod himself, borrowing a boat from Campbell, proceeded next day to Stornoway to hire a vessel, ostensibly for his own use as a dealer, but actually for the conveyance of the Prince to France.

At Stornoway, Donald Macleod found a brig, and the Prince, with two companions and a guide, crossed the Sound of Scalpay and spent a miserable night travelling on foot towards Stornoway by what Donald Macleod described as "the worst roads in the world." No sooner had the small company reached Arnish, within sight of Stornoway harbour, than an alarm was raised; and, although Donald Macleod succeeded in pacifying the armed townsmen, who had no desire to lay hands on the Prince, the hope of immediate escape had vanished.

An anxious journey by sea back to Scalpay followed, with four days spent en route on an uninhabited island to escape hostile ships. Finding that Donald Campbell was in concealment, and apprehensive for their own safety, the party at once sailed south, still using Campbell's lighter boat, and, by rowing inshore when pursued, reached Benbecula the following day, and, three days later, crossed over to South Uist, where they lived in comparative security for the next three weeks.

Donald Macleod did not, however, enjoy this respite, having been sent to the mainland, from which the party had set out on April 26, to make contact with Lochiel and with the Prince's personal secretary, Murray of Broughton. After Macleod's return, the Prince's party was obliged to move rapidly from

place to place throughout South Uist and Benbecula, until at last, with red-coats and militia on every side, they decided to separate. In this way, the devoted pilot said farewell to the Prince, whose fortunes and misfortunes he so courageously shared for eight weeks, and, avoiding arrest for a further fortnight, at last fell into enemy hands on July 5.

FLORA MACDONALD.

The same day that witnessed the dispersal of the Prince's hunted band also marked the discovery of a new succourer, who was none other than the celebrated Flora Macdonald, a native of Milton, South Uist, where she was born in 1722. Captain O'Neil relates how he found her at midnight in a hut (which was really her brother's shieling) near Milton farm. "I told her," he says, "I brought a friend to see her. She, with some emotion, asked if it was the Prince. I answered in the affirmative, and instantly brought him in." There and then, the proposal to take the Prince over to Skye, where her mother lived, was made to her.

It was a daring move, but probably the only one that could have succeeded while every ford and pass was guarded, and the independent companies raised by the government in the Islands were now on the fugitive's heels. On her way to Benbecula to consult the family of Clanranald, Flora and her companion, Neil MacEachan, were seized at one of the fords, but released the next day by Flora's stepfather, Hugh Macdonald of Armadale, who was in command of one of the independent companies. The same day, Sunday, June 22, Armadale gave his stepdaughter a passport to Skye for herself, Neil MacEachan, and "another woman, Betty Burke, a good spinster, whom he recommended as such in a letter to his wife at Armadale in Skye, as she had much lint to spin."

Whether Captain Hugh Macdonald himself proposed this plan, as Donald Macleod and Captain Malcolm Macleod of Rassay both believed, or not, the fact remains that many who were loyal to the House of Hanover, took a prominent part in protecting the Prince, and in helping him to escape. When the crossing to Skye was accomplished a week later, Flora went at once to the home of Sir Alexander Macdonald, who was at that moment with the Duke of Cumberland's forces at Fort Augustus, but whose wife, Lady Margaret, had been active in planning means of escape for the Prince.

While Flora Macdonald was being closely questioned in Lady Margaret's dining-room by the officer commanding the troops in that part of Skye, a hurried conference was held outside. The result was that Alexander Macdonald of Kingsburgh, Sir Alexander's factor and Flora Macdonald's future father-in-law, agreed to take the disguised Prince to his own house, which was reached at midnight, Flora and a few companions going by a different road, and arriving at Kingsburgh House at the same time. Late next day, Flora Macdonald preceded the Prince to Portree, where they parted for ever, Flora going to her mother's new home at Armadale, near which she was arrested soon afterwards.

Flora Macdonald's service to the unfortunate but brave Prince at a critical stage of his flight has earned for her an enduring place among the world's heroines; and well did she deserve Dr. Johnson's noble tribute. "We were entertained with the usual hospitality," he writes, "by Mr. Macdonald, and his lady, Flora Macdonald, a name that will be mentioned in history, and, if courage and fidelity be virtues, mentioned with honour."

IONNDRAINN CUAIN.

Aon sealladh de'n chuan ;
 'S gaoth fhronasach fhuar
 A' séideadh bho'n tuath
 'S a' dūsagadh nan stuaidh
 'S 'ga reubadh le nuallan cianail
 Mu rudaichean carrach
 Nan garbh chladaichean sgorrach
 'S cobhar fraochail 'ga fhroiseadh do'n iarmailt.

Long chaol fo cuid sheòl
 An drum an lear mhóir,
 Cathadh-mara mu bòrd,
 Ise gearradh mu sròin
 Cair bhualite nam bochd thonn dubh-ghorm ;
 'S i stitiradh gu cala,
 Tabhairt dhubhain do'n ghallinn
 Ann an garbh ghlaicabh greannach nan dùilean.

TORMOD DOMHNALLACH.

GAELIC PUBLICATIONS.

By Rev. T. M. MURCHISON, Convener, Publication Committee.

In the March issue of this Magazine, an outline was given of the policy proposed to be pursued by An Comunn in seeking to augment the supply of popular Gaelic reading material. It may be well to add these further notes now.

A Scottish contemporary recently asked, "What has happened to that series of text-books which An Comunn Gàidhealach promised us some three years ago?" and added that An Comunn should have seized their opportunity to have stocks of Gaelic school-books ready for the termination of the war. It may be pointed out that, as previously stated, An Comunn is leaving the initiative in the matter of school text-books in the hands of the Gaelic teachers. They have produced, and are preparing, such text-books as they require, and An Comunn will always be glad to aid in publishing such books. But the field on which An Comunn proposes to concentrate for the next five or so years is that of the ordinary Gaelic reader, and here there are three difficulties to be overcome.

First, there is a lack of persons able and willing to write for publication in Gaelic. All such people have their own professions and occupations, which take up the most of their time and energy, and any writing they do is done in odd fragments of leisure time. The fact is that we are having some difficulty in eliciting suitable material for publication. The institution of a literary competition might help to solve this problem, but work written primarily to gain a prize is not likely to be as meritorious as work done because the writer has something to say that he feels is worth saying, a sharing of knowledge and experience. An Comunn does not intend to leave authors unrewarded, but it is understood that the rewards cannot be anything but modest, neither does An Comunn expect to reap much profit.

The second difficulty is the preparation of manuscripts for submission to the panel of Readers and, if accepted, for the printer. Most MSS that are sent in are hand-written, but, however clear and legible the writing, we are dealing with non-Gaelic printers, and it is highly desirable that copy for the printer should be in typescript. The Comunn office staff have more than enough on hand already, with the ordinary business of An Comunn, preparations for the National Mod, the preliminary stages of organising the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund, and the re-organising of An Comunn following upon the end of the war. All this means that only two or three persons are giving odd moments of leisure to the task of typing the manuscripts already submitted. It would be of great assistance if people with a good knowledge of Gaelic and with access to a typewriter and the necessary zeal volunteered to type manuscripts in their spare time.

The third difficulty is that, once the material is in typescript, edited, approved for publication, and ready for the printer, one is faced with the still continuing scarcity of paper and the shortage of labour in the printing and book-binding trades. There is really nothing that we, as an Association, can do about this, even if we possessed a printing office of our own. All we can do is to press on with the preparation of material.

These very real difficulties ought to be borne in mind, but in spite of them we have good hopes that our programme of publication will be carried through.

Quite often, the numerous publications in Irish are held up for our emulation and, certainly, no one who is familiar with the output of Irish material in recent years can forbear admiring the quantity, if not always the quality, of these publications.

It should be noted that in Eire there is a much larger Gaelic-speaking population (about eight times as many as we have); their Government is sufficiently interested to subsidise their publications, which are invariably a marvel of cheapness and yet generally attractive in appearance; politically also they have an inspiration that we here lack. But the history of modern publication in Eire, notable though it is, is not without its difficulties and its warnings for us.

In an Anglo-Irish monthly, *The Bell*, May 1946, there is an interesting article on "The Gum" by Seamus O'Neill, who has written several volumes in Irish and is the editor of the Gaelic "new-writing" magazine, *An Iris*, a most interesting periodical.

An Gúm is the publishing organisation established and subsidised by the Government of Eire, and has been in existence for some twenty years, in which time it has published over 800 volumes, part translation (from Plutarch's Lives onwards), part original (novels, short stories, poems, scientific text-books).

Seamus O'Neill's review of the work of *An Gúm* has useful lessons for us. I have space for only a few extracts from his article.

"The readers of Irish will not read translations of books which they can easily procure in English The original works published by the Gum are its most important section. The Gum is not to blame, of course, if the supply of original work is slight. The emaciated Gaeltacht cannot be expected to produce a crop of first-rate writers. Outside the Gaeltacht only a very few have mastered the language well enough to allow them to use it as a literary medium. But there is little sense of reality in those who lament the scarcity of good writing in Irish. The marvel is that we have any at all. Encouragement should be drawn from the fact that original works of interest attract a small but faithful number of readers"

"Translations and the publication of original writing of the poorest quality have blunted the effectiveness of the Gum. One could make an intimidating list of books that were worse than sheer waste of paper. The question which then presents itself is, should translation not be wound up, except for translation of text-books, and a new standard demanded of original work."

Mr. O'Neill also states that one of the "most exasperating faults" of *An Gúm* is "the unconscionably long delay in publishing a manuscript which has been accepted and paid for." "Granted that it sounds attractive to have a house which pays a writer a pound a thousand words for his work, and then proceeds to give a royalty which takes no notice of this payment still, to have to wait seven years for an accepted manuscript to appear in book-form does take the heart out of a writer. It is no wonder that a young author announces in *Indiú* that he has decided to give up writing in Gaelic on being told that a manuscript accepted two years ago will not appear before 1950. A book of mine had actually lain in the Gum archives for the allotted span of seven years. This book sold out its first printing in a few weeks, and when I inquired of a courteous official when a reprint was likely all he could tell me was that there were sixty-three books before it. And so, after waiting seven years, an edition of 500 copies is issued, and a reprint is in the lap of the dim and distant future. No serious writing can be expected under such conditions. Eventually, any young writer of worth will turn to English."

Mr. O'Neill, however, pays tribute to the work done by *An Gúm*, and makes some suggestions for improving the position, including the proposal for "a proper sales-organisation," which we in An Comunn have also lacked but which we are proceeding to organise. "If people do not buy Irish books at present," he adds, "they are hardly to blame, for they rarely see them, once their school-days are over. One rarely sees an Irish book for sale in the ordinary booksellers. The Gum has been notoriously negligent in this respect." "If his recommendations are given effect to, he feels "that young writers would be roused to creative work, and the able staff of the Gum would find themselves free to do what they so earnestly desire, help to create the serious literature without which the language cannot survive, much less thrive."

With regard to our proposed *Glossary of New Words and Terms*, the appeal for assistance has not been good, but a few people, especially two living in England, have sent in valuable contributions, and one person in particular has placed at our disposal a large quantity of excellent material which he has been assembling for many years.

Thanks are due to those practical enthusiasts who have sent in donations to help build up the funds of the Publication Committee. One good friend of An Comunn has donated £50 towards the publication of a certain Gaelic work. We are most grateful for generous help of this kind.

The need has been felt for an English-Gaelic Dictionary, and "Scoil Eòlais na h-Alba" announce that they are bringing out such a dictionary in parts, as well as an edition of "The Owl of Strone."

COINNEACH ODHAR FIOSAICHE.

O chionn ghoidir air an radio chualas còigeann ann an còmhraid-cheist (no *Brains-trust*) a' toirt am beachdan an Gàidhlig air ceistean a chuireadh a steach leise an luchd-éiseadach. B' e so aon de na ceistean a thog iad: "Tha-thar ag aideachadh gum tàinig cuid de fhàidheadaireachd Choinnich Odhair fìr. Am bheil leithid Choinnich Odhair ann an dèigh agus, ma tha, am bheil daoine a' toirt aise dha?"

Chan fheuch mise ris a' cheist sin a fhreagair. Is ann a tha mi dol a thoirt tarruing air Coinneach e fhéin. An robh a leithid de dhùine ann da-rèir? Cìod an teisteanas a tha againn m' a thimchioll ann an eachdraidh?

B' ann an 1834 a chuireadh an clò an toiseach cuid de fhàisteach Choinnich, agus bha sin ann an leabhar uime a sgrìobh Uisdean Mac a' Mhuilleir. Mu dhà fhichead bliadhna an dèidh sin chuir Alastair MacCoinnich a mach leabhar eile mu Choinneach Odhair. Ach fada roimh 1834 bha eòlas aig slugh air fhàidheadaireachd Choinnich, agus am measg na feadhna a bha ag creidsinn ann bha Sir Walter Scott. Fad bhàin mhòir bha eòlas air feadh a' mhòr-chuid de'n Ghàidhealtach air aimsir agus rùdhan an fhiosaiche.

Chan 'eil cinntes sam bith càit an d'rugadh Choinneach. Their cuid gum buineadh e do'n Eilean Sgìthneach, cuid eile gum d'rugadh e an Uidhist-a-Deas, ach am bitheantas tha e air a chreidsinn gum b' e Baile na Cille an Sgrì Uige an Leòdhas a' bheireadh. Chan mhotha na sin a tha na sgeòil m' a thimchioll ag comb-chòrdadh a thaobh na dòigh ann an d' fhuair e an comas-fiosaich a bh' aige. A réir ann aithris is ann bhò thaibhs nighean Rìgh Lochlainn a fhuair a mhàthair an comas so dha, ach their cuid gum b' ann an Uige a thachair sin, their feadhainn eile gum b' ann an Uidhist-a-Deas. A réir aithris eile, bha Choinneach fhéin a' buan na mòna latha bha sud, agus air dha a bhith sgìth shin e e fhéin 'na shuain air cnoagan, agus an uair a dh'èig fhuair e clach bheag chruinn fo a leth-cheann, agus an uair a dh'amhairc e troimh tholl sa' chloich fhuair e sealladh air droch-bheart a bha a bhana-mhàighstir a' rùnachadh na' a' thaobh. Ann am *Bàrdachd Leòdhas* fo laimh Iain N. MhicLeòid tha oran fada a sgrìobh Iain Mac a' Ghobhainn mu Choinneach Odhair, anns am bheil e ag innseadh mar a thachair taibhs nighean Rìgh Lochlainn air agus mar a fhuair e

"Clach bhòidheach nan iomadh buadh,
A' chlach a sgoaileadh an tigh-cheò,
Tha cur sgeòl air aimsir bhuan."

A réir na bheul-aithris choitinn rugadh Choinneach mu thoiseach an t-seachdamh linn deug, agus chaidh a chur gu bàs air taobh an ear Siorrachd Rois goirid an dèidh 1662. Bha Choinneach 'na fhear-obrach air fearann an treas Iarla Shiphort aig an àm. Dh' fhalbh an t-Iarla a null do'n Fhraing agus ghabh a bhean fadach nach robh e tilleadh. Dh' iarr air Choinneach sealltainn air clach nan iomadh buadh feuch am faicheadh e cìod a bha a fear-pòsa a' deanann. Dh' innis Choinneach dhi gu robh an t-Iarla a' leannansachd ri mnaoi eile. Ghabh a' bhean-usal an dearg chuthach, agus 'na corruidh dh'òrduich i Choinneach a losgadh gu bàs. B' ann an uair sin a rinn Choinneach Odhar an fhàisteach iongantach mu theaghlach Shiphort.

Chan 'heil teagamh sam bith ann a thaobh fàisteach Shiphort. Thàinig i gu teachd, agus bha fios aig daoine mu'n

fháisteachd fada mu'n do dhearbhadh fíor í. Tha Sir Walter Scott fhéin 'na fhianuis air sin, oir is ann 'na latha-san a choimhlionadh an fháisteachd, agus bha ceann-feadhna Shiphort 'na dhliúth charaid dha. Chan 'éil teagamh cuideachd nach robh iomadh fàidheadaireachd eile ann a bha dol fo ainm Choinnich Odhair a tháinig fíor.

Ach cò bh' ann an Coimneach Odhar, agus an esan a labhair an toiseach na fàistinnean a tha dol fo ainm? Sin ceistean nach 'éil soirbh am fuasgladh.

Aireamh bliadhnaich air ais dh'amais Mgr. Uilleam MacAoidh MacCojinnich, fear-ceardraidh a mhuinntir Leòdhais, air sgrìobhainean-lagha a chuireadh a mach bhò Phàrlais na Croise Naomha an Dun-éideann nas na bliadhnaich 1577 agus 1578, a' toirt ùghdarras do Shiorram Siorrachd Chromba agus uislean eile àreamh bharr agus fhear a chur an greim agus casaid air a dheanadh orra gu robh iad ri buidseachd agus uile eile. Am measg na feadhna so air an robh an lagh an tòir bha fear a tha air ainmeachadh mar "Choinneach Odhar."

Tha so a' dearbhadh gu robh neach ann d'am b'ainm Coimneach Odhar, gu robh e air taobh an ear Siorrachd Rois, agus gu robh e ri buidseachd no ri taibhsarachd. Ach ma 's e so an Coimneach Odhar a rinn an fháisteachd mu theaghlach Shiphort, tha mòran de'n aithris choitheann ceàrr. A réir beul-aithris bha Coimneach beò mu 1662 agus chuireadh gu bàs e goirid an dèidh sin. A réir nas sgrìobhainean so bha Coimneach fo shùil an lagha còr is ceithir fichead bliadhna roimhe sin. Rud eile, ann an 1578 cha a' fhuair ceann-feadhna Clann Choinnich fhathast inbhe Iarla Shiphort, agus cha mhòtha na sin a bha seilbh aca air Leòdhais.

Tha dà nì eile a dh' fhadair a ràdh mu Choinneach Odhar. An toiseach, tha mòran de na fàistinnean a tha air an cur as a leth-san gle choltair ri fàistinnean fiosaiche ainmeil eile, Tomas Réumair. Bha Tomas so beò, a réir aithris, mu dhreacadh an treas linn deug. Bha e 'na uachdaran-fearainn an Siorrachd Abarug an taobh-deas Albainn, ach bha eòlas air a chuid fhàistinnean an Siorrachd Pheairt agus an Earraighaidh agus cho fada tuath ri Inbhir-nis agus Siorrachd Rois. Tha iomradh air ann am bàrdachd Iain MhicCòdrum agus Mhic Mhaighstir Alasdair agus Siliis Nighean Mhic Raghnaill agus an bràin Ghàidhlig eile. An e gu robh Coimneach ag giùlan leis 'na mhàileid nìthean a bhùineas da-rìreabh do Thòmas?

A rithid, a thaobh an seorsa thabhsreachd a bha aig Coimneach, bha e eadar-dhealichte bhò'n nì ris an abrar "an dà shealladh." Am bitheantas chan 'éil iadsan aig am bheil an dà shealladh ag cur feum air inneal mar a' chlach iongantach a bha 'na meadhan-eòlais aig Coimneach. Agus an uair a bhiodh fiosaichean na Gàidhealtachd ag cleachdadh inneil, is ann a bha iad ri "silmeanachd," a' faicinn na bha gu teached ann an silmein ainmhidh. Ach is e a bha aig Coimneach "neamhaid chòir air nach ruigeadh òr no luach," "clach bhòitheach nan iomadh buadh."

Ciad air bith an fhàirinn mu Choinneach Odhar, tha àite sonaichte aige am measg nan Gàidheal, eadhon gun a latha an diugh, agus, ged nach 'éil fhios againn cò dhìis is e Leòdhach no Uidhiteach no Sgeitheach a bh' ann, bhiodh e coltach gur ann san Eilean Dubh air machair Rois a chrìochnaich e a bheatha, ach c'uin no ciamar cò aige a tha brath? T.M.M.

EADAR SINN FHEIN.

THE CELTIC LANGUAGES—A REPLY.

"Dear Sir,—The truth as seen by your correspondent, "Innis an Fhìrinn," is very gloomy indeed, and, far from putting "nàire" on the Devil, his emotion is more likely to be one of "gàire."

Does "Innis an Fhìrinn" really think his tabloid survey, with its melancholic sweeping statements, is likely to encourage the speaking of Gaelic? Is it merely another exhibition of that despicable and disgustingly sentimental Celtic twilightism with its dying and sighing of clear dead faces in vacant spaces? Or is "Innis an Fhìrinn" perhaps one of those bigots who fear that Scottish Gaelic might be contaminated by contact with Irish?

In saying these things I may be wrong, and, if so, I apologise, but it was a peculiar effusion, to say the least of it.

However, if I am wrong in the foregoing, I must still take up the gage on other points. Who granted permission for the Celtic languages to flourish in the Middle Ages, as suggested by "Innis an Fhìrinn?" Your correspondent makes the usual mistake of imagining that everything depends on materialistic issues—a theory expanded to its utmost limits in the 19th century, and completely exploded during the past thirty years.

The problem of the Gaelic language, like all cultural problems, is largely a spiritual question, and, as in all questions of the spirit, the essential requirement is courage! This, apparently, is just what "Innis an Fhìrinn" does not want. According to your correspondent, we must be careful not to express or discuss our true thoughts in case we offend the powers that be and they forbid us to say "Ciamar a tha thu?" and "Tha gu math" and other such profundities.

No language is lost unless a nation is spiritless enough to give it up; and all the statistics quoted by "Innis an Fhìrinn" are so much meaningless nonsense. And further, "Innis an Fhìrinn," if we are dying, let us die a decent death. At least keep us from being complete lick-spittles and moral cowards.—Is mise, Gu dileas, A. D. TELFORD GOVAN, University of Birmingham.

OIDHRPEAN 'A' CHOMUINN.

Fhìr-dheasachaidh fhìnghail,—Mo bheannachd air do pheann, a Mhic-a-Mhuilleir, ged nach 'éil mi ag aontachadh leat gu h-iomlan. Is e mo bheachd féin, mur 'éil an latha air teachd, gu bheil e an da-breachd fadus, anns am feum an Comann a sgìthean a sgoileadh agus oidhirp laidir a thoir a chum 's gum bi eòlas ar cànanne, comas a labhairt, agus gach nì maiseach agus taitneach a tha againn mar shluagh, air an leudachadh is air an leagail air bunaid fharusinn fhial ann an dòigh anns am faigh iadsan aig a bheil chàir an t-eòlas sin a chnuasachadh lan chothrom air a dheanadh.

"Na mo bheachd so, is e ceist ge dhoirbh a tha an so. Bho nach 'éil annam ach duine maol-cheannach, faodaidh e bhith gu bheil mi 'ga fhàinnein dùilich, ach co-dhù soaidh mi, ged tha e soirbh gu leòir an uair a bhios sinn a' togail chaisteal anns na neòil, gur e atharrachadh a tha ann an uair a thig sinn gu cabhsair cruaidh an da-rìreachd, agus mar a tha eùisean aig a' mhìn-mhionaid."

Feumaidh sinn aiceachadh gun do chiall sinn an tomhas mòr sia bliadhna de sheirbhis a' Chomuinn anns a' Ghàidhealtachd agus gun tàinig iomadh caochladh eile oirnn a rinn coire do'n Ghàidhlig. Cha robh mòran àiteachan anns nach robh saighdearan suidhichte feadh nan eilean agus air tìr-mòr na Ghàidhealtachd, agus rinn so cuideachadh ri cur as do labhairt na Gàidhlig, gu sonraichte am measg na h-igrìdh. Far an eiuinne cànan na dùithe aig na sgoilearan an uair a bhiodh iad còmhla mu fhichead bliadhna air ais, is e Beurla, agus té gun bhith fuathasach coimhltona aig an sin, a chluinneas sibh an diugh. Feumar feuchainn ri grabhadh a chur air an so an toiseach, a chionn, a dh'aindeoin dé their daoine, is e a' Ghàidhealtachd tobar na Gàidhlig, agus ma threigeas an tobar sin dé tha a thachairt? An latha nach cluinnear a' Ghàidhlig air a labhairt mun cuairt na cagailte, is truaigh a bhiteas an gnothach.

Leugh mi le mòr shuim an òraid a thug an t-Ollamh Renwick aig Òr-sheanadh na h-Eaglais Shaoir, agus leis an sin tha ailleg orm feuch ciamar a theid gnothaichean aig a' choinneamh a bhios aige ri luchd a' Chomuinn.—Tha gu leòir an so an dràsda. Slàn leibh, TAObh-TUATH EARRAGHAIDHEAL.

BAS CHAIRDEAN.

We regret to record the deaths of three good friends of the Gaelic Cause.

MR. DUGALD CAMPBELL MACLEOD, Skelmorlie.

Mr. MacLeod was born in Greenock 77 years ago, and came of a well-known Highland family. His father, Captain Roderick MacLeod ("Ruairidh an Iasgair") was a native of Raasay, and his mother belonged to Mid-Argyll. His life was spent in the service of Messrs. Fleming, Reid & Co., Ltd., of which firm he was latterly managing director and deputy chairman.

Mr. MacLeod was connected with the London Caledonian Society, and was President of the London Renfrewshire Society. He was a director of the Greenock Highland Society, and was a founder-member and President of the Skelmorlie and District Highland Association. He was also an active churchman, and was a director of Gabriel Wood's Mariners' Home, Greenock. For many years he was an enthusiastic member of An Comunn, serving on the Executive Council and on the Art and Industry Committee.

Dr. FERGUSON WATSON, Edinburgh.

Dr. Ferguson Watson was one of those who, not being native Gaelic-speakers, acquire the language, and by their zeal put to shame those others who from their cradles had been nurtured in it. He was a keen student of the Gaelic Summer Schools, and a very generous supporter of An Comunn, particularly of its Central and War Comforts Funds. During the 1914-18 war he held a high medical post in the Highland area.

Mr. HUGH ALEXANDER FRASER, Glenurquhart.

Mr. Fraser was a native of Glenurquhart. After a period of teaching at Stornoway and Dingwall, he became headmaster of Glenurquhart Secondary School, from which post he retired two years ago. He was an authority on Highland history and a good Gaelic scholar. He had served in the Boer War, and in his earlier years was a noted shinty player.

NATIONAL MOD, ABERDEEN.

Donations, 1946.

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High School Ceilidh	3	—	—
Capt. Wm. MacKay, Inverness	2	2	—
Miss W. Millar Weir, Alexandria	2	2	—
	£457	7	8

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

To enable An Comunn to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign now that the war is over, 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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Previously acknowledged	£791	5	4
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