# An Gaidheal.







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OF

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131 WEST REGENT STREET,

GLASGOW.



AN COMUNN GAIDHRAIACH

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Earrann 1

## IS FEARR EISIMPLEIR NA COMHAIRLE.

Tha cus dhaoine ann a tha deònach gach aon eile a chur ceart agus an saoghal uile ath-leasachadh, ach gun ghuth aca mu'n deidhinn féin. Chan 'eil dad nas fhasa na bhith 'g innse do nàbaidh mar bu chòir dha na gàradh aige a chumail agus a chlann hàrach, am feadh 's a tha an gàradh agad fhéin làn luibhean agus do chlann fhèin ag cur feum air smachd is treòrachadh.

Chan ann mar sin a thigeadh dhuinne a bhith anns a' Chomunn Ghàidhealach. Tha obair mhór a' feitheamh ri ar làimh, ach is e a' cheud chuid dhith

ar tigh féin a chur an òrdugh.

Is feàrr deagh-eisimpleir na sàr-chomhairle. Tòisicheamaid, mar sin, againn fhéin, gach aon againn a tha 'nar buill de'n Chomunn so, agus cuireamaid romhainn gu nochd sinn do ar co-Ghàidheil gu bheil sinn an ceart da-rìibh a thaobh rùintean a' Chomuinn.

Cia meud againn anns a' Chonunn as urrainn a ràdh le firinn gun do choisinn sim aon bhall eile do'n Chomunn anns a' bhliadhna mu dheireadh (na choisinn sinn aon bhall ùr riamh?), no gun do cheannaich no leugh sinn leabhar Gàidhlig air a' mhìos a chaidh seachad, no gu bheil e mar chleachdadh againn a bhith sgrìobhadh ar cuid litrichean agus a bhith cumail còmhraidh ann an Gàidhlig an uair tha ar gnothach ri daoine aig a bheil Gàidhlig?

Tha againn anns a' Chomunn móran bhall aig a bleib hidh mhór an aobhar na Gàidhlig agus a tha air leth saothrachail anns an obair sin. Ach chan 'eil a' Ghàidhlig aca. Mar chuideachadh do an leithid sin tha a' mhór-chuid de dh' obair-riaghlaidh a' Chomuinn air a deanamh, agus deagh-phàirt de'n Ghàidheal air a sgrìobhadh, ann am Beurla. Chan ann ag gearan naoir sin a tha sinn, ach 's ann a tha sinn ag gearan naoir sin a tha sinn, ach 's ann a tha sinn ag gearan naoh 'eil uibhir 's a bu chòir de na buill gun Ghàidhlig a' deanamh oidhirp sam bith air a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh. Bha, agus tha, feadhainn dhiubh sin a dh'ionnsaich a' Chàidhlig, agus a rinn barrachd feum

dhith na móran eile aig an robh i o ghlùn am màthar. Ach, a dh'aindeoin sin, tha cus fhathast a tha 'nam buill de'n Chomunn ach nach dean oidhirp air a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh.

Agus sinne aig an robh a' Ghàidhlig bho làithean ar n-òige, a bheil sinn ag cuideachadh le luchdionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig mar bu chòir dhuinn? Tha luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig air uairean caran diùid. Bidh eagal orra gun deanar fanoid air na mearachdan aca. Is nàireach ri ràdh c, ach tha Gàidheil ann a bhios a' magadh air mearachdan an luchd-ionnsachaidh. Chan 'eil an sin ach an turaineolas agus an dearg mhì-mhodh. Chan 'eil duine sam bith coimhlionta no iomlan ann an dad a nì e, agus chan 'eil aon againn as urrainn clach a thilgeil air neach eile. Is ann a bu chòir dhuinn gach cobhair 's gach misneachadh a thoirt dhaibh-san a tha strì ris a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh. Chan e mhàin gun cuidich sin iadsan, ach cuidichidh e sinn féin mar an ceudna. Is iomadh ni nach do thuig sinn gu ceart 's nach tug sinn an aire dha gus an d'fheuch sinn ri a dheanamh soilleir do neach eile.

A rithist, tha feadhainn co-cheangailte ris a' Chaidhlig ach nach leugh 's nach sgrìobh i. Saoil nach gabh an suidheachadh bochd sin a leasachadh? Nach math a dh'fhaodadh iad dol an car leughadh is sgrìobhadh na Gàidhlig ionnsachadh?

Bu chòir do gach meur de'n Chomunn Ghàidhealach dà ni a bhith aca, a bharrachd air céilidhean is cuirmean-ciùil, math 's gu bheil na gnothaichean sin

- cròilean no clas Gàidhlig, no eadhon barrachd is aon, far am biodh labhairt is leughadh is sgrìobhadh na Gàidhlig air an teagasg.
- (2) leabhar-lann de leabhraichean is de phaipearan Gàidhlig, agus de leabhraichean an cànainean eile mu eachdraidh nan Gàidheal.

- Bu chòir do gach ball de'n Chomunn trì bòidean a ghabhail air:
- (1) Mur 'eil a' Ghàidhlig agam cheana, tòisichidh mi air a h-ionnsachadh gun dàil; agus, ma tha i agam cheana, ni mi dichioll ri m'eòlas oirre a chur am meud. Ma bhìos mi beò sha mu'n àm so an ath-bhìadhna, bithidh mi nas coimhlionta anns a' Ghàidhlig, agus nas eòlaiche uimpe, na tha mi an diugh.
- (2) Fa chomhair gach leabhair Beurla a leughas mi leughaidh mi leabhar Gàidhlig, agus fa chomhair gach leabhair Beurla a cheannaicheas mi ceannaichidh mi leabhar Gàidhlig; agus mar an ceudna ceannaichidh mi gach paipearnaidheachd agus gach mìosachan agus ràidheachan air an amais mi anns a bheil mìr idir de Ghàidhlig.
- (3) Nì mi mo làn-dhìchioll ri aon bhall ùr, aig a' chuid as lugha, a chosnadh do'n Chomunn roimh àm an ath-Mhòid mhóir.

Bu chòir do gach neach aig a bheil dreuchd agus inbhe ann an obair a' Chomuinn, chan e mhàin na h-earailean sin a chur an gnìomh, ach mar an ceudna a bhith cur roimhe gu daingean gun dean e gach gnothach, an labhairt is an sgrìobhadh, ann an Gàidhlig, cho fad 's is comasach sin dha.

Is ann mar sin a nochdas nuinntir a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich deagh-eisimpleir do na Gàidheil, agus do na Goill cuideachd. Bhiodh so 'na thogail agus 'na bheothachadh do'n Chomunn. Chitheadh an saoghal gu bheil sinn an ceart da-rìirbh.

Sguabadh gach neach an leac fa chomhair a dhoruis

Is fearr deagh-eisimpleir na sàr-chomhairle.

## FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

LITREACHAS GAIDHLIG AIR SON FEACHDAN AN RIGH.—Faodaidh suill a bhith oirnne mar echomun air son mar a chuir sinn tomhas math de litreachas Gàidhlig an lalman na feadhna a bha an seirbhia s' Chrìtin ri liun a' chogaidh. Is iomadh àite iomallach agus neònach a ràinig ma pasganan a chuir Niall a mach bho'n oils. Am fasaichean bruthainneach Africa, anns na h-Innsean fada thall, air feadh na h-Eòrpa, air bàtaichean beaga is móra a' Chabhlaich Rìoghail, air laimhrigean-adhair an iomadh àite, an tighean-ciridinn agus an campaichean-priosain—bha na duilleagan 's na leabhraíchean Gàidhlig air am fàilteachadh 's air an leughadh, agus is mór an togail inntinn a thug iad do iomadh aon, fada bho dhachaidh agus bho thìr na Gàidhlig.

Gadding.

Ach cha b'e an Comunn againne a mhàin a bha ri obair de'n t-seòrsa so. Ann an Cogadh a' Cheusair suntichiceadh comh-chomhairie de na tri eagaissean—Baglais na h-Alba, an Eaglais Shac-Magna an Eaglais Shac-Magna

Anns a' chogadh mu dheireadh rinneadh a leithid eile, Shuidhich Eaglais na h-Alba agus an Eaglais Shaor comhchomhairle air cheann na h-oibre, agus chuireadh a mach còrr is cóig-deug de na leabhraichean beaga, cuid dhiubh feadhainn dhiubh-san a thàinig a mach anns a' chogadh roimhe ach air an clò-bhualadh as ùr, cuid eile ann an clò air son na ceud uaire. Tha an t-aon mu dheireadh de na leabhrain so f'am chomhair aig an àm, oir dh'éirich dàil d'a thaobh agus chan 'eil fada o thàinig e mach. 'S e sin "Sguaban A Achaidhean nan Aithrichean," grunnan de shearmonan le diadhairean a bha ainmeil 'nan latha 's 'nan linn fhéin. Bha, agus tha, na leabhraichean beaga so taitneach ri an laimhseachadh agus ri an leughadh, agus is math a dh' fhaodadh iad a bhith air an reic air feadh na dùthcha. Dhiubh uile is annsa leam fhéin an dà leabhar-laoidhean—"A' Chruit Oir" agus "Mil nan Dàn," agus b'fhìor thoigh leam an dà leabhran so fhaicinn air an cur an clò air son feum an t-sluaigh Ghàidhealaich uile.

TEANN-ROINN NA MIX-CHOIRCE.—Bha latha ann, agus pè bolla mine aig ceann na beinge no an oùil air chor-eigin an t-aon ni as eugmhais nach robh dachaidh ann bith air a' Ghàidhealtachd. Le bolla mine agus leth-bharaille sgadan mu'n tigh, buntàta anna s' phollaig a muigh, cruach mhath mòna aig ceann an tighe, agus am pailteas de bhainne 's de dh' uibhean, cha robh dad de dh'iarriadh air a' chòrr.

Ach chan ann mar sin a tha an diugh. Chan 'eil an sgadan

fhéin ach gann, 's nuair a tha e pailt 's ann is dòcha cuid mhór dheth a thaomadh air ais dòr mhuir, mar i trie a tha tachairt. Agus a thaobh na mìn-choirce! Có aige a théid air bolla dhith a cheannach a nise agus dà cheud is ceithir-fichead punc ri'n libhrigeadh fa chomhair gach bolla (dà phunc am punnd) a bharrachd air a dhaoiread. 'Tha sinn uile a' tuigisinn gu bheil am biadh gann; chan urrainn e bhith air a' chaochladh an deidhl sà no saeachd bliadhna de sgrìos. Tha fhios againn gu bheil aluagh dhithchannan eile mòran nas mìosa dheth na tha sinne. Ach air a shon sin, ma's ann a bheathachadh nan each a thàtar ag cleachdadh an arbhair an Sasann, 's e a th'anns a' mhìn-choire pròmh-bhiadh nan Gàidheal.

Tha na coin 's na cearcan fhéin a' faireachadh na gorta. Tha a' mhin-choirce air àicheadh orra, agus bha seann bhanacharaid dhomh ag ràdh rium nach 'eil na seòrsachan bìdh a tha ceadaichte dhaibh a' tighinn ris na cearcan idir.

TAING.—Moran taing dhàibh-san uile a sgrìobh thun A' Ghàidheil, agus gu sònraichte dhaibh-san a thairg cobhair dha ann a bhith lionadh màileid gach mìosa. Cuiridh sinn gu feum gach ni freagarrach a gheibh sinn, uair no uair-eigin, agus gu fortanach tha am paipear a' tighinn beagan nas paite oinra a nìs, agus is math gu bheil. Bu mhath leis A' Ghàidheal iomradh a thoirt 'na dhuileagan air obair nam meuran rèa gheamhraidh. Cuireadh na rinairean, ma tà, cunntas goirid thugainn an dràad' sa rithais, an Gàidhig no am Beurla, agus bheir sinn am follais e; ach cumadh iad e cho goird 's is urrain. Féghnaidh dà cheud fhacal, no folha sin.

Ann a bhith guidhe soirbheachaidh do'n Mhòd mhór tha C.M. a Steòrnabhagh a' sgrìobhadh :

"Tha na Mòid giề mhath, ach cha chùm iad ar cànain beò. Sin obair nan dachaidhean anns a' Ghàidhealtachd. Ged is nàir e r'a innse, chan 'eil mòran chloinne ann am Baile Steòrnabhaigh a bhruidhneas a Ghàidhlig, agus anns na bailtean beaga tha dlùth chan 'eil mòran spèis aig an òigridh dhì. Tha e coltach gu bheil cuid de na pàrantan de'n bheachd gur e uaisleachd a tha ann a bhith tròigiann na Gàidhlig agus gach ni a tha fillte a stigh innte. Mo thruaighe l'ait a bheil t'uaisleachd mur 'eil spèis agad do chainnt do mhàthar; 'l

Is fìor a labhair sibh, a laochain.

GLIOCAS NAN GAIDHEAL.—Bha Cailleach a' Ghobhann agus Cailleach a' Mhuilleir a' trod ri chéile, agus an déidh dhaibh treis a thoirt air cáineadh sinnsearna a chéile, 's ann a thuirt an dara té ris an té eile: "Chan abair mí an còrr mu'n abair mí cus."

FIRINN AIR SON A' MHIOS SO.—Pillidh freagradh mìn corruich, ach dùisgidh briathran searbha fearg. Gnath-fhocail xv.l.

## LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Is ann mu na -paipearan ceasnachaidh air son Comunn na h-Oigridh, a tha mi direach an deidh a sgrìdadh 's a phasgadh seachad a chum an tilleadh chugaibh-se, air am motha am bi mo sheanachas anns an litir so, ach mu'm buin mi ri sin no ni eile bu mhath leam iomradh a thoirt air bàs an duine chaoimh 's bhur caraid-se, an Lighiche Alasdair Mac-an-t-Saoir, a bha anns an Ard-ruighe.

Leig am fear-nach-maireann ris a spéis do Chomunn na h-Oigridh anns an leabhran ghrinn, Balaich an t-Sratha, a sgrìobh e le a làimh féin is de an tug e lethbhreac seachad saor is an asgaidh do gach balach is caileig a bha anns a' champ am bliadhna. An uair a bha mi féin shuas anns an Annait (dà sheachdain nan caileag), shìn mi do gach aon dhiubh leth-bhreac de'n leabhar so; agus an uair a ràinig na balaich a rithist, thugadh dhaibh-san mar an ceudna aon an urra. Bha e gun a bhith gu math 'na shlàinte an uair sin, is gun mór-ghealltanas air a bheag de fheàirrd a thighinn air gu cionn iomadh latha, nan tigeadh an fheàirrd idir. Cha do shaoil sinn gu robh a' chrìoch cho dlùth. Tha sinn ro dhuilich gur e iomradh a bhàis a tha againn anns an litir so. The e a nis 'na laighe an tìr a ghràidh, Srath Ghearr-loch, far an tug "Balaich an t-Sratha" a' chuairt iomraideach a bha an sud, 's a dh'fhàg e féin againn an leabhar ro ghrinn. Sìth d'a anam!

A nis, a thaobh nam paipearan, dh'innis mi dhuibh mar thà gach sgoil as an d'fhuair sinn paipearan, an àireamh a fhuair sinn, is dhiubh sin an àireamh a bha an geall air a bhith air an comharrachadh a mach mar Làn-is mar Shàr-Ghàidheal. Tha sinn duilich nach robh tuille na dusan sgoil anns a' Ghàidhealtachd uile qu léir as an d'fhuair sinn gin idir agus, dhiubh sin féin, sgoiltean cho beag ri dithis, ceithir is cóig. Ciod g'an taobh-san a bha air an aghaidh an uiridh ach a tha air chall am bliadhna; is ciod g'an taobh-san bh nach d'fhuair sinn smid bho chionn bhliadhnaan?

Chan 'eil mi dol a dh'ainmeachadh eilcan seach eilean, gleann seach gleann, ach chan 'eil cùisean ag còrdadh riumsa co-dhiubh mar a tha iad. Tha fios gu ro-mhath gum faod a' Ghàidhlig a bhith an deagh chor ged nach biodh sgoil idir a chuireadh a steach paipear air cheann na cùise so; ach "is mise bha thall 's a chunnaic," agus a thaobh na h-obair a tha air a leigeil ris dhomh anns na paipearan so a chaidh troimh mo làmhan, chan 'eil mi idir riaraichte. Chan 'eil math dhuinn a bhith ag eubhach sithe is gun an t-sìth ann! Tha cuid de na sgoiltean a tha a réir coltais fada air ais ann an teagasg na Gàidhlig, agus cuid dhiubh sin a bha glé mhath an uair a chuir mise eèlas orra an toiseach troimh na paipearan so, ach a tha air dol leis a' bhruthach gu dona.

Gun teagamh, is e àl eile a tha againn an diugh bho'n cheud bhliadhna a bha gnothach agamsa ris na paipearan ceasnachaidh; ach cha bu mhath leam a ghabhail a steach gu bheil clann na bliadhna so nas fhaide air an ais an comas inntinn na am bràithrean 's am peathraichean a ghabh cuid anns an fharpuis so bho chionn chôig bliadhna. Chan 'eil, ach, mur 'eil, tha na comharraidhean ann nach 'eil an teagasg anns a' Ghàidhliz ach mu làimh; agus, ged nach 'eil mo ghnothach-sa ri sin, tha cion ealain làmh-sgrìobhaidh féin cuid de'n chloinn ag cur ro mhór de iongantas orm. Bha, is tha an diugh, na Gàidheil a ràinig ìre cliùiteach mar luchd-pinn. Anns an obair san robh mi féin bha ainm aig ar Gàidheil mar sgrìobhadairean le peann a bha comharraichte, is dh'aidicheadh na Goill is eile sin. Ach is mór mo chùram nach 'eil an ealain so air a teagasg an diugh mar a bha i an uair a bha mise is mo cho-aoisean anns an sgoil.

A rithist, mar a chì sibh 'nan ainmeannan-san a fhuair na comharraidhean a b'àirde, tha aon sgoil a seasamh a mach air leth bho'n chòrr, agus is e sin Sgoil Eideird Sgot anns na Hearadh. A bheil mise no aon sam bith de'n bheachd gu bheil clann na sgoile so nas fearr an comas inntinn na clann sgoiltean eile? Chan 'eil mise, agus tha dòchas agam nach 'eil neach eile. eadhon a' mhuinntir aig a bheil an cuid cloinne anns an sgoil so; ach tha an obair a' leigeil ris gu bheil saothair air a gabhail ri an teagasg anns a' Ghàidhlig le neach-eigin nach 'eil a réir gach coltais air a gabhail ann an sgoiltean eile a thug dhuinn rogha pòir bho chionn gle bheag de bhliadhnachan air ais. Ciod a theirteadh ris an teagasg Ghàidhlig a tha balach no caileag a' faotainn an uair a sgrìobhadh iad mar so-"Bu cuar guit an loir ma aid an leath" agus "a geasguc loch a due," an àite "Bu chòir dhuit an leabhar math ud a leughadh" agus "ag iasgach anns an loch an diugh."

Ach, air an làimh eile, tha aon sgoil as an tàinig dà phaipear a mhàin, bho dhà phiuthair tha mi an dùil, agus b'e an toileachadh sealltainn orra. Choisinn iad le chéile àrd-chomharraidhean, mar a chì sibh, agus thug mi 98 per cent. do aon dhiubh. Is e togailinntinn a tha ann am paipear na té so a sgaoileadh fa chomhair mo shùla. "Ciod an sgoil as an robh iad?" tha sibhse a' fcòraich. Tha, sgoil a tha fada air falbh bho'n fhonn anns a bheil a' Ghàidhlig air a labhairt an coitcheannas gach là, Uachdar-àrd-thir : ach, air eagal nach tuig sibh ciod an t-àite a tha an sin, is e Auchterarder a theirear ris an litreachadh na Beurla. Chan e mhàin gur ann an siorramachd Pheairt, far nach 'eil a bheag de Ghàidhlig air a labhairt an diugh, a tha am baile sin, ach tha e 'na fìor iomall an eardheas, is fada a stigh ri machair nan Gall. A nis, an rud a theid aig dà nighinn an Uachdar-àrd-thir, fada air falbh bho fhonn is àille na Gàidhlig, air a dheanamh, ciamar nach deanadh balach no caileag an Ardnamurchan, an Colla, am Muile, no anns an Eilean Sgitheanach e.

Tha mi am beachd sùil a thoirt air na paipearan as am briathrachas, le mearachdan a rinneadh 'na eadar-theangachadh, anns an ath-litir, oir anns an té so chan 'eil de rùm agam tuille ach an ainmeannarsan do an tugadh 90 no còrr anns an dà roinn a thoirt dhuibh, agus so saaibh iad:—

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Bhur Caraid Dìleas. EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

## CAMPA COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH, 1946.

Chumadh a' cheud Champa bho 1939 aig an Annait an Lochabar, bho'n 18mh latha de'n Iuchar gus an 9mh latha de'n Lùnasdal. Cha robh an àireamh cho mór is a bha dùil, ach bha sin ann an tomhas mór an crochadh ris an droch shìde. Bha i a' séideadh gu garbh anns na h-Eileana Siar aig an àm a bu chòir do na caileagan an dachaidhean fhàgail, agus chan 'eil e 'na ionghnadh gu robh na pàrantan gealtach clann cho òg a leigcil air falbh air turus cho fada,

Bha dóruinn uisge neo-chumanta ann ré Campa nan Caileag ach dà latha a mhàin, ach a dh'aindeoin sin bha gach aon air an dòigh agus leig iad ris, uisgc ann no as, gun deanadh iadsan campa sona dheth, agus rinn iad sin. Chaidh iad gu Gleann Fhionghuin agus streap iad gu mullach Tùr Thearlaich, agus an deidh sin chum iad cuirm-chnuic anns a' ghleann ainmeil sin. Chuir iad cuairt air Gcarasdan dubh Inbhir Lòchaidh, agus thadhail iad aig Tigh nan Ionghnaidhean far am fac iad seann rudan air an robh na daoine bho'n tàinig iad mion-eòlach.

Agus nach iadsan a fhuair an cothrom nuair a thug am B.B.C. cuireadh dhaibh gu bhith a' craobhsgaoileadh air an Radio. A réir gach iomraidh chòrd a' chéilidh so ri sean is òg, agus tha taing na cloinne aig a' B.B.C. agus aig Fionnlagh Dòmhnallach a bha a' riochdachadh Comunn a' Chraobh-sgaoilidh, Agus cha dhì-chuimhnich sinn Eilidh chòir, a dheasaich gach sian ann an trì làithean. Tha Eilidh i fhéin cho dòigheil is cho càirdeil is gun do ghabh na caileagan rithe gu h-aon-sgeulach agus bha a bhuil sin air a'

Bha na caileagan deas-bhriathrach, agus is iomadh freagairt éibhinn a chualas ré tìd a' champa. Ach is i so té a b'fheàrr a chòrd rium fhéin. Bha aon chaileag nach robh ag itheadh cho math is a bu chòir dhi, agus thubhairt Ceiteag rithe, "Mur gabh thu do bhiadh cuiridh sinn a mach thu." "Cuiridh," arsa Mórag, "agus gheibh sinn subsidy air a son."

Aig àm an dealachaidh bha an cianalas r'a fhaireachdain agus thubhairt gach aon gun tilleadh

iad an ath-bhliadhna. Chuir caileag as an Eilean Sgitheanach mar so e : "Bidh mise aig an ath champa co-dhiù, ach mi bhith beò, ged a b'ann an Hong Kong a chumadh e!"

Bha aon chaileag tinn as déidh an tinneis-mhara, ach nuair a thàinig an Dotair MacIomhair a choimhead oirre agus a bhruidhinn e rithe anns a' Ghàidhlig agus esan san éideadh Ghàidhealach, bhioraich a sùil agus an déidh drùthag á botul a dh' fhàg e, bha i air a casan a rithisd is a' streapadh nan cnoc le càch.

Lean an droch shìde Campa nam Balach, agus cha robh ach aon latha slàn tioram. Ach is beag a chuir sin orra-san, na gaisgich. Le Iain MacAoidh a Dunéideann air an ceann is iomadh sgrìob-monaidh a thug iad, bog fliuch ach toilichte. Agus ma bha latha mór aig na caileagan air an Radio, bha aon latha mór aig na gillean cuideachd. Moch madainn Di-satharna, le Dòmhnall nan Cleas mar fhear-stiùraidh, thog iad orra, agus cha do stad iad gus an tug iad a mach mullach Beinn Nimheis, agus sin an taobh a stigh de thrì uairean. Ged a bha ceò dùmhail ann, chùm Dòmhnall is a threud air an t-slighe cheart, gach rathad, agus bhuail iad rathad-mór an righ a rithist an taobh a stigh de chóig uairean bho àm toiseachaidh. Ged a chaill fear sàil a bhròige agus ged a thill fear eile air leth-bhròig, bu bheag sin aca agus mullach na beinne as àirde am Breatann 'nan déidh. Thug na gillean a mach mullach Tùr Thearlaich cuideachd. agus nach iomadh sgeul a bhios aca air an turus do Lochabar nan craobh is nam meanbh-chuileag.

Chuir Fear-gairme Chlann an Fhraoich, Mgr. Eachann MacDhùghaill, seachad oidhche cuide ruinn agus labhair e gu càirdeil ris na caileagan. As leth nan caileag thug Ceiteag a Dùn-bheagan taing chridheil dha air son a làthaireachd agus an ùidh a tha aige an Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Tha an luchd-cuideachaidh uile ri am moladh. Rinn iad gach dleasnas a chuireadh rompa gu toilichte agus chan fhacas gruaim fad an t-siubhail.

So agaibh beachd gille òig a thadhail oirnn anns a' Champ:

"Chunnaic mi cailcag is na deòir 'na sùilean an àm falbh. Chuala mi balach beag ag ràdh ri fear eile, 'Ma ghabhas e deanamh, bithidh mise an so an ath-bhliadhna.' Cha teisteanas idir sodal a theirear an luib taing, ach is teisteanas da-rìribh do Champa na h-Annait na nithean ud a chuala is a chunnaic mise san dol seachad. Is ann a' dol seachad a bha mi. Cha robh annam ach fcar-turuis, agus bha a chall sin agam fhéin. Bha coibhneas agus càirdeas ann an Campa Comunn na h-Oigridh nach fhaca mise an leithid ach ann an aon àite eile-aig an tigh. Agus is ann bho'n tigh a thug an Oigridh ud leotha iad.

"Is iomadh uair a nì mi fiamh-gàire ag cuimhneachadh air na sgeulachdan a chuala mi; bithidh na céilidhean beaga ùrar dhomh ré iomadh latha, ach an uair a théid sin uile air chall, bithidh cuimhne agam air trì scudan air an do bhuail sùil gach fir-tadhail-Gàidhlig, ùmhlachd, agus modh. Thug mi dhà no trì làithean anns a' champa ; chunnaic mi na caileagan a' falbh agus na gillean air ùr-thighinn, agus is e a bha daonnan a' tighinn a steach orm—'Nach mi a chaill air nach robh mi fhéin an so 'nam bhalach.'

"An uair a bha mi a' falbh, choimhead mi air mo chil-haobh agus is e an rud mu dheireadh a chunnaic mi—luideag phaipeir ag ràdh, 'Seall chugad 's bhuat.' Ma ghabh an òigridh an earail ud, no nach do ghabh, cha leig a h-aon aca leas luideag phaipeir gu cuimhneachadh dhaibh sealltainm air sis."

Tha ar taing aig Mgr. Weir, an tuathanach, air son gach coibhneis a nochd e ruinn ri tìd a' champa, agus mar an ceudna aig a' Chabhlach Rìoghail air son Talla Chleasan is tigh-còcaireachd a chur gu feum na cloinne.

DOMHNALL MACPHAIL, Ceannard a' Champa,

## GLIOCAS NAN RODAN.

Thug aoir àbhacach Thormoid Dòmhnallaich am chuimhne sgeul a chuala mi uair-eigin mu chomhbhàidh nan rodan d'a chéile.

Bha sabhal beag, astar goirid air cùl an tighchòmhnaidh, aig bodach ann am fear de na h-Eileanan. Bha an sabhal loma-làn eòrna air ùr chur a steach as a' chruaich anns an iodhlann. Gu mì-fhortanach fhuair rodain a' bhaile lorg air an t-saobhaidh, agus an ùine gheàrr bha an t-àite ag 'àladh leotha. Ach bha abhag bheag smiorail aig a' bhodach a rinn forgladh am measg nan rodan. Bha cat mòr riabhach aige cuideachd—sealgair math—a chuir as do mhòran aca mus d'fhuair e bàs an dèidh ceann fear de na biastan itheadh.

Mu dheireadh thàinig a' chùis cho teann air comunn nan earball fada 's gun d'rinn iad suas an inntinn imrich a dheanamh gun an tuilleadh dàlach.

Aon latha agus an talamh còmhdaichte le sneachd, dé chunnaic am bodach an uair a dh' fhosgail e an dorus-cùil eadar dà fhrais ach trl rodain a' fàgail an t-sabhail. Bha na trì air an aon cheum, a' siubhai gu séimh socrach anns an aon sreith—seann rodan liath dall anns a' mheadhon agus fear air gach taobh dheth. Bha an aon sràbh làidir connlaich, leis an robh na dhà aig an robh am fradharc a' treòrachadh an fhir dhoill, air na trì 'nam beul.

Stad am bodach far an robh e. Cha do chuir e grabadh orra; chuir an sealladh uiread de smuaineachadh air. Is ann bho bhilean a' bhodaich fhéin a chuala mi an sgeula, agus faodar a chreidsinn, oir bha an seann duine còir in adhuine cliùiteach agus 'na fhoirbheach anns an eaglais.

Nach e na rodanan fhéin a tha teòma! Tha e air a ràdh gu bheil seòra de dhà-fhradharc aca, agus gun tréig iad roimh làimh long do'm bheil an dàn dol fodha. Chan eil e ceart daoine a shamhlachadh ri rodain, ach a bheil fhios an ann air son an aobhair cheudna a tha uiread de òigridh an latha an diugh a' fàgail long bhriagha àrd-chrannach nan Eileanan an Iar agus na Gàidhealtachd air fad? Nar leigeadh Dia!

A. L. M.

## A' GHAIDHLIG. (o'n t-seann Ghàidhlig)

Cànan binn, blàth nan draoidhean 'S nan saoidhean o chian; 'S nan saoidhean o chian; 'S nan shinn, blàth nan righrean, Nan naomh is nan cliar; (cànan binn, blàth nan clanna, Gaisgeil, fallain, mór, àrd. An uair a chaillear gu beachd e Cà seachnar leinn bàs ?

CALUM MACGILLEATHAIN.

## EDINBURGH CHAIR OF CELTIC. Dr. Myles Dillon appointed.

Dr. Myles Dillon, Professor of Celtic in the University of Chicago, has been appointed to the Chair of Celtic Languages, Literature, History and Antiquities in the University of Edinburgh, which has been vacant since the death on active service of Professor James Carmichael Watson in 1942.

Dr. Dillon is 46 years of age, and is a M.A. of the National University of Ireland and a Ph.D. of Bonn University. He also studied at Heidelberg. In 1985, 26 he taught Irish at the Sorbonne, and in 1936 became Lecture in Comparative Philology and Sanskrit in Trinity College, Dublin. From 1930 to 1937 he held a similar appointment at University College. In 1937 he was appointed to the staff of the University of Wisconsin, first as Professor of Irish and later as Professor of Comparative Philology and Irish Literature. Earlier this year he entered upon his present appointment at Chicago.

Dr. Dillon is regarded as one of the outstanding scholars to day in the field of Celtic studies He is joint-number with Dr. I. Williams (Professor of Welsh in the University College of North Wales) of a forth-orning volume on The Celtic Languages, announced for publication by Messrs, Faber in their "Great Languages"s series.

Schemburgh Chair, being the only Chair of Celtic Scotland, may the did not be the keyposis in Celtic Scotland, may the did not studies the statics of the strength of the stre

The untimely death of James Carmichael Watson, while serving his country in her time of need, was nothing short of a tragedy, and the greatest loss to Scottish Gaelic studies for many a long year, for, superbly equipped as he was, both by heritage and training, and with marked ability, he had achieved in his brief career a remarkable amount of solid and fruitful work, which will be an finer things to come.

We believe that those whose efforts led to the founding of the Chair had as their primary object, not merely to advance the scholarly study of the Celtic languages as of a dead language, such as Sanskrit or Latin, but to provide a spear-head in the endeavour to vitalise and develop the living language of the Scottish Gaelic people to-day. With this in mind, and having in view the tradition established by the three occupants of the Chair, it was generally assumed that the appointment would fall to a Scottish Gael. It was also fairly widely known that among the candidates were several Scottish Gaelic scholars, more than one of them fully qualified to fulfil the duties

of the Chair and to maintain and enhance its traditions of sound scholarship as well as of leadership in the sphere of modern Scottish Gaelic. The appointment of a candidate from outwith Scotland was therefore unexpected.

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We realise, of course, that scholarship knows, or should know, no national frontiers; the commonwealth of letters is a reality. If scholars from outwith Scotland are eligible or Scotish Chairs, likewise Scottish scholars may be, and are, appointed to Chairs furth of Scotland. One of the best Scottish Celtic scholars of this generation, the late Professor John Fraser, occupied with high distinction the Chair of Celtic at Oxford. When the inst appointment was made to the Edinburgh Chair, Dr. Alexander Cameron, Brodick, the pioneer Celtic philologist in Scotland, Brodick, the pioneer Celtic philologist in Scotland, have been well to appoint Dr. Whitley Slokes or Professor E. Windisch, neither of then Scottish Gales, or Professor

The Children of Scotlan of Scotland, the Children of Scotlan of Scotland, the Children of Scotlan of Scotland of Scotland, the Children of Scotlan of Scotland of Scotland, the Children of Scotland of Scotland, the Children of Scotland of Scotland, the Children of Scotland of Scotland, the Scotland of Scotland, the Children of Scotland of Scotland, the Scotland of Scotland of Scotland, the Scotland of Scotland o

Many of us, therefore, had been expecting, and should have been glad, to see a Scottish Gael appointed to this important post, so vital to the success of the language movement in Scotland, but, nevertheless, we would congraulate Dr. Dillon on his appointment and bespeak for him a cordial welcome when he enters upon his duties among us. We in An Commun, whose primary concern is Dillon will identify himself with us in our efforts, and that, as a fellow Gael, he will share with us the fruits of his knowledge and experience.

We have an immense task on hand, and, on the side of scholarship, we require, as Professor Matson indicated thirty-two years ago, not a Professor in Edinburgh, a Reader in Aberdeen, and a Lecturer in Glasgow, but an adequately staffed and equipped Department of Celtie Studies (with a Professor and at least one Lecturers) each of the four Scottish Universities, and also Lecturers in other colleges. We also need a large number of fieldworkers, teachers, writers, etc. Much valuable work has and for certain parts of it (for example, the collection of folk-lore and oral literature and the study of dialects) the sands are fast running out.

T.M.M.

## SGIRE SGOBHRAIDH.

Bha uair a bu bheag air bodaich ministear fhaicinn le feusaig shlàn, ach thàinig fear de'n t-seòrsa gu òrduighean Sgobhraidh, agus rinneadh gearan air an fheusaig.

Arsa oileanach á colaisde na diadhachd : "Bha feusag air Aaron fhéin."

Arsa fear de na bodaich: "Ged bhitheadh a h-uile ealg a tha air a h-uile mart an sgìre Sgobhraidh ortsa, cha deanadh sin Aaron dhiotsa!"

## AN T-IASGAIR.

So mar dh' aithnich mi riamh thu, fhuair oilein aig sgoil an iasgaich.

An sealladh fir, na suilean socrach a sgrùdadh slugan dubh an doininn, 's a leughadh seagh an àrdthuinn obainn, ceann geal troimh dhall na h-oidhche nochdadh.

Tha fuaradh 's fasgadh, faire 's fulang 'nad shùil 's an ciùine do ghutha; dh'fhàg caol is cuan, rudh' air rudha le'n sruthan-cinn 's an gaothan uile, dh' fhàg cathadh sguabte iomadh tuinne, fèath is gaillionn is siontan dubha air do ghruaidh an seul, a dhuine.

DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

Tairbeart Chinn-tìre.

## BAS CHAIRDEAN.

We regret to record the deaths of two distinguished Gaels, who, each in his own sphere, gave long and devoted service to the cause of Gaelic and the welfare of their followcountrymen.

## Dr. Alexander Macintyre, Airdrie.

Dr. Macintyre died on 6th September. He was a native of Gairloch, Ross-shire, and was for many years an enthusiest member of An Comunn. Although the claims of an exacting profession prevented his serving on the Council or on any of the Committees of An Comunn, he nevertheless rendered great service to Gaelic, and perhaps in a more fruitful way.

Dr. Macintyre was a first-rate Gaelic scholar, and had an immense store of local lore, cherished from his boyhood days in Gairloch. In such scanty leisure as he could command he employed himself in putting on record part of this valuable material. Much of it has been made public in the pages of An Gaidhad, to which he contributed important articles from the contribution of the contributed of the contributed allowed to the Gaelic Society of Glasgow and other associations.

It is much to be hoped that any material which Dr. Macintyre may have left will be carefully preserved and made available for publication. It was certainly his desire, had heen spared, to publish as much as possible of this material. It is only a few weeks since his fascinating little book, "Bolzick and a \$Sodiahs," appeared. It was intended in the first instance presented to those who attended the Summer Camp at Annat. It is now, however, on sale to the public.

## SIR JOHN LORNE MACLEOD, EDINBURGH.

Sir John Lorne MacLeod died on 7th September, at the age of 73. He was born in Inveraray, and distinguished himself as a student of law at Edinburgh University. At an early stage of his career as a law-agent he entered upon public life, first as a member of Edinburgh School Board and shortly after as a member of the Edinburgh Town Council.

After serving on several important Committees and as City Treasurer, he became Lord Provost of Edinburgh in 1916, he being then the youngest civic leader in Edinburgh within living memory. He was knighted in the following year.

Sir John's public service included many important appointments, but no claim on his interest had priority over his desire to help his fellow-Highlanders. He was an active member of many Gaelic and Highland Societies, and a tower of strength especially to the Highland Societies of Edinburgh. He was a life member of an Comun and, as Lord Povost of the city presided over the Grand Concert of the National Mod which was held in Edinburgh in 1919.

## GILLEASBUIG AOTROM AGUS AN SEALGAIR

Thàinig duine uasal Gàidhealach air foghar a shealg gu monadh na sgìreachd anns an Eilean Sgitheanach far an do thachair do Ghilleasbuig Aotrom a bhith fuireach aig an àm. An uair a chuala e mu Ghilleasbuig agus a chuid chleasan ceòlmhor, is ann a smaointich e, a thaobh 's gu robh seirbhiseach a dhìth air, nach b'urrainn dha ni a b'fheàrr a dheanamh na Gilleasbuig fhasdadh fad latha no dhà gu bhith giùlan gach goireis bhig a dh'fheumadh a bhith aige muigh sa' mhonadh agus gu bhith frithealadh air gach uair a bhiodh obair sam bith ri dheanamh.

Thachair air latha àraidh air an t-slighe gu robh an sealgair agus Gilleasbuig ag coiseachd trid mhòintich fhiadhaich anns an robh fraoch fada a' fàs a bha ruigheachd nan glùinean. Bha an duin'-uasal air thoiseach agus Gilleasbuig 'ga leantainn, ag giùlan cuaille fada de bhata 'na làimh. An déidh a bhith greis ag coiseachd, thug an sealgair a mach pìob tombaca, agus air dha a lìonadh theann e ri ceò a thoirt aisde. A nis, is e duine a bha ann an Gilleasbuig Aotrom aig an robh déidh mhór air tombaca e fhéin is a bha 'ga chleachdadh cuideachd. Air an latha so, co-dhiubh, gu mi-fhortanach cha do thachair gu robh greim tombaca aig mo laochan. Dhùisg a mhiann na bu mhotha an uair a chunnaic e am fear eile a' lasadh na pìoba. Do bhrigh 's nach robh e eòlach air an duin'-uasal, bha e car mór leis criomag iarraidh. Ach ge b'e có bhiodh a' fulang le cion tombaca, cha bhiodh Gilleasbuig còir fada as aonais nan deanadh seòltachd agus cleasan e. Agus mar tha fios aig na h-uile, bu làn ceann aotrom Ghilleasbuig dhiubh so. Rinn Gilleasbuig gàire ris féin is e toirt snàthaid bhig á chòta a stob e le mór innleachd am bàrr a bhata.

Feadh 's a bha iad le chéile ag coiseachd troimh an fhraoch. shìn Gilleasbuig am bata fad a làimhe, a' stobadh na snàthaid an calpa an t-sealgair. Leig an duine bochd sgairt àrd as a thug fuaim air mac-talla nan enoc.

Gu dé tha ort? " arsa Gilleasbuig, is e a' leigeil air gu robh e fo uamhas agus ann am mór thruas ris an fhear a bha dannsa

leis a' chràdh.

"Chan urrainn mi innse," arsa am fear eile. "Dh'fhairich mi rud-eigin a' stobadh mo chalpa mar gum b'e seillean a

dheanadh a lot." "Chan 'eil sin ag cur ionghnaidh orm," arsa Gilleasbuig : "tha am fraoch ann an so beò le nathraichean."

" Nathraichean!" arsa an duin'-uasal, is e ag atharrachadh nan dath.

"Seadh," arsa Gilleasbuig, "tha am monadh so làn

dhinhh "Gu dé a ni mi?" arsa am fear eile, "Tha mi air mo

phuinnseanachadh gu bàs, fada air falbh bho chobhair agus bho dhaoine!" "Innsidh mise sin dhuit," arsa Gilleasbuig, "agus ma

ghabhas tu mo chomhairle, cha bhi cnead ort am beagan mhionaidean." "Is mise ni sin gu toilichte," fhreagair an duin'-uasal:

"abair e gu grad." "Na thachair gu bheil caob tombaca agaibh an so?"

"Tha," arsa an duine uasal. "Fosgail am poca agus

gheibh thu faisg air leth-phunnd ann.' Thug Gilleasbuig a mach an tombaca a bha 'na ròpa fada

air a phasgadh an cuaich chruinn chothrom. "Suain an ròpa tombaca gu dlùth, cothrom mu do chalpa anns a' mhionaid, agus fàg air e air son deich mionaidean, agus

théid mi féin an urras nach bi aon ni ceàrr air do chois. Gu toilichte ghabh an duin'-uasal comhairle Ghilleasbuig. Shuain e an tombaca gun chaomhnadh mu'n cuairt air a

chalpa.

Coisich a nis gu bras air adhart," arsa Gilleasbuig.

Mar a thubhairt, b'fhìor. An taobh a stigh de dheich mionaidean cha robh ni air a' chois. 'Ciamar a tha thu a nis?'' arsa Gilleasbuig.

"Nach mi tha taingeil," arsa an duin'-uasal, "tha gu math."

"Thug an tombaca am puinnsean as do chalpa," arsa Gilleasbuig. "Faodaidh tu a nis a thilgeil dhith."

Rinn an duin'-uasal sin. Thilg e an ròpa tombaca bhuaithe air an raon, agus cho luath 's a thionndaidh e a chùl-thaobh

thog Gilleashuig leis an tombaca agus chuir e 'na phòca e. Fhuair Gilleasbuig, air sgàth a chuid chleas, suas ri lethphunnd tombaca, agus cha robh e as aonais ceò fad iomadh latha 'na dhéidh.

Chaidh an duin'-uasal dhachaidh, co-dhiubh, a cheart cho toillichte ri Gilleasbuig, do bhrìgh 's gun deachaidh a leigheas an uair bu dlùithe e do'n bhàs, is e ag cantainn ri càch nach b'urrainn nach e làn amadan glic a bha ann an Gilleasbuig Actrom. Ach cha robh fios aige uile air.

TORMOD DOMHNALLACH.

## GAELIC IN GALLOWAY.

It is a popular delusion that there are two races in Scotland -Celts and Saxons; the Celts inhabiting a gradually receding region north of the River Forth, and the Saxons the remainder of the country. As a result, Scotland has been kept a divided nation for centuries, and it is sad to think that so great a patriot as Sir Walter Scott has lent the force of his genius to perpetuate this noxious myth. Gaelic has been dubbed "Irish" and "barbaric," while English is considered the speech of educated people.

The origin of this attitude of mind is not far to seek.

### THE GARLIC EBB-TIDE BEGINS.

Previous to the arrival of Margaret of England, with a horde of Saxon refugees, shortly after 1066, Gaelic was the language of court and cot throughout Scotland, or Alba (to give our land its ancient name). Margaret was pious and bigoted, and her doting husband, Malcolm Ceann-mor, became the ready instrument in her hand to destroy the Celtic Church and substitute the Anglian Church and speech.

The Gaelic language began slowly to disappear from the Lothians and the coastal area of Fife. Further hordes of carpet-baggers, chiefly Normans, were invited into Scotland by Margaret's son, David I. To these he gave large grants of land, and the Anglian Church, following in their wake, ousted

the native clergy and with them the language.

Galloway bitterly resented the anglicising policy of the Scottish court, for, as MacKerlie states in his History of Galloway, "The Celtic owners were fiercely opposed to charters, or 'sheepskin-holding' as they termed it." The men who flocked to the standard of Wallace were many of them deprived of their ancestral lands by these aliens. The king's writ did not travel very far in the south, however, for (again quoting MacKerlie) "The Galloway men adhered to their own Celtic laws as far as their local transactions were concerned, and had proper judges appointed for that purpose, This continued to the reign of James VI.'

## OLD GALLOWAY.

In olden times Galloway extended from Carlisle to Central Avrshire, thus embracing the counties of Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Wigtown, and South Ayrshire or Carrick. To-day its area has become restricted to the land lying between the Nith and Loch Ryan. The people of Galloway call themselves Albannaich or Picts. Remains of other races are the Fingals. Creenies and Gossocks.

That the original language of Galloway was Gaelic the placenames will testify. Names such as Knocktaggart, Ardcrochair, Craigbroc, Drummore, Barnagee, Darroch, and Laggan are readily intelligible to a northern Gaelic speaker. No other part of Scotland can show such variety and richness in its nomenclature, and it has been asserted that ninety per cent. of the place-names are Celtic.

Although one or two coastal names are imputed to Norse, there is no trace of Norse occupation, a pleasing contrast to the Western Isles where half the place-names are Teutonic, bearing evidence of the permanence of the Viking conquest,

These Gallovidian Picts, aggressively independent and pagan, in spite of a veneer of Christianity, long continued a thorn in the side of both Scots and English.

## PICTISH INFLUENCES.

At some unknown period B.C. there would appear to have been an invasion from the East of Scotland, where the Pictish

tongue prevailed, and these invaders became a ruling caste in Galloway. It is probable that they gave the name to the country, for, though many etymologies have been suggested for the name "Galloway," it is more likely to derive from Gal (a plain), Gwydd (wooded), plus the termination Ia (meaning country "), thus approximately closely to the name given in The Instrument of John Baliol (1296), where it is spelt "Galwedia,

The Highland area apart, the country is divided into The Rhinns, that is, the peninsula of which Stron na Gabhair (the Mull of Galloway) is the termination, and The Machairs, a great plateau occupying about half the acreage of Galloway, This territory is well-wooded and was much more so long ago,

An invasion similar to that above-mentioned took place from the same quarter about 440 A.D., when Cunedda led an army into North Wales and founded the kingdom of Gwynedd

after subduing the Gaels there.

Although the Pictish tongue has vanished from Galloway. as did the Gaelic lately, it has left its trace on the speech of Kirkeudbrightshire, which betrays a strong East Coast accent, while Wigtown is Gaelic with an Irish blas. Ninian of Rosnat (Whithorn) must have spoken Pictish, for he and his missionaries spent most of their effort in North-east Scotland, where the language was Pictish.

Again, Galloway was the last stronghold of Druidism, which collapsed on the defeat of Gwenddoleu, king of Galloway, in 573. Merlin, his counsellor, archdruid, poet and figure of romance, describes the battle in poems which are written in a tongue which is ancient Welsh or perhaps Pictish.

## GAELIC IN GALLOWAY.

The continuous influx or, better, reflux of Gaelic speakers from Antrim, combined with the Gaelicisation of Scotland which began with Kenneth MacAlpin in 842 A.D., caused the disappearance of the Pictish language in Galloway. Like Norman French, it had been the speech of an aristocratic caste and had shared the same fate. All Galloway and part of Northumberland can be included in the Gaelic area. While Eastern Scotland was becoming anglicised, largely through church influence, Galloway clung tenaciously to the Gaelic. In the celebrated "Flyting" of Kennedy and Dunbar, circa 1500 A.D., Dunbar speaks of the "Carrick lips" of his opponent, and that this refers to the Gaelic is evident from the reply of

Kennedy, who says: Thow lufts nane Irische, elf, I understand Bot it suld be all trew Scottis mennis lede It was the gud langage of this land And Scota it causit to multiply and sprede.

The Avrshireman's reply might well be taken to heart by the Scottish Highlanders who would keep the Gaelic, like the

deer, as a northern preserve.

In the military report of Carrick, Kyle and Cunningham, written between 1563 and 1566, we read, "Carrick balzerie for the most part speaketh Irish"; and Buchanan, in his History of Scotland (1582), writes, "A great part of the country (Galloway) still uses its ancient language."

## GAELIC LINGERS ON.

That the Gaelic continued to be spoken till recent times may

be inferred from the following testimonies. An old man named Hugh Gregg of Meikle Shalloch told the Rev. Dr. Landsborough about 1850 that, when his grandmother first came to the parish of The Barr, she could get no good by

going to church as the whole service was conducted in Gaelic. Dr. de Bruce Trotter stated, about 1871, that, when he was a boy, a few old women in the Glenkens could speak a few words of Gaelic, and that in his father's time there were plenty of old folk among the hills who used it for talking among themselves. And further he observes :

"About 1762 the parish of The Barr in Carrick advertised for a schoolmaster, and it was particularly mentioned that he must be able to speak Gaelic. The man selected was a Scotch Highlander from The Lennox.

"When the Rebels were passing through Galloway and Carrick in 1715 and 1745, the Highlanders were able to converse freely with the natives, but neither the Highlanders nor the natives could make out the Irish auxiliaries."

The Carrick Herald stated some years ago, in answer to an enquiry, that Gaelic was spoken by the fishermen in Ballautrae about 1820. There are, however, later instances, for Dr. Landsborough had a native speaker in his kirk at Kilmarnock about 1870.

## GALLOWAY GARLIC.

A short vocabulary of Gaelic words in current Galloway speech may prove interesting.

Deoch, a drink. Rosan, a shrub. O, grandson or granddaughter. Iar O, great-grandson or great granddaughter.

Turais, to stop. Truisleach, litter. Siall, to look sideways at. Geall tamhail, a horse-leech.

Cladach, pebbly shore. Smuisd, reek. Clochair, eject mucus. Sgadan, a herring. Doilach, stupid. Gionach, gluttonous.

Amadan, a fool. Oinseach, a foolish woman, Cailin, a girl. Olach, intelligent. Geamhlog, crowbar.

Faiseach, easy-going. Smudach, a bad-burning fire. Uampas, to turn. Gruisidh, fat, flabby. Griosach, live coals,

Slomaidh, false appearance of an ox. Uampal, thrash. Uasag, a cap. Siab, to smuggle. Ancrum, supper. Drum, river bank exposed by flood. Burach, cow-fetter. Fag. to leave.

Such names as Beinn Iolaire, Meall Fuar, Craig Tarsuinn, Loch an Bharr might well occur in the Northern Highlands. So thoroughly has the work of eradicating Gaelic in Galloway been done in the last four centuries that not a written scrap of the language remains.

## DUGHALL UILLEAM AGUS AN DROBHAIR.

Ri linn mo sheanar bha duine a' fuireach ann an Sròn an t-Sìthein ris an abradh iad Dùghall Uilleam. Bha Dùghall gu math amaiseach san teanga.

Bliadhna bha so thog e air leis an t-seann mhart gu faidhir an t-Sàilein. Bu bhrònach a dh'fhalbh e leis a' mhart odhar bhochd, agus gu dearbh ma bha esan mar sin, is i Màiri, a phiuthar, a bu mhiosa, ach cha robh atharrachadh air. Cha tig an aois leatha féin air duine no ainmhidh

Ràinig e an Sàilean, agus sheas e gu h-ìosal fo'n chrois. Bha dròbhair a' dol sìos is dròbhair a' dol suas, ach an diacais aon a thàinig rathad Dhùghaill 's a mhairt odhair, dheireadh thall thàinig fear de ghillean Druim-a-Saille 's thubhairt e, "An do reic sibh am mart, a dhuine?"
"Cha do reic," fhreagair Dùghall.

"A bhéist! tha i cho sean," arsa an dròbhair.
"Uill, tha fhios nach 'eil i cho òg," thuirt Dùghall, "ach chan 'eil i cho sean.''

"Nighean na mollachd, seall a' bhrù a th'oirre," thuirt an dròbhair; "ach, co dhiu, an ith i biadh?

Bha so ag ciallachadh gu robh an dròbhair de'n bheachd gu robh a fiaclan deas air son cagnadh.
"An ith i biadh!" arsa Dùghall; "ithidh, bho'n léine

gheal chamraig gus a' bhrog gholois."

Saoilidh mi fhéin ma bha an fhìrinn aig Dùghall nach robh fàillinn an deudach a' mhairt odhair.

TAOBH-TUATH EARRAGHAIDHEAL.

Caib air no dheth, cùm do chas air an sgonnan-Iron on or off, keep your foot on the peg. The caib was the iron-point of the cas-chrom (crooked spade). The sgonnan was the wooden peg on which the foot was pressed. The meaning is: "Keep working, even with a defective implement." (Nicolson's Gaelic Proverbs.)

## IMPRESSIONS OF A VISIT TO EIRE AND CYMRU.

By J. H. MILLLER.

## EIRE.

The Irish, like ourselves but unlike the Welsh, have suffered greatly from their schismatic tendencies, so much so that it would appear to be an inherent characteristic of the Goidelic peoples. Consequenly, the most significant language development in Eire has been the formation of a Federation of the Gaelic organisations, under the title of Combaháli Naisiwata na Gaelbilye.

This development is intended to secure unity of purpose and effort among all who support the restoration of the language, whether as organisations or as individuals.

The necessity of such unifying activity may cause some surprise in Scotland, in view of the official standing of Gaelic, but, notwithstanding State aupport, compulsory teaching in schools, and all other official agencies, there still exists considerable indifference on the part of many people, mostly in urban centres like Dublin.

This indifference seems mainly due to a "canna be bothered" attitude, similar to that met with in Scotland on a larger scale, rather than to hostility. Hence the necessity for continued work on the part of the language movement, which is still critical of the policy and methods of the State in respect of the language.

### ENCOURAGING LEARNERS.

Concurrently with this consolidat on has been the institution of An Nase, which can best be described as a half-way house to An Fáime, the all-Gaelic circle. Wearers of An Nasc are friends of the Gaelic, willing to speak it to the best of their ability and to help others use it in their private and public lives.

The value of this development is at once apparent, for it gathers in the person with a limited or partial knowledge of Gaelic and those who are in the process of learning it, thus bridging the mortifying gap which exists between the native speaker and the learner. This considerable helps the morale of the learner, for the encouragement and practice thus afforded will dispel the ever present fear of mistakes and mockery which inhibits the average learner. An Nasc takes the shape of a penamular brooch, thus forming an incomplete circle, and is surmounted diagonally by a short Celtic sword. Several have been noticed in Glassow recently.

diagonally of a short Celus word. Several has been noticed in Glasgow recently.

On numerous consistency, was spoken to by wearers of the numerous consistency of the state of the short of the state of the short of the state of the short of

tion and interest.

The welcome given, and the interest shown, by Eibhlin Ni Chathailriabhaigh, Secretary of Comhdúil Náisiúnta na Gaedhilge, Mr. MacLellan of An Gúm, and maothers, in An Comunn and the Gaelic cause in Scotland, was summed up in the general expression of hope that closer liaison would be established between the two

branches of Gaelic endeavour.

The publication of a Gaelic Year Book is another development of note, containing as it does details of all the organisations and a variety of other useful data.

## PUBLICATIONS—CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

The most interesting and perhaps valuable of the papers and periodicals published by the various agencies are the children's coloured Comics, Tir nan. Og and An Gaedheal Of, published by the Christian Brothers. Secular in character, they meet a popular demand in Gaelic which would otherwise be met by English Comics.

The format of popular Gaelic periodicals is attractive, and compares favourably with English magazines of a similar type. The bulk of Gaelic publishing is done by An Góm, of which mention was made in the last issue of An Gàidheal. But it may be of interest to add that 110

books for secondary schools have been published, in addition to the 800 works of general literature, of which over 650,000 copies have been sold.

It was a wonderful experience to open a Gaelic Algebra, an edition of Cicero (with all the introductory and explanatory matter in Gaelic), or Gaelic Hoography; but perhaps the greatest pleasure was derived from a beautiful translation of Barrie's Peter Pan, with illustrations in colour and line by Mabel Lucy Alwell, who is perhaps the finest children's artist in these Islands.

In the sphere of children's books An Gúm excels itself, for, in addition to classics like Grimm, Hans Andersen, and Standish O'Grady, there is a range of illustrated animal stories of pleasing appearance for infants, story-books for older children, and even "blood and thunders" for boys, including an Irish equivalent of the pre-war fourpenny "Dison Hawke."

fourpenny "Dixon Hawke."

A considerable increase in the numbers of readers of Gaelic has been noted, particularly among secondary school pupils, where it has been never marked. This would suggest that, where popular reading is provided in Gaelic, it competes successfully with English contemporation. Thus, where, instead of the usual kind of reading matter produced by adult minds as being good for children, Gaelic equivalents of Beano and The Wizard, etc., are the type of reading which children seem to want in any lanewage.

## BRINGING THE LANGUAGE UP-TO-DATE.

Work on the organic growth and development of Gaelic to meet the requirements of modern urban society as continued, and the publication of a series of Glossaries of modern terms is the biggest contribution yet made towards the establishment of Gaelic as the general medium of intercourse in contemporary society.

The Glossaries, eight in number, cover technical terms used in History, Grammar, Geography, Literature, Science, Commerce, Music, Law, Medicine, etc., and are filling the gap pending the publication of the new Irish Dictionary, on which work is still in progress.

This comprehensive work will supersede the well-known Dictionary compiled by Father Dinneen, and will be to Irish Gaelic what the Oxford Dictionary is to the English.

While it is true to say that translations from English have not been so successful as the original works in Gaelic, this only applies to books which appeared in English and not to works written in English for translation into, and publication in, Gaelic only.

Thus a book written by a popular English novelist for the purpose of publication in Gaelic only would enjoy the same success as an original Gaelic work.

The limitations of the standard Celtic type face have to some extent been improved upon by a new design of pleasing appearance developed by Colum O'Lochlainn at the Sign of the Three Candles in Dublin, whose establishment I had the pleasure of visiting, and where I also used as we have not been considered to the constitution of the column of the colu

In the Arts, the growth of the Gaelic Theatre in Galway is a striking example of progress, for here exists a fully developed theatre with a resident company right in the heart of the West.

(To be continued).

Chaidh dithis dhaoine, Calum agus Isin, thar a' chaoil do'n bhitth. Mu'n d'fhuair iad tilleadh dhachaidh, dh' thas a ghaoth mòr agus dh'éirich a' mhuir. Bha an fheadhaimt ia an tigh ann an iomagain ciamar a gheibheadh na fir dhachaidh sàbhailte.

Bha na mnathan aca ri faire, gus am fac iad gun d'fhuair iad air tìr an àit-eigin de'n chladach. An sin thuirt té de na mnathan, "Tha aobhar taingealachd againn do'n Tì a stiùir sàbhailte gu tìr iad."

"Seath," ars a' bhean eile, "'s e Iain, an duine agamsa, a bh' air an stiùir!"

Bands.

## NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA.

## Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria.

There has come to hand a press cutting from the Moburne Nun of 29th July, 1946, reporting a "Clan Night for Bonnie Prince Charlie," when the Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria entertained more than two hundred members of the Clan Donald to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Flora MacDonald's farewell to Prince

Charlie in the Isle of Skye.

As far as possible every item on the programme contained references to Clan Donald. The programme contained references to Gain Donaid. The programming included Gaelic verse, Jacobite pipe-tunes, and country dances. The last item was Psalm xlii, announced in Gaelic by the Rev. J. Noble MacKenzie of Gairloch and sung by the choir in traditional manner, with Mr. Duncan MacDonald of Gairloch chanting each line before the MacDonald of called called grant me before the choir, as did and to the precentors in the homeland. A one-act play, "Flora MacDonald," originally written in Gaelic by Mr. I. M. Moffatt-Pender, and awarded the first prize at the Edinburgh Mod in 1832, was presented in French, Prince Charlie's natural tongue, by the author and Madame Yvonne Le Gal-Taylor.

Highlight of the evening was the singing by the only Gaelic choir in the Southern Hemisphere of such Gaelic songs as the Lament of the Women of Glencoe, sung

unaccompanied.

The Chief of the Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria is Mr. Iain M. Moffatt-Pender, well-known in Scotland and regarded as one of the keenest and ablest supporters of the Gaelic Cause. In welcoming the Clan Donald and other Highlanders and guests, Mr. Moffatt-Pender delivered an eloquent and rousing oration, in the course of which he said that he had just heard the news that the University of Edinburgh was to confer the degree of D.D. on the of Edinburgh was to conter the degree of D.D. of the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, President of An Comunn and Editor of An Gàidheal. Mr. Moffatt-Pender paid a fine tribute to his old friend, Mr. MacLeod, calling him "the Caraid nan Gàidheal of the twentieth century,"

In a private letter received more recently, Mr. Moffatt-Pender has written of the deep sorrow with which he learned from the July issue of An Gàidheal of Mr. MacLeod's death, and paid a remarkable tribute to his

work and worth.

We send our greetings to our fellow-Gaels under the Southern Cross. Long may they keep the flag flying.

## AN T-IASGACH.

Gus an dean an Rìoghachd a dleasnas le bhith cur dìon air na cladaichean, dé am maith a bhith cainnt air iasgach?

Ma bheir Gàidheal bradan á abhainn, tha e an cunnart a' phrìosain. Ach togaidh na Goill na muillionan éisg air oirthir nan Gàidheal, agus cha mhór a tha an lagh no am maor ag cur de ghrabadh orra.

BODACHAN. Cà bheil an ceartas ?

## CENTRAL (WAR COMFORTS) COMMITTEE.

## Pipe Band Contest and Highland Dancing.

Under the auspices of the Central (War Comforts) Committee, a Pipe Band Contest and Highland Dancing Competitions were held on Saturday, 24th August, at Westerlands, the ground of Glasgow University Athletic Club, the use of which was very kindly granted for the

The attendance was somewhat affected by the miserable weather conditions which prevailed all forenoon, but this cleared up after mid-day and the sun shone with dazzling effect on the tartans and silver accessories of the various bands and dancers.

There were 24 entries for the three Band Competitions, which included an Open Contest and the 2nd and 3rd

Grade Championships of Scotland. The 2nd Grade Championship was won by the Glasgow Shepherds Pipe Band under Pipe Major Archd. MacPhedran, and in the 3rd Grade Championship Rutherglen Pipe Band, under Pipe Major J. Baxter, emerged triumphant.

The winners of the Open Contest proved to be Clan
MacRae Society Pipe Band under Pipe Major J. Nicoll.
The March Past of the Massed Bands was indeed an

inspiring spectacle, and one could sense the thrill of pride which ran through the spectators because this was symbolic of Scotland as a whole. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.

There was keen competition among the dancers, and Miss Bruce, the adjudicator, had a difficult task which was creditably performed. The appearance of George E. Mitchell added variety to the proceedings, and his prowess with the Hammer and Ball was greatly admired. Mrs. J. M. Bannerman presented the trophies to the successful

This was a most enjoyable way of spending an after-noon, and I am sure all who were present will wish to be there next year. The Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund will benefit from this excellent show.

> HIGHLAND BALL. GRAND

A Grand Highland Ball, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness The Princess Elizabeth, will be held in the St. Andrews Halls, Glasgow, on Thursday, 24th October. The Lady Jean Graham is Convener of the Ball Committee, and the proceeds are in aid of An Comunn War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund. Tickets, price £2 2s each, may be had on application to An Comunn Office.

## AMHRAN.

Tha fasgadh 'nam eilean Bho'n ghaoith a tuath ged 's fuar i, Ach chan 'eil faochadh bho'n inntinn, A h-iadach 's a buaireadh, Tha faiche na tuigse fosgailt Do iomagain 's do chruadal; Ach dh'iarrainn blàths na gréin' oirr' Le fallaineachd 's le stuamachd; 'S chan iarrainn ràn na gaillinn oirr' No sgòthan dorch' a ghruaimeachd.

EOIN.

## PROPAGANDA NOTES. Northern Area.

After clearing up matters in connection with Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp, a Gaelic report of which appears in this issue, the Organiser was on holiday for a period of

On Tuesday, 3rd September, Mr. MacPhail presided at a Gaelic concert held in aid of the Kilmallie Gaelic Choir Mod Fund in the Town Hall, Fort William. There was a large attendance, and an excellent programme was

sustained by talented artistes.

At the close of the concert the Chairman was approached by two young lodies from Switzenland who expressed keep appreciation. They were both charmed by the Gaelic songs, especially the rendering of Puirta-beul by Angus Whyte, Alasdiar Matheson and Petrins Stewart. They said they had never heard anything like it and concluded, "What a grand beginning to a holiday in Scotland."

Meetings of the Northern Sub-Committees will be held immediately after the National Mod so that no time may be lost in getting the work of the new session under way. Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis hope to open the

new session in October, but at the time of writing it has not been found possible to secure suitable premises.

## SGEUL BHEAG.

Bha dithis bhodach agus iad air an saor thoil fhéin fad aon fheasgair. Ghabh fear dhiubh rud beag far a chomais, agus, gu tubaisteach, chaill e lùths nan cas. Chan fhaca am fear eile na b'fheàrr na chur air bara-mòna, agus sud air falbh dhachaidh

leis agus am fear a bha air a' bhara 'na shuain chadail. Aig leitheach rathaid bha e sgìth is leig e sìos am bara le sgleog.

Dhùisg am fear a bha air a' bhara agus, gun a shùilean fhosgladh, thubhairt e, "A bheil thu sin, a charaid ?"

Tha." ars am fear eile. "Ma tà, leum a stigh, is bidh sinn dhachaidh còmhla!"

DOMHNALL.

## EADAR SINN FHEIN. Coinneach Odhar Fiosaiche.

Urramaich Uasail,-Tha mi toilichte fhaicinn anns an iomradh a rinn sibh ann an Gàidheal na mìosa so chaidh air Coinneach Odhar gun do thog sibh a' cheist co-dhiu is ann do'n t-seachdamh no do'n t-siathamh linn deug a bhuineadh e.

Gus bho chionn ghoirid cha robh móran amharuis air a' chùis. B'e am beachd coitchionn gur ann eadar 1600 agus 1700 a rugadh am Fiosaiche 's a fhuair e bàs, ach tha dearbhadh againn a nis an dubh 's an geal gu robh fear, "Coinneach Odhar," beò an taobh an ear siorramachd Rois anns a' bhliadhna, 1577.

So an teisteanas mar tha e air a chur sios ann an Calendar of Writs of Munro of Fowlis :-

"1557/8, January 23. Commission under Quarter Seal appointing Lauchlan Mackintosche of Dunachtane, Colin Mackenzie of Kintail, Robert Munro of Fowlis, Walter Urguhart, Sheriff of Cromartie, &c. . . . to apprehend. imprison and try Kenneth alias Kennoch Owir, principal or leader of the art of magic . . . . and all other men and women using and exercising the diabolical, iniquitous and odious crimes of the art of magic, sorcery, and incantations.
. . . At Halierudehous." (Seal appended.)

Bhuineadh na reachdan-lagha anns a bheil an sgeula so air Coinneach air a sgrìobhadh do theaghlach Ceann-cinnidh nan Rothach am Fòlais, ach chaidh na paipearan air seachran 's chan fhaighte lorg orra thall no bhos. 'Chan 'eil fhios dé cho fada 's a bha iad air chall, ach mu dheireadh-mu thimchioll ochd no naoi bliadhna air ais-thog iad ceann am measg lìon nan damhan-allaidh ann an seòmar-cùil buidheann luchdlagha air Sràid St. Vincent an Glaschu.

Chaidh an tional 's an cur an clò leis an Scottish Record Society an 1938. Ciamar no cuin a thàinig còirichean-cuimhne nan Rothach gu ruig Glaschu cha d'fhuaireadh a mach fhat.hast. SULA SCRIR.

## Sgoil Eolais na h-Alba-A Question of Grammar,

Dear Sir,-The title of the "School of Scottish Studies" has been causing a grammatical headache. I refer to its middle genitive Eolais-barely correct by Biblical standards, but very misleading to at least one intelligent native speaker I have consulted, and also generally recognised as erroneous by the grammars: cf. Stewart, pp. 154-8, and notes (1) and (m) on pp. 155, 156; Nicolson, page 31, note (2), and on p. 33 an attempt at standardisation—he says ". . . . . Guth fold do bhrathar, which we would now express Guth fuil do bhrathar"; MacLaren, p.74, § 292; MacAlpine, Grammar Part III., where taigh fear na bainnse is preferred to taigh fhir na bainnse, etc. Calder passes over the matter altogether; but current speech supports the grammarians by using the nominative

The difficulty is this: if we take it as it stands, Sqoil Eolais na h-Alba tends to equal Sgoil-colais na h-Alba, that is, "Scottish School of Studies "-with the studies being anything from Arabic to Chinese fireworks for all we are to know! Substitute for a moment an aspirable word, foghlum, for colas. Your native speaker will now say Sgoil-fhoghluim na h-Alba, if he wishes to convey "Scottish school of Studies." but Saoil Foghlum (nominative case) na Alba for "School of Scottish

Studies.'

To champion Sgoil Eolais na h-Alba even on Biblical grounds is therefore in flat defiance of (i) general interpretation and (ii) grammatical usage, worse than blaming the Authorised Version for using "dost" and hast" in current English speech or literature. As Stewart says—Grammar, revised (4th) edition 1879, p. 156, note (m), "I am aware that the distinction has been little regarded by the translators of the Scriptures. It appeared, however, worthy of being suggested on account of its evident utility in point of precision and" (note) "because it is supported by the genius and practice" (note again) "of the Gaelic language." The translators of the Scriptures have been too long called venerable.

In other words, surely the most reasonable, because the least ambiguous and most grammatically recognised, form of the title of the School should be Sgoil Eolas (nominative case) na h-Alba?-Mise le meas, "FENIUS FARSAID."

The Secretary-General of Sgoil Eòlais na h-Alba replies :-"The Directors of the School do not wish to make any comment, except to say that the name of the School is Sgoil Eòlais na h-Alba, not Saoil Eòlas na h-Alba,

"The objective of the School is to place study and research Scotland against its proper Scots-Gaelic background. Accordingly our Syllabus is not limited to the teaching of the Gaelic language. We are extending it to include new subjects as quickly as teachers and staff become available.
"In this scheme of things a Course in Arabic will sooner

or later take its place. As for fireworks, perhaps our name will provide the Course!"

## Ath-choilleadh agus na Gaidheil.

A Charaid,-Bha mi ag éisdeachd an t-seachdain so chaidh ri òraid mu na coilltean ùra tha gu bhith againn mu thuath an Albainn. Thàinig e steach orm gu làidir gur gealltanach an rud e air son cosnadh buan do na Gàidheil, ach na daoine bhith air an seòladh chuige agus an cosnadh air fhàgail aca,

Ach tha car beag no dhà eile an adharc an daimh! Bu chòir do na daoine a bhith air an ceart aire nach dean cosnadh an tàladh buan o an cuid fearainn; agus bu chòir daibh greim daingean a chumail air an cùl-cinn, no am féurach, a bhuineas do am bailtean anns gach sliabh is monadh.

Rud eile, is e so an t-àm do dhaoine a tha an tòir air fearann is àite cur air a shon; agus air feadh na Gàidhealtachd tha fàsalachd is farsainneachd a' feitheamh air luchd-àitich.

Mur dean a h-uile seòrsa againn, an dràsda, ar dìchioll, lionar an taobh tuath le Goill agus coigrich de gach seòrsa, agus air son Gàidhlig is Ghàidheal cha bhi ann, an ùine ro gheàrr, air thàilibh sin ach "a bhó mhaol, tha mi ullamh

Carson nach deanadh gach seòrsa againn tighinn cruinn, a nis, gu comhairle is gnìomh, eadar Comunn is Cuideachd is Eaglais? -Buaidh is beannachd,

## Learning Gaelic: Some Suggestions.

Dear Sir,-After reading the article, "Cor na Gaidhlig an Diugh," in the September magazine, perhaps a few remarks by a non-native Gaelic student in a non-Gaelic-speaking area may not come amiss. You will gather from this that I am acquiring the language, and my only contact with the spoken word is through the Radio. Although I heard it spoken, and we were taught to sing it during my schooldays, I did not learn it then, and it is only some two years since I settled down to give it serious study.

From personal conversations, it is my opinion that a much greater interest is taken in Gaelic than is generally realised, and the Gaelic programmes on the Radio are greatly appreciated. Then comes the query, "How can one learn Gaelic ?", and one of the biggest deterrants is an exaggerated conception of its difficulties; also, in a district such as this, the lack of native speakers willing to teach it is a further obstacle.

In my opinion, then, we have in the Radio a most valuable medium for spreading the knowledge of Gaelic, if the B.B.C. could be persuaded to put over a series of lessons, similar to the "Listen and Learn" series of Radio Eireann, with readings from some simple book such as they had from M'Asal Beag Dubh. It is a valuable help to a learner to get the proper pronunciation while reading.

Personally, I feel-and that strongly-that one Scottish regional station is not enough for a hi-lingual nation like ours. There ought to be a Highland (and Island) Regional. Then we might get some progress in spreading the Gaelic language, and it would also or should be to the advantage of those whose lives are spent on crofts or in other vocations in the Highland way of life.

Another point that strikes me is that every Gaelic society should have a learners' class. Many do have, of course, but how many don't ? There's not much use in a non-Gaelicspeaker joining a society and attending its functions, and then coming home and wondering what it's all about! That soon kills enthusiasm, and enthusiasm is contagious; an enthusiastic member will soon bring along others.

Also, I find that many native Gaelic speakers are very diffident in talking when they get drawn into conversation about their language. Here we get a lot of lads from Skye and the Outer Isles for the fishing season, but I find it difficult to draw them into friendly conversation, and in this much is lost that would have been to our mutual advantage.

These, then, are some observations from one who is getting much pleasure and satisfaction from the study of what ought to be our national language.-Is mise, Gu dileas,

JOHN BYARS.

Newburgh, Fife.

## "ALBA"

## A Scottish Miscellany in Gaelic and English.

This Miscellany, as announced in our August number, is in course of preparation, but it is regretted that, owing to unavoidable circumstances, it was not ready for publication at the Mod, as had at first been hoped.

should, however, make its appearance very soon. From the orders already received it appears it will be much in demand, and those who have not vet done so are

advised to order a copy without delay.

The price is 2s. 6d. per copy, and orders should be sent to An Comunn office.

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Leabhar XLII.

An t-Samhuin. 1946.

[Earrann 2

## ORAID A' CHINN-SUIDHE.

ARD CHAIRM NAN GAIDHEAL AN DILIGH.

[So sìos an òraid Ghàidhlig a liubhair Mgr. Dòmhnall Dòmhnallach, Inbhir-nis, Ceann-suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich, aig fosgladh a' Mhòid Nàiseanta an Ober-dheadhain air an 25mh de'n t-Sultuin, 19461

Bu chaomh leam fàilt agus furan fìor Ghàidhealach a chur air gach neach a thàinig an so chun a' cheud Mhòid a tha aig a' Chomunn Ghàidhealach am baile mór Obar-dheadhain, agus is e mo dhùrachd gum bi an cruinneachadh so chum buannachd ar cànaine agus ar dùthcha.

## A' Ghàidhlig an Obar-dheadhain.

Faodaidh cuid a ràdh nach e baile Gàidhealach a tha an Obar-dheadhain, ach, ged a tha e fìor gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig air bàsachadh mar chànain làitheil anns a' bhaile so, bha am baile agus an t-siorramachd do am buin e a cheart cho Gàidhealach anns an t-seann aimsir ri ceàrnaidh eile de thaobh a tuath Albann, agus chithear sin gu soilleir an uair a nithear meòrachadh air brìgh ainmean nan àitean feadh na siorramachd gu léir. Tha iad gu ìre bhig de fhreumhan na Gàidhlige, ged a chuir na coigrich Ghallda camadh cho mór annta agus gu bheil e nis cho duilich an ciall a bhreithneachadh.

Agus nach ann am baile de'n t-seòrsa so a bu chòir do'n Mhòd a bhith air a chumail corra uair, gun fhios nach biodh e 'na mheadhon air miann a chur eadhon an duine no dhà air son eòlas fhaighinn air seann chànain na siorramachd.

## An t-Urr. Calum MacLeòid nach maireann. "Is iomadh ceann a chaidh an currac is mullach

a chaidh am falach," mar a thuirt an sean-fhacal, bho'n choinnich am Mòd mu dheireadh an Glaschu a' bhliadhna mu'n do bhris an Cogadh Mór a mach.

Thàinig briseadh goirt oirnn, mar Chomunn, ann am bàs ar Cinn-suidhe, an t-Urramach Calum MacLeòid. Bha sibh uile eòlach air fhéin agus air an t-saothair mhóir a rinn e air son leas na Gàidhlige. Rinneadh iomradh air a obair cheana aig coinnibh a' Chomuinn agus anns A' Ghàidheal, a dheasaich e cho eagnaidh, fòghlumaichte fad iomadh bliadhna; agus, mar sin, cha ruig mise leas leudachadh a dheanamh air a sgoilearachd, a dhìlseachd, a charthannas, agus a dhìon-shaothair ann a bhith ag cur àirde air gach iomairt a bha chum feuma ar cànaine agus ar dùthcha. Bidh a chuimhne cùbhraidh 'nar measg fhad 's is beò sinn,

## Cor ciogailteach an t-saoghail.

Taing do an Fhreasdal, tha an cogadh a nis seachad, agus nach e so Mòd na Buaidhe is na Sìthe ? Thàinig sgrìos agus milleadh a bha uile gu léir uamhasach air an t-saoghal ri linn a' chogaidh sin, agus dh'fhuiling sinne mar Ghàidheil ar cuid fhéin de'n chall a thàinig air na slòigh. Ach chan 'eil rìoghachdan an t-saoghail mhóir idir an sìth agus an ceangal caoin ri cach a chéile fhathast. Fhuair spiorad na brùidealachd agus an ana-ceannardais a leithid de bhuaidh-làraich gur ann nas maille a bhios latha an deagh-ghean agus a' chàirdeis ri dealradh air dùilean gach tìre.

Ach nach 'eil gach rìoghachd a bha an sàs an amhaichean a chéile a nis a' dealbhadh saoghail ùir, anns am bi Cothrom na Féinne aig gach neach ann a bhith cumadh a bheatha a réir a mhiann-saoghal anns am bi obair agus deagh dhuais aig gach neach agus anns am bi gach dùthaich air a riaghladh le a daoine fhéin, agus leas an dùthcha fhéin mar a' cheud bhunait anns gach iomairt.

## Ciod mu'n Ghàidhealtachd?

Agus ciod e an saoghal ùr a tha sinne mar Ghàidheil ag cur air bonn air son leas ar dùthcha agus ar cànaine? Nach iomadh comunn a chuireadh air bonn o'n thòisich an cogadh so air son cor ar Gàidhealtachd a leasachadh, ach chan aithne dhomhsa gun deachaidh iomairt sam bith, air an robh na

Is e càs ro dhuilich a tha ann, ach, mur téid sinne mar Ghàidheil gu uchd ar dìchill dìreach aig an àm so, cha bhi lorg air ar cànain anns a' Ghàidhealtachd an

ùine nas giorra na tha dùil againn.

Tha e, mar sin, mar fhiachaibh oirnn a bhith bogadh nan gad agus a bhith ag éirigh suas gu h-aonsgeulach ann a bhith tagradh air son gum bi beòshlaint chubhaidh air a sholar do ar Gàidheil anns na glinn agus anns na h-eileana, a chum 's nach bi aca ri dùthaich an àraich fhàgail air son teachd-an-tìr fhaighinn.

Čha robh na Gàidheil anns na làithean a chaidh sachad idir aon-sgeulach ann a bhith tagradh an còirichean, agus is e sin gu h-àraidh a dh' fhàg sinn cho deireil agus a tha sinn. Nach 'eil mìltean de Ghàidheil an Glaschu agus am bailtean mòra eile an taoibh deas—seadh, an Lunnainn mòr fhéin, agus, nan tagradh iad sin uile còmhla r in a Gàidheil aig an tigh, le aon rùn, ann a bhith ag iarraidh gum biodh cosnadh, tighean goireasach, rathaidean mòra, laimhrigean, agus bàtaichean-sruitde cunbhalach aig an eilean as iomallaiche, saoil sibh nach fhaigheadh iad éisdeachd? Tha mise deimhinn gu faigheadh. Is ann an aonachd a tha neart, agus tha crìonadh is bàs am fochar an eu-còrdaidh an còmhnaidh.

Tha an solus-dealain air a ghealltainn do gach tigh as iomallaiche anns a' Ghàithealtachd aig an am so, ach, ged a tha sin glé dheiseil, ma thig e, cha bhi an Gàidheal beò air solus a mhàin, mur bi cosnadh cunbhalach aige,—seadh, agus cosnadh a bhios càil-mhor dha fhéin agus do a theaghlach. Mar sin, ma tà, tuigeamaid nach tig re am feasda air cànain a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich gus am bi meadhonan air an cleachdadh air son tigh is teine is cosnadh a chumail rithta aig an t-seann dachaidh.

## Suidheachadh na Gàidhlige.

Agus ciod mu chor na Gàidhlige anns na siorramachdan Gàidhealach? Chan 'eil an cor sin ach glé bhochd, nas bochda gu mór, tha eagal orm, na tha cuid dhinn am beachd. Air tir-mór na Gàidhealtachd tha i gach latha a' dol á fasan. Aig féill no banais no coinneamh is i Beurla chruaidh Shasainn a bhise air blàr, agus sguir na seirbhisean Gàidhlig cha mhór buileach ach an Innse-Gall fhéin, agus nach 'eil fhios againn uile cho ciontach agus a tha na Gàidheil againn ann a bhith deanamh dearmaid air an cànain fhéin ionnsachadh do an cloinn? Chuireadh draoidh-eachd uamhasach oirnn mar Ghàidheil o'n thòisich sinn ri togail ar sliochd air Beurla. Bha sinn ri smaoineachadh nach fhaigheadh ar clann Cothrom na Féinne anns an t-saoghal mur biodh iad fileante am

Beurla Shasainn, agus riamh o theachd Achd an Fhòghluim anns a' bhliadhna 1872 chuir ar sgoilean a' chlach-mhullaich air an ole sin le bhith dearmad fòghlum Beurla a thoirt do'n chloinn troimh chladhan na Gàidhlige—an chainn air an robh iad eòlach.

An uair a chaidh an sgoilear, aig nach robh ach a' Ghàidhlig a mhàin, do an sgoil, agus a chuala e cànain air an robh e tur-aineolach o bhan-sgoilear Ghaldla agus a' chianin choigreach sin ri a chluais fhad 's a bha e anns an sgoil, bha e nàdurrach dha a bhith smaoineachadh nach robh feum air thalamh 'na chànain fhéin agus mar bu luaithe a dhi-chuimhnicheadh e i gur ann a b'urramaiche a bhiodh a chor an comh-fhiaitheadh an t-saophail mhòir.

Sin, a chàirdean, fìor bhunait na tàire a rinneadh air a chain anns na làithean a dh'fhalbh, agus, ged a tha luchd an fhòghluim a nis air fhaicim an t-iomrall uamhasach a rinn iad agus iad a' feuchainn ri a cheartachadh, tha am fòtas a dh'ainmich mi air smior-chailleach nan Gàidheal a ruigheachd, agus is mór m'eagal nach fhada gus an cuir e clochranaich a' bhàis an caraibh ar cànaine. Is e dealbh dhuaichnidh, dhuilich, dhòbhraidh a tha sin mu chor ar chanien, eah sie e dealbh fhrinneach a tha ann.

Ach an déidh sin is 'na dhéidh, chan 'eil sinn idir gun dòchas do a taobh. Tha i nis air a teagasg anns na sgoilean, ged nach 'eil sinn idir riaraichte le farsaingeachd an fhòghluim sin. Nach biodh e iomchuidh agus freagarrach gum biodh a' Ghàidhlig air a teagasg mar an dara cànain anns gach sgoil an Albainn? Nach biodh e na b'fheumaile do'n sgoilear chumanta na bhith strl ri bloighean de Fhraingeis no Greugais no Laidionn iomaschadh air son an dichuimhneachadh cho luath is a dh'fhàgas e an sgoil?

Bheireadh fòghlum na Gàidhlige dha meas agus mùirn air a dhùthaich, air a cleachdaidhean, agus air na daoine o'r tàinig e, agus rachadh e troimh an t-saoghal le fìos is cinnt gum b'Albannach e agus gu robh e an seilbh air a' bhann as diamhaire a tha ceangal dhaoine ri a chéile—is e sin an cànain.

## Stuth-Leughaidh Gàidhlig.

Tha sinn toilichte gu bheil An Comunn ri clò-bhualadh leabhraichean-sgoile ùra an Gàidhlig, agus tha fios gun dean a' chlann gàirdeachas nach beag ann a bhith 'gan leughadh ; seadh, agus tha sinn cinnteach gum bi na phrantan a cheart cho déidheil air a bhith dol trompa agus a' faighinn eòlais mar sin air iomadh cuspair Gàidhealach air nach robh fios aca roimhe.

Tha àireamh mhór de ar Gàidheil mùirneach air a bhith leughadh na Gàidhlig ean uair a bhios cothrom aca air sin a dheanamh, ach chan 'eil leabhraichean Gàidhlig ro phailt a leughas iad. Tha e mar fhiachaibh air a' Chomunn barrachd de leabhraichean Gàidhlig a chur an clò—sin aon de na prìomh chùisean air son a bheil iad ag iomairt. Agus nach 'eil Rosg is Bărdachd a choisinn duaisean aig a' Mhòd 'nan laighe fo na leòmainn an Oifis a' Chomuinn! Tha fiosrachadh cuimir, dealascach annta air iomadh cuspair, agus nach bochd iad a bhith 'nan laighe fo dhust nam bliadhnaichean.

## Comunn a' Chraobh -sgaoilidh.

Tha An Comunn fo chomain mhóir do Chomunn a' Chraobh-sgaoilidh, no am B.B.C., air son cho cuimir, deas-bhriathrach, fóghlumaichte agus a tha na cuspairean Gàidhlig a tha iad ag cur air an adhar cha mhór gach seachdain. Tha iad ag cur soluis air nithean an eachdraidh is am bàrdachd nan Gàidheal a bheir raon-smaoineachaidh dhuinn air nach ruigeamaid air dòigh eile. Tha na seirbhisean Gàidhlig cuideachd 'nan hrachadh spioraid dhaibh-sun aig nach 'eil comas air a bhith deanamh aoraidh 'nan cànain fhéin mar a chleachd iad òg.

Bidh sinn gu tric ag gearan air cho beag de Ghàidhlig agus a tha sinn a' faighinn o'm B.B.C., ach nach ann againn fhéin a tha a' choire? Nam bitheamaid cho beòthail ann a bhith labhairt agus ag ionnsachadh na chaniar do a r cloinn agus a tha na Cuimrich agus muinntir Eireann, gheibheamaid a cheart uibhir de ar chania air an adhar agus a tha iadsan a' faighinn. Na creid nach 'eil am B.B.C. a' tuigsinn gu ro-mhaith gur ann glé chaoin-shuarach a tha mòran againn mu ar cànain dhùthchasaich.

## Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Rinn Comunn na h-Oigridh adhartas nach bu bheag, eadhon ri linn a' chogaidh, ged bha e cho duilich an cumail ri a chéile do bhrigh nam mìl-ghoireasan a lean teanntachd cogaidh anns a' Ghàidhealtachd agus na h-eileana. Is e Oigridh Ghàidhealsch bunait àraidh ar dòchais a thaobh beòthachadh ar cànaine, agus a nis, an uair a tha leas na h-òigridh an urraidh ri Comunn an Fhòghluim anns gach siorramachd, feumaidh sinn spàirn a dheanamh air son gum bi ar cànain agus ar cleachdaidhean a' faighinn àite urramaich an iomairt gach saothrach a tha 'ga dheanamh air son leas na h-òigridh.

Bha mi fhéin cho toilichte gu robh mi comasach air tadhal car tacan air a' Champa a bha am bliadhna anns an Annait an Lochabar, agus chuir e gàirdeachas orm a bhith faicinn uibhir de chaileagan lurach, laghach, leadanach, cruinn á eileana Innse-Gall, agus aoibh nam ban-Ghàidheal air gach aon diubh. Ge b'e ciamar a théid cuibheall an fhortain mu'n cuairt daibh re am beatha, cha tig an latha a ni iad dl-chuimhe air Campa Comunn na h-Oigridh.

## Earailean.

Ann a bhith comh-dhunadh nam briathran so, bu chaomh leam na beachdan so fhàgail agaibh :

1. Cha bhi soirbheachadh am feasda aig a' Ghàidhlig gus am bi rian air a dheanamh air son na Gàidheil a chumail 'nan thr ffein, le gach cosnadh agus goireas a tha iad an dràsda ri sireadh fo speuraibh coimheach.

2. Bàsaíchidh a' Ghàidhlig nas luaithe na tha sinn an beachd, mur teagaisg na Gàidheil i do an cloinn. Ged bhiodh Mòd mòr ann gach latha deug anns a' bhliadhna, agus ged bhiodh bloigh teagaisg air a dhanamh oirre anns gach sgoil, cha toir sin a h-àite féin dhi, mur bi i air a teagasg aig glùn na màthar.

 Cha tig an t-adhartas a bu chòir air ar cànain am feasda gus an tuig sinne mar Ghàidheil gu bheil dùthaich agus teanga againn fhéin, agus gur i an teanga sin seann chànain na h-Albann, anns a bheil gach subhaile ghràsmhor a bha aig ar daoine air a suaineadh suas le bannan nan linntean. Tr gun teanga, tr gun anam—agus an uair a thrèigeas an Gàidheal a chànain, tréigidh e gach ceangal diamhair a tha comharrachadh a mach a shinnsre o chian nan cian.

4. Cluimidh sinn air gach taobh daoine baotha, aineolach, claon bhreithneach ag ràdh nach fhiach a' Ghàidhlig a bhith' ga cumail suas, a chionn nach eil feum innte air son marsantachd. Tha am beachd sin cho sgodach agus cho leibideach ri inntinn nan sgaomairean a bhios ri aithris sin mar na pioghaidean —gach aon à beul a chèile. Bha agus tha na Gàidheil ri deanamh marsantachd an Gàidhlig, ach taing do Dhia gum buin ar chaiain do chuspair móran nas àirde agus nas spioradaile na marsantachd agus chraadh suas airgid—is e sin anam agus spiorad a' Ghàidheil, agus is i a' Ghàidheil an aon chladhan troimh a bheil e comasach air tograidhean agus miannan ama a chur an eáill.

Mar sin, is i a' Ghàidhlig fìor chòir-bhreith a' Ghàidheil, agus cha cheannaich na tha de dh' òr no de mharsantachd air uachdar na cruinne sin.

Is e mo ghuidhe is mo dhùrachd gum bi gach sonas agus mùirn agaibh uile timchioil air a' Mhòd so, gum bi gach soirbheachadh aig gach co-fharpuiseach a tha feuchainn ri àirde a chur air litreachas is ceòl na Gàidhlige, agus gum bi móran a' dol dachaidh o'n Mhòd so le rùn suidhichte gum bruidhinn iad fhèin a' Ghàidhlig gach uair as urrainn daibh agus gun ionnsaich iad i do an slìochd.

## LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Thubhairt mi an litir a' mhlos a dh' fhalbh gu robh mi am beachd anns an té so sùil a thoirt air na paipearan ceasnachaidh agus buntainn ri beagan de na shaoilinn a bhiodh gu bhur feum ann am breithneachadh a' bhriathrachais a bha annta le ceartas.

Gabhaidh sinn, ma tà, an toiseach paipearan nan lan-Ghàidheal. "Bha Seumas is Calum anns a' mhonadh an dé " bha aig a' phaipear, agus is anabarrach an t-eadar-dhealachadh a bha aig a' chloinn ann a bhirt ag cur Beutla air "monadh." Rinn cuid "mountain," cuid "moor," 'hill," "heath; "field," "glen," "meadow," "valley," is rudan eile dheth. Bha aon a rinn "peata" dheth, ach dhubh i as e agus chuir i rud-eign eile 'na àite. Bha cuid a rinn "to-day" de "an dé." An uair a thug iad "leo an ch," agus ged is dòcha gur e''the dog" a bha am fear a sgrìobh an rud ag ciallachadh, ghabhadh e bhith gur e "their dog" (mar a sgrìobh cuid) a bha 'na bheachd.

Bha an latha "ciùin," is rinn cuid "clear" is "bright" dheth. Tha mi an dùil gur e "mild" a chuirinn-sa sios. Agus an uair a bha a' ghrian "a' dealradh," chan ann "blazing" no "gloomy" a bha i. Thuit an ceò, agus b' iomadh facal a ghabhadh air son "ceò," "fog" is "mist," is bha iad le chéile ceart, ged is e "mist" a b'fheàrr leam, a bu bhith-anta a bha aca. Rinn aon "moist" dheth (is tha mi

cinnteach gur e "mist" a bha e ag ciallachadh), is rinn aon "foam" dheth.

Chaidh na balaich air chall, ach threòraich an cù dhachaidh iad; ach bu neònach na bha ag cur sho "the dog brought them home" an aite "guided" no "led." Bha aon a chuir "directed" slos, is aon eile a chladhaich cho domhain anns a' Bheurla 's gur e "escorted them home" a chuir e slos! Bha balach eile—maraiche a Barraidh—agus is e "the dog steered them home" a chuir e slos. Tha dòchas agam gum bi e beò ris 's gum bi long air a chùram fathast is e 'ga stiirradh "air chùl nan tonn àrda."

Ann an tionndadh na Beurla gu Gàidhlig, "fishing in the loch to-day," chan e " an dé" a ch " an diugh" a tha ceart; agus chuir eiongantas orm mar a thugadh dà chiall á "Is not the boy growing big?", oir bha móran a chuir slos, an àite "Nach 'eil am balach a' fàs mór!", ni a thug atharrachadh céill dha—"Nach 'eil am balach a' fàs mór idir?" is "A bheil an gille idir a' fàs mór?" Rinn móran "breac" de'n "salmon"; is dh' fhàg na h-uiread e mar a bha e le "sàman" a dheanamh dheth! Bha aon a rinn "trosg" dheth!

Far an robhas "sorry that your mother broke her arm," is e "lamh" a bu bhitheanta a bha air a chur sìos; is chan 'eil aobhar agam air innseadh dhuibh cia as a bha iadasan a rinn "dàmh" dheth! Cha robh uiread idir a chuir sìos am facal ceart "gàirdean," agus, a réir móran, is e a "gualann" no "a h-uileann" a chaidh a bhriseadh. A réir aoin is e a "garstan" a bhris i (droch Chàidhlig air "garter"), ach is dòcha gur e a "gàirdean" a bha e ag ciallachadh.

Cha robh ach dà no trì a bha ceart ann an iltreachadh an fhacail "tàirneanach," is tha mi cinnteach nach 'eil sin 'na iongantas: nam bìodh an còrr gu math cha tugaim "fairi" air sin. Thug mi an aire gur e "torum" a bha na Hearaich am bitheantas a' deanamh de "thunder," is chan 'eil mi idir a' faotainn coire dhaibh. Ann a bhith ag eadar-theangachadh "I must rise early," bha móran nach robh a' faotainn "éirigh" le ceartas. Bha "airidh" is iomadh litreachadh neònach eile r'a fhaicinn fada na bu bhitheanta na an litreachadh ceart.

A thaobh paipear nan shr-Ghàidheal, bha cuid a rinn "grandmother" de "seanair"; agus chuir e neònachas orm cho beag, a rèir coltais, 's a bha a' uigsinn fìor chiall "meal is caith iad "na brògan ùra) agus an fhreagairt, "mealaibh-se bhur slàinte." Chan 'eil fios agam cia lion seòl annasach anns an do chuireadh so: "deceive and wear," "praise them," "look after them," "respect them," "despise them," "spoil them," is an oʻtr.

Bha aon a sgrìobh "destroy and throw them away," is aon "deceive and throw them away," agus chan urrainn duinn a ràdh ach gur dòcha gun do thuig an t-aon ud leth-chiall nam facal a' seasamh air leth bho chéile, le "l' eile a chur ri "meal." An aon fhacal, cha tugas fainear gur e gnàths-cainnte air leth Gàidhealach a tha an so, is nach gabh e eadartheangachadh gu ltireil.

Bha móran a rinn "big town" agus "Lowlands" de "Tir-mór." Bha aon a rinn "Tiree" dheth, is cha bu Tirisdeach e idir. Bha aon a rinn "Fort William" de "Sonachan"; bha aon a rinn "million" de "ceud." An dòigh, cha bu droch mhearachd so, ged "is mór òirleach air sroin duine." Bha bean chòir a b' aithne dhomh fèin is bha i a' toirt sgenl air an airgiod mhòr a dh' fhàg aon de a luchd-dàimh a shiubhail. Cha robh i cinnteach co-dhiubh is e' fichead muillion" no "fichead ceud" a bha ann, ach b'e an dara aon a bha ann co-dhiubh! Bha móran a shaoil gur e "sinne" is nach b'e "Sìne" a bha ag ràdh gu robh a' Ghàidhlig aig na h-eòin fèin ann an Lochabar—" we were saying " an àite "Jane was saying."

Bha sùil agam gun deante na b' fheàrr na rinneadh anns an t-seanachas bheag ud mu'n ghruagaichmhara. Thug e toileachas dhomh an t-ainm a thugadh dhi le aon (Barrach)-" nighean a' chuain." Ach is e glé bheag a litrich "maighdean-mhara" ceart; is e "maidean" a bu bhitheanta a bha mi a' faotainn. Bha móran a rinn "partan" de "crab" an àite "crùban," agus a rinn "feasgan" is "faochagan de "limpets." Bha an fheadhainn a rinn "cliabh" de "creel" air a' chuid a bu lugha. Bha iad ann a rinn "cuman," "bucaid," is "bascaid," cho math ri soithichean eile, dheth. Thug mi fainear gu robh móran nach robh a' tuigsinn le ceartas na buadha a tha aig "dà" air "crùban" (no "partan"); an àite " dà chrùban " no " dà phartan," mar bu chòir, is e " dà chrùbain " is " dà crùbain "-fo'n aon riaghailt ri "trì crùbain "-a bha iad ag cur sìos.

Bha caochladh ainmean air an toirt do "pool." Fhuair mi am facal "glup" (no "glùp") aig cuid, is tha mi ag creidsinn gur e deagh fhacal a tha ann. Bha aon a rinn "creag" de'n lón a bha an so. A thaobh "glup" no "glùp," oir bha e air a thoirt seachad anns an dà dhòigh, dh'fhaotainn a thoirt fainear cho bitheanta 's a bha comharradh accent air a chleachdadh ceàrr-air a chur far nach bu chòir dha bhith idir, mar a tha "anns a' chùan," "leac créige," "ag iasgach anns an lóch," is facail eile de'n t-seòrsa sin; agus bha móran a bha ag cur ceanglan (no hyphen) an déidh na "t" an uair a b'i an litir sin ceud litir an fhacail, mar ann an "tàirneanach," 's a' deanamh "t-àirneanach" dheth, mar a chuireadh iad sìos "an t-uan." Is ann aig teagasg na cloinne a tha a' choire so r'a faotainn. Tha iomadh taobh eile ris am bu mhath leam buntainn, ach chan 'eil math dhomh aon chuid sibh féin no am fear-deasachaidh a sgìtheachadh.-Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## GAELIC GREETING CARDS.

Gaelic Greeting Cards in Celtic design are still available and may be obtained from An Comunn Office. Price, 2d. and 4d. each. The Editor regrets that, owing to pressure on space, the concluding instalment of J. H. Miller's 'Impressions of a Visit to Eire and Cymru' and other items have had to be held over until next issue.

## THE NEW PRESIDENT.



DR. JOHN CAMERON.

At the recent annual meeting of An Comunn Gaidhealach, Mr. John Cameron, M.A., LL.B., Ph.D., J.P., was unanimously appointed President.

Dr. Cameron is well known and widely respected in Gaelic and Celtic circles, not only in Scotland but beyond; and he enters upon his high office with the good-will of a large company of well-wishers, within and without An Comunn.

A native of the Isle of Mull, but with close ties with Lochaber, the ancestral land of the Camerons, Dr. Cameron was educated in Glasgow, at Hutcheson's Grammar School and the University, and has built up an extensive legal practice.

The new President is both a scholar and a man of affairs. As might be expected, his scholarly interests lie chiefly in the field of Scots and Celtic law, on which he has done a considerable amount of original research, and has published works of great importance. His publications include articles on Celtic Law in "An Introductory Survey of the Sources and Literature of Scots Law" (1936) (the first publication of the Stair Society), "Law in the Glens" in "The Highlands and the Highlanders" (1938), and "The

Gaelic Notitiae in the Book of Deer" in the Juridical Review, vol. LI, no. 2 (1939), but his most important work is "Celtic Law: The 'Senchus Mor' and 'The Book of Aicill,' and the Traces of an Early Gaelic System of Law in Scotland," (1937). This latter work, for which he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Glasgow University, has been highly commended by authoritative reviewers, one of whom has written thus: "It is notorious that Law of Scotland has not yet found its historian; but Dr. Cameron, in elucidating one of the most obscure and difficult parts of that history has laid under a deep debt of gratitude all who are interested in Scottish legal history, and he is to be congratulated on a piece of good work well done."

As a man of affairs, in addition to his professional work as a solicitor, Dr. Cameron somehow manages to give of his time and talents to an extraordinary variety of societies and causes—Highland, educational, and legal. He has been President of the Clan Cameron Association and of the Glasgow Highland Society, and is Hon. Secretary of the Glasgow Celtic Society, the Glasgow Lochaber Society, and the Highlanders' Institute, and is also the Scottish Secretary of the Pan-Celtic Congress.

Dr. Cameron is also Clerk to the Governors of the Catherine McCaig Trust and to the Governors of the Murchison of Taradale Memorial Trust, and has served on the Councils of the Glasgow Art Club, the Scottish Artists' Benevolent Association, and the Royal Art Institute. He is an active member of the Glasgow Faculty of Procurators, and has represented them on various public bodies, for instance, as Governor of St. Mungo's College. He is also a member of Council of the Stair Society, and is Viee-Chairman of Committee of the Agricultural Wages Board for Lanark, Renfrew, Bute, Perth, etc.

Dr. Cameron's elevation to the Presidency of An Commun Gaidhealach has been prepared for by long and valuable service to An Comunn, as a member of the Executive Council, Trustee of the Feill Trust, and as a Vice-President (1943-46), but especially as Convener of the Finance Committee, in which capacity he has with wisdom and prudence husbanded the financial resources of An Comunn during these difficult war-years. He has also been closely identified with the effort sponsored by the Glasgow University Ossianic Club to endow a Chair of Celtic at Glasgow University

It augurs well for An Comunn that, as it braces itself to the great tasks and opportunities of the immediate future, it should have the leadership of a man who is Gaelic to the core, equipped as a scholar but with a wide range of practical experience, and with the gift of impressive public utterance. Those who were privileged to hear the brief but felicitous speeches which he made on his acceptance of the Presidency need no assurance that he will worthily uphold the dignity of his office and the prestige of the Association, and that he will wisely guide the work of An Comunn during his term of office.

T. M. M.

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268 Argyle Street, GLASGOW, C.2

## FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

a MOD NA BUAIDHE.—Tha am Mòd mór seachad. Tha e a mis 'na chlùis-chuimhne chibhraidh. B'ann an 1933 an Glaschu a chumadh am Mòd Naiseanta roimhe, agus is iomadh ni a thachair bho'n uair sin. Tha an saoghal a bh'ann a ni an bhloighdean, agus tha saoghal hr 'ga thogail gu h-éiginneach a mach á làraichean briste is creuchdan breuna a' chinne-daoine.

Cha robh iad tearc 'nar measg a bha caran iomaigeanach mu'n Mhòd. Bha faireachadh againn gu robh sinn aig tòiseachadh ùr, agus có aige a bha fios ciamar a rachadh leinn, agus còisean an t-saoghail mhóir cho ciogailteach?

Besgan mhiosan air ais, an uair a dh'àirmheadh na fnraisich a chuir an ainmean air adhart air son a' Mhòid, bha aobhar mismich againn anns a' Chomunn, oir bha an àireannt har dùil agus 'nam measg bha mórant fharpáiseach ìra. Ach, ged a bha sin mar sin, gu dé mu'n t-sluagh a b'àbhaist bhith dol thun a' Mhòid? An robh ùith aca-san fhathast anns an obair, an déidh fiosrachaidhean searbha nan ochd bliadhna mu dheireadh?

Fhuair na ceistean sin làn-fhreagairt an Obar-dheadhain. Chruimhe Gaidheil is Goll 'nan liomhnorachd. Ciod air bith na cleachdaidhean a chaill an spéis ri linn upraid a' chogaidh, tha àite sòrnaichte aig a' Mhòd an cridhe nan Gaidheal agus eadhon an inntinn nan Gall. Mar a bha làithean a' Mhòd ag gabhail seachad, b'ann bu mhotha a dh' fhàs luchd-tachail Tails a' Chiùl, gus mu dheireadh, a' feasgar agus a' Bhan-righ chaomhail fréin agus na ban-a-phrìonnsachan air ceann na cuideachd.

Theirteadh "Mod na Buaidhe" ri Mòd Obar-dheadhain a

Theirteadh. "Môd na Buaidhe "ri Môd Obar-dheadhain a chionn e a bhith ag comharreachadh an buaidhe a chosnadh sa' chogadh; ach 's e "Môd na Buaidhe" a bh'ann air dòigh no dhà eile. Tha Môd Obar-dheadhain air fhàgail againn, chan ann a mhàin mar chùis-chuimhne, ach mar aobharmisneachaidh is breanachaidh is breanachaidh is breanachaidh.

SEANN EOLAICH IS CAIRDEAN URA.—Ged is taitneach a bhith 'p' éiscéachd nan comh-fharpaisean—seinneadairean, chisirean, luchd inneil-ciuil, luchd aithreashbeil—tha fada barrachd 'va sin r'a fhaotainn aig a' Mhòd. Tha am Mod' na chothrom a bhith 'g' trachadh aithne air seann chlaich. Anns na tallachan-farpais agus air na sràidean chuireadh fàilt oirm le feadhainn ach fhaca sinn o chionn iomadh bliadhan, cuid dhiubh air liathadh 's air am maoladh le éire throm nam bliadhnachan, ged nach 'eil an oige fad air an chl. Ach an uair a ghabh sinn air làimh iad agus a dh'amhaire sinn 'nan gnùis, is e a chunnaic sinn na baliaich is na cailinean a shuidh chuihr arinn sant t-seann sgoil. B'fhiach Obar-dheadhain a ruigheachd, ged nach bìodh ann ach sin fhéin.

Chan 'eil nas fheàrr na na seann chàirdean, ach is thachdmhor cuideachd a bhith cur còlais air chirdean hra-feadhainn, is dòcha, mu'n cuala sinn, agus eadhon ris an robh gnothach againn an sgrìobhadh, ach chan fhaca sinn riamh iad. Bithidh sinn uile a' deanamh dealbh dhuinn fhèin 'har n-inntinnean air daoine nach fhaca sinn ach mu'n cualas sinn, agus, gu h-iongantach, bithidh an dealbh sin ceàrr cho tric 'a bhios i tha id heag; is tha an fheadhainn a shaoil leinn a bhith stèida, sòlaime, tha iad heag; is tha an fheadhainn a shaoil leinn a bhith stèida, sòlaime, tha iad reag; is tha an fheadhainn a shaoil leinn a bhith stèida, sòlaime, tha iad reag; is tha an fheadhainn a shaoil dhuinn an ise mar còlaich. Chan 'eil nas fheàrr na féill no banais air son eòlaich tra fhoatainn, mura he- Mòd as fheàrr gu buileach.

CARDEAN A BIRNN.—Is e toileachadh mór a bh'ann coinneachadh aig a' Mhòd ri dithis a thàinig a nall á Baile Atha-cliath a dh'aon-ghnothach gu bhith an làthair iaig feis mhòir Gàidheil na h-Albann. B'iad sin 'An Seabhac' agus Eibhlin Nì Chathailriabhaigh, dithis cho aolthaell is cho gusda ri gin a thachair oirnn o chionn iomadh latha.
Chan 'eil anns 'An Seabhac' ach ainm-pinn. Is e an

Chan 'eil anns "An Seabhac" ach amm-pinn. Is e an t-ainm eart a th'air an duine chòir, an Seanadóir Fàdraig O Sìochfhradha, duine mór eireachdail air a bheil deagh-chliù, chan ann a mhàin an Eirinn ach anns na dùthchannan Ceilteach uile. Tha e iomraiteach mar ùghdar an litreachas na h-Eireann, agus gu sònraichte an comh-cheangal ri trusadh beul-aithris no "Bealoideas." Tha "An Seabhac" na bhail de'n Chomun Ghàidhealach, agus thàinig e le teachdaireachd dhuinn air a bheil iomradh air duilleig eile de'n mhìosachan so. Bu tlachdmhor na h-uairean a chuir ainn seachad rin a chompanas, agus is mòr na fhuair sinn bhuaith de dh'fhiosrachadh mu chùisean na Gàidhliz an Eirinn.

Is i Eibhlin Ni Chathailriabhaigh Rùnaire Comhdháil Náisidnta na Gaedhlige an Eirinn. Thàinig i an cabhaig, is dh'fhalbh i an cabhaig, is cha robh móran tàimh oirre fhad 's a bha i còmhla ruinn an Obar-dheadhain. B'an an air isealan a thàinig i a' Sirinn, agus b ann mar sin a thill i, oir tha obair nhór an crochadh rithe thall 'na dùthaich féin. Is mór an didh a bh'aice anns a' Mhod, agus an uair a dh'fhalbh i thug i leatha àireamh mhath dhealbhan a ghabh i de na colisirean 's na farpaisichean, oir bha inneal-llimaidh aice.

Tha sinn an dòchas eòlas a chur air an dithis chàirdean sin a rithist an ùine gheàrr.

GLIOCAS NAN GAIDHEAL.—"Is furasda do'n fhearéisdeachd beum a thoirt do'n fhear-labhairt."

\* \* \* \* \* \*

## FIRINN AIR SON A' MHIOS SO .-

"Bhidh tabhairt buidheachais do Dhia,
"Sn ish-mhaith maiseache e;
Bhidh tabhairt cliù, O Thì as àird,
Do t'ainn-as feadh gach ré:
Do choibhneas-gràidh sa' mhadiainn mhoich
Gach ilb bhith cur an céill;
'S air t'fhirinn tha neo-mhearachdach
Gach oidhch' bhith deanamh sgéil,

Air inneal-ciùil nan teuda deich,
Is air an t-saltair ghrinn,
'S air albraich le guth fonnmher àrd

'S air clàrsaich le guth fonnmhor àrd A sheinneas ceòl gu binn.

Salm zcii. 1-3.

## MOD DIARY.

### By the EDITOR

"Aberdeen, 1946." That phrase stands for what for many will long remain a very happy memory. Aberdeen itself, fresh and bracing, with its fine buildings and kindly folks, and around it the rich mellowness of autum; exceptionally fine weather; a splendid suite of halls which enabled all the competitions to be held under the same root; a hard-working of the competitions of the same root; a hard-working of the competitions of the same root; and the conlary of the competition of the competition of the comland competition. The competition of the comland competition of the competition of the competition of the comtent of the competition of the competition of the competition of the comland competition of the competition

### A SUCCESSFUL MOD.

The Aberdeen Mod was a success every way you take it. Elsewhere in this issue Sir Hugh S. Roberton and Mr. John A. Nicolson assess the Mod with the strict measuring-line of the adjudicator, and give high praise for the standards attained in the various competitions. For us who ast and listened these competitions were, without exception, a pleasure, and sometimes a moving and enriching experience.

Socially, how could the Mod be other than successful, when Her Majesty the Queen and their Royal Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth and the Princess Margaret Rose graced it with their presence and their interest? Both from formal deliberations and from informal discussions held during that week much may yet emerge that will help to clarify our purposes and intensify our efforts on behalf of our language and culture.

said at this should acound too smug and complacents left it be said at once that we are as realist as anyone, and have not been in the past, and will not be in the future, loathe to criticise the Mod and An Comunn, when criticism seems called for. Nothing would be easier than to make a long list of the failures and weakness and missed opportunities of which we in An Comunn are guilty: we are fully aware of the features and factors in Highland and Gaelic affairs that cause disquietude. But, nevertheless, we maintain that this Mod has done an immense amount of good, and, if only we have the wit and energy to follow it up, what was called the "Victory Mod" in celebration of our country a triumph in war may prove a great step forward don't mean Highlanders only) Gaelic-conacious. To achieve that would be victory indeed.

The North-east is one of those regions of Scotland that I am anhamed to confies I do not know. Aberden itself I had visited only twice before: once as a student to attend a students' inter-collegiate conference, and again during the war when invited by the University to conduct English and Gaelio services in King's College Chapel. The Mod week did not allow much time for exploring this fine city, but it gave ample opportunity for getting to know and appreciate her friendliness and hospitality of the people of Aberdeen. The friendliness and hospitality of the people of Aberdeen. The interest shown, and the welcome given, by the Lord Provest, Sir Thomas Mitchell, and the Magistrates and Town Council was no merely official patronage. One felt they were genuinely concerned to make their visitors feel at home and, indeed, that they were proud to house the Victory Mod.

## TUESDAY-JUNIORS' DAY.

The Mod competitions began this morning, quietly and unspectacularly, and perhaps for some a triffe disappointingly. The audiences were small and, in the large hall especially, looked even smaller than they actually were; but as the day wore on the numbers increased. There was disappointment too because of the comparative feweres of the competitors between the conformation of the conformative feweres of the competitions. Laxdale's past achievements, we fit regret.

As "one competition followed another, however, and as competitor followed competitor, it was soon seen that what was lacking in numbers was more than compensated for in quality. The young folks who had come had come well prepared, and, if only we could multiply by fifty or a hundred the number of Junior Competitors and maintain, or even improve have no reason to fear for the cause of Gaeile in the next half-century.

The climax of the day's work was the choral competitions. What a joy it was to see and listen to these junior choirs—the freshness and naturalness of Portree, the imaginativeness of Carradale, the artistry of the Junior G. G. Congratulations to the Silver Medallists—seven-year old Murdo Montgomery, a Lewisman from Bridge of Don, and Sheila A. MacDougall, Glasgow, Canadian-Dorn of Islay and Galricoch parentage.

The only criticism we might make of the Junior Concert presided over by Mr. Angus Robertson) is that it might have been held in a larger hall. As it was, those who were lucky cought to get in witnessed a fine performance by the youthful prize-winners of the day, most of them unused to concert platforms, but standing up, as to the manner born, and doing their part, not only for the delectation of those present but for the many thousand is latenting in on the Radio. To this a philosopher and theologian. What he heard quickened in him the almost extinct traces of his Gaelic ancestry, and I have no doubt both his philosophy and his theology will be much the better of that.

### WEDNESDAY.

The Senior Competitions got underway to-day, interest centring chiefly on the Oran-nor, Kennedy Frase, "diely city of the Competitions of the Competition of

The audience kept growing. Every train and bus seemed to bring to Aberdeen another few score people for the Mod.

## THE LITERARY COMPETITIONS

But, first of all, before going to the Hall, we eagerly opened our morning papers to see the results of the Literary Competitions published to-day, for the Mod is not all singing and music. We have a literary heritage to preserve and to enhance. Congratulations to the successful, Juniors and Seniors. But why haves of two schools entered for the Junior Written Competitions (and also for the Commun as h-Oigridh tests)? Sir all schools in the Highlands and Islands took Geslic as seriously as they do in Tarbert, Harris, the future of Gaelic would rest on much firmer foundations.

The Bard of the year is Mr. Ian A. MacLeod, Sunderland, a native of Lewis, who has already done excellent literary work in Gaelic. Mr. Edward Pursell, 1939's still uncrowned Bard, proves himself again; and Derek Thomson wins fresh laurels and we know he deserves them, for we have read his Gaelic poems in An Gaidsheal and have also seen his prose. More will be heard of him—"deagh mihae an deagh athat," And there is Mrs. Douglas, Klimuri, Skye, still assiduous in collecting our precious ungathered folk-songs: and lift on the Mrs. Day of the Sanger and Mrs. Douglas, and we work is any less worthy than that of those I have mentioned.

## THE OFFICIAL OPENING.

Two special functions took place to-day, the official opening of the Mod at noon and the evening reception given by the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council.

At the official opening there was a fairly good audience. The proceedings were opened with prayer in Gaelie by the Rev. Roderick Mackinnon, Aberdeen, a native of Harris and and ds school-mate whom one was glad to see again. He has ministered in Mauritius and elsewhere abroad, but he has not obtain love for the Gaelie nor for the Highland dress. There was couthly and kindly and pawky and which left no doubt in our minds of the welcome given us.

Then there was the Presidential Address (printed elsewhere in this issue), as good as any we have had for years past. Mr. Donald MacDonald has for long combined strenuous service in the cause of Gaelic with an equally keen interest in, and concern for, the economic and social conditions of our Highland people. Perhaps too many of us who hold responsible positions in An Comunn dwell outside the really Gaelic area; our feet are not upon our native heath, but on "cabbasir crusidh nan Gall." It may be that thus we see not a closely in touch with the Gaelic area as we like to think we are. But knows the northern parts intimately, and it was from that knows the northern parts intimately, and it was from that and the position of the language.

The Vote of Thanks to the President was moved by Mr.

The Vote of Thanks to the President was moved by Mr. Angus Robertson, doyen of An Comunn. As I listened to him, I thought of the first time I ever heard him speak. It was at a prine-gring in Protres School many years ago, but some of memory. Mr. Robertson is always standing on "Cnoe an Hradhaire," seeing visions and dreaming dreams, and with challenging words trying to make us more prosaic mortals see something of what he himself has seen.

I have felt on previous occasions, and I felt even more strongly at Aberdeen, that An Comun does not do itself justice at the official opening of the Mod. For one thing, I do not think that mid-day on the second day of the Mod is the most suitable time for the official opening; could it not be at 8 p.m. on the Monday evening? An evening function is generally homelier and less frigid than one held at noon. For another thing, a Presidential Address and an official

welcome and a Gaelic prayer and a vote of thanks—however good in themselves—do not represent the most that might be made of the occasion. There should at least be added the official welcome by An Comun to fraternal delegates from other Celtic countries and kindred bodies, with short speeches by some of these delegates.

The evening reception on Wednesday was on a generous scale, and there was an excellent mustail programme. Incl. dentally, this was not the end of the Town Council's generosity, for on the following day the Lord Provest and his colleagues entertained the office-bearers and Conveners of Standing Committees of An Comun to lunch in the Caledonian Hotel.

## THURSDAY-THE GOLD MEDALLISTS.

This was Gold Medal day and Rural Choir day. The audiences were bigger than ever. Who would win the medals was anybody's guess, and when later the first three names in each of the two classes (ladies and gentlemen) were announced, one felt that any of those named would have been worthy to stand in the long succession of Mod Medallists. Miss Rose B. MacConnachie (Southean) and Mr. Donald MacViear (Giasgow) congratulations. Incidentally, Mr. Donald MacViear belongs to Luing, a little island which has already produced two Mod Medallists.

## THE RURAL CHOIRS.

And then the rural choirs—Abernethy, Glenurquhart, Kilmallia, Lochgliphead. One's thoughts turned wisfully from a city hall to the quiet Highland places whence they came—Badenoch of the wine-coloured moors and tree-clothed mountains, the lovely Glen that opens out upon the equally lovely Loch Ness, Lochaber of lonely glens and lofty peaks and ancient tales and modern industry beside quiet Loch Linnhe, and Kintrye rich in relies of our ancient culture and history.

It was interesting to watch the conductors with their varying technique and subtle differences of interpretation. They were all good, very good, but when Lochgilphead had sung "Blean Leddhais" and "Eilean mog jasoil" I knew I had never before heard anything so uncannily beautiful, It was a deeply moving experience. The word "genius" was used, a word which, like "brilliant," has lost something of its significance by over-use. But "genius" it was, and Mrs. Crawford's expressive hands played upon the Lochgilphead Choir as on a charsach.

### THURSDAY EVENING CONCERT.

The evening concert, charmingly presided over by the Hon. Margaret Forbes-Sempill, reached high levels, and the programme was sustained by the day's prize-winners and by previous Mod Medallists. Out of a programme of first-rate quality it may not be invidious to single out two items that seemed artistically flawless-Lalla Robertson's singing of "An Cu Ban" and the singing of Mrs. MacGillivray, Fort William, of whom a local paper wrote that this was the sweetest voice of all, "a tiny bird-like pipe which sounded in the native air an extraordinary emotional note. It was like a voice across an expanse of water echoing something anciently Scottish. The delivery was perfect. She strode to the piano, pressed the key-note quietly, walked to the centre of the stage, and then the music seemed to flow from her in the most natural way imaginable." The same local paper described this concert as "a rare experience," "an insight into a part of our Scottish heritage." "It was evident that we, the audience, were also to be performers. The mood was to be ceilidh rather than concert; it was a real experience instead of a conventional occasion."

## ORAL DELIVERY.

On Thursday morning, while the crowds thronged to hear the vocal music competitions, I alipped into one of the small halls where a few folks (but a discriminating few) were listening to the Oral Delivery competitions. The oral competitions were on as high a level as any of the others. While for most people they may not have the same appeal as singing has, they are an essential and valuable part of the Mod.

There are only two things most of us do with Gaelic poetry: we either sing it or hear it sung or we read it quietly to ourselves from a book. But poetry is meant to be read and

reciters!

AN GAIDHEAL.

recited aloud. It was so that the Skalds and Filidhs practised their art. Many a time I had read Father Allan MacDonald's "Eilean na h-Oige " silently to myself, but I must confess it seemed a new and even more beautiful poem after I had heard it recited at the Glasgow local mod last summer. That experience was repeated for me at the Aberdeen Mod. And how the quiet humour and the sense of wind and wave in "MacMhuirich Staolagaraidh" were brought out by the

Unfortunately, I was unable to hear the other oral competitions, which I understand maintained the high level of those I did hear. In any case, at the evening concert we heard Miss Katie MacDonald and Miss Winnie Young in their delightful and humorous Gaelic dialogue. I had heard it previously at a recent Glasgow concert, but it bears hearing again and again. It was a top-grade performance and, if they wrote the dialogue themselves, as I believe they did, these two young Skye girls have a double gift which they must not hide or leave unused. They have dramatic ability, literary artistry, and a knowledge of colloquial Gaelic which one envies them, as well as shrewd observance of human nature.

## FRIDAY.

This was the Big Day. But every day was a Big Day. To-day, however, the big Choirs were to mount the stage, but, from what we heard yesterday, they would need to be on their mettle, for Lochgilphead was entering the lists against them, and Lochgilphead did win the "Puirt-a-Beul" competition.
Lochgilphead's rendering of "Puirt-a-Beul" seemed to interest the Queen most at the evening concert. It is a pity she did not also hear them singing "Eilean Leòdhais" and

" Eilean mo ghaoil."

Listening to the choral competitions, one couldn't help feeling sorry for the adjudicators, even although there were four of them. It is, as I know from some little experience, a pleasantly miserable or a miserably pleasant business being a Mod adjudicator, and in the old days, if all tales be true, it was not without a measure of personal risk. You begin to enjoy yourself listening to what is issuing from the platform, and then you remember with a start that you're there, not primarily to enjoy yourself, although you can't help doing that, but to keep wide open a pair of strictly critical and impartial ears. I would not have been surprised at any one of the choirs being put first. As it was, one felt sorry that it couldn't be as Alice's Queen would have had it, "All have won and all shall have prizes."

Congratulations to the G.G. and to Mr. MacConochie; he has a long list of triumphs to his credit and a long record of invaluable service to Gaelic music. Congratulations, too, to the Greenock Choir and their conductor, Mr. MacAllister, and to the Glasgow Islay choir under Miss Helen MacMillan. The latter are new-comers to the National Mod. Let us add a word of appreciation of, and encouragement to, the other Choirs-Govan (under Mr. Pat Sandeman), always good triers, whose day will surely come; the Oban Choir and the the Uist and Barra Association Choir (also new-comers). None of them gave a performance of which they need be ashamed. All of them, I think, gave performances surpassing the standard which in earlier years was sufficient to win the premier award.

## THE GRAND CONCERT.

Then the evening concert-the grand finale of the Mod. a truly grand and royal occasion. As we came away from the afternoon's mod competitions the civic authorities were erecting barricades round the Music Hall to restrain within

decorous bounds the exuberant loyalty of the public.

In describing the Grand Concert I cannot do better than

quote from the Oban Times report.

"Not in its long history had the Aberdeen Music Hall provided a more impressive and colourful picture. Many of the men present were in Highland dress, and the tartan of their kilts and picturesque velvet doublets mingled in a riot of colour with the lovely shades of the women's evening gowns. These in turn vied with the tartan drapings of the hall and the gay floral decorations of the platform.

"Wearing a necklace of pearls, Her Majesty was attired in a white dinner gown trimmed with a scintillating collarette

of blue sequins, and over this she wore a cape -a lovely creation in white fur. Princess Elizabeth was charming in an ankle-length dress of blue satin and a mink coat, while Princess Margaret Rose was a dainty figure in an ankle-length dress of white tulle, over which was worn a brown fur coat.

"The Royal party had motored from Balmoral Castle to the Caledonian Hotel, where they were greeted by Lord Provost Sir Thomas Mitchell and Lady Mitchell. In the Provost Sir Inomas mitchell and Lady autonell. In the Hotel there were presented to Her Majesty the Hon. Margaret Forbes-Sempill, Lady Grant of Monymusk, Mrs. R. M. MacAndrew, joint-convener of the local Mod Committee, and Mr. Dugald MacDonald, president of the Aberdeen branch

of An Comunn. "Preceded by pipers of the Aberdeen Piping Society, the Queen and the Princesses entered the Music Hall promptly at 7.45. Receiving the Royal visitors at the Music Hall was the Marquis of Aberdeen, who presented to Her Majesty the following: Mrs. M. J. MacDonald (who presented the Queen with a bouquet); the MacKinnon of MacKinnon and Miss MacKinnon; the Duchess of Montrose and her daughter, Lady Jean Graham. Also presented were officials of An Comunn : Mr. Donald MacDonald, President, and his daughter Mrs. Calum I. N. MacLeod; Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow, and Mr. J. M. Bannerman, Vice-Presidents; Rev. T. M. Murchison, convener of Publication Committee; Mr. Donald Thomson, Oban, convener of Propaganda Committee; Mrs. Iain M. Campbell (Airds), convener of Art and Industry Committee; Mr. Hector MacDougall, convener of Clann an Fhraoich Committee; Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary, and Mrs. Shaw; Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., General Treasurer; Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary; Mr. Donald MacPhail, J.P., Northern Organiser; and also the local Mod MacFlatt, J.F., Vorteien Organiser; and also the local flow officials—Mr. Charles Davidson, Vice-President; Mr. James MacLeod, Secretary; Mr. Alfred E. Milne, Treasurer; Captain and Mrs. Blair; Mrs. Maurice Cramb; Mr. David MacCulloch; Rev. Roderick MacKinnon; Mr. Hugh D. Welsh; and Mr. George A. Smith, Treasurer.

"These, with the Royal party, occupied the east wing of the gallery. Lord Aberdeen, on behalf of members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, both present and absent, tendered to Her Majesty and the Princesses a hearty welcome to the

So many were eager to attend the concert that the proceedings had to be broadcast to an overflow meeting in an adjacent hall. The programme was sustained by the day's prize-winners, and was on a very high standard, the items prize-winners, and was on a very nign standard, the items that seemed to interest the Royal party most being the "Puirt-a-Beul" sung by the Lochgilphead Choir and later by the massed choirs, the pianoforte selections played by youthful Sheila Lessels of Coatbridge, the clarsach-playing by Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, and the crowning of the two bards, Mr. Ian A. MacLeod and Mr. Edward Pursell. This latter, which might easily have degenerated into a comic turn, was carried out with impressive dignity by the President, while the appropriate atmosphere was created by the chanting of the massed choirs.

The high-light of the evening came when Her Majesty went on to the platform and graciously presented the trophies and prizes. For each she had a kindly word. One felt proud of one's people as one saw the natural grace and courtesy with which the prize-winners, young and old, received their awards from Her Majesty's hands and engaged in conversation with

And so, the Royal party having departed, the concert ended with the massed choirs singing the old Psalm Tune French." Thus ended a memorable occasion.

## THE MORNING AFTER.

Next morning, in the grey light of day, we held the annual business meeting of An Comunn. It seemed an anti-climax after the great evening that preceded it. But the world's work, and An Comunn's work, is not done upon the mountain tops, but in the drab valleys of the every-day and along the dusty road of daily duty. And so we got down to business, discussing, suggesting, criticising, encouraging, all with a view to carrying the inspiration of the Victory Mod into the ordinary routine and effort to which we are committed. The next mountain-top will be Perth, and after that Inverness.

For those fortunate ones who were able to spend the weekend at Aberdeen the Mod ended only with the Gaelic Service in King's College Chapel on the Sunday. The preacher was the Rev. Dr. Alexander MacDonald, Glasgow. The service was broadcast.

And, talking of broadcasting, a word of thanks is due to the B.B.C. for the place they gave to the Mod proceedings in their programme for that week. Never before in a single week was so much time on the air given to Gaelic. Mr. Dinwiddle himself was an interested attender at the Mod, and the B.B.C.

Gaelic staff were also there in full strength

A tribute is also due to the press, both national and local. Sometimes in the past the press has not been too helpful, but on this occasion not only was there full and accurate reporting of each day's proceedings, but there were also leaders and editorial notes expressing cordial support for, and appreciation of, all that the Mod stands for.

## DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Not the least of the attractions of the Mod is the opportunity it affords for meeting old friends and making new ones. Three visitors from outwith Scotland deserve special mention. From Dublin came "An Seabhac," one of the best-known figures in the literary life of Eire, and Eibhlin Mi Cathalrishnigh, Secretary of the Federation of Gaelic Societies in Eire. It was a pleasure and privilege to meet them both, and one looks forward to renewing the acquaintance in the not too distant future. Then there was Miss Thyra-Christensen, a young Danish journalist, who was spending a few months in this countried the Mod and especially the Friday Grand Concert. What she saw and heard whetel the appetite to learn more of the Highlands, and she was planning to visit the lale of Skeve before returning south.

No account of Mod week would be complete without some reference to the cellidhs, held in all sorts of places and at all hours. The surest way to spoil a cellidh is to arrange the seating accommodation neatly in concert-hall fashion. The real old ceilidh in the tigh-dubh, so beautifully described by Alexander Carmichael (in Carmina Gadelica)—a roomy, homely house, a bright peat fire, the place crowded, some seated, most standing, gris crouched where they can and boya perched wherever they can climb—still exerts its influence and unconsciously transforms a hotel lounge with the atmos-

phere of a tigh-ceilidh in the far West.

It may not be the "done thing" to adjudicate upon the adjudicators, but they surely will not object if one says that, so far as we could judge, they did their exacting job as well as it could be done. On the whole, in giving their adjudications, they contented themselves with general remarks upon the competition under review, reserving their verdicts on individuals for the ears and eyes of the competitors alone concerned. That, we think, is good policy. Nothing is more exasperating than to have a fine competition followed by ten or fifteen minutes of detailed discussion of technical points which, however necessary, interest only a few. When the adjudicators confine themselves to general principles (by which I don't mean platitudes) they often give the audience a new insight into what has just been listened to. And some of the adjudicators have the knack of dropping "obiter dicta" which stick in the memory: "only what comes from the heart reaches the heart," "to be interesting, you must yourself be interested." Sir Hugh Roberton beautifully described conductors who work with children's choirs as "lighting lamps in all these little minds, a fine job"; and he told us, if we didn't already know it, that we have the finest folk-lore and the finest folk-songs in the world

There was one aspect of the Mod which I haven't yet mentioned, and that is the Celtic Art competitions. The vestibule of the Music Hall carried a display of the fine work done in that department, and there also was a table with copies

of the various publications of An Comunn.

Often I thought, as I sat listening to the competitions, how much hard work had been done week after week throughout the year by so many people in so many places, in Highlands and Lowlands and Islands, in preparation for the Mod. That

work was not wasted, even if it didn't win a prize.

"Aberdeen, 1946," has set the standard for "Perth, 1947" and all the Mods that follow.

## THE 1946 MOD.

By Sir Hugh S. Roberton.

My active connection with the Gaelic Mod covers a period of close on thirty years. During that time I have seen many changes; and yet, the Mod as an institution remains much the same, the same certainly in that atmosphere of warmth and friendliness which has been constant and unchanging down

he years

It is in respect to artistic advancement that the Mod has changed. In the old days we had outstanding singers, both sole and choral. To recall some of the old names is indeed to conjure up what, at the time, were very pleasant surprises. But there was always a solid mass of what we might call unleavened material. The problem was how to work on that material so that it might be brought to rise. The problem was nother to-day, poor performances are very rare. To put it in an other way, peak performances to-day are less isolated. Instead of isolated peaks, we have peaks so frequent as to warrant us in regarding the musical landscape of the Mod in the nature of a mountain range.

Two factors have contributed to this: (1) the rise in the general standard (apart from the Mod), and (2) the use of

open criticism.

In the early days of criticism, judges were often conscious of a certain resentment (a very human failing). And yet, without criticism, and candid criticism at that, the Mod, I am certain, would not have attained its present proud position or anything like it. It should be pointed out here that open criticism was not a feature of the very early Mods. Yes, I am afraid, if we would be well musically, we must be prepared to take our medicine (when we need it), even if it has to be administered in the form of pills without too much sugarcoating.

Anyway, look at the 1946 Mod, and look back a few years before the war, and look especially to the choral classes. Performances of the highest order, not one but many, and some of them from choirs not advantageously located in populous

centres

And the soloists! Not one, but many of the highest order. All this means that the general level has been raised, and that is far more important than the discovery of peaks. Put in another way, it is much more important that the community should be rich than that the riches should be in the hands of

one or two members of the community.

I liked the Aberdeen Mod. I did not have to suffer a moment's boredom at it. The spirit of the competitors was excellent. How vastly that has improved! Grand, too, it was to see the Rural Choire (the brightest jewels in the crown of the Mod) stepping up to the big ones, and, at times, overtaking them in sheer artistry. A feat this, for the big choirs themselves have not by any means been standing still in the last few years.

Much of this all-round progress is attributable to a better standard of conducting. The old four-square mechanical type of beating time has almost entirely disappeared and with its disappearance has come buoyancy and life and freedom and

imagination.

Blasé as I am, there was not a choral performance this year that did not interest me; some of them impressed me deeply; and one or two of them quite carried me away. That this choir or that choir zom is a matter of relatively little account. How can we lose when we are doing our best? And all the choirs were doing that. The cause (of music) is greater than they who take part in it; and, in the case of the Mod, the cause is more than a musical one; it is a racial

The general level of the soloists was high; the medallists excellent. But there were others who proved themselves to be worthy upholders of the Gaelic tradition. Of one of those I remarked that she was "pure gold." Now, I was not referring to her voice (as some of the newspapers thought). I was referring to her singing. In other words, I was referring to the singer and to what she conveyed to me of the pure gold of her personality. That is always what I am after. Singing uninformed by the spirit within does not interest me. Voice is a means to an end; the end must always be a spiritual one. Might I refer our soloists to the 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, though I speak with that, the voice may well be but "as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." It is all in that

chapter-the Law and the Prophets. referred earlier to the medallists of the year. That they completely satisfied me, I am prepared to prove. For have not I been instrumental in having had an invitation extended to them to sing as guest artists at one or other of the December concerts of the Glasgow Orpheus Choir in St. Andrews Hall? On that occasion we will have (at all five concerts) what we are calling a Gaelic Interlude. The other Gaelic singers invited are Alasdair Matheson and Angus Whyte, whose lip-lilling, so infectious in its gaiety, is a thing which I felt should be heard at a purely musical function such as ours. A great welcome awaits them there. This musical step we are taking in homage to An Comunn for all it has done towards the advancement of music in Scotland.

Long live the Mod!

## ----MOD IMPRESSIONS.

By John A. Nicolson.

After an interval of eight years burdened with inconceivable distractions, a lowering of former standards would not have been surprising. That the reverse was the case must be a matter of considerable satisfaction to all parties concerned. From the outset all doubts and misgivings were immediately dispelled, as much by the standard of attainment reached in the language as by the recapturing of that indefinable atmosphere which makes the National Mod such an inspiring and

exhilarating experience.

Instead of any falling off as regards Gaelic, it was gratifying to find that, from Choirs and Soloists alike, a level considerably above pre-war results had been achieved. In enunciation, expression and effective rendering of the several test pieces, excellence is always obtained by a few competitors, but what characterised the recent Mod was the uniformly satisfactory average attained by all the competitors. Slipshod and careless work was conspicuously absent, and evidence of careful and intelligent preparation was strikingly apparent in all competitions.

The competitors relying on the book-that glaring admission of indifferent preparation-could be counted on one hand, and those inclined to resort to little subterfuges to

hide or avoid their difficulties were equally few.

Another feature of this Mod was the fact that in many instances a decided improvement was perceptible as the festival proceeded. More than one aspirant went from strength to strength as he or she warmed to the contest. There were no failures, few without promise, and many were first-rate, although the supreme awards must of necessity be limited.

Then there were the welcome "high lights," the occasionally inspired rendering of a solo which, from the welter of a crowded competition, lingers long in the memory, the happily balanced and, in one or two cases, flawless combination of correct articulation, sound phrasing and feeling for the message of the song in choral work. These seemed more abundant at Aberdeen than they have been in recent years, showing that that aspect of An Comunn's work has not only survived the turmoil and the break but has emerged with gratifying perfection.

There were other pleasing features which should encourage and inspire branches throughout the North and West. Two great Lewis songs must have received handsome treatment in Lochgilphead last winter, with memorable results at this Mod. Should it not be the ambition of more than one rural Gaelic community to attempt to emulate this achievement?

Finally, and most comforting aspect of all from the adjudicator's point of view, it was a very sporting and kindly festival. The atmosphere, tone and spirit throughout were models for the years that lie ahead of An Comunn in its task of maintaining the language.

What has been attained leaves little to be desired by way of quality. What most needs to be done now is to develop a wider interest, and concert measures for producing that same quality of attainment in areas still lukewarm or indifferent. That would seem to be the main challenge now.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Music Hall, Aberdeen, on Saturday, 28th September, at 10 a.m. Mr. Donald MacDonald, President, was in the Chair, and there were 103 members present. The Treasurer, General Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Northern Organiser were in attendance,

In opening the meeting, the President extended a cordial welcome to all present and reviewed the highly successful Mod which had just been concluded, culminating in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth, and H.R.H. The Princess Margaret Rose, at the Grand Concert, when Her Majesty graciously consented to

present the prizes to the various winners.

Minute of Annual General Meeting held in Glasgow on 15th September, 1945, was read. On the motion of Rev. T. M. Murchison, it was agreed that the paragraph re B.B.C. Listening Group should be amended to read "this was remitted to the Executive Council for consideration and decision. being agreed, the Minute was unanimously approved.

## THANKS TO MOD LOCAL COMMITTEE.

The President thanked the Mod Local Committee for their untiring efforts on behalf of the Mod which had so much contributed to the great success which the Mod achieved. He made particular reference to the local Convener, Mr. Dugald MacDonald; the Secretary, Mr. James MacLeod; the Treasurer, Mr. A. E. Milne; and the Convener of the Halls Committee, Mr. Hugh D. Welsh.

## ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

The Secretary intimated the result of the Election of Office-Bearers and that the following had been elected:

For Office of President-Dr. John Cameron (unopposed).

For Office of Vice-President—John A. Nicolson.
For Office as Elected Member of Executive Council— Lachlan MacKinnon, Fort William; Hugh MacPhee, Bearsden; Donald MacDonald, Inverness; Rev. Malcolm MacLean, Conon ; Stewart Cunningham, Killin ; Colin Sinclair, Glascow ; Conon; Sewait Calamana, Theorems; Samuel MacLean, Edinburgh; Robert Bain, Glasgow; John N. MacLeod, Beauly.

Mr. MacDonald thereupon called on Dr. Cameron to take the Chair as the new President of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

## NEW PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Dr. Cameron thanked the members for the honour they had conferred upon him. It was an honour of which he was in many ways unworthy, but it was one of which he was extremely proud. He knew he would have their goodwill and support during his term of office.

The new President referred to the great loss An Comunn had sustained in the death of the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, who had acted as their President for so many years, and whose knowledge of all that pertained to Gaelic and the Highlands generally had a widespread influence in furthering the Gaelic cause. Mr. MacLeod's name would be remembered and held

cause. Ar. hiacteous hame would be temembered and head in high esteem among them for many a day.

"Tha sinn a nis," said Dr. Cameron, "aig tòiseachadh ùr ann an obair a' Chomuinn; agus an uair a bheirear sùil mu'n cuairt chithear móran ùpraide air feadh an t-saoghail gu Tha na bunaitean air an robh móran a' stéidheachadh an dòchais 'gar treigsinn, agus mar sin 'ga dheanamh nas doirbhe dhuinn ar cànain agus gach ni a bhuineas di a chumail suas. An deidh na h-ùpraide a dh'aobharaich an cogadh

oillteil a chaidh seachad, tha e mar fhiachaibh oirnne gach fàth a ghabhail agus gach oidhirp a dheanamh a chum 's gum bi obair a' Chomuinn chan ann a mhàin air a chumail a' dol ach gum bi e air a thogail nas àirde agus air a dhaingneachadh nas diongmhalta na bha e riamh roimhe : mar is dorra agus is cruaidhe an t-strìth, is ann is dàine agus is déine a dh'fheumas sinne a dhol ri gnìomh."

"We must be united," continued Dr. Cameron. "We may have different views and different methods, but we have a common ideal and a common purpose. We love our language. and we love our Highlands and Islands. After all, we have much to fight for. Our race were the torch-bearers of the ancient world. They contributed certain forms of sensibility and humanity which are still the possession of Western Europe. It is sometimes, however, stated by writers, who claim to be authorities, that the mission of the Celtic peoples is now ended and that their travels have come to a stop at the fringes of the Western Sea; that beyond the sea is their next world; and that they now stay on the shore waiting for the ferry. We do not, we must not, believe this. We believe that the Golden Age of the Gael is not in the past but in the future. And in this belief I trust that together we shall accomplish something that will not be unworthy of the fine men and women who have gone before us and who have laboured in this Cause. Their memory will be an incentive and an inspiration to us to go forward with steadfastness and courage and not to falter in the way.'

### TRIBUTE TO PAST PRESIDENT AND OFFICE STAFF.

Dr. Cameron thanked Mr. Donald MacDonald for the splendid service which he had rendered to An Comunn in the past, and especially in connection with the recent Mod. It was their loss that Mr. MacDonald was not continuing as their President, but they were glad that they would still have the benefit of his guidance and wise counsel as a member of the Executive Council.

The President also paid high tribute to Mr. Shaw, Mr. Graham, Mr. Matheson, Mr. MacPhail, and Miss Turner for

their devoted service.

Through the election of Dr. Cameron as President a casual vacancy had arisen in the office of Vice-President, and Mr. Farquhar MacRae was unanimously elected to fill this vacancy. Through the election of Mr. John A. Nicolson and Mr. Farquhar MacRae to be Vice-Presidents, two casual vacancies had occurred in the Executive Council. These were filled by the appointment of Sir T. Stewart MacPherson and Mr. Charles Reppke, in accordance with Bye-law 24.

Consideration was given to the Annual Accounts and the Reports of the Standing Committees, and these were approved on the motion of Mr. Dugald MacDonald, seconded by Mr. Donald MacDonald. The auditors, Messrs. Gillespie and

Anderson, were unanimously re-appointed.

Mr. D. C. Cowan referred to the Inverness Office and suggested that a capable clerkess should be appointed to relieve Mr. MacPhail from routine office work. referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

## THE 1947 AND 1948 MODS.

The Secretary reported that the necessary preliminary arrangements were being made for the next National Mod,

which is to be held in Perth in September, 1947.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Murdo MacLeod, Secretary of Glasgow Central Branch of An Comunn, inviting the 198 Mede by held in Gasgow Mr. John A. McMorn moved that this invitation be accepted. This was seconded by Mr. Kenneth MacDonald. Mr. Donald MacDonald moved that the 1948 Mod be held in Inverness, and this was seconded by Captain Wr. MacKay. Mr. Donald MacDona moved that the 1948 Mod be held in Stormoway, and this was seconded by Captain Wr. MacKay. Mr. John MacKay.

After a full discussion, Mr. MacLean withdrew his motion on the understanding that the Executive of An Comunn will explore the possibility of holding the National Mod in Stornoway at some date in the not too distant future. This was accepted. The other two motions were put to the vote, and the meeting voted by a substantial majority that the 1948 Mod

should be held in Inverness.

The Motion by Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association re Gaelic Test was remitted to the Mod and Music Committee for

consideration and report to the Executive Council. The Motion by Mr. Donald Thomson re alteration to Bye-

law 20 was remitted to the Executive Council, as, in accordance with Bye-law 47, the Executive Council alone is competent. to deal with alterations to Bye-laws.

Mr. Nicol Campbell withdrew his Motion re alteration to Rule 24.

## WELCOME TO "AN SEABHAC."

The President extended a cordial welcome to "An Seabhac" as a delegate from Ireland, as a member of An Comunn, and as one who had a great deal to do with the Eire Mod. "An Seabhac" spoke in Scots Gaelic and extended a cordial invitation to An Comunn to send a delegation to the Eire Féis (Mod) which would be held in October. He also hoped that An Comunn would join with his own Association and help revive the Celtic Congress and in addition form an organisation to collect our still unpublished ancient folk-lore. It was decided that the Rev. Malcolm MacLean, Conon, should represent An Comunn at the Eire Mod, and "An Seabhac" moved that Mr. Neil Shaw should also attend. Malcolm MacLean moved that invitations to attend the National Mod should be sent to all Celtic Nations, and it was agreed to remit this suggestion to the Executive Council Mr. Dugald MacDonald suggested that it should be

incumbent on Branches of An Comunn to give a minimum annual donation of £10 from their funds to the National Mod Fund. He also suggested that the work of the Mod local committee in preparing the ground for the National Mod should be acknowledged at the Official Opening of the Mod instead of at the Annual Meeting of An Comunn. Mr. Hector MacDougall suggested that An Comunn should have a Bookstall on a larger scale at the Mod and display Irish Books for sale

as well as our own.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE MODS.

Rev. T. M. Murchison suggested that in future the President of An Comunn should hold an official reception during the Mod week, when hospitality might be given to leaders of the community among whom the Mod was being held, the local committee, delegates from other countries, and other guests whom An Comunn might wish to honour: the cost of the reception to be a charge on An Comunn funds.

Mr. Murchison also suggested that the General Secretary of An Comunn and his staff should be given adequate extra clerical assistance prior to and during the Mod, in view of the very large amount of office work caused by the ever-increasing size of the Mod. Mr. Hugh MacPhee associated himself with these suggestions.

THANKS TO ABERDEEN.

Mr. Murchison further suggested that a letter of appreciation be sent to the Lord Provost of Aberdeen for the kind hospitality extended to the Mod by the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Town Council of the city, and also to the Mod Local Committee for the excellent work they had done on behalf of the Mod.

Mr. John M. Bannerman moved a Vote of Thanks to the President for his conduct of the meeting and for his inspiring address on taking office. This being cordially granted, the meeting terminated.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The new President of An Comunn, Dr. John Cameron, resided at the preliminary meeting of the Executive Council following the Annual General Meeting, in the Music Hall, Aberdeen.

Consideration was given to the appointments to Standing Committees. Dr. Cameron intimated that he was resigning his office as Convener of the Finance Committee, and, on the motion of Mr. D. S. MacKinnon, Mr. John A. Nicolson was appointed to this office. Rev. T. M. Murchison and Mr. H. S. Shield were appointed to fill vacancies on the Finance Committee caused by the retirement of Mrs. J. R. Colouboun and the President (now a member ex-officio).

AN GAIDHEAL.

Two vacancies on the Education Committee were filled by Mr. Kenneth MacDonald and Mr. Sam MacLean. A vacancy on the Propaganda Committee was filled by the appointment of Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, and Mr. John MacKay stood down in favour of Mr. Donald MacLean as he thought that new members of the Executive Council should be encouraged to take their place in the work of An Comunn.

Mrs. Bannerman, Dr. Colin Sinclair, and Mr. Stewart Cunningham were appointed to fill vacancies on the Art and Industry Committee, and Mr. Chas. Reppke was appointed to fill one vacancy on the Mod and Music Committee. There was no change in the composition of the Publication Committee

and Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich.

The Secretary read a letter from the Secretary of the McCaig Trust requesting An Comunn to appoint a Governor in place of the late Rev. Malcolm MacLeod. The Rev. T. M. Murchison was unanimously appointed, on the motion of Mr.

J. M. Bannerman.

A letter was read from the Scottish Education Department inviting An Comunn to accept a place on UNESCO (the United Nations Education, Science, and Culture Organisation) by nominating a representative to the Co-operating Body for the Fine Arts. This organisation was formed at the United Nations Conference last November and, in view of the great number and variety of voluntary organisations in the United Kingdom, it has been agreed that a series of ten Co-operating Amguoin, it has oeen agreed that a series of ten Co-operating Bodies would suit the purpose better than a single Commission. These Co-operating Bodies will cover Education, the Fine Arts, Libraries and Museums. It was agreed to accept this invitation and to nominate Dr. Colin Sinclair as the representative of An Comunn on the Co-operating Body for the

Mr. John M. Bannerman referred to the absence of a report from the Special Re-organisation Committee, and moved that a report be submitted to the November meeting of the Execu-

Mr. John MacKay submitted that the site of the Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp at Annat was most unsuitable, and moved that Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich make arrangements as soon as possible to acquire another site.

A Vote of Thanks to the President terminated the meeting.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

## Northern Area.

The National Victory Mod has given an impetus to the Gaelic cause throughout the Highlands. Many of those who were privileged to be at the Mod have come back to the glens determined to revive An Comunn activities, and, already, in several places, Branches which were dormant during the war have been re-constituted. And by those who could not attend the Mod the broadcasts by the B.B.C. were keenly appreciated.

## PORTREE'S TRIUMPH.

The Portree Secondary School Junior Choir, winners of the Choral and Unison Trophies, had a great reception on their return to Skye. The boat on which they travelled from Skye carried all the bunting of a great occasion, and, on arrival at Portree, the Pipe Band was there to welcome the winners and their conductor, Miss Margaret MacDonald, and Miss Chrissie MacMillan who accompanied them. The children will not readily forget their first National Mod. In order to make good the expenses incurred in travelling such a long way to Aberdeen, a Concert is to be given by the children on 30th October, when they can be sure of a full house. The children would express their cordial thanks to Mr. Angus Robertson for the handsome donation of £10 which he has given to their

## DINGWALL.

Dingwall Branch has lost no time in preparing for the new session. On September 30th the Organiser was present at a specially convened meeting of the Branch under the chairmanship of the President, Ex-Provost John MacRae. Rev. Malcolm MacLean, a member of the Executive Council, was also present. Members were enrolled for a Gaelic Continuation Class under the auspices of the Ross-shire Education Committee, a Gaelic Choir is to be formed, and every effort is to be made to hold a local Mod in 1947.

## DORNIE, KINTAIL.

On October, 8th the Organiser visited Dornie and attended a meeting called for the purpose of re-constituting the Kintail Branch. It was the unanimous wish of those present that the Branch should be revived, and this was successfully accomplished. The new President is of course a MacRath—Duncan Farquhar MacRae, Bundaloch. He has seen service with the R.A.F. during the war years. He is a former medallist at the South-West Ross and Glenelg Provincial Mod. The choice of President is an excellent one, and Mr. MacRae will have the wholehearted support of every member. In appointing Miss K. T. MacRae to the joint offices of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer the Committee has selected one who has given good service to the cause over a number of years. The Rev. T. M. Murchison has been invited to represent the Branch on the Executive Council. It is hoped to put forward to next year's Mod at Kyle a Senior and a Junior Choir in addition to individual competitors.

## KINGUSSIE.

Kingussie Branch has also been revived. Mr. John Mac-Kinnon, M.A., who was Hon. Secretary prior to his joining the Scots Guards at the beginning of the war, is safely home again, and he has resumed his duties as Hon, Secretary. The Branch is to hold its first Ceilidh on October 30th.

## NEWTONMORE AND GLEN UROUHART.

Arrangements have just been made to hold Gaelic Music Continuation Classes at Newtonmore and Glen Urguhart. These will be conducted under the auspices of the Inverness County Education Committee as last year.

## PROVINCIAL MODS.

A meeting will be held shortly to make arrangements for next year's Lochaber Provincial Mod, and a good deal of spadework falls to be done in order to organise Mods in Skye, Lewis, Kyle, Badenoch, and the County of Sutherland.

A meeting of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee is to be held on October 12th when all of the above mentioned activities will be reviewed and the work of the new session got under way. It is fully realised that the current session is probably the most important in An Comunn's history, and with the 1948 National Mod fixed for Inverness the slogan is-FORWARD.

## GLASGOW AND GOVAN BRANCHES. Grand Concert.

The Joint-Committee of the Glasgow and Govan Branches of An Comunn held their Fourth Annual Concert in the St. Andrews Halls on Friday, 13th

An outstanding Highlander, the Archbishop of Glasgow

(Dr. D. A. Campbell), occupied the Chair.

His Grace delivered an eloquent speech in Gaelic and English, in which he complimented An Comunn on the great work which is being done for Gaelic and what pertains to it. Rev. Dr. Alexander MacDonald, St. Columba's Parish Church, Glasgow, fittingly expressed the huge audience's appreciation of the Archbishop's presence and address, and moved a cordial vote of thanks.

The programme was sustained by Neil MacLean, Angus Whyte, Alasdair Matheson, Kitty MacLeod, Petrine M. Stewart, Mary H. Pate, James MacInnes, the combined Gaelic Choirs of Queen's Park, Adelphi Terrace and Shakespeare Street Schools, conducted by Mr. Hume D.

Robertson.

Further variety was added to an excellent programme by a very amusing Gaelic Sketch brilliantly performed by Katie MacDonald and Winnie Young. Another highlight of the evening was the duet renderings of Puirt-a-Beul by Alasdair Matheson and Angus Whyte, with Petrine M. Stewart at the Piano. This trio toured the Southern Highlands last winter in company with Mr. Neil

Shaw and raised a large sum for An Comunn's Central The programme also included items by the Glasgow

Police Pipe Band, fresh from their latest triumph at the Cowal Gathering. The accompanists were Mr George J. Dryden and Miss Chris Turner.

Mr John A. Nicolson and his Joint-Committee have indeed good reason to be satisfied with the success which attended this excellent Gathering, which was an inspiring beginning for the new winter session. Monthly Concerts are to be held in the Christian Institute throughout the session, beginning on Saturday, 16th November.

## CENTRAL (WAR COMFORTS) COMMITTEE.

Flag Day.

Under the auspices of the above Committee, and in aid of the Highlands and Islands War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund, a Flag Day will be held in Glasgow on Saturday, 16th November, which it is hoped will considerably augment the Fund.

Mr. John Murray, the energetic President of the Glasgow Sutherland Association, is Convener of the Sub-Committee which is organising the Flag Day.

## MOD PRIZE-LIST. LITERARY COMPETITIONS.

Junior Section.

Adjudicators-John MacKenzie, Greenock; Donald c., Biggar; Rev. John MacIntyre, MacNair, B.Sc.,

MacNair, S.S.C., Diggar; Rev. John MacIncyre, B.D., Kimelford, Groups "A"—Pupils in First Year Post-Qualifying Groupses: (a) Translation of an easy passage of Gaelic prose into English, and (b) Translation of simple sentences from English to Gaelic—I, Christy C. Morrisor; 2 and 3 (equal) Rodina MacDonald and Ina MacSween; 2 and 3 (equal) Rodina MacDonald and Ina MacSween; MacLelyna MacChina. 6 More MacChina MacChina. 2 and 6 (equal) Rouna MacDonald and the MacSween; 4, Malcolm MacKinnon; 5, Mary Morrison; 6, Murdo MacLeod; 7, Agnes MacKinnon; 8, Margaret MacKillop; 9, William N. MacDonald; 10, Kenneth MacLennan. [All of these are pupils of Sir Edward Scott School,

Group "B"-Pupils in Second Year Post-Qualifying curup D—rupis in Secona icar ros-qualitymic Courses: (a Reproduction in Gaelic of a short English story read twice by the teacher, and (b) Translation of English sentences into Gaelie—1, Malcolm Campbell; 2, Christina MacKay; 3, Murdo Aliastair Turner; 4, Donald A. MacLeody, 5, Mary MacDonald; 6, Bella Campbell; 7, Sheila MacKillop. (All of these are pupils of Sir Edward

Scott School, Harris.)
Group "C"—Pupils in Third Year Post-Qualifying
Courses: (a) Translation of an English prose passage into Gaelie, and (b) Translation of a Gaelie passage (prose or verse) into English—1, Neil Campbell; 2, John MacKinnon; 3, Margaret A. Campbell; 4, Angus MacIver; 5, Janet Morrison; 6, Annie MacKay; 7, Angus Morrison; 8, Peter MacAskill; 9, Joan MacLeod; 10, Katie Morrison. (All of these are pupils of Sir Edward

Scott School, Harris.)
Group "F"—Special Competitions: Essay in Gaelic on the Life of Moses :- Boys-1, Malcolm Campbell, Sir Edward Scott School, Harris; 2, Donald MacLean, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway. Girls—1, Margaret MacIver, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 2, Nancy

MacIver, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 2, Nancy MacIver, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway.

Group "G"—Special Prizes for efficiency in Gaelic in Secondary School Examinations (beyond Third Year): Dingwall Academy—Class IV, Catherine A, MacRay Class V, Lachlan G, MacKinnon. Fort William Secondary School—Class IV, Ann Beaton; Class V, Jonald John MacLennan. Inverness Royal Academy—Class IV, Katie M. MacLennan. Inverness Royal Academy—Class IV, Katie M. MacLennan. Class V, Mary M. MacLellan. Nicolson Institute. Stornoway—Class IV, Annabella MacLennan: Class V.

Henrietta MacAulay; Class VI, Annie Morrison. Oban High School—Class IV, Isobel Irvine; Class V, Christina MacDonald; Class VI, Elizabeth MacDonald. Portree Secondary School—Class IV, Donald A. MacDonald; Class V, Macolm M. Campbell; Class VI, Jesse M. MacDonald

Senior Section.

Adjudicators—Rev. Alexander MacKinnon, B.D., Ph.D., Kilmonivaig; Dr. D. J. MacLeod, O.B.E., Inverness; Iain F. Steele, M.A., Portree; Alexander Urquhart, M.A., Stornoway; Hugh MacPhee, Glasgow; Ronald MacLeod, M.A., H.M.I.S., Edinburgh; John M. Bannerman, M.A., B.Sc., Balmaha.

Silver Cup presented by the Earl and Countess of Cassillis, awarded to the competitor having the highest number of marks in Senior Literary Competitions in which he (or she) has been a prize-winner-Edward Pursell, M.A., Campbeltown.

Gold Medal presented by Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria, given to the most distinguished prize-winner in the Literary Competitions (former winners debarred)—

Roderick Thomson, Bayble, Lewis.

Poem on any subject—1, Iain A. MacLeod, M.A.,
Sunderland; 2, Donald MacIntyre, Paisley.

Short Story, not exceeding 600 words—1, Edward Pursell, M.A., Campbeltown; 2, Roderick Thomson, Bayble, Lewis.

Gaelic story, extending to 2,000 words or more, based on actual historical incidents or local legends (Prize of £5 presented by the Gaelic Society of Glasgow)-1, Edward Pursell, M.A., Campbeltown; 2, Roderick Thomson, Bayble, Lewis, Gaelic Play of one Act, to take not more than 40 minutes in delivery (Prize of £5 presented by Ceilidh nan

Gaidheal in memory of Archd. MacCulloch) -1, Mrs. Kate Douglas, Kilmuir, Skye, and John MacArthur, Bayble,

Lewis (equal). Action Songs for Children, not less than three with

Action Songs for Uniform, not sess than three with music (Prize of £5 presented by Mr. Robert MacKillan, Glasgow)—Mrs V. Mathieson, Nethybridge. Essay, on any subject—1, Edward Pursell, M.A., Campbeltown; 2, Roderick Thomson, Bayble, Lewis. Compilation of Unpublished Gaelic Vocal Music—Mrs. Kate Douglas, Kilmuir, Skye.

## CELTIC ART COMPETITIONS.

Adjudicator—Dr. Colin Sinclair, Glasgow.
Poster to advertise MOD. (Prize, £10 10s)—Miss
Catriona Cunningham, Kinbuck.
Shepherd's Working Cromag—Donald Cowan,

Shepherd's Bunessan, Mull.

Duniers (under 18);—Celtic Design to fill an oblong panel—1, Colin G. Campbell, Montrose; 2 (equal) Sidney Robb and William Allan, Southern District School, Perth; 3 (equal), Robert H. Gardner and Hector C. Nell, Southern District School. Perth.

Calendar in Celtic Design-1, no award; 2, Duncan M. Sinclair, Kinloch Rannoch.

Junior Section.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William; Rev. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., Aberdeen. Reciting from memory—1, Janet M. Bannerman, Balmaha; 2, John W. M. Bannerman, Balmaha;

## VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators-Gaelic-John A. Nicholson, Glasgow, and Rev. Dr. Alexander MacDonald, Glasgow, Music—Sir Hugh S. Roberton, Glasgow, and Dr. J. Frederic Staton, Chesterfield.

Solo singing (girls) (Songs prescribed-"Ille Dhuinn" and "Gur trom, trom a ta mi")—1, Cathie Brownie, Carradale; 2, Margaret MacDonald, Glasgow; 3 (equal), AN GAIDHEAL.

Edith Mackerrall, Nethybridge, and Mairead MacLaren.

Solo singing (boys) (Songs prescribed—"Mo shuil ad dheidh" and "Tiugainn leam")—1, Thomas MacKenna, Kinlochiel; 2, Argyll MacMillan, Carradale.

Traditional singing of an unpublished song-Christine

M. MaoBride, Glasgow

Solo singing (Silver Medal competition—Girls) (Songs prescribed—"Ho mu Luran" and "Miogach, milis thu")—1, Sheila A. MacDougall, Glasgow; 2, Christine M.

—1, Sheila A. MacDougall, Glasgow; 2, Christine M. MacBride, Glasgow; 3, Anne M. Gillies, Glasgow. Solo singing (Silver Medal competition—Boys) (Songs prescribed—"Mo Dhachaidh" and "Hug Gireann O")—1, Murdo Montgomery, Aberdeen; 2, David C. MacBride, Glasgow; 3, Angus MacLean, Glasgow. Duet singing (Song—"Siubhal Fasaich")—Cathie Brownie, Carradale, and Marjorie Macdonald, Carradale. Action Song ("Shiant Shield," presented by Mr. Compton MacKenzie)—Carradale Junior Gaelic Choir. Solo singing (girls, 16-18 years)—1, Roberta MacDougall, Carradale; 2, Marion MacLeod, Portree; 3 (equal), Sheana P. MacGillivray, Glasgow, and C.

Shaw, Carradale. Choral singing (Mrs. Miller's Trophy) (Songs prescribed
—"Gur moch rinn mi dusgadh" and "Am Bata
Rannach")—1, Carradale Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Glasgow

Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir. Unison singing by junior choirs (Mrs. Campbell Blair Trophy) (Songs prescribed—"Iorram Cuain" and "Puirt-a-Beul")—1, Portree Secondary School Junior Choir; 2,

Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir. Choral singing ("Oban Times" Challenge Trophy) (Songs prescribed—"Thug mi 'n oidhche raoir sunndach' and "Maol Ruanaidh')—I, Portree Secondary School Junior Choir; 2, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir.

## WEDNESDAY.

Senior Section. Adjudicators-Gaelic-Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., and John A. Nicolson, M.A. Music—Sir Hugh S. Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton.

Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton.

Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton.

Solo singing of the Oran-Mor, "Oran Mor MhicLeoid' (female voices) (The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize)—Miss Rose B. MacConnachie, Southend.

Solo singing of the Oran-Mor, "Tain Caimbeul a' Bhanca" (Inale voices) (The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize)—Iain R. Douglas, Glasgow.

Best seasolesing of two Sense from Mrs. Kanaedy.

Best rendering of two Songs from Mrs. Kennedy Fraser's "Songs of the Hebrides" ("The Harper" and "Skye Water Kelpie's Lullaby")—1, Miss Chrissie MacKenzie, Kiltarlity; 2, Miss Rose B. MacConnachie, Southend.

Solo singing of an unpublished Mull or Iona song (Glasgow Mull and Iona Association prizes)—I, Donald MacVicar, Glasgow; 2, Miss Margaret MacMillan,

Solo singing of a song, to encourage the revival of the older or less known district songs (Prizes presented by Mrs. Ryan, Roy-Bridge — Alex. J. MacDonald, Glasgow; 2a, Thomas M. Crawford, Dunoon; 2b, Miss Jean Cameron Greer, Glasgow; 3a, Donald MacVicar, Glasgow; 3h (equal), Miss Isabel MacKechnie, Glasgow. and Miss Margaret MacMillan, Glasgow; 3c (equal), Mrs. Isabel Campbell, Lochgilphead, and Donald W. MacRitchie, Glasgow.

Oban and Lorn Association War Commemoration Medal (open), for the best rendering of one of the Media (open), for the observements of one of the following songs by Lorn Bards, "Ceòl nan Cruinneag" and "Coire Cheathaich" (Prizes presented by Glasgow Oban and Lorn Association)—1 (Gold Badge), Miss Margaret MacMillan, Glasgow; 2, Miss Nan Hunter,

Solo singing (female voices-confined to members of An Comunn Gaidhealach or of its Branches and Affiliated Societies) (The Bessie Campbell Memorial Prizes)—1, Miss Ina MacLellan, Glasgow; 2, Miss Iseabal M. Stewart, Oban.

Solo singing (Male voices-confined to members of An Comunn Gaidhealach or of its Branches and Affiliated Societies)—I, Donald MacSporran, Cardross; 2 (equal), James Grant Scott, Kinloch Rannoch, and Thomas M. Crawford, Dunoon.

## THURSDAY.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—Rev. Dr. Alexander MacDonald; John MacDonald, M.A.; Donald Thomson, M.A.

Recitation of the Poem, "Eilean na h-Oige"—1, Miss Katie MacDonald, Kilmuir, Skye; 2, Miss Williamina M.

Young, Carbost, Skye.

Recitation of the Prose Piece, "Mac Mhuirich Staolagaraidh"—1, William MacAulay Harris; 2, Miss

Nan Hunter, Duror, Reading of an unfamiliar Piece of Prose-1. Miss Katie MacDonald, Kilmuir, Skye; 2, John N. MacKay, Bridge

Ancient Folk-tale, narrated in traditional style-1,

John N. MacKay, Bridge of Orchy; 2, John MacLeod Glasgow.

Best prepared Original Gaelic Speech on any Subject-1, William MacAulay, Harris; 2, John MacLeod, Glasgow. Best Acted Dialogue (Queen Elizabeth Coronation Trophy)—1, Miss Williamina M. Young and Miss Katie MacDonald; 2, John MacLeod and Miss Susan MacDonald, Glasgow. Glasgow Skye Association Gold Medal (awarded to

competitor gaining highest aggregate marks in competitions 38, 39, 40—recitations and reading)—Miss Katie

MacDonald, Kilmuir, Skye.

## VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—John A. Nicolson, M.A., and Donald Thomson, M.A. Music—Sir Hugh S. Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton. Folk-song Competition—Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., and Donald Thomson, M.A.

Donald Industry, Al.A.
Solo singing of song connected with County of Inverness (James Grant Memorial Prizes)—Male voices—1, Donald MacVicar, Glasgow; 2, Alex. J. MacDonald, Glasgow. Female voices—1, Miss Rose B. MacConnachie, Southend; 2, Miss Jean Cameron Greer, Glasgow,

Solo singing of prescribed Uist and Barra song, "Nionag Bhoidheach Uidhisteach," and two unpublished Puirt-a-beul (Strathspey and Reel) (Prizes presented by Glasgow Uist and Barra Association)—I, Miss Ina MacLellan, Glasgow; 2, Miss Iseabal M. Stewart, Oban. Best rendering of two unpublished Gaelic Folk-songs (The Scotia Trophy)—1. Miss Rose B. MacConnaclie. Southend; 2, Alex. J. MacDonald, Glasgow; 3, Neil

MacCalman, Islay.

Solo singing with the Clarsach (Song prescribed—"Or a Bhonnagan"—with song chosen by competitor) (First prize—Silver Clarsach Brooch and "Hilda Mary Campbell Clarsach") (Prizes presented by Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airad))—Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, Morven. Playing of two Gaelic Airs on the Clarsach (Prizes presented by Edinburgh Branch of Comunn na Clarsaich)

-Miss Edith L. O. Taylor.

Accompanying of a Singer with the Clarsach (Prescribed pieces—"A Mhàiri Bhòidheach'' and "Dh'éirich mi moch madainn Chéitin'') (Prizes presented by Mrs Duncan MacLeod of Skeabost)-1, Miss May F. Hunter, Fairlie; 2, Miss Edith L. O. Taylor.

Solo singing of a Song (competitors to be natives of Glenmoriston, Glenurquhart and Stratherrick districts or, failing such, natives of County of Inverness, excluding burghs with population of 2,000 or more) (Mrs Quintin MacLennan Prizes)—1, Mrs. M. MacGillivray, Fort William; 2, Miss Anne Mackintosh, Nether Lochaber.

Gold Medal Final Competitions.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Rev. Dr. Alexander MacDonald and John A. Nicolson, M.A. Music—Sir Hugh S. Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton. Solo singing of the songs, "O's tu's gur a tu th'air

m'aire" (ladies) and "A chailin donn a' chuailein réidh" (men), along with song chosen by competitor—Ladies—1, Miss Rose B. MacConnachie, Southend; 2, Miss Jean Cameron Greer, Glasgow. Men—1, Donald MacVicar, Glasgow; 2, Iain A. MacSween, Glasgow.

Glasgow; 2, Iani A. Maccaveen, Glasgow.
Gold Medallists (aggregate of marks in specified
competitions)—Ladies—I (and Gold Medal), Miss Rose
B. MacConnachie, Southend; 2, Miss Jean Cameron
Greer Glasgow; 3 (equal), Miss Margaret MacMillan,
Glasgow, and Mrs. Isabal Campbell, Lochgiphead,
Men—I (and Gold Medal), Donald MacVicar, Glasgow;
2, 14:19—Donales, Glasgow; 3, May J. Markhesseld, 2, Iain R. Douglas, Glasgow; 3, Alex. J. MacDonald, Glasgow.

## Choral Competitions.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—John A. Nicolson, M.A., and Donald Thomson, M.A. Music—Sir Hugh S. Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton.

Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton.

Choral singing of the songs, "Elean Leidhais" and
"Eliean mo ghaoil" (confined to choirs from rural
districts, excluding towns of more than 2,000 population)
(Sheriff MacMaster Campbell Memorial Cuach)—1,
Lechgluphead Gaelic Choir; Z. Klimallie Gaelic Choir.

Choral singing of the songs, "Till, till, oligi mo Rhin"
and "Nunn do, Mhulle" (confined to cloirs from rural
and "Nunn do, Mhulle")

districts, excluding town of more than 2,000 population) (at least 50 per cent, of each choir to be Gaelic speakers) (Lorn Shield, presented by Colonel and Mrs Iain Campbell (Airds) ]—1, Lochgilphead Gaelic Choir; 2, Abernethy Gaelic Choir; 3, Kilmallie Gaelic Choir; 4, Glenurguhart Gaelic Choir.

## FRIDAY.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—John A. Nicolson, M.A. Music— Sir Hugh S. Roberton, Pipe-Major John Gilbert assisted with Puirt-a-Beul Competition.

Duet singing of a song—1, Miss Nan Hunter and Miss Mary F. Hunter, Duror; 2, Miss Jinty MacLean and Miss Mary MacGilp, Greenock.

Choral singing of the songs "Gon an till mi nall" and "Dh'fhalbh mo leannan fhein" (female voices only) Esme Smyth Trophy)—1, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2 and 3 (equal), Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir and Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Choir.

Gaelic Musical Association Choir.

Choral singing of the Puirt-a-Beul. "Na maragan aig
Ruairidh" and "Am Mulleann Dubh" by J. Mactaggart,
to be sung strictly according to dance measure
(Greenock Gaelic Choir Cup)—1, Lochgilphead Gaelic
Choir; 2, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Choir; 3,

Govan Gaelic Choir. Adjudicators-Gaelic-Rev. Dr. Alexander MacDonald.

Music—Dr. J. Frederic Staton.
Quartette singing of the song "'S i mo leannan an té
"' (S.A.T.B.)—I, "The Lute" Quartette, Greenock; 2, "Kilchoman" Quartette.

Choral singing of two songs, with or without chorus, in three or four-part harmony, "Triall-mara na h-P" and "Mo Chaileag Shuaineartach" (male voices only) (Mull and Iona Shield)-1, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Choir.

Adjudicatore—Gaeli —Rev. Dr. Alexander MacDonald and John A. Nicolson, M.A. Music—Sir Hugh S. Roberton and Dr. J. Frederic Staton.

Choral singing of two songs, with or without chorus, in four-part harmony, "Oran an amadain bhòidhich" and "'S tu mo rùn" (at least 50 per cent. of each choir to be Gaelic speakers) (Lovat and Tullibardine Trophy)

—1, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Choir; 2, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 3, Comunn Ciùil an Obain; 4, Govan Gaelic Choir.

## Instrumental Music.

Adjudicators-Miss Margaret MacKay, A.L.C.M., and Charles Cuthbert. Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey and Reel on the Pianoforte (Seniors-confined strictly to amateurs)

(The Aberdeenshire Targe, presented by the Aberdeen and (The Aderucenshire Targe, presented by the Aderucenshire District Pipers' Society)—1, Miss Sheila R. Lessels, Coatbridge; 2, Miss Margaret A. Ross, Glasgow; 3, Mrs. A. Crawford, Lochgilphead.

Playing of a slow Gaelic Air and March (bagpipe

setting) on the Pianoforte (confined to juniors)—Miss Isabel C. Gordon, Drumlithie.

Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey and Reel on the Violin (confined to amateurs)—1, Donald U. Johnston, Glasgow; 2, Iain R. Douglas, Glasgow; 3, Ian Kennedy, Banavie.

Playing of Strathspey and Reel on the Violin (competitors to be natives of Glenmoriston, Glenurquhart and Stratherrick districts or, failing such, natives of County of Inverness, excluding burghs with population of 2,000 or more) (Mrs. Quintin MacLennan Prizes)-1. Iain R. Douglas, Glasgow; 2, Ian Kennedy, Banavie.

## 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, during the years of its emorror mactivity, 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 £31 4 6 Capt. Alan MacColl, B.A.O.R. - 8 6 Mrs. Jeannie de Sales La Terriere, of Dun Alastair, Perthshire 3 ---- 5 -

Alexander Cameron, Esq., Lochgoil

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## NATIONAL MOD, ABERDEEN.

Previously acknowledged ... £1,006 11 1 RECEIVED AT HEAD OFFICE-James T. Anton, Esq., Bridge of Cally Glasgow Inverness shire Association 2 2 -Uist and Barra Association ... Campbeltown Branch .. 3 3 ---Lt. Col. A. D. G. Gardyne of Glenforsa, Forfar ... ... 2 2 -Abernethy Branch ... Edinburgh Branch Edinburgh Branch ... Mrs. David Bell, Amulree ... - 10 -Roderick MacErlich, Esq., Lochmaddy Lochmaddy ... Oban and Lorn Association ... Professor John MacLeod, D.D., Aberdeen 2 2 --Angus Duncan, B.D., Fife (additional donation) ... ... - 10 6 Norman M. Campbell, Esq., Glasgow, C.3. ... Miss Elizabeth A. Templeton. 1 1 -Greenock - 10 -Greenock ... ... Fort William Branch ... Farquhar MacRae, Esq., M.A., B.Sc., Busby -- 11 --Mrs. A. Currie, Arran - 3 6 Mr. and Mrs. J. MacDonald

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Leabhar XLII

An Dùbhlachd, 1016.

[Earrann 3

### A' GHAIDHLIG ANNS NA SGOILEAN-IOSAL.

Ann an litir Bheurla air duilleig eile de'n àireamh so tha neach a' togail ceist nach bu chòir, agus nach gabh, seachnadh. Is e sin suidheachadh na Gàidhlig ann an sgoilean-ìosal na dùthcha, am measg na cloinne a tha eadar cóig is dà bhliadhna dheug a dh'aois.

Tha dà thaobh air a' cheist. An toiseach, a bheil a' Ghàidhlig a' faotainn an àite as còir dhi anns na sgoilean-ìosal? Tha fhios againn uile nach 'eil. Tha fhios againn cuideachd gu bheil sgoilean ann far a bheil a' Ghàidhlig air a teagasg gu dìleas, agus gu bheil luchd-teagaisg ann an sud agus an so aig a bheil ùidh shònraichte do'n chànain. Ach chan 'eil na sgoilean dìleas agus an luchd-teagaisg dìchiollach ach a' deanamh nas soilleire neo-shuim agus dearmad na feadhna eile. Ged nach biodh againn ach na dh' innis Mgr. Eachann MacDhùghaill dhuinn ann an Litir Comunn na h-Oigridh anns an dà àireamh mu dheireadh, bu leòir sin gu bhith foillseachadh gur ann air droch chàradh a tha a' Ghàidhlig an iomadh sgoil air a' Ghàidhealtachd.

Is e an nì eile a tha ag éirigh bho'n cheist: a bheil clann aig a bheil a' Ghàidhlig mar an cainnt mhàthaireil a' faotainn na dh'fhaodadh iad de bhuannachd á tcagasg na sgoile mas ann am Beurla a tha na cuspairean-sgoile air an teagasg dhaibh. Beagan bhliadhnachan air ais rinn Mgr. Iain R. MacGhille-mhoire mìn-sgrùdadh mu'n chùis; agus b'e an comh-dhunadh gus an tàinig e gu bheil a' chlann aig a bheil a' Ghàidhlig mar an cainnt mhàthaireil air dheireadh air cloinn eile a thaobh tuigse agus eòlais air cuspairean-sgoile, agus sin a chionn 's gur ann tre chànain choimhich a tha iad air an teagasg.

Chan 'eil clann na Gàidhealtachd dad air dheireadh air cloinn eile ann an tuigse no am buadhan-inntinn. Ach is coltach gu bheil e 'na bhacadh orra gu bheil jad air an teagasg anns a' Bheurla, an uair is i a' Ghàidhlig a' chànain as fheàrr a thuigeas iad. Chan 'eil ann ach aon dòigh air dol an car so a cheartachadh agus is e sin tòiseachadh air gach pàisde aig a bheil a' Ghàidhlig mar chainnt na dachaidh a theagasg tre'n Ghàidhlig, agus gun dad ach Gàidhlig, gus am bi jad ochd no naoi bliadhna a dh'aois. Eachdraidh, cruinne-eòlas, cunntas, gach cuspair-fòghluim eile a tha aca san sgoil-biodh na leabhraichean-sgoile aca air son nan cuspairean sin uile sgrìobhte ann an Gàidhlig, agus biodh an teagasg uile anns a' Ghàidhlig. Cha dubhairt sin gum feumar a' Bheurla a thilgeil a mach uile gu léir. Faodaidh iad a' Bheurla ionnsachadh mar aon chuspair-sgoile am measg chuspairean eile. Tha daoine fiosrach làn-chinnteach gum fàg rian de'n t-seòrsa so clann na Gàidhealtachd air a cheann thall móran nas coimhlionta na tha iad, an dà chuid an Gàidhlig agus am Beurla.

Is ann car mar so a thàtar a' deanamh anns a' Chuimrigh. Tha a' chlann Chuimreach air an teagasg tre'n chànain aca fhéin gun a bhith an eisimeil na Beurla gus an ruig iad aois shònraichte. Agus is ann mar so a tha iad a' deanamh an sgoilean na h-Eireann, ach tha na h-Eireannaich ann an suidheachadh eadar-dhealaichte bho'n t-suidheachadh anns a bheil na Gàidheil agus na Cuimrich; agus, anns a' chùis so co-dhiubh, saoilidh mi gur e eisimpleir nan Cuimreach as fheàrr a fhreagras oirnne.

Bithidh iomadh bacadh 'nar rathad. Feumar barrachd aire a thoirt gum bi luchd-teagaisg anns na sgoilean Gàidhealach air an uidheamachadh air aon cuspairean-sgoile a theagasg tre'n Ghàidhlig. Feumar leabhraichean-sgoile a theagaisgeas gach seòrsa cuspair a dheasachadh ann an Gàidhlig. Feumar pàrantan a bhrosnachadh a chum an taic a thoirt do'n oidhirp so. Bithidh na nithean sin uile ri dheanamh, agus an còrr. Ach gabhaidh iad deanamh ma tha miann is iarraidh againn orra.

Tha sinn uile air son gum bi òigridh na Gàidhealtachd air an uidheamachadh an corp 's an inntim 's an spiorad leis gach còlas is buaidh as freagarraiche air an latha an diugh. Chan fhaod leisg no dearmad ana-caitheamh a dheanamh air na bliadhnachan prìseil anns am bu chòir a' chlann òg a bhith tighinn air aghaidh "ann an glìocas agus am meudachd agus ann an deagh-ghean aig Dia agus aig daoine."

#### LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi an dùil gun dubhairt mi uiread 's a tha iomchuidh aig an am mu phaipearan-ceasnachaidh na bliadhna so anns an dà àireamh mu dheireadh. Chan e nach faodainn tuille mór a chur sìos, ach fóghnaidh na dh'fhóghnas, eadhon de'n mhil, agus, le cinnt, chan e a' mhil a bha nise a' riarachadh aon chuid oirbh féin no air bhur luchd-teagaig! Chan 'eil a nis ach bhur n-earalachadh gu dùrachdach, agus bhur luchd-teagaige aralachadh gu sònraichte, gu deanamh nas feàrr "an ath là," mar a chuir Donnchadh Bàn roimhe a dheanamh aig an t-selig.

Tha mi a nis a' dol a dh'innseadh dhuibh mu ni no dhà a tha againne, aig a bheil ar sùil oirbh féin is bhur deanadas, anns an amharc a thaobh na bliadhna a tha romhainn, agus a bha sinn ag cnuasachadh aig coinneamh a ghleidheadh an Sruighlea an là-roimhe. Bidh paipearan ùra ceasnachaidh againn gun teagamh, ach is e taobh eile de bhur n-obair a tha a'

tighinn fainear dhomh an dràsd.

Is e sin camp an ath-bhliadhna, oir is cinnteach gum bi camp ann. Bha sinn anabarrach mi-rathail anns an t-sid an uair a bha an camp 'na uidheam am bliadhna, agus eadhon ré an t-samhraidh uile gu léir. Chan 'eil iarraidh sam bith agamsa air bhur cuimhne a dhùsgadh air a' cheann sin. Ach cha treabh gach bliadhna d'a chéile, agus có aige tha fios nach e sid gu ar miann a bhios againn an am a' chaimp an ath-bhliadhna. Chan 'eil againn ach a bhith "beò an dòchas ro-mhath," a rithist ag gabhail an iasaid bho Dhonnchadh Bàn.

Chan 'eil teagamh nach 'eil far an robh an camp againn am bliadhna ro fhreagarrach a thaobh goireasachd do na h-Eileanan mu Thuath, ach tha an t-sìd tidheach air a bhith fliuch, oir tha Beinn Nimheis féin, 'na h-àirde is 'na meud a' sgoltadh nan neul 'na leithid de dhòigh 's gu bheil iris-ceangail an uisge buailteach air briseadh is dòrtaidhean dheth a' taomadh a nuas mu ar cinn. Ach tha far am faodamaid sùil a bhith againn ri aimsir thioram fada as an rathad a thaobh nan Eileanan, is feumaidh sinn fhàgail. Is ann mar a tha nach 'eil aon àite a mhàin, eadhon Inbhir-Lòchaidh féin, goireasach do gach ceàrn, agus is e sin a chuir gu bheil a' Chomhairle ag cumail fo a sùil dà champ a ghleidheadh (theagamh ri ùine tuille na sin), aon freagarrach do na h-Eileanan mu Thuath is na còrsachan tuath air an Rudha Mhurchanach is aon eile freagarrach do'n Taobh a

Nach anabarrach gu bheil suidheachadh nan Eileanan a thaobh siubhail an ceartair mar a bha sin an linn Shomhairle Mhóir—iad air an sgoltadh 'nan dà roinn leis an Rudha Mhurchanach, ach gu bheil Barraidh air a chur air an aon ghad ri eileanan Earraghaidheal, a chionn is gur i am bàta a tha a' seòladh as an Oban a tha a' freasdal air an eilean sin.

A thaobh sin, bha dà champ a chur air ghleus air a thogail aig a' choinneamh so a dh'ainmich mi; ach chan 'eil sinn a' toirt gealltanas sam bith gum bi iad ann an ath-bhliadhna no cuin a bhitheas iad ann, agus is dòcha gur e aon champ a bhios ann gus am bi sinn comasach air tuille phàilliunan a sholar na tha arainn an ceartair.

Agus, a nis, a thaobh an aoin féin: tha an t-uasal còir a tha 'na uachdaran air Inbhir-ailleart air tairgse a thoirt dhuinn a chum an camp a bhith air a chur 'na uidheam air a chuid fuinn féin, ach na 's urrainn dòmhsa a ràdh le cinnt a thaobh sin fathast is e gu bheil sinn a' dol a thadhal air an uasal gus am faic sinn air ar son féin a bheil e làn fhreagarrach, le seall-tainn air gach taobh de'n chùis, agus creidibh gun leig sinn fios chugaibh cho luath 's a chl sinn ciamar a théid dhuinn. A thaobh camp eile (dà champ), is e ionad a bhios goireasach do'n Oban a tha 'nar beachd, bad a bhios freagarrach do Earraghaidheal uile agus Barraidh.

Tha ni eile ris an do bhuineadh aig a' choinneamh ud, agus is e sin ni a bu mhath leam gun toireadh sibh geur-aire dha: ciamar a tha sinn a' dol 'gur gleidheadh anns a' Chomunn mar a tha sibh a' dìreadh am bliadhnachan 's a' fàgail aois Comunn na h-Oigridh 'nur déidh. Tha làn fhios againn nach dùth gum bi a bheag de airgiod r'a sheachnadh aig aon agaibh eadar sè bliadhna deug is bliadhna air fhichead, seadh, gus a bheil sibh a' tighinn gu tuarasdal riaghailteach a chosnadh, leis gach ni eile a bhios a' tagar roinn de bhur sporan. Rùnaicheadh, matà, gun gabhteadh gach aon agaibh a tha a' ruigheachd sè bliadhna deug a steach mar bhall de'n Chomunn mhór, comunn nan inbheach, le a mhàin aon tasdan sa' bhliadhna a phàidheadh, 's an riaghailt sin a' riaghladh gus an ruig sibh bliadhna air fhichead. An uair sin tha sibh a' tighinn a steach 'nur làn-inbhich, 's ar sùil ris gu bheil sibh comasach air an làn-chìs a phàidheadh, ciod air bith dé an t-suim a bhios ann an uair sin, oir is dòcha gum bi beagan atharrachaidh ann seach mar a tha an diugh.

Innsibh so do bhur pàrantan, matà, is aig a' cheart am a' leigeil ris dhaibh cho uile gu láir iomchuidh 's a tha e—cha bhiodh an t-atharrachadh iomchuidh idir—gum biodh sibh a' leantainn fo na bannaibh leis a bheil sibh air bhur ceangal ris a' Chomunn le bhith mar tha 'nur làn is 'nur sàr-Ghàidh-eil. Bha sinn a h-uile can a' toirt fainear gu robh droch fhàillinn anns na reachdan an uair a bha sinn ag call na cloinne cho luath 's a ruigeadh iad sè bliadhna deug. Mar Athair na Cloime, is e a their mise a nis gu bheil mì ag earbsa asaibh gum bi sibh uile, bho'n am so a mach i sbho'n cheul latha a bha sibh a' tighinn a steach do Chomunn na h-Oigridh, a' fuireach an crò a' Chomuinn, gun fhuasgladh air na bannaibh ach 'nur Gàidheil dhìleas fad 's a bhios sibh

beò!

A nis, bidh Nollaig is, ma dh'fhaoidte, Bliadhna Ur againn mum bi cead againn air an tuille còmhraidh a bhith againn anns an litir so a rithist, agus mar sin bitheam-sa a' tairgse dhuibh mo dhùrachd féin is deagh rùn na Comhairle—Nollaig chridheil dhuibh uile agus Bliadhna Mhath Ur dhuibh, an là a chl's 's nach fhaic; agus suas air Comunn na h-Oigridh ia ir a' Chomunn Ghàidhealach uile gu léir.' Bhur Caraid Dileas.

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

#### OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

## MAR A GHEIBH THU MACH DE A' CHEAIRD A THA AN DAN DO D' MHAC A THOGAIL.

Anns na làithean a th'ann tha seòl is imleachd ais leudd-fòghluim air faotainn a mach ciod an seòrsa dreuchd no ceàrid no cosnaidh as fheàrr a fhreagras air balaich is caileagan an àm dhaibh an sgoil fhàgail. Ach cha robh iad idir as aonais imleachd mar so anns na seann làithean.

Bha bodach ann roimhe aig an robh aon leanabh mic, a bha cho mùirneach aige ri clach a shùla. Nuair a bha am fear beag mu thrì bliadhna anns an sgoil bha fadachd mhór air athair nach robh e a' taisbeanadh ann an dòigh sam bith a b'urraim dhà-san a thuigsinn dé a' cheàird a bha e dol a leantainn nuair a thigeadh e gu ìre.

Bha daoine glice an uair ud anns a' Ghàidh-ealtachd, agus tha cuimhne agam fhéin air aon dhiubh a b' urrainn sud innse. Ach, co-dhiubh, latha de na bh'ann, dh'fhalbh am bodach is ràinig e tigh an duine ghlic a dh'fhaotainn a mach a bheachd mu a mhac.

Nuair a dh'innis e a thurus, thug an seann duine a' chomhairle a leanas air:---

"Rach dhachaidh agus falmhaich a mach an seòmar, ach fàg am bòrd ann. Cuir Biobull air a' bhòrd, agus coimla ris cuir sgian agus ubhal agus bonn leth-chruin. An uair sin, cuir a steach am balach do'n t-seòmar is dùin an dorus as do dhéidh, ach fàg neoni bheag fosgailte dheth, is seas air chl an doruis agus cùm sùil air, feuch dé a ni e. Ma thòisicheas e air sealltainn anns a' Bhiobull is air a leughadh, 's e ministear a ni e. Ma ni e roghainn de'n ubhal, 's e tuathanach a bhios ann. Ma theannas e air obair leis an sgian 's e lighiche a bhios ann; agus mas ann air an airgid a tha chu."

Chaidh am fear eile dhachaidh is rinn e mar a dh'aithneadh dha. Chuir e am Biobull mór teaghlaich air a' bhord, agus mar an ceudha sgian is ubhal is bonn leth-chruin. An sin threòraich e a mhac a steach d'o'n t-seòmar, is sheas e fhéin a' faireachas air troimh fhosgladh caol na còmhla. Sheall am balach air son tacain air na bha air a' bhòrd. An sin thug e nuas am Biobull air a shocair fhéin is chàirich e air an lìr e i chuir e an leth-chruin 'na phòcaid; thug e leis an ubhal agus air dha an sgian fhosgladh shuidh e air a' Bhiobull is thòisich e ri ithe na h-ubhal. Nuair a thug athair fainear dé ghabh àite, cha b'urrainn dha bun no bàrr a dheanamh de'n ghnothach is dh' fhalbh e air ais is chaidh e a dh'innse do'n duine ghlic mar a thachair.

"Dé a nis," ars am fear eile; "an d'rinn thu mar a dh'iarr mi, is ciamar a chaidh dhuit?"

"Rinn mise le deagh chùram gach ni mar a thubhairt sibh," ars an duine, "ach tha eagal orn nach 'eil mo mhac a' dol a dheanamh ni sam bith as fhiach an t-saothair. Thug e am Biobull far a' bhùrid is shuidh e air; dh'fhosgail e an sgian, gheàrr e an ubhal leatha, is dh'ith e i. Rug e air a' bhonn leth-chruin is chuir e 'na phòcaid e!'

"Mo ghille fhallain!" ghlaodh an seanair, is e a' deanamh gàire. "Rach dhachaidh agus bi gu math do d' mhac. Is e fear-lagha a tha gu bhith

ann!"

TORMOD DOMHNALLACH.

## BODACH NA NOLLAIG: SANTA CLAUS.

- Cha bhi fada nis gu nochd e, Fear bheir toileachadh do'n chloinn;
   Eallach mhór aige as' phoca,
   Siomadh seòrsa ni 'na bhroinn.
   Gur esan a tha tlachdmhor,
   Le fheusaig gheal 's le churrac dearg,
   A dhà ghruaidh 's iad mar na ròsan,
   Suilean ciùn nach fuiling fearg.
- 2. Tha chlann bheag a nis cho sona, 'S iad a' feitheamh ris an uair San tig Bodach Liath na Nollaig Leis a' phoca mhór mun cuairt; H-uile h-aon dhiubh gabhail fadail Air son tiodhlacan na bliadhn' Bhios 'nan stocainnean sa' mhadainn, Leis an fhear nach fhac iad riamh.
- 3. Gum bi déideagan 'na mhàileid A bheir aoibh do dh'iomadh cridh', 'S cha bhi e ag iarraidh pàidheadh Bho aon phàisid d'an toir e nl. Tha e dol mun cuair mar b'àbhaist, Saothrachadh gun duais 's gun sgìos, Chionn gur e chlann bheag a chàirdean, 'S dhearbh e sin troimh iomadh linn.
- 4. Chi thu chlann le aoibh 's gu socair Crochadh stocainnean a sua Taobh an teine, feitheamh fortain Thig troimh 'n t-simileir a nuas. Bidh gach cridhe beag cho moiteil Nuair a dh'éireas iad car tràth, Faicinn suith air taobh gach stocainn, 'S a h-uile té dhiubh loma-làn.

NIALL MACGILLEATHAIN.

#### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

"AN DUTHAICH AIR TIGHINN DO'N BHAILE."-B'e so an t-ainm a bh'aca air Féill-thaisbeanaidh a chumadh an Glaschu o chionn ghoirid. Chunnacas ann an so gach seòrsa ainmhidh a gheibhear air tuathanachasan agus monaidhean na h-Albann-crodh is caoraich, eich is mucan, cearcan is tunnagan is geòidh. Bha ann cuideachd iomadh inneal iongantach a tha a chum feum luchd-fearainn an obair earraich is foghair agus gach saothair eile a tha co-cheangailte ri àiteachas. Chaidh na mìltean a dh'amharc air an fhéill anns na deich latha a mhair i, agus gu sònraichte clann-sgoile. Faodaidh sùil a bhith againn ri móran as na bailtean-móra a bhith miannachadh tilleadh do na h-àitean dùthchail, agus tha feum aig an dùthaich gun tachradh sin. 'S e as motha a thàinig a steach orm gur bochd nach b'urrainn móran de na h-innealan-àiteachais ùra a bhith aig luchd-fearainn na Gaidhealtachd. Tha feadhainn dhiubh aca cheana an cuid de dh'àitean, ach is iomadh àite far a bheil cuirp dhaoine air an droch-shàrachadh an uair a dh'fhaodadh an obair throm a bhith air a h-aotromachadh gu mór.

A' GHAIDHLIG AIR AN RADIO .- A dh'aindeoin dé their luchd an tuaileis, is iomadh aon sa' Ghàidhealtachd agus an àitean eile a tha faotainn toileachaidh agus fiosrachaidh ann a bhith 'g éisdeachd ris a' Ghàidhlig a chluinnear air an Ràdio gach seachdain. Tha cuid ann nach eisd ach gus coire fhaotainn. Ma chluinneas iad aon fhacal a tha iad a' saoilsinn nach 'eil ceart (a réir am beachd-san), ni iad de dh'othail, mar gum biodh mort air a dheanamh. Chan 'eil neach sam bith coimhlionta, chan 'eil eadhon luchd-Beurla am B.B.C. Ach tha mise glé chinnteach gu bheil obair Ghàidhlig am B.B.C. a' taitneadh ris a' mhór-chuid, ged a dh'fhaodas cuid de nithean taitneadh nas fheàrr ri feadhainn seach cuid eile. Chan e obair shoirbh a tha aig Eòghan Mac-a-phì agus Fionnlagh Dòmhnallach, ach bhiodh e na b'fhasa dhaibh nam biodh an luchd-éisdeachd nas deiseile gu bhith sgrìobhadh chuca a dh'innseadh dhaibh ciamar a tha gnothaichean ag còrdadh riutha agus gu dé na nithean a bu mhath leotha chluinntinn

Thàtar a nise air tòiseachadh air iomradh Gàidhlig a chraobh-sgaoileadh gach mìos ag innseadh mu na leabhraichean is mìosachain is sgrìobhaidhean eile a tha a' tighinn a mach anns a' Ghàidhlig. Chualas a' cheul iomradh bho Mhurchadh MacLeòid. Bu chòir do'n luchd-éisdeachd chan e mhàin éisdeachd ach cur a dh'iarraidh nan leabhraichean is eile a mholar dhaibh.

AN T-OLLAMH COLLA DOMHNALLACH .- Tha an t-Ollamh Urramach Colla Dòmhnallach an déidh uallach a dhreuchd a leigeil dheth, air dha dà fhichead bliadhna 's a cóig a chur seachad mar mhinistear-sgìre. Buinidh e do eilean naomh Idhe, agus fhuair e oileanachadh an Ard-sgoil is an Oil-thigh Ghlaschu. Tha trì bliadhna deug ar fhichead bho shuidhicheadh e an Sgìre Lagan Mo-Choid, an déidh dha dusan bliadhna a thoirt an dà sgìr eile. Bha e 'na mhinistearairm an Cogadh a' Cheusair. Sgoilear barraichte agus searmonaiche math agus deagh mhinistear, is math a thoill e an t-socair a th'aige a nis, agus tha sinn an dòchas gun cuir e a làmh ri sgrìobhadh, an Gàidhlig 's am Beurla, oir tha fhios gu bheil móran taisgte an ionmhas eòlais a bhiodh a chum buannachd dhuinn uile. Tha a chéile chaomhail 'na sgrìobhaiche cuideachd. Tha greis a nis bho'n chuir i mach leabhar grinn mu'n Ghàidhealtachd, agus bu mhath nan toireadh i dhuinn tuilleadh. Bha ùidh aice cuideachd an cor is riaghladh na dùthcha, is cha robh eagal oirre uair air bith labhairt a mach air sgàth ceartais do'n t-sluagh. Tha sinn ag guidhe dhaibh le chéile slàinte is sìneadh làithean.

AN T-URRAMACH T. S. MAC-A-PHEARSAIN .- Tha an t-Urramach T. S. Mac-a-Phearsain an dùil uallach a choimhthionail a leigeil dheth an ùine gheàrr, agus is math a choisinn e an t-saorsa sin, oir tha còrr is leth-cheud bliadhna bho'n a shuidhicheadh e 'na cheud choimhthional. B'e sin Sgìre Thiridhe, ach shaothraich e an àireamh àitean eile mun deachaidh e do'n Eaglais Ghàidhlig am Baile Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain fichead bliadhna air ais. Bha mi troth còmhla ri Mgr. Mac-a-Phearsain ag cuideachadh leis an duine chaomh nach maireann, an t-Ollamh Eachann MacGilleathain, aig Comanachadh an t-Sratha san Eilean Sgitheanach, agus bu mhath a bhith fo éisdeachd Mhgr. Mhic-a-Phearsain agus a bhith 'na chòmhradh. Is mór an cuideachadh a rinn e do dh'aobhar na Gàidhlig an Cinn-tìre. Tha sinn ag guidhe dha gach beannachd.

GLIOCAS NAN GAIDHEAL,-"Beul a labhras, ach gnìomh a dhearbhas."

FIRINN AIR SON A' MHIOS SO .- "Cuiridh na nèamhan an céill glòir Dhé, agus nochdaidh na speuran gnìomh a làmh. Tha latha a' deanamh sgeòil do latha, agus oidhche a' foillseachadh eòlais do dh'oidhche. Chan 'eil cainnt, chan 'eil briathran, anns nach cluinnear an guth."—Salm xix. 1-3.

#### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council was held in A mesung of the Executive Council was need in Millar's Rooms, Stirling, on Friday, 8th November, 1986. The following members were present:—Robert Bain, Glasgow; Mrs. Bairon, Glasgow; Mrs. Iain M. Campbell (Airds); Nicol Campbell, Inveness; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Donald Mac Denald, Inverness; Kenneth MacDonald, B.Sc., Glasgow; Mrs. Gangler, MacDonald, Dundas, Hacter Glasgow; Roderick MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Rev. John MacKay, M.A., Glasgow; John MacKay, Edinburgh; Captain William MacKay, Inverness; Donald Shaw MacKinnon, Edinburgh; Mackay, Inverfiess; Jonald Shaw Mackinnon, Edinburgh; Lachlan Mackinnon, M.A., Fort William; Donald MacLean, Glasgow; Rev. Malcolm MacLean, M.A., Conon; John N. MacLeod, Beauly; Farquhar MacRe, M.A., B.Sc., Glasgow; Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; A. Marchison, M.A., Sheld, Baliburgh; H. S. Sheld, Zdinburgh; H. S. 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; Miss Chris. Turner, Clerkess.

The President, Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., was in the

The President, before proceeding with the business of the meeting, congraulated Mr. John A. Nicolson and Mr. Farquhar MacRae on their appointment as Vice-Presidents. He also extended a welcome to the new members of the Executive Committee, Rev. Malcolm MacLean, Conon, and Mr Charles Repute. The minutes of meetings of the Executive Council of 5th July and 28th September were read and approved

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Minute of meeting of Finance Committee was read.

The remit to the Executive Council regarding the rification of the relative positions of the War clarification of the relative positions of the Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund and the Central Fund of An Comunn had been given full consideration and it was noted that the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund was to be held by the Trustees of An Comunn for the benefit of Comunn na h-Oigridh. In placing the whole matter before the meeting for consideration, the Convener made reference to the excellent work done, and the very large sum of money, raised by the War Comforts Committee during the War period, but it was thought that the time had now come when some re-arrangement of the present position should be considered.

Following on the Convener's observations, Mr Donald Shaw MacKinnon agreed that the Central War Comforts Committee had done excellent work in raising a large sum of money during the War period, and he agreed that it might now be possible to put the Committee on a basis affording them greater freedom of action than was possible under the restrictions imposed by registration as a War Charity. As representing the Central War Comforts Committee, Mrs. Barron, and Mr. J. M. Bannerman expressed their views in regard to the

position.

The Finance Committee recommended :-

(1) That the present Central (War Comforts) Committee should cease to be reg stered under the War Charities Act, 1940, but that the personnel of the present Committee should be continued as a War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Committee, freed from the restrictions of the War Charities Act, for the purpose of raising a War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund, which would be held by the Trustees of An Comunn as a War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund for Comunn na h-Oigridh, all as previously approved by the Executive Council at the meeting on 26th January, 1945.

(2) That all moneys already raised by the present Committee should be dealt with in accordance with

the foregoing object.

(3) That the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Committee should continue in office until the end of An Comunn's Financial Year on 31st May, 1949.

(4) That the requisite additional office staff should be appointed to further the work of the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Committee, and that an allocation of administration expenses be made as found necessary from time to time. (5) That all appeals made by the War Memorial and

Thanksgiving Fund Committee should have the prior

approval of the Executive Council

The question of a Clerical Assistant in Inverness Office was also dealt with, and, before proceeding further in the matter, it was recommended that a detailed estimate of the cost of securing the services of a full-time Gaelicspeaking assistant be asked for. In regard to the present position of the Central Fund of An Comunn, and the inescapable demands on the fund to meet the necessary expansion, it was decided to draw the attention of the Branches to the desirability of supporting the Central Fund to the utmost, and the Organisers, in consultation with the appropriate committees, were authorised to proceed with arrangements in order to ensure the Augmentation of the Central Fund.

On the motion of the Convener, Mr. John A. Nicolson, the minute was unanimously adopted.

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Minute of meeting of Education Committee was read. The Committee had considered the question of a Summer School of Gaelic, and it was felt that, with the requisite publicity given to the school, a much fuller response could reasonably be expected. Regarding the response could reasonably be expected. suggestion made in the minute of meeting of 2nd July last in connection with the holding of a conference of Gaelic teachers in primary schools, it was suggested that, in view of the regional conferences arranged by the E.I.S as part of their centenary celebrations, an approach might be made to them to ascertain how far our purposes could be met in co-operating with them. It was, however, decided to delay consideration of the matter of sending a deputation to the County Education Committees on the teaching of Gaelic in primary schools until after the conference with the teachers. It was reported that the Committee had before them the Gaelic Leaving Certificate papers in book form, and they record their appreciation of the action of the E.I.S. in collecting and publishing these in a convenient form.

Suggestions by Mr. Ian A. MacLeod, Sunderland, among which were that instruction in Highland schools should include a systematic course in the History of Celtic Civilisation and Culture, and a plea for more Gaelic text-books, were submitted. With regard to the teaching of Gaelic in secondary schools in Glasgow, it was decided to make every effort by way of propaganda to bring this matter to the notice of Gaelic-speaking parents in the City. It was a matter of gratification to learn from Mr. John A. Nicolson that, in connection with the Youth Service, two classes for instruction in Gaelic had been formed.

Mr. Farquhar MacRae moved the adoption of the minute, and, in the discussion which followed, Miss Cameron drew attention to the date of the Preliminary Examination in Gaelic not being decided until the day before the examination, and also to the difference in the standard of examinations in Gaelic in the Preliminary Examination as between Edinburgh and Glasgow. This matter was remitted to the Committee for investigation.

Mr. Reppke, Campbeltown, drew attention to the fact that in Campbeltown at present there were forty pupils willing to learn Gaelic, and he suggested that An Comunn should approach the local authority to take steps for the appointing of a Gaelic-speaking teacher in Campbeltown. Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon drew attention to the difficulty of obtaining a qualified teacher in Gaelic at the present

On the motion of the Convener, Mr Farquhar MacRae, the minute was adopted.

#### PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

Minute of meeting of Publication Committee was read. It was reported that a draft of the dedication to the late Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, which is to be inserted in each copy of the new series of "Leabhraichean-sgoile Gaidhlig," had been prepared, submitted, and approved.

It was reported that the MSS, of a play (or song-drama), a volume of poems and a Gaelic Course for Beginners had been submitted, all of which are still under

consideration.

Several Gaelic translations of children's stories had also been submitted, and it was agreed to investigate the

practicality of having these published in book form.

A suggestion was made that the more important of the prize-winning efforts in the Mod Literary Competitions should be published each year in book form, the volume to be called "Leabhran a' Mhòid." It was decided to enquire about the cost of publishing such a volume.

Further progress was reported in the work of preparing the typescript of the material already in hand for

publication.

A letter was read from the Rev. Malcolm MacLean, Conon, urging that every effort should be made to achieve a wider distribution and a larger circulation for "An Gaidheal," and that, in view of current costs, the price of the magazine should be revised. The Convener pointed out that :

- (1) The price of the Magazine had for many years been 2d per copy, while copies sent to members are paid for at the rate of 1½d each, whereas printing and paper costs have risen enormously and each copy of the magazine costs about 41d to produce. This means that, while there is an increasing demand for the Magazine and while a slight relaxation of the paper restrictions makes it possible to increase the circulation, every additional copy sold involves at present a loss of 2½d or 3d, and this discourages an increase of circulation.
- (2) At present, according to Bye-law 4, the Magazine is issued free to members, and therefore any change in price or in method of circulating the Magazine will require a change in the Bye-law or in the membership subscriptions.
- (3) If the Magazine is to be sold on its merits and to compete with other publications offered to the public on book-stalls, etc., it must be attractive, not only in contents but also in appearance, necessitating, for example, the use of a striking cover in colour and also the use of illustrations. This will involve and also the use of illustrations. extra cost, and, therefore, to make the Magazine pay its way, the new price will have to be nearer 6d than 2d per copy.

It was agreed to refer the whole matter, without making any definite recommendations, to the Executive Council for an expression of their opinion, as this may offer some

guidance to the Committee.

It was also suggested that a periodical for children and young people should be puhlished, to consist of a four-page sheet with pictures and cartoons. The name of the periodical might be "An Gaidheal Og" and should include the minute was adopted.

Comunn na h-Oigridh's letter and other features of interest to Comunn na h-Oigridh.

On the motion of the Convener, Rev. T. M. Murchison.

Propaganda Committee,

Minute of meeting of Propaganda Committee was read. The Committee had before them applications for the post of Music Tsacher. A short leet of two was drawn up and a Sub-Committee, consisting of Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon and Mr. Donald Thomson, was appointed to interview the applicants, with powers to make the appointment if satisfied with qualifications. Beports from Sub-Committees showed that extensive visitation of branches is envisaged, and that Provincial Mods are receiving the close attention of the Organisers. The minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Donald MacDonald.

ART AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

Minute of meeting of Art and Industry Committee was

It was reported that the Summer School arranged for August last did not materialise, owing to the lack of entries. Dr. Sinclair was cordially thanked for his efforts in the matter. With reference to the correspondence between the Convener and the Dunedin Society, Mrs. J. B. Dunlop was appointed to represent the Committee, and the Secretary was instructed to inform the Dunedin Society of this appointment. The Secretary reported that Miss Hunter of the G.T.C. had approached him for the services of a teacher of Celtic Art to give instruction to members. The Committee decided to ask Miss Hunter to communicate with Dr. Sinclair on this matter. A discussion took place in regard to Celtic Design transfers and publications. It was suggested that mention of these should be made in the magazine, and Dr. Sinclair undertook to write a short article to be inserted in the magazine. The question of competitions for the forthcoming Mod was also discussed and it was decided that the syllabus for 1940 should stand with the following addition: "The Industries Trophy shall be awarded for Hose knitted of wool handspun in the Highlands."

Mr. Donald Shaw MacKinnon, Edinburgh, reported on the meeting of the Highland Home Industries, Ltd., at which it was proposed that, under new Articles of Association, homorary representation of An Comunn as at present existing was to be precluded. Objections were taken to the proposed alteration. It was also reported that a joint meeting of the Committee and the directors of the Highland Home Industries, Ltd., was held in Glasgow on 25th October, 1946. At this meeting, after a full discussion, it was proposed by the Hon, Mrs. Stilling of Keir, Chairman of the Highland Home Industries, Ltd., that it might be arranged that An Comunn would be represented by one of its members being nominated to act as a director on the board of the Highland Home Industries, Ltd., and so maintain the link so long existing between the two bodies.

On the motion of Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds), Convener, the minute was adopted.

#### Mod and Music Committee.

Minute of meeting of Mod and Music Committee was

read.

The Convener reported on the success of the Aberdeen Mod and on the splendid work done by members of the local committee. The Committee recorded cordial thanks to Mr. Charles Davidson for his good offices in securing such an appropriate chair for the ceremony of Crowning the Bard. The Committee gave careful consideration to Mod Syllabus rules and several important memodations to Mod Syllabus rules and several important memodations MacLeod, Sunderland, were considered, and the Committee record their grateful thanks for these. The Committee recommend that in future the Bard of the year be presented with an appropriate scroll.

The minute was adopted on the motion of Mr. John A. Nicolson, member of the Committee. CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Two minutes of meeting of Clann an Fhraoich Committee were read.

These reported on the camp held at Annat. The small number of children who attended was accounted for by the very severe weather prevailing at the time the children were due to travel. The weather throughout was wet and stormy but, notwithstanding, those who attended thoroughly enjoyed their term at the camp. The Committee considered a different site for next year's coff threatient who kindly offered them a site. The Northern Organiser and Mr. John MacKay are to inspect the ground in the near future.

The minutes were adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Hector MacDougall.

#### RE-ORGANISATION COMMITTEE.

Minute of meeting of Special Re-organisation Committee was read.

The Committee had under consideration certain revisions of the Constitution and Rules of the Association, and the following proposals were noted for further consideration, namely:—

(1) That the first object of An Comunn should be "the teaching and use of the Gaelic language throughout Scotland and elsewhere."

(2) That a Junior Membership should be introduced.
(3) That Area or Regional Councils should be established.

(4) That a separate Standing Committee for Comunn na h-Oigridh be created, and that Clann an Fhraoich should revert to its original function.

(5) That Bye-Law No. 4, whereby the Magazine is issued free to members, should be deleted.

(6) That rates of membership subscriptions should be re-considered.

(7) That membership of An Comunn should be through the Branches and, in addition to the ordinary Branches of An Comunn, there should be a Headquarters Branch provided for special circumstances

of membership.

It was recommended that branches be circularised in order that they might consider these proposals and submit suggestions to the General Secretary for the consideration of this Committee. It was also suggested that these proposals should be submitted to members of An Comunn through "An Gaidheal."

The Committee considered the remit regarding Office Organisation, Staffing, and Conditions of Service, but, as certain of these matters were under review of the Finance Committee, it was agreed to continue consideration.

The minute was adopted on the motion of the President.

The following motion by Mr. Donald Thomson, Oban, was considered:-

"That Bye-Law 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 10s, stending
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.

Discussion arose as to what was meant by "travelling expenses." Mr. Donald Thomson, seconded by Mr. Donald MacDonald, moved that the motion be accepted, and that it be remitted to the Finance Committee to draw up a scale of subsistence allowances. This was agreed, the date of next meeting was fixed for 17th January, 1947. It was further agreed that the meeting should

begin at 5 p.m.

On the motion of Dr. Colin Sinclair, the following were appointed additional Trustees of An Comunn, Messrs John M. Bannerman, John A. Nicolson, and Donald Shaw MacKinnon.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the President.

### AISEIRIGH.

## Naidheachd mu Shùla-sgeir.

An uair nach robh goireasan na Gàidhealtachd cho pailt no cho furasda am faotainn agus a tha iad an diugh, bha beòshlainte luchd-àiteachaidh nan eileanan siar an crochadh air na bheireadh an saothair fhéin as an talamh agus as a' mhuir,

Is e sin a dh'aobharaich gu robh e mar chleachdadh aig na Nisich ann an ceann a tuath Eilean Leòdhais, a bhith dol ann an cunnart am beatha a thoirt iseanan an t-sùlaire a sgeirean na mara a chum leasachadh air annlan a' gheamhraidh.

Anns a' bhliadhna 1912, mar a b'àbhaist, mu Lùnasdail, sheòl eathar fosgailte á port Nis, a' dol gu ruige Shùla-sgeir, dà fhichead mìle a mach anus a' chuan a tuath, a dh'iarraidh nan eun. Bha deichnear anns an sgiobadh. B'e an cleachdadh còmhnaidh air an sgeir fad mu thrì seachdainean, a' marbhadh

nan eun mar a bha iad ag abachadh.

Thug iad leotha biadh is connadh is goireasan eile d'a réir. Cha robh iad leitheach slighe an uair a shéid a' ghaoth is a dh'éirich a' mhuir. Bha iomagain air an càirdean, ach bha beachd math aig na seann mharaichean air tìr gu faigheadh an sgoth fasgadh ri taobh eilean Rònaidh, naoi mìle an ear air an sgeir, gus an tuiteadh a' ghaoth agus an sìolaidheadh a'

Cha tàinig an t-eathar air ais aig an am a bha dùil rithe, agus dh'fhàg long-chogaidh (an destroyer, H.M.S. Phoenix) loch Steòrnabhaigh le òrdugh mìn-rannsachadh a dheanamh air Sùla-sgeir is Rònaidh. Is ann air latha geal, grianach, le muir lom, a sheòl am *Phanix*. 'S e an naidheachd a thug i air ais, gun do chuairtich i Sùla-sgeir is Rònaidh, ach nach robh eathar, no duine beò no marbh, ri fhaicinn.

A dh'aon sgrìob bha deich bantraichean ann an sgìre Nis. Chuir mi fhìn seachad trì oidhche an déidh a chéile ri caithris anns na tighean-faire. Chuir am People's Journal a mach gairm air son tional airgid a dheanamh a chum furtachd air na bantraichean agus an leth-cheud dilleachdan a bha an crochadh

riutha.

Air an treas latha an déidh a' ghairm sin a thighinn a mach. thàinig an sgoth Niseach gu cala. Bha na fir slàn, fallain, agus an sgoth luchdaichte le còrr air mìle guga. Chaidh gal gu aoibhneas. Arsa nighean fir dc'n sgiobadh: "Is e as duilghe leam gun do dhath mi dubh mo ghuailleachan!'

Thadhail fear dhiubh air a choimhearsnach, Ailean Chaluim.

"Mach a so!" thuirt Ailean. "Cha tu a th'ann!"
"Is mi a th'ann," arsa esan. "Có eile th'ann?"
"Tha, do shamhladh," arsa Ailean; "nach 'eil ceithir là deug bho chuala mi gun tàinig do ghàirdean air tìr air a' chladach!

'S e a' cheist ciod e da rireadh a thachair.

Air an latha a chuairtich am Phoenix an sgeir, a reir cunntas nan eunadairean, bha iad fad an latha is cuid dhiubh a' splonadh, cuid ag glanadh, is cuid eile le teintean a' dothadh nan eun. Ma thàinig soitheach faisg air an sgeir, cha tug duine an aire dhith.

"Cha robh annaibh," thuirt mi ri fear dhiubh, "ach gealtairean. Nuair a chunnaic sibh long-chogaidh a' deanamh oirbh, chaidh sibh air falach ann an sgoran nan creag.'

"Cha rachadh mise is Murchadh air falach," ars esan,

"ged a thigeadh an Admiralty fhein air tìr."

Cha deach agam riamh air bun no bàrr a dheanamh de'n chùis. Ma chunnaic iad an long, carson a chanadh iad nach fhac? Ma chunnaic an long iadsan, no ceò nan teintean, carson a theireadh iad nach fhac?

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

At a recent meeting of the Propaganda Southern Sub-Committee it had been arranged that a meeting of representatives from affiliated societies in Edinburgh should be called to consider the question of reviving the Edinburgh Local Mod. Accordingly, a meeting was held in the Goold Hall, Edinburgh, on Saturday, 2nd November, at which the Convener, Mr. Hector MacDougall, and the General Secretary attended. Mr. John MacKay, President of the Edinburgh Branch, presided, and there was a gratifying attendance. After full discussion it was unanimously agreed to proceed with arrangements, and Mr. Hector MacIver, M.A., was appointed Convener. The date agreed on was 24th May, 1947.

The Joint-Committee of the Glasgow Branches are well forward with their arrangements for the Glasgow Local Mod, which is to be held, as usual, in the Highlanders' Institute. The dates are 30th and 31st May.

The following Branches in the Southern Area have made successful beginnings with the session's work, viz.: Aberfeldy, Ayr, Bute, Campbeltown, Dumfries, Dundee, Edinburgh, Govan, Iuveraray, Kenmore, Kinlochleven, Kinloch Rannoch, Largs, Lochgilphead, Stirling, Tarbert, Tobermory.

There is a great demand for Gaelic Classes, and large numbers have enrolled at Avr. Campbeltown, Dundee, Dunoon, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Helensburgh, Oban, Paisley, Stirling, and Tarbert. There is a class of over fifty juniors under the auspices of the Glasgow High School Ceilidh, and instruction is being given by members of the Ceilidh.

Mr. Angus MacLeod, Rector of Oban High School, has succeeded Mr. Peter Fletcher as President of the Oban Branch. Mr. Fletcher gave splendid scrvice as President for a number of years. A man of tact and earnest endeavour, and with a keen sense of humour, he guided the affairs of the Branch during the war years with conspicuous success.

The Clydebank Highland Association and the Luss and District Highland Association have become affiliated to An Comunn.

## CAINNT GARADH EDEIN.

Nach iongantach leibh mar a thogas a' chlann a' chànain a chluinneas jad! Ach mur cluinneadh jad cainnt air bith. ciod a labhradh iad? Tha e air aithris gun d'fheuch Rìgh Seumas IV an Albainn

ri dearbhadh a chur air an ni so anns a' bhliadhna 1493.

Fhuair e boirionnach balbh, agus chuir e còmhla rithe air cilean Innis Choinnich dithis chloinn òig, a dh' fheuchainn ciod a' chainnt a labhradh iad an uair a thigeadh' iad gu aois bruidhinn.

Cha robh neach air an eilean ach an triùir aca, agus bha am pailteas aca ri ithe, 's ri òl, agus ri an còmhdach.

Nuair a thàinig iad gu aois còmhraidh, dé bhur beachd ach gun d' fhuaradh iad a' bruidhinn ri chéile ann an deagh Ghàidhlig !

Feumaidh e bhith mar sin gu bheil e fìrinneach gu leòir gur i a' Ghàidhlig a labhair iad ann an Gàradh Edein, mar a tha an t-òran Beurla 'ga chur :-

"When Eve all fresh in beauty's charms First met fond Adam's view,

The first word that he spoke to her Was, 'Ciamar a tha sibh an diugh ? ' "

Nach 'eil Alasdair Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair e fhéin ag ràdh :

"Is i labhair Adhamh Ann a phàrras féin,

Is bu shiùbhlach Gàidhlig O bheul àlainn Eubh.

Tha so a' toirt 'nam chuimhne ni a chuala mi mu Spurgeon, an searmonaiche ainmeil. Uair bha sud thadhail e air an Dotair Ceannaideach an Inbhir-Pheofharan. Bha iad ag gabhail sràid le chéile, an uair a choinnich bodach riutha agus chaidh an Ceannaideach an còmhradh ris a' bhodach anns a' Ghàidhlig. "Gu dé seòrsa cainnt a tha sin ?" arsa Spurgeon. "Sin agaibh," arsa an Ceannaideach, "a' chànain a bha aig Adhamh is Eubha anns a' ghàradh.

Fhreagair Spurgeon, "Chan 'eil ionghnadh sam bith gun do thilgeadh a mach iad!"

A. McA.

The Editor is much obliged to the many contributors and correspondents who send in material for the Magazine, Suitable items must sometimes, however, be held over for a month or two. Clarity, brevity, and interest are most desirable in contributions, Branch Secretaries and Leaders of Feachdan Comunn na h-Oigridh might please send in reports (in Gaelic or English) of Branch and Feachd activities (200 words or less).

#### PROPAGANDA NOTES.

#### Northern Area.

Portree School Concert. The Concert mentioned in last month's Magazine was held in the Drill Hall on Wednesday, 30th October, and was a decided success at all points: in fact, the drawings taken constitute a record for this Hall-603 14/-. It was also a fitting farewell to Miss Margaret MacDonald, who has been acting as Itinerant Teacher of Music in Skye for several months and who is leaving to take up a similar anonintment in the Unter Isles of Inverness-shire.

Lochaber Provincial Mod. Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon and his Committee have matters well in hand for next year's Mod, which is to be held at Fort William on Friday, 20th June. Adjudicators have been appointed and the Syllabus is neourse of preparation.

Badenoch and Strathspey Provincial Mod. The Very Rev. Dr. Dugald MacFarlane presided at a meeting of representatives in the Mod area on Saturday, 2nd November, when it was unanimously decided to hold a local Mod at Kingussie early in April. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. John MacKinnon Ma., Ardmore, Kingussie, and he and Mr. J. M. Junro and the Northern Organiser have been entrusted with attended, and every effort will be made to interest the various districts in the Mod. Already Gaelie Music Classes are being conducted at Newtomore and Abernethy.

Kingussie Branch. The Organiser was present at the first post-war meeting of this Branch on 30th October, over which the President, the Very Rev. Dr. Dugald MacFarlane, presided. There was a galaxy of talent, and a most pleasant evening was spent with songs and instrumental music. It was a pleasure to see singers from the Newtonmore and Abernethy Branches assisting the local Branch, and Mr. J. B. Minno gave unsparingly of his repertoire of Gaelie songs.

Dingwall Branch. This Branch has mapped out an ambitious programme for the session, and the first of these events will be staged on Tuesday, 12th November, Mr. Murdo McLean, Tarradale (and late of Wishaw), is responsible for the evening and, judging from his past efforts, the members are assured of an interesting and educative evening. The Gaelic Continuation Class has now started with a roll of twenty.

Skye Provincial Mod. A meeting of the Skye Provincial Mod Committee is to be held at Portree on Saturday, 16th November, when the question of a local Mod in 194 will be discussed. The Organiser is to devote a week (11th o 16th November) to the Island, with a view to having Branches re-constituted and to pay a visit to all Comunn na h-Oigridh Feachdan.

Glenurquhart Branch. The first Ceilidh of the session was presided over by the new President, Mr. Donald Cumming of Borlum, on Friday, 1st November. There was a large attendance. An interesting item on the programme was a presentation to Mr. Rob. Gollan, past President, and also to Miss J. E. MacKenzie, who had conducted the Gaelic Music Class last session.

Central Fund Concerts. The Organiser has just completed arrangements for a series of three Gaelio Concerts in aid of the Central Fund. These will be held at Glenurquhart, Leachkin and Dingwall on 24th, 26th, and 27th December respectively. Neil MacLean and Jenny M. B. Currie will sing at each of the Concerts, and they will be supported by Miss Chrisise MacKenzie, Kiltarlity, and other well-known artistes. It is expected that the Central Fund will benefit considerably from these efforts.

The Northern Sub-Committees have been duly constituted for session 1946-47, and meetings have been held. Itincraries have been arranged for the Northern Organiser until the end of the year. On 26th November he will produce to Lochmaddy and complete a tour of the Uists at Eriskay about the middle of December.

#### CUAIRT THUN A' MHOID.

A Pheigi, a luaidh,—Nach tu a chaill air nach tàinig tu comhla rium a dh'Obar-dheadhain thun a' Mhòid mhòir, an òinseach a tha thu ann! Cha b'ionghnadh ach thusa is eagal a chr Alasdair bubh fhàgail leis fhùin fad eachdain. Is mach a dh'fhaodadh ca' bhò a bhleoghann agus sùil a chumail air a' chire-chuir. Ach nach come leam. Nan robh duine mar sid

agamsa, bheirinn-as an t-sitig dha!
Matha, a Pheigi, a phaladhad, ism itha toilichte gun tàinig mi.
'Se baile briagha a tha so, agus sluugh coibhneil. Chan e gun
'd'hnair mìse móran cothroim air a' bhaile fhaleinn o thàinig
mi, oir tha am Mòd so air ghleus a latha 's a dh' oidhche. Nach
robh céilidh chridheil air bhonn san t-seòmar an ath-dhorus
rium aig tri uairean sa' mhadainn, an diugh! Chan fhaighinn
norradh cadail lootha, 's mu dheireadh dh' cirich mi' s' thile mi

orm bad aodaich 's chaidh mi stigh còmhla riutha, 's bha

A Pheigi, a sheoid, nach do shaoil mi gu robh mi an nèamh an dé, is for iongantas orm ciamar a dh'amais mi air faotainn ann, ach an uair a thug mi crathadh orm fhéin is ann a bha mi ag éisdeachd nan oisirean. Cha robh móran taoibh agamsa riamh ris na Leòdhasaich, ach air m'fhacal-as, tha òrain aca a tha maiseach, ged a dh'fheumas iad còisir á Earraghaidheal chum an làn-mhaise a thoirt am follais.

Nach mi a theab sraeadh ag gaireachdaich an uair a bha an dithis chaileag as an Eilean Sgitheanach ag còmhradh ri chéile agus a' trod mu na h-adachan a chuireadh iad orra air son comanachadh Mhigharaidh. Nan robh mi air mo shillean a dhinadh, mhionachinin gur tu rhéin agus Mor Cham a bha agam, agus aibh a' leadairt a chéile mar is griabh leibh. Ach bu bhriagh na h-adachan a bhi'ac; i' ann a dhiraiginn faighneachd dhiubh ch' n d'fhuair iad na h-adachan, is mi fhéin cho feumach air té fur.

A Pheigi, éiad so! Tha a' Bhan-righ uasal fhéin dol a bhith còmhla ruinn air an fheasgar so. 'S ann a dh'fheumas mi leum a mach agus perm fhaotainn, gun fhios nach tig 'i ham ghaoith. Agus, cho fad 's is cuimhne leam, fhuair mi sgeilleid dhuit, ach cha d'fhuair mi geideal. Tha na greidealan gann ; 's ann a tha iad 'gan cur gu feum ann a bhith togail nan tighean baga prefubs a tha sid aca.

Bha a' chlann grinn 's iad a' seinn cho binn, is nan chimeadh tu na còisirean òga chan iarradh tu gu bràth tuilleadh cluas a thoirt do Bhing Crosby no Sinatra na truaighe air an ràdio. Thu fhein 's do swing, agus chan e piobaireachd Alasdair Dhubh dad as fhearr, is abair sin ris ma thogras tu.

Agus, a shiorraidh, nach cuala mi maighdean-uasal as a' Mhorbhairne ag cluich na clàrsaich. Chan fhace à cha chuala mise clàrsach riamh roimhe. Chan stàntaichinn e bho thom. tom, ciod air bith rud a tha sin; is minic a chuala mi Seumas againne a' bruidhinn mu na daoine dubha rhiigte a chunnaic e ag cluich nan tom-toms an Africa nuair bhiodh e seòladh mu na cladaichean sin.

Matà, tha a' chlàrasch binn da-rìreabh. Saoil nach rachadh againn air aonan fhaotainn; 's e b'fheàrr na an seann ghramafon leis an dudach mhór a dh'fhàg bantrach a' mhaighstir-sgoile agam.

Feuch, a Pheigi, gun cuimhnich thu, mar a gheall thu, air rud-eigin a thilgeil do na cearcan agam. Chan fhaca mi ubh o dh'fhalbh mi.

Ach, dé so ? Is ann a tha Seonag a' Ghobhann air nochdadh a feuch ó a chl airraidh orm dol còmhla rithe a mach air sràid a feuch ó a chl sinn. Tha de shluagh an so a tha fuathasach fhéin, agus féileadh air gach dara fear; ach taing do'n t-Seabh' se cotlas ghlùinean Gàidhealach a th'orra. Cha b'ionann sin 's na spìocairean Sasannach a bhios a' spaidsear-achd san fhéileadh aig àm na seilg.

Slàn leat, a Pheigi; feumaidh mi sgur. Cuiridh mi sgrìobag eile ad ionnsaigh roimh dheireadh na seachdain, 's ma bhios mi beò slàn, rud a bhitheas, bithidh mi dhachaidh Di-màirt; 's e sin ma bheireas an trèan air bus Dhòmhnaill Eachainn.

Beannachd do dh'Alasdair. Tha feum aige air sin, an dearg sgaomaire.—Do bhana-charaid,

RAONAID.

Cha do mhill foidhidinn mhath duine riamh—Good patience never hurt a man.

#### AN T-OIREACHTAS.

#### I. By MALCOLM MACLEAN.

I have just returned from Dublin where I represented An Comunn Gaidhealach at the Oireachtas. My last previous visit to Eire was in 1937, "agus cha b'ann an dé a bhas sin." Much had happened in the crowded years, and that other visit seemed remote.

#### ABOUNDING HOSPITALITY.

Ireland does not change in a night. "As things have been, so they remain." The land is the same. The people are the same. Sill, there are evident and encouraging tokens of progress. The people are as hospitable as they have always been. One lady told us of her surprise when a French girl whom she had invited to Ireland, offered to pay for her body at the end of a month. I expect the French girl was the more surprised of the two. In spite of many sad experience in this business of "Gaill" (strangers from overseas), Eire remains a land that likes to be visited.

#### A GROWING LANGUAGE.

At the opening meeting of the Direachtas two Welshmen and I were welcomed with cordiality. We had to address the gathering in our several languages. I said very little, but it eams as a surprise to all to find that they could understand my Scottish dialect. Welsh they could not understand. For themselves Irish Gaelie was the only language at the Oireachtas and no other language was necessary. In this matter they have out-distanced us in the Celtic race by miles. Here the most heartening surprise came through meeting excellent Irish-peakers whose mother tongue was English. Where do you come from?" "Dublin." "And where did you acquire your Gaelle?" "In Dublin." A short conversation of that order, time and again, showed "how great and rich the times are now."

That is the new thing in Ireland. The magic of the Gael is no longer confined in the West to regions beyond the bogs. It is at play, quite potently, in the Capital, among men of affairs and among school-children. The people of the Galdhealtachd in Ireland are about to be out-classed in their own language and culture by a section of their own race that are

but the English-speakers of yester years.

This is as it ought to be. Gaelle in Ireland, as in Scotland, can be but a remnant and a relie while it is confined to Conamara, to Kerry, and to Donegal. It is without promise and without future until it becomes a fashion in Dublin, in Cork and in Limerick. It was the fashion in Dublin at the Orieschtas, with Presidents and with Premier and with every Coreschtas, with Presidents and with Premier and with every The "Undertern" and the "Tabiesseh," with the least prossible formality, attended at the Orieschtas, identifying themselves completely with it, and both of them spoke Gaelle as readily and as naturally as one could wish.

#### THE YOUNG FOLKS.

The world-famous Abbey Theatre produced a Gaelic plays, a translation from the French, staged by its own playes. They also gave themselves for the entertainment of school-children for a whole afternoon. Imagine a vant hall filled with eager children of the secondary school stage, scated round little tables beautifully covered and laid, with as much as even boys can eat, no bun-and-mug affair but a very fine show indeed. Imagine all these children from various schools in Dublin given free entertainment and helping with community singing 1018. Education Act gave us liberty to teach Gaelic to non-Gaelic-speaking children where that is desired. Alas, and woe is me!

#### POETS' COURT.

We had a "Poets' Court' one evening. It was a great success. We had poems old and new, but mostly new. A band of young enthusiasts, well-trained and well-led, did the verse-speaking parts admirably. I had to make a contribution, and I read verses for them; but, more spontaneously, I gave a little talk, in my own kind of frish, on the difference between

one kind of verse and another! The Conamara people enjoyed the verses, for they were in praise of their own "Beanna Bools," and they all enjoyed the talk, and were delighted to learn that verse-making is so easy an avocation after all!

learn that verse-making is so easy an avocation after all!

We had much music. The Welsh visitors brought as excellent soloist and two ladies who could sing and who had their own harps. Their contributions were excellent and deservedly popular. "Is et nu an it reababadh."

#### " MATRE "

Unlike the Mod, less stress is laid upon the competitions that take place during the Oireachtas than on those that are unseen and unheard. But many valuable prizes are contended for in all sections. It was a pleasure for me to find Dr. Douglas Hyde's Prize given to "Maire" for the best Gaelic book published during the year. He has sarend this prize twice, and, indeed, he may earn it again! O Grianna is a native of Tir Conail! I have always found his works fascinating. And any Soots, who want to discover another, and a very charming, Gaelic world, should begin their study of Modern Irish by reading "Maire's" books. For other forms of literature and for musical compositions substantial awards were forthcoming.

The Oireachtas is a great social event. More is done officially there to promote friendly intercounse than is common at our Mod. A whole evening, and that a long one, was devoted to a reception. There was a great concourse of people. For them all food was provided—no mean task. The ceilid atmosphere is less native to the Oireachtas than it is to the Mod. We in Scotland should exercise care to prevent our ceilidia from developing into mere impromptu concerts.

#### "AN SEABHAC."

We were greatly indebted to "An Seabhac" for much help, for much kindness, and for abounding hospitality. To him personally great credit is due for the vision and the ability that enabled him, with others like-minded, to make the Oireachtas once again an annual event of great importance in the Celtic world. Bail o Dhia orra fein.

Dr. Atholl Robertson of Oban's company helped to make the Oireachtas memorable for me.

#### II. By A. R.

This Convention (the Oireachtas) illustrating the whole of Gaelic Life and Culture, and covering Music, Song, Dance, Drama, and Sports, lasts for eight days, including Sundays, and has morning, afternoon, and evening sessions, and rust strictly to schedule, a fact which requires revisal of ill-conceived notions of the Hibernian time-sense!

I must stress the extreme kindness and hospitality shown to a complete stranger, of no importance and with no official standing, by all the organisers, including "An Seabhae" (of whom we have no counterpart this side of Alisa Craig for sheer devotion to the Gaelic Cause), simply because he was a Soot with a patent interest in Gaelic and had honoured them by wearing the kilt. The best seats were offered, introductions made to the leading personalities, everything shown in which he was interested. One likes to hope that they experience similar kindness on visiting our Mod.

It was pleasant to renew acquaintance with Mairi Scully and others who had previously visited Alba, and to meet a fellow-Scot in the person of the Rev. Calum MacLean.

#### EXCELLENCES AND DIFFERENCES.

Nearly everything was held in the Mansion House, beautifully decorated with Celtio designs and the names of past herces of the Movement; but one missed the glory and inspiration of the tartan. A few Irish kills were in evidence, which is now the accepted dress for Irish step-dancing, though declared by McLintock, Ancient Irish Dress (Dundalk), 1943, to be spurious; and some of the girls were embroidered green frocks with native cape.

As in all cognate movements there are bound to be excellences and differences, and my remarks are not to be taken as capricious or invidious. The vocal and choral work does not come near Mod standard, and here one comments on

the preference shown for many of our songs. "Orain mhóra" were also poor, and one received the impression that things were being preserved simply because they were traditional, irrespective of their performance and style. Unless tradition is good and the style good, it is best forgotten.

#### POETRY AND DRAMA.

There was one competition new to me and of great interest— recitative poetry performed by the choirs, parts taken by solo performers of either sex or by the sexes separately, and all joining in the responses and all under the baton of a conductor. I can think of no better way of teaching pronunciation and getting people to speak the language. Beinn Dorain, etc., would be marvellous, if performed in this fashion. In all other classes we have not left the starting-post. The drama was good, and a better class of play than we possess.

Two days were devoted to the Youth Movement, and the

hall was filled with lucky delegates from all over Ireland. They put on their own Shows, and splendid they were, in particular an excerpt from last year's pantomime which, billed for four days, ran for seven weeks, and was the best show in Dublin. Think of it!

The step-dancing was wonderful and unlike ours, which is now relegated to the "Goill" (and female ones at that), entirely ignorant of our language and dance traditions. The best came from Belfast. Partition is a burning question, and all Scots should think hard. The "paper-ring" of the English-run Press can be more impenetrable than the "Iron Curtain."

The final act was an exhibition of Gaelic football, combined with a parade of over a hundred pipers who played well and in unison. All were dressed in modo Scotorum, with kilt and plaid of green, red or saffron, and included a number of that unnatural species, female pipers, complete with kilts and plaids of Cobalt Blue! Ochon!

#### A VIGOROUS LANGUAGE.

Above all, do let me impress upon the Scottish Gael that the language is a living, vital and expanding entity, fully capable of use for all purposes. From start to finish I never heard a word of English; even at the Ceilidhs, when 1200 people were present and graced by the attendance of Mr. De Valera and other high officers of State, no word but Gaelic was to be heard.

Admittedly, they receive every help from Governmental sources, but remember it was not always so. We, of course, lack political power, but we could do much more than we do. Altogether, the Ojreachtas was a marvellous show, of great interest and wonderful inspiration, and an eye-opener to the

visitor from Scotland.

#### STOC IS FAILLEANAN.

Thalla, Eudòchais, is beachdaich! A' chraobh a leag iad an uiridhseall !--chan fhaic thu 'n stoc am bliadhna aig lìonmhorachd nam fiùran uime.

Tha ceathach uaine uimpe ag cleith oirnn lot na tuaighe a leag a mullach, oir ghin na freumhan 's iad air fanachd àlach ghallan far na thuit i.

"Sin té a dhìth air a' choille, bearn san doire nach dùinear " . . . . ach dh'ùraich i a beatha fhathast le failleanan an aghaidh dùile.

"Slàn leatha," thuirt sinn, "'s le 'cuid smeòrach. Cha chluinnear ceòl a h-eunlaith tuille.' Nuair a théid bliadhna 's bliadhna seachad, bidh iad a' seinn as ùr 'na duilleach.

Dh'fhan na freumhan an déidh an leagaidh, a tharraing beatha o'n ùir do'n bhuin i; a dh'aindeoin choilltearan is tuaighe dh'athnuadhaich i a h-eòin o'n duslach.

Ar cainnt 's ar cultur, car sealain ged rachadh an leagadh buileach,

cuiridh na freumhan 's an seann stoc dhiubh failleanan snodhaich is duilleach.

DEORSA CAIMBELL HAY.

## IMPRESSIONS OF A VISIT TO EIRE AND CYMRU.

By J. H .MILLER.

## CYMRU.

From Eire to Cymru is but a short journey, but the linguistic contrast is vivid. Here, until one reaches the southern towns, English is decidedly a minority language, both in speech and print.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

Some twenty-three weekly and monthly journals and papers are published wholly in Welsh, and, while there are no Welsh-owned daily newspapers, the Welsh editor of the Liverpool daily has a complete section in Welsh. Novels in Welsh sell 10,000 copies without difficulty,

and the majority of the best books about all aspects of Wales are in Welsh. Unlike Eire and Alba, one has to seek out books in English in the book-shops, native works

being prominently displayed.

The Welsh publishers issued a joint-catalogue of books, which includes Foyle's of London and an expatriate house in Liverpool. This type of co-operation is most useful and constructive.

#### THE POSITION OF WELSH.

The Cymry are, however, far from satisfied with the situation, although, with 40 per cent. of the population still using their native tongue, the position is not nearly so desperate as it is in Scotland

While it is quite true to say that English is spreading, While it is quite true to say that English is spreading, the Radio and the films play have here, as does the intrusion of English economic interests and residents. The establishment of a Butlin's holiday-camp at Pwileli, a wholly Welsh-speaking town, is a case in point, and this notwithstanding 100 per cent. opposition and protest from the residents, local authorities, churches,

and cultural and political bodies.

Given Government support, such as Gaelic has in Eire, Welsh has the power to recover the ground lost in a very short space of time. The factors to be contended with are much the same as in Scotland, but the determination with which the native speakers and organisations are working for the restoration is really inspiring. Refusals of demands made to the Government are never accepted. The language petition, organised during the war and signed by 400,000 Cymry, is an example of this tenacity and steadfastness of purpose.

I was privileged to attend a four-day Summer School on Welsh History at which the proceedings, with two exceptions, were entirely in Welsh, as were all the social diversions and church services. Some four hundred people attended this School, including visitors from Eire, Brittany, Cornwall, and overseas. The enthusiasm Brittany, Cornwall, and overseas. The enthusiasm displayed by everyone, young and old, was a joy to behold and there was no question of English being used because of the presence of non-Welsh-speakers; willing interpreters were many.

#### YOUTH WORK.

The position of Welsh in the schools, while far from satisfactory, is far in advance of the position of Gaelic in the schools of Scotland. Welsh is used in all schools in the Welsh-speaking areas, and is taught as a subject elsewhere. Wales has so far failed to secure equality in the Courts for her language, or in the realms of officialdom.

AN GAIDHEAL.

There is no specific language organisation as in Eire or Alba, work being carried on by various cultural and political organisations and by local authorities, etc.

A very strong and rapidly growing Youth Movement has been in existence for some years, and is doing excellent work. Units are to be found in every town and village throughout the country, including the industrial south. Yr Urdd, as the movement is called, is the Welsh counterpart of Comunn na holigidh on a national scale, and is undoubtedly the most important and influential agency working in the interests of the language.

The full range of youth activities is engaged in, and, in addition to tuition in Welsh, training is provided in singing and elecution, literature and history, cooking, sewing, carpentry, first aid, etc. All kinds of games are promoted, and leagues for hockey, football and cricket

are run.

A National Youth Eisteddfod is held annually, in the north and south alternately; and an annual rally is held at the National Eisteddfod of Wales. In addition, district and local sections of the movement hold their own Eisteddfodan and sports and camps. The movement is co-educational and might be liken'd to a Welsh-speaking Boy Sout and Girl Guide movement.

#### THE EISTEDDFOD.

The Eisteddfod, both locally and nationally, has a much broader basis than our Mod, for, in addition to the cultural aspects, it includes the entire range of Welsh certifs, husbandry and domestic arts. The Eisteddfod is not run by any one organisation; all participate and have their individual pavillons represening their particular purposes and work. Thus, if we added to our Mod the Cowal Games, the Highland Agricultural Show and the Drama Festival, and ran it for a week, we would have something approaching the Eisteddfod.

GREATER INTER-CELTIC CO-OPERATION NEEDED.

The interest in Scotland and in the language movement here was widespread and, as in Eire, expressed itself in a desire to see more co-operation and liaison. The revival of the Celtic Congress is eagerly looked forward to, as likewise an increase of individual contacts and visitation. There are lessons to be gained from the experiences and

experiments of both our sister nations in respect of language and general cultural endeavours; and official visiting commissions could elicit much of value that

escapes the superficial gleanings of an individual.

The goodwil exists for the forging of closer links and
the development of greater co-operation, perhaps even of
joint-action, in the interests of the Celtic languages and
culture; and one feels that the time has come for serious
thought in this direction.

#### NA MARCAICHEAN AN CANADA.

#### Le CALUM MACGILLEATHAIN.

Cha seas dùthaich gun rian a bhith oirre. A thuilleadh air laghanan matha feumaidh I'u luchd-coimhead a bhith aig an lagh. Tha maorsaachd-sìthe a nis anns gach dùthaich anns a bheil an t-sìobhaltachd Iarach no Eòrpach, chan ann san Roinn-Eòrpa a mhàin ach an Roinn Aisia, an Roinn Afraca, agus an Roinn Amarirora.

Am meag mooir-shithe an domhain tha meas àraidh air as t-seòrsa tha aca an Canada air a bheil "Na Maracichean." Tha iad air seòrsa cho fearail, cho gaisgeil, agus cho dlleas agus a tha dol an deise constabuil. Is ann mar mharc-phoilios a fhuair iad an diù air the—daoine cruaidhe, leanmhainneach a leanadh lorg a' chiontaich 's iad air muin an eich cia b' eiomall tire a ruigeadh e. Is docha gur ann a' leantainn cleachdadh an Airm Bhreatannaich a bha iad o thùs an uair a chuireadh an otas eàrlaid orra.

Tha an eachdraidh cho sean ri tùs Aonadh Chanada sa' bhliadhna 1867, oir is ann goirid an dèidh sin a chuireadh feachd aca cruinn, 300 fear, le an seacaidean dearga agus am briogaisean teann mư ghlàin, air an tugadh " Marc-phoilios na h-Airde 'n Jar-Thaukh'. Chuir iad sin ceangal cruaidh de lìon air an tir gu ruige na Beanna Creagach agus bu mhór am maitheas do dhaoine eile iad mar luchd-ùill agus luchd-gieidhidh eadar Ear-thaobh na dùthcha agus an 1ar-thaobh a tha sinte ria 'a 'Chuar Chiùin fada thall. Is e bha annta sid scòrsa de fhoachd-toisich agus iad a' sìor-bhualadh an iar agus a tuath, agus meall eile de dhaoine gaala a' siubhal gu tèarainte saor fada air an obl. Agus ged a tha mór-roinn Chanada a nis réidh aig na slòigh, tha ''Na Marcaichean' 'fhathast ann fo an ainm ''Marc-Phoilios Rìoghail Chanada '' no an ''R.C.M.P.''

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Ged a the cosandh an Canada as feàrr pàidheadh na an seirbhis chan 'cil éis ghillean orra. Tha iad daonnan agus barrachd a' sireadh seirbhis aca na is urrainn iad a ghabhail. Mar is tríce is e saoghal lom, aonaranach a tha aca, agus is ann mail gu leòir a tha an t-àrdachadh inbhe 'nam measg. Faodaidh fear a bhith gun seabhron ochd bliadhna, agus is decha gum bir e dà bhiadhna dheag aca mum faigh e an adra seabhron agus an deann cropporal dheth; agus an uair sin is 555 ann ann an Gharr na ian. Githeadh the àire abraichte aig "A' Mharcaiche," agus saoghal, air a chruas agus air a tuimead, a tha taitneach gu leòir do dhaoine làidir gun bhruaillein a tha sona, riaraichte am meadhon fasaich no air cha tha chair ann an chair na ian. Githeadh cuid ac cho sona le am beatha aonaranach agus gur leisg leotha tighinn a steach gu cathair ng us ràid-bhail an uair a tanigrea r'adachadh dhaibh

Agus có a chanadh nach 'eil na h-aobhair aca?' An diugh fhéin tha sàmhchair is beannachd air cùl nam beann nach 'eil am meadhon dubh a' bhaile-mhóir! Agus a thuilleadh air gach oilean a fhuair iad 'nan oige tha fhios gu bheil cuid de am fearalas agus de am foidhidinn a' tighinn 'nan car mar dhìleab o'n bheatha fhallain agus aonarach is àbhaist a bhith aca. Chi duine an còmhnaidh buaidh àraidh de'n t-seòrsa air daoine nach 'eil o latha gu latha an eisimeil a chéile mar a tha iochdarain am bailtean. Fàsaidh iad forhainnteach

Ged a shaoilear mór facalad 4470 duine, chan 'eil àicheadh air mach ann baeg a tha e an coimeas ria an dùthaich mhór fharsainn is i Canada o chuan gu cuan. Chan 'eil fhios a bail a thuirear meud na tire mu choinneamh na maorsnachd siochaltan ac Canada, a nuair chuirear meud na tire mu choinneamh na maorsnachd sioch Agus is nebanch gu bheil fachd aon tir eile ann as inteicliù na am feachd so air son an cuid tapadh agus an dliseachd do an gairm agus an dlesachanas.

An-dùthaich mar a tha Chanda chan e mhàin gu bheil math is ole innte mar a tha anns gach àite, oir 'chan ann am Bòid uile tha an t-ole; '' tha draghar innte mar thìr do'n tàinig iomadh seòras duine geal, agus gach seòras aca sin agus a ghne fhéin ann agus a bhacahdan fhéin aige air ciod is còir agus is ceart. Chan ionann do'n Lochlannach agus do'n Ediaditeach, agus chan ionann do'n Eireannach agus do'n Ghearmailteach. Is iomadh Gàidheal a bha 'nam meag'; agus, o chionn ghoirid, fhuair sinn cliù tapaidh, iomholta air fear aca á Leòdhas, duine aig a bheil a chàirdean agus a luchd-dàimh 'nan cùl-taice anns a' Chomunn Ghaidhealanh so againne. Is e Mo-Thomais as sìoinneadh dha! A gus ged tha oilean agus goil san tri s doirbh dhaibh 'iomlanachd am buaidh a thoirt air uile iochdarain na farsainneachd agus na sgaoithich is Canada

Chan 'eil dà chainnt air nach 'eil sin a' fàgail nan daoine 'nan ceist do cach a chéile mar nach 'eil daoine 'nan ceist idir far 'eil a h-uile duine 'na iar-ogha do Iain Dubh. Gun ach sin fhàgail mar a tha e, tha rithist fuigheall an Canada de na daoine ruadha, fìor mhuinntir na tìre, le an dùthchas féin, an cleachdaidhean féin, agus an cuimhne agus an ionndrainn agus an call. Is daoine iadsan a tha nis eadar a bhith dol bàs agus a bhith teachd beò a rithist. Chan ann gun tuigse agus gun eòlas agus gun ghliocas agus gun fhearalas a thig e fhathast do dhuine geal a bhith 'na mhac gun bhràthair 'nam measg. Agus tha taosg de'n fhuil aca an daoine a tha cho geal a nis agus nach aithnichear sin orra. Agus anns an fhìor àirde tuath, eadar Alasc agus Bàgh Hudson, tha an seòrsa dùthchasach eile air a bheil an t-Eascamò, daoine nach 'eil mór an colainn no mór an àireamh ach a tha airidh air dìon agus cùram agus a thoill gu math e. Chan 'eil "Na Marcaichean" gun obair aca ach is math a fhuaras riamh iad.

# CENTRAL (WAR COMFORTS) COMMITTEE.

#### HIGHLAND BALL.

St. Andrew's Hall presented a brilliant setting for the Highland Ball, held on 24th Cetober, in aid of the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund. The decorating of the Hall was under the supervision of Mrs. Gilchrist, a member of the Organising Committee, and seldom, if ever, has this famous hall looked more colourful. The stage presented a beautiful Highland scene of Loch Ard and the surrounding district, while the galleries were draped with many tartans and fairy lights. The majority of the gentlemen were in Highland dress and the ladies wore tartan sashes. All this lent a riot of colour to the gay scene.

The catering arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. Tim Wright and his staff of the Cavendish Club, Edinburgh. Mr. Wright gave the services of his Dance Orchestra free. Stirring pipe music was supplied by the Glasgow Police Pipe Band, kindly granted for the occasion by the courtest of the Chief Constable, and the duties of Master of Ceremonies were ably executed by Pipe-Majors Hector MacLean and Charles D. Scott.

The President, Dr. John Cameron, expressed to the Lady Jean Graham and her enthusiastic Committee the sincere thanks and congratulations of the War Memorial Committee for the organisation of this highly successful function, from which the Fund will benefit considerably.

THE DUNEDIN SOCIETY.

The Dunedin Association was founded in 1911 to promote the development of Scottish music and poetry and in four years attained a membership of over 1,000, but the first World War caused activities to cease.

In 1944-46, however, the Association was re-organised under its present name, with the object of creating a body in Scotland fully representative of the nation's traditions, culture, and creative potentialities, and capable of establishing artistic standards. This has been done by forming an Advisory Council of the established authorities in the Scottish Arts who are available for consultation by the sub-committees which are drawn from the body of membership to deal with such special subjects as Celtic Art, Scottish Polk Song, Drama, etc.

There is an annual series of recitals of Scottish Music and Poetry. The Society's lectures and recitals are hold in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee, Inverness, and other towns where interest is shown. The Society seeks co-operation with all other cultural organisations in Sociland and has important international contacts and arranges exchange recitals with other countries.

All concerned with Gaelle culture will find of special interest the syllabus for the current session, although there is space here for mention of only Galey Music and 13th December the Bis of Clarsach Margaret MacInnes and Space (Clarsach) Margaret MacInnes, albern MacRitchie, and Sanchia Pielou (Harp). On 25th March Mr. George Bain lectures on Celtic Art, this being introductory to the Exhibition to be organised by the Celtic Art Sub-Committee of the Society at that time. On 25th April a Pibroch recital will be given by Robert Reid, Malcolm MacInnes, John MacDonald, and John Burgess.

An appeal is made for members throughout Scotland and also for donations toward, the heavy expenses of the recitals and towards the Publication Fund (which assists composers to have their works copied and printed).

The Prospectus and Syllabus of the Society can be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. William MacLellan, 240 Hope Street, Glasgow, C.2. The annual subscription is 5s. The subscription ticket for the 1946-47 Recitals costs one guines.

The President of the Dunedin Society is Mr. Hugh McDiarmid, and the Advisory Council includes most of the best-known names in the field of present-day Soctish cultural activities, among whom may be mentioned George Bain, James Bridde, Dr. Ernest Bullock, Dr. Erik Chisholm, William Crosbie, Neil M. Gunn, Dr. T. J. Honeyman, Eric Linklater, Somhairle MacLean, Compton MacKenzie, Francis George Soctt, and Ian Whyte.

# CELTIC ART.

#### Transfer Designs and Useful Publications.

"ELEMENTS OF CELTIC ART," by E. K. Carmichael (An Comunn Office, 1/-).

"Interlacing Celtic Designing in Six Easy Steps," by Mairi MacBride (An Comunn Office, 1/-).

"Celtic Art: The Methods of Construction," by George Bain, a series of six booklets (William MacLellan, 2/6 each).

While Celtic ornament, as displayed in such examples as the early Christian monuments of Scotland, the Book of Kells, and the Tara Brooch, evoke universal admiration, the practice of this distinctive type of decorative design is limited to a discriminating minority of workers in the field of art.

The reason may be that Celtic art appears to be too intricate elaborate, and esoteric. The clueidation of the constructive principles, which govern the design of interlacements, keypatterns, and spirals, is not readily apparent to the observer: the basic plan is bidden and clusive.

In bis recently published brochures—"Celtic Art: The Methods of Construction"—Mr. George Bain, a practice teacher and art master, has brought to light the rhythmic order which underlies the formation of the fascinating patterns which Celtic art lavishly displays.

By graphic exposition of first principles Mr. Bain explains the approach to the creation of ornate examples of distinctively characteristic Celtic motifs, the structural foundation of

which is clearly set forth by well-ordered illustrations.

Mr. Bain's series of "six elementary text-books on the
methods of construction of the Pictish school of Celtic art"s
comprises (1) Knotwork Borders; (2) Knotwork Paral;
(3) Spirals; (4) Key Patterns; (5) Lettering; (6) Zoomorphics.
So far the first three booklets in the series have been published.

These booklets, which fulfil the bigb standard of MacLellan's publications, should prove invaluable to all who desire to pursue this fascinating study and to advance the cultivation of our national art.

The booklets by E. K. Carmicbael and Mairi MacBride have been available for some time and have been very useful to many workers in the field of Celtic art.

A series of designs in Celtic art, from which transfers can be made, may be obtained from An Comuun office. These comprise examples selected from a large number of authentic specimens; and it is hoped that the beauty and variety of these patterns will make a strong appeal, not only to professional art workers, but also to that section of our members and of the public who at odd times engage in the more humble occupations associated with art and crafts.

Celtic Art reached its highest perfection during the early Cristian period, finding expression in the illuminated manuscripts of that era, in many beautiful objects of bronze and other metals commonly associated with ecclesiastical use, and in the bighly ornate sculpturings depicted upon the monumental slabs and free-standing crosses of Scotland and Ireland.

The style of this period falls into three classes, viz. spirals (the most ancient form), key-patterns, and interacements. At a somewhat later stage foliageous ornament resembling vine-forms was introduced, and this motif is very common in the designs displayed upon the stone slabs of the Western Higblands of Scotland.

Celtic ornament is always conventional; that is, natural forms are not reproduced exactly as they exist in nature, units of the design should be arranged in panels, and the basic plan of the designs in interlacing ornament and key

AN GAIDHEAL.

patterns is usually found to fall upon a system of squares set

diagonall

The specimens available from An Comunn office will be found to be of considerable merit in the art sense, and the designs readily lend themselves to the decoration of many objects in such spheres of art-handicraft as beaten metal work, wood carving, leather work, and embroidery. The study of Celtic art is of such cultural value as will

The study of Celtic art is of such cultural value as will provide a rich contribution to intellectual equipment and at the same time make a strong appeal to the patriotic sense of those who value that which is worthy and best in the traditions and heritage of our race.

## LEABHRAN UR.

BALAICH AN T-SRATHA (air a chlò-bhualadh le Mac-Labhruinn 's a Mhic; pris, 1/6).

Is math is fhiach an leabhran beag ciatach so a cheannach is a leughadh. A réir a mheud (48 taobh-ciuileig), chan 'eil againn ach tearc a mhac-samhail an rosg-sgrìobhaidh na Gàidhlig. B'fheàrr gu robh an tsuileadh de a leithid ann. Bho sgrìobh Domhnail MacEacharn mu bhuachailleachd nam fiadh agus mu bhàthadh cuilean a sheanar chan fhaighear a bheag de rosg Gàidhlig a bheir barr air Bailsch an t-Fratha.

Ged is ann gu hàraidh air son leas is toil-inntinn Comunn na h-Oigridh a chuir an t-òighdar a mach an leabhran air tòi, chan e iadsan a mhàin a gheibh sòlas is buannachd ri linn a leughaidh. Chan leil inbheach, go b'e air bith aois, a thogadh am measg nam beasn no an oois na mara, nach toir odmhradh agus mas-meamnainn nam balach 'na chuimhne làithean a ne-chiontais, 'mu'n d'fhuair e còlas riamh air bròn." Le sùil air ais abraidh e ris fhèin ca losal am briathran a' bhàird : "O na balaich bha sinn ann,

Gun bhoineidean, gun bhrògan;
Bu shona 'n saoghal a bhiodh ann
Nam maireadh sud an còmhnaidh.''

Cha do chuir an Am maireann sud an comhnaion.

Cha do chuir an t-ùghdra ainm ria an leabhran, ach cha leigear a leas a nis a chleith gur e an Gàidheal fiùghail, an Dotair Mac-an-t-Saoir nach maireann, a bha in a lighiche am baile Airdrie, a chuir a mach e. Is e cùis a' bhròin do'n Chaidhligh s'ad o'n Ghàidhleg tach o'n Ghàidhleg tach o'n Ghàidhleg tach ain ea chi gann tìoram air na duilleagan an uair a ghairmeadh air falbh gu h-obann e.

Is ann do mhuinntir an t-Sraha an Geàrrioch a bhuineadh an Dotair, agus is ann mu dheidhinn mar a dh'fhàg grunnan de bhalaich òga an t-Sratha an dachaidhean gun fhìos agus a chuir iad seachad latha fada samhraidh—eadar an t-Srath agus Poll Tùbh—a tha an seanachas. Faodar an còrr fhàgail aig an luchd-leughaidh. Bithidh sin meallta mur tori iad an aonta gu bheil aca an so a' Ghàidhlig 'na fìor uaisleachd agus 'na h-iarachadh spioraid.

#### THE OWL OF STRONE.

THE OWL OF STRONE, edited by John MacKechnie (Sgoil Eòlais na h-Alba, 1/6).

This booklet contains a text of the well-known Gaelic poem, A' Chomhachag, together with an English translation and notes on the text, metre, and construction of the poem.

There can be few poems in Gaelic, or in any other language, which have been handed down to posterity in so many conflicting versions, and for this reason the task of preparing a satisfactory text is beset with great difficulties. The poem, or the greater part of it, was probably composed in the early years of the seventeenth century. The earliest written source, however, dates from over a century later. At least sixteen and very few of these contains either the same verses or the same ordering of them. In addition, numerous fragments and parodies of the poem exist.

A full and complete treatment, giving due weight to each source and containing some account of what local traditions are still extant in Lochaber, would require considerably more than the 36 pages used. Such a treatment, although of value to Gaelie scholars specialising in this and related fields, would scarcely appeal to the ordinary reader, nor could it be published at so low a price. It is, no doubt, for these or similar reasons that Mr. MacKechnie has very wisely contented himself with furnishing a reasonable text and with mentioning only those points which are likely to be of major interest. He is the congratulated on providing such a useful edition, and the enterprise of the publishers is to be highly recommended.

Since the editor mentions only one source by name, he does not state how the choice of the verses which he has included, or their ordering, has been made. His verse order follows, in the main, that given by Watson in Bardachd Ghaidhilg) which is based on the 1776 Eigg Collection), except that verse 4 is introduced as given in the Turner, Stone and MacLaggan MSS; the order of vv.10, 11 is reversed for some reason; v. 42 (also in MacLaggan) is reinstated from the Eigg Collection; vv. 43-45 are inserted after v. 42 as first given by Donald MacPherson in An Duanaire (1868). The dozen or more extra verses existing in various sources are not mentioned. Some of them, like vv. 43-45, are, of course, possibly spurious.

The English translation is conveniently placed opposite the Gaelic, and is faithful and straightforward. The most valuable parts of the notes are the pages dealing with the metre and construction of the poem. The poem is clearly a combination of at least three, and possibly as many as seven, different poems on hunting, topography, old age, etc. By a skilful analysis of changes of metre and of theme, the editor suggests a rough division into separate poems. More could be said on this faciantiang subject, and on the various alternative

readings, if space permitted.

A number of notes on the characters and places mentioned are given in the last three pages and elsewhere. In many cases considerably more information than is given is available both from written sources and from local tradition. An oral version of the poem, containing several interesting variations, was still nexistence in the vicinity of Spean Bridge when the review was in Lochaber eight years ago. Various stories about the supposed author, Domhnall Mae Fhionilagh and Dan, and about Donnghail (vv. 1, 7), were then in circulation, although it was evident that the two throos had become somewhat it was evident that the two throos had become somewhat it was evident that the two horos had become somewhat identifies "Fearghus Mor" (v. 6) with King Fergus (cf. also "Allt Fhearghus" near Fersit). Also, "Boin & Tigh. Creige" (v. 44) is claimed to be MacDonald of Glencoe, whose standard-beare was the poet's father (see An Gaidheal, 1876, p. 328). These examples must suffice, although many more could be cited.

Finally, the vexed question of Creag G(h)manch versus Creag Uanach. Mr. MacKeehnie will find Allt Uanach, whose existence he doubts, marked on the 6-inch Ordinanes Survey map against the lower reaches of the stream which enters Loch Treig south of the hill. In the hill name there is, of course, little or no difference between the pronunciations of the various forms. Nevertheless, local inhabitants questioned by the reviewer stated definitely that they said Uanach and not Ghuanach. Or Guanach.

## "GAELIC CALLING."

## A New Collection of Popular Songs.

"GAELIC CALLING" (GHAIDHLIG A' GAIRM) is an album of sixteen popular Gaelic songs, with English verse translations and musical arrangements by Mr. J. N. McConochie (Mozart Allan, Glasgow, Staff and Sol-fa, 2/-).

(2002ar Allah, Grasgow, Stain announced and the 36-page. The songs are all well-knewled. In the Galeit text there are a number of misprints, but none serious. The Stail title was a number of misprints, but none serious. The Gaelit title we do not like: the word "Ghádhilg" should either be unsapirated or have the article before it, but, even with that correction, we think a better title might be used.

Translation is always a precarious undertaking, especially translation into verse-form. It is apparent that pains have been taken to convey the sense of the original as closely as

possible, and generally a singable English version is the result, but there are a few pedestrian stanzas.

Mr. McConochie's settings provide technically simple accompaniments to songs, for many of which arrangements already exist, though his system of writing is original in offering a constant, melodic guide to the singer and an economical alternative in some cases of solo or duet singing.

Altogether, Mr. McConochie has done a good piece of work which should have a ready sale.

T. M. M. & P. S.

#### AN DROCH MHANADH.

Bha mì latha an Inbhir Pheofharain agus thachair dithi rium ann agus bha comhradh againn. Is e daoine Gàidheach a bha annta-san le chéile, agus fear aca 'na chomhairliche Siorrachd. -An ceann tamull is e a thàinig as an t-scannas aca ceist na postaireachd aig am baile, agus cha robh iad de'n aon bheachd m'in chùis 's

Thòisich an comhairliche air innseadh mar a bha na deadanais agus na riachaitean, agus thug mi fainear mar a bha a' Bheurla a' sìor-fhàs na bu bhitheanta aige, agus mu chleireadh cha robh aige ach corra-fheac làidhigi an sìo agus an so; agus, an sin, chaidh e gu Beurla iomlan gun facal Gàidhigi dan. Dh' fhairthe hair an rud innseadh an Gàidhig lei.

Bha mi latha eile an tigh-eiridinn àraidh, agus chuir fear a bha air leabaidh furan orm an Gàidhlig. Ged nach do dh'aithnich mi e air tìs, chùm mi ceann a' mhaide ris, agus cha robh gu h-ole gus an do thòisich e air innseadh dhomh albhar a thrioblaid agus a thinneis, agus thòisich a' Bheurla air brìthadh a steach air, agus, arsa esan, "Let us speak in English."

Chan 'eil fada o bha mi an aon de na h-Eileanan Siar. Thachair fear rium agus thòisich e fhéin air inmeadh dhomh mu'n t-saoghal 's a mhac 's a nighean! Thàimige gu bhith 'gi ninseadh mar a bha gnothaichean aimsireil air an cumail a' dol agus gach cothrom agus ana-cothrom a bha nis aig adoine bechda. An uair a dheanadh e àireamh is e a' Bheurla a bhiodh aige; is ann am Beurla a bhiodh a' phrìs aige, agus ann am Beurla a bhiodh caimte; ach eadar sia ann am Beurla a bha darna leth a chuld cainnte; ach eadar

gach leth a bha ann chaidh aig an duine so air cumail air an Gàidhlig, ach obh! obh! bha i breac, breac. A nis, bha an triùir aca co-ionann anns an ni so: bha iad air bheagan sgoile, agus is ann cearbach a bha a' Bheurla a bha

aca. Ach dé a bha ceàrr orra ? Chuir iad nàire orm.

'Tha mi cimteach nach e dlimeas a bha a h-aon aca deanamh
air a' chainnt mhàthaireil. Cha robh cothrom aca air. Cha
b'urrainn fear seach fear aca a chaochladh a dheanamh. Agus
an uair a bheir sinn ceartas do na fir, dé a bha iad a' deanamh
ach an ni as usa dhuinn uile a dheanamh 'na leithid de
abhidheachadh, ged a rachadh aig cuid againn cheana de
shuidheachadh, ged a rachadh aig cuid againn cheana de

iomradh a thoirt air postaireachd gun Bheurla!

Chan 'eil math a bhith cáineadh no a' bualadh sìos. Is feàrr a bhith leasachadh agus a' togail a nìos. Is e a' cheud nì a tha a dh uireashbuidh oirm sgoil. Chan e sgoil air bith eile ach sgoil Ghàidhlig, Is e a tha ceàrr nach 'eil fhìos aig daoine air de chanas aid no sair chanar a chanas lad e. Chan 'eil sgoil air de chanas iad no sir chanar a chanas lad e. Chan 'eil sgoil nàire mhór nan Gàidheal an Albainn cho beag agus a tha de chlas ceart Gàidhlig nar measg. Ach mar a thuirt am bodach Sineach, "Is febrr coinneal a lasadh san dorchadas na bhith chineadh an dorchadais."

HEARACH.

#### PERIODICALS OF INTEREST.

An Ceum (2d) is a new Gaelic and English monthly, printed and published by the Gaelic League of Scotland. It is intended primarily for learners of Gaelic. The first number contains the first of a series of lessons well calculated to interest and help the learner, and explodes the hoary falsehood that Gaelic is difficult to acquire. It is no more difficult than other languages and much easier than most. There are also fairly simple pieces of Gaelic prose specially written for An Ceum, and English articles provide interesting and varied information

about Scottish history, etc. Altogether it is a promising venture, and we wish our young contemporary the success it deserves.

Geserves.

The Lion Rampani (1/-) also makes its first appearance. It is a monthly published by William Maclellan, but issues "from a croft in Moidart." The editor is Amhalidh MacAindreis, who has written in our own pages. This interesting and timely and attractively produced magazine introduces itself thus:

"This paper was born in a West Highland croft, out of a long term of consideration and discussion with friends about the dangers that are crowding in upon the Highlands and upon Scotland. The Highlands contain the germ of Scotlands ite, and the focus of her culture—what there is left of it.

We believe that it is impossible to see either Highland problems or Scotland from the inside of a big town, or from any way of life which has not to do with the soil that is Scotland."

Some of the items are in Gaelic. We would congratulate the editor on his first number, and hope that sufficient support will be forthcoming to establish this venture on behalf of our country and people.

Chapbook (6d., bi-monthly) is intended to be representative of the whole field of Scottish cultural achievement—literature, music, drama, films, etc. Several numbers have appeared, and there is an interesting "Duilleag Ghàidhlig" (including Gaelic lessons) by Mr. Alex. Nicolson.

From the publishing house of William MacLellan there issue a steady stream of periodicals, interesting in content and attractive in appearance. Poetry—Scolland and Scotlish Art and Letters are already well known: both include Gaelio contributions. One World (26) is a quarterly "review of world unity." The first number had an article on "The West Highlander at Home" by Secton Gordon. To-day and To-morrow (2/6) is a quarterly Scottish "review of practical constructiveness." The second number (Spring 1940) contained an important article by Dr. F. Fraser Darling on "The Highland Problem and Constructive Policy."

The Voice of Scotland (Caledonian Press, 1/6) is a quarterly magazine of "Scottish Arts and Affairs," edited with his usual vigour by Hugh MacDiarmid, and includes Gaelic items.

The New Scot (Scottish Reconstruction Committee, 6d), already well established, has become a monthly, and in it one finds much good constructive thinking about Scottish and Highland affairs.

The variety of Scottish periodicals now available, many of them of recent origin, testifies to an increasing concern with Scottish affairs. It is by debate and discussion and construtive criticism that ideas are clarified, corrected, and propagated, and the way prepared for effective action for the well-being of the community.

A noteworthy feature of many of these periodicals is the place they give to Gaelic. In this connection one should remark that *The Scots Independent* also gives considerable space each month to a Gaelic article and an English article on Celtic topics.

## EADAR SINN FHEIN. GAELIC IN SCHOOLS.

Sir,—It is encouraging to read that the President of An Commin Gaidhealach stated publicly (at the recent National Mod in Aberdeen) that it was deplorable that children should continue to be taught through the medium of a language which they do not understand. It is all the more encouraging in that the President is a teacher himself, and in the Highland area at that so very many Galic-specking teachers are in the Lowlands, a piece of rank race-treachery which ought to be punishable by death).

It is now to be hoped that two things will speedily follow (for if not speedily, then cortainly too late):

AN GAIDHEAL.

(1) That the above will at once be adopted as the official policy of An Comunn. Their policy up to now has been to advocate the "teaching of" Gaelic (i.e. as though it were a foreign tongue like French or Latin), not "teaching in" (i.e. through the medium of) Gaelic. So far as I know, they did not even upge the framers of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1985, to insert a clause either requiring or recommending the instruction of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1985, to insert a clause mother-tongue up to a stated age or stage. An Comunn have had in their possession for several years a statistical research which proves how desperate are the results of the present method of instruction through the medium of English, even at the age of 12 (and they must be much worse still at younger ages). Yet no mention of this has been made, so far as I have been able to find, in any policy at all, the furtility of which has hong these desired paparent. It is to be hoped that the President's pronouncement adumbrates a radical change.

(2) That the teachers in the Gaidhealtachd will likewise adopt a different attitude and try to gain a less feeble and service spirit. I should like to see them banding together and unanimously warning the authorities that they will refuse, after a given date, to employ one word of English in their schoos in teaching pupils up to the age of 9 (except, possibly, in teaching them English, though it is very doubtful indeed if English should be begun at all continued to the property of the p

hest imperfectly

I further support all that Mr. Alexander MacKechnie of Oban, has said of late about the cultural value of Gaelic as a school language for English-speaking pupils in Scotland. It is truly despicable that not enough willing parents were recently found in Glasgow ipop. 1½ millions) to enable one class of children to substitut deals for contact of the contract of the

EDUCATION BEGINS AT HOME.

[The Past President, Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness, who made the statement referred to, does not belong to the teaching profession.—Ep.]

#### GAELIC IN GALLOWAY.

Dear Sir,— Your contributor *Uchtred* has supplied a most interesting collection of testimonies regarding the persistence of Gaelic in Galloway and Carrick from the 16 h to the 19 h century.

May I suggest that he would add value to his contribution, if he would furnish exact references for the various items cited from "the military report of Carrick,

various items cited from "the military report of Carrick, Kyle and Cunningham written between 1865 and 1866; Buchanan's History of Sco'land, the Rev. Dr. Landsborough for Landsborough, father and son'l), Dr. N. B. Trotter, and the Carrick Herald:—I am, etc.,

Tr ETTOTEROC

Dear Sir,-I wish to say how much I appreciated

Uchtred's article on Gaelic in Galloway.

I agree with him that the appeal for the revival of Gaelic seems to be rather narrowly Highland, for, after all, Gaelic was the national language, and therefore the Lowland citadel should also be stormed in the cause. Notwithstanding the mischief perpetrated by Walter Scott in these matters, Scottish medieval historians bear witness to the fact that it was the national language, and they regretfully admit that they in the South had by the accidents of history lost their birth-right. Personally, decumentary evidence, by some of your learned countributors.

Every school history-book, of course, talls us of the lamentable effect of Queen Margaret's policy in Church State on the Gaelic language—an effect which was, after all, accidental; while they are strangely silent about subsequent repressive measures which were aimed deliberately at the extirpation of the language.

Queen Margaret's so-called "de-Celticiastion" of the Church in Scotland is regarded as the replacement by a foreign one of a Church so truly "Celtic" that even its ritial was supposed to have something in the nature of a Gaelic Rite. I remember d'scussing the "Celtic Church" with a lecturer in med eval history for a talk I was giving on the subject. "Did the so-called Celtic Church, really exists as a Church, distinct from the rest of Chris endom's he asked. "As far as I am concerned, it only existed in the minds of the historians."

The matter is not as easily disposed of as this, but, nevertheless, our school history-books lay it down as axiomatic that the "Celtic Church" was independent of, if not hostile to, the Papacy, athough regues abundant evidence to the contrary. Saint Margaret therefore, changed nothing that was "Celtic" in the Church. Her alterations affected its discipline only, while its doctrine remained unchanged as it was handed down from Saint Ninian and Saint Columba.—Sincerely

CIOSMUL.

43

Another correspondent writes :-

"The word clachan which George Borrow heard in Galloway in 1854, might have been included by *Uchtred* in his list of Gaelic words in current use in Galloway. An old man in Sorbie, where I had my first Charge, used it regularly of Sorbie itself,"

#### LEARNING GAELIC: MORE SUGGESTIONS.

Dear Sir,—I have read the letter by Mr Byars in which he suggested the broadcasting of a series of Gaelic lessons, but, although I sympathies with him in his difficulty, I feel that he has over-estimated the value of the native speaker as a teacher.

The point of view of the native speaker is so different from that of the learner that the native is unable to appreciate the difficulties of the learner. Of course, if he is properly guided, the native is useful for demonstraing the sounds of the language to beginners, but we find that the proficient learner has supplanted the native as a teacher of modern languages, except in some advanced classes conducted in the native language that the proficient of the profit of the pr

This applies even to languages where the grammar has been satisfactorily codified by native scholars, but we find that no Gael has yet succeeded in producing a satisfactory statement of the grammar of his language. Indeed, one still finds in Gaelic text-books "Subjunctive" used as the name of a tense and "Conditional" as the name of a

mood!

The learning of Gaelic, like that of any language, is for those of us who are unable to settle in a district where it is spoken a matter not of a few lessons but of years of study. Failure to realise this has often led to

disappointment

If the B.B.C. is asked to broadcast a course of lessons -say, 8, 10, or even 20—the objectives must be limited. To help those who, like Mr. Byars, are studying on their own, the course should be devoted to pronunciation and reading. To do this, a team of speakers representative of different districts and including speakers of both seves will be needed. The learner, after all, is not interested in the dialect of, say, "Cuii a' Bho'ahin," but wants to speak good, plain Gaelic, and to understand as many native speakers as possible, though there is no guarantee that the Gaelic of the native is either plain or good!

Is it too much to hope that, if such a course is

Is it too much to hope that, if such a course is broadcast (or recorded), those responsible will remember the maxim that "the customer is always right," and will consult those who are, or who recently have been, learners?

-Is mise, Gu dileas,

ALEXANDER C. MACNEILL.

## "Cùm do chas air an sgonnan."

A Charaid,—Ciamar a thòisich an sean-fhacal so? So mar a chuala mise e.

So mar a chuala mìse e.

Bha dà bhodach Uidhisteach a' ruamhar am beul na
h-oidhche. "Cha chreid mi," arsa fear aca, "nach do
chaill mi an caibe." "Caibe oirre no dhith," ars a
ghoistidh, "cùm do chas air an sgonnan."—B.

#### IN BRIEF.

Encouraging news comes from Campbelloum of a markedly increased intenst in Gadic. Sixty-form persons have enrolled in the Gaelic Continuation Classes. Sime no teacher is available locally, the Classes are taught by Mr. Jackson, Carradale, who has to motor sixteen miles each way. A parents' petition has also been submitted to the Education Committee requesting that Gaelic be taught in the Campbeltown School.

Congratulations also to the Glasgow Morren Association on successfully achieving their target-figure to provide "a cottage with a garden and a boat by the shore "for the holiday use of ex-Service natives of Morren (an original and splendid form of War Memorial), and also on their latest enterprise, "The Young Morren," which provides a varied programme of activities for the younger folks—Gaelic classes, dramatic club, singing, piping, home-baking, and country dancing. This is an example to be followed. In both town and country there is need of greater effort to win and hold the children of Highland parents for the Gaelic Cause. "Se farmad a ni treabhadh!" T.M. M.

#### 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 COMUNN GAIDHEALACH

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF

Leabhar XLII. | Am Faoilteach, 1047. | Earrann 4

#### COR CARACH AN T-SAOGHAIL.

Aig toiseach bliadhna ùire mar so is dual do dhaoine a bhith ag amhare air thoiseach orra le dòchas agus le deagh-mhisneach. Tha mionaidean deireannach na seann bhliadhna dhuinn mar dhorus a' dùnadh a mach bhuainn gach deuchainn is duilgheadas a dh'fhiosraich sinn. Tha sinn aig tòiseachadh ùr. Tha sineadh ùr de rathad-mór na beatha a' fosgladh romhainn. Có nach biodh dòchasach!

Ach tha fhios againn gur ann le faireachdainnean mar sin a chuir sinn fàilt air gach bliadhna ùir a chunnaic sinn riamh, agus tha fhios againn nach robh bliadhna sam bith ro shean an uair a chunnaic sinn gu robh gnothaichean a cheart cho righinn is cho cruaidh 's a bha iad riamh. Mar sin faodaidh feadhainn againn tuiteam ann an eudòchas; ag ràdh mar a thuirt neach roimhe:

"Ciod an tairbhe a th'aig duine 'na uile shaothair a ni e fo'n ghréin? Tha aon ghinealach a' siubhal, agus ginealach eile a' teachd; ach fanaidh an talamh gu bràth . . . An ni a bha ann, is e an ni sin féin a bhitheas ann; agus an ni sin a rinneadh, is e an ni sin féin a nithear; agus chan 'eil ni sam bith nuadh fo'n ghréin . . Chunnaic mi na h-uile obair fo'n ghréin; agus, feuch, is dìomhanas iad uile agus cràdh spioraid. An ni a tha cam, cha ghabh e deanamh dìréach; agus an ni a tha dh'easbhaidh, cha ghabh e dàireanh."

Sin agaibh spiorad na mi-mhisnich, spiorad a mhùchas gach oidhirp ma leigeas sinn leis-greim fhaotainn oirnn. Sin agaibh spiorad cunnartach a dh'fheumas sinn a thilgeil bhuainn air neo théid sinn a dhith.

Ri linn a' chogaidh, an uair a bha cunnart a' bagairt air gach taobh, rinn sluagh na rioghachd so strì agus spàirn nach fhacas riamh an leithid agus thug iad buaidh. Agus bha a' mhòr-chuid a' saoilsinn, an uair a thigeadh latha na buaidhe, gun tigeadh sith is soirbheachadh is deagh-ghean. Ach chan ann mar sin a tha. Tha na "Dùthchannan Aonaichte" an cunnart tuiteam an eas-aontachd. Is gann ceàrn de'n t-saoghal far nach 'eil dragh is buaireas. 'Nar dùthaich fhéin tha sinn ag gearan fo ghainne is fo theanntachd is fo dhaoiread. Agus cha sinne idir as miosa cor. Nan robh barrachd eòlais againn air suidheachadh dhùthchannan eile, bhitheamaid nas taineile na tha sinn.

Cluinnear feadhainn ag ràdh, an uair a tha an saoghal mór ann an cruadh-chàs, gur faoin dhuinn a bhith cosg ùine is neirt air na cuspairean sin a tha fo ar n-aire mar Chomunn. Ma tha gainne is fullanga air feadh an t-saoghail, nach nàr dhuinn a bhith gu socair 'nar n-oisinn bhig fhéin, a' toirt aire do chànain is do chèd is do nithean mar sin?

Ciod an fhreagairt a tha againn d'an cheist sin? Tha so. Tha feum aig an t-saoghal agus aig an dùthaich gum bitheamaid uile ag coimhlionadh ar dleasanais mar dhaoine fa leth, gun deanamaid uile ar dìchioll anns gach saothair is dreuchd a tha ri ar làimh; ach, aig an aon am, feumaidh sinn fuireach rianail, reusanta, agus is e aon dòigh air sin a dheanamh agus dìbheal-misnich a chumail bhuainn ar n-inntinn a leigeil ri cuspairean inntinneil. Anns na làithean dorcha a th'ann, chan e nas lugha ach barrachd a tha sinn ag iarraidh de'n togail-inntinn agus de'n ùrachadh-spioraid a gheibh sinn bho dhìleab phrìseil ar litreachais agus ar ciùil. B'ann ann an sgoil chruaidh na beatha làitheil, ri aghaidh dheuchainnean is bhrisidhean-dùil, a dh'fhòghlum ar sinnsirean gach gliocas a thaisg iad suas 'nan litreachas do na ginealaichean a lean. Nan robh iadsan air géilleadh anns na suidheachaidhean doirbhe a bha aca, bu shuarach an oighreachd a bhiodh againne an

A bharrachd air sin, chan 'eil toileachadh as àirde as aithne do'n duine, saoilidh mi, na an toileachadh a th'aige 'na dhachaidh, an uair a tha an dachaidh mar is còir dhith a bhith. Ach chan 'eil neach sam bith dol a ràdh gur peacach dhàsan sòlas is sonas a dhachaidh fhéin a mhealtainn am feadh 's a tha uibhir dhachaidhean eile ann a tha brònach.

Bha fear ann aon uair, agus e air leth-mhisg, agus thàinig e tarsainn air fear eile air an dearg dhaoraich na leighe an clais an rathaid. Dh'fheuch e ris an fhear a bha 'na shìneadh a thogail, ach dh'fhailich air. "Chan urrainn mi do thogail," ars esan, "ach laighidh mi ri d'thaobh!"

Tha e mar fhiachaibh oirnne làmh-chuideachaidh a shìneadh dhaibh-san a tha an éigin, ach cha dubhairt sin gum bu chòir dhuinn tàir a dheanamh air gach beannachd is sòlas a tha againn.

\* \* \* \*

Cuireamaid mar sin ar n-aghaidh air a' bhliadhna ùir so gu misneachail agus gu dòchasach, a' deanamh le dichioll gach ni a gheibh a làmh r'a dheanamh, ag cur gu feum ar cothroman, ag altrum nan nithean sin a tha fior agus urramach agus ceart agus maiseach agus tlachdmhor, a' nochdadh taingealachd air son na tha sinn a' sealbhachadh an àite a bhith gearan mu na nithean a tha dh'easbhaidh.

Is ann mar sin, a dh' aindeoin cor carach an t-saoghail, a bheir sinn buaidh air na bòcain a tha cur eagail an iomadh cridhe, agus is ann mar sin a chuidicheas sinn ar dùthaich agus ar comh-chreutair-ean ré nan làthean dorcha gus an tig leasachadh ar chisean an t-saoghail. Oir thig leasachadh, ge b'e có a chì e.

Iadsan a ghéilleas san oidhche, chan éirich a' ghrian orra.

Aireamh bhliadhnachan air ais fhuaradh carraghcuimhne ri taobh a' chladaich an aon de dh'eileanan na Gréige, agus, mas math mo chuimhne, is e so a bha sgrìobhte air a' charragh: "An so tha seòladair bochd air a thorradh: san oidhche stoirmeil san A'rinn sinne long-bhriseadh, is iomadh soitheach eile a ràinig caladh."

"An tì a bhuanaicheas a chum na crìche, tèarnar

## LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Chan 'eil cinnt agamsa an am dhomh a bhith a' sgrìobhadh, oir tha an Nollaig Mhór féin fathast corr is dà sheachdain air thoiseach oirnn, co-dhiubh a bhitheas no nach bì a' Bhliadhna Ur thar na stairsnich mun ruig mo bhriathran sibhse. Ach is dòcha gum bì, gu sònraichte g'ur taobh-se aig a bheil ur dachaidhean fada air fallab bho bheart a' chlò is bho oifis a' Chomuinn. Aon rud tha làn-chinnt agam air, agus is e sin gur e "1947" agus "Am Faoilleach" a bhios os cionn nan taobhan-duilleig anns an ath-àireamh, is bliadhna ùr air inntreachadh a steach oirnn.

Mar sin is e mo dhleasanas is mar an ceudna mo mhiann "Bliadhna Mhath Ur is móran dhiubh " a ghuidhe dhuibh uile, agus gach soirbheachadh a bhith leibh féin is le Comunn na h-Oigridh. Agus tha mar an ceudna dòchas agam gu robh "Bodach na Nollaige," an deagh ainm a thug mo charaid, Niall MacGilleathain, air Santa Claus anns na rannan gasda a tha aige an Gàidheal na Dùbhlachd, coibhneil ruibh aige am na Nollaige Mòire. Leugh mi na rannan ud cho luath 's a fhuair mi An Gàidheal 'nam dhorn, is chòrd iad rium gu flor mhath. Feuch gun leugh is gun ionnsaich sibh uile na ceithir ruinn ochd sreathan a tha ann. Is ann ro theare a tha rannan de'n t-seòrsa so againn anns a' Ghàidhlig.

A nis, a bheil sgeul ùr agam dhuibh aig toiseach bliadhna ùire? Is dòcha gu bheil, ged a dh'fhosgail mi sgeòd beag de'n bhrat air chùl a bheil i an litir a' mhìos a dh'fhalbh. Is e sin sgeul air Campa na bliadhna so air a bheil sinn ag inntreachadh. Is e a dh'innis mi dhuibh mar thà gun do thairg an t-Uasal a tha 'na uachdaran air Inbir-ailleart dhuinn àite freagarrach gu camp a chur 'na uidheam ann air an oighreachd aige féin. Thubhairt mi ruibh gu robh sinn a' dol a dh'fhaicinn an fhuinn feuch am biodh e a réir ar beachd féin freagarrach anns gach dòigh.

Rinneadh sin; agus chaidh dithis do'n deagh ainne gach taobh de ar feumalachd, Dòmhnall MacPhàil agus Iain MacAoidh á Dùn-fideann, suas gu Inbhir-ailleart a dh'aon ghnothach gu sin a dheanamh, agus chuireadh lan fhàilte orra le Fear Inbhir-ailleart is a chéile caomh.

Mar a tha fios agaibh uile, tha "dà thaobh air a" Mhaoil," cho math ri "seachd seallaidh" a bhith dhith, agus thug Dòmhnall is Iain dhuinn sgeul air gach taobh is gach sealladh a dh'fhiosraich iad 'nam cuairt-choimhead. Bidh am beachdan air an cur air beulaibh na Comhairle an uair a choinnicheas sinn an Sruighlea eadar so is deireadh an Fhaoillich. Chan fhaod mise a ràdh ruibh an so le cinnt no as-is-as gu bheil an camp ri bhith an Inbhir-ailleart; ach tha sinn a' dol a mholadh do'n Chomhairle gum biair son aon samhradh co-dhiubh, agus chan 'eil gealltanas againn air a' chòrr an ceartair-seadh. gum bi camp an t-samhraidh so tighinn air fonn Inbhir-ailleart. Biodh bhur sùil biorach is bhur cluas ri claisteachd, matà, a' feitheamh air sgeul na làn-chinnt a thaobh so, agus ruigidh am fios bhur cinn-fheachd cho luath 's a bhios sin 'nar comas. Leis gum feum eadhon litir an ath-mhlos a bhith an làimh a' chlò-bhualadair mum bi a' choinneamh so air a gléidheadh, cha bhi am fios-cinnt so an dubh 's an geal anns a' Ghàidheal gu àireamh a' Mhàirt : ach bidh sin féin an deagh ám.

Chan 'eil sgeul ùr no sgeul-rùin sam bith eile ach sin agam dhuibh an ceartair, agus mar sin builichidh mi an còrr a tha agam de rùm air seanachas beag eadarainn féin; agus is e a bhuail 'nam inntinn gum faodainn innseadh dhuibh mu chòmhradh beag a bha agam rium féin—'nam inntinn, gun teagamh, oir cha do thuit mi fathast cho fada air faondradh 's gum bi mi a' bruidhinn rium féin, ach an smuain a mhàin.

Feasgar an sud bha mi a mach air chuairt. Bha ceann-uidhe àraidh agam anns an amharc, 's mi a' deanamh an t-siubhail air mo chois. Bha dorcha na h-oidhche a nis air tuiteam, agus shuidhich mi 'nam inntinn féin gum brisinn thar an rathaid air an robh mi a' triall, is ris an làimh dheis, an uair a ruiginn bad sònraichte. Ach bha mi aig trom-smuaintean, agus faodaidh e bhith gur ann air Comunn na h-Oigridh féin a bha mo smuaintean; ach, biodh sin mar sin féin, mun tug mi mo shiubhal fainear, nach ann a bha mi air dol seachad air an t-sràid bhig air an robh mi am beachd tionradah!

"An ainm an Aigh!" arsa mise rium féin—'nam inntinn, cha b'ann am briathraibh a chluinneadh cluas—"tha mi nis air dol air chall"; ach gu h-ealamh chuir mi mi féin ceart, is rinn mi "air seachran" de

" air 'chall."

Ciod a nis a thug orm "air chall" a dhubhadh a mach 'nam inntinn is "air seachran" a chur 'na aite! Bheir mi leabhar beag mar dhuais dhàsan no dhise as feàrr a bheir mineachadh dhomh air an eadar-dhealachadh a tha cadar a bhith air seachran agus a bhith air chall. Tha cuimhne agaibh gun deach na gillean a bha air a' mhonadh an latha ud a thàinig an ceò orra (paipear-ceasnachaidh nan làn-dhaidheal) air chall, is gur e an cù a threòraich dhachaidh iad. Ciod a nis an t-atharrachadh a tha ann a bhith air seachran seach a bhith air chall! Foilistichear an oidhirp a feàrr a gheibh mi an Litir na h-Oigridh cho luath 's a shònraicheas sinn ciod an oidhirp as feàrr. Thoiribh dhuinn "annas bhur làinhe" matà.—Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH. Bodach na Moch-Eirigh.

Oidhche bha ann, bha bodach Gàidhealach, a bha fuireach ann am bothan beag 'na aonar, fo throm iomagain mu mhoch-eirigh a bha aige ri dheanamh an ath mhadainn, agus roimhe dol air ceann-turuis fada.

Bha e 'na rùn dùsgadh am beul an latha, ach cha robh fios ciamar a ghabhadh so deannánh aon uair is gun tuiteadh e seachad 'na throm shuain. Is ann fada roimh ám nan clocaichean-caismeachd a bha ann, anns na làithean anns an robh an sean-fhacal aig a' Ghàidheal—" Is math an t-uaireadair an t-sùil, a' bhrù, agus an coileach!"

Smaoinich fear na moch-eirigh mu dheireadh air dòigh anns an robh e cinnteach dùsgadh, ged a bhiodh

e seachd troighean fo'n talamh.

Ann an eadar-sholus an anamoich, am feadh a bha e cur mu dheidhinn dol do'n leabaidh, dh'fhalbh e mach thun an fharaidh air toir a' choilich. Rug e air an eun is thug e nuas e 'na làmhan is chuir e 'na thàmh e air spiris a bha tighinn a mach as a' bhalla ri taobh na leapa aige.

An sin thubhairt e ris fhéin gun dùisgeadh gairm a' choilich e co-dhiubh an deagh ám an ath mhadainn, agus gum faodadh e cadal gu suaimhneach, socair,

saor bho chùram.

Sin mar a bha. Chaidil am bodach, is chaidil e da-rìreabh, is bha an latha mór geal ann 's a' ghrian an àirde nan speur an uair a dh'fhosgail e a shùilean. An sin ghrad chuimhnich e air an turus is mhothaich c gun do chaidil e cian tuilleadh is fada.

Gun an còrr dàlach thug c dubh leum as an leabaidh a sgiùrsadh air falbh an eòin leibidich nach tug fiù is aon ghloc as fad na maidhe. Ach mo chreach! an uair a sheall e, dé a bha aige air an làr thall mu choinneamh ach cearc! Leis cho dorcha 's a bha am faradh an oidhche roimhe, thug e nuas an t-eun ceàrr.

TORMOD DOMHNALLACH.

## CIA MEUD MEARACHD A THA AN SO?

[So agaibh sgoul beag neònach, agus tomhas math de mhearachdan ann. Lorg a mach iad agus sgrìobh sìos air paipear iad, agus cuir sìos àireamh nam meanachdan a lorg thu; agus cuir thugam-sa am paipear roimh cheireadh a' mìlos, le t'aois is t'ainm is t'àite-'tuirich. Bheir mi leabhar do'n neach, fo aois sin bliadhna deug, a lorgas an aireamh as motha de mhearachdan.—Am Pear-desaschaich.]

Air feasgar briagh blàth ciùin, mu shia uairean air an uair luath-luath, aig toiseach dara mìos na bliadhna 1905, bha Eachann Mòr 'na shuidhe air stòl trì-chasach agus e ag amharc gu gcur air na lasraichean a bha ag éirigh bhó'n teine l'a chomhair.

Bha am bodach mu dheich bliadhna fichead a dh'aois, agus ged a bha deagh-fhalt air a' cheann, cha robh gaoisid air aodann. Aig a chasan bha cat mòr 'na laighe d'am b'ainm Peadar. Bha an seònar anns an robh an duine agus an cat car beag, le uinneig mhòir ag amharc ris an ear-thuath. Bha an tigh air a thogail air mullach cnuic agus gheibhteadh sealladh farsainn àlainn thairis air a' chòmhnard a bha a' sgaoileadh a mach gu bun nam beann.

Bha gathan deireannach na gréine, agus i ag órigh, a' deàrrsadh a steach air an uinneig, agus rinn Eachann Mór osna. Shil na deòir sios air a shròin gu ruig bàrr fhcusaig, agus chuir e a làmh gu brònach air a cheann maol.

Bha an uinneag air chrith fo bhuillean na stoirm. Chuir Eachann a mheur air putan an Ràdio, agus chuala e fear air chor-eigin an Glaschn a' labhairt an Greugais agus e ag innseadh do shluagh na Gàidhealt-achd gu robh Hitler is Ealasaid a' Chuain an deidh posadh, agus gu robh an "Lochness" (bata Steòrna-bhaigh) an deidh dà mhlid e ha saighdearan ris an abrar "Commandos" a ghiùlan á Barraidh gu Cinn a' Ghiùthsaich.

Chualas fuaim a muigh. Dh'éirich Peadar air a chasan, chuir e air a speuclairean, agus thòisich e air comhartaich. Leum Eachann a mach as an leabaidh air an robh e 'na shìneadh fad an fheasgair. Sheall e mach agus thuit sgleat bhàrr mullach an tighe. Ghabh Eachann ceum air a shocair air an lèanaig fa chomlair an doruis. "Feumaidh mi sìoman fraoich a chur air an tigh," ars Eachann, "air neo cha bhi sgrath no tughadh air fhàgail agam an uair a thig an geamhradh. Thug e sùil bhuaith, agus ars esan ris fhéin:
"Nach e an t-arbhar a tha math am bliadhna anns an
achadh: feumaidh mi tòiseachadh air a bhuan air an
ath-sheachdain."

Anns an dearg mhionaid sin, có a chunnaic e a' tighinn 'na ruith sìos am bruthach a dh'ionnsaigh an doruis ach balach beag cas-ruisgte. Ràinig am balach, agus rinn na tacaidean 'na bhrògan fuaim anabarrach air na leacan mu choinneamh an doruis.

"Nach c a tha fuar?" ars an nighean, agus i a' siabadh an fhalluis bhàrr aodainn, agus an sin bhuail i a làmhan gus blàths a chur annta.

"Chan 'eil e ach tràth de'n latha fhathast," ars Eachann Mór, agus 's dòcha gun sguir an cuirsneachd roimh mheadhon-latha.

Thug am balach mór litir do dh'Eachann. Leugh Eachann an litir. "Obh, obh," ars esan, "nach uamhasach an naidheachd so: tha an t-iar-ogha agam an déidh nosadh!"

"Nach coma leat," ars am fear eile, "tha triùir

mhac agam-sa posda cheana."

"Mata," ars Eachann Beag, "tháid mi agus cuiridh mi an dìollaid air Peadar, agus théid mi gu cilean na creige a dh'iarraidh cliabh mòna, agus bheir ni leam an gunna feuch am faigh mi liùth no sgadan air an rathad dhachaidh.

#### CAINNT NAM BEANNTAN.

 Togaibh suas le aoibh 's le saod A' chainnt d'an tug sinn gràdh is gaol; Bithbh eudmhor air a taobh, Is iomsaichibh do'n chloinn i. Tha i blasda, séimh 'na fuaim; Tha i stheid do gach cluais; Tha i brioghmhor's bheir i buaidh Thar shuaich dhi nochdas naimhdeas.

O, gur binn leam fhein a ceòl;
 'S cainnt i's grinne thig bho bheòil;
 'S ib ub hruidhinn dhuinn 's sinn òg,
 Ann an tir nam beanntan.
 Ge b'e àit san gabh sibh cuairt,
 'N Ear no 'n Iar, a Deas no Tuath,
 Cumaibh cainnt bhur gràidh a suas
 Gu buadhmhor le 'r cuid teangaibh.

3. Chaidh a giùlan thar an t-sàil
Le 'r luchd-dàimh do iomadh àit;
Thug iad spéis dhi agus gràdh
Dhi fhéin 's do shliochd nam beanntan.
'S còir dhuinne mar sin gu flor
A cumail beò le tuill 's gun sgìos,
A dha bha chaidh

An dìleab shìneadh dhuinn a nìos, A' Ghàidhlig luachmhor, ghreannmhor.

4. O, cha leig sinn i gu bàs, Cainnt cho fìorghlan, brìoghmhor, blàth ; 'S ann ro phrìseil bhios i fàs,

Ma chleachdas sinn gun mheang i. Gur c sluagh làn de'n mheud-mhór, Aincolas is àrdan 's pròis, Dheanadh dìmeas air ar còir—

A' Ghàidhlig, cainnt nam beanntan.

 Buadhmhor, uasal, luachmhor, slàn, Cumaidh sinn ar cànain gràidh, 'S cha leig sinn le neach gu bràth

Fo chasan bhith 'ga stampadh.
'S tiodhlae i a fhuair sinn fhéin
A shìnear do na thig 'nar déidh;
Chan 'cil chain fo'a a chain

Chan 'eil cànain fo'n a ghréin Bheir bàrr air Cainnt nam Beanntan.

NIALL MACGILLEATHAIN.

#### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

FAILTE NA BLIADHNA UIRE.—Bliadhna Minth Ur do a leughadairean uile. Guu deonaicheadh Dia ré na bliadhna so gun deanar adhartas air feadh an t-saoghail a dh'ionnsaigh staid nas socraiche agus nas sitheile na tha ann an ceartair. Ged a tha an cogadh mór seachad, tha na duthchannan agus na slòigh fhathast ann an suidheachadh buaireasach, agus bithidil, gus an amaisear air dòigh agus rian tea m bi barrachd earbas agus tladnd'n an chéile am meag a' chinne-daonna. Fasaichear baile ann an aon oidhche agus risear sios airteabh an aon latha, ach gu bhith a' togail as ùr, is e sin obair bhiladhnachan. Is ann ceum air cheum, tre shaothair is tre fhoidhidhna, a bheirear a mach ceann-uidhe na sìthe, agus tha lamh againn uile anns an obair a tha ri dheanamh a chum maith an t-saoghad uile.

"CEARNAG NAN GAIDHEAL"—Tang dhèsan a chur d'ar n-iomsaigh am paipear, The Maple Leaf, a tha air a chlò-bhualadh gach dara mìos an California. Anns a' phaipear so gheibhear n-aidheachdan an Gàidhlig 'a am Beurla mu ghnothaichean Gàidhealach, air an sgrìobhadh le Seumas MacGaraidh. Chah 'eil Seumas fhéin no na Gàidhlei eile au California idir 'nan tàmh. Tha coinneamhan is classichean diàthlig seile aca. Gu robh gach soirbheachadh leotha 'nan oidhirg gu bhith cumail suas na Gàidhlige ann an the ichin. Ga dearbh, is amn a tha iad ag cur gru nìsre iomadh atte as 'Ghàithealachd aguinn fhein, far nach 'eil dad air a dheanamh a chum lean an Gàidhlig seann a Gàidheach a chum lean an Gàidhlig agus ann Gàidheach a chum lean an Gàidhlig agus ann Gàidheach

AN T-OLLAMH URRAMACH DOMHNALL MAC-LAOMAINN .- The an t-Urramach Domhnall MacLaomainn, D.D., Ministear Bhlàr Athaill, an déidh uallach na sgìre a leigeil dheth, air dha bhith ann an sin fad ochd bliadhna deug thar fhichead. Roimhe sin bha e 'na mhinistear an Gleann Urchardainn. Mar a tha fhios aig na h-uile aig a bheil ùidh ann an litreachas Gàidhlig, is e an t-Ollamh MacLaomann a tha 'na fhear-deasachaidh air na duilleagan Gàidhlig ann am Beatha agus Obair, mìosachan Eaglais na li-Alba. Tha còrr is dà fhichead bliadhna bho'n a ghabh e an obair so os làimh an toiseach, agus anns an ùine sin is mór agus is math na sgrìobh e fhéin de rosg Gàidhlig. Mar a thubhairt e fhéin uair-eigin, chan e an aois a liath a cheann ach a shaothair ann abhith sgrìobhadh na Gaidhlige. Chan 'eil fhios agam a bheil neach eile ann 'nar latha-ne a sgrìobh le a pheann fhéin uibhir de Ghàidhlig, agns Gàidhlig mhath. 'Nam bheachd fhéin, is e fhéin agus an t-Ollamh Coimneach MacLeòld an dithis as fheàrr a tha maireann de luchd-sgrìobhaidh rosg Gàidhlig. Chan e so an t-àite no an t-am gu bhith toirt beachd air na sgrìobh e, oir tha sinn uile an dòchas gun sgrìobh e mòran eile fhathast, agus c nise saor bho uallach sgìre. Bu mhath cuideachd nan cuireadh e ri chéile ann an leabhar no dhà pasgan de na sgrìobh e cheana. Tha sinn ag guidhe dha slàinte agus sìneadh làithean.

GLIOCAS NAN GAIDHEAL.—" Is còir trì làin anns na claisean san Fhaoilleach: làn uisge, làn sneachda, agus làn tughadh nan tighean."

FIRINN AIR SON A' MH108 SO.—"Glòir do Dhia anus na h-àrdaibh, agus air talamh sìth, deagh-ghean do dhaoine.— Lucas ii. 34.

#### PLEASE NOTE.

Contributors and Correspondents might please note the Editor's new address.

Those who have been inquiring about ALBA are asked to be patient a little longer. The delay is regretted, but it is unavoidable. All who have ordered copies will receive their copies as soon as the Miscellany is published.

## IF A LANGUAGE DIES, CAN IT LIVE AGAIN? The Marvellous Feat of an Insignificant Man.

There are thousands of Gaelic speakers still left in Alba. and yet the cry goes up continually that Gaelic is moribund; that so few speak it that it is hopeless to attempt its revival. The experience of another small nation in our own day should

give fresh hope and determination to the despairing in Alba.
After the dispersal of the Jews to Babylon in 586 s.c., the
Hebrew tongue practically died. It was used only by scholars

and as the official language of the Synagogue. In 1881 there were 50,000 Jews settled in Palestine. They came from every corner of the world, speaking every tongue under the sun except Hebrew, their common speech being

Yiddish. About this time there came a young man from Lithuania to Palestine, called Eliezer Ben Yehuda. He had forsaken his faith and his nation, but, through reading the Welsh author George Eliot's "Deronda," a wonderful change came over him, and he became not only a truc Jew again but also an ardent

nationalist

He was a man quite unknown, without money or friends, and in poor health, but he possessed an indomitable will, steadfast as a rock. He determined to resurrect his mothertongue from its long, deep grave, and to revive it in every aspect of life, private and public. His slogan was: "Do everything in Hebrew, everyday and all day."

During his first twenty years in Palestine, he was looked upon as a fanatic and fool. His fellow-countrymen mocked him for seeking to re-animate the corpse of a language from its two-thousand-years-old grave. He was thrown out of the Synagogue, and was even sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment for high treason against his nation, but he was released

after a few months in prison.
"Ben Yehuda's language" they called their ancient mothertongue in derision. So prejudiced were his people against him, that, even when he lost his wife, no one came forward to assist him carry her body to its resting-place on the Mount of Olives. But nothing daunted Ben Yehuda. There was no end to his labour. He brushed aside all difficulties. He went on publishing newspapers, teaching in the schools, founding societies, and very slowly but surely his enthusiasm began to permeate the country. He was neither linguist nor scholar, but he made himself both, in order that his language, that had been idle so long, should use the modern terms that other languages used. It was a gigantic task for Ben Yehuda. He had to create hundreds of new words and to study kindred languages to find roots whence he could coin what Hebrew had need of. He issued a dictionary, at first in instalments, finally in book-

He lived to see his dreams realised beyond his wildest hopes. The reward of his labours was to raise a generation in Palestine that knew Hebrew only. He lived to see newspapers opposing his political views in the old language of his nation. He saw the modern Jerusalem, with its theatres, University, public library, opera house, theatres, law-courts, all conducted in Hebrew; and, what must have pleased him particularly, a census taken in which 96 per cent. of the Jews notified that Hebrew was their mother-tongue. He saw Hebrew acknowledged to be the official tongue.

This was the work of one man. He died in 1927, and the memorial column above his grave on the Mount of Olives

pays a fitting tribute to his life-work:

"He was not a politician nor reformer. He did not summon a great congress, nor had he welcome from kings

and rulers. He did not excite a crowd to violence, nor bring war upon his enemies. In the peace of his little home he was the spark that kindled a bonfire in his nation, for Ben Yehuda gave back to his people their greatest treasure—their own language." (Translated from Yr Ddraig Goch by "Tangwystl").
Surely Alba will be spurred on to cherish her language when

Surely Alba will be spuried on to share she remembers what one man accomplished.

F. M. WILLIAMS.

#### BROSNACHADH.

Nach mairg gach iomadh buaireadh The 'n coille dhorch na bàrdachd : An cridhe 'na choigreach uaibhreach Nach aithnich oidhirp màthrach. O àrdain, cùm do stoirm bhuam ; Mhic-mheanmna, bi am làthair, Mar eala togaiil sgath-gheal Gu saor-fhaich a fàrdaich.

Gun sgòth 'na rathad luaineach, 'S i cruadalach, nàireach.

Carson a dheanainn amhran Do shaoghal neo-shuaimhneach, 'S i gluasad 'na creitheal Ann an truaillidheachd a lomnochd ? Dhùisg i le crith-eagal 'S air allaban gun d'fhalbh i Gun rathad anns an fhionnairidh

Troimh chunnartan an anmoich. A leanaibh, air do shlighe Tha iomagain is searbhachd.

Tarraing t'aodach timehioll ort, Tha'm fuachd a' tighinn gu garbh ort : Gun rionnaig san dubh-dhorchadas Is t'oide ri seinn marbhrann. 'S na creagan gléidh do chasan Ged a reubadh tu le teanntachd. Biodh fuil a' Ghàidheil 'nad chridhe

Is mòralachd a ranntachd. Tha lasair gréine anns na neòil 'S a casan air na beanntan.

#### BAS CARAID.

The late Ex-Provost John MacRae, Dingwall.

Members of An Comunn learned with very deep regret of the sudden death of Ex-Provost John MacRae, Dingwall. He was singing at a concert in Achterneed when he had a seizure from which he never recovered, and he passed away at his home, Heatherly, Dingwall, on 7th December.

Ex-Provost MacRae was an ardent supporter of An Comunn and was President of the Dingwall Branch. He was a great lover of Gaelic songs and possessing a pleasing voice he often appeared on concert platforms and competed at the National Mod of 1913 in Dundee. He was ever ready to help An Comunn Organisers, and the writer recalls a visit to the Black Isle, when Mr. MacRae met him at Kessock Ferry and motored him free of charge to the school at Ferintosh, then in the charge of Mr. David Urquhart. Both contributed to the programme and thereafter proceeded to Dingwall.

Twenty years ago Mr. MacRae became a Life Member of An Comunn, and he was a tower of strength to the Gaelic cause in Easter Ross

He was buried at Dingwall on 10th December, and Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, was present at the funeral as representing An Comunn.

Bidh dòrn aig fear na h-eadraiginn-The interventionist will get struck. An rud nach buin dhuit, na buin dha-Mind your own

business.

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Gaelic Music and Drama Organiser Appointed:
Mr. Iain A. MacSween.—A grant towards the
expenses of an Organiser for Music and Drama in the Gaelicspeaking areas has been made to An Comunn by the Scottish
Education Department. Applications for this post were
considered, and Mr. Iain A. MacSween was appointed and has
Sween is a native of Harris, and has been connected with the
Highland movement for many years. He will be remembered
by many visitors to the Empire Exhibition (1938) as organiser
in An Clachan. He has also been a prominent prize-winner
at National Mods. We feel sure that Mr. MacSween is well
qualified to arouse enthusiasm in the Gaelic-speaking areas,
and that as a result of his activities considerable imperius will
this end we wish him success in his new appointment.

Dunfermline. — The Dunfermline Highland Society has resumed activities. The President is the Rev. Goge MacNeill, and the Secretary Miss A. B. MacDonald. Jattended a meeting of the Society on 13th November, and address of a meeting of the Society on 13th November, and address on audience of about 100 people in Gaelie and English on the work of An Comunn. I was glad to note that much interest is taken in our post-war aims, and that Gaelie is given an observation of the second of the second

Ayr.—Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Miss Chris. Turner, and
Mr. Iain A. MacSween attended a Ceilidh of the Ayr Branch on
19th November. This year the Branch meets in more commotious premises in the Church Hall, Fort Street. There
was a splendid attendance, and the President, Mr. Alasdair
MacKechnie, was in the Chair. Under the auspiece of the
Branch a Gaelic Class is conducted by the Rev. Archie Beaton,
Mr. Donald MacIssac, Mod Gold Medallist, as conductor. The
Branch meets monthly, and Mr. David Findlay continues his
good work as Secretary.

Duror.—I attended a meeting of the Duror Branch on 22nd November, and there was a large attendance of members and friends from the neighbouring districts. Good work is being done in the school by Mrs. Hunter, the teacher. The Junior Choir contributed several Gaelic songs and some of the members rendered solos. A pleasing item was a Combradh in which many of the school children took part. Spirited selections on the bagpipes were given by Dougie MacColl, a member of the School Choir. Tea was served by members of the Committee. Mrs. Malloch, Duror Hotel, is the Practical, and Mrs. Malloch was formerly President of the Branch at Crisinlarich, and her name is well known to beves of Gaelic lullabies. It was she who gave us the haunting melody of "Mo Chubharakan"

I took the opportunity of my visit to interview several people connected with the Appin and Benderloch Branches. The Benderloch Gaelic Choir is to be revived shortly, and it is hoped to resume Branch activities in the near future.

Inverarray.—The Inveraray Branch is now meeting regularly in the St. Malicu Hall, of which the Committee has a yearly lease. I attended a Ceilidh of this Branch on 28th November, when the Chair was occupied by the Rev. Angus Gray, in the absence of the President, Ex-Provost Alex. MacIntyre. There was a large attendance, and a good programme of songs and instrumental music was submitted. I addressed the meeting in Geele and Ene day members. The Secretary and Treasurer of the Brench is Mr. J. Gillies, National Bank House.

I took the opportunity while in Inveraray of paying a visit to Dr. Donald Ross, late of Lochgilphead, who on account of a breakdown in health had to retire from active duties. Dr. Ross was most active on behalf of An Comunn and served for

many years on the Executive Council and Art and Industry Committee. He also acted as local sceretary to the Mid-Argyll Provincial Committee. Although confined to bed, Dr. Ross tak's a keen interest in the affairs of An Comunn and the Gaelic movement generally.

Johnstone. — I presided at the first post-war Gathering of the Johnstone Highland Association in the local Town Hall on 29th November and had the pleasure of referring to the aims of An Comunn before a large audience. The President of the Association is the Rev. Colin MacPherson, M.A., who was a member of the Executive Council of An Comunn many years ago. The Secretary is Mr. Hugh Keith, an Ex-Provost of the Burgh. It is hoped to add this Association to the list of Affiliated Societies in the near future.

Kinlochleven. — This Branch is doing excellent work. The Gaelic Class, conducted by the President, the Rev. Malcolm MacCorquodale, M.A., is well attended, and the Gaelic Choir is making good progress. Mr. Alasdair Matheson and Mr. Angus Whyte attended a Cellish of the Branch on 29th November, and there was a very large attendance. I hope to visit this Branch before the end of the Session.

Dumfries .- Th's Branch opened the Session with a successful Ceilidh on 7th November. I attended the second Ceilidh on 4th December, and addressed the largest attendance of members since I formed the Branch 16 years ago. An excellent programme of songs, bagpipe and violin music was gone through, and there was also a service of tea. The Gaelie Choir, conducted by Mrs. Duncan Campbell, rendered several Gaclic songs with pleasing effect. Here, as in Duror, a juvenile piper enlivened the proceedings with stirring selections. The new President of the Branch is Mr. Colin Morrison, a native of Lewis. Mr. Morrison, as mentioned in previous reports, has been one of the mainstays of the Branch for many years. As Gaelic instructor and exponent of Gaelic songs, he has rendered splendid service. I was glad to see four former Presidents at the Ceilidh, all taking the greatest delight in the continued success of the Branch. Mr. Duncan Campbell is the active and efficient Secretary and Treasurer. As on former occasions, I was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson at their hospitable home "Cruachan."

Bute. — The Bute Branch opened its Session on 16th December, and I was able, despite heavy fog, to make the journey to Rothessy and accompany the President, Canon John MacQueen, to the platform. The Branch is meeting this winter in the Mid Hall, Bridge Street. There was an attendance of fully 120 people, who enjoyed a nice programme of songs and bagpipe music. The President, than whom few excel in the rendering of Gaelies ongs, assisted greatly towards the success of the evening. The Rev. Donald MacQuish, M.A., recently elected minister of St. Bruce's, Port Bannatyne, was present, and, on the call of the President, spoke in Gaelie and English.

Lochgilphead.—A meeting of the available prewar members of Mod Dhaliridad (Mid-Argyll Provincial Mod) was held in Lochgilphead on 23rd November, and it was decided to resume their pre-war activities, and with this object in view they nominated new members to fill vacancies which had occurred during the war years. Ex-Ballie John MacKellar succeeds Sir George Campbell of Succent has Chair-Terrace, Lochegilphead, was appointed Secretary. The syllabus is in course of preparation and dates will be announced shortly. The local Branch and Gaelic Choir are meeting regularly.

Campbeltown.—A meeting of the Branch was held on 29th November to give members an opportunity of bidding farewell to the Rev. T. S. Maepherson and Mrs. Macpherson and to present them with tokens of the esteem and regard in which they are lield. Mr. Macpherson gave years of yooman service to the Gaelic cause in Campbeltown and the Kintyrearea, and his departure from the district is a distinct loss to the movement. Presentations were made on behalf of the Branch members to Mr. and Mrs. Macpherson by Miss Grace MacAllister Hall of Tangy, President, and by Mrs. MacIlchere, a member of Committee for many years. Several of the members present spoke of the warm regard in which both Mr. and Mrs. Macpherson were held and of the great service rendered by them to

the community and particularly to the Branch and the Gaelie Choir, Mr. Farquhar MacRae, Vice-President, represented An Comunn, and during the course of the evening referred to Mr. Macpherson's long association with An Comunn. He had been a member for 40 years and served for 20 years on the Executive Council. He was for a period a Vice-President of the Association and was for four years Convener of the Publication Committee. The services rendered by Mr. Macpherson to the cause for which An Comunn stands were highly appreciated by the members.

The Campbeltown Courier of 7th December contained very full reports of this meeting of the Branch, and also of the tributes paid to Mr. Macpherson by the Presbytery of Kintyre, and by leading citizens in the community at a Lunch given

in his honour by the Presbytery.

The good wishes of a host of friends will follow Mr. and Mrs. Macpherson from Campbeltown where they spent so many happy years.

## PROPAGANDA NOTES. Northern Area.

Tour in Skye .- From 11th to 16th November the Organiser was engaged in Skye. The Strath and Dunvegan Branches were re-constituted. At Broadford it was encouraging to receive a request that the meeting should be conducted entirely in Gaelic, and the same request was made to the Organiser at Dunvegan. Both meetings were successful, and we wish the new office-bearers and committees every success in their efforts to further the cause of our language and music. An effort was made to have a meeting at Kilmnir but this proved unsuccessful.

Comunn na h-Oigridh .- The Organiser also visited a number of the schools, and the following additions

were made	to the	mem	bership	of Comunn	na h-(	Digridh	:
		Boys	Girls			Boys	Girl
Broadford		18	14	Bernisdale		8	1
Dunan		7	5	Loch Bay		3	1 1
Staffin		10	5	Knockbreek		. 4	10
Kilmaluag		- 5		Struan		8	1
Kilmuir		- 5	8	Carbost		10	1
Macliannid	Sahar	1 7	15	Post non Le	222.07	20	1.5

This shows a total of 198 new enrolments. A supply of badges was left with the Ceann Feachd at Portree, and he will enrol additional members in due course

Broadford Ceilidh, - Mr. MacPhail presided at an all-Gaelic Ceilidh at Broadford on Friday, 15th November, and in addition to local talent, a number of dialogues and sketches were given by members from Portree Feachd. These were admirably done and reflect great credit on the children and their teachers. Singers from the outlying areas also contributed to the Ceilidh programme.

Skye Provincial Mod .- On Saturday, 16th November, the Organiser attended a meeting of the Skyc Provincial Mod Committee, when it was unanimously decided to hold a local Mod next year, provided An Comunn can supply a Gaelic Music Teacher. The Very Rev. Dr. Norman MacLean resigned the post of President owing to advancing years, and, on his suggestion, Colonel Iain MacDonald of Viewfield was appointed in his stead. Mr. Iain F. Steele, M.A., continues as Hon. Secretary, and there is a representative committee from all over the Island. If a Music Teacher can be provided, there is no reason why a very successful Mod should not be held at Portree next year. The dates suggested are 24th and 25th June.

Dornoch. — After a day at the office, the Organiscr proceeded to Sutherland, and on Tuesday, 19th November, addressed a meeting at Dornoch. Thereafter the local Branch was re-formed, with Mr. John MacLean as President and Mr. Calum MacDonald and Mrs. Hector Munro as Joint-Secretaries. It is hoped to hold monthly meetings of the Branch throughout the session.

Helmsdale. - On the following night the Organiser was at Helmsdale, when it was unanimously decided to re-

constitute the local Branch. Dr. Gray was elected President, and Mrs. M. C. Ross continues as Hon, Secretary. Dr. Gray, by the way, took up the study of Gaelic some three years ago and now reads and writes the language tolerably well.

Brora.—Mr. David Grant, who has been a tower of strength to the Gaelic Movement in Brora, is shortly going to Canada, but he intends to continue with his labours until his sailing date is known. At the moment he is endeavouring to start a Senior Gaelic Choir, and we wish him all success in

Lairg.—At a meeting held at Lairg on Thursday, 21st November, it was unanimously decided to re-constitute the local Branch. Mr William Grant, Head Postmaster, is President, and Mr. R. D. MacDonald is Hon. Secretary.

Sutherland Mod .- Efforts are being made to hold a Mod or Mods in Sutherland next year, and a meeting of Branch representatives is to be held in December to consider this matter. Branches will be notified of this meeting in due course

Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp .- On Saturday, 23rd November, Mr. John MacKay and the Organiser visited Inversilort in connection with next year's Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp, and their report will come before Clann an Fhraoich Committee at an early date.

Uist Tour. - An itinerary for the Uists has been arranged, and a report of this visit will appear in the next issue

#### THE GAELIC LANGUAGE.

The Basques claim their language is so difficult that the devil has never been able to learn it. Gaels say that their language was spoken in Eden and that His Satanic Majesty was quite unable to learn to speak it in order to beguile Mother Eve until he had obtained the assistance of Vulcan, the smith of Infernus.

> Ar dtús i n-Eden, do cualadh ceól, A's canamhna binne Gaedhealach', 'Nuair sheinn Jubal ar a phíb-mhóir, Do rinneadh as bian beag caorach.

Deirtear ni féidir le Diabhal Mór, Do mhealladh daoine 'san nGaedhilg mbinn. Go léadugh' Culann a theangadh dó, Ar inneóin sár-theintigh an ifrinn.

Brave music first in Eden was heard, And those wondrous Gaelic accents sweet, When Jubal played a dudelsack, Made from the skin of a Keltic sheep,

They say the Great Tempter was unable, In Gaelic to decive people so well. Till Vulcan had flattened his tongue, On the fiery anvil of hell.

Note.—Culann (Ashes) a 'kenning' for the God of War and Death symbolized by the setting sun-like the Phoenix, the young Sun-god is born from the ashes of the old god : life is born from death : day from night; hence, perhaps, the origin of the idea of reincarnation. Culann was the Smith of Iorruaidhe (Ire Rúith, Land of Flood Tide) also called Inis Tuile (Flood Isle), the Ultima Thule of the Romans, now Iceland, which was occupied by Gaels before the advent of the Vikings. The Forge of Culann was Sliabh h-Ealga (Sacred Mountain), now known as Hekla. The Achilles of the Gaels— Cuchulainn-was, as his name indicates, a devotee of Culann.

GLEANN COMHANN.

Là Briain, 1946.

Na h-Uiscí Súile,

Beul a labhras, ach gnìomh a dhearbhas-The mouth speaks, but the deed proves.

## THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS NOW. Proposals for Development.

For some years past it has increasingly sheen felt that the most effective way of setting about the rehabilitation of the Highlands and Islands is to establish a single co-ordinating authority for the area. Mr. Hugh Quiley elaborated such a scheme some ten years ago, and the Highland Development Board should be established (with or without an additional and Islands) to plan and elident the teressary measures, to co-ordinate the work of the local authorities and government of the properties of the property of the properties of th

Recently the Secretary of State for Scotland has been hinting at the establishment of a Highland Advisory Panel. This proposal is not likely to be acceptable to anyone who realises the seriousness of the Highland problem. We have had more than enough of advice, but nothing has come of it because there has been no one with the requisite status and anthority to initiate action.

As an alternative to the Secretary of State's proposal, the Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society now suggest the formation of a "technical planning group" to direct the work of a Highland Council for the Crofting Counties. It is proposed

that this Council should consist of, say, two representatives from each of the Crofting Count'es and eight representatives appointed by the Secretary of State, including representatives of the Scottish Council (Development and Industry). This Council would plan for the unified development of all

resources of the Highlands and Islands, advise the Secretary of State as to the execution of the plans, and carry out those parts of them not falling within the province of any existing organisation.

Preparation of the plans would be remitted by the Council to a Technical Planning Group comprising experts on crofting, agriculture, fishing, transport, communications, marketing, industry, and raw materials, and a planning technician.

While this scheme may be open to criticism on points of detail, it is sincerely to be hoped that all interested in the Highlands will combine to press for its adoption and that energy will not be dissipated on controversy about minor details.

It may be mentioned in passing that recently the Crofting Counties themselves suggested a regional planning organisation. This scheme of the Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society was foreshadowed in an article 'n The Glasgow Herald last August by Mr. Alastair McNeill Weir, Highlands Officer for the Society. Writing of certain features of life and work

in the Highlands and Islands to-day, which "contain hoth a promise and a threat," he argued for the establishment of a co-ordinating body, a "Development Board."

Mr. McNeill Weir listed the various organisations operating in and for the Highlands: Government Departments, County Councils, Hydro-Electrie Board, Forestry Commission, Scottish Council (Development and Industry), Herring Industry Board Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society, Scottish Council of Social Service, Carnegie Trust, Highland Development League, Highland Home Industries, Scottish Cooperative Wholesale Society, Scottish Country Industries Development Trust, An Comunn Gaidhealach, the Peat and Seaweed Research Organisations, etc.

But this "conglomeration of many-sided activity," which "represents an enormous body of good-will," is, he said, "an enormous amount of un-coordinated and uncorrelated effort." He therefore proposed the appointment of a Development Board, charged with direct responsibility for speedy and effective action, instructed to obtain results, authorised after consultation with the Secretary of State to do what needs doing, and what has been agreed needs doing by a dozen what is required. ... Join together and co-ordinate all the spasmodic and piecemeal development that is being done, or suggested, or planned, and the Highlands can become in reality worthy of their people and fit for heroes."

The time is past for amateurish investigation and discussion. There is sufficient expert knowledge available to make plain how things are and how they must be remedied. In recent years, to mention only one man's contribution to the elucidation of the Highland problem, the late Adam Collier published in the press the results of his researches. His accidental death deprived us of a brilliant young economist who greatly loved the Highlands and keenly desired to help the Highland people.

a More recently, Lr. F. Fraser Darling has been carrying out a survey of the population-structure and the natural and a potential resources of the various districts in the Western Highlands and Islands. By a skifful use of "population pyramids" (a form of statistical summary already used with good effect in the reports of the Lewis Association), Dr. Fraser Darling, than whom no one known to us is better qualified for this task, drives home the urgency of the situation in the Highlands.

It is not only a declining population, but one in which the reproductive age-groups are increasingly absent and the aged are in the majority in many places. The Islands are relatively better populated than the West Mainland parishes, but it is clear that the same trend operates in both Islands and Mainland The population-structure of Harris in 1931 is strikingly comparable with that of Gairloch in 1901. What will the population structure of Harris be in 1941.

Elsewhere Dr. Fraser Darling has stated his conviction that, provided certain things are done and done quickly, the population of the Highlands and Islands can be trebled in lifty years. He concludes: "The indications are plain, and it is in our hands to prevent collapse by a co-ordinated programme of rehabilitation. The points of such a programme are well cnough known, but we seem as yet to lack the Commission empowered to carry it through."

Whatever one's opinion of some of the recommendations therein, the Hilleary Report of 1938 also must not be over-looked. It brings together a vast mass of valuable information.

We have talked enough. We now want to see something being done. Let us be ready and willing to play our part in whatever way may be open to us. We in An Comunn, who are primarily concerned with language and culture, must recognise that these can survive and flourish only on the basis of a stable economic structure.

Since the above was written, and just as we go to press, the Secretary of State for Scotland has announced the appointment of "A Highlands and Islands Advisory Panel" to advise him on "the carrying out of concerted plans by Government Departments, local authorities, and other public bodies for promoting the best economic use of resources and capacity in the Highlands and Islands." The Panel will be composed of a nominated representative from each of the seven crofting counties and from the burgh of Inverness, two nominees of the Scottish Council (Development and Industry), and seven other members with personal experience of the problems of the areas.

Members already appointed include: Mr. Malcolm Macillan, Mr. P., Chairman, Mr. A. Anderson, M.P., Major Duncan McCallum, Mr., Mr. J. D. Macdonald (Inverness), Dr. I. H. MacIver (Fort William), Captain J. MacLeod, M.P., Provost A. J. MacKenzie (Stornoway), and Mrs. Naomi Mitchison, Lochiel, has been nominated by Inverness County Council. All appointments to the Panel will be for a period of two years. The Secretary is Mr. M. Campbell of the Department of Agriculture. The headquarters of the Panel will be at Norterins programme of development, and later a long-term policy.

We sincerely hope that real and comprehensive development will follow this new step. As the Panel is only advisory, it would seem that the onus for acting upon their proposals rests on the Secretary of State. In view of what has been said in the foregoing article, further comment is unnecessary.

#### AN GAIDHEAL

#### COMUNN NA CLARSAICH. Interim Report, 1942-46.

The Clarsach Society held its first post-war general meeting in Edinburgh on 30th November, and an Interim Report for 1942-46 has been published, giving interesting information about the various activities of the Society.

Comunn na Clarsaich is closely associated with An Comunn Gaidhealach, and the President, of course, is Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds), who has been rendering outstanding service in the cause of Gaelic Culture, not only in the Clarsach Society but also as Convener of An Comunn's Art and Industry Committee.

The Clarsach Society has branches in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and elsewhere, some of which have remained active all through the war, while others are being revived. The particular bit of "war service" to which the Society devoted itself was the "Hebridean Fishermen Minesweepers Comforts

Fund.

The primary aim of the Society is to encourage clarsachplaying, and it ought to be widely known that those who wish to try their hand on the clarsach may borrow one from the Society at the low fee of 2/6 per month. A School of Harping is to be held at Rahoy, Argyll, at Easter, and the Society is arranging for two clarsach competitions at the Edinburgh

Musical Festival in May next.

An increased membership is reported, there being now almost 500 members. A playing member pays 2/6 per annum, and an ordinary member 5/- annually, while life membership may be had for one payment of £3 3/-. Application for membership should be made to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, bership should be made to the Hon. Becker, Mrs. W. G. Porter, 2 Belgrave Crescent, Edinburgh, 4.

T. M. M.

#### "FATHER ALLAN." Author of "Eilean na h-Oige."

FATHER ALLAN, by J. E. Hutcheon (Gatholic Truth Society, 38 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1., 3d).

This is a brief but well-written sketch of the life and labours of Father Allan MacDonald of Eriskay, "The most able priest the Isles ever had." Even if 'Maighstir Ailean' had done nothing but compose "Eilean na h-O'ge," he would be remembered as long as Gaelic literature survives. His enduring fame, however, rests even more on the impression left by his personality and ministry upon those who knew him.

I used to think of him as an old man, but he died in 1905 at the age of forty-six, having worn himself out in the service of his people and his Church. He is the representative of those who consecrate their gifts of body, mind, and soul to the service of their fellows in the obscure and remote places; but these

do not lose their reward.

Some day, we hope, a fuller biography of Father Allan will be forthcoming, but we cordially commend this attractive booklet to the notice of the people of the Gaidhealtachd and we congratulate the author on so vividly and sympathetically portraying a remarkable personality. T. M. M.

#### MODERN SCOTTISH POETRY. A New Anthology.

MODERN SCOTTISH POETRY, edited by Maurice Lindsay (Faber, 6/-), is "An anthology of the Scottish Renaissance, 1920-45." It is a well-chosen and representative selection, and a well-produced little book, and will come as a revelation to those who have been only vaguely aware that there has been a Scottish Renaissance. It will be even more of a revelation to Gaelic readers to learn from this book, and particularly from the editor's introduction, where Gaelic poetry stands in relation to recent literary trends in Scots and English.

In his brief but informative introduction, Mr. Lindsay outlines" the main influences which reflect upon the moderns.
"The modern Scottish poet," he says, "has the choice of at least two, and in some cases three, languages. And unless he can use them all with equal skill, his Scottish psyche must feel, in some degree, frustrated. By the chance influences of environment and education, however, few Scots writers can handle Gaelic, Scots, and English with the same proficiency ;

and sooner or later each poet turns to the tongue in which he

has acquired the most skill.'

Thirty-six poets and poetesses are represented in the Anthology, including two Gaelic ones (Donald Sinclair with one piece, and Somhairle MacGilleathain with four). Gilleathain's poems are accompanied by a rendering in Scots by Douglas Young, and Sinclair's by a Scots version by Hugh

There are many for whom certain types of modern poetry are unintelligible and, when intelligible, distasteful. In this connection, excellent guidance can be got from The Background of Modern Poetry (Clarendon Press, 2/-), the recently

published inaugural lecture by Dr. C. M. Bowra, the Professor of Poetry at Oxford.

Dr. Bowra points out that it is the poets' doom that "they must always create something new." A correct observance of tradition and convention is not enough. A poem must be new in a rigorous and exacting sense. "Poetry renews itself by changing its habits," breaking away from old conventions. inventing new ways of using words. "The history of poetry is a series of violent changes in which old standards are continually abandoned for new standards, which in their turn become old, and so the process goes on. Whenever a change comes, it alarms and horrifies the older generation which has already formed its tastes and shrinks from any call to adjust them to new aims.

It is well to have all this in mind when reading contemporary poetry. Most of recent and contemporary Gaelic poetry is conventional and derivative, however good of its kind some of it may be. That is why special significance attaches to the Gaelic poetry of Somhairle MacGilleathain and George Campbell Hay, both of whom write in a new, and sometimes startling, idiom.

Apart from technique, there is the poet's reading of life conveyed through his particular idiom. In regard to this, some of the modern poets express only the bewilderment and frustration characteristic of our confused and challenging age. Some, like T. S. Eliot, have distilled from the impact of the contemporary scene upon them a matured philosophy.

Two of Somhairle MacGilleathain's poems, Calbharaigh and Ban-Ghaidheal, reveal a perhaps understandable misunderstanding of the connection between facts that impinge poignantly upon the poet's consciousness and other, equally profound, issues. But MacGilleathain's words certainly come with compelling power. To quote a phrase of Dr. Bowra, "In them we listen to the living voice of life."

T. M. M.

## SKYE, LEWIS AND HARRIS CONCERT TOUR.

Mr. Donald MacPhail has arranged with Mr. Alasdair Matheson, to take his party of Artistes, who did so much for An Comunn Central Fund in the Southern area last winter, on a tour of Skye Lewis, and Harris.

Concerts have been arranged for Portree, Broadford, Concerts nave been arranged to retrieve, blossance, stornoway, Tarbert, Leverburgh, and Sandwick, during week commencing 20th January. The party will consist of Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Miss Ina MacLellan, Mr. Angus Whyte, Mr. Alasdair Matheson, and Mr. Donald MacPhail.

The purpose will, of course, be a dual one; firstly, propaganda for An Comunn, and, secondly, the proceeds will be in aid of the Central Fund.

## MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING FUND.

A Christmas Gift Sale organised by the Ladies of the Work Party was held in the Highlanders' Institute on Saturday, 30th November. The Sale was opened at 2.30 p.m. by The Lady Jean Graham. The various stalls were well patronised, and by 5 p.m. practically all goods were sold.

In the evening, a successful Ce'lidh was held with Mr. John M. Bannerman a very popular Fear-an-Tighe, and a homely atmosphere was apparent throughout the proceedings.

The fund will benefit to the extent of approximately £150 as a result of this successful function. The Committee are greatly indebted to the Ladies of the Work Party for their

untiring efforts to make the Sale the success it was, and also to the many friends who gencrously contributed in cash and kind. Gratitude is also expressed to the Artistes who very kindly gave their services at the Ceilidh,

## EADAR SINN FHEIN.

## GAELIC PERSONAL NAMES.

Dear Sir,-Here are some notes on the Highland personal names mentioned in the August issue of An Gàidheal

Eoghann is an old Gaelic name and its equivarent in Welsh is Owen. The equivalent Ewen is reasonably satisfactory. It is now confined to Scotland, but was once common in England. as is shown by the presence of such surnames as Ewen and Ewing, and it apparently represents the French form of the Welsh word.

Uisdean appears to be the modern Gaelic equivalent of the Norse personal name Eysteinn; and probably the fact that there is a slight similarity of sound to Hutchin and Hutcheon, diminutives for Hugh, which were once popular in Scotland. led to Hugh being taken as the equivalent of Uisdean. The meanings are different, however, and perhaps Huisdian, which is to some extent now used as the English equivalent, would suit best.

Aonghas is a very old Gaelic word which does not appear to have any affinity to Aeneas. Aonghas is commonly translated Angus, and this is best. Aeneas has for centuries been used to some extent both in Scotland and in Ireland as the English equivalent for Aonghas, under the mistaken impression that it was a variant of Angus. It has been so used by some leading Highland families, including the Macdonells of Glengarry.

Fionnghal ("Fionn-ghuala," fair shouldered) has, as old and modern equivalents, Finnuala, Finella, and Fenella. last of these appears to be the most popular now. In Ireland Penelope is sometimes used as the English for Fionnahal, and 'n Scotland Flora is similarly used.

Flora (from the classical goddess of flowers) was brought into use in France at the Renaissance as a woman's name and thereafter became popular in Scotland, but the English until comparatively recently considered it a suitable name for a dog but not for a woman.

Mor, Morag (meaning "great"). Morag is to some extent now used also in English, and this would seem to be the best usage. The Hebrew Sarah, which is on occasion used in the Highlands as the English equivalent for Mor. Morag, and in Ireland for Sorcha, etc., is not suitable in meaning or otherwise, Marion is a diminutive for Mary and i similarly unsuitable as an equivalent for Mor or Morag.

For long there was a tendency both in Scotland and in Ireland to use existing English personal names (especially English names of Hebrew origin) as equivalents in English for Gaelic personal names, quite regardless of meaning; but the Gaelic personar names, quite together extent.—Yours, etc.,

W. McD.

#### LEABHRAICHEAN.

A Charaid,—Chan 'eil ar leabhraichean ùra Gàidhlig ach tearc, ach tha beagan aca ann cheana. Nach bitheadh e 'na chleas laghach nan deanadh daoine, a tha far an ruig iad air an ceannach, cleachdadh de bhith cur ceann aca gu an càirdean aig an Nollaig no aig a' Bhliadhna Uir. Bu mhór am maitheas a dheanadh iad, matà, ach iad feuchainn ris, agus iad a chumail

Uiread agus a fhuair mise de sgoil Ghàidhlig riamh fhuair mi e agus mi leughadh leabhraichean Gàidhlig far nach robh oide ri fhaota'nn. Tha eagal orm gu bhe'l daoine deanamh bòcain gun seagh de bhith cumail a mach gu bheil e doirbh Gàidhlig a leughadh. An e gum fairtlicheadh oirnne an rud a rinn ar seanair a dheanamh?

Agus air son sgrìobhaidh dheth, tha a' Ghàidhlig móran nas riaghailtiche na a' Bheurla. Ged nach leughadh duine ach agus an diugh agus thuirt no thubhairt am maireach, b'e na h-uibhir e ; agus an ceann bliadhna, air a shocair, leughadh duine tùra'l grioba-gil-feannaig! Leabhar! leabhar! leabhraichean!—Is mise gu dìleas, HEARACH.

#### AN GAIDHEAL: A SUGGESTION.

Dear Sir,-Might I suggest that our members who receive An Gaidheal monthly might help greatly by directing their copies, when read, to some person in the Gaidhealtachd?

Some may wish to preserve their copies; but there are

always many whose copies are not preserved.

Until we can find means to make our magazine more available, this would serve to increase the utility of our magazine, and help our people in the most direct and simplest way possible. Leis an dùrachd as gile dhuibli.

Conon. CALUM MACGILLEATHAIN.

#### READING GAELIC.

Dear Sir,-It is a standing disgrace that so few Highlanders who speak Gaelic can read or write Gaelic. It is easy to say, "They were never taught." True: but why stop at that?

Any intelligent Gael who can read English can teach himself to read Gaelic, if he will take the trouble to compare his English and Gaelic Bibles verse by verse.

Why do we make no effort to educate ourselves?

(In this connection attention may be drawn to the edition of the New Testament, with Gaelic and English in parallel columns, published by the National Bible Society. and costing, I think, 4/6,-EDITOR.),

## COINNEACH ODHAR FIOSAICHE.

A Charaid,-Tapadh le "Sula Sgeir." Tha an t-ungadh air làmh an rìgh nach gabh a bhith air fholach !

Bha ministear an Sgìre Mhuire, beagan a tuath air Inbhirnis, a rugadh an 1634 agus a chaochail an 1709, air an robh Seumas Friseal. Bha e cumail leabhar ceann-latha air an tug e fhéin Polichronicon.

Anns a' bhliadhna 1666 chuir e sios iomradh air teachd oighre Mhic-Shimidh chon an t-saoghail; eadhon Uisdean. Rugadh an leanabh agus ball-dubh air a bheul uachdair. So an t-iomradh aig Mgr. Seumas :

"Now 's our old predictions confirmed of four considerable chiftens in the North, born with signall marks, of able chittens in the North, born which signal marks, or which the Master of Lovat is one. (1) McKehinnich Glundow; (2) McKhimi Baldow; (3) Mackintoshich Cline; (4) Shissolach Came, that is, B'ackneed McKenzie; Blackspotted Lovat; Squint Mackintosh; and Shiesholm blind off an eye. All four are so, and whither for good or evil. to raise or ruin their families, they are signally marked and remarked. I shall not ominat ; let future contingencies ver fy the truth of it.

Thugamaid fainear gu robh an "fhiosachd" sean am beachd duine a rugadh an 1633. Agus an nair a rugadh Uisdean oighre, tha am ministear a' sgrìobhadh gun do ghluodh a' bhean-ghluine, '' Berwom! Berwom! Take him: away with him!' Is e '' Beir bhuam'' a thuirt i gun teagamh, cò dhiubh a chu'r i "e" ris no nach do chu'r.

Cha do dh'fhag Uisdean so, no MacShimidh Ball-dubh, mac mar oighre dligheach 'na dhéidh; agus thàinig iomadh Odhar a bha an fhiosachd ud: "MacCoinnich Glun-dubh, MacShimidh Ball-dubh, Mac-an-Toisich Claon, Siosalach

A ré r beachd nan seann Ghàidheal cha bu dligheach " rìgh" a thogail air am biodh aon mhar-bhiodh no fàgail no mimhaise 'na chorp. Cha tigeadh as ach call mór air na h-iochdarain. Is e droch mhanadh, mar sin, a chuireadh Gàidheal, an Albainn fhéin, an 1666, air an leithidean sid Fhuair iad rabhadh. BODACHAN.

#### "IS FEARR EISIMPLEIR NA COMHAIRLE."

Sir,-Your Editorial in the October Gaidheal entitled "Is Fearr Eisimpleir na Comhairle" is full of the comments which I myself have made for twenty years, and there is an excellent corollary to it in Mr. J. H. Miller's "Impressions of a Visit to Eire."

Incidentally, there were some fairly pungent remarks in the *Irish Press* reports on this year's Mod about the general refusal of old and young to speak Gaelic. I always remember my own ghastly reactions at a Mod in Dingwall, when I heard nothing but English spoken by the Mod officials. Surely the "Canain agus Litreachas" are far more important than the "Cebl." No, a good mental spring-clean is required if our language is to be developed.

You cannot save a language.

Churchill, at our great crisis in the late war, turned our eyes to the West where lay our hope. There too lies the hope of the Sottish Gael, where the National Language is Gaelic in the Mother-land of Gaeldom, despite certain anti-Gaelic elements there. And we may yet see Comman as h-Oigránd. "firsthing" with Commun as h-Oigránd and the Carlo and th

other Irish youth movements

No longer can, we allow Gaelic to be the prerogative of the Highland (West at that!) pulpit, the prey of the philologist, or the medium of the amateur singer, but we must make it again the soul and expression of all Scotland. Just see what the Afrikanders have done in twenty-five years, and the frish—outside the "sporting" circles (greyhound and horse-racing—shades of Cuchullin!)—also in twenty years.—Mise le meas,

#### Alasdair Mac Each Thighearna. Dunheanish House, Oban.

A Charaid,—An uair a leugh mi an ceann-teagaisg, "Is feàrr eis mpleir na comhairle," anns A' Ghàidheal, smaointich mi gum bu mhath leibh litir fhaotainn bho Shasannach aig a bheil beagan de'n Ghàidhlig.

Matà is urrainn domh beagan a sgrìobhadh ann an Gàidhlig agus, a bhàrr, is urrainn domh a' phiob-mhór a chluich, agus tha mi 'nam bhall de'n Chomunn Ghàidhealach cuideachd.

Fhuair mi m'eòlas air a' Ghàidhlig á leabhraichean is cha d'fhuair mi leasan riamh. Bha e 'na obair cruaidh air uairean,

ach is e bh'ann obair thaitneach.

An uair a bha mi a' fantainn ams a' Ghàidhealtachd a' bhliadhna so, bha mi a' bruidhinn ri Gàidheal aig an robh Gàidhlig agus a' Bheurla Shasannach. Bha ionghnadh mór orm an uair a thubhairt e gu robh a' Ghàidhlig 'na cànain acaoltach. Co-dhiubh. chuidich e mise leis a' Ghàidhlig.

I do not actually know much Gaelic, but, since I am centirely self-taught and have no opportunity of meeting Gaelic speakers, except perhaps at holiday time, I feel that my efforts to learn Gaelic have brought some measure of success. Nevertheless, I realise my limitations and appreciate that I have a long way to go before I can say that I have a sour

Inowledge of the language.

My first attempt to learn Gaelic was through the medium
of a rather old-fashioned grammar, but progress seemed very,
very slow. As time went by, I bought a copy of Gaelic Without
Grozos, which gave me my first real start. After studying this
book, I found I had made progress. The next step was to buy
a good grammar and a dictionary, and thereafter I began to

acquire a small selection of reading books, etc.

To anyone who would like to learn Gaelic but who considers it too difficult I would say, "Give it a trial, bearing in mind the old saying that you must walk before your run." It is a very interesting subject, and not at all useless as some

people would have us think.

In conclusion, I would like to offer my very best wishes for success to An Comunn's campaign to further the use of Gaelic, Yours sincerely.

H. Foers.

## WANTED-A MORE VIGOROUS POLICY.

A Charaid,—May I congratulate Mr. J. H. Miller on his splendid letter in the July issue on the revival of our language. I trust it has been read by all our members. This phrase, "a more vigorous policy," was used at a

This phrase, "a more vigorous policy," was used at a Gaelic Society's meeting on the cultivation of our language about 1900.

There is little need to remark on any particular para-

graph, for, from a Scottish point of view, it cannot be improved upon.

The School is, without doubt, the only means of saving

The School is, without doubt, the only means of saving the Gaelic. Gaelic should be compulsory in at least all the so-called Highland counties.

About the year 1898 an Inverness paper started a fund for money-prizes for teachers who had the highest percentage of passes in Gaelic in their schools. Subscription lists were printed and money was collected. These prizes were presented at the Mod. Why cannot this be done by An Comunn?

Let us start at the bottom and make a good foundation. We will win through. I am sure Mr Miller will give his support to such a movement.—Is mise.

A. MACKAY.

#### BEUL-AITHRIS NAN GAIDHEAL.

A Charaid,—Is dòcha nach 'eil fios agaibh gu bheil Calum MacGilleathain à Ràtharsaidh o chionn greise am Barraidh ag cruinneachadh sheanchasan air son Comunn Bealoideas na h-Eireann. Tha e tadhla air gach bodach agus cailleach anns an eilean, agus chan 'eil latha no oidhche nach 'eil faighinn seann seanchasan is sgeulachdan nach deachaidh riamh an dò. Agus cha stad e idir le seanchasan Bharraidh a thogail. Dach e bu bloir eile an Eirisgeidh i san Utilast a' Chinn a

Agus chan e sin a mhàin, ach tha fear-ciùil barraichte a' tighinn à Baile Ath Cl'ath an déidh na Nollaige a chur làmhchruinn air na h-òrain a tha cho pailt am Barraidh is an Eirisceidh.

Nach saoil sibh fhéin a nis gur e bochdainn mhór a tha ann gun caill ar n-eileana gach seanchas is òran a tha sin, agus gun

cuirear air mhaireann iad thall an Eirinn.

Kant

Carson nach gabhadh An Comum an gnothach sin os làimh, agus leithid Anna Niclain is Dòmhnail MacDhòmhnail na sgoil Bàgh a' Chaisteil, agus iad le chéile murrach anns gach dòigh air son na sgeulachdan agus na h-òrain sin a chur air paipear?

Ma chailleas sinn ar seann òrain is ar seanchasan, ciod a thachras do ar cànain anns an ath linn? Agus nach iad eileana Innse-Gall an aon daingneach a tha againn anns a bheil ar cànain tèarainte fhathast?

Manachainn nan Lios. IAIN N. MACLEOID.

## DUNEDIN SOCIETY.

The Recital of Gaelie Music and Poetry, originally arranged for 18th December, has been postponed to 16th January, in the Stevenson Hall, Glasgow, at 7.30 p.m. The programme will include an arrangement for harp and voice by Donald Main, new accompaniments to Gaelic songs composed by Ian Whyte, and also some new music for the clarasch. It is hoped that Somhairle MacGilleathain will be present to read some of his own poems and -also some by George Campbell Hay.

#### GLASGOW BRANCHES' CONCERT.

The Central and Govan Branches Joint Committee held the first of their monthly ceilidals in the Christian Institute Glasgow on Saturday, 16th November, when the President of An Comunn, Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., presided over an audience of 600 people. An excellent programme was submitted and the Committee have every reason to be satisfied over an audience of 600 people. An excellent programme of the committee of

#### 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 Gathealach."

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EDITOR:-Rev. T. M. MURCHISON, M.A., 14 Kinross Avenue, Glasgow, S.W.2. (Telephone: HALfway, 2844), to whom all literary communications should be addressed Business and other communications should be sent to the General Secretary, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2. (Telephone: Douglas, 1433). All matter for inclusion in the Magazine should be in the Editor's hands by the 12th of the month preceding publication.

Leabhar XLII.

An Gearran, 1947

Earrann

#### MA THOGAIR!

Tha an saoghal làn chunnartan is éigin, ach tha móran de na cunnartan is trioblaidean sin ag éirigh a chionn 's gu bheil uibhir dhaoine cho coma códhiubh.

Chan e nach 'eil suidheachaidhean ann anns a bheil e glic dhuinn a bhith car coma. Is truagh an duine a ghabhas air a dhruim 's air a chridhe fhéin uallach an t-saoghail uile, agus 'nar beatha làitheil is iomadh cruaidh-chàs a dh'fhaodas ar léireadh ma bheir sinn cus aire dhaibh.

Ann an òran àbhachdach sa' Bheurla a tha dol fo'n ainm, "Ma Thogair," tha cunntas againn air beatha balaich o'n taobh tuath, agus b'e so an duan a bh'aige an còmhnaidh-"Ma thogair!" An uair a bha e 'na leanabh, thuit e far glùn a mhàthar agus ghoirtich e e fhéin gu h-olc, ach cha dubhairt e dad ach "Ma thogair." Phòs e luid de bhoirionnach a bhiodh daonnan a' trod ris, ach am measg gach ùpraid san dachaidh, cha dubhairt Niall còir ach "Ma thogair." Oidhche bha sud chuir an dotair cagair 'na chluais, "Tha i marbh," ach fhreagair Niall, "Ma thogair," is las e a phìob.

Nan robh Niall air na tubaistean a thàinig 'na lùib a ghabhail gu cridhe, 's e fhéin a bhiodh marbh an àite na mnatha crosda. A dh'aindeoin sin, saoilidh mi gun dubhairt e "Ma thogair" tuilleadh is tric.

Ach, air an làimh eile, tha móran nithean ann agus ma chanas sinn "Ma thogair" d'an taobh, tha sinn ag aobharachadh dragh is cunnairt dhuinn fèin is do fheadhainn eile.

B'ann le strìth is spàirn a choisinn ar n-athraichean dhuinn na cothroman a tha againn an diugh, ach nach coma a' mhór-chuid 'nar measg m'an deidhinn? Ann an taghadh luchd-riaghlaidh, an dà chuid air son na Pàrlamaid agus air son chomhairlean nam bailtean 's nan siorramachdan, tha gu bitheanta dara leth an

t-sluaigh a' diùltadh an dleasanais. "Ma thogair." ars iadsan. B'ann air spiorad coma a' mhór-shluaigh a shreap Hitler agus Mussolini gu inbhe is ùghdarras 'nan dùthchanan féin. Nach mór na dh'fhuiling boirionnaich san dùthaich so fhéin beagan is deich bliadhna fichead air ais 'nan oidhirpean gus cead guth-taghaidh fhaotainn do na mnathan? Ach tha dara leth nam boirionnach a cheart cho dearmadach mu'n chùis an diugh 's a tha na fir.

B'ann troimh fhulangas eadhon gu bàs a choisinn ar n-athraichean an Albainn an t-saorsa a th'againn a thaobh aoradh Dhé is leughadh na Fìrinne, ach nach dearmadach a' mhór-roinn de'n t-sluagh an diugh mu na sochairean prìseil sin. "Ma thogair." ars jadsan.

Nach mór an t-saothair a rinneadh gus sochairean sgoile is fòghluim fhaotainn do'n t-sluagh chumanta. Is e glé bheag 'nar measg a thàinig gu ìre nach urrainn leughadh. Ach gu dé tha sinn a' leughadh, no bheil sinn a' leughadh idir dad a chòrr air luideig de phaipear naidheachd? A thaobh litreachas uasal an t-saoghail mhóir tha móran 'nar measg ag ràdh " Ma thogair."

Tha againne, mar Ghàidheil, sochairean is dìleab a tha da-rìreabh prìseil, ach nach lìonmhor iad 'nar measg a tha ceart coma mu na nithean sin. Chan 'eil litreachas nan Gàidheal r'a choimeas ri litreachas nan Gall a thaobh meudachd, ach na th'ann dheth tha e luachmhor. Bha an dòigh fhéin aig na Gàidheil air a bhith beachdachadh air an t-saoghal. Chunnaic iad an dà chuid uaisle na beatha so agus mealltaireachd an t-saoghail. Chunnaic iad maise ann an nithean cumanta agus foghainteachd ann an nithean beaga. Dh'fhàg iad againne ann am bàrdachd 's ann an rosg, ann an seanfhacail agus am beul-aithris smior an gliocais. Agus is bochd a bhitheas sinn ma bheir sinn cluas bhodhar do'n ghliocas sin.

Is tric a chluinnear iomradh air cor na Gàidhealtachd, air mar a tha an sluagh againn fhéin a' sìordhol nas lugha an àireamh, agus air mar a tha àirean iomallach na dùthcha a' fulang anshocair is anacothroim le dìth ghoireasan, ach nach beag 'nar measg a tha da-rìreabh ag gabhail suim de na nithean sin, ''Ma thogair : nach sinn a tha coma''

sin. "Ma thogair; nach sin a na cholaidh," agus 's ann a dholaidh a théid gach nl, mas e spiorad coma agus dearmadach a nochdas sluagh d'an taobh. Cha d'rinn duine adhartas riamh, cha tugadh buaidh riamh ann an cath, cha do choisneadh clùi riamh, leis an t-sluagh-ghairm shuaraich so, "Ma thogair!"

Bitheamaid faireachail is furachail is dìchiollach is dèanadach. B'ann mar sin a bha smior nan daoine

o'n tàinig sinn.

## LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Thubhairt mi ruibh ann an litir a' mhìos a dh'fhalbh, 's mi a' buntainn ri Camp Comunn an h-Oigridh, gun d'fhuair sinn tairgse pàirce air oighreachd Fear Inbhir-ailleart gu camp a chur 'na uidheam oirre air a' bhliadhna so air a bheil sinn air inntreachadh, agus gu robh dithis againn do an deagh aithne ciod ar feum shuas ag gabhail beachd oirre bho gach ionad-amhaire a tha feumail.

The an teist a tha iad a' toirt dhuinn r'a thoirt fa chomhair na Comhairle an uair a choinnicheas sinn an Sruighlea gu goirid—seann sgeul mun ruig na briathran so sibhse, gun teagamh—agus bidh e air a chur an leth-taobh an sin co-dhiubh is ann no nach ann an Inbhir-ailleart a bhios an camp am bliadhna. Mar a thubhairt mi mar thà, tha sinn a' moladh do'n Chomhairle suidheachadh air e bhith an so an samhradh so tighinn, ciod air bith càite am bi e 'na dhéidh sin. Chan 'eil againn an ceartair ach a' chùis fhàgail mar sin. Creidibh, matà, cho luath 's a shuidhichear cùisean gum faigh sibh fios ciod a bhios anns an amhare.

A nis, bho nach 'eil an còrr r'a ràdh air a' cheann sin, is gus am bi fios cinnt againn, nach faod sinn an ceartair seanachas beag a bhith againn r'a chéile.

Bha, matà, sneachd trom againn anns a' bhaile so mu na làithean so anns a bheil mise a' sgrìobhadh; agus is cinnteach gur e sin an seòrsa side ris an dùth ar sùil a bhith aig an ám so, ám an Fhaoillich, an uair a bhios na claisean a' faotainn an trì làin fo sgiùrsadh gaillinn. B'e sin, tha mise cinnteach, an t-sìd a bha aoibh-se uile air an t-seachdain so.

Bhuail smuaintean is seann chuimhne a steach air m'inntinn-sa le teachd an t-sneachd. Thàinig aon latha gu m' chuimhne gu sònraichte, latha a bha an sud a sheachd bliadhna an anus so, is mi an cilean m'araich. Cha bu chuairt thoil-inntinneach a thug an taobh ud mi le leithid de shìd, ach chan e an t-aobhar a tha mi a' tighinn air an dràsd. An oidhche a ràinig mi shìl an sneachd gu trom; ach, air do'n latha comharraichte. Bha i a' reodhadh gu cruaidh agus na fearainn mun cuairt bho Uidhist is an Cuilthionn Sgitheanach mu thuath gu ruig na Clochan Diùrach mu dheas cho glan, lainnearach fo'n t-sìil, is iad uile geal bho am mullaichean gu iomall a' mhuir-làin

Bha Uidhist is Barraidh, na h-eileanan do'm buin móran dhibhse a leughas mo bhriathran an so, mar chnapan gruth, ctibhraidh gun smal, fada a mach anns a' Chuan an Iar-thuath mar gun biodh iad air filod air uachdar na tuinne! Chuala mise iad ag ràdh, is leugh mi e, nach laigh sneachd uair sam bith air Eilean Idhe; ach bha a dheagh chòmhdach sneachd air an latha ud, mar a bha air gach eilean eile, mór is beag, is a' mhór-thir, a bha taobh a stigh de chearcall-amharc mo shùla. Agus bha am fuachd cho dian 's gu robh an sàile féin a' reodhadh anns na geodhachan' Sin aon chuimhne a dhhùsg an sneachd a bha againn air an t-seachdain so dhòmhsa; ach dhùisg is dh'ùraich e ceud cuimhne eile dhomh.

Dhùisg e 'nam mheomhair, cuideachd, mar a bhitheadh agus a bhitheas ar bàird ag gabhail an t-sneachd a tha air ùr-fhroiseadh gu làr mar choimeas do àilleachd, do mhaise, do chùbhraidheachd, agus do ionracas. Bhiodh na bàird uile, bàird na Galldachd cho math ri ar bàird Ghàidhealach féin, 'gan coimeassan air am biodh an rùn ris an t-sneachd 'na ghìlead is 'na ùiread gun sal gun smal. Bha iad a' toirt a steach an t-sneachd 'nam bàrdachd air iomadh dòigh.

Nach 'eil cuimhne agaibh a' mhadainn a bha ann an uair a dh'fhàg an deagh Sgitheanach a thug dhuinn "Thoir mo Shoraidh do'n Taobh Tuath" eilean a rùin—"An t-Eilean," mar a their na Sgitheanaich féin ris, agus có againn a gheibh coire dhaibh a chionn gur ann mar sin a chuireas iad e? Bha an sneachd "'na thorran air an làr"; agus dh'innis an gille blàth-chridheach dhuinn gu "d'fhàg sud a mhàthair fo leòn." Nach drùidhteach na smuaintean a dhùisgeas a leithid so de bhriathrachas dhuinn!

Có agaibh, a nis, a dh'innseas dhomh càite am bàrdachd ar dùthcha am faighear na sreathan a leanas?

"Nuair thig an geamhradh is ám na dùmhlachd, Bidh sneachd a' dlùthadh ri cùl nan geug, Gu domhain, dùmhail dol thar na glùine, 'S ged 's math an triùbheair cha dean i feim Gun stocainn dhùbailt 's a' mhoguis chlùdach Bhios air a dùnadh gu dlùth le áill; 'Be, 'n fasan ur bhith' ag cosg le fùinntach

B'e 'm fasan ùr bhith 'ga cosg le fiùnntach, Mar chaidh a rùsgadh de'n bhrùid an dé!''

Chan 'eil mi a' dòi a ghealltainn leabhair do gach aon a bheir dhomh freagairt cheart, air eagal gum faigh mi fuasgladh na ceiste bho gach balach is caileig an Comunn na h-Oigridh; ach geallaidh mi gun cuirear an ainm-san bho am faighear freagairt chothromach, cheart slos anns an litir so cho luath 's a bhìos ni 'nar comas.

A nis, ged a tha an diugh fuachd an Fhaoillich 'gar teumadh, tha samhradh a' tighinn is cha dean e maille; agus bidh camp againn fathast, is e a bhitheas:—

"An uair a thig an samhradh, 'S am bàrr-buidhe air an fheanntaig, Théid na coin a dhannsadh Ri Seann-triubhas-thullaichean, Seann triubhas, seann triubhas, Seann-triubhas-thullaichean' Agus, an uair a sgrìobhas sibh a dh'innseadh dhomh mu'n bhàrdachd ud eile, có agaibh a bheir dhomh tuille de'n rannaghal so ?—Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH. Na Boineidean Gorma.

O chionn fada an t-saoghail mhóir bha iasgair còir, tapaidh ag còmhnaidh air an Dòirnidh an Cinn t-saile MhicCoinnich.

Air feasgar briagha samhraidh chaidh e fhéin agus sgioba a' bhàta aige a dh'iasgach gu Caol-reithe. An uair a bha iad a mach mu Ard an t-sabhail bheothaich a' ghaoth gu h-uamhasach agus dhòirt an t-uisge 'na thuiltean. Dh'iomair iad dachaidh cho luath 's a b'urrainn daibh, ach ged chaidh aca gu fortanach air cala a ruigheachd bhuail an t-eathar air sgorra crèige le mór onfhadh na fairge, an uair a bha iad a' fiachainn ri faighinn air tir aig ceann cheidhe na Dòirnidh, agus bhriseadh a druim 'na dhà leth.

Air larna-mhàireach thog an t-iasgair air gu coillidh àraidh a bha astar maith air faibh a shìreadh bun craoibhe de an deanadh e druim ùr do'n bhàta. An uair a bha e astar àraidh o'n tigh thuit ceò dùmhail mun cuairt air, agus a chionn is nach robh e riamh roimhe air an t-slighe cheudna chaidh e air chall.

Cha robh air ach suidhe far an robh e. Bha an ceò a' dùmhlachadh, an t-uisge a' tromachadh, agus sgàilean na h-oidhche a' tuiteam a lion beag is beag

mun cuairt da.

Sheall e is dhearc e air solus deàrrsanta thall mu a choinneamh. Rinn e dìreach a'r agus an déidh iomadh sloc is càrn a chur seachad ràinig e mu dheireadh an tigh anns an robh an solus.

Chaidh e a steach.

Bha triùir bhoirionnach an sin 'nan suidhe timchioll air clach an teinntein. Dh'innis e dhaibh mar a thachair dha, ach ged dh'innis agus ged chunnaic iad fhéin gu robh e bog, fiuch, acrach, cha do dh'fhoighnich iad an robh fhù is bial air. An uair a thàinig ám a dhol a laighe thuirt iad ris gu feumadh e falbh; nach robh àite aca-san dha.

"Chan fhalbh mi nochd," ars esan. "Chaidh mi air chall cheana, is ma théid mi a mach an dràsda

chan 'eil fios ciod a thachras dhomh."

An uair a chunnaic na boiríonnaich nach robh maith sam bith dhaibh a bhith ris, sheall iad seòmar cadail dha, agus chaidh an duine bochd do'n leabaidh, fuar, aognaidh, acrach is mar a bha e. Ach cha b'ann gu fois fhaighinn.

An uair a shaoil iad gu robh e air tuiteam 'na chadal, chaidh té dhiubh suas far an robh e agus chuir i a cluas ris fiach an cluinneadh i srann aige.

Leig esan air gu robh e an rìoghachd na suaine o choinn fhada, agus shaoil leatha gu robh gach gnothach ceart. Chaidh i null gu ciste mhóir a bha an oisinn an t-seòmair, thug i mach aisde boineid bheag ghorm, is chuir i mu a ceann i. "Lunnainn! Lunnainn! Lunnainn!" ars ise, agus air ball chaidh i mar an dealanach a mach troimh na sgrathan a bha air mullach an tighe.

Air ball rinn an dara té an nì ceudna, agus air dhi-se "Lunnainn! Lunnainn! Lunnainn!" a ràdh bha i féin a mach cuideachd.

Rinn an treas té an aon nì, agus mun do thàrr an duine bochd e fhéin a bheannachadh bha ise mach cuideachd.

Bha an tigh aige nis dha fhéin, agus smaoinich e gun éireadh e agus gu faiceadh e ciod an seòrsa fàrdaich anns an robh e. Chuir e air a bhriogais an cabhaig agus chaidh e null a dh'ionnsaigh na ciste iongantaich a bha an oisinn an t-seòmair. Dh'fhosgail e i agus chunnaic e gu robh i lom-làn de na boineidean gorma sin a bha cho deiseil ann a bhith giùlan air falbh mathan an tighe anns an robh e. Dh'fhiach e té dhiubh 'na làimh agus chuir e mu a cheann i.

"Lunnainn! Lunnainn! Lunnainn!" ars esan, agus air ball sud a mach esan troimh na sgrathan cuideachd, agus an tiota fhuair e e fhéin am bùth dibhe an Lunnainn, agus air a bhialaibh bha an trùir bhoirionnach aig an robh e air aoigheachd mionaid no dhà roimhe sin agus iad air tuiteam seachad leis an daoraich

Bha gach seòrsa dibhc is gu leòir dhith mun cuairt da, agus o'n bha c fuar, fliuch, acrach, thòisich e air òl gus mu dheireadh an robh e fhéin 'na shìneadh

air an ùrlar marbh leis an daoraich.

Fad iomadh bliadhna roimhe sin bha fear an tighòsda ag ionndrainn móran dibhe a bha air a ghoid air, ach cha d'fhuair e mach riamh có a bha deanamh na meairle. Cha robh dòigh air na boirionnaich so a ghlacadh; bha na boineidean gorma ro dheiseil air son an giùlan gu h-obann o gach luchd-tòrachd fo'n ghréin. Ach aig a' cheart mhionaid ud dh'fhosgail fear an tigh-òsda an seònar-dibhe agus fhuair e an duine bochd 'na ghlag marbh air an ùrlar gun smid aige leis an daoraich. Cha robh sgial air na boirionnaich: is fhada o'n a thug na boincidean gorma gu h-uallach gu Cinn t-sàile iad.

Thuirt fear an tigh-òsda ris : "Tha thu air do dhearg ghlacadh a nis, a mhèairlich. Is iomadh stòp mór a dh'òl thu ormsa o'n thòisich thu ri tathaich an so an toiseach, ach cha bhi misc riaraichte nis gus an téid

lùbach de'n bhall mu do sgòrnan."

Chuireadh an duine bochd an làimh is thugadh gu cùirt e. Fhuaradh ciontach e agus thugadh binn bàis a mach air, agus mar sin air latha àraidh a dh'ainmich am breitheamh bha binn a chrochaidh gu bhith air a cur an cleachdadh.

Thàinig an latha. Bha an crochadair is a' chroich agus gach nì ullamh, agus bha iasgair Chinn t-sàile a'

feitheamh na mionaide.

Thuirt an crochadair ris gu faodadh e nì sam bith a thoilicheadh e a ràdh no a dheanamh fad chóig mìonaidean mun crochte e.

Chuir e a làmh 'na phòcaid agus thug e mach aisde ludean bog, fliuch, làn de àileadh an uisge-bheatha. Sheall e air, agus ciod a bha sin ach a' bhoincid ghorm a thug á Cinn t-sàilc e. "Am faod mi so a chur mu mo cheann?" ars an Tàileach.

"Faodaidh," ars an crochadair.

Chuir e a' bhoineid ghorm mu a cheann aon uair eile is thuirt e "Cinn t-sàile! Cinn t-sàile! Cinn t-sàile!" agus cha bu luaithe thuirt e sin na dh'fhalbh e fhéin agus a' chroich agus an crochadair dìreach gu Cinn t-sàile

An uair a fhuair e an crochadair os cionn na mara thug e breab dha; thuit e anns a' mhuir agus bhàthadh e.

Ràinig an t-iasgair a cheann-uidhe an tiota, agus a' chroich 'na chois, agus an latha no dhà rinn e druim ùr do'n bhàta leis a' chroich a bha dùil aige a chuireadh crìoch air a bheatha.

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### An Ath.

Bha dithis fhear a' tioradh gràin aig dà àth. Air do aon diubh dol a mach, ghabh an àth aige teine, agus ghlaodh e ris an fhear eile: "Bàth m'àth; bhàthainn-s' i nam bu t'àth-s' i !"

Fhreagair anı fear eile: "Mas i t'àth-s' i, bàth i;

bhàthainn-s' i nam bu m'àth-s' i!"

(Ma théid na briathran a chleachd na fir ri chéile a ràdh luath, bithidh e 'na thoimhseachan air móran ciod e thubhairt iad.) A. D.

#### Sioman.

Bha am bodach a' snìomh sìoman fraoich. Arsa caraid a thàinig a stigh: "A Charaid, nach e a bhiodh math latha na stoirm móire?"

Agus fhreagair am bodach: "Nach e a bhiodh math an latha roimhe!"

DOMHNALL.

#### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

PEAIRT IS DUN-DEAGH .- Ann am mìos na Dùbhlachd fhuair mi cothrom air cuairt a thoirt do Pheairt is do Dhundèagh a labhairt ri coinneamhan de Chomuinn Ghàidhealach nam bailtean sin. Anns an dà àite tha ar càirdean ag cumail na brataich ris a' chrann gu dealasach. Tha Gàidheil Pheairt a' strì ris gach ullachadh a dheanamh fa chomhair a' Mhòid mhóir, agus tha iad dìchiollach is dòchasach san obair. Bhiodh e 'na thaic 's 'na bhrosnachadh dhaibh nan deanadh meuran eile a' Chomuinn air feadh na dùthcha cuideachadh leotha ann a bhith trusadh an airgid a dh'fheumar fhaotainn air son cosgais a' Mhòid. Tha am Mòd Nàiseanta a nis air fàs cho mór 's gu bheil e glé throm air aon mheur an làn uallach a ghiùlan leotha fhéin, agus ged is saothrachail Gàidheil Pheairt chan 'eil iad mór an àireamh. Tha sia fichead bliadhna 's a h-ochd o'n chaidh Comunn Gàidhealach Dhun-dèagh a chur air bonn an toiseach, ach tha An Comunn cho beòthail 's cho làidir an diugh 's a bha e riamh. Is airidh ar caraid, Ruairidh Dòmhnallach, a mholadh gu sònraichte air son mar a tha e o chionn bhliadhnachan a' teagasg elas Ghàidhlig. San ám a thadhal mi aca, bha muinntir Pheairt ag cur mu dheidhinn clas Gàidhlig a chumail, le Ruairidh MacFhionghain mar fhear-teagaisg. Rinn Mgr. MacFhionghain deagh sheirbhis do'n Ghàidhlig cheana anns gach àite san robh a chòmhnaidh, agus is math do Ghàidheil Pheairt gur ann 'nam measg-san a tha e a nisc.

"ASDIC."—So an t-ainm a th'air an inneal iongantach a bh'aig na bàtaichean-cogaidh againne ri linn a' chogaidh ann a bhith lorg bataichean fo-mhuireach (no submarines) an namhaid. Tha dùil gun cuirear gu feum e ann a bhith lorg an sagadain. Tha iasgairean am bitheantas an eisimeil coltas no dath na mara agus Bathaireachd nan eun-mara gu bhith 'gan sebladh a dh'ionnasigh an sgadain, ach 'a dòcha gum bi "Asdic" moran nas cinntiche dhaibh. Rinneadh mion-rannsachadh m'un chiùi air an t-samhradh so chaidh, agus a nis thatar a' beachdachadh air an dòigh as freagarraiche air acfhuinn-asdaic a chur an tairgse nai iasgairean.

MORT NA H-APAINN.-Mar a tha fhios aig gach Gàidheal aig a bheil ùidh ann an eachdraidh a dhùthcha, thachair am mort so an 1752, agus mar thoradh air rinneadh (a réir beachd mhórain) mort eile, mort fo làimh an lagha. Chaidh Cailean Caimbeul Ghlinn-Iubhair ("An Sionnach Ruadh." mar a theirteadh ris) a mhort 's e dol troimh an choille air taobh deas aiseag Bhaile a' Chaolais, Chuireadh Seumas Stiùbhart ("Seumas a' Ghlinne ") an gréim air son a' ghnìomh. Sheas e cùirt an Ionar-aora, agus thugadh binn-bàis air, agus chaidh a chrochadh air a' chnoc faisg air an aiseag. Chithear air an dearbh àite anns an do chrochadh e càrn-cuimhneachain. Anns na bliadhnachan mu dheireadh dh'fhàs na craobhan glé dhùmhail mu'n chàrn, air chor 's gur ann air éigin a gheibheadh neach thuige. The sinn toilichte a chluinntinn gu bheil Comunn Chloinn Stiùbhairt ag cur mu dheidhinn na craobhan a ghearradh agus an t-àite a sgioblachadh. Is math a fhuaras iad. Tha sinn toilichte, cuideachd, gu bheil bruidheann ann mu chlach-chuimhneachain a chur air uaigh Chailein Chaimbeul. Tha e air a thiodhlacadh ann an seann chladh Aird-chatain, ach cha do ghabhadh móran cùraim riamh de'n uaigh aige.

CEIR A MOINE.-Tha iomadh rud a ghabhas deanamh de'n mhòine a bharrachd air coire no poit bhuntàta is sgadain a ghoil. Is iomadh stuth feumail a thàtar a' tarraing aisde, gu sònraichte thall an Eirinn. Tha e coltach gun gabh céir de sheòrsa sònraichte a thoirt aisde, seòrsa céir a tha glé fheumail air son iomadh aobhair. Ann an 1937 b'fheudar do'n dùthaich so seachd ceud tunna de'n t-seòrsa céir sin a cheannach o'n Ghearmailt aig prìs £65 an tunna. Nuair thòisich an cogadh b'éigin feuchainn ris a' chéir a lorg 'nar dùthaich fhéin, agus rinneadh móran rannsachaidh mu'n chùis an Sasann agus an Albainn. Ma shoirbhicheas leis an oidhirp so, 's dòcha gum bi so 'na nì eile a bheir cosnadh is duais do na Gàidheil 'nan tìr féin, oir chan 'eil a' Ghàidhealtachd idir gann de mhòine. Gu dearbh, is mi dheanadh gàirdeachas air a' cheart mhionaid nan robh fòd no dhà mòna agam, agus mi air a' chnap mu dheireadh de ghual a' mhìosa a chàradh air an teine!

GLIOCAS NAN GAIDHEAL.—"Tigh a thughadh gun a shìomaineachadh, saothair dhìomhain."

FIRNN AIR SON A' MHIOS SO.—"Gach neach a chluinneas na briathran so agamsa, agus an iiad, samhlaichear e ri duine glie a thog a thigh air a' charraig. Agus thùiring an Luisge, agus thàinig na tuilean, agus shô'd na gaous thàinig na tuilean, agus shò'd na gaous thainig na thuilean, agus sho'd na gaous thainig na bhunail suidhichte air a' charraig."—Mata vii. 24-25.

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Oban.—The Oban Branch had an excellent concert on 20th December in the Parish Church Hall, when the President of the Branch, Mr. Angus MacLeod, was in the Chair. Mrs. Petrine Stewart, Angus Whyte, Alasdair Matheson, and Iain MacSween, ably supported by talented local artistes, submitted a programme of high merit which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Gourock and Luss.—With the Christmas and New Year holidays over, Branches and Affiliated Societies are getting into their stride again. Two Highland Societies which have now become affiliated to An Comunn are Luss and District AN GAIDHEAL.

and Gourock. We wish them success in their efforts to maintain. Highland traditions and culture in their respective areas. In this respect, the Luss and District Society are not allowing the grass to grow under their feet, and by the time this appears in print they will have held a concert, with a programme of exceptional merit, on behalf of An Comunn Central Fund, on 15th January. A report will appear in our next issuc.

An Comunn Concert Party.—Through the kind invitation of Sir Iain Colquhoun of Luss, a concert will be given by An Comunn Concert Party in Arrochar on Friday, 14th February, when it is also hoped to form a new Branch. On Wednesday, 12th February, the Party will visit Strathyre, where they can be assured of a warm welcome from Mrs. Edgar and her friends who did so much last year to ensure the success of our visit. It is also hoped to visit Crianlarich on 13th February, with a view to reviving the Branch which has been in abevance since before the War.

Glasgow Central and Govan Branches .- The Joint Committee of Glasgow Central and Govan Branches are to be heartily congratulated on their fine gesture in handing over the sum of £100 to the Central Fund. This shows the earnest desire of the Branches concerned to further the work of An Comunn, and proves the old adage, "Where there's a will there's a way." This is an excellent example to all who profess a genuine love for our language and culture.

## COR NA GAIDHLIGE.

Le IAIN N. MACLEOID.

Tha móran ri sgrìobhadh anns A' Ghàidheal aig an ám so timehioll air cor bronach na Gàidhlige ann ar Gàidhealtachd, agus tha sin fhéin a' leigeadh ris dhuinn gu bheil có-dhiubh iarmad de ar Gàidheil ag gabhail gu cridhe gu bheil an t-ám againn a bhith bogadh nan gad an ceart da-rìreadh, ma tha sinn an dùil gun cùm sinn ar cànain beò mar chainnt làitheil 'nar measg fhéin.

Có aige a tha a' choirc, matà, a thaobh a' chrìonaidh làitheil so a tha tighinn air cànain ar sinnsre? Chan 'eil briag anns an fhìrinn, mar a thuirt am bodach eile, agus tha fios agus cinnt aig gach neach a bheir eadhon aon smaoin do'n chùis sin gu bheil a' choire gu léir aig na Gàidheil fhéin riamh o'n sguir jad de bhith ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlige do an cloinn. Chan 'eil sluagh fo shileadh nan speur cho mì-threibhdhireach a thaobh an cànaine ri Gàidheil an là an diugh.

Gun teagamh, chuir Sasainn draoidheachd orra ré dhà chiad bliadhna a thaobh an cànaine is an dùthchais; ach nach d'rinneadh an droch dhìol ceudna air Eirinn, agus seall mar a chuir an t-ana-ceartas sin spiorad an canaine is an tìre chuige, agus do bhrìgh sin tha Gàidhlig na h-Eireann air a teagasg gu coimhlionta an diugh anns gach sgoil 'nan dùthaich, agus troimh fhòghlum na cànaine tha an òigridh a' tuigsinn gu bheil tìr is teanga aca fhéin, agus gur ann troimh na cladhain sin a chumas iad suas cliù àrsaidh an sinnsre.

Ach ciod mu ar Gàidheil an diugh? Chan 'eil dad ach nach 'eil tìr no teanga aca, agus tha iad ceart coma a thaobh na staid bhrònaich sin anns a bheil iad an ceartuair. Chan 'eil diù no tlachd aca de na daoine o an tàinig iad. Nam biodh. dheanadh iad oidhirp air an cànain is an dùthchas a theagasg do an cloinn.

#### CIOD MU'N CHOMUNN?

Gun teagamh, tha iarmad beag ann ar measg a tha fiachainn ri bratach an sinnsre a thogail ri crann; agus tha iad a deanamh dìchill a chum nach téid an cànain am mughaagus eagal orra gun tachair sin gu luath ma leanas an dìmeas a thatar a' deanamh oirre móran nas fhaide. Ach, a charaid, tha móran de'n t-seòrsa Ghàidheal sin-seadh, a' mhór-chuid diubh—a' togail an cloinne air Beurla chruaidh Shasainn. Tha iad dìreach mar a tha an còrr-caoin shuarach a thaobh an cànaine, agus cha labhair iad facal dhith aig an teallach ach an uair a bhios iad air son bruidhinn air rùn-dìomhair nach caomh leotha fhoillseachadh do an cloinn.

Agus ciod mu thimchioll buill A' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich fhéin? Bheil iadsan uile a' teagasg na Gàidhlige do an sliochd -seadh, an iarmad diubh aig a bheil i? Is i ceist chudthromach.

a tha sin, agus, gu 'dearbh, 'na mo bheachd fhéin, chan 'eil fhios agam nach biodh e feumail a' chùis sin a rannsachadh. Ach, fheara, nan deante sin, bhiodh "ole mu ghlanadh a' mhionaich," mar thuirt an seanfhacal. Nam biodh riaghladh A' Chomuinn agamsa, chuirinn gach ball fo bhòidean gun ionnsaicheadh iad fhéin a' Ghàidhlig agus gun teagaisgeadh iad i do an cloinn, nam biodh sliochd aca. Ach nach mise a tha gòrach! Cha tig an totha an dìle latha a thachras sin. Ach tha aon nì cinnteach. Mur dean An Comunn barrachd iomairt air son na Gàidheil a bhrosnachadh a thaobh an dleasdanais do an cànain, cha bh' facal Gàidhlig aig an linn a tha ag éirigh suas air tir-mór ann am fichead bliadhna cile.

#### ANNS NA SGOILEAN.

Agus ciod mu dheidhinn teagasg na Gàidhlige anns na sgoilean? Chan 'eil i air a teagasg idir idir ach ann an iarmad glé bheag de na sgoilean. Agus, ma tha mise ceàrr anns a' bheachd sin, chan 'eil agad ach an cunntas a thug Eachann MacDhùghaill seachad anns A' Ghàidheal mu phaipearanceasnachaidh Comunn na h-Oigridh a leughadh air do shon fhéin, agus chì thu o na freagairtean sin cho fìor bhochd agus a tha eòlas na cloinne air litreachas an cànaine. Ach is beag dorrain a tha sin ag cur air na pàrantan. Ma bhios an clann ag ionnsachadh mablaich de Bheurla na Frainge a dhì-chuimhnicheas iad a cheart cho luath agus a dh'fhàgas iad an sgoil, saoilidh na bròin bhochda gu bheil an clann suas a' bhruthach agus gu bheil iad làn de fhòghlum nan uaislean, ged nach b'urrainn a' cheart chlann sin ainm an seanamhar innse an Gàidhlig. Mo thruaighe, mo thruaighe! nach e ar Gàidheil a chaidh a phutadh na cloiche!

#### DLEASANAS NAM PARANTAN.

Agus eadhon ged bhiodh a' Ghàidhlig air a teagasg anns gach sgoil anns a bheil clann aig a bheil i, agus gcd bhiodh Mòd mór aig A' Chomunn gach là diag de'n bhliadhna, le comhfharpaisich a' seinn Gàidhlig nam pioghaidean, bàsaichidh a' Ghàidhlig 'nar measg gun teagamh sam bith mur bi i air a teagasg aig glùn na mathar, agus mur cuir pàrantan spiorad uaille 'nan sliochd a thaobh an tìr agus an teanga. Ach ciamar a ni parantan sin an uair nach 'eil uaill sam bith 'nan cridhe fhéin a thaobh nan daoine o'n tàinig iad ? Chaidh am fòtus a tha sin cho domhain anns an smior-hailleach aca agus gur h-e miorbhuil mhór mhór a bhios ann ma thig iompachadh orra anns a' chùis sin.

An gabh nì sam bith a dheanamh, matà, air son an draoidheachd sin a thaobh an cànaine a thogail o spiorad ar Gàidheal? Ma gabhas, is e so a' cheart am air son fiachainn gu dìorrasach ri sin a dheanamh. Ciamar a theagaisgear dhaibli gur h-ann de shliochd àrsaidh na h-Albann a tha iad, agus gur h-i seann chànain na h-Albann am bann as dìomhaire a bha riamh ag ceangal ar sinnsirean ri chéile ann am fìor spiorad an dùthcha? Ciamar a dhearbhar dhaibh gu bheil iadsan a deanamh tàire air an dìleab sin as luachmhoire a dh'fhàgadh aca fhéin agus an sliochd, agus do bhrìgh sin gu bheil an sliochd an diugh gun dùthaich, gun chainnt, gun anam, agus iad air an àrach air gortadh spioradail a chuireas an eitig 'nan creubhaig air a' cheann thall?

Ciod, matà, is urrainn duinn a dheanamh air son anam ar Gàidheal a dhùsgadh a chum agus gun gabh iad suim do an cànain is an dùthchas? Nach iarr sibhse, fhir-dheasachaidh urramaich, air ar leughadairean am beachd a thoirt dhuinn air a' chùis dheatamaich sin?

#### TORMOD BOCHD!

Bha Tormod an déidh na cóigeamh mnatha a thiodhlacadh, agus tha e coltach gun d'fhàg gach bean beagan airgid aige.

"Bidh tu beartach a nis," arsa nàbaidh àraidh ris.

"Chan 'eil mi cho cinnteach idir," arsa Tormod, "Eadar. gach cosg suirghe is pòsaidh is adhlacaidh a bha agam, tha eagal orm nach bi móran ann air a' cheann thall!"

#### PROPAGANDA NOTES. Northern Area.

A Visit to the Uists: North Uist.—From 27th November to 7th December the Organiser was engaged in the Uists. On arrival at Lochmaddy he was met by Mr. M. A. MacLeod, M.A., Headmaster, and that evening Mr. MacLeod presided at an all-Gaclic Ceilidh in the local hall. There was a large attendance, and after an address a pleasant hour was spent in Song and Story. On the following day Lochmaddy and Sollas Schools were visited and enrolments were made in Comunn na h-Oigridh, particulars of which will appear later in this report. Visits were also made to the Schools at Cladach-Kirkabost, Bayhead, and Tigharry, and new enrolments were made. That evening a public meeting was held in Tigharry School, and the local Branch was re-constituted with Mr. Archie MacAulay as President and Miss Catriona MacDonald as Hon. Secretary. An enjoyable Ceilidh followed. The Committee afterwards met to arrange a syllabus for the session.

On 2nd December Locheport and Carlnish Schools were visited and additional enrolments were made. In the evening a public meeting was held at Carinish, when it was unanimously decided to form a new Branch to be called "Meur Clachan na Luib," to embrace the villages of Carinish, Clachan, Locheport, Baleshare, and Cladach. Kirchotoxt. The President is Mr. Neil

December, and the Eron. Secretary is Mise Ena MacDonaid.

Bean, and the Eron. Secretary is Mise Ena MacDonaid.

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South Uist.—On 4th December Loch Carman and Iochdar Schools were visited, and additional enrolments were made. In the evening a meeting of the Iochdar Branch was held, and new Office-bearers were appointed. That stalwart, Donald MacPhee, continues as Preadent, and Mr. Iain Mac-Sween was appointed Hon. Secretary. At the close of a very successful Ceilidh a collection was taken for An Comunn funds. This amounted to £2 12s.

On the following day, Howmore and Stoneybridge Schools were visited, and a public meeting was held in Howmore School in the evening, with the Organiser in the chair. After an address he suggested that a Branch of An Comunn might be formed at Howmore. This was heartily approved. The President is Mrs. MacRury, and the Hon. Secretary is Miss Jean Currie, M.A. A pleasant hour was afterwards spent in Song and Story.

10.00 (th December the following Schools were visited—
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10.00 (th December the Organiser saw Donald Sinclair's House ("December 10.00 (the Control of the Control

Comunn na h-Oigridh.—The following are the enrolments made in Comunn na h-Oigridh during this visit to the Uists and Benbecula; and it should be added that the Organiser was welcomed in every school by the staffs and the children.

Feachd.		Boys,	Girls.	Feachd.	Boys.	Girls.
Lochmaddy		9	10	Loch Carnan	5	3
Sollas		10	8	Iochdar	10	13
Cladach-Kir	kal	ost 4	7	Stoneybridge	6	8
Paibil		21	26	Howmore	9	4
Tigharry		10	5	Kildonan	5	8
Locheport		5	1	Garrynamona	10	14
Carinish		8	Mount	Daliburgh	15	23
Torlum		. 8	23	Loch Boisdale	11	8

This shows a total of 307 new enrolments (146 boys and 161 girls).

Gaelle in the Isles — From contacts made throughout the Usias and Benbecula it was evident that Gaeiic is still the everyday language of old and young. From an encounter with a little girl of three years at Clachan it was discovered that she was freely at home in Gaelic and English. She would in her childish talk switch over from the one language to the other with the utmost ease. Since returning home the Organiser has received a little letter in Gaelic from the boy and girl leaders of the Sollas Feachd, enclosing a Postal Order for III-to be ear-marked for the Badge Account of Comunn naholigridh. The letter was signed "Callean agus Morag."

Sutherland Mod.—At a meeting of the Branch Representatives in the County of Sutherland, held at Lairg, it was unanimously decided to hold a County Mod at Lairg on 27th June, 1947. For some years two Mods were held annually, but this decision reverts to the old way—a County Mod at Lairg. The Mod will be under the auspices of the Lairg Branch, with Mr. R. D. MacDonald as Hon. Secretak.

Camp Site at Inverailort.—Mr. John MacKay and the Organisev visited Inversilor to report on the suitability of the place for the Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp, 1947, Mr. Cameron-Head having very kindly offered the ground as a camping site. Both were hospitably received at the Castle, and with Mr. Cameron-Head they inspected the ground. A report has been prepared and will be considered by Clann an Fhraoich Committee shortly.

An Comunn Concerts: Glen Urquhart,—During Christmas week three Concerts were held, at Glen Urquhart, Leachkin, and Dingwall respectively, in aid of the Central Fund, which by these efforts has benefited to the amount of \$27 55 1d.

At Glen Urquhart, the Branch President, Donald Cumming, Esq., of Borlum, presided your a full hall, and the Congramme was of a high standard. Neil MacLean and Jenny Currie, assisted by first-class artistes, provided entertainment which suited all tastes. Thanks are due to the local Branch for assistance in making the effort os successful.

Leachkin Concert.—Dr. William MacWilliam, Medical Superintendent, very kindly granted the use of the Mental Hospital Recreation Hall at the Leachkin for the second Concert of the series, and he himself presided. Neil and Jenny were again the star artistes, and they were ably supported by other well-known singers and instrumentalists. The Concert was enjoyed by all present, including about two hundred of the patients. Sincere thanks are due to Dr. MacWilliam; he is at all times willing to help An Comunn in its work.

Dingwall Concert.—At the final concert of the series, at Dingwall, the Chair was taken by Provost Alexander MacRae. The Chairman, in the course of his remarks paid a warm tribute to the late ex-Provost John MacRae, who was at the time of his death President of the Dingwall Branch. Few men did more than the ex-Provost for the language and music of the Gael. Sincere thanks are due to M. Reid of Soutar & Reid, who attended to the booking and sale of tickets, and to the gentlemen who acted as Stewards at the Concert.

Wick Branch.—The Wick Branch and many friends in the North will waish Mr. R. J. G. Miller, Editor and Manager of the John O' Groat Journal, many happy days in his retrement which took place at the end of the year. He occupied the position of President of the Wick Branch for many years, and several of the Papers which he delivered at the monthly meeting of the Branch are still vividly recollected by the writer. He is a keen student of Gaelic and delights in engage in simple conversation in the old language. Saoghal fads agus lahthean sona dhuibh, a charaid.

Laggan.—A new Branch has just been formed at Laggan, and the President is a life member of An Comunn—Mrs. MacPherson of Kinlochlaggan Hotel. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. Dugald Campbell, a prominent piper and a competitor at the local Mod in the oral section. Colonel Ritchie of Craigdhu has been instrumental in having this Branch organised. He also is a keen student of Gaelic.

#### AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH. Re-Organisation Proposals.

As reported in the December issue of An Gaidheal, the Special Re-Organisation Committee, appointed some time ago by the Executive Council, has submitted certain proposals for consideration, in the hope that members and branches will express their views, so that in due course the necessary amendments to the Constitution may be dealt with at the Annual General Meeting of An Comunn.

It is highly desirable that any such amendments should be laid before the next Annual General Meeting in September at Perth. It may be well to offer here some explanation of the proposals. Correspondence regarding them should be addressed to the General Secretary, or, if it is desired to ventilate opinions in the Magazine, to the Editor. It should be stated that the explanations here given are not official, in the sense that they have been framed by the Re-Organisation Committee. They are merely my own interpretation of what I believe is in the minds of the Committee in making these proposals.

#### AN COMUNN'S FIELD OF ACTIVITY.

(1) That the first object of An Comunn should be "the teaching and use of the Gaelic language throughout Scotland and elsewhere."

The words italicised are an addition to the "first object" as it stands now. Why the addition? Because the accusation has frequently been made, and perhaps not without reason, that An Comunn has tended too much to devote itself to keeping in being the flickering light of Gaelic where it still survives, and that it has not attempted to restore Gaelic where formerly it was and where it might be again-namely, throughout most of Scotland. We have been too parochial in outlook and effort. Both inside An Comunn and outside it (in other bodies concerned with Gaelic) there has been in recent years an increasing number of non-Gaelic people who have

taken up the serious study of Gaelic.

We in An Comunn must not give the impression that our activities are confined to the area where Gaelic is still the daily tongue. To do that may well be to tend an everdiminishing area, until at last the Gaelic area is but a few remote parishes in the extreme West. The English title of our association, "The Highland Association" suggests that geographically, our activities are confined to the Highlands and Islands; but our true title is the Gaelic one, "An Comunn Gaidhealach" (of which the English title is not an exact translation), and the word "Gaidhealach" knows no geographical boundaries. Wherever in all the world there is the possibility of arousing interest in the Gaelic language and culture, there is the field of operation of An Comunn Gaidh-ealach. More precisely, all Scotland is our immediate field, and not the North-West half of Scotland only. This widening of scope will, it is hoped, enlist an ever wider circle of active workers in and furth of Scotland, whether or not they were born in Gaelic homes, provided they set themselves to become users of Gaelic and supporters of it. Already, of course, An Comunn has keen members all over Scotland and in other countries, even to the ends of the earth

#### JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP.

(2) That a Junior Membership should be introduced.

Since Comunn na h-Oigridh was founded, several thousand children have been members of it, but what has become of them all as they passed from childhood to youth and from youth to adult status? Some, of course, have become members of An Comunn. But it is felt that a strong effort should be made to retain many more of them by linking up the young whereby for a nominal fee they could become active members of An Comunn, from which junior status they would at a certain age pass on to become full members. The age limits, membership fee, and privileges of junior membership have still to be defined.

#### AREA OR REGIONAL COUNCILS.

(3) That Area or Regional Councils should be established. The intention here is that, in carrying on the work of An Comunn, there should be a greater degree of local direction

and control. The complaint has sometimes been made that the headquarters of An Comunn are in Glasgow and that the Executive Council is controlled by people who reside outside the Gaelic area. Much might be said about this point, but suffice it to remark that, by the delegation of some of the association's work to Area Councils (or whatever they may be called), the people in these areas or regions would have a better opportunity of applying themselves to the furtherance of the objects of An Comunn along the lines best suited to local conditions and circumstances. A Lewis and Harris Area Council, for example, might have to do its work differently from a South Argyll Area Council. Propaganda within the area, the organising of branches and classes, and the holding of at least one Provincial Mod within the area—these are some of the functions that might fall to a Regional Council.

#### YOUTH ACTIVITIES.

(4) That a separate Standing Committee for Comunn na Oigridh be created, and that Clann an Fhraoich should revert to its original function.

In recent years we have seen an unprecedented interest in, and development of, work among youth, on the part of churches and other voluntary bodies, political parties, industrial undertakings, schools, local authorities, and the State. Anyone who looks into the volume, Youth Organisations of Great Britain, 1944-45 (there is probably a later edition which I have not seen), will be astonished at the number and variety of youth organisations at work in this country. Comunn na h-Oigridh is our Gaelic Youth Organisation. It has done good work, but it can, and must, do better. Even more than the young folks of the towns, those who live in the rural areas, especially the remoter areas, need the sort of thing that Comunn na h-Oigridh can yet be, when it is adequately equipped. It is our hope that the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund, now being raised by An Comunn, will help to develop and expand the work of Comunn na h-Oigridh and provide adequate equipment for all the Feachdan, so that in due course every community in the Highlands and Islands will have a Gaelic Youth Club under its auspices (while outside the Gaelic area and in the towns there may well be similar Gaelic Youth Clubs).

But if Comunn na h-Oigridh is to be developed thus, it surely requires and deserves to have a separate Standing Committee of the Executive Council specially concerned with its direction and control. For the future of our movement, youth work is as important as (some of us would say, more important than) Publications or even Mod and Music or Art and Industry, each of which aspects of our work has its own

Standing Committee.

Comunn na h-Oigridh was an offshoot of, and grew up under the wing of, Clann an Fhraoich, and is at present under the direction of the Clann an Fhraoich Committee. But Clann an Fhraoich, if I remember rightly, was not established for this purpose at all. It was founded for a different, and quite specific purpose, but for some time past its main activity has been the oversight of Comunn na h-Oigridh. Clann an Fhraoich should apply itself to its original purpose, a most necessary one; and Comunn na h-Oigridh should be given equal status with the other main departments of An Comunn's work.

## MEMBERSHIP AND THE MAGAZINE.

(5) That Bye-Law No. 4, whereby the Magazine is issued free to members, should be deleted.

(6) That rates of membership subscriptions should be reconsidered.

(7) That membership of An Comunn should be through the Branches and, in addition to the ordinary Branches of An Comunn, there should be a Headquarters Branch provided for special circumstances of membership.

At present An Comunn consists of various types of members -Honorary Members (elected as a recognition of distinguished service), Life Members (paying one sum of £3 3s), Ordinary Members (paying 5s annually), and Representative Members (representing Branches). There are also Affiliated Societies (paying £1 a year). There are many people attached to An Comunn by being members of Branches, but these, if they are not Life or Ordinary Members, are only loosely attached and have but a very slight link with the Executive Council. The new proposals would mean that all who are members of Branches will be real members of An Comunn (cither as Life or Ordinary Members), and that all Life and Ordinary Members must be attached to Branches. This, it is hoped, will both strengthen the Branches and widen the scope of An Comunn's membership. The proposed Headquarters Branch is for the benefit of those who reside where there is no local Branch to which they may attach themselves.

The fees for the various classes of membership, the proportion of fees to be retained by Branches, and other details will have to be worked out very carefully.

These proposals regarding membership, along with the proposals for Area Councils, will necessitate some changes in the composition of the Executive Council. At present it consists of the President, three Vice-Presidents, and thirty others (all elected by the Life and Ordinary Members), along with Representatives of Branches and of Affiliated Societies. On this matter the Re-Organisation Committee has not as yet made any proposals: they first of all wish to know the reactions to the general proposals already made.

The position with regard to the Magazine was explained fairly fully in the December issue. There are two alternatives : (a) to cease issuing the Magazine free to members (Life and Ordinary) and to sell it separately at an economic price, or (b) to raise the membership fee sufficiently to cover the increased cost of the Magazine. There are strong arguments for and against both these courses.

Although no proposals have so far been submitted regarding the full-time staff considered necessary for the adequate prosecution of An Comunn's work, I think that this matter also must be tackled. The work of An Comunn is of such importance and urgency that, in my view at least, it ought to have a larger full-time staff than at present. The staff has grown in these past years, but it has not grown in proportion to the growth of An Comunn's activities, and there comes a time when a staff, however good, loses in efficiency by having too large and too varied an assortment of duties laid upon it. There is a Northern Organiser, but the General Secretary has also to act as Southern Organiser. The "Secretary's Notes" and "Northern Area Propaganda Notes" in the January issue indicate something of what is involved in forming, reviving, and visiting branches. The charge of the Office is a big task

Much help has been given in the past, and will be in the future, by office-bearers, members of Executive, and others who, although not on the staff, give time and energy to specific tasks. But some of these tasks are such that no one, who has his own daily occupation making heavy demands on him, can

hope to tackle them at all adequately.

There are some things An Comunn ought to be doing that are not being done at all. One is the gathering and recording of what remains of our oral literature. We have a recording machine for the purpose, but it has been little used for a long time, because no one is specifically responsible for using it. We could be doing with at least one full-time trained collector of oral literature. It may be objected that this sort of thing is outside the scope of An Comunn's objects, which is probably true, but it is certainly not outside An Comunn's field of interest, and the obvious thing is to alter our "aims and objects" in order to allow ourselves to make such provision as I have suggested.

Publications are another department to which one person eould usefully devote all his time. We might well have a full-time Publications Manager or Editor (call him what you will), who might edit the official Magazine, a periodical for young people, and other printed material, and also supervise the editing and publishing of Gaelic books, and be responsible for advertising and marketing An Comunn's publications.

All this, of course, would mean much heavier expenditure, but I feel sure that the extra expense would be more than justified. Our task as an association is a big one: let us tackle it in a really big way. We should require, and I think we could get, much greater support from the public generally and from our Highland people in particular than we have received thus far.

There is opportunity here too for benefactors to invest some of their capital in developing the work of An Comunn. Some of our better-off fellow-Highlanders have already devoted no small part of their means to helping the Gaelic movement. There are many things still needing to be done, movement. There are many sings the doing of them much and adequate finance would make the doing of them much T. M. MURCHISON.

#### THE GLASGOW ORPHEUS CHOIR. Tribute to Gaelic and An Comunn

The Glasgow Orpheus Choir and their Founder and Conductor, Sir Hugh S. Roberton, have achieved a world-wide fame. By their concert tours and over the radio they have won, and for many years maintained, a quite unique place in the regard of all music-lovers. Gaelic music has always found a place in their programmes. Recently, however, at the series of five concerts given by the Choir in Glasgow in December, Sir Hugh introduced a "Gaelic Interlude" and invited as guest-artistes the two Gold Medallists of the last Mod. Miss Rose B. MacConnachie and Mr. Donald MacVicar, and the two popular exponents of "Puirt-a-beul," Messrs. Alasdair Matheson and Angus Whyte, with their accompanists, Mrs. Petrinc Stewart and Miss Chris Turner.

At all the concerts the Gaelic artistes were most enthusiastically received by the large audiences which packed the St. Andrew's Hall. The somewhat gauche remarks of a music critic with reference to the Puirt-a-beul items served but to expose the profound ignorance of the writer and to give an

opportunity for an effective reply.

Sir Hugh Roberton, as he explained at the Concerts, invited the Gaelic artistes to share his Choir's platform as a tribute to An Comunn for all it has done towards the advancement of music in Scotland. It is a gesture which we in An Comunn deeply appreciate.

## BAS CARAID.

Tha sinn duilich a chluinntinn gun do chaochail Mgr. Calum MacCaluim, an Tigh an Uillt, aig toiseach mìos an Fhaoillich. Bha e fad mhóran bhliadhnachan 'na bhall dìleas de'n Chomunn Ghàidhealach, agus rinn e saothair a réir a chomais 's a chothroim as leth na cànaine. Re na h-ùine a bha tigh-òsda aige an Obar-phuill chùm e air a' teagasg na Gàidhlig ann an sin, agus is lìonmhor iad a tha fo chomain dha air son an treòrachaidh a thug e dhaibh,

#### GAELIC IN SCOTTISH EDUCATION.

The Advisory Council on Education in Scotland (Principal Sir W. Hamilton Fyfe, Chairman) has just issued its Report on Primary Education, a most interesting and important document (published by H.M. Stationery Office, 2/6) which may have far-reaching influence on the schools of the future (the immediate future, we hope).

For us, in An Comunn, the most important part of the

ror us, in An Comunn, the most important part of the Report is the section on "The Gaelic Tradition."
"The question of Gaelic studies," the Report states, "has been too exclusively regarded as affecting only the 'Celtic fringe' of Scotland, and the language that of a scattered and diminishing remnant. We suggest a different attitude. This was the language of the whole land before a word of English was ever spoken in it . . . . . In varying amounts there must be Celtic blood in most native Scots, though they know not a word of Gaelic; and so too perhaps some little-suspected Celtic element in their character . . . . . We think it is worth-while cherishing this (Gaelic) language and culture, not merely for those who are born into it, but for the sake of the rest of Scotland. We therefore recommend that all Scottish children should learn something of Gaelic life and legends and traditions. Some pupils as they grow older may wish to learn

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the Gaelic language and read its literature; and for these, opportunities at selected schools may one day be provided. As for the Gaelic-speaking areas themselves, we recommend that all possible steps be taken to get an adequate number of Gaelic-speaking teachers and an ample supply of suitable class books and texts in the Gaelic language.

## IN BRIEF.

Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary of An Comunn Gaidhealach, has been appointed a member of the Scottish Committee of the Arts Council of Great Britain.

Dr. D. J. MacLeod, Inverness, has been appointed a member of the recently formed B.B.C. Scottish Regional Advisory Committee, the Chairman of which is Principal Sir Hector Hetherington, Glasgow University.

. .

We extend cordial congratulations to Mr. Donald Shaw MacKinnos, Edinburgh, on his being awarded the Ms.E. Lin the New Year's Honours List. Mr. MacKinnon is not only a prominent leader in Highland circles in Edinburgh, where he did very fine work as Hon. Secretary of the Association of Highland Societies, but he is also a highly respected member of the Executive Council of An Comunn, and of some of its Committees, wise in counsel and always enthusiastic for whatever is likely to help forward the cause of Gaelic and the well-being of the Highland people.

Congratulations to Dr. Christopher MacRac, a native of Kintail and brother of the Minister of long, on his appointments of the Scottial Council (Development and Industry). Dr. MacRae was educated at Glasgow University and Oxford and is a Doctor of Philosophy of the latter University.

A new venture has been launched, Highland Communities, which brings together a number of people who are prepared, not meetly to talk about reconstructing the Highlands, but to be themselves the coloniesrs of some undeveloped glen, and to spare no pains to equip themselves for the task. Here is a ray of how

The Educational Institute of Scotland has published a 48-page booklet (price, 1)-) containing reprints of the Leaving Certificate Examination Papers (both Higher and Lower Grades) in Gaelic for the years 1932-39 and 1946. This will be an advantage for teachers of Gaelic. Copies may be ordered from the E.I.S., 46 Moray Place, Edinburgh, 3.

The Celtic Ballet Company (Margaret Morris is the Director and Producer) was founded in 1940, and "stands for freedom and progress in all the arts and Celtic culture old and new." Those interested should write to the Secretary, Celtic Ballet, 299 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2.

The Highland Development League (Glasgow Branch) has published a 20-page pamphet (3d.), Co-operation in the Highlands and Islands, by Elizabeth Orr, B.Sc. (Econ.). It reviews the history of co-operative efforts in the Highlands (mainly agricultural co-operatives and egg marketing schemes) and makes useful proposals for the future.

A controversy has recently arisen about synthetic or plastic Scots. Into that discussion we do not propose to enter, except to say that language is primarily a medium of communication, conveying emotions as well as ideas; and words, which are the currency of language, become the worse of wear and need to be re-minted or withdrawn from circulation and replaced by others. That process is always going out in the property of the property of the property of the property of the proright it is hard to say. If it be argued that he new (synthetic) words mean nothing to the general public, then the general public ought to make an effort to learn them, just as we all have had to learn even the simplest words we know, as well as the more technical language of our different trades, professions, and studies.

Remarks made recently by the Secretary of State for Scotland have led to some discussion about the need for a fifth University in Scotland, and already various districts are pressing their claims, but, surely, as the late Hugh Gunn pointed out in his "Distribution of University Centres in Great Britain," published some years ago, the strongest case can be made for locating the new University or College in the Highlands.

The Editor is much obliged to the many contributors and correspondents who send in material for the Bagazine. Suitable tiens must sometimes, however, be held over for a month or two. Clarity, brevily, and interest are most desirable in contributions. Branch Secretaries and Leaders of Feaddan Comunn na h-Oigridh might please send in reports (in Gaelic or English) of Branch and Feadh activities (200 words or less).

#### EADAR SINN FHEIN.

## WANTED-A MORE VIGOROUS POLICY.

Sir,—I wish to associate myself with the above opinion which I see expressed in the Correspondence Columns of An Gaidheal.

An Comunn Gaidhealach has done great and successful work for Gaelic song, literature, and general culture. But—as far as I am able to judge—the spoken, i.e. the living, language is steadily declining and, in the absence of very effective effort, will almost certainly die.

I suggest that an increase and intensification of propaganda is called for. It is not very difficult to see what reforms are required to keep Gaelic alive. It would, for example, be necessary to make it the language of instruction in Highland Schools. But the point is—how are such reforms to be obtained! It does not seem likely that they ever will be, unless there arises a much wider and more insistent demand for them than exists at present. I suggest that the real task of An Comunn is not so much to say how Gaelic can be kept alive as to persuade the people of Scotdand in general, and the Highlands in par-

ticular, that it ought to be kept alive.

Another way in which if think An Comunn could show
more vigour would be by becoming an exclusively Gaelicspeaking association, at any rate in the conduct of all intendal
business. I do not say this could be achieved in one day. But
see no reason why it could not be done by stages over a period
of, say, five years. This would give time to present members
to accommodate themselves to the new conditions by learning
Gaelic. Some of us may fear that to take this step might
alienate valuable and influential support for An Comun and
the Gaelic Cause. I question if such a supposition is correct
but, even if it is, would not the ultimate gain outweigh to loss? When all is said and done, if it is impracticable to make
full use of Gaelic within the limited and favourable sphere of
An Comunn Gaidhealach, how can we expect it to be used very
much elsewhere?

One final point. With all the planning and "developing" that is going on just now there is a danger that the Highlands will not so much be developed as revolutionized; that, instead of absorbing innovation, they will be absorbed by it. I urge that An Comman should keep a pretty sharp eye on this aspect of the Highland question and be ready to disapprove publicly and energetically of anything that ought to be disapproved of in the true interests of the Highlands as the Highlands.—I am, etc.,

#### RANALD C. MACDONALD.

A Charaid,—Your two articles by the Rev. Calum MacLean and "A. R." (I wonder if this camouflages my old friend from "Eilean a' Cheò") about the Irish Oireachtas come at a good moment.

Let every Scot—apart from the Gaelic speakers (usually of Norse extraction)—study his history and his soul, and work

out why a tuppeny-ha'penny French Reader should be substituted for at least one hour's study a day of the language of Niall of the Nine Hostages and Fionn.

Niall of the Nine Hostages and Fionn.

As one brought up to speak every language in Europe from Russian to Portuguese, I still believe in what Patrick Pearse said to his people: "Gun teanga, gun tir."

He was right; and grovelling to Westminster will get Scotland nowhere. Nor will the extraordinary ostrich-like tactics of An Comunn help the Gaelic language in Scotland.

tactics of An Comunn help the Gaelic language in Scotland.
Although I write in the "Saies-Bheurla," I do so for one reason, that those who graciously "patronise" the Gael have had their day, and English alone can prove it to them.

There is a few Western when the gael have the control of th

There is a fair Western wind blowing, and, as the bard Ferghal Og Mac an Bhàird wrote in 1608 about the flight of my Irish ancestor:

"Da neomhadh Dia dam tar m'ais Rochtain dom dhomhan dhúthchais O Ghallaibh ni gheabhainn dul Go clannaibh seaghain Sacsun."

If we are to keep and increase our language, it must be spoken by everybody, and not regarded as the inheritance of

the scullery and the tap-room.

A Gaelic Bible by every bed, a Gaelic book in every room, and a "Failte rombad" in every heart—and a little more racial pride! I learnt mine from a Skye tinker thirty years ago in Ballachulish (not at Oxford!)—Mise, le meas môr,

ALEXANDER MCKECHNIE.

A Charaid,—Leugh mi na litrichean a tha ann an Gàidheal a' mhìosa so, agus tha mi ag còrdadh gu h-àraidh ri Mgr. A. MacAoidh, Cend, ach théid mi nas fhaide na sin.

Tha mì a' smuaineachadh gum bu chòir do'n chànain dùthchasaich a bùtha dìr a teagasg ann an agoiltean uile an Albainn, mar a tha an Fhraingeis agus an Laidionn. Anns a' Ghàidhealtachd, bu chòir do chloinn aig a bheil a' Ghàidhealtachd, bu chòir do chloinn aig a bheil a' Ghàidhealtachd, bu chòir do chloinn aig a bheil a' Ghàidhealtach ain mhàthaireil a bhith air an teagasg o'n ám a théid iad dò'n sgoil a

Tha fios aig A' Chomunn gu math air so, agus is mise a tha toilichte gu bheil leughadairean eile a' sgrìobhadh chugaibh mu dheidhinn na cùise so.—Is mise, le meas mór,

Baile Ur an t-Sléibhe. A. D. LATHARNA CAIMBEUL.

## IS FEARR EISIMPLEIR NA COMHAIRLE.

Sir.—May I add my appreciation to that of others of your Editorial in the October issue of our Magazine. In view of its implications, I must excuse my use of English. I wish to reach those whose knowledge is still searty of "An Seann Chhanin Albannach," the resurrection of which Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair proclaimed.

I would urge them to realise that good intentions and a sentimental interest in Gaelic are not enough. To be effective it must lead to the learning and use of the language of Alba on all occasions, to the exclusion of English, and nowhere is the use of English more out of place than on the platforms of An Comun, especially at the Mod.

May I remind all Scots of how their fore-elders thought of these matters by quoting the following lines, addressed to Archibald, Earl of Argyle, Chancellor of Scotland, who was killed at Flodden:

> "Is dú éirghe i n-aghaidh Gall, nocha dóigh éirghe udmhall; faobhar claidheamh, reanna ga, cóir a gcaitheamh go h-aobhdha.

"Re Gallaibh adeirim ribh, sul ghabhadar ar ndúthaigh; ná léigmid ar ndúthaigh dhinn, déinmid ardchogadh ainmhín, air aithris Gaoidheal mBanbha; caithris ar ar n-athardha.

"Cuir th' urfhógra anoir 's aniar air Ghaoidhlibh ó Ghort Gailiain; cuir siar thar ardmhuir na Goill, nach biodh ar Albain athroinn." Ar leam is còir dhuinne uile a' chomhairle so a ghlacadh, gu sònraichte na tha anns an dara rann diubh so.—Mise le meas,

Tomas MacNeacall.

#### GAELIC IN SCHOOLS.

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent "Education Begins at Home" has sounded the tocain to Galcia-peaking teachers with a vengeance. Though his censure is justified, yet we are the victims of circumstances. For years our people, our language, and all that we stood for have suffered an enfillade of vituperation and vilification, seom and contempt, from historians who sacrificed truth for political ends. That some of us have stuck in the mud is not to be wondered at. Even to-day there is not one single school history-book which gives the Celtic element in our civilisation the legitimate place to which it is entitled.

Again, the apathy of the Scottish Education Department perpetuates among Gaelic-apeaking parents the myth that Gaelic is an obstacle to "getting on." It is notorious that the Scottish Education Department continue to appoint in Gaelic-speaking districts Inspectors ignorant of the language. With out a knowledge of the language, pupils' attainments, even in English, cannot be adequately assessed. Millitant action, of the type your correspondent suggests, is the only reasoning that the Scottish Education Department can understand. For several years now I have asked my pupils, in any difficulty, to answer H.M. Inspector in Gaelic, regardless of his ignorance of it—with auming results. A non-Gaelic impector asked for the meaning of log" (of wood). "Matde, "replied the pupil, primary schools are governed by the "Bees" of H.M. I. It is true that Gaelic is not examined, either in the primary school or in the advanced division, for that matter.

or in the advanced division, for that matter.
The surrivial of Galelie is the concern of all Scottish teachers.
They are the keepers of the nation's conscience, and upon them
falls the sacred duty of inculcating in the children love of
Scotia's ancient language and traditions. They cannot understand the present without looking unto 'the rock whence ye
are hewn.' Scottish children cannot possibly develop into
virile and useful oftizens of a nation, making a distinct contribution the surrivial of the surrivial contribution the surrivial of the surrivial contribution the surrivial of the surrivial contribution the surrivial contribution of the surrivial contribution the surrivial contribution of the surrivial contribution the surrivial contribution of the surrivial contribution.

Lacking this background, they are as lost to Scotland as the
ten tribes were to Israel. For far too long this upproofing of
Scottamen from their Galelie past has been allowed to contributill now the prospect faces us of seeing the mere handful who
cling to it become extinct. A halt must be called sometime,

Like Fearchar in And the Cock Crew, we must remember

"Conquest is not only a matter of defeat in battle. If a nation gives up its ways and its language and the things that belong to its nationality, and takes the ways and language of another nation, then it can be said to have been conquered by that other nation."—I am, etc.,

CIOSMUL.

#### COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Phir mo Chridhe,—Tha mi an dùil gu bheil sinn an comain Eachainn MhicDhùghaill air son a litreach anns A' Ghàidheal. Tha an litir so, gu soilleir, ag cur an céill gu bheil a' Ghàidhail a' faotainn droch cheartais ann an cuid de na sgoilean againn. Tha an litir air an làimh e'le, ag cur an céil nach 'eil an Comunn na h-Oigridh am móran bhailtean ach an t-ainm gun an tairbhe.

Gun tà, is e Comunn na h-Oigridh an nì bu ghealltanaiche a chuir An Comunn Gàidhealach air chois 'nar latha-ne. Dé idir am maith a tha annainn mur cùm sinn cothrom is cùl ris an òige so againn ?

Tha fhios aig an t-saoghal nach dean a bhith cumail ceòl is caismeachd ri cailleachan air a' Ghalldachd suas an call agus Comunn na h-Oigridh ag cail a lùth 's a bhrìgh!

Agus air son teagasg na Gàidhlig dheth, nach muladach an aileanaban Gàidhealach a' chaint mhathaireil a bhith 'ga leughadh a' ga sgrìobhadh aca san sgoil ? Chan' eil Eachann MacDhùphail riariaichte. Is ann

Chan 'eil Eachann MacDhùghaill riaraichte. Is ann a tha an t-ionghnadh ann ma tha duine air bith riaraichte, An Gearran, 1947.

Smaoinich an rùsgadh a bhiodh ann ach a' Bheurla a bhith cho cearbach aig a' chlomn ! Mo bheannachd air Sgoil an Tairbeairt anns na Hearadh a

ghléidh a cliù.—Is mise gu dìleas,

#### FACAL MISNEACHAIDH.

Fhir mo Chridhe,-Bu mhath leam fàilte a chur ort mar sgiobair! Bu mhath leam gum biodh fhios agad gu bheil lan-earbsa againn asad oirre. Mar a thu'rt thu fhéin gu fìor, "saoilidh am fear a bhios 'na thàmh. . . . " Seadh, dé nach

saoil e ? Ach feuchadh esan ris! Tha sinne, na Gàidheil, air móran de ar cothroman agus de ar làithean a chall ag còmh-stri agus a' milleadh a chéile. An robh daoine geala riamh ann a bha 'nan creich fo chasan chàich air thailiibh easaontachd coltach ri ar daoine-ne? Agus c'àite bheil dad as lugha math na dao'ne bhith faighinn coire far nach dean iad fhéin aon mhaitheas ?

Coma leat. Mar a thuirt Goethe, "air tùs bha an gnìomh." Chan 'eil an Iùbhrach Ghàidhealach Albannach grod buileach. Tha i feumach air a leasachadh. Agus ma ni a h-uile mac màthar againne a mhaide fhéin, agus iarann fhéin, agus a chanabhas fhéin a thoirt dìreach d'a h-ionnsaigh, ni i seòlaid dheth glé mhath fhathast. Na leig muir gun stiùradh oirre; agus iarr, iarr, iarr !

Thoir buaidh is beannachd.

CALUM MACGILLEATHAIN.

#### LITRICHEAN AN GAIDHLIG.

A Charaid,-Tha mi smaoineachadh gum biodh e 'na chuideachadh mór do'n Ghàidhlig nam biodh buill A' Chomuinn a' sgrìobhadh gu cach a chéile 'nan cànain fhéin agus ag cur an t-seòlaidh air an litrichean an Gàidhlig cuideachd.

Bheireadh sin dhaibh eòlas air ainmean Gàidhlig nam bailtean is nan clachan thall is a bhos air feadh Albann. Chan 'eil beachd aig a' chuid mhór de ar Gàidheil idir idir air ainmean Gàidhlig nan clachan, eadhon anns na siorramachdan Gàidhealach. Their gach neach, "Bha mi am Beauly," no "an Dingwall, agus chan <sup>e</sup>il duine anns an fhichead aig a bheil beachd idir gu bheil ainmean Gàidhlig air "Tain," "Fortrose" is "Invergordon"; direach a chionn agus nach 'eil iad a' deanamh dìchill sam bith ann a bhith faighinn eòlais air na h-ainmean, "Baile Dhubhthaich," "A' Chananaich," is "Rubha Inbhirbhreacaidh.

Nam biodh ar Gàidheil a' postadh litrichean le seòladh Gàidhlig gach latha, cha b'fhada gus am feumadh na h-Oifigean Puist cléirich fhasdadh aig am biodh Gàidhlig air son rian a IAIN N. MACLEOID. chur air a' phostachd sin.

#### LEARNING GAELIC.

Dear Sir,-Mr. MacNeill in his letter has summed up the case of the Gaelic learner very well and indeed leaves little for comment, and I thank him for his support.

Regarding the native speaker as a teacher, what I did have in mind was mainly the acquisition of the sounds and conversational practice, as from my own experience those two items (phonetics and the idioms used in everyday conversation) constitute the biggest bogey to a learner deprived of the assistance of a teacher, and, as regards this, I dare say I am far from being an isolated case.

As Mr. MacNeill points out, the ability to carry on a conversation is the primary object of the learner, and I hope that for the benefit of others like myself, some day or evening, the B.B.C. will start a series of Gaelic lessons and so stimulate an interest in the language.-I am, etc.,

JOHN BYERS.

## BEUL-AITHRIS NAN GAIDHEAL.

A Charaid,-Thug mi fainear an litir aig mo charaid dileas, Iain N. MacLeoid. Seadh, is bochd nach 'eil seòl againne air an obair a tha eadar a làmhan aig Calum Iain MacGilleathain a dheanamh mar chuid de shaothair A' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich. Ach, ged nach 'eil no nì coltach ris, chan ann air duine beò an Eirinn a tha choire. Is iad na fìorGhàidheil an Eirinn a bhiodh sona, nam biodh comas againn air : agus, o nach 'eil, is bràithreil, còir e an gnìomh foghainteach so, agus an deagh làmh-chuideachaidh,

Bu mhath leam nithean àraidh a chur sìos mar sheòrsa de "agusán" a chuireas sibhse ri litir MhicLeòid, mas e bhur toil e.

(1) An uair a thig "Alba" am follais, agus tha dùil ris a dh'aithghearr, chithear ann iomradh cruinn, glan air brìgh is buannachd beul-aithris nan Gàidheal o làimh Chaluim Iain MhicGilleathain. Agus so nì cho soilleir agus a tha aige-

(2) Nach fhan na seann daoine còire beò am Barraidh, no am Bun an t-Sruth, gus an deanar nì euchdach (ris nach 'eil an t-sùil as lugha) an Albainn. Is iomadh "oich " is "ochán " a chualas san tìr so, agus an seanchaidh agus a sheanchas a' dol le chéile do'n uaigh, agus gun againn air ach caoidh. Chaill sinne iomadh cothrom.

(3) Is ro-bhochd nach 'eil An Comunn Gàidhealach, no comunn Albannach eile, ris an obair gu h-éifeachdach. Ach nach maith, a nis, gun d'fhuaradh comunn a chaidh ris gu foghainteach? Ged a b'e comunn Turcach a bhiodh ris, b' adbhar taingealachd e. B' fheàrr e na bhith falamh. Tha sgoilearan Lochlannach ag cruinneachadh eòlais mhion air ar Gàidhlig a chum ar leas agus leas coitchionn an eòlais san Roinn-Eorpa. Is ceart duinn gach cothrom fhaicinn aca. Mar a thuirt sibhse, Fhir-eagair, an comh-cheangal eile, "Is aon rìoghachd rìoghachd an eòlais!" Tha mise taingeil gu bheil Oilthighean san t-Suain agus an Norbhaigh a' deanamh nithean air son sgoil Ghàidhlig nach dean Dùn-éideann no Glaschu no Obar-dheadhain no Cill Rìomhainn. Is e m'aideachadh féin o eòlas pearsanta air na beanntan àrda dùthchasach sin nach 'eil bith-beò aig Gàidhlig 'nam measg ach am bith-beò suarach, "mair, a chapuill, agus gheibh thu feur." The cinn nan Oilthighean sin anns an t-solus orra fhéin. Is ann air saoghal Sasannach a tha an aghaidh buileach, agus fàgaidh sin Gàidhlig Albannach anns an sgàile mhóir a thilgeas an cùl àrd leathann. Is e maitheas na cùise gu bheil, a nis, comunn ann agus daoine eile ann a tha deanamh nì a dh'fhàg sinne sinn fhéin gun deanamh.

(4) Is e comunn Eireannach a tha ris an obair, ach is e comunn Gàidhealach a tha ann dheth! Is e sin as fheàrr leamsa na a bhith Frangach no Gearmailteach. Tha Comunn Bealoideas na h-Eireann ag cosg nan ceudan ris an oidhirp ùr so. Tha fhios aca air ar n-eucomas-ne, agus tha leasachadh aca air son ar n-uireasbhaidh. Nach mór a' bhòilich a rinneadh mu на bha gu teachd 'gar fiosrachadh á America, agus cha d'rinn sin fiach gròt duinn. Carson a chuireamaid fàilte air cobhair á America agus a dheanamaid doicheall air cobhair á Eirinn Chaluim Chille ? "Is maith an cudaige beag far nach fhaighear saoidhean." Agus, ged is ann an Eirinn a bhios an tasg air tùs, cha bhi e caillte no folaichte, agus bidh e air aideachadh agus air aithneachadh mar an nì Albannach a bhios

(5) Tha cothrom aig gach comunn agus aig gach neach a dhìchioll a dheanamh gun abhsadh. Air son maighstireansgoile is luchd-dreuchd eile, nach urrainn ach beagan de an ùine agus de an neart a chur an sàs san nì, do bhrìgh agus gu bheil an leòir mór aca an còmhnaidh 'nan dleasdanais féin air son a bheil an duais is am pàidheadh aca, cha dean iad sin a' chùis buileach! Tha an obair mór, tha an raon farsainn, agus chan 'eil an latha iomlan fada gu leòir air a son. Is e daoine a tha rithe a dh'aon obair a thig oirre. Agus air son an duine a tha rithe a nis mar aon obair am Barraidh, tha so

(a) Chan 'eil nas Albannaiche na Calum Iain, chan 'eil nas eileanaiche, chan 'eil nas eudmhoire, chan 'eil nas dùrachdaiche, chan 'eil nas laghaiche, chan 'eil nas fòghluimte, deas na e. Agus, an rud mór maith eile, tha tarraing ann a dh'fhàgas seann daoine saor gu bhith 'gan leigeil féin ris dha agus gu bhith toirt an eòlais dha le gcan agus le toil, an dearbh bhuaidh a bha air an Ollamh Car-Micheil e fhéin! Buaidh leis!

(b) Tha a chridhe san obair, agus tha cliù nan Albannach dluth air an dearbh chridhe sin. Mur b'e sin, cha bhitheadh Calum Iain geamhradh idir am Barraidh, oir an car inbhe is cosnaidh chan 'eil a dhuais ach suarach mar airgiod. Bhiodh e dhà fheobhas dheth 'na mhaighstir-sgoile an Carlabhagh (no am bad air bith eile sa' Ghàidhealtachd). Is e tha fìor gu bheil tomhas de'n fhéin-àicheadh an saothair an duine so. Tha e airidh air gach moladh is cuideachadh as urrainn sinne thoirt dha .- Gu Dìleas.

CALUM MACGILLEATHAIN.

#### NA SIDHICHEAN, AN EADH?

Dear Sir,-I have just received my copy of "Bealoideas," the Journal of the Folklore of Ireland Society. Two things are noteworthy for readers of An Gàidheal

There is a collection of Scottish tales collected by Calum I. Maclean. This collection was made in Raasay. It is an excellent token. And it is a contribution that shows plainly how expert our Scottish collector is, and how thorough

The second matter is an Irish seanchaidh's explanation of

what "siodhraidh" is! I quote:

"Thuiteadh sé amach go minic go mbuailte breoidhte fear, óg, bean óg, nó páiste agus go leanadh an breoidhteacht go leadránach gan aon chasadh ag an duine donaidhe, ach ag dul chun deiridh agus ag snaoidhe i n-aghaidh an lae. Nuair a leanadh san ró-fhada meastaí gur is na síobhraí a bhidís. B'é an bhrí a bhiodh leis sin gurab amhlaidh a fhuaduigheadh na Daoine Maithe leo iad chúca féin agus go gcuiridís síobhraí i n-ionad na ndaoine saoghalta. Deirtí ná raibh aon leigheas ar an scéal san ach an t-iarann dearg a bhagairt d'fhonn an teicheadh a chur ar an síodhra agus an duine saoghalta fhaghailt thar n-ais . The headquarters of this Society is: c/o Irish Folklore

Commission, University College, Dublin. The annual subscription, which entitles members to free copies of the journal, is 7/6 .- Yours, etc., BODACHAN.

#### THE NATIONAL MOD. 1947.

The National Mod, 1947, will be held in Perth on 30th September, and 1st, 2nd and 3rd October, The Annual General Meeting of An Comunn will be held in Perth on 4th October.

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Leabhar XLII.

Am Mart, 1947

Earrann 6

## A' GHAIDHLIG AGUS NA SGOILEAN. Tuilleadh mu'n Chùis.

Bu mhath leam sgrìob eile a thoirt air a' chuspair so mu'n do sgrìobh mi an àireamh na Dùbhlachd, oir is e so cuspair cho cudthromach 's a tha againn fo aire mar Chomunn. Mur 'eil an ginealach òg a tha fàs suas dol a dh'fhaotainn deagh aithne air a' Ghàidhlig, an dà chuid 'nan dachaidhean agus anns na sgoilean, chan fhada a chluinnear a' chànain mar chainnt làitheil 'nar tìr, agus cha bhi ann an uile shaothair a' Chomuinn so agus gach comunn de'n t-seòrsa ach dìomhanas gun stàth 's gun bhuil.

Mar a chitheadh an luchd-leughaidh anns na duilleagan againn, tha an cuspair so 'na chùis-smuain do mhòran 'nar measg, agus is math sin, agus tha mi fhéin gu mòr an comain gach neach a chuir thugam am beachdan mu'n chùis. Ach bho aon litir a thàinig thugam bhiodh e coltach nach do chòrd cuid de na chaidh a sgrìobhadh anns A' Ghàidheal ri aon no dhà, agus mar sin dh'iarrainn feuchainn ri tuilleadh

soilleireachd a chur air a' chùis.

Anns a' cheud dol-a-mach, bu mhath leam gum biodh fios aig na h-uile gu bheil duilleagan a' mhìosachain so fosgailte do gach seòrsa beachd mu chuspair sam bith aig a bheil buntaineas ri cor is leas ar cànain 's ar sluaigh, ach a mhàin gum feum na beachdan sin a bhith air an cur sìos gu cothromach. Aig a' cheart am, ged a tha e mar fhiachaibh ormsa mar fhear-deasachaidh sùil fhurachail a chumail air gach nì a bheirear am follais anns na duilleagan so, cha dubhairt sin gu bheil mise no An Comunn cunntachail air son beachdan a sgrìobhar anns A' Ghàidheal. Na nithean a sgrìobhas mi fhéin, codhiubh tha m'ainm riutha no nach 'eil, is iad mo bheachdan fhéin agus chan iad beachdan a' Chomuinn. Chan urrainnear beachd a' Chomuinn a ràdh ri rud sam bith ach nì a dh'aontaicheadh leis an Ardchomhairle.

Air dhomh sin a ràdh, thogainn a rithist pàirt de na sgrìobh mi ann an àireamh na Dùbhlachd mu'n Ghàidhlig anns na sgoilean iosal. Air cùl m'inntian aig an ám bha nl no dhà. An toiseach: gu bheil móran sgoilean anns a' Ghàidhealtachd far nach 'eil a' Ghàidhlig idir air a teagasg agus feadhainn eile far a bheil nas lugha ùine na bu chòir air a thoirt do'n chànain. Còmhla ri sin bha mi ag cuimhneachadh air barail ar caraid, Mgr. Eachann MacDhùghaill, air an t-seòrsa Ghàidhlig a thàinig f'a chomair ann a bhith sgrìdadh paipearan-ceasnachaidh cOmunn na holigridh, agus air an t-seòrsa Ghàidhlig a chunnaic mi fhéin am paipearan-ceasnachaidh a laimhsich mi agus a chuala mi aig Mòid.

Air a' bhonn sin, agus air teisteas dhaoine eile aig a bheil làmh ann an obair-sgoile, bha, agus tha, mì de'n bheachd nach 'eil a' Ghàidhlig a' faotainn an àite as còir dhi anns na sgoilean-ìosal. Cha mhotha na sin a tha a' Ghàidhlig a' faotainn an àite as còir dhainn an ionadan eile, mar eisimpleir, anns na dachaidhean agus anns na h-eaglaisean agus eadhon ann an gnothaichean A' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich, mar a thuirt mì an àireamh an Dàmhair. Ach ann an àireamh na Dùbhlachd b'e a' Ghàidhlig anns na sgoilean mo chuspair, agus mar sin cha do shaoil mì gum bu chòir dhomh dol taobh a mach de'n chuspair sin.

Thuirt mi gu bheil sgoilean ann far a bheil a' Ghàidhlig air a teagasg gu dìleas. Cha ghabh sın àicheadh. Thuirt mi cuideachd gu bheil luchd-teagaisg ann an sud agus an so aig a bheil ùidh shònraichte do'n chhanin. Le so cha robh mi ag ciallachadh gu bheil an luchd-teagaisg a tha dìleas do'n chànain glé ghann: b'fhada bhuaith sin mo smuain. Tha eadar-dhealachadh ann eadar a bhith dìleas agus a bhith nochdadh ùidh shònraichte. Faodaidh a' inhōr-chuid a bhith dìleas ('s e sin, a' deanamh gu dìchiollach na tha air iarraidh orra), ach am bitheantas 's e àireamh nas lugha aig a bheil

ùidh shònraichte (anns an t-seagh, gun dean iad oidhirp thar na tha air iarraidh orra). Tha so flor, chan ann a mhàin a thaobh luchd-sgoile, ach a thaobh gach seòrsa oibre.

Thuirt mi cuideachd nach 'eil na sgoilean dìleas agus an luchd-teagaisg dìchiollach ach a' deanamh nas soilleire neo-shuim agus dearmad na feadhna eile. Ma tha e flor nach 'eil neo-shuim no dearmad a thaobh na Gàidhlige ri bhith air an cur as leth sgoil sam bith anns a' Ghàidhealtachd, is mìse tha toilichte sin a chluinntinn, agus is ann le toileachas a bheir mi air ais na sgrìobh mi mu neo-shuim agus dearmad. Ach ma tha luchd-sgoile gu h-iomlan saor bho dhearmad arus bho neo-shuim mu'n Ghàidhlig, is eadar-

dhealaichte iad bho gach seòrsa eile.

Mur 'eil a' Ghàidhlig a' faotainn an àite as còir dhi anns na sgoilean, faodaidh e bhith gu bheil suidheachadh mhóran de'n luchd-teagaisg r'a choireachadh air son sin. Is mór am beud gu bheil sluagh na Gàidhealtachd air tanachadh cho mór agus àireamh na cloinne a' slor-dhol nas lugha, air chor 's gu bheil a' mhór-chuid de na sgoilean Gàidhealach fo chùram aon oide-theagaisg, agus gu bheil an neach a tha teagasg fo uallach fad an latha, le àireamh chuspairean is àireamh chasaichean (ged nach biodh ach aon phàisde air gach clas) is àireamh dhleasanasan eile.

Ann an suidheachadh mar sin chan urrainnear ceartas a thoirt do gach cuspair air clàr na sgoile, agus bu chòir sin a chuimhneachadh agus bu chòir leasachadh air chor-eigin fheuchainn anns a' chùir leasachadh air chor-eigin fheuchainn anns a' chùir Ach ann an suidheachadh mar sin tha fhios gu bheil cuspairean eile, a bharrachd air Gàidhlig, a' faotainn nas lugha ùine na is còir dhaibh, air neo an e a' Ghàidhlig a' cheud chuspair a thàtar ag gearradh sìos an ùine? Is iad a tha airidh sir am moladh an luchd-teagaisg a tha air an uallachadh san dòigh a dh'ainmich mi, ach a dh'aindeoin sin a tha a' strì ri a h-àite féin a thoirt do'n Ghàidhlig ann an obair na sgoile.

Anns na sgrìobh mi am mìos na Dùbhlachd, leudaich mi air nithean as còir a dheanamh, a réir mo bheachdsa agus a réir beachd dhaoine as comasaiche agus as eòlaiche na mise mu'n chùis, gus an t-àite as dligheach dhi a thoirt do'n Ghàidhlig anns na sgoilean. Chan fhaic mi aobhar sam bith air dad de na sgrìobh mi mu'n cheann sin atharrachadh. Ach faisg air crìch na sgrìobh mi bhrosnaich mi gach aon againn aig a bheil gnothach ri aobhar na Gàidhlige gu tuilleadh dichill, agus thuirt mi nach fhaod leisg no dearmad ana-caitheamh a dheanamh air bliadhnachan prìseil na h-òige. Cha robh mi idir ag cur leisg as leth luchd-teagaisg; is mi nach robh. Is ann a bha mi ag earaileachadh gach seòrsa againn (mi fhéin 'nam measg) anns na làithean a tha romhainn, oir tha an ùine a' ruith agus, anns an t-saoghal a th' ann, chan ann nas fhasa a dh'fhàsas ar saothair as leth na Gàidhlige.

Chan e so ám do dhuine sam bith 'nar measg a bhith pasgadh làmh 's ag éigheach, "Sith is Soirbheachadh!" is gun sith is soirbheachadh ann. Thoireamaid am follais ar beachdan, coidamaid mu na nithean as còir an deanamh an toiseach, agus rachamaid gu gnìomh gu h-aontachail mum bi e ro anamoch.

### LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mì cinnteach gun do chùm sinn an imcheist glé fhada sìbh a thaobh camp an t-samhraidh, oir anns an dà litir mu dheireadh cha robh ach nàdur de shanas air far an *dàcha* am bitheadh an camp. Tha fios cinnteach againn dhuibh air a' mhìos so, ged thà, agus chan e mbàin càite am bi e ach cuin a dh'fhosglar is a dhùinear e.

Dh'innis mi dhuibh air a' mhlos a dh'fhalbh gu robh an dithis a bha " thall 's a chunnaic " a' moladh do'n Chomhairle an eamp a ghleidheadh air oighreachd Fhir Inbhir-ailleart, uasal a leig ris fhaoilteachd is a thabbh eàirdeil ri Comunn na h-Oigridh ann a bhith ag cur roinne fhreagarraich d'a oighreachd 'nar tairgse. Ghabh a' Chomhairle ris an tairgse is ris a' mholadh a rinneadh air freagarrachd an àite, agus shòmraich iad gum bi an camp air a ghleidheadh an sin, is "cachaileith na filaidheachd" air a fosgladh air an 10mh latha de'n Luchar, an uair a ruigeas na caileagan e, agus a' dùnadh air a' 4mh latha de'n Lùnasdal, an uair a dh'fhàgas na balaich an scraidh aige.

Bidh tuille agam r'a ràdh mu'n champ is an dùthaich àghmhor anns am bi e nas fhaide air aghaidh anns an earrach, an uair a bhios an rùm r'a sholar, oir an ceartair, leis gu bheil paipearan-ceasnachaidh na h-Oigridh an uiridh (mar a bha air iarraidh leis na h-uiread) air an toirt seachad mar a chl sibh, chan 'eil an cothrom air a' chòrr a chur sìos an dràsd.

Tha mi mar an ceudna a' fàgail gus an ath mhlos freagairt sam bith a fhuair no a gheibh mi fathast mu'n eadar-dhealachadh a tha ann a bhith "air chall" bho bhith "air seachran."—Bhur Caraid Dìleas.

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH. Na Paipearan-Ceasnachaidh, 1946.

I. DEUCHAINN LAN-GHAIDHEAL.

(a) Cuir Beurla air an earrainn so. (An ùine cheadaichte $-\frac{3}{4}$  na h-uaire).

Bha Seumas agus Caluni anns a' mhonadh an dé. Thig iad leò an ch. Bha an latha ciùn agus bha a' ghrian a' dealradh. An uair a bha iad gu h-àrd anns a' mhonadh dh'fhàs an speur dubh agus thuit an ceò. Chaidh iad air chall anns a' cheò. Bha eagal orra gum biodh iad anns a' mhonadh fad na h-oidhche. Ach ged a chaidh Seumas agus Calum air chall, b'aithne do'n chù an rathad agus threòraich e dhachaidh iad.

(b) Cuir Gàidhlig air na h-earrannan so. (An ùine cheadaichte $-\frac{3}{4}$  na h-uaire).

Were you fishing in the loch to-day? No.
 Is not the boy growing big? Yes.

3. I am sure the salmon is in the pool.

4. This knife belongs to James.5. I am sorry that your mother broke her arm.

6. You ought to read that good book.

7. There is heavy rain now after the thunder. 8. I will go to bed now for I must rise early.

9. Donald is swifter than his brother.

### II. DEUCHAINN SAR-GHAIDHEAL.

(a) Cuir Beurla air an earrainn so. (An ùine cheadaichte—<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> na h-uaire).

SEANAIR. "An tù a tha agam, a Mhórag? Nach tù a tha air ghluasad tràth an diugh."

MORAG. "Is mì tha sin; tha mi cho toilichte 's nach b'urrainn domh fuireach na b'fhaide gun tighinn an

nall a dh'innseadh dhuibh."

S. "Ciod so a thug an toileachadh sin dhuit; an iad na brògan ùra sin a tha ort, agus gu dearbh, is

iad a tha grinn. Meal is caith iad."

M. "Mealaibhse bhur slàinte; ach chan iad na

brògan idir, ach Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh." S. "Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh. A bheil camp ri

bhith agaibh am bliadhna?"

M. "Tha sin ri bhith againn gun teagamh, is bidh móran againn ann. Bidh iad ann as gach ceàrn" —"Thig iad as na h-Eileanan is thig iad á Tir-

mór."
"C'àite am bi e: an Sonachan a rithist?"

M. "Chan ann; is ann a bhios e an Lochabar am bliadhna."

S. "Seadh, seadh; Lochabar nan Craobh—Lochabar nan Craobh is nan Gaisgeach. Dé bhios sibh a' deanamh ann?"

M. "Bithidh iomadh rud; bidh cleasan is cluich againn, bidh seinn is aithris òran againn, is ceud rud eile."

S. "Agus gun facal an sin ach Gàidhlig."

M. "Cha bhi facal ach Gàidhlig; nach ann a bha Sìne ag ràdh gu bheil Gàidhlig aig na h-eòin féin an Lochabar. Nach sinn a bhios air ar dòigh."

8. "Nach sibh a bhìos sin gu cinnteach; nach bochd nach robh mì ôg a rithist 's gum bithinn a' faibh leibh. Is math a tha sibh a' deanamh, a bhith co dìleas do'n Ghàidhlig, agus gu ma math a theid dhuibh."

(b) Cuir Gàidhlig air an earrainn so. (An ùine cheadaichte—aon uair).

The mermaids were often seen in the Isles in olden times, and not so long ago either. The Coll Cubair would swear that he saw one of them combing her hair sitting on a ledge of rock on Ulastac. They used to say that mermaids were very fond of crabs. One day a Boust man was down at Clachan Gorma at low water gathering crabs and limpets. When he had his creel near full and passing a pool, up came the mermaid and speaking in Gaelic, she said, "Give me a crab, Donald, and I will tell your fortune."

Donald gave her two crabs, and as she was making for the deep water of the pool, with a crab in each hand, she told him his fortune, and this was it—"As long as you remain on the land, you will never be drowned in the sea; and if you eat the roasted heat of a bird, your heart will keep beating as long as you

Donald could not help but think that the mermaid cheated him; and that he did not get full value for his two crabs; perhaps you will agree.

#### OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

## An Spàin Mhór Agus An Spàin Bheag.

An uair a bha mo sheann charaid, Calum a' Ghlinne nach maireann, ann an Eilean Rùm, bha clobair còmhla ris d'an goirteadh Iain Mór.

Thachair gu robh Iain glé aineolach air iomadh nì, gu sònraichte cleachdannan cumanta ann an tighean

nan uaislean.

Aig an ám bha Calum a' faotainn a bhidh san tighmhór, 's gu dé thachair latha bha so ach gun d'ràinig Iain mu ám na dinneir agus e an déidh tilleadh á Tobar Mhoire. Bha dileag de mhac-na-braiche air bòrd aige, 's ghabh e stigh 's shuidh e làimh ri Calum. Nuair chunnaic an t-searbhanta so, chuir i soithichean air a' bhòrd air son gu faigheadh Iain a dhinnear cuideachd.

Thug Iain sùil air a' bhòrd, agus nuair a chunnaic e dà spàin thionndaidh e ri Calum 's thubhairt e: "Ach

carson a tha dà spàin ann ? "

"Isd!" fhreagair Calum; "na leig ort gu bheil thu cho aineolach ann an tigh duin'-uasail. Nuair gheibh thu brot, tòisichidh tu air llonadh na spàin mhóir leis an spàin bhig."

"Gu robh math agad, a Chaluim," thubhairt Iain, "air son sin innseadh dhomh."

Thàinig am brot, is rinn Iain mar a dh'iarr Calum air. Thòisich e air lìonadh na spàin mhóir leis an spàin bhig.

Nuair chunnaic an t-searbhanta so, dh'fhalbh i air tòir nan searbhantan eile. Chruinnich iad san doru a choimhead air Iain 's na spàinean, agus is coltach leamsa gun d'rinn iad gu leòir de ghàireachdaich.

TAOBH-TUATH EARRAGHAIDHEAL.

#### CIA MEUD MEARACHD?

Anns a' phìos a bh'agam san oisinn so an àireamh an Fhaoillich mu Eachann Mòr b'e làn-àireamh nam mearachdan naoi-deug thar fhichead. Is e Murchadh Alasdair Mac-airean Tuairreir anns an Hearadh a b'fhaisge a chaidh air so, oir loir cean cold thar fhichead de na mearachdan. Tha mì, mar sin, dol a chur leabhair a dh'ionnsaigh Murchaidh mar a gheall mì, agus tha mì an dòchas gum bí an leabhar aige mus leugh e so. Cha d'innis e dhomh a nois, ach a dh'aindeoin an tha mì an dòchas gum freagair an leabhar air.

1. M.M.

Ann an litrichean Comunn na h-Oigridh ann an àireamhan an Dàmhair, na Samhna, agus na Dùbhlachd, ann a bhith sgrùdadh paipearan-ceasnachaidh Comunn na h-Oigridh, fhuaradh coire do chuid de'n luchd-teagaisg anns na sgoilean air son na droch Ghàidhlig a sgrìobh cuid de'n chloinn-sgoile ann a bhith freagairt nam paipearan-ceasnachaidh sin.

Tha e air a thoirt ri ar n-aire nach robh e iomchuidh a bhith sgrìobhaidh m'n hucht-teagaisg anns an dòigh sin ann an litrichean a bha ri bhith air an leughadh lein a' chloimn. Tha sinn duilich gun do thogadh e mar so; tha sinn ag iarn Thadh maitheanais air an lucht-teagaisg; agus tha sinn ag gealltainn gum bi sinn nas faicilliche an dèidh so.

# FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Fàilte á Astràlia,—Taing do Iain MacGillinnein, am Briaban, Tir-a-Baurigh, Astràlia, air son a chairt a chuir e dh'ionnsaigh A' Ghàidheil le fàilte na bliadhna tìire. Ged bha i fada gun raigheachd, tha sinn 'na chomain air son a dhaidh dhùrachd. Tha a' chairt air a clò-sgrìobhadh gu snasail an Gàidhig' sa mBeurla.

Solus an Dealain.—"Is iomadh rud a chi an duine bhios fada beò". Tha Mgr. Coinneach MacMhathain, am Ploc Loch-Aillee, ceithir fichead bliadhna agus a seachd a dh'aois, agus r'a bheatha "si iomadh atharcaiadh a chunnaic a "i sighinn air an t-anoghal mhòr agus gu sònraichte air a' Ghàidhealtachd. A thaobh dhòighean air talleachadh tha a nis an cóigeamh meadhon-soluis aige 'na dhachaidh. An crìisgean adhb, coinnean, lampaichean-ola, gua a' Chaloir agus a nise solus eileactrach. B' ann air an 16mh de'n Fhaoilleach a dheàrrs an solus ùr so air. Air an latha sin — latha mòr an eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd—thuair Balle a' Phluic an t-uram so gur e a' chead bhalle, beag no môr, air tir-mòr a fhuair solus an eileactrachais bho Bhord Tuathach an Dealain-Uigea

"Ceàrnag nan Gàidheal."—Tha àireamh eile air ighinn thugainn de'n phaipear The Maple Leaf. Ann an ceàrnaig Ghàidhlig a' phaipeir tha so: "Le bàsachadh an Uramainc Laulm MacLeòid chaill An Comun agus an saoghal Gàidhlig Gàidheal gasda. A chuid de Phàrras dha i' Taing do fhear-sgrìobhaidh an "Cehranigi" air son a dheagh dhùrachd do fhear-deasachaidh ir A' Ghaidheil. Tha e toir iomraidh ghoirid mu'n Mhòd Naiseanta an Obar-fheadhain, ged nach d'fhuair e làn-fhorfhais mu'n Mhòd aig ám dha bhith sgrìobhadh.

A' Ghàidhlig an America.—Dà mhìos air ais thug mi iomradh air na clasaichean Gàidhlig a thatar ag cumail an California, fo stùrradh Sheumais MhioGharaidh agus feadhna eile. Tha "A' Cheàrnag "na ginnseadh mu Isin Greumach MacDhòmhnaill. Trì bliadhna air ais cha robh faoal Gàidhlig aga ach fhritheil e clag Gàidhlig an San Francisco, agus a nis tha e fhéin a' teagasg Gàidhlig am San Francisco, agus an tha e fhéin a' teagasg Gàidhlig am Pasadena an Ceann-a-deas Chailfornia. B'e Seòras Stùbhart a (ea huinniach a' Ghàidhlig an clasaichean San Francisco, agus tha easn agus caraid dha, Tormod Stùbhart (a mhuinntir an Eilein Sgitheanaich), air clas Gàidhlig àr a thòiseachadh an Los Angelos. Budúilt is piseach orra uile!

"MacCalmain."—Ann an "Ceirmag nan Gàidheal" tha ainm-cinnidh fear-deasachaidh. "Bithich mi an dràsda is a chur she mar. "MacMhurchaidh." Bithich mi an dràsda is a chthair ainm an chaidh an an chaidh an an chur an c

ceum nas fhaide air air na Iain MacMhurchaidh agus a bhithe gan aioinneadh fhéin "MacCalmain". Cha dubhair ain nach eil daoine de'n ainm "Murchison" an ceàrnan eile dei dhaine ag nach 'eil dàinh am bith ri Clioin MhicCalmain. Chan ann de'n aon stoc na h-uile a tha dol fo'n ainm so. Is iongantach mar a dh'atharriacheas ainmean-innidh. Tha na h-ainmean "Murchison," "MacCalman," "Dove," is "Currie" uile an dàimh d'a cheile. Chi ni gu bheil an t-Ollamh Seòras MacGhille-dhuibh an New York air leabhar mór a chur a mach mu ainmean-cinnidh. Tha habann. An uair a ruigeas an leabhar sin an dùthaich so tha fhìos gu faigh sinn móran fiorastioháidh úir air cuapairean mar so.

Gliocas nan Gàidheal.—Na cosg do thuarasdal mun coisinn thu e.

Firinn air son a' Mhìos so.—"Tha an Tighearna ceart 'na uile shlighibh agus naomh 'na uile ghnìomharaibh. Is dùth an Tighearna dhaibh-san uile a ghairmeas air ann am firinn"—Salm exlv. 18-19.

# EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comuni Gaidhealsch was held in Millar's Rooms, Stirling, on Friday, 17th January, 1947. The President, Dr. John Cameron, LLE, was in the Chair, and the following members were present—Col. D. C. G. Ballingall, Kippen; John M. Bannerman, M.A. B.Se., Balmaha; Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow; Miss Catrion, G. Garon, G. Garon,

Dr. Cameron, President, extended a cordial welcome to Mrs. M. L. Cameron, F. S. Cameron-Head of Inversilert, and Donald MacPherson, the Youth Organiser, who were present for the first time.

#### Mr. DONALD SHAW MACKINNON.

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting, the President stated that they would wish to express their pleasure and convey their congratulations to Mr. Donald Shaw MacKinnon on the honour of M.B.E. conferred upon him by H.M. The King, in the recent New Year Honours. Mr. MacKinnon, over a long number of years, had taken a leading part in the Highland life of Edinburgh and had done much to preserve and foster our Highland traditions in that city, as Secretary of the Celtic Union and of the Edinburgh Branch of the Clan MacKinnon, and especially as Secretary of the Association of Highland Societies of Edinburgh, which raised, both in the recent War and in the 1914-18 War, large sums of money for the comfort of the Troops. Mr. MacKinnon is a member of our Executive Council, and a member of the Finance and Art and Industry Committees. The President was sure they were all delighted with the recognition which Mr. MacKinnon had now received, and they wished him long life, health, and happiness to wear his well-merited distinction. Minute of Previous Meeting was read and approved on the

motion of Mr. Farquhar MacRae.

Minute of Meeting of Central War Comforts Committee was read and adopted on the motion of Mr. J. M. Bannerman. The Committee had considered the recommendation of the Executive Council that the Committee cease as a War Charity Organisation and adopt the title suggested, namely, "An Comunn Gaidhealach War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Committee." The Committee suggested that one of its members be co-opted on the Finance Committee; and, on the motion of Mrs. Barron, seconded by Mrs. Edgar, Mr. J. M. Bannerman was appointed to represent the new Committee on the Finance Committee. Dr. Colin Sinclair asked if it had yet been decided what form the Memorial was to take. Mr. Bannerman replied

that nothing definite had yet been decided. Minute of Meeting of Finance Committee was read. With reference to the motion to alter Bye-Law No. 20, passed at the last meeting, it was remitted to the Finance Committee to frame a scheme regulating the expenses of members in attending meetings of the Association and of the Executive Council. On the motion of Mr. John A. Nicolson, Convener, the minute

was adopted.

#### GAELIC IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

Minute of Meeting of Education Committee was read. Miss C. Cameron raised the question relative to the Preliminary Examination in Gaelic and was informed that the Lecturer had been approached but up to the time of the meeting no reply had been received. She also raised the question relative to the Modified Course under the auspices of the Church of Scotland for demobilised Divinity Students. After discussion. it was remitted to the Education Committee to enquire into the position. Enquiries were made about the teaching of Gaelic in Glasgow Schools and also about the teaching of Gaelic in the Provincial Training Colleges. Mr Farquhar MacRae pointed out that the matter of teaching Gaelic in the Glasgow Schools was under consideration by the Director of Education and that a further approach would be made to parents. He also pointed out that there is no full-time teacher of Gaelic at the Provincial Colleges but that adequate time is

of the state of the Towniera Coulsing of the Managaguste time is a dopted on the motion of Mr. Farquhar MacRas, Convener.

Minute of Meeting of Publication Committee was read, Dr. Colin Sinclair expressed appreciation of the feature, "Litic Comunn na h-Gigridh," by Mr. Hector MacDougall, and congratulated him on the high standard which he maintained over a long period. The President stated he was sure that An Comunn appreciated the splendid work which Mr. MacDougall had done in this connection, and that his letter was always of an informative and inspiring nature, not only to members of Comunn na h-Oigridh but to members of An Comunn generally. The Minute was adopted on the motion of Rev. T. M. Murchison, Convener.

### EDINBURGH FESTIVAL.

Minute of Meeting of Propaganda Committee was read, also Minutes of Northern and Southern Sub-committees. With reference to the International Festival of Music and Drama to be held in Edinburgh in the early Autumn, it was reported that no place had been given to Gaelic on the Festival Programme. The Secretary reported on the correspondence which he had with the Officials concerned. After a full discussion, the Committee recommended that an approach be made direct to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, drawing his attention to the omission of Gaelic from the Festival Proceedings. The Committee recommended that an effort be made to secure the services of Music Teachers in order to prepare choirs and competitors for Provincial Mods. The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mr. Donald Thomson, Vice-Convener

Mr. Hector MacDougall referred to notices appearing in the Press about Puirt-a-Beul, criticising such music adversely, and also an article which endeavoured to minimise the cultural value of Gaelic. The matter was fully discussed, and it was decided that no action be taken by An Comunn but that

individual members might express their views.

Minute of Meeting of Art and Industry Committee was read. It was reported that the Glasgow Celtic Society had donated the sum of £6 for prizes in the Celtic Art Competition Section, and the offer of these prizes by the Celtic Society was much appreciated and gratefully accepted. With regard to the arrangement come to whereby An Comunn would nominate

a representative who might be appointed as a Director on the Board of the Highland Home Industries. Ltd., the Committee recommended that the President, Lr. John Cameron, LL.B., be appointed. Dr. Cameron expressed the view that a member of the Art and Industry Committee should be appointed. On the motion of Mr. John A. Nicolson, Dr. Colin Sinclair was proposed, and this was unanimously agreed to. Dr. Sinclair agreed to act. The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mrs. Dunlop.

Minute of Meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read, and was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. John

M. Bannerman.

Minute of Meeting of Clann an Fhraoich Committee was read. The Minute recommended, following the report of the representatives who visited Inversilort, that the Annual Camp of Comunn na h-Oigridh be held there from 10th July to 4th August, and Mr. Cameron-Head of Inversilort was cordially thanked for his kindness in placing this ground at the disposal of the Committee. The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hector MacDougall, Convener.

#### HIGHLAND ADVISORY PANEL.

Minute of Meeting of Advisory Committee was read. The Committee had considered, as a result of an enquiry made to An Comunn, whether they would be willing to appoint a representative to the Highlands and Islands Advisory Panel, either as a co-opted member or as a liaison officer, in the event of an invitation being extended to them. After a full discussion it was decided that such a representative would be nominated if such an invitation were given, and, on the motion of Mr. John A. Nicolson, Dr. John Cameron, the President, was nominated to represent An Comunn Gaidhealach on this Panel, if an invitation were given. Arising out of the discussion in connection with the Highlands and Islands Advisory Panel, Mr. John A. Nicolson moved that, "While welcoming any sign of interest by the Government in the precarious position in the Highlands, this Association views with profound regret the continued failure to take immediate and practical action on the lines of the many reports and Departmental information already at the disposal of the Scottish Office." This motion was seconded by Mr. Donald Thomson, and was agreed to

Minute of Meeting of Copyright Committee was read. It had been reported that Mr. Angus Robertson had resigned as Convener of this Committee, and he was cordially thanked for his services. Dr. John Cameron, President, was appointed Convener in place of Mr. Robertson. It was reported that a letter had been received from Messrs. MacLaren, a copy of which would be circulated to the members of committee, and the matter would be fully discussed at the next meeting. On the motion of the President the minute was adopted.

#### RE-ORGANISATION.

Minute of Meeting of Re-organisation Committee was read. It was recommended that each Branch would pay annually, direct to the General Treasurer of An Comunn, a sum of 2/for each member on its roll, so that these members of the Branch would become ordinary members of An Comunn; it would be left to each Branch to fix its own membership fee, In order that the recommendations made would be thoroughly understood and appreciated by the Branches, it was decided that a circular letter should be sent to each Branch Secretary, setting forth this recommendation, and also the recommenda tions previously made with reference to the revision and alterations of the Constitution and Rules of the Association. The Branches would be requested to convey to the General Secretary their views on the recommendations proposed. On the motion of the President the Minute was adopted

The date of next meeting, which will be the Gaelic Meeting of the Executive Council was fixed for 11th April, 1947.

A Vote of Thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

Is diù nach gabh comhairle, 's is diù a ghabhas gach comhairle -He who won't take advice is worthless; equally worthless is he who takes all advice.

#### ATH-BHEOTHACHADH NA CANAIN GORNAICH. Le Caradar.

(Eadar-theangaichte as a' Chuimrich an Y Ddraig Goch, An Giblin, 1946, le A. S. B. Davies, Bae Colwyn, Cuimrigh).

Bha a' chànain Chòrnach air sìoladh mar chànain-labhairt roimh 1800 a.b. Chan i Dolly Pentreath (a fhuair bàs an 1777) an neach mu dheireadh a b'urrainn a' chànain sin a bhruidheann, mar a thàtar ac creidsinn gu coitcheann, ach

Uilleam Bodener á Moushole, á fhuair bàs 'sa' bhliadhna 1789. Ré barrachd na leth-cheud bliadhna an déidh sin chan c mhàin gu robh a' chànain marbh ach bha i air chall cuideachd; agus tha e coltach gu leòir gur h-ann san t-suidheachdh sin a bhitheadh i an dùgh fáin mur an robh Norris agus Stokes air còmhnadh a dheanamh, eadar 1859 agus 1872, leis gun do chuir iad a mach na seann leabhraichean sgrìobhte maille ri eadar-

theangachadh sa' Bheurla.

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O'n is iad na teacsan (text) so a tha 'nam prìomh thobaireòlais dhuinn air a' chànain, cha b'ole an ni e dhuinn an ainmean a chur an so. Le Norris: O'ngo Mundi, Passio Christi, Resurrezio Christi (1859). Is e 'O'driandia' no "Prompte Books 'a theirear ris an fheadhainn so, o'n is iad a chleachd am Prompte gu cuideachadh a dheanamh ieis an luchd-cluiche a bha ag cluich nam "Miorbhuil-chluichean" so anns na 'Rounds' ann an cacchladh àitean as' Chòrr bho roimh 1400 gu mu thuaiream 1650. Le Stokes: Passion Poem (1861). Creation Play (1872), The Eight of St. Merizaek (1872). Tha mu thuaiream 20,000 de shreathan-sgrìobhaidh anns na teacsan so uite

HENRY JENNER AGUS A SHAOTHAIR.

Gun amharus is e Henry Jenner nach maireann a bha 'na athair do'n ath-bheothachadh a tha an so. B'esan a' cheud fhear a rinn òraid fhollaiseach sa' chànain Chòrnaich; bha sin mu choinneamh L'Union Regionalisse Bretonge an 1903.

Chuir e a mach anns a' bhliadhna 1904 a leabhar-làimhe eachdrachail de'n chànain a bha 'na aobhar do mhóran a bhith toirt fainear nan seann teacsan agus a' faighinn beagan eòlais

air a' chànain.

Is e Jenner, ann an 1904, a chuir impidh air Comhchruinneachadh nan Ceilteach (Celtic Congress) an Caenrabhon gabhail ris a' Chòrn mar aon de na dùthchanan Ceilteach, agus mar thoradh air sin chuireadh air bonn Couethacou Kernov Goht (1923) (The Union of Old Cornwall Societies), agus Gorseth Byrth Kernow (1928) (Gorsedd of the Bards of Cornwall) agus an 1932 choinnieh Comh-chruinneachadh nan Ceilteach an Truro, agus aig a' chruinneachadh sin rinn ochd buill òraidean agus chluicheadh deabh-chluichean as' chànain.

#### BEATHA NUADH.

Tha mar sin an ceartair anns a' Chòrn cridhe no buillisgean de mhuintir a tha deidheil air a' chànain agus a tha Ceilteach 'nan dòigh agus a tha deònach comh-oibreachadh gus a' chànain a chur air bonnaibh seasmhach. Cu firinneach is a' nn le cuideachadh nan Comunn so a shoirbhich leam ann a bhith cur air bonn clasaichean Còrnach ann an seachd bailtean sa' Chòrn anns a' bhliadhna 1933. Thàinig eadar 80 is 70 de lund-dionnaschaidh, eadar bhlaiden is chailseagn, do a clasaichean so, agus dh'iomsaich mòran dhiubh a' chànain Chòrnach gu re-mhaith.

Is e Mgr. Morton Nance a tha 'na aon de na prìomh fhir-

fhuasglaidh agus 'na aon de na ceud fhir-àiteachaidh aig a' chànain. An déidh móran bhliadhnachan a' sireadh, shoirbhich leis ann an riaghailteachd a chur air an litreachadh, agus mar thoradh air sin tha gach aon a nis a' sgrìobhadh san aon dòigh agus ag comh-chòrdadh. Tha sinn fo chomain dha air son nam faclairean Còrnach. Beurl ais Beurla-Còrnach agus air son nan faclairean Còrnach. Beurl ais Beurla-Còrnach agus air son an leabhair-làimhe bhig phrìseil, Cornich for All, leabhar for luachmhor. Bhitheadh Mgr. Allin-Collins a' teagaga na chanine do fheadhainn eile ré mòran bhliadhnachan. Bha esan na cheud fhead dhiubh-san a b'urrainn bruidheann gu réidh,

deas-labhrach, a' dearbhadh nach neo-chomasach e a' chànain a thoirt air ais mar chànain-labhairt. Chaidh an ùine seachad anns am biodh daoine a' sealltainn air a' Chòrnaich mar sheann nì neònach 'na h-aonar.

Is e ar rùn a nis a' chànain a chleachdadh mar chànain gach latha, agus tha sinn 'ga cleachdadh troimh a bhith 'ga bruidh-

eann agus 'ga sgrìobhadh leis a h-ulle cothrom a gheibh sinn.
Roimh an chopadh bha se-bhliaean air an cumail ac'
chhaint nuir sa' bhliadhna, agus lean iad ré naoi bliadhna. Is
e an t-sairbhis so, sach ni sam bith eile ach Gorseth Byrth
Kernow, a tha a' dùsgadh a' mhòr-shluaigh a bhith toirt na
chain fhàinea.

#### LITREACHAS.

Tha an litreachas a' fas. An 1931 chuir mi a mach 500 cleth-bhreac de "Lessons in Spokes Cornsish," agus reiseadh gach aon diubh. Is urrainnear mar sin tomhas a thoirt air aireamh an luchd-iomasachaidh. Reiseadh mar an ceudna barrachd air 500 de gach aon de na faclairean sa' Chòrn féin. Thòisicheadh an 1933 air a' mhlosachan Kenowa chur a mha, agus thàinig e a mach uair sa' mhìos, agus bithidh e a' tighinn a mach a rithist an uair a gheibhear am paipear. O chionn dà bhliadhna tha Mgr. Nance agus mise a' deasachadh chìo-bhualaidhean soors de na teascan Còrnach anns an litreachadh aon-dealbhaichte (unified spelling), agus tha agamsa leabhran de sgeulachdan beags deasa air son a chlo-bhualadh, agus mar an ceudna an t-uirsgeul "Tristan agus Espill" air aithris 'na rannan.

So agaibh clàr-ainm nan leabhraichean a fhuair an deasachadh roimh an chogadh air son eòlas a thoirt mu'n chànain Chòrnaich: Tha iad air fad r'am faotainn bho Mhgrn.

Lanham, High Street, St. Ives, Cornwall:-

Nance Comish for All, 2/6; Smith Cornish Simplified, 3/; Mance; Comish-English Dictionary, 7/6; Nance and Smith: English-Cornish Dictionary, 3/; Smith: 8t. Mark's Gospel, 2-; Chirgwin: Say It in Cornish, 6d; Mnr. Pollard: Alsaryn, a play, 2/6; Nance: An Balores, a play, 6d; Watson: First Steps in Cornish, 2d; Nance: Lyver an Pymp Marthws Seleven, 1/.

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Luss Highland Society.—A first-rate Concert Party sponsored by An Comun paid a visit to Luss on 15th January. The arrangements were made by the local Society, and the proceeds were handed over to the Central Fund of An Comunn. The concert was greatly enjoyed, and our sincere thanks are due to the Luss Highland Society, and particularly to their efficient Secretary, Mr. Farquhar Livingston, for their splendid efforts in making the concert the success it was. We are not unmindful of the part played by the following artister.—Mary C. MaoNiven, Jean Cameron Greer, Chris. Turner, Donald MacVicar Alex. MacKenzie, Murdo Ferguson, Donald Johnston and, by no means least, the Luss Highland Society Pipers. Mr. Neil Shaw. General Secretary, presided at this Gathering.

Glasgow (Central) and Govan Branches.—The second of the series of winter concerts was held in the Christian Insitute on Saturday, 18th January, when once again the Hall was full. Mr. Shaw, General Secretary of An Comun, was in the Chair, and a splendid programme was submitted. These concerts are held monthly in the Christian Institute and will culminate in the Glasgow Provincial Mod to be held on Friday and Saturday, 30th and 31st May. The syllabus of this Mod is now ready and may be had on application to this office.

Skelmortle and District Highland Society.—Mr. Neil Shaw took a party of well-known Gaelic artistes with him on his annual visit to this Society on 4th February. The party consisted of Niss Jean Cameron Greer, Miss Ina MacLellan, Mr. Alasdair Matheson and Mr. Iain Douglas, who submitted a delightful programme of Gaelic and Soots songs. Mr. Malcolm Ramssy, the genial President, was in the Chair, and Mr. Shaw eave an address on the work of An Comunc

Paisley Highlanders' Association.—On 8th February, Mr. Shaw presided at a meeting of this Association and, although the night was bitterly cold, there was a good attendance, and an enjoyable programme was submitted. This Association continues to uphold Highland traditions in the best manner, and Mr. Charles J. Stuart, the energetic Secretary, spares no effort of time and trouble on behelf of the Association.

Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association. -- We extend cordial congratulations to the "G.G." on attaining their Jubilee which was celebrated at a Dinner in the Ca'doro on 18th January. This Choir has a distinguished record during the last fifty years, and has always succeeded in upholding the best in Gaelic music. Apart from many choral successes at the National Mod, its members, male and female, have on many

occasions won the Mod Gold Medal for solo singing. The National Mod Syllabus, together with all the junior music pieces for choirs and soloists and the junior oral leaflet, are now available and can be had on application to An Comunn Office, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2.

### IOMPACHADH IAIN.

Steach air crìochan a' bhaile cha robh duine b'fheàrr cliù na Iain air son iomadh rud còir, no duine bu shuathaide na e air son aon rud gu h-àraidh-nach do sheas e steach air dorus eaglaise riamh bho an latha phòs e Màiri.

Ach latha de na làithean, air feasgar briagha samhraidh, có chunnacas a' nochdadh air bàrr Cnoc a' Chàrnain os cionn an tighe aige ach Iain, is e dùinte 'na choileir cruaidh is 'na dheise-Shahaid! Cha robh duine air an fhonn nach do stad bog, balbh 'ga coimhead, is an aon cheist air a h-uile duinecàite fo ghrian nan speur am b'odh Iain a' dol le trusgan cho annasach ri coileir cruaidh is deise-Shàbaid ?

B'e oidhche na coinneimh-sheachdanach a bh'ann, ach cha tàinig smuain aig duine againn gun rachadh Iain do'n choinneimh-sheachdanach; co-dhiubh, ma thàinig, cha bu luaithe againn na bhuainn i, oir cho fada is a b'fhiosrach sinn cha robh umhail sam bith ri chur air Iain nach robh e cho saor bho bhuaidh an t-Soisgeil is a b'àbhaist da.

Ach co-dhiubh, sìos cùl a' chnuic ghabh e, agus le ceum dòigheil a mach leis Buaile nan Gobhar, gus an deachaidh e thun an rathaid aig a' Gheala Mhór, agus b'ann sìos a chùm e Có aige bha fios nach ann air an eaglais a bha Iain a' deanamh a dh'aindeoin gach cùise ? Nach fhaodadh e bhith

Cha robh Iain fhéin fada fuasgladh na ceiste. An uair a ràinig e ceann starran na h-eaglaise, steach a ghabh e. Bha cròilean de'n choimhthional 'nan seasamh mu dhorus na heaglaise. Sheas iad cruaidh an uair a chunnaic iad Iain a tighinn, ach sùil thar a ghualainn cha tug e orra. Chùm e air suas troimh an eaglais, agus cha do shuidh e gus an do ràinig e an dara suidheachan a b'fhaisge air a' chùbaid, dìreach air cùlaibh an luchd-dreuchd. An sin chàirich e e fhéin am meadhon an t-suidheachain calg-dhìreach mu choinneamh na chhaide.

An ceann gre's thàinig am ministear a steach agus dh' éirich e a dh'fhosgladh an aoraidh. Cha bu luaithe dh'éirich na laigh a shùil air Iain. Speuc e a fhradharc, agus stad a theanga 'na cheann mar gum faiceadh e manadh. Ach thàinig e thuige fhéin agus chuir e mach an t-seinn.

Bha deagh ghuth-ciùil aig Iain; bha na fuinn aige cuideachd, agus cha robh duine sa' choimhthional a b'fhonnmhoire ris na sailm na e.

Bha-bha a h-uile coltas gu robh Iain air iompachadh. An déidh a' chomh-dhunaidh dh'éirich an coimhthional a mach, ach shuidh Iain an sud far an robh e. Air a shlighe nuas as a' chùbaid mhothaich am ministear dha. Rinn e air

Iain agus rug e air làimh air gu cridheil. "O Iain," ars esan, "nach mise tha toilichte d'fhaicinn

anns a' choinneimh!' "O tha, a mhinisteir; tha mise creidsinn sin; agus le innseadh na fìrinn duibh is fhada bho bha dùil a'm tighinn. "'S iomadh latha bha mise miannachadh gun tigeadh tu, Iain, ach nach math aig an aon-uair-deug fhèin thu! Bheil

fhios agad gur h-e 'n aon-uair-deug a th'ann ?

"Tha, a mhinisteir deagh fhios; nach 'eil mi nis gus an trì fichead bliadhna 's a deich a dhùnadh—gealladh na Fìrinn dhomh gus a bhith air a choimhlionadh. Tha mi tighinn a steach air a' phension, agus," arsa Iain, 's e sparradh a làimhe 'na phòcaid-achlais, "tha paipear agam an so m'a dheidhinn, is bhithinn glé fhada 'nur comain nan cuireadh sibh bhur n-ainm ris.

COINNEACH BEAG.

#### AN LEUM GEARR.

Bha bodach aig an Abhainn Duibh agus e ceithir fichead bliadhna, ach cha robh faireachdainn fo'n ghréin aige air a bhith dol air ais.

Thàinig e steach an latha bha so agus e fliuch.

"Bha mi," arsa e fhéin, "air taobh thall na h-aibhne, feuch ciamar a bha a' bhó. An uair a bha mi òg cha chuireadh i sòradh orm an abhainn a leum, ach a nis, ma leumas mi i, cha ruig mi ach a teis-meadhon. Tha a dà leud air tighinn oirre o bha mise 'nam bhalach!'

BODACHAN.

#### SOLUS 'NA GHOB.

Bha fear-teagaisg àraidh ann mu thuath uair-eigin, agus thachair e aon latha air seann duine a bha glé bhitheanta geur 'na chainnt,

Bha iad ri deasboireachd, agus a réir coltais bha am fear-teagaisg a' faotainn làmh-an-uachdar air a chompanach.

Mu dheireadh thubhairt an seann duine: "A bheil fhios agad ciod a tha thu a' toirt 'nam chuimhne?'

"Chan 'eil," ars an duine eile.

Organiser accompanied the party.

"Tha thu toirt 'nam chuimhne crùisgean dubh."

"Ciamar sin?" dh' fheòraich am fear-teagaisg.

"Innsidh mi sin duit," thubhairt an seann duine, "oir na tha agad de sholus, tha e 'nad ghob!"

L. M.

## \_\_\_\_ PROPAGANDA NOTES. Northern Area.

Gaelic Concerts . - Under the auspices of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee of An Comunn Gaidheagach, a series of Gaelic Concerts was arranged in Skye, Lewis and Harris. The following talented artistes were engaged for the tour-Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart (Mod Gold Medallist), Miss Ina MacLellan (First-Prize Winner at the Aberdeen National Mod), Mr. Angus White (Mod Gold Medallist), and Mr. Alasdair Matheson (Assistant Secretary). The Northern

Portree .- The first Concert of the series was held at Portree, with Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, in the Chair. The Hall was full to capacity, and the arrangements made by the local Branch left nothing to be desired. The new Branch Secretary, Mr. Donald Matheson, is to be congratulated on the success of his first all-Gaelic Concert on behalf of An Comunn Funds. The official party were assisted by local talent, and all gave of their best. Mrs. J. Ross acted as accompanist in her usual efficient manner and two pipers completed a first-class programme. Mr. MacPhail tendered the sincere thanks of An Comunn to all who assisted in making the effort so successful.

Broadford .- The Northern Organiser also presided at the second of the series, held at Broadford, on the following evening. Here, again, the Hall was full to capacity and an excellent programme was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Sincere thanks are due to the local singers and instrumentalists for their support, and also to the local Branch, and especially to Miss MacPhee, Hon. Secretary, for making all the arrangements. As at Portree, people came from villages long distances away to enjoy the Concert and to support An Comunn.

Stornoway. - The following day, Wcdnesday, the party crossed the Minch to Stornoway, where they were met by Mr. Alex. Urquhart, M.A., Branch Secretary, and members of the Committee.

Two nights were devoted to Stornoway and we cannot do better than quote The Stornoway Gazette reports of these efforts, which were as follows:-

#### "AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH SUCCESSFUL SERIES OF GAELIC CONCERTS

"When the Lewis Pipe Band, a brave show in their kills of 'rioghail' tartan, skirled their first tune at the beginning of An Comunn Gaidhealach's concert in the Town Hall on Thursday night last week, the audicnce leaned back anticipating a grand programme, and they were not disappointed, for, from pipe to clarasch, from sol to quartette, from humorous speulachdan to serious speech, the concert had something to please every taste.

"The concert was one of a series being held throughout the Highlands to raise funds for An Comun's Central Fund, and with a view to regaining some of the ground which, as could only be expected, An Comunn lost during the war. Both these objects were fulfilled in Stornoway where the concerts were a success, sepcially on Friday, when the programme had the additional attraction of the Laxadae Junior Choir, although it lacked the enjoyable singing of Peigl Mairi

Matheson, Back, and the lively violin playing of Norman Maclean. Guershader.

"The backbone of the concerts was, however, the artistes who braved both the Minch and the Kyle 'Expres' in a good cause. Well-known and popular wherever Gaelic songs are sung, they were, Petrine M. Stewart, Mod Gold Medallist, Ina MacLellan, First Prize Winner, Aberdeen Mod, 1946; Angus Whyte, Mod Gold Medallist, and Alasdair Matheson,

an old favourite with Lewis audiences.

"Mr. John Morrison, who was chairman on Thursay night, spoke of the interest taken in Gaelic as a language, because of its richness in music and song. Many people, he said, came to listen to Gaelic concerts again and again, although they did not understand the language, so that they could enjoy the cadence of the litting music and the flowing beauty of the words. It was up to them all to see that that interest was kept alive and they should be grateful to An Comunn Gaidhead.

for the part they were playing in doing so.

"Spicing his talk with sgeulachdan of professed veracity and enthusiastic reception, and told in his own inimitable way, Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, said that in addition to helping the finances of An Comunn, these concerts were very helpful from a propaganda point of view. He added that he had been informed that it was hoped to hold a one-day Mod in Lewis during the course of this season, and he appealed to all present to support this proposal to the utmost of their ability. Without their whofe-hearted support, the project could probably not be carried out. He would also, he said, be delighted to see choirs and individual competitors at the National Mod to be held at Perch in September, and he could assure them that competitors from the Band view of the said of the season of the said of the sa

The addition to the artistes already mentioned, the programme was sustained by Mrs. Maeleod, Sandwick Jimer gramme was sustained by Mrs. Maeleod, Sandwick Jimer whose clarach interpretations, especially when accompanied by the violin, were delightful; and a Stornoway quartette with Misses Nan Maclean and Mary Bell Lamond, and Messes, Angus Maeleod and M. Macaulay.

"A comprehensive vote of thanks to the artistes, the local the common of An Common, and all those who assisted in making the evening a success, was moved by Mr. MacPhail, who also moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. John Morrison. "Mr. Murch Maeleod, Shawbots, presided on Friday night

over an audience which completely filled the Town Hall. In the course of his address he outlined the activities of An Comunn in the war effort and stressed the necessity of putting An Comunn on a sound financial footing for its peace-time purposes.

<sup>5</sup> The concert programme was again of a very high standard and the audience showed their appreciation in no uncertain manner. Mr Christopher Munro, Miss Jean MacKenzie, and the Laxdale Junior Choir under the direction of Mr. John Macdonald, and two pipers from the Lewis Pipe Band were the

"As on the previous night, Mr. Donald MacPhall, Northern Ornainer said a few words. He thanked the Lewis Branch for the excellent arrangements, and especially Mr. Urquhart who had been indefatigable in his efforts to make the conset the success they had undoubtedly been. He also thanked the chairman very cordially.

"In moving a vote of thanks to all who had provided such an excellent concert, the chairman specially congratulated the Laxdale Junior Choir on their beautiful voices and true inter-

pretation of Gaelic songs.

"Oidhche Mhath Leibh and Laoidh na Rìoghachd brought to a close two of the best all-Gaelic concerts held in Stornoway for a long time."

Tarbert, Harris .- The week end was spent in Stornoway, and on Monday evening Mr. Norman Robertson, C.C., took the Chair at Tarbert and gave a stirring address on An Comunn and its work, stressing the need for financial assistance in order to place An Comunn on a sound financial footing. He then intimated that the Northern Organiser, Mr. MacPhail, would introduce the various pieces with explanatory notes. There was general regret when it was intimated that Angus Whyte was not present. Unfortunately he had to return to the Mainland from Stornoway suffering from Laryngitis. Sir Edward Scott School, however, filled the gap and did it very well too. The Headmaster was present with two Gaelic Choirs, three soloists, Donald with his Chanter, and a boy reciter. This boy, from Luskentyre and one of a family of eleven, fairly captivated the audience with his dramatic recital of "Buntata 's Sgadan." The Chairman said he hoped this boy would find it possible to compete at Perth Mod where he would be sure of a real welcome. A local piper put the copingstone on a very fine all-Gaelic Concert. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Cameron, Tarbert Hotel (both life members of An Comunn), for the use of their piano and for their many kindnesses to the Party; also to Mr. D. MacDonald, Postmaster, who made all the arrangements for the Concert.

Leverburgh.—The following night found the Party at Leverburgh, or as the old people say An t-Ob, with the Hall packed to the door. The Northern Organiser presided by request. The Singers were at a disadvantage here as there was no piano available, but this difficulty was surmounted and they gave of their best. Local Artests included Miss C. Yorston (songe), and Mr. Angus MacDonald (pipes and accordian).

Sandwick.—The Party returned to Tarbert after the Concert, and the following morning across the sonw-covered Clisham to Sandwick, where the local Headmaster, Mr. Donald Matheson, presided over a fair attendance. This Concert, the last of the series, was very successful, and well-known local singers assisted with the Concert programme. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. Matheson who made all the arrangements, and to all the good ladies who supplied a sumptious repeat.

A Successful Tour,—Warm thanks are also due to Mr. D. MacMilan, Shadar, for many good deeds while the Party were in Lewis. Himself at one time a Comunn na h-Oigridh boy in Aird School, he has not forgotten his promise—"Bidh mise 'na mo dheagh Ghàidheal cho fad 's is beò mi." Is math a chim thu ris na bòidean a thug thu seachad, ged is iomadh ceann a chaidh an currac is iomadh mullach a chaidh am flach bhòr u uair sin, a bhalaich. Gach budidh is piseach ort!

From this tour the sum of £118 4z 7d has been sent to the Central Fund, but of greater value to the Cause is the new interest created through these all-Gaelic gatherings held in

Gaelic-speaking areas.

The Official Party.—A word about the official Party, Petrine Stewart has never been heard to better advantage in songs, grave and gay. Her rendering of "Fo Mhulad, with its old Perthshire air, was very fine and deeply appreciated by the people of the West. "Mo Bhalachan Bân" captivated the hearts of all, and women could be heard humming the tenter after the Concerts. In a MacLellan sang throughout with fine feeling, and her choice of Island songs was much appreciated. Angus Whyte had the misfortune to contract Laryngitis, but in the Puirt-a-beul with Alasdair he showed lovely rhythm and, despite the warnings of the Chairman, not a foot was still until the part was finished. Of Alasdair it can truly be

new Artistes.

said that he has captured the hearts of the Island people, and will be a welcome visitor at all times. An Comunn were well served by these singers. Long may they be spared to use their talents in the cause we all have so much at heart.

Comunn na H-Oigridh.—While in Lewis the Northern Organiser visited Aird and Bayble Schools and the following enrolments were made in Comunn na h-Oigridh—Aird: 29 Boys, 37 Girls; Bayble: 14 Boys, 13 Girls. The Organiser also visited Tong School and enrolled 9 Girls and 8 Boys

Onich.—A new Branch has been formed at Onich, with the Rev. John MacDonald as President and Mrs. MacDonald, Schoolhouse, as Hon. Secretary.

The Badenoch Strathspey Provincial Mod. had been arranged for early in April but, as the Music for the Junior Choirs was not available, the Mod Committee decided to postpone the dare until Friday. 6th June.

Lewis Mod.—For a time the prospects of holding a Mod in Lewis were faint, but from enquiries made by Mr. A. Urquhart, Provincial Mod Secretary, the Committee feel they can proceed with arrangements for at least a one-day Mod. It will probably be held late in June.

Lairg.—Since it was re-constituted, the Lairg Branch has been holding regular meetings and ceilidhs, and these are being well attended. The Branch propose holding a concert in March, and arrangements are also being made for the County Mod, to be held on 27th June.

Elgin .— The second ceilidh of the session was held in Elgin on Monday, 10th January, with Mr. D. C. Cowan, President, in the Chair. The Branch continues to claim the support of all lovers of our Music and Language in Figin and the surrounding districts. A special invitation is being extended to native speakers in the Army Training Unit to attend these Cellibbs.

## GUIMHNEACHAN DO EALASAID AGUS ANNA NICMHAOILEIN.

Is ann 'nan laighe an Cill Aindreis tha dithist bhan a dh'altrum mi, mnài chuir maise air a' bheatha-a', ged bu sean iad, le'n cuid gnìomh; Ealasaid maraon is Anna, bha iad farsaing caomh, neo-chrìon; thug iad saoghal mòr ri fialachd, is thug aon bhliadhna iad do'n chill.

Uaisle ghiùlain, cainnt bu chiùine, suaireas, sunnd, is cridhe mór, có a shaoileadh mnàthan aosda a bhith 'nan aobhar ionghnaidh leò ? Mar sin bha Ealeasdi is Anna, le sgairt a fhreagradh do'n aois òig ; bha seann fharsaingeachd nan Gàidheal a rist 'nan gnùths a' tighinn boò.

An seann saoghal còir bha nochdadh riamh tromhaibh anns gach ceum, feumaidh sinn a ràdh, mo thruaighe, gum 'b'aisling uair-eigin e.' Is maith a bhiodh sinn dheth, a dhithist, nam fàgadh sibh mar ghibh 'nur déidh 's nam faigheadh daoine an t-saoghail ghoirt so leth nan sochair bh'annabh fhéin.

Cha do chrom thu ceann no inntinn, Ealasaid, gu rud crìon nach b'fhìù; is Anna phàirteach ghaoil an t-sonais làml no dorus cha do dhùin. Chì mi thu fo fhiamh a' ghàire a' roinn air càch air ceann do bhùird; 's ma tha thu fhathast mu'n t-seann àite, is spiorad fàilteach coibineil thù.

DHORSA CADIBBUL HAY.

#### NEW BOOKS.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE GARLIC SOCIETY OF INVERNESS Vol. xxxvii.—In the seventy-five years of its existence the Gaelic Society of Inverness has rendered quite unique service to the cause of Gaelic, not least by the contribution made to Gaelic and Highland studies by its long series of published transactions. The 37th Volume has lately appeared and fully maintains the high standard of its predecessors. It contains fourteen papers of varied interest, but all of great value. Perhaps the most important is the first, "Some Rare Gaelic Words and Phrases," running to over fifty pages of text, collected by Mr. Duncan MacDonald, Lewis, in the Island of Bernera, Lewis. There are many words, phrases, and idioms still in use among those whose daily language is Gaelic, which have not yet been put on record and cannot be found in dictionaries or grammars. It is essential that every effort be made to record them, and Mr. MacDonald has produced a rich and valuable collection. Mr. George Bain writes on "Celtic Art: The Mathematical Basis of the Construction of the Art of the Pictish School," and Somhairle MacGilleathain deals with "Realism in Gaelic Poetry." There are several important contributions from the Rev. Dr. Archibald MacDonald, "father" of the Church of Scotland and still, in his 94th year, engaged in literary activity. The Volume contains a photograph of Dr. MacDonald and an account of his life and work. There is a paper by the late Rev. Dr. Neil Ross on "The Origins of Scottish Gaelic and its Culture," which seeks to prove a greater degree of independence between Scottish and Irish Gaelic than is generally admitted. It is a great pity that the Society cannot publish its volumes at more frequent intervals, and it cannot do that until it receives greater support, by way of increased membership and financial aid, than it has hitherto enjoyed. The present Volume brings the published Transactions down to 1936, but the many papers contributed in the past ten years are still unpublished.

ROCKAIL: ITS PAST AND FUTURE, by James A. Macintosh (Hugh MacDonald, Ltd., Oban, 2)-, is an interesting booklet about "the most isolated speek of Rock, surrounded by Water, on the Surface of the Earth." Rockal lile some 180 miles west of St. Kilda and has been identified with the mysterious island of Gaelic legend, "Rockabrarisht:"

"An uair thig Ròcabarraidh ris, Is dual gun téid an saoghal a sgrios."

A short article on "Roc Ail," by the late Editor, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, appeared in An Gaidheal, May, 1941. Mr. Macinosch has collected much information about Rockall, and suggests a use for it in connection with Trans-Atlantic air services. He also puts forward suggestions for "Mal rock runways, estuary bridges and docks" and for harnessing occan tides to generate electricity.

Westward Look, by Robert Herring (William MacLellan, Glasgow, 6/-), is a volume of poems by the Editor of *Life and Letters*. He describes himself as a "partly Scottish Welshman," and his poems are of high quality.

POSTEY—SCOTLAND, Third Collection, edited by Maurice Lindsay (William MacLellan, Clasgow, 6/4), will be welcomed by many who have read the two previous Collections in the series. It includes Gaelle poems by Somhaire MacGilleathain and Debrsa Caimbeul Hay. Postry—Scotland now hopes to appear bi-annually.

Also from the publishing house of William MacLellan come more new magazines. The Children's Magazine (2/8) contains matter of interest to children of all ages—stories, poems, articles about music, art, natural history and country life, things to make and do, etc. The Open-Air in Scoland (2/-) is a Review of open-air activities. Con Brio (edited by Maurice Lindsay) is a "modern magazine for musiclovers," and appears quarterly (1/-). All three are beautifully produced, and the last two are very well illustrated.

FROM CROPT TO FACTORY—The Evolution of an Industrial Community in the Highlands, by M. Gregor and R. Crichton (Nelson, 3'6), is a fascinating and very important book which no one who is concerned with the development of the Highlands can afford to miss. It is the record of a social survey

of Kinlochleven, which in the past forty years has grown from a few isolated cottages to be an important centre of hydroclectric industry. All the main aspects of the life of this community are dealt with—population structure, wages, housing, health, education, religious and social life. The concluding chapter deals usefully with the value of industry in the Highlands and with the many problems related thereto, upon which the story of Kinlochleven casts much light. There are excellent illustrations and a useful book-list for further study, although the book-list omits several important documents which might have been included. T. M. M.

#### LONDON GAELIC CLASS.

#### Teacher Wanted.

It is reported that the Beginners' Class in Scottish Gaelic held (under the auspiess of the London County Council) and the City Literary Institute, Berkeley Square, W.C.2., on Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m., is held up for want of a teacher. Will anyone who can undertake this bit of service please come forward and help? The two persons who previously, successively and successfully, taught the class—Miss Murray and Mr. MacIver—are not now able to attend.

#### TEANN A NALL 'S THOIR DHOMH DO LAMH. \*

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- \* Prescribed song for Competition 72 (Uist and Barra) Perth Mod, 1947.
- Tha sìth air aghaidh beinn is raon,
   Tha fàileadh cùbhraidh thar an fhraoich,
   'S tha neòinean bhòidheach fàs gach taobh,
   'S bu mhór mo mhiann bhi'n Uidhist leat.
- Na h-eòin a' seinn air bhàrr nan geug,
   'S an seillean tionail mìl dha fhéin,
   Na h-uain a' mireag-ruith 's a' leum,
   'S bu mhór mo mhiann bhi'n Uidhist leat.
- 4. Tha 'n iarmailt gorm gun lorg air neul,
  An sruthan torghan nuas bho'n t-sliabh,
  A' chuthag ghlas 's gug-gùg 'na beul,
  'S bu mho'r mo mhiann bhi'n Uidhist leat.

- 5. Tha 'n crodh ag geumnaich anns a' chrò, A' bhanarach 's a cuach 'na dòrn, A' seinn a duan 's i bleoghann bhó. 'S bu mhór mo mhiann bhi'n Uidhist leat.
- 6. Nu mhór mo mhiann bhi 'n sud san ám, Is m'inntinn fad bho thir nan Gall, Ag éisdeachd sgeulachd, òran 's rann, 'S bu mhór mo mhiann bhi'n Uidhist leat.
- 7. Tha pòr na machrach làn de bhiadh, Tha breac air linne 's lach air sgiath, Tha iasg am pailteas sa' chuan-shiar, 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhi'n Uidhist leat.
- Is dìomhain dhuinne bhi cho faoin
   A' siubhal saoghail ruith gach maoin,
   Tha beatha 's slàint' an tir mo ghaoil,
   'S gun téid mì thàmh do dh'Uidhist leat.

#### BAS CHAIRDEAN.

We regret to report the deaths of three members of An Comunn, and we would express our deep sympathy with

the bereaved families Mrs. Ian Grant, wife of the late Dr. Ian Grant, Glasgow, was an active and valued member of the War Comforts Work

Party. Bha Mgr. Gilleasbuig Caimbeul, Ard Driseig, 'na bhall de'n Chomunn fad ùine mhóir, agus b'e a thlachd a bhith ag còmhnadh leotha-san a bhiodh 'gan ullachadh fhéin air son

comh-fharpaisean seinn an Gàidhlig

Fhuair Mgr. Alasdair Dòmhnallach, Dearbhaig am Muile, aois mhór. Bha e 'na bhall de'n Chomunn fad mhóran bhliadhnachan agus mar an ceudna 'na Cheann-suidhe air meur a' Chomuinn an Dearabhaig. Is math a sheinneadh e fhéin nan oran Ghàidhlig agus 's e deagh sgeulaiche a bh'ann. B'esan bràthair an Ollaimh Urramaich Gilleasbuig Dòmhnallach, a tha fhathast 'na fhìor sheann aois ag cumail a phinn air ghleus agus ag cur 's a' sìor-chur ri litreachas na Gàidhlige.

## NEWS FROM BRITTANY.

"Taldir" (Dr. Jaffrennou), the President of the College of Bards of Brittany, was, along with over a hundred thousand other Bretons, imprisoned by the French Government; onethird of his estate was confiscated, and on his release from prison he was to be perpetually banished from France. News has come that on Christmas Eve he received a pardon from the President of France, and was released, and is now home again. It is hoped that the other imprisoned Bretons will receive equal justice. \_\_\_\_

#### IN BRIEF.

The attention of parents in Glasgow is drawn to the scheme for introducing Gaelic as an optional language in the secondary course at Bellahouston and Woodside Secondary Schools. Those who intend to take advantage of the scheme should intimate their intention at an early date. \*

"Highlanders do not have much sense of humour. They have to come south for a generation or so to develop it." So said the Very Rev. Dr. James Black in an after-lunch address to Edinburgh City Business Club (according to The Weekly Scotsman). Seadh dìreach: cha dubhairt Dia na thubhairt thusa, a charaid.

Incidentally, Mr. Harold Nicolson has just published a book (price, £2 2/-) about The English Sense of Humour, from which it appears that the English sense of humour is "distinguished in particular by three qualities: childishness, self-protection, and economy of mental effort." This last quality means (I quote from a review in The New Statesman and Nation) that, since we (the English) are by nature mentally indolent, we prefer to laugh at matters which we will not take the trouble to understand." Dr. Black, please note!

The Dunedin Society's Sub-Committee on Celtic Art is arranging an Exhibition to be held in Glasgow in April, and later in Edinburgh. An appeal is made for articles of every description, but with a Celtic décor, which may be exhibited. Those interested should communicate with Mr. J. H. Miller, Chairman of the Committee, 240 Hope Street, Glasgow, C.2.

The Tourist Association of Scotland (sponsored by, and affiliated to, the Scottish Tourist Board) has issued an appeal to individuals and societies to become members. The aim is to give world-wide publicity to the natural beautics and attractions of Scotland; to disseminate knowledge of Scottish history, culture, and aspirations; to encourage the peoples of other countries to visit Scotland; and to provide a contact between all people of Scotland birth or descent. For further information apply to the Secretary, 20 York Place, Edinburgh, I. T. M. M.

#### EADAR SINN FHEIN.

BEUL-AITHRIS NAN GAIDHEAL.

A Charaid,-Tha mi an dòchas gun gabh sibh mo leisgeul ma thogas mi dhà no trì fhacail a chunnaic mi ann an Gaidheal an Fhaoiltich so chaidh. So iad

" . . . gu bheil Calum MacGilleathain á Ratharsaidh o chionn greise am Barraidh ag cruinneachadh sheanchasan air son Comunn Bealoideas na h-Eireann . . .

"Nach saoil sibh fhéin a nis gur e bochdainn mhór a tha ann gun caill ar n-eileana gach seanchas is òran a tha sin,

agus gun cuirear air mhaireann iad thall an Eirinn . "Ma chailleas sinn ar seann òrain is ar seanchasan, ciod

a thachras do ar cànain anns an ath linn? ' Nach saoil sibh gu faodadh taobh eile bhith air a' chùis ?

Chan 'eil call, agus cha mhotha a tha mi faicinn gu bheil cron. anns an obair. 'S fhada ghabh e bhoidhe.

'S e th'ann a bhith sgrìobhadh, ag clò-bhualadh, agus ag craobh-sgaoileadh na Gàidhlig buannachd. Bheir an obair so gu follais am màireach air son sòlas na mórain na tha an diugh air a mhealtainn leis a' bheagan a mhàin.

Cha mhisde na h-Eileana Siar cuairt Chaluim. 'S ann orra bhios an uaill gun do thadhal fear 'gan aithne air son tasgadh gu tèarainte na bha an imis dol thar cuimhne. Tha seanachas is amhrain ar anail an t-sluaigh. Cha ghiorraichear anail le bhith sgrìobhadh na tha air chuimhne. 'S ann a ni iad gàrdachas-iadsan uile a ghléidh gu mùirneach na fhuair iadri bhith faicinn na bha iad an amharus dol a dhìth air a thogail

le meas agus le cùram.

Mas e cùis-fharmaid a tha ann gur c Eireannaich a tha gluasad sa' chùis, tha e iomchuidh dhuinn uile a thoirt fainear nach 'eil de'n chinne-daonna gu léir ach fuigheall bheag aig a bheil dùirt Gàidhlig, agus cha bu mhór an treubhantas do'n bhuidhinn bhig sgaipte so a bhith air an aon fhacal. Tha sgaraidhean agus cadar-dhealachaidhean do-àireamh cheana ann an lùib nan Gàidheal. Bheil e do-dheanta dhuinn mar chinneach ar cànain, na tha maireann di, a bhuileachadh slàn 'na h-aon ?

Ma tha e an dàn gum bị a' Ghàidhlig 'na dà bhloigh—leth an Eirinn 's leth an Albainn-am feum iad a bhith an iolagain a chéile mar dhà chat fhiadhaich? Neach aig a bheil spéis do'n Ghàidhlig, nach bu mhór gum b'fheàrr dha na tha de dhealachadh eadar Gàidhlig na h-Eireann agus Gàidhlig na h-Albann a lorg a mach agus feum a dheanamh de gach taobh ? Tha beartas ùrail beathachaidh anns a' chlaonadh a rinn an dà ghéig bho chéile.

Tha litreachas Gàidhlig gach géig glaist air a' ghéig eile. Chan 'eil comh-chomaidh ann ach sa' Bheurla. Tre cadarmheadhonaireachd na Beurla tha dreach agus blas na Gàidhlig air an rioladh air falbh. So far a bheil a' bhochdainn agus an

Nam biodh aon litreachas cadarainn, bhithcadh nì-eigin de choltas oirnn, ach fhad 's a bhios sinn mar a tha sinn, a' ruith bho chéile, tuitidh an dàrna fear an clais an sud agus am fear eile an clais an so, agus bithidh ar deireadh riàsach. Tha na mìltean furachail gu sgòid fhaighinn oirnn,

Tha Eireannach inbheach cliùiteach againne an Dùnéideann, air ùr-shuidheachadh air cathair àrd, dhligheach. Tha mi an dòchas gun dean e feum. B'e mo ghuidhe e coiste de shàr-fhòghlumaichean na h-Eireann agus na h-Albann a chur air chois gu còrdadh air an dòigh bu fhreagarraiche air dà ghéig na cànain a sgrìobhadh air aon mhodh, air chor 's gum bitheadh litreachas na Gàidhlig, bho'n Bhuta Leòdhasach gu ruig iomall Chairraighe an Eirinn, fosgailte do gach Gàidhealann an Eirinn, ann an Albainn, agus an tìribh céin. B'e sin an latha le leabhraichean agus paipearan-naidheachd Gàidhlig!

Tha dà nì àraidh a tha 'nan dragh. 'S e a' chiad nì : comharradh na h-anala. Ann an sgrìobhadh na h-Eireann tha ball os cionn na litir. Ann an sgrìobhadh na h-Albann tha "h" an dèidh na litir. Có aca as sgiobalta? Có as cireachd-ail? Có as freagarraiche do'n chlò-bhualada'r? An deanar innleachd air comharradh ùr a bhios taitneach leis a' mhórchuid?

An dara nì a tha 'na phlàigh 's na cheap-tuislidh, an lagh "leathann ri leathann is caol ri caol." Có a rinn an lagh? A bheil an iagh gun chearb? An seas an lagh so ri geur rannsachadh eolas fuaimnidheachd an latha an diugh? An e lagh gun bhrìgh a tha an so? Masa h-e, nach truagh a bhith 'ga leantainn 's ag cur choigreach iomrall. Chuir fòghlumaichean foghainteach teagamh anns an lagh so bho chin fhada. N. T. M.

For the benefit of learners and others, for whom some words may be unfamiliar, the writer adds a brief list of Irishisms and Lewisisms:

'S fhada ghabh e bhoidhe (bhuaithe)-far (went it) from it (Lewis). amhran-song (Lewis and Irish). gàrdachas—rejoicing (Lewis form of "gàirdeachas.").

dùirt-the least word (Lewis). iolagain-"sud na seòid an iolagain a chéile," "the heroes set about each other "(Lewis).

rioladh-sifted (Lewis).

riàsach—streaked, smudged, dirty; figuratively, wretched, untidy, undignified (Lewis). coiste—committee (Irish). Cairraighe-County Kerry.

comharradh na h-anala-mark of aspiration (Irish). eòlas fuaimnidheachd-science of phonetics (Irish). bho chin fhada (bho chionn fhada)-long ago (Lewis).

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Leabhar XLII.] An Giblein, 1947.

[Earrann 7

#### GAIDHLIG A' BHIOBUILL.

Bha, agus tha, buaidh iongantach aig a' Bhiobull, chan ann a mhàin air cor spioradail a' chinne-daona, ach mar an ceudna air an cor saoghalta agus gu sònraichte air litreachas agus cànain iomadh dùthcha.

Is mór a' bhuaidh a bh'aig a' Bhiobull Bheurla air litreachas Shasainn, agus is mór an call do dh'Albainn nach deachaidh am Biobull a chur anns a' chainnt Albannaich. Thàtar ag ràdh gur e buaidh a' Bhiobuill anns a' Bheurla Shasannaich a lagaich an t-seann chainnt Albannach, agus, nan robh am Biobull aig sluagh na h-Albann anns a' Bheurla Albannaich, gum biodh a' chainnt Albannach air a h-àite fhéin a ghléidheadh san dùthaich againn.

Thiomndaidh Màirtinn Luther am Biobull gu cainnt a dhùthcha fhéin, agus b'e sin tobar-tòiseachaidh litreachas na Gearmailte. Tha mòran sheòrsachan sluaigh air feadh an t-saoghail, agus cha robh dad riamh sgrìobhte aca, cha robh eadhon aibidil aca, gus an deach an Leabhar Naomh a chur an clò anns a' chànain aca.

Bha, agus tha, buaidh aig a' Bhiobull Ghàidhlig cuideachd air cànain agus litreachas nan Gàidheal. Tha feadhainn ann a bheireadh a chreidsinn ort gur ann gu tur a chum sgrìos na Gàidhlige a bha an Eaglais Ath-leasaichte an Albainn ag oibreachadh. Chan 'eil anns a' bheachd sin ach an dearg aineolas. Ma ghearras tu a mach á litreachas sgrìobhte na Gàidhlige na thàinig bho làmhan na feadhna a bhuineadh do'n Chreideamh Ath-leasaichte, cha mhór a bhitheas air fhàgail agad.

Ged nach biodh ann ach gun tug an Eaglais Athleasaichte am Biobull Gàidhlig do na Gàidheil, bu mhór an t-sochair sin fhéin. Ach tha barrachd na sin ri ràdh. Is airidh air gach moladh an fheadhainn, agus bu lìommhor iad, agus is lìonmhor fhathast iad, a tha a' leughadh a' Bhiobuill Ghàidhlig agus a tha ag aoradh an uaigneas agus gu Gluiseach anns a' Ghàidhlig. Rinn sin, saoilidh mi, barrachd maith na nì sam bith eile ann a bhith cumail beò na Gàidhlige.

Bha an t-Ollamh Iain Friseal nach maireann, àrdollamh na Ceiltig an Oil-thigh Oxford, de'n bheachd gur h-e a th'againn anns a' Bhiobull Ghàidhlig cainnt nach do labhair beul duine riamh. Le so bha e ag ciallachadh nach e cainnt làitheil an t-aluagh chumanta a gheibhear anns a' Bhiobull Ghàidhlig. Agus is flor sin; ach tha e flor cuideachd mu bharrachd is am Biobull Gàidhlig.

Chan e caimit chumanta an t-sluaigh a gheibhear anns a' Bhiobull Bheurla; ach có tha dol a dhearmad a' Bhiobuill Bheurla air an aobhar sin? Is e caimit usail a gheibhear anns a' Bhiobull agus ann an leabhraichean móra eile, agus is eadar-dhealaichte a' chaimit sin bho chaimit bhriste an t-sluaigh agus bho chaimit a' phaipeir-naidheachd. Ach an neach aig a bheil eòlas air a' Bhiobull agus air na leabhraichean móra bidh uaisleachd air a chaimit nach biodh aige air dhòith eile.

Tha Gàidhlig an là an diugh air fàs gu math cearbach agus móran de na seann ghnàthasan-cainnte air dol á cleachdadh. Bhiodh a' Ghàidhlig a tha daoine a' labhairt an diugh móran nas cearbaiche agus nas briste na ta i mura b'e gu bheil Gàidhlig a' Bhiobuill ag cumail fa chomhair dhaoine cainnt nas uaisle agus nas coimhlionta na tha iad ag cleachdadh gu làitheil.

Tha e fior gur h-ann air bonn Eireannach a' rinneadh am Biobull Gàidhlig an toiseach, oir bha mór-bhuaidh aig Biobull Eireannach Bhedell agus O'Dhomhnaill orra-san a chuir a mach am Biobull an Gàidhlig air ths. Mar sin tha móran de ghnàthasan-cainnte agus de fhacail Eireannach anns a' Bhiobull Ghàidhlig againn. Ach is iomadh ceartachadh a rinneadh air a' Bhiobull Ghàidhlig o thàinig e mach air tùs, agus is iomadh sgoilear math Gàidhlig aig an robh làmh anns an obair, agus anns na clè-bhualaidhean mu dheireadh

de'n Bhiobull chan 'eil fàileadh na h-Èireann idir cho làidir. Ach, fhathast, carson a chuireamaid cùl ri nì air a bheil blas Eireannach ? Mas fìor na sgoilearan móra, nach ann á Eirinn a thàinig a' Ghàidhlig fhéin an toiseach ? Agus, mar a sgrìobh neach-eigin an Gàidheal a' mhìos so chaidh, nach 'eil e móran nas tarbhaiche gum biodh an dà mheur—a' Ghàidhlig Eireannach agus a' Ghàidhlig Albannach—ag cuideachadh a chéile, a' tarraing bho chéile, agus a' neartachadh a chéile ?

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Ma tha leabhraichean Gàidhlig tearc, tha lethbhreac de'n Bhiobull Ghàidhlig furasda fhaotainn agus saor r'a cheannach. An neach a bhios a' sìorleughadh a' Bhiobuill Ghàidhlig tha an dà chuid biadh d'a anam 's d'a inntinn aige agus Gàidhlig uasal daonnan fa chomhair a shùla. Gu sònraichte dhaibh-san a tha ag ionnsachadh na cànaine, chan 'eil dòigh as fheàrr air adhartas a dheanamh na bhith a' leughadh a' Bhiobull an Gàidhlig agus am Beurla agus ag coimeas an dà eadar-theangachadh ri chéile.

Coma dé a' chanain a tha thu ag ionnsachadh, ma théid agad air a' Bhiobull a leughadh anns a' chànain sin, leughaidh tu rud sam bith.

# LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Chuala sibh a nis, is fhuair sibh ùine gu breithneachadh air agus air a ghabhail gu cridhe, gu bheil an camp samhraidh ri bhith againn am bliadhna a rithist gun teagamh, seadh, ma bha aon sam bith fo iomagain nach bitheadh. Tha e ri bhith an tir nan sonn, an Inbhir-ailleart nan Garbh-chrioch, dùthaich a bha cho ainmeil 'nar n-eachdraidh anns gach linn.

Na Garbh-chrìochan! Nach cuir eadhon an dùthaich sin ainmeachadh buille nas braise an cuisle a' Ghàidheil: Mac Mhic Allein, Iain Mùideartach, is "a' tighinn fodhainn uile éirigh" leis nam biodh e maireann gu dol air ar ceann!

So a rithist an ceàrn-dùthcha anns an deach e féin, Teàrlach Og Stiùbhart, air tha ir a' Mhòr-thir an uair a thàinig e a nall thar sàile gus an oidhirp threun ud a dheanamh gu crùn athraichean athcheanach no a dhol a dhìth! Is e dol a dhìth a bha ann dha; agus nach b'fheàrr nan do thuit e air raon dòbhaidh a' chatha, far an do thuit uiread de a threunfhir an latha fuar, frasach ud, oir is e dìth a bha ann dha co-dhiubh.

Tha ar cuimhne air Teàrlach Og Stiùbhart fathast glé bhlàth, oir chan 'eil eòlas againne an Albainn air ach am maise is an eireachdas na h-òige; agus bhiodh sin na bu bhlàithe uile nam b'ann a mhàin mar ghaisgeach a thuit air raon a' chatha a bhiodh ar cuimhne air, is na bliadhnachan claoidhte a chuir e seachad fo bhrat na h-ionndrainn air an dubhadh a mach á eachdraidh.

A rithist, chan 'eil Gleann Fionnan, far an do thogadh ri crann a' bhratach rìoghail an latha mór a bha an sud, fada air falbh, agus is mise a tha cinnteach nach bi balach no caileag anns a' champ nach ruig am bad ud, far an do thogadh 'na dhéidh sud Carragh-cuimhne nam Fineachan leis a' Ghàidheal shuaire a mhuinntir na dùthcha ud is a chose ris as a nbòca fialaidh féin.

Is beò mo chuimhne air an latha ud a chunna no shùil féin an carragh is an gleann ud an toiseach. Bha ise, mo ghràdh, leam; agus a' breithneachadh air gach sealladh mun cuairt is air an eachdraidh a tha co-cheangailte riu, shuidh sinn air an lianaig làimh ris a' charragh, is dh'ith sinn grèim beag. Ach tha mi brath dol ro fhada a thaobh, is feumaidh mi srian a chur ri mo mhac-meanma.

Co-dhiubh, sud far a bheil camp na bliadhna so ri bhith; agus tha ar taing aig Fear na h-Inbhire a chuir a chuid fuinn 'nar tairgse gu ar camp a thogail air am bliadhna co-dhiubh. Bidh camp na h-athbhliadhna a rithist a réir ciod am bealach a dh'fhosglas Freasdal dhuinn; agus fosglaidh Freasdal bealach dhuinn gun teagamh, ma tha sinn féin deas gu ar lamh a chur ris an iomairt.

A nis, feumaidh mi tionndadh taobh eile. Chunna sibh uile, is gu sònraichte a' chuid agaibh nach fhaca gu sin iad, is ghabhadh sibh beachd orra, seadh, paipearan-ceasnachaidh na bliadhna a dh'fhalbh. Agus sibhse nach do gahbh cuid anns a' cheasnachadh an uiridh, tuigidh sibh ciod a tha air a chur fo 'ur comhair is air a thagar bhuaibh anns na paipearan so, is nach 'eil iad idir cho duilich 's, theagamh, a shaoil sibh. Tha sinn an dòchas gun teum am faicinn mar so anns A' Ghàidheal sibhse nach tug aghaidh dhaibh fathast gu dhol an gréim gun dàil a chum is gum bi na bràisdean ud agaibh féin is gum bi sibh air bhur n-ainmeachadh mar Làn-is mar Shàr-Ghàidheil. Tha cuid a chuir air an tòir mar thà, is bu mhath leam innseadh dhaibh-san an so, is do Mhóraig NicLachlainn gu sònraichte, is i cho dealasach, gun ruig na paipearan iad an ùine gun a bhith fada. Tha mi ag creidsinn gu robh paipear nan Sàr-Ghàidheal pailt fada an uiridh, agus, mar sin, dheilbh sinn e beagan na bu ghiorra am bliadhna.

A mis, thàinig an t-eadar-dhealachadh a tha ann an dol "air chall" is dol "air seachran" a steach ann an litr àireamh an Fhaoillich, agus thairg mì leabhar beag air chor-eigin a thoirt do'n bhalach no do'n chaileig a chuireadh chugam am mìneachadh a b'fhearr air an eadar-dhealachadh a tha anns na facail so. Tha mir od huilich, is tha e ag cur iongantais orm, nach do ràinig ach aon oidhirp mì. Tha i sin féin glé mhath, ged thà, agus so agaibh i:

"A Charaid,—Ann an Gàidheal na Faoiltich tha e air iarraidh oirnn mìneachadh a thabhairt dhuibh air 'air chall' agus 'air seachran'."

"Nam bheachd féin tha mì a' smaointeachadh gu bheil 'air chall' ag ciallachadh na'n rachadh duine air falbh air chuairt agus nach deidh aige air tilleadh air ais gun chuideachadh bho chuid-eigin eile; ach is e a tha 'air seachran' ag ciallachadh gun deidh agad féin air tilleadh gun chuideachadh sam bith." Is e Dòmhnall A. MacGille-Mhoire, Talla nan Gillean, Port-righeadh, a chuir air aghaidh an oidhirp so, agus, mar a gheall mi, tha mi ag cur leabhran beag chuige mar chuimhneachan air a ghleustachd. Is e am beachd a bha agam Gin gum faod neach a dhol air seachran gun a bhith air chall. Ged a chaill thu an t-slighe a bha 'nad bheachd a dhol, is mar sin thu air dol air seachran, tha fathast fios agad càite bheil thu is ciod a tha agad r'a dheanamh gus an ceum a bha 'nad bheachd an toiseach a thoirt a mach; ach, an uair a tha thu air chall, chan 'eil fios agad càite idir a bheil thu no ciod an taobh ris an toir thu t'aghaidh gu faotainn gu d' cheann-uidhe.

Tha mi mar an ceudna duilich nach do leig aon idir ris dhomh gu robh fios ac eaite am bàrdachd ar dùthcha am faighear na sceathan a thug mi dhuibh mu'n "gheamhradh is ám na dùmhlachd "an àireamh a' Ghearrain. B'e sud, ma tà, rann as an dàn ionmholta "A' Choille Ghruamach." aig Iain MacGilleathain (Iain mac Ailein, Bàrd Thighearna Cholla), bàrd cho math 's a dh'àraicheadh anns na h-Eileanan, agus tha mi creidsinn am bàrd a b'fheàrr, is cha robh iad tearc,

a tha air an ainmeachadh air Tiridhe.

Cha mhór nach 'eil mi aig ceann mo theadhrach; ach, mun crìochnaich mi, bu mhath leam innseadh dhuibh gun d'fhuair mi paipear-naidheachd an là-roimhe bho'n uasal chòir, agus bhur caraid-se, Iain A. Moffatt-Pender, ceud Athair Clann an Fhraoich. Tha a chòmhnaidh a nis thall an Astràlia, am baile mòr Mhelbourne, agus ged nach robh facal ann ach am paipear a mhàin rinn mi fiughair ris, is tha mi air mhiann gum bi fìos aige gun d'fhuair mi e. Bha aobhar aige air a' phaipear so a chur chugam, is theagamh gun innis mi dhuibh an t-aobhar sin anns an th litir.—Bhur Caraid Dileas.

#### EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

(An deidh an litir so shuas a sgrìobhadh, agus dìreach an uair a bha sinn air tì An Gàidheal a chur do'n chlo-bheairt, ràinig litir eile Eachann mur neadar-thealachadh eadar "air chall" agus "air seachran." Thàinig i so as na Hearadh, agus ged nach buin an neach a sgrìobh i do Chomunn na h-Oigridh, bheir Eachann iomradh oirre air an ath-mhlos. Cha robh cothrom aige dad a ràdh m' a deidhinn air a' mhlos so.—F.-D.)

## OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH. Ulaidhean.

Is lìonmhor na sgeulachdan a tha air innse nu ulaidhean, agus is mòr na beachdan saobh-chràbhach a dh'fhàg beul-aithris nan linntean a dh'aom againn mu'n deidhinn, araon anns a' Ghàidhealtachd agus an tirean eile an t-saoghail.

Cian mun deach tighean-tasgaidh a thogail air feadh na dùthcha, nam bu rud e' sg ur obh a' bheag no mhór de airgiod no de nithean luachmhor eile aig neach, cha robhas ach 'gan gléidheadh seachad gu chramach ann an ionad falachaidh fo'n talamh cho luath 's a gheibhte forfhais air luchd togail chreach a bhith air fairge.

Chan 'eil teagamh sam bith nach robh gach àitegléidhidh de'n t-seòrsa air a sheunadh gu làidir air chor is gu robh daoine de'n bheachd nach éireadh rath gu bràth air aon a ghabhadh seilbh air an fhaodail so air dha amas oirre.

Bho chionn a dhà agus a trì de cheudan bliadhna air ais, bha spùinneadairean-mara na h-Eòrpa glé lìonmhor anns a' Chuan an Iar dlùth do fhearann Albann Nuaidh agus na còrsaichean sin. Bha na h-allmharaich fhuileachdach ud a dh'aon-obair ag gur 's a' feitheamh longan-malairt a bhiodh air ais 's air aghaidh. Gu mìnic, nuair a thogadh na creachadairean an spùinn, thigeadh iad a stigh an cois an fhearainn nu aird fheasgair, ach cha rachadh iad gu thr gus am biodh e seachd dùirn a dh'oidhche; agus an sin thaisgeadh iad an cobhartach san talamh am bad-eigin uaigneach ri solus na gealaich.

Bu mhath an ruith gun tilleadh an sgioba ceudna a chaoidh a thogail a' chalpa no a chur tuilleadh 'na cheann. Ma dh'fhaoidte an ath ionnsaigh a bheireadh iad air soitheach gu rachadh cur as dhaibh uile.

Tha creideas làidir aca ann an Albainn Nuadh gu bheil spiorad bho'n t-saoghal eile ag cumail faire air ionnmhas a chaidh fhalach fo'n talamh. Ni am freiceadan so na 's urrainn e air son neach fhuadach air falbh a théid an sud air tòir an òir. Gairmidh e air sluagh gun àireamh de spioradan eile a thig 'ga chuideachadh ann an riochd sgaoth de cunlairh dhubh agus shaighdearan fo làn-armachd. Tha e air aithris gur e tannasg fear de'n chuideachd do'm buineadh an ulaidh a tha an so. Nuair a thiodhlaic iad a' mhaoin, chaidh esan a mharbhadh le a shaor thoil féin, a chum 's gum biodh a shamhladh gu bàth ag cumail faire 's dìon air an àit-ghlididhidh.

Mar sin, chan 'eil e iongantach ged a bha an saothair dìomhanach do na h-uile a chaidh a mach a shealltainn air son taisgeachan nan ionadan dìomhair ud.

Bha dithis fhear ann an Ceap Breatann air oidhche gheal ghealaich ag cladhach ann an àite anns an robh amharus aca ulaidh a bhith an tiodhlacadh bho chionn iomadh linn. Mu dheireadh thàinig iad air taisgeadan (wauld) a bha air a chlachaireachd gu snasail, agus am beagan mhionaidean thàinig ceann ciste mhòir, làidir, dhruidte, am follais. Rinn na fir le chéile agréim air an làimh iarainn is thòisich iad air a slaodadh a mach. Bha a' dol aca air a' chuid 's a' chuid, ach nuair a bha leth na ciste a muigh chaidh a grad splonadh as an gréim air ais gu a b-àite féin. Ghabh na fir a leithid de eagal 's nach deach iad na b'fhaide na sin fhéin air adhart. Thig iad an talamh mar a bha e roimhe air uachdar an taisgeadain, is thug iad na buinn as dhachaidh.

Tha còrr is ceithir fichead bliadhna ann bho'n thàinig guth ann an ám an h-oidhe gu fear ann am baile Steinnseil anns an Eilean Sgitheanach, a dhùig as a chadal e. Labhair an guth ris mar so: Eirich agus thoir leat dithis eile maille riut, agus rachaibh gu Bealach Ollasgairte, is fanaibh ann an sin gus am brist an latha. Cladhaichibh anns a' bhad air am buail a' ghrian cho luath 's a nochdas i thar guala na beinne, agus gheibh sibh de shaidhbireas ann na ni dhuibh cho fad 's is maireann sibh, ach is e dithis dhibh a thilleas dhachaidh beò'."

Thàinig an dearbh ghuth leis na briathran ceudna 'ga ionnsaigh aig an aon ám trì oidhche an déidh a chéile, gidheadh cha tug esan feairt. Mar a dh' fhaodas sinn a thuigsinn, cha do leig an t-eagal leis a' bhodach riamh falbh air toir na h-ulaidh, gun fhios nach e fhéin an t-aon de'n triùir nach tilleadh

dhachaidh beò. Tha clach mhór air mullach Crannag an Lou'earna. air taobh sear Eilean A' Cheò, ris an abradh iad bho shean "A' Chlach Ulaidh." Mór agus gu bheil a' chlach so ann am meudachd, bha e air a ràdh gu robh i uair-eigin gu math na bu mhotha. Thilg famhair a bha thall ann an Geàrrloch clach aibheiseach a nall thar a' Chuain Sgìth, ag cuimseachadh air tigh famhair a bha fuireach air Dùn Hasgaill an teis meadhon Rudha nam Bràithrean. An àite bualadh air an tigh, is ann a bhuail a' chlach air creagan an Dùin is chaidh i 'na trì bloighdean a sgap an sud 's an so. Thuit bloigh air mullach na Crannaig. Sheòl an dà bhloigh eile seachad air a sin, fear dhuibh gu àite ris an abair iad A' Mhucallach, mu mhìle gu leth an iar, agus stad an t-aon eile thall dlùth do Dhùn Reiseaborg, mu dhà mhìle an iar thuath! Chithear an sud iad thun an latha an diugh.

Anns na seann làithean, nuair a bha an Lon'earna uile 'na ghabhail fearainn aig an aon tuathanach-Fear an Lon'earna, bhruadar e oidhche gun d'fhuair e ulaidh fo chloich na Crannaig. An ath latha thòisich e air cladhach fo'n chloich is ceithir thimchioll oirre. An déidh a bhith deagh ghreis ag obair an sin, nuair a bha sloc domhain air a dheanamh is gun nì ri fhaicinn ach ùir, sguir Fear an Lon'earna de bhùrach is chaidh e dhachaidh.

Uine gheàrr 'na dhéidh, co-dhiubh, dé thachair ach gun do choinnich dà reithe sgoinneil leis fhéin ri taobh na cloiche móire, agus a shabaid gun deach iad. Is e a' chrìoch a bh'aig an t-sabaid gun deach na h-adhaircean cruinn an sàs mu chéile gus an robh iad glaiste 's nach robh e an comas nan creutairean faotainn réidh. Anns an t-suidheachadh sin thuit an dà reithe eireachdail sìos anns an t-sloc far an d'fhuair iad bàs.

B'e sud an ulaidh! 'S ann tearc a thig bruadar gu teachd mar a chithear e.

TORMOD DOMHNALLACH.

### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Ainmean-cinnidh.-Air duilleig eile de'n Mhìosachan so tha an t-Ollamh Iain Camshron, Ccann-suidhe a' Chomuinn, a' toirt deagh iomraidh am Beurla air an leabhar mór eireachdail a tha an t-Ollamh Seòras MacGhille-dhuibh an New York an deidh a chur an clò mu "Ainmean-cinnidh na h-Albann." Gu mì-fhortanach 's e prìs mhór a th'air an leabhar, trì notaichean tha mi an dùil, agus cha mhór an diugh as urrainn an làmh a chur san sporan cho domhain sin. Ach tha fhios gum faighear iasad de'n leabhar anns na leabharlannan air feadh na dùthcha. Tha anns an leabhar thomadach so na chumadh cagnadh ri duine fad a bheatha-

Mar a tha an t-Ollamh Camshron ag ràdh, tha ùghdar an leabhair ag cur sìos gach fiosrachaidh air a bheil dearbhadh aige ann an seann sgrìobhainnean, agus tha e a' seachnadh gach nì air nach 'eil dearbhadh cinnteach aige. Cha chòrd so ri feadhainn, oir is iomadh sgeul gun bhun a tha co-cheangailte

ri ainmean-cinnidh agus ainmean-àitean. Nach cuala mi fhéin fear a' mìneachadh an ainm-aite "Breacais" san t-Srath san Eilean Sgitheanach mar "àite a tha breac le uisge (móran lochan beaga air feadh a' mhonaidh).

Cluinnear feadhainn ag radh gu bheil an t-ainm-àite "Ardabhasir" an Sléibhte san Eilean Sgitheanach ag ciallachadh "an àite anns an do bhàthadh saor." Bheil fhios an e so an Saor Sléibhteach bho'n tàinig Clann Mhic an t-Saoir? Ann an "Rainn Gearradh-arm" tha Donnchadh Bàn (agus b'ann de Chloinn Mhic an t-Saoir e fhéin) ag ràdh mar so, agus e labhairt mu'n t-Saor Shléibhteach no "Saor na h-Ordaig," mar a theirte ris:

Bha sibh uair gu grinn a' seòladh Air tuinn sàile, Chaidh tarrang a aon de bhòrdaibh Druim a' bhàta : Leis a' chabhaig spàrr e an òrdag Sìos 'na h-àite,

Is bhuail e gu teann leis an òrd i, Is ceann di fhàgail.'

Aimsir Ghailbheach .-- Aig ám a bhith sgrìobhadh nam facal so tha an sneachd agus an reothadh fhathast againn agus gun dùil ri feabhas. Chan e mhàin gun d'aobhraicheadh móran ana-cothrom is call cheana air feadh na rìoghachd ach bithidh buil na h-aimsire so 'na éire oirnn fad iomadh latha. Tha eadhon na speuradairean iad fhéin ag call am misnich. Dhearbhadh ceàrr iad cho tric 's gu bheil iad nise a' diùltadh innse mar a b'àbhaist dé seòrsa tide bhios ann am màireach.

Tha cuid a' saoilsinn gu bheil an Sruth Mór á Bàgh Mhexico air falbh o chùrsa, agus mar sin chan 'eil e a' blàthachadh cladaichean siar Bhreatainn mar a b'àbhaist. Tha feadhainn eile de'n bheachd gur e spreadhadh nam bomaichean atomach a tha deanamh deifir. Ciod air bith an t-aobhar, chan 'cil móran dhaoine beò an diugh dh'fhiosraich aimsir cho gàbhaidh riamh roimhe. Bhiodh e coltach gun do sheachain taobh an iar-thuath na Gàidhealtachd agus na h-Eileanan làn-ànradh na h-aimsire so, ach 's dòcha gum bi an sneachd air an ruigheachd mus laigh sùil air an duilleig so.

"Caitein" is "Caigeann."-Tha Alasdair Buidhe a' faighneachd ciod as ciall do na facail so, "caitein" is "caigeann." Is e "caitein" seòrsa de chlòimhteach a bhios air uachdar aodaich mar chlò Hearach no clò molach sam bith. Abrar ris anns a' Bheurla "nap." Cleachdar am facal cuideachd ADTATTS anns a Dneuria map. Creamnar am tacas canadasam mu àile gaoithe no mu'n ghreann a thogas gaoth air uisge. Tha "caigeann" ag ciallachadh "paidhir," a dhà de sheòrsa sam bith, mar "chaigeann iasg" (dà iasg air an aon ghad no air an ceangal ri chéile air an iorbaill). Is minic a chunnaic mi mo sheanamhair ag caigneadh éisg; 's e sin, an déidh an glanadh 's an sgoltadh, 'gan ceangal 'nam paidhrichean, iorball ri iorball, gus an crochadh chum an tiormachadh agus an cruadhachadh. Bha so san Eilean Sgitheanach. Ann am Muile chuala mi am facal air a chleachdadh mar so-"caigeann salainn," 's e sin, "beagan salainn."

Gliocas nan Gàidheal.-Am fear a ghléidheas a theanga gléidhidh e a charaid. W 10

Firinn air son a' Mhìos so .- "Is ball beag an teanga, agus ni i mór-uaill. Feuch, cia mór an connadh a lasar le teine cho beag ! "-Seumas iii, 5.

#### CALUM GOBHA.

Bha Calum gobha a' tighinn dachaidh oidhche shònraichte agus deoch air, agus e tomhas an rataad. Thàinig an sagart seachad air muin eich, agus ghabh

e fearg mhór a bhith faicinn Chaluim mar sin.
"Seachainn mo rathad," ars esan.
"Seachinn sibh fhéin mo rathad-sa," arsa Calum, "agus e nas fhasa dhuibh-se na dhomh-sa!"

L. M.

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Helensburgh .- The Helensburgh and Clan Colombonn Association is holding regular meetings, and on the evening of 12th February, I presided at a Ceilidh held in the Victoria Hall, Helensburgh. I was accompanied by Miss Chris Turner and Mr. Alasdair Matheson, who assisted with a very fine programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs, readings, and Bagpipe selections. The other Gaelic singers were Miss Annie Mac-Askill and Mr. Donald MacSporran. A well-attended Gaelic Class is sponsored by the Association and the teacher is supplied by the Dunbartonshire Education Committee. The President of the Association is Mr. D. J. Ewing Hunter, a worthy son of a worthy father, the late Dr. Ewing Hunter, who was himself President for many years. Mr. Hunter entertained An Comunn Party to supper, and I stayed overnight as his guest at Invertyon." The Helensburgh and Clan Colquboun Association has been affiliated to An Comunn for many years.

Arrochar .- On the initiative of Sir Iain Colquhoun of Luss, K.T., a Grand Concert in aid of An Comunn Central Fund was held in the Village Hall, Arrochar, on 14th February. The programme was arranged from An Comunn Office, and the following well-known and talented artistes took part—Miss Helen T. MacMillan, Mrs. Petrine Stewart, Angus Whyte (Gold Mcdallists), Effic Morrison (Elocutionist), and Alasdair Matheson. Miss Chris Turner, in addition to playing the accompaniments, gave selections of Highland music. The Luss Highland Society pipers played stirring selections. Sir Iain Colquhoun, who travelled specially from London to be present, presided. I gave short addresses in Gaelic and English, and it is hoped to form a Branch of An Comunn here in the near future. Votes of Thanks were proposed in Gaelic and English by Mr. A. L. Thomson of the Loch Long Hotel, a former President of An Comunn Branch in the Island of Coll. Thereafter Sir Iain entertained An Comunn Party to supper in Arrochar House, a former residence of the Macfarlan Chiefs. He thanked the Party for their visit and for the splendid programme they had submitted. I responded, and on behalf of An Comunn I thanked Sir Iain for arranging the Concert and for his generous support of An Comunn for many long years.

Sir Iain referred to a Gaelic inscription on a stone over the portal of the house in which we were being entertained. The stone bears the date 1697, and the inscription is as follows :-

"THUGADH A CHLACH SO BHO ARD DORUS AN AITREAMH: A THOG EOIN, TRIATH NAM PARLANAICH.

AGUS TIGHEARNA AN ARRATHIR. AIR CULTHAOBH AN TIGHE SO.

ANN SA BHLIADHNA ATA SGRIOBHTE ORRA.

Motherwell .- The Motherwell and Wishaw Highlanders Association is very active under the genial Presidentship of Mr. Lachlan MacLachan. On Saturday, 15th February, accompanied by Angus Whyte, Alasdair Matheson, and Miss Chris Turner, as accompanist, I paid what I may term my annual visit to Motherwell and presided over a very fine gathering in Fraser's Tea Rooms. The usual high-class programme of songs, pipe music, and Highland dancing was submitted. There was also a service of tea. It was announced that it is proposed to hold a Gaelic Class next session and enrolments were invited. At the close, ex-Provost Morris, who represents the Association on the Executive Council of An Comunn. moved Votes of Thanks.

Stirling .- This Branch has had a very successful session. and the Gaelic Class-Beginners and Advanced-has made splendid progress under the able instruction of Mr. Kenneth Grant, M.A. I attended a Ceilidh of the Branch on 21st February, and, considering the severe weather conditions prevailing at the time, the attendance was excellent. Mr. MacNicol, President, and Mrs. Scott, Secretary, are doing excellent work in providing first-rate programmes, and their

efforts are highly appreciated by the members.

Mull.—I left Glasgow on Monday morning, 24th February, and proceeded direct to Bunessan, where a largely attended meeting was held in the Hall in the evening. I was accompanied by Mr. Iain A. MacSween, Organiser for Music and Drama, and he assisted with the programme. The Rev. Kenneth M. MacMillan presided, and during the course of the evening I presented to Mr. Donald Cowan, Lees, the An Comunn Gaidh-

calach Trophy which he had won for the best Cromag in the Art and Industry Committee's Competitions at the Aberdeen Mod. The first-prize Cromag, which was much admired when exhibited during the Mod proceedings, was returned to Mr. Cowan. The Chairman also made reference to the honour which Mr. Cowan had brought to the district, and expressed the hope that others would follow his example. Mr. Cowan replied and thanked An Comunn for its interest in the Industry Section. The proceedings were conducted entirely in Gaclic. and at the close the Branch was reconstituted with the following and at the close the Branch was reconstituted with the following Office-bearers—President, Rev. Kenneth M. MacMillan; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Duncan MacDonald, M.A., and Donald Lamont; Secretary, Mr. Donald A. MacKechnie, Postmaster; Treasurer, Mr. Isaac MacKinnon; Committee, Miss M. Black, Miss Gibson, Mrs. MacDougall, Mrs. Alex. MacKechnie, Messrs. Iain Campbell (Bard), Iain Campbell, and Donald Cowan

On the following day we visited some of the schools and added members to the roll of Comunn na h-Oigridh-6 girls and 2 boys at Bunessan, and 4 girls and 3 boys at Pennyghael. On the 26th, 3 girls and 1 boy were enrolled at Salen. I had intended to visit Ulva Ferry school, where a Feachd had been formed in 1935, but, on ascertaining that there were only four pupils on the roll, I decided to postpone my visit until there was a likelihood of an increase in the school population.

A Ceilidh was arranged for the evening at Salen, but, owing to the very severc weather and the difficulty of transport, the attendance was small, and the proposed reconstitution of

the Branch was not undertaken.

I should like to make special mention of the good work being done for Gaelic by Mr. Duncan MacDougall at Bunessan School, and by Miss Anne MacDougall at Salen School. They merit the cordial thanks of An Comunn, and I may add that their service to the Gaelic Cause is much appreciated by parents and the general public.

No opportunity was lost in pressing for support of the Provincial Mod to be held at Oban on 6th June, and Mr. MacSween distributed copies of the syllabus and relative music sheets. Mull could provide many competitors of more than ordinary ability, and a return visit by Mr. MacSween would, I feel certain, ensure a number of entries from Muilc nan Craobh

Perth .- The Mod Local Committee at Perth are sparing no effort to make the National Mod of 1947 a financial success Already a Highland Ball has been held, and on 18th April a Gaelic Rally, for which well-known artistes have been engaged, will be held in the City Hall, Perth. The General Appeal has been distributed to members and others by means of this Magazine, and Branch Secretaries have been asked to bring the claims of the Perth Mod before their Committees.

Glasgow .- The third of the series of the Glasgow Branches Joint-Committee Concerts was held in the Christian Institute, Glasgow, on Saturday, 22nd February. Mr. John A. Nicolson, Convener, presided, and, despite the inclement weather, there was a large attendance. The April Concert will be held in the same hall on the 19th, and for it an attractive programme has been arranged.

Edinburgh .- The Edinburgh Local Mod will be held in the Central Halls, Tollcross, Edinburgh, on Saturday, 24th May. Mr. Ian C. Cameron, 15 Findhorn Place, Edinburgh, 9, is the Secretary, and he will be glad to send a copy of the syllabus to anyone interested. The Edinburgh Branch's Annual Gathering was held in the Central Halls on 21st February, Dr. John Cameron, President of An Comunn, in the Chair. Despite the worst weather of the winter, the all-Gaelic programme was greatly enjoyed by quite a large audience.

#### AN CUAN AGUS AR CANAIN.

Ann an "Duatharachd na Mara" tha an t-Ollamh Urramach Coinneach MacLeòid a' toirt am follais, le loinn agus snas, an dealachadh a tha eadar ''litreachas na mara ''agus ''litreachas na beinne,'' agus an gréim a rinn an cuan air cridhe is inntinn is mac-meanmnain luchd-àiteachaidh nan eilean.

Bha sin a' ruith troimh m'inntinn is mi air an t-slighe a chéilidh gu tigh anns an nàbaidheachd. Is e sin a dh'aobharaich gun tug mi fainear air son a' cheud uair mar a tha am muir air fhilleadh a steach, chan ann a mhàin ann an rosg agus am bàrdachd, ach ann an cainnt leac-an-teinntein anns na h-eileanan siar

Bha an còmhlan àbhaisteach cruinn agus Pàdraig Chaluim air ceann na beinge. Bha nàbaidh Phàdraig glé thinn, agus dh'fhoighnich mi ciod e mar a bha a charaid.

"Tha e fasnadh an t-srutha," thuirt esan

"Bha thu fhéin agus esan glé mhór aig a chéile," arsa mise. "Bha sinn a riamh air aon ràmh," ars esan, "agus is iomadh rudha ris na shuath sinn ann an cuideachd a chéile."

A mach troimh an fheasgar bha còmhradh a null 's a nall air iomadh cuspair, agus thug ni an aire cho tric 's a bha am fear-labhairt a' dol a dh'ionnsaigh na mara no a dh'ionnsaigh a' chladaich air son samhla no gnàth-fhacail a dhaingnicheadh a bhriathran. Bha bruidheann air biadh is comas cuid bìdhc a chur as an t-sealladh.

Arsa Pàdraig: "Tha saoithean ann an goile Thormoid

mar bhiodh faochag ann an uachdar an t-sabhail. Thuirt cuid-eigin gu robh tigh àraidh anns a' bhaile " mar

gun cuireadh am muir air tìr e." (B'i luid a' bhean-tighe.) Bha bodach ag còmhnaidh leis fhéin ann am bothan beag, mar a thuirt fear de'n luchd-céilidh, "mar gum biodh c fo bhial cléibh-ghiomach.

Tha gnàth-fhacail air an tarraing bho'n fhairge pailt 'nar cànain, agus bha cuid dhiubh air an cleachdadh an oidhche ud, ach chan 'eil rùm an so an ainmeachadh no leudachadh orra.

Chuir fear-an-tighe crìoch air ar céilidh le seanchas beag. Bha uair gu robh fiodh gann anns na h-eileanan, agus bha fiodh cladaich prìseil. Chuir fear àraidh a leth-taobh sailthean a bhiodh freagarrach air son ciste-laighe nuair a thigeadh crìoch a réis. Shiubhail am bodach. Thug a charaid, a bha dol a dheanamh na ciste-laighe, nuas na sailthean bho na sparran. Ach bha am fìodh air a tholladh cho dona leis na reudain is gun dubhairt e nach deanadh e an gnothach idir

Ars a bhean : "Sin am fiodh a chuir e fhéin seachad gu cùramach. Ni e a' chùis maith gu leòir. Chan ann a' dol gu muir a tha e!"-A. M.

#### BAS CHAIRDEAN.

We regret to record the deaths of the following, who in different ways helped forward the Gaelic Cause, and we express our deep sympathy with their respective families.

#### Phemie Marquis.

Mrs. John R. Colquhoun, better known as Phemie Marquis, died on 15th February, exactly three weeks after the death of her husband.

Phemie Marquis was one of the foremost exponents of Gaelic song in our generation. For many years she enjoyed a quite unique popularity on the concert platform and did much to popularise Gaelic music, not only among Gaels but also among non-Gaels.

Mrs. Colquhoun gave long and faithful service to An Comunn. For over thirty years she was a member of the Executive Council, and in particular she did magnificent work for the Great Feill of 1927. She also served for many years on the Executive Committee of the Highlanders' Institute. In many other ways she served her fellow-Highlanders well, not least by her encouragement of younger singers. She has left behind the example of musical talents of a high order dedicated to high purposes, and many will long cherish the memory of a gracious and charming personality, unwearied in good works.

It was an indication of the high regard in which she was held and of her many friendships that so many in various walks of life and so many representatives of cultural activities were present at her funeral, which took place to Govan Old Churchyard. The funeral services, at the house and at the graveside, were conducted by the Rev. T. M. Murchison, Editor of An Gàidheal

#### John MacCormick.

Mr. John MacCormick also died on 15th February. A native of Mull, he spent almost all his life in Glasgow, where

in the cightics of last century he attended the University. and it is said that "as a fluent and accurate Gaclic speaker

and scholar he had few, if any, equals at the University."

Through many years Mr. MacCormick maintained a high reputation as a prolific writer of Gaelic, both prose and verse, but mainly essays and sketches. On many occasions he distinguished himself in the Mod literary competitions. He had an undoubted literary flair, and many of his writings will long be read with pleasure and profit. Among his better long be read with pleasure and profit. Among his better known publications are "Oiteagan o'n Iar," 'Gun Tug I Spéis Do'n Armunn," "Seanchaidh na Tràghad," and "Seanchaidh na h-Airigh," but probably his best-known work is "Dan-Aluinn." He also wrote a very readable book in English about the topography, history and lore of his native Isle of Mull.

In the early years of this century there was in Glasgow a group of Gaelic writers, which included Henry Whyte ("Fionn"), Calum MacPharlain, and John MacCormick, who achieved a quite remarkable output of Gaelic writing, remarkable in quality as well as in quantity. While the Gaelic literary tradition is by no means dead, there is unfortunately, no similar group today, and the passing of John MacCormick but serves to remind us of what was done by him and his associates in their time and what might well he done again.

#### MacKinnon of MacKinnon.

Francis Alexander MacKinnon, 35th Chief of the Clan MacKinnon, died on 27th February at the age of ninety-eight. In early life he acquired fame as a cricketer. As became a Highland Chief, although unfortunately it is not always true of Highland Chiefs, he took a keen interest in Gaelic and Highland affairs, and for many years was a strong supporter of An Comunn. Despite his extreme old age, he was able to be present at the National Mod in Aberdeen last September and was among those presented to Her Majesty the Queen on that occasion.

#### DIMEAS NA GAIDHLIGE.

Chaidh a' Ghàidhlig gu cùl buileach anns a' Ghàidhealtachd riamh o sguir na Gàidheil de bhith 'ga bruidhinn timchioll an teallaich agus ag aoradh innte gu follaiseach Di-dòmhnaich. Is ann ainneamh a chluinnear seirbhis Ghàidhlig air tir-mór an diugh, agus aig an iarmad bheag de sheirbhisean a tha ann chan fhaicear ach bodaich agus cailleachan. Bidh cuid ag cur na coire air na ministearan air son nach 'eil seirbhisean Gàidhlig aca, ach chan 'eil an sin ach leisgeul glé sgòdach. Ciod am feum do mhinistear seirbhis Ghàidhlig a chumail mur tig an sluagh 'ga éisdeachd? Chan e am ministear idir as coireach ach dìreach nach 'eil ar Gàidheil ag iarraidh aoradh a dheanamh 'nan cainnt fhéin-chan 'eil i fasanta gu leòr! Is i a' Ghàidhlig an cladhan nàdurra a bu chòir a bhith

freagarrach do'n Ghàidheal air son aoradh a dheanamh do Dhia, agus, a réir mo bheachd fhéin, chan fheàirrde a chor spioradail gu bheil e nis ag aoradh troimh chànain coigreach. Ach fàgaidh mi a' cheist sin an urraidh ri beachd nam minis-

tearan.

Tha an aon seòrsa dìmeas air a dheanamh air a' Ghàidhlig aig cruinneachaidhean de gach seòrsa anns a' Ghàidhealtachd. Ma bhios ministear no banaltrum no maighstir-sgoile no dotair a' faighinn tiodhlaic o'n t-sluagh an uair a bhios iad a' fàgail na sgìre, feumaidh gach moladh is deagh-chliù a tha orra a bhith air a chur an céill le muinntir na sgìre am Beurla chruaidh Shasainn. Tha sin air a mheas nas urramaiche do'n neach a tha fàgail na bhith a' deanamh luaidh air a bhuadhan an Gàidhlig, eadhon ged bhiodh làn a chinn de chànain a mhàthar aige. An can thu rium a nis gu bheil suim aig Gàidheil de'n t-seòrsa sin do an cànain fhéin ? Is fhada uaithe ghabh e.

Bliadhna no dhà an déidh a' chiad chogaidh mhóir thachair dhomh a bhith air chuairt an aon de eileana Innse-Gall a cheart latha a bha carragh-cuimhne a' chogaidh sin air a choisrigeadh anns an eilean. Bha gach òraid an latha sin am Beurla Shasainn ach dìreach gun tug neach nach buineadh do'n eilean taing an Gàidhlig aig deireadh na cùise do'n chomunn a bha aig iomairt na carragh-cuimhne. Ach is e a chuir an dragh ormsa a' cheart latha sin a bhith faicinn air AN GAIDHEAL

mo bhialaibh seana bhean chòir a chaill balach tanaidh deanadach, agus tha fios agam nach do thuig i dusan facal de na h-òraidean Beurla an là ud. Ach biodh fios agad gu robh dithis no triùir de choigrich aig nach robh Gàidhlig anns a chuideachd, agus dh'fheumte urram na Beurla Shasannaich a thoirt dhaibh-san. An can thu rium a nis gu bheil na Gàidheil a' toirt a h-àite fhéin do an cànain ?

Is tric a thuirt Gàidheil riumsa gu robh e móran na b'fhasa dhaibh bruidhinn am Beurla Shasainn na 'nan cànain fhéin, agus creididh mi gur h-e faoisid onarach a bha sin. Nach ann

air Beurla Shasainn a thogadh iad anns an sgoil, agus nach e sin a' cheart mhodh fhòghluim a tha air clann na Gàidhlige an diugh, agus is ann nas miosa a bhios an iomairt sin a' dol gus am bi teagasg na Gàidhlige co-ionann ri fòghlum Beurla Shasainn ann ar sgoilean Gàidhealach. Ach chan fhaic sinn latha an àigh sin am feasda fhad is a bhios Alba 'na h-iorball stlorlagach ceangailte ri Sasainn.

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### THE RAIDERS.

By Angus Duncan.

(Gaelic version, under the title An Seanchaidh will be found in Alba).

Seated on the earthen floor round a glowing peat fire, we listened to Rory's stories

Except for the regular boom of a sea-cave about a mile away, not a sound interrupted the flow of those old world tales. At last he paused, and drew his blackened clay pipe from its resting-place under the end of the bench beside his ehair. We watched him pick up a red-hot cinder, which he held to the pipe until he was well enveloped in smoke. Then

the stories began again.

"My father," said he "used to tell us of the luckiest escape he ever had in his life." We drew nearer to the fire, easting furtive glances in the direction of the door. "It was the year of the great fishing failure," he continued, "and my father, unwilling to come home to a wife and family without a penny in his pocket, decided to go to Inverness in the hope of finding some work there, But, whichever way he turned, he met men from every hamlet between the Butt of Lewis and

Barra Head who were in the same plight, "There was nothing for it but to set his face towards home. So off he went on foot, thinking that, if he could only reach Stromeferry, he might get home on one of the returning fishing-

"He had not gone far when night overtook him. Looking round, he saw a small house on the brow of a hill, and he made straight for it. There was no one in the house but an old man who might have been about eighty years of age.

"The old man gave my father a little supper, and asked him to go to bed, saving that he himself would stay up for his sons who might be back from Inverness any moment. But if my father went to bed, it was not to sleep! Soon after midnight, he heard the clatter of feet outside the house, and then heard something being dragged inside, while the old man gave whispered instructions.

"However, when my father got up in the morning, the old man was still sitting where he had left him the previous night. Not a living soul was to be seen besides! A small table was set for breakfast, with a platter of steaming meat on it. When my father had taken as much as he pleased, he thanked the old man and once more took the road

"But never mind! he had not gone far when he met a tall and handsome young man. 'What has brought you this way? said the young man. My father told him he had been in Inverness looking for work, but that he was now on the way home. 'And where did you spend the night?' asked the young man. My father replied that he had spent the night with an old man about a mile away. 'Did you see anything unusual going on there?' said the young man. 'Nothing at all!' said my father. 'It is as well for you!' said the young

"But never mind! my father had not gone very far when he met another young man, and, if the first was handsome

this one was doubly so, 'What has brought you this way?' said the young man. My father repeated the story that he had been in Inverness looking for work, but that he was now on the way home. 'And where did you spend the night?' asked the young man. My father replied that he had spent the night with an old man about two miles away. 'Did you see anything unusual going on there?' said the young man. 'Nothing at all!' said my father. 'It is as well for you!' said the young

"But never mind! my father had not gone much further when he met a third young man, and, if the other two were handsome. this was the handsomest of all. What has brought you this way?" said he. My father once more repeated his story, that he had been in Inverness looking for work, but that he was now on the way home. 'And where did you spend the night?' asked the young man. My father replied that he had spent the night with an old man about three miles away. 'Did you see anything unusual going on there?' said the young man. 'Nothing at all!' said my father. 'It is as well for you! ' said the young man.

"That night my father slept in a shepherd's hut a good many miles from Inverness. Before leaving next morning he told the shepherd about the young men he met on the road and how he had answered them. 'It was, indeed, well for you,' said the shepherd. 'These were the old man's three sons, and, had you added a single word to what you said, you would not have lived to tell the tale.

"That," said the story-teller, "was the luckiest escape my father ever had on land or on sea."

#### ABAIR GIOMACH!

So cunntas air giomach a fhuair mi aig Gàidheal a mhuinntir Chonamara, fear a bha sàr-eòlach air tanalachd is doimhne

cois fairge.
"Is cuimhne leam uair a thog sinn giomach mór á lion ballach, a bha ceithir troighean air fhad o bhàrr iorbaill gu 'spioroid a' mhullaigh' (a ghob, is dòcha leam). Bha e suas ri ceithir clachan an cudthrom. Bha an giomach air a chòmhdach le bàrnaich is gach seòrsa,

air chor agus gur gann a dh'aithnicheadh iad e. Cha robh móran maitheis ann ri itheadh : bha an t-iasg fìor bhog ann, agus móran uisge air fheadh.

Am faeas a leithid riamh an Innse Gall?

#### PROPAGANDA NOTES.

#### Northern Area.

Dundee.—On 19th February the Organiser gave a talk to the Dundee Highland Society. There was a large attendance presided over by the Chief of the Society, Mr. MacDonald Chalmers. Mr. Roderick MacDonald, a prominent member of An Comunn, proposed Votes of Thanks in Gaelic.

Inverness .- Several of the Inverness Burgh Schools are to put forward Choirs in the Gaelic Section of the Musical Festival which is to be held in May of this year.

It is also interesting to record that the Girls' Training Corps at Inverness are including Gaelic choral singing in their activities. The girls (aged 14 to 18) meet weekly and enjoy their new experience.

Sutherland Concerts .- Under the auspices of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee, a Concert Party is to visit the County of Sutherland, and concerts are to be held at Lochinver, Dornoch, Durness, Melness, and Lairg. The Party will include Petrine M. Stewart (Mod Gold Medallist), Chrissie MacKenzie, Kiltarlity (first-prize winner at the Aberdeen National Mod), and Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary. The Northern Organiser will accompany the Party and will preside at two of the concerts (Melness and Lairg). The net proceeds from this effort will be sent to the Central Fund of An Comunn.

Northern Sub-Committee .- Meetings of the Northern Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees will be held on Saturday, 22nd March.

Assistant at Inverness Office .- The appointment of an Assistant to Mr. MacPhail at the Inverness Office was made recently. The successful applicant is Miss Archena MacInnes from Breakish, Skye. She was educated at Broadford and at Portrec Secondary School, and served for several years in the "Wrens" during the war. This appointment will be a great asset to the Gaelic Cause in the North and West, and will enable the Organiser to devote more time to Branches and to the Cause in general throughout the Northern Highlands and Islands.

Sutherland Mod .- The syllabus for the County of Sutherland Provincial Mod has just come to hand. In addition to the usual competitions in Literature, Oral, Vocal, Choral and Instrumental Music, in both Junior and Senior Sections, a special prize is to be awarded to the mother of the boy or a special prize is to be awarded to the mother of the boy or girl who has been most successful in the literary and oral sections of the Mod. There is a special competition for members of Comunn na h-Oigridh, and also a special competition for "Poster incorporating Border of Celtic design," size approximately 15 inches by 12 inches. These special competitions should create added interest and the Mod Committee are to be congratulated on their foresight.

### A' MHAOILE SO.

Bho chionn latha no dhà bha mi air chéilidh aig tigh mo nighinn, agus thubhairt a mac, gille mu thrì bliadhna dh'aois : 'A sheanair, dhì-chuimhnich sibh 'ur falt a thoirt leibh an diugh!" Theagamh gun do mhothaich mo charaid beag air son na ceud uaire nach robh m'fhalt cho pailt agus bu chòir dha a bhith.

Ghàirich a' chuideachd uile, 's mi fhéin cho àrd ri càch, oir cha b'e sin a' cheud rud àbhachdach a chuala mi mu mo chion

Thòisich m'fhalt ri tanachadh an uair a bha mi 'nam fhear òg, agus b'iomadh spòrs a rinn mo chàirdean geur-fhoclach m'a dhéidhinn. Ach cha do chuir sin dragh sam bith orm, oir chan 'eil falt chum móran feum co-dhiubh

Bha aon pheasan air leth mì-mhodhail agus thubhairt mi ris latha a bha sud, "An uair a bha mi òg bha mi a cheart cho tiugh 'nam cheann agus a tha thusa an dràsda." Chaill e a

chothrom a bhith ag ràdh gu robh mi mar sin fhathast. Thubhairt mi ris cuideachd nach fhaca mi riamh fear maol ann an ionad-tearmainn (asylum). Cha dubhairt mi co-dhiubh

nach robh mi riamh ann an àite mar sin

Is tric a chuala mi aobharan neònach air son mo chion Thubhairt gille sgaiteach gun do chaill mi m'fhalt an uair a bha mi ag cumail suas bòrd mo chiste am feadh a bha mi ag cunntadh m'airgid!

Thubhairt fear eile (cha robh c idir cho neo-chàirdeil): "Tha fios agam ciamar a thachair c. An uair a bha thu 'nad ghille beag bha na seann mhnathan a' slìobadh do chinn agus ag ràdh, 'Nach tusa an gille beag, maith!'; mar sin spàrr iad na freumhan gus an taobh a stigh!

Bha ministear aighearach, a bha gu maith maol, a' dol mun cuairt a sgìreachd, agus chunnaic e duine ag cur tugha air

mullach a thighe.

'Tha sibh a' deanamh obair mhaith an sin, a Sheumais," ars esan; "an saoil sibh am b'urrainn sibh rud-eigin a dheanamh air son mo mhullaich-sa

"Gu dearbh, cha b'urrainn, a mhinisteir," arsa Seumas : "chan e tughadair a tha a dhith oirbhse ach sglèatair!

Air an t-seachdain so chaidh bha mi aig tigh a' bhearradair. agus bha fear a' bhùtha a' strì ri botul de fhalt-ath-bheòthachas (hair restorer) a reic rium. Thubhairt mi ris: "Nach 'eil fhios agad, fhir mo chridhe, cha mhór nach 'eil do cheann fhéin cho maol ri ubh!

'Tha sin flor," ars esan, "ach tha feadhainn ann a tha sealltainn nas fheàrr gun móran fuilt !

Tha mi an dòchas gur mise aon de'n t-seòrsa sin.

STEAPHAN A. CATHAN.

Is beag fios aig fear an tàimh air ànradh fear na mara-The land-lubber little kens the mariner's hardships.

#### CHAN 'EIL IMRICH GUN DRAGH.

So naidheachd bheag mu Iain MacOdrum, am bàrd

Uidhisteach, an uair a bha e 'na bhalach beag.

Aon latha aig tràth-maidne thug a mhàthair dha cuach de lite agus de bhainne. Thog esan a' chuach far a' bhùird, a dol leatha gu cathair a bha dlùth do'n teine agus a bha e smaointinn a b'fheàrr a fhreagradh air-san na am bòrd. Ach mo thruaighe! thàinig tuisleadh beag sa' bhalach, is thuit e air an ùrlar agus dhòirt e an lite 's am bainne.

Nuair a fhuair e air a chasan, thionndaidh e ri mhàthair agus thubhairt e: "Tubaist air an imrich! Cha robh i riamh

gun dragh, gun chall!

Agus tha mi smaointinn nach robh neach riamh aig a' cheart obair nach aontaicheadh leis a' phàisde.

#### UNESCO.

#### Report by An Comunn's Representative.

As the representative appointed to UNESCO by An Comunn, I had the honour of attending a conference of the Sub-Commission on Creative Arts, which was held at 14 Belgrave Square, London, on 28th February, under the auspices

of the Ministry of Education.

In broad terms, the function of UNESCO-the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisationis that of "contributing to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations in the preservation of men's knowledge of themselves, their world and each other; in the increase of that knowledge through learning, science, and the arts: and in the dissemination of that knowledge through education and through communications generally It is an agency for the preservation of the peace through

understanding.

This is, indeed, a lofty aim and a courageous undertaking; and, while difficulties and frustrations may bestrew the path to achievement, yet with faith, good-will, and sincerity of endeavour, hope of a measure of accomplishment should sustain and inspire all who participate in the pursuit of this

And what of the Celtic contribution to this endeavour? Is it possible that once again a ray of Celtic culture may find opportunity to illumine the mists of distrust among the nations, to dispel misunderstanding, and to enrich the content of the minds of men ?

In the more remote past it was the lamp of Celtic learning that shed the light of truth in the darkened places. UNESCO may afford the means whereby the Celtic contribution might

not be least in lighting the path of peace.

In regard to this particular meeting, I was impressed by the tone of its deliverances. While engaged chiefly in the discussion of preliminaries, several interesting and important matters referring to the creative arts, including literature, were debated with earnestness of purpose and sincerity of motive, directed to the end for which UNESCO stands. In regard to my own part in the proceedings, little need be said. Coma eo-dhiubh, tha mi toilichte gun d'fhuair mi cothrom air facal a labhairt as leth ar cànain féin, a' Ghàidhlig.

#### ACHMHASAN.

Bha an t-Urr. Niall Moireasdan 'na mhinistear an Sgìre nan Loch an Leòdhas aig ám a' chiad aonaidh a rinn na h-eaglaisean, agus bhiodh e an còmhnaidh a' toirt achmhasain do'n choimhthional air son a bhith ag cur seachad a leithid de'n ùine ag connsachadh mu na h-eaglaisean.

Ars esan air feasgar Sàbaid àraidh :

' Bha mi tighinn á Calanais an là roimhe, agus an uair a bha mi dol seachad air an Achadh-mhór chunnaic mi bó ruadh am meadhon feannag choirce ri taobh an rathaid. An ann ag itheadh a' choirce a bha i, a chàirdean ? Chan ann. Is ann a bha i ag cagnadh seann bhròig. A mhuinntir nan Loch, sin dìreach mar a tha sibhse an uair a bhios sibh ag connsachadh mu'n Aonadh!

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### URNUIGH IS IOMRAM.

Is iomadh fliuchadh agus fuachd agus sgìos a dh'fhulaing Gàidheal eudmhor air muir agus air monadh, a' dol astar fada do'n eaglais anns na làithean a chaidh scachad, gu h-àraidh aig ám nan Orduighean.

Bha dithis mhinistearan a' dol gu na h-Orduighean agus ag gabhail an aiseig tarsainn an locha ann an eathar beag, an uair a thàinig briseadh air an aimsir, le gaoith làidir agus uisge

Bha aon dhiubh 'na dhuine mór, tapaidh, agus am fear eile 'na dhuine meanbh agus lag. Nuair a chunnaic iad gu robh iad ann an cunnart, thubhairt am ministear beag ri fear a bhàta gu robh e iomchuidh dhaibh ùrnuigh a dheanamh.

Fhreagair fear a' bhàta, is e a' strì ris na ràimh le uile neart : "Faodaidh am fear beag a dhol a dh'ùrnuigh, ach feumaidh am fear mór a thighinn an so a dh'iomradh air neo bithidh sinn caillte!

An Goistidh.

#### COMHRADH NAM BODACH.

"Chan 'eil mi ràdh gu bheil fhios agadsa cia meud mìos a tha sa' bhliadhna?"

"Tha fhios sin agam cuideachd."

"Chan 'eil fhios agam an deanadh tu a cóig-deug dheth?" "Dheanainn sin dheth cuideachd.'

"O! nam bithinn 'nad àite, dheanainn a fichead dheth

#### LASAN. (Eadar Dà Ghall.)

"A bheil lasan agad?"

"Tha; so dhuit e.

"A bheil bìdeag tombaca agad?"
"Tha; sin agad bìdeag dhuit,"

"A bheil greiseag de phìob agad?"
"Tha; so dhuit i. Tha beul agad fhéin!"

#### NA SEUMARLAIN.

Cha mhór nach cuala mu Dhòmhnall Mac an Rothaich, am bàillidh fòirneartach a bha an Leòdhas ri linn an Ridire Seumas MacMhathain, uachdaran an eilein.

Chaidh bodach á Bhaltos an Uige a dh'aon sgrìob gu Steòrnabhagh a dh'iarraidh fiodha air Mae an Rothaich air son

ceann a chur air sabhal a bha e togail. "Thalla dhachaidh," ars am bàillidh ris a' bhodach ; "tha mì ro dhripeil an diugh."

Sheall am bodach air a' bhàillidh an clàr an aodainn, agus so mar a labhair e: "Chunnaic mi trì seumarlain air Eilean Lcòdhais. A' chiad fhear, is e fìor cheàrd a bha ann : an dara fear, is e smior an trusdair agus a' bhlaigeird a bha ann : agus bha mi an dràsda fhéin ag urnuigh ri Dia gum biodh tu fhéin an so ùine fhada fhathast mun tigeadh an diabhul fhéin 'nad

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### AN COMUNN CONCERT TOUR.

An Comunn Concert Party paid a visit to the Donnachadh Ban Country, and, bearing in mind the severe wintry conditions prevailing with many of the glens blocked by snow, the attendances were very gratifying. The Official Party included Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart, Miss Ina MacLellan, Mr. Angus Whyte, Mr. Tom Buchanan, and Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Sceretary

Dalmally .- The first Concert was held here on 5th March, and the Chair was taken by the Rev. Angus F. MacKinnon, who extended a cordial welcome to the Party. He referred to the excellent efforts An Comunn are making on behalf of the Gaelic language, and appealed to those present to support this effort

by using Gaelic as a medium in their own homes. A first-rate programme was submitted by the artistes, who had to respond to repeated encores from an enthusiastic audience. We are greatly indebted to Mr. John Cameron and Mr. Archie Smith. who in their usual capable manner attended to local arrange-

Strathyre.—On 6th March the Party proceeded to "Bonnie Strathyre," where we were met by Mrs. Edgar, herself a prominent member of the Executive Council of An Comunn. As always, Mrs. Edgar left no stone unturned to ensure the success of the Gathering, but, unfortunately, she had to submit on this occasion to Messrs. Snow and Frost who prevented many loyal supporters from the outlying districts from attending. However, those who were able to surmount the difficult roads were loud in their praise of the programme submitted. The Chair was occupied by the Rev. Christopher MacKinnon, Crianlarich, who gave a resumé of the work of An Comunn and the object of these organised tours throughout the Highlands. A Vote of Thanks to the Chairman and artistes was proposed by the newly appointed Minister of the Parish, Rev. Murdo MacRae, who has been chosen to succeed the late Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, who was for several years the President of An Comunn. Like his predecessor, Mr. MacRae is a keen Gaelic enthusiast, and we wish him a long and happy ministry in the historic parish of Balquhidder. A well-deserved tribute to the organising abilities of Mrs. Edgar was paid by Mr. Matheson, who also thanked the audience for supporting

Crianlarich.—A most successful Concert was held here the following evening, with Mrs. Edgar in the Chair. Mrs. Edgar spoke with first-hand knowledge of the work of An Comunn and also referred to the work of the Central (War Comforts) Committee during the War years. The Concert was on the usual high standard, and the audience greatly enjoyed the programme. On the call of the Rev. C. MacKinnon, Mrs. Edgar was cordially thanked for presiding, and Mr. Matheson expressed thanks to Mr. MacKinnon and Mr. Angus MacIntyre for attending to the necessary local arrangements.

A Successful Tour .- In conclusion, while it must be admitted that the weather to a certain extent rather spoiled the efforts of the Organisers in raising a goodly sum for the Central Fund, there is no doubt whatsoever that their work was greatly appreciated, and a favourable impression created. indeed, at each centre visited I was repeatedly asked, "How soon can you all come back?" Therefore, from a propaganda view-point, it can safely be said that the outcome of this latest tour was excellent.

Once more I must express my sincere appreciation to my very good friends-Petrine, Ina, and Angus-for their continued excellent assistance and good fellowship in a Cause which we all have so much at heart. On this occasion we had the assistance also of Tom Buchanan, Tyndrum, and never before has he been heard to better advantage. The only reward of these artistes is the thanks of many people throughout the Highlands who appreciate all they are doing on behalf of the ALASDAIR. old language.

#### BODACH NA GEALAICH.

"Tha iad," ars am fear eile, "ag cumail a mach an diugh gu bheil daoine anns na rionnagan, agus bheirinn leam làn cléibh dhiubh air mo dhruim. Chan 'eil sìon a dh'fhios againne air na nithean sin. Is e an t-aon nì air a bheil cinnte againne gu bheil bodach anns a' ghealaich!" B.

#### AN CLUINN?

Tha Villijalmur Stefansson ag innseadh dhuinn far 'eil am fuachd anabarrach mòr gun cluinnear rud anabarrach fad as. Aig —60° gu —80° cluinnidh tu daoine cainnt ri chéile agus iad mìle gu leth air falbh; agus cluinnidh tu duine a' bragadaich le a chasan dà mhìle air falbh; agus cluinnidh tu an cù ag comhartaich no an duine a' spealgadh an fhiodha dà mhìle dheug air falbh bhuat,

#### NEW BOOKS. Scottish Surnames.

THE SURNAMES OF SCOTLAND: THEIR ORIGIN, MEANING AND HISTORY, by George F. Black (New York Public Library,

This significant work deals with the origin, meaning and

history of several thousand Scottish surnames.

Dr. Black, in a scholarly introduction of 58 pages, points out that the interpretation and history of most Scottish personal names and surnames is of importance as throwing light on the ethnology and genealogy of the people inhabiting the country. In the case of territorial surnames and surnames of foreign origin, he goes to ancient records, and, as far as possible, he states the year or period when they first appear in such records. In the early days surnames were the exception rather than the rule. The ctymologies of Scottish surnames, as in the case of other nations of mixed races, must, in many obscure instances, be a matter of conjecture, especially where the name has not emerged into any degree of prominence in the historical documents of the past. A large number of Scottish surnames are patronymics.

derived in many cases from affectionate or pet diminutives of proper names, as Dickson, Robson, Thomson, Watson, Wilson. This custom of naming appears to have commenced with the beginning of the 14th century, when it became the practice for sons to take their surnames from the Christian names of their fathers. Patronymics were not permanent. They changed with each succeeding generation, and it was well into the 18th century before the cumbersome system was

given up in the Highlands.

No surnames appear, Dr. Black points out, in the charters of Alexander I. (1106-1124), and it is not till the reign of his brother and successor, David I. (1124-1153), that we find them coming into use

The first people in Scotland to acquire fixed surnames were the nobles and great landowners, who called themselves or were called by others after the land they possessed

Many old Gaelic personal names were taken from the names of animals remarkable chiefly for their ferocity, strength or swiftness, the wolf and the bear being prominent; and the individuals so named were supposed to possess in an eminent degree the characteristic qualities of these animals. Colour adjectives also enter into the formation of Gaelic names.

In Gaeldom, Dr. Black points out, after the introduction of Christianity, a child born on a Saint's Day was baptised as the mael (later, maol), i.e. the "bald" or "tonsured" servant or devotee, of that Saint. Hence the large number of old Gaelic personal names of this class compounded with the name of Jesus (Maol Iosa), Mary (Maol Moire or Maol Muire), Michael (Maol Micheil), Patrick (Maol Phadruig). After the 12th century maol was gradually displaced by gille ("scrvant," "lad"), as in Gille Iosa, Gille Bride, Gille Micheil, Gille

Phadruig, etc.

The advisability, which existed over great parts of Scotland during many generations, of belonging to a large and powerful clan resulted in the assumption of the Clan surnames of Campbell in Argyll, of MacDonald in the Western Isles and Kintyre, and of MacKenzie in the North-West by persons who merely lived in these districts and were of no kindred to the Chief to whose Clan they attached themselves or whose protection they claimed and under whose banner they fought.

In the Hebrides, where Gaelic eventually predominated. Dr. Black states, Norse patronymics were translated into Gaelic, as, e.g., Thorketillsson became MacCorquodale, and

Ivarsson became Maciver.

Surnames in the Highlands are of comparatively late date, and in charters and other documents even as late as the first quarter of the 18th century there are examples wherein a man is designated by his father's, and not seldom by his father's and grandfather's and great-grandfather's, names, as John Roy McEan Vc Ewin Vc Dougall Vc Ean, the name of the tenant of Balligrundill, Lismore, in 1585.

In the author's opinion, all Gaelic surnames (there are strictly speaking no longer any patronymics) ought to be written as one word; as a prefix to a name, "Mac" should

never be followed by a capital letter.

The work is historical and scientific in its treatment of the subject, and the author leaves the folklore and fairy tales of family and Clan origins to other writers with a penchant for

that kind of writing.

The author had hoped that the book would be published in Britain in 1939—the logical place for the subject—but the outbreak of the World War made this impossible. The material for the work had been collected over a period of forty years. Scotsmen everywhere are deeply indebted to the learned author. and he is to be congratulated on a book of outstanding scholarship and of great and abiding interest and value.

JOHN CAMERON.

#### Folklore.

"Bealoideas," The Journal of the Folklore of Ireland Society, Vol. XV. (10/6, post free).

Begun some twenty years ago, Bealoideas, under the able editorship of Mr. J. H. Delargy, who is also Director of the Irish Folklore Commission, has now reached its 15th volume. The motto of the Society is Colligite que superaverunt fragmenta ne percent, and this motto is interpreted in the widest possible way. In the words of a member of the Irish Folklore Commission, who contributes an article on the Questionnaire System to the present volume, the work of the Commission consists of recording everything of a traditional character which can throw light on the social and cultural life of the Irish people in the past." A recent questionnaire on methods of roofing and thatching is illustrated with distribution maps.

One of the most interesting types of contribution is the "Seanchas," or reminiscences, of old people who often, by easily traceable steps, take us back to the eighteenth century, to days when cggs were a penny a dozen, and Cork butter was in great demand, on account of its lasting qualities, by ships which might be years at sea; back to the days when landlords exacted their rents in gold, and unscrupulous factors made fortunes by supplying golden guineas at twenty-six shillings each. The old men hark back with nostalgia to the time when whisky cost tenpence a pint and tobacco eightpence a With less regret they recall some of the last attempts to enforce the Jus Prima Noctis. These are but a few instances of the many interesting sidelights on the social history of earlier times to be derived from the various contributions to this volume.

Scottish readers will find of high interest the traditional tales (Conall Olaban, Mac Righ Cruachan; Uilleam bi'd shuidhe; Sgrìob liath an earraich; Na sìthchean agus an coire) collected by Calum I. Maclean in Raasay. Mr. Maclean's work stamps him as a first-class folklore investigator. He is thoroughly versed in Scottish and Irish Gaelic and has had years of experience with the Irish Folklore Commission. He has an added advantage over his forerunners in Scotland in that he has an Ediphone recording machine at his disposal and thus can give an accurate verbatim rendering of the

reciters' words.

As there has apparently been some criticism of an Irish organisation undertaking such work in Scotland, a few words on this subject may not be out of place. Work such as this can not be carried on without financial backing, and the regrettable fact has to be faced that up to now there has been no support forthcoming in Scotland for this branch of research Meanwhile this type of information is perishing as the old people die out. It is not the fact that Calum Maclean has recorded these old songs and tales for all time that will make them vanish from the Isles, but the passing on of the old people in whose retentive minds they were stored and the like of whom will not be seen again. In the meantime it is satisfactory that these things are being put on record somewhere and that somebody is engaged in collecting the fragments. Knowledge knows no political bounds.

#### Scottish and Highland History.

HERE'S SCOTLAND'S STORY, by W. R. Kermack (W. & A. K. Johnston, 3/6), just published, surveys the development of the Scottish nation from Roman times to the present, and does it remarkably well within less than 100 pages. Here, indeed, is Scotland's story—not the so-called "high-lights": of it, for "princes and prelates" and "battles long ago" here take second place to movements and factors of prime significance. As might be expected from the author of the Historical Geography of Scotland, an excellent little book first published as long ago as 1913 but still of great value, due attention is paid to the influence of the physical configuration of the country. Conditions in the Highlands are kept in view throughout, and there are several references to the Gaelie language, while the foundation of An Comum is also mentioned. Brief though it is, this little book is no dry summary of dates and events but a very readable narrative. The book is beautifully printed and has several excellent illustrations and good mans.

SCOTLAND'S WAR LOSSES, by Duncan Duff (Scottish Secretariat, 1/-), recently published, surveys the military contribution made by Scotland to the British Forces since the Union of 1707, and concludes that the value to Scotland of the skill and valour devoted by Scotlamen to the service of Great Britain was precisely nil. A mass of well-documented information is here presented which should provide much food for

thought to our people.

The Scottish Wax, 1746-1946, by Dr. F. W. Robertson (Skottish Secretariat, 64), which appeared some time ago, claims to present "the Truth about the Highland Clans' and to explain what Jacobitism stood for and the forces against it. There is much useful, and sometimes little-known, information here, but the pamphelt would have been much more useful if references to authorities had been added. At many points one would like to check the authority for statements made, and sometimes one gets the impression that the author is more concerned to argue a case than to present all the relevant facts. On the whole, however, it is a fairly reasonable estatement.

7. M. M. T.

### EADAR SINN FHEIN. ORAN A' PHRIONNSA.

Fhir mo Chridhe,—Bhithinn fada an comain duine a bheireadh còlas domh air o'nn Gàidhlig a dh'fhàgadh air B'ionnghal NicDhòmhnaill no "Fionnghal a' Phrionnsa". Phuair mi dà rann de'n òran o chiom bhiadhnaichean o'n oileanach fhìor-eòlach, fhìor-shuaire, Uilleam MacMhathain. So an dara ranniach,

"Chunna mis' thu 'n dé, a Thearlaich, Dìreadh ghleann is bheanntan àrda, San rium fhin bu sgìth a bha thu,

Uisge do chinn is tinn rinn m'fhàgail." Mar a thuirt Iain Gobha ri mhac, "Ged a gheibhinn-sa

am bàs, is bàrd thusa !'

Có aige tha rann no rainn eile? A bheil an t-òran sgrìobhte an àite air bith? Agus dé am barantas a tha againn a bhith 'ga fhàgail air an té a bha 'na cluì cho mór do Ghàidhealtachd Albann?

Tha òran àr againn a rinn an t-Urramach Calum Laing air an dearbh chuspair, agus "Oran a' Phrìonnsa" aige air. Ghan aithne dhomh briathran is fonn as fheàrr na tha san dearbh òran so aige mar fhìor rud Gàidhealach, agus is maith as fhiach e bhith air a thogall aig am B.S.

Is e call mór a bhitheadh ann an t-òran no am fonn a dhol a dhìth.—Mise le dùrachd. B.

## IF A LANGUAGE DIES, CAN IT LIVE AGAIN?

Dear Sir,—The striking article by F. M. Williams in the January An Gadihacl under the above heading is at once a stimulus and a warning. May I submit as a footnote to that contribution the following extract from the introduction "Kettic Researches" by E. W. B. Nicholson, Bodleian Librarian, Oxford:

"No sensible man who wished the Highlander to live in intimacy and friendship with the other races which inhabit these isles, or who wished to see him cultivated and prosperous, would do otherwise than wish him to speak and read English well. But I hope the day will never come when Gaelic will become extinct in the Highlands, as unhappily Cornish was allowed to become extinct in the eighteenth century. In it are embedded no small part of the Highlander's history, the history of his settlements, the history of his descent, the history of his thought, the history of his culture. It is not only had for a race to forget such things, but it is bad for science too. No study of a dead language can recover for us all of that knowledge which would have been transmitted by its preservation. Every Highlander, every Irish Gael, every Manxman, and every Helbaman should know and speak the speech of his fathers, and should see that his children should also know and speak it. And every Government should show for all such healthy developments of race feeling that sympathy which is the bond of union."—Le môr mheas,

#### WANTED-A MORE VIGOROUS POLICY.

Sir,-I entirely agree with the opinions expressed by Mr.

Ranald C. MacDonald on the above subject.

If Gaelic is to survive as a spoken language in Scotland, An Comum must pursue a more vigorous policy and a more intensive propaganda on behalf of the spoken language. The average Gaidheat to-day is quite careless about the preservation of his own language and culture. He does not use it in his daily conversation, neither does he teach it to his children, and, worst of all, he is not conscious that through his neglect of his native language he is rapidly losing his nationality and his culture, for language is the greatest bond which unities any

I would suggest that An Comunn should issue a circular in Gaelic and English, pointing out the serious state of the spoken language in Scotland today, and urging our Gaidheil to use it themselves on all possible occasions and to teach it to their children. This circular could be distributed throughout the Highland counties with the help of Branches of An Comunn, schools, and members of Comunn as holicids.

A circular of this kind would at least reveal to our Gaidheil that they are losing their greatest heritage—their native language; and, surely, it would be the means of awakening at least a few of them from their national slumber.

JOHN N. MACLEOD.

#### IS FEARR EISIMPLEIR NA COMHAIRLE.

A Charsid,—During the past year it has been growing increasingly obvious that there is a tremendous revival of interest in Gaelic language and literature. There are many reasons, any or all of which could explain this revival; they do not concern us for the moment, but what does concern be consolidated. It must not be allowed to be killed or to die a natural death. Every effort must be made to foster it and to help it to expand.

In this connection, I agree with you, Sir, and with the correspondents who commented on your Editorial, "Is fearr esimpleir na comhairle," that we speakers of Gaelic use our native language all too infrequently. Mod officials are by no means the only offenders. In my own experience, I feel a certain diffidence in using Gaelic in the Lowlands, even when I speak to a native speaker, for fear that he or she might not like to be heard using Gaelic; that feeling is all too common and it must be stamped out. Wherever and whenever Gaelic speakers meet, they should use Gaelic in preference to English.

I would suggest that what we require is some means of recognising Gaelic speakers in the cities and in the Lowlandssome badge that will indicate that we are not only speakers but are willing to use Gaelic in preference to English. In Eire this is done by the issue, by the Gaelic League of Ireland, of a gold "fainne"-a little gold ring that is worn in the coat lapel or tie or elsewhere. Permission to wear the fainne is won by passing an examination (mostly orally) in Irish; and the examination is made sufficiently difficult to ensure that those who pass really are proficient speakers and users of Gaelic, The wearing of the fainne also carries with it the obligation that the wearer will use Irish on all possible occasions in preference to English, and that when two wearers meet they will use only Irish. For instance, a fainne-wearing housewife will order her groceries in Gaelic, even in Dublin, when she sees that the shop-assistant is also a wearer. The wearing of the fàinne is a matter of intense pride to the citizens of Eire.

An Comunn could design and adopt some badge having the same purpose as the Irish făinne, and making the extrinsic and intrinsic values of the badge such that it would be a treasured possession of anyone who was sufficiently proficient in Gaelic

to win it; then a glance would tell us that we could use Gaelic, whether it were to buy a bus ticket, a meal in a restaurant, or a drink in a pub; and we, by our constant use of Gaelic on every occasion, would give encouragement to others to

learn and use our native tongue.

A second badge could be designed for wearing by others who who are interested in Gaelic and doing their best to learn it, but who have not reached a stage of proficiency that would entitle them to present themselves for examination for permission to wear the main badge. To the wearers of the second badge the wearers of the first could give much help. by explaining idiom and obscure words, and indulging in slow, carefully articulated conversation, in order that the less fortunate may understand and manage to get a proper grip of the language

I believe that the adoption of some such idea would do much to encourage speakers of Gaelic to use their language, and would act as a goal towards which learners could strive.- Is mise le DUNCAN MACDOUGALL. meas mór

### IMPORTANT DATES.

Apr. 11. Gaelic Meeting of Executive Council. Perth Gaelic Rally 18. Glasgow and Govan Branches Concert. May 8. Kintyre Provincial Mod. 9.1 Edinburgh Provincial Mod. 30. Glasgow Provincial Mod. June Mid-Argyll Provincial Mod. 4. ]

Badenoch-Strathspey Provincial Mod. Oban, Lorne, and Mull Provincial Mod. 90 Lochaber Provincial Mod. Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod.

26. Lewis Provincial Mod

27. Sutherland Provincial Mod. July 10. Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp opens at Inversilort. Closing date for Entries and submission of Musical Compositions and Literary Work for National

Mod Competitions. 4. Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp closes. Aug.

Sept. 30 National Mod at Perth begins. Oct 3. National Mod concludes. 4. Annual General Meeting of An Comunn.

#### 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 Glasgow, C.1. "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

Previously acknowledged ... .. £386 19 -Struan Feachd (earmarked for Comunn na h-Oigridh Badges) .. .. ..

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AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH

EDITOR.—Rev. T. M. MURCHISON, M.A., 14 Kintoss Avenue, Glasgon, S.W.2. (Telephone: HALfuny, 284), to whom all literary communications should be addressed. Business and other communications should be sent to the General Secretary, An Comuna Gaidhealach, 131 West Rogent Street, Glasgon, C.2. (Telephone: Douglas, 1433), All matter for inclusion in the Magazine should be in the Editor's hands by the 12th of the month precading publication.

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF

Leabhar XLII.] An Céitein, 1947. [Earrann

## THA FEUM AIR CABHAIG. Na Seanchaidhean A' Falbh Oirnn.

O chionn ghoirid chaochail anns na h-Eileanan a Muigh triùir dhaoine còire aig an robh ainm agus cliù mar sheanchaidhean. B'iad sin Seonaidh Caimbeul an Uidhist a' Chinn a Deas agus Dùghall MacMhaolain is Gilleasbuig MacIosaig an Aoraisgeidh. B'e Dùghall Maighstir na Postachd san eilean bheag ainmeil sin, agus fad a bheatha 's e Gilleasbuig a bhiodh ag aiseag dhaoine thairis air a' chaolas eadar Aoraisgeidh agus Uidhist a Deas.

Bha an dithist Aoraisgeach saidhbhir ann am beulaithris agus ann an ceòl, agus tha e coltach gur ann bhuapa-san a thrusadh móran de na sgeulachdan agus de na seann òrain a gheibhear ann an leabhraichean a tha aithnichte do na h-uile. Tha na bha bàsmhor dhiubh a nis air a chàradh ri taobh uaigh Mhaighstir Ailein ann an "Gilean na h-Oige."

Is dòcha gu bheil barrachd aithne aig a' mhórchuid air ainm Sheonaidh Mhic Dhòmhnaill Mhic Iain Bhàin, no Seonaidh Caimbeul, oir àireamh bhliadhnachan air ais chuir Mgr. Iain Latharna Caimbeul dà leabhran a mach—comh-chruinneachadh de na h-òrain aig Seonaidh agus "Sia Sgialachdan" d'an d'fhuair e a' chuid mhòr dhiubh bho Sheonaidh fhéin. Bha Seonaidh Caimbeul còrr is ceithir fichead bliadhna's a seachd aig am a bhàis.

Is e gnothach bochd a th'ann gu bheil na seann bhàird agus na seanchaidhean a' falbh oirm, fear an dràsda 's fear a rithist, agus gach fear dhiubh ag grùblan leis gu sàmhchair na h-uaighe ionnmas prìseil de litreachas-aithris. Tha fhìos gu bheil seanchaidhean maithe fhathast air am fagail againn anns na h-Eileanna guse eadhon air Tir-môr, ach a dh'aindeoin sin is duilich a bhith smaoineachadh air na chailleadh oirma a chionn' s nach do chuireadh air paipear no air clàr pàirt de na bha air a thasgadh air meòmhar nan seann daoine. Rinneadh iomradh uair no dhà anns na duilleagan so cheana air an obair a tha Mgr. Calum fain MacGilleathain á Ratharsaidh a' deanamh, agus e trang a' trusadh gach sgeulachd is gach òran is gach bloigh aithris eile as fhiach a thogail. Mar a chaidh a ràdh mar thà, tha esan uidheamaichte air gach dòigh a chum na h-oibre so, agus gu ma math a theid leis

Is e Coimisiún Béaloideasa Bireann a chuir Calum Iain MacGilleathain a nall a dheanamh na h-oibre so, agus is iadsan a tha pàidheadh gach cosgais co-cheangailte ris an obair. Tha sinn 'nan comain air son sin a dheanamh, ach nach 'cil e 'na aobhar nàire dhuinne ann an Gàidhealtachd na h-Albann gu bheil sinn deònach a bhith fàgail dragh is cosgas na h-oibre priseil so aig daoine eile.

Dìreach mus do thòisich an cogadh mór mu dhéidhinn làn-rannsachadh a dheanamh air dualchainntean Gaidhlig na h-Albann; agus cheana tha an t-Ollamh Nils Holmer air leabhran a chur a mach mu Ghàidhlig Earraghàidheal agus chuir an t-Ollamh Borgstrom leabhar luachmhor a mach mu Ghàidhlig Bharraidh.

Nach sinne a tha 'nar cadal! Agus an déidh 's na h-uile, nach e sinne an Albainn a thòisich air beul aithris a chruinneachadh an toiseach. Faodar sreath fada a chur sìos de dh'ainmean nan daoine cliùiteach a shaothraich 'nar dùthaich anns an obair so: Iain Og Ile, an t-Ullamh Alasdair MacGille-Mhichell, an t-Urr. Iaim MacGriogair Caimbeul, am Morair Gilleasbuig Caimbeul, an t-Urr. D. MacAonghais, an t-Urr. Semas MacDhiyhaill, is mòran eille.

Cé ann an Albainn an diugh a tha aithnichte mar fhear-cruinneachaidh beul-aithris? Tha feadhainn ann, agus is maith gu bheil, a tha a' trusadh agus a' sgrìobhadh sìos gach bloigh air an ruig iad; ach chan 'eil duine 'har measg an diugh a tha dol an car na h-oibre mar bu chòir. Oir, mar a thuirt mi, 'se so obair a tha cur feum air cabhaig, agus na seanchaidhean 'gan toirt air falbh bliadhna an déidh bliadhna gu tosd a' bhàis.

An là-roimhe fhuair mi litir bho dheagh-charaid na Gàidhlige, Mgr. Tòmas MacNeacail, anns a' Chaisteal Nuadh an Sasann—fear nach buin do'n Ghàidhealtachd agus, mas maith mo chuimhne air na dh'imis e dhomh aon uair, nach robh riamh nas fhaide tuath na Sruighlea. Chaidh a thogail an fhìor cheann-a-deas na h-Albann, agus gun fhacal Gàidhlig aige gus an tàinig e gu ìre. Is ann dìreach mu'n chuspair so—Beul-oideas nan Gàidheal—a bha Mgr. Chuspair so—Beul-oideas nan Gàidheal—a bha Mgr. Ghaidh agus chuir e thugam litir a fhuair e bho Mhgr. Seán O'Súilleabháin, Ciarathóir coimisiún Béaloideasa Eireann, agus tha mi cinnteach gun ceadaich Mgr. MacNeacail is Mgr. O'Súilleabháin dhomh bàirt de na tha san litir so a thoirt am follais.

"Is maith liom go dtaitneann an obair atá idir lámhaibh ag an Coimisiún so i n-Albain leat. Obair ri-thábhachtach i, agus obair i ná féadfar a dhéanamh i gcionn fiche blian (nó b'fhéidir deich mbliadhna eile). Fear ana-mhaith Colm Mac-Gilleathain atá ag obair i n-iarthar na hAlban dúinn. Tá tuiseint mhaith aige anois san obair, agus tá súil againn go n-éireochaidh leis ana-obair a dheanamh ann. Tá fear eile d'ár bhfuirinn oibre ag obair ag cnussach ceoil i n-Albain chomh maith, agus tá ag éirghe go bana-mhaith leis ann Tá roinnt phlataí gramafóin déanta aige.

"B'fhearr linn go mór gurab iad muinntir na hAlban iad féin do thógfadh an obair seo idir lámhaibh, ach ní dócha go bhfuil seans air sin i láthair na huaire. . . . Má cuirtear gluaiseacht ar bun i n-Albain ar ball aon am bhun tabhairt fén obair seo, tabharfaimídne cóip den adhbhar ó Albain a bheidh cruinnithe againn, agus cóip den adhbhar go léir atá á chruinniú againn i n-Eirinn dóibh mar bhronntanas. Is féidir é sin a dhéanamh le microfilm. Tá suim againne i n-Albain, go háirithe sa Ghaeltacht ann, toisc gurab é an cultúr céadna atá ann agus atá sa Ghaeltacht againn féin annso-cultúr atá ag trághadh, foiríor, i n-aghaidh na bliana. Déanfaimíd ár ndithcheall chun an chuid is fearr de bhéaloideas cine Gaedheal sa dá thír a shábháil sara gcailltear na daoine go bhfuil an oighreacht san aca.

Sin, ma tà, mar a tha àrd-dhaoine Coimisiún Béaloideasa Eireann ag amharc air a' chúis. Tha sinne agus Gàidheil na h-Eireann 'nar comhoighreachan air na thàinig a nuas thugainn bho ar sinnsirean san dà dhùthaich; tha an oighreachd sin gu luath a' seargadh as; is mithich a bhith greimeachadh air na tha fhathast air fhàgail mus bi e ro anamoch. B'fheàrr leis na h-Eireannaich gun gabhadh Gàidheil na h-Albann os làimh beul-oideas na dùthcha so a chruinneachadh, ach, o nach 'eil sinne a' deanamh sin mar bu chòir dhuinn, tha iadsan air tòiseachadh air. Ach cho luath 's a ni sinne oidhirp, bheir iadsan dhuinn gach cobhair

agus gach seòladh air a bheil feum againn, agus iad a nis cho sgileil agus cho uidheamaichte air son na h-oibre so. Agus, mar an ceudha, tha iad deonach a bhith roinn oirnn na thrus iad mar tha, an Eirinn agus an Albaim.

Nach bu chòir dhuinne, gun tuilleadh dàlach, Comunn Beul-oideas na h-Albam a stèidheachadh? Is math a dh'fhaodadh An Comunn againn fhéin agus Comunn dàidhlig Inbhir-nis agus mòran de chomuinn is bhuidhnean eile tighinn an ceann a chéile agus Comunn Beul-aithris a chur air chois. Tha cus de'n ùine air ruith cheana, agus tha gach latha ag cur ri ar call. Deanamaid cabhaig anns a' chùis

### LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

An uair a bha mi a' sgrìobhadh mu bhith "air chall," cha do shaoil mi gun biodh rud a bhith "air chall' co-cheangailte ris an litir so cho dlùth orm féin, ach b'ann mar sin a bha.

So agaibh mar a thachair. Chunna sibh an athsgrìobhadh leis an Fhear-dheasachaidh aig bonn litir a' mhìos a dh'fhalbh gun d'fhuair sinn litir bho Hearach còir co-cheangailte ris na thubhairt mi nu bhith "air chall" is "air seachran." Aig an ám leugh mi an litir le aire, agus an sin chuir mi an lethtaobh i, 's 'nam bheachd buntainn ris na sgrìobh e an litir a' mhios so.

Ach ciod a tha agaibh air ach, an uair a sheall mi an ceartair far an robh mi an dùil a bha i, nach robh i r'a faotainn. Rùraich mi shlos is rùraich mi shuas, thall agus a bhos, ach sgeul cha robh oirre! Bha mo rùrach eadhon cho mean 'a a bha siubhal Mhir Rùslainn air na h-eich a bha air chall, ach an dòlas mìr de'n litir a bha ri fhaotainn. Togaidh i ceann fathast; ach leis nach 'eil a bheag de tìme ri sheachnadh agan an ceartair, chan 'eil ach a fàgail gus an tog i ceann eadar so is an ath-mhìos.

Agus le iomradh a thoirt air siubhal MhicRùslainn air na h-eich, a bheil fìos agaibh ciod an siubhal a bha an sin? Ma tà, an uair a thuigeadh gu robh eich an fhamhair aig an robh MacRùslainn 'na sgalaig air chall, thuirt a mhaighstir ris e a dh'fhalbh g'an siubhal.

"Càite an seall mi air an son?" dh'fheòraich MacRùslainn dheth.

"Falbh thusa agus faigh iad," ars am famhair, "agus seall air an son far an saoil thu am faigh thu iad, agus far an saoil thu nach fhaigh thu iad!"

Thog MacRùslainn air gu feum; agus an ceann tiota bhig, air do'n fhamhair dol a mach, nach ann a bha MacRùslainn air mullach nan saibhlean 's e a' stialladh dhiubh na tugha cho trang 's a bha 'na chomas!

Mhiomaich is speur am famhair e, is dh'fheòraich e dheth dé an dol-air-aghaidh a bha an sud ; agus is e a thuirt MacRhìslainn ris gu robh e a' deanamh an rud a dh'iarr e féin air—gu robh e a' sealltainn air son nan each "far an saoileadh e am faigheadh e iad is far an saoileadh e nach fhaigheadh e iad i' a' Agus chan 'c'll shil sam bith agam am faighinn an so," ars esar.

Chan 'eil, mar sin, agam an ceartair ach mo leisgeul a ghabhail ris-san a sgrìobh an litir, agus tha dòchas agam gun toir e mathanas dhomh, eadhon ged nach b'urrainn dha làmh a ghabhail anns a' chomh-fharpais, leis nach 'eil e 'na bhail de Chomunn a h-Oigridh, oir tha e os cionn na h-aoise. Co-dhiubh, cha b'ann mar chomh-fharpaisiche a sgrìobh e idir; bha e a' moladh dhuinn gum bitheamaid a' buntainn r'a leithid so de fhacail bho âm gu âm, agus is fhiach a chomhairle éisdeachd rithe.

Is ann a ghabhas sinn, eadhon, a chomhairle; agus, bho'n a bha e cho coibhneil's am beachd so a mholadh, an cuala e—no aon agaibh—riamh am facal "sgoill," agus ciod an t-eadar-dhealachadh a tha eadar e is "stiall," 'stròic," no "sgonn"?! Chan fhiosrach mi gun cuala mi am facal "sgoill" riamh taobh a mach an eilein againn féin agus an eilein as dlùithe dha. Bheir mi eisimpleir an littr an ath mhìos air an dòigh anns an cleachdar na facail so anns an eilean againne. Is ann mar a tha gun do chuir mi aon de na facail so ann an cleachdadh anns an littr so mar tha.

A nis, leis gum bi Latha Buidhe Bealltainn agaibh an uair a ruigeas an litir so sibh, agus gur dòcha gum bi a' chuthag r'a cluinntinn roimh sin, nach faodainn tarraing bheag a thoirt air an eun sin an dràsd. Chuala sibh uile, tha mi cinnteach, an gnàth-radh, "Gug-gug, thuirt a' chuthag, Latha Buidhe Bealltainn." A nis, bha earrach againn am bliadhna a bha uile gu léir còrr, agus an uair a tha mise a' sgrìobhadh so, Luan na Càisge, is ann as coltaiche an latha ri deireadh Faoillich no toiseach Gearrain na ri Giblein nam frasan ciùine; ach, dona 'gan robh is 'ga bheil an t-sìd, is dòcha gun tig a' chuach 'na h-ám suidhichte féin, agus coirbte 'ga bheil i mar eun, le beachd a ghabhail air a gnè is a gnàths, fathast ni sinn fiughair rithe an uair a chluinneas sinn a "hòran ceòlmhor milis," mar a chuir am bàrd e.

Is e nl sònraichte co-cheangailte ris an eun so a shualadh 'nam inntinn an ceartair a thug orm a' chuthag a tharraing a stigh do m' sheanachas. Mar a tha fios agaibh am bitheantas, is mar a thug sibhes aig nach robh fios air gu so fa-near 'nam bhriathran mar tha, is aithne dhuinn an t-eun so fo dhà ainm— a' chuthag agus a' chuach. Gheibh sibh an dà ainm so 'nar bàrdachd, agus, gun dearbhadh a thoirt dhuinn air an atharrachadh, chreidinn gur e "Gleann na cuthaige" a tha ar Glinn Cuaich ag ciallachadh; agus cia mheud "Gleann Cuaich" a tha againn an Albainn? I Tha aon an Siorramachd Pheairt is aon an Siorramachd Inbhir-nis: a bheil aon eile

Tha dà ainm aig na Gaill oirre mar an ceudna—"gouk" agus an t-ainm cumanta "cuckoo." Is ann co-cheangailte ris a' cheud ainm (gouk) a bhuail na smuaintean sònraichte so orm an dràsd. Tha fios agaibh gu bheil e'na ghnè anns a' chuthaig gur ann an neadan eòin eile, glaisein mar as trice, a bheireas i a h-ubh, aon ubh a mhàin an aon nead. Chan 'eil mi an dùil gu bheil dearbhadh air co-dhiubh a bheireas cuthag tuille na aon ubh ré a cuairt shamhraidh do'n tìr so, seadh, co-dhiubh a bheireas an aon chuthag ubh an tuille na aon nead. Bidh aon, a dhà, is

air uairean trì, 'de na h-eòin bheaga so a' falbh air luathas sgéithe an déidh a' choilich chuthaige, oir is coltach gur e an coileach a mhàin a bhios a' seinn a ghug-ghg. A nis, is e "an gocan," no "gocan na cuthaige," a theirear ris an eun bheag so an uair a tha e a' sgiathalaich mar so an déidh na cuthaig, agus is e a bhuail 'nam inntinn gur dècha gu bheil biuntealas no càirdeas aig an fhacal so is aig "gouk" nan Gall r'a chéile. Chan urrainn dhomh innseadh dhuibh ciod an t-ainm (oir is cinnteach gu bheil ainm aca air) a their na Gaill ris an eunan so ris an abair sinne an gocan.

Bha mi am beachd innseadh dhuibh air a' mhìos so mu'n phaipear a fhuair mi bho ar caraid Caiptean Iain A. Moffatt-Pender, agus an t-aobhar gun do chuir se e—seadh, an nì a bha ann a bha e air mhiann mìse fhaicinn. Ach feumaidh mì an seanachas sin fhàgail gu uair eile, nas lugha na gum faod mì a ràdh an so gur e meas a chuireadh bho chionn ghoirid am baile mòr Mhelbourne an Astràlia air mo sheann mhaighstir-sgoil féin, Seumas Noble MacCoinnich (Seumas na Bantraich) à Ploc Loch Aillse—duine a chuir urram air a' Ghàidhealtachd, air Albainn, agus air Breatann 'na ghnìomhachas mar lighiche is mar shoisgeulaiche gach àite anns an do shaothraich e ré còrr is leth-cheud bliadhna. Ach fàgaidh mì meaniomradh air gu uair eile.—Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH. Dun Bhuirbh.

Bha boirionnach a' fuireach am Beàrnaraidh na Hearadh agus bha i an còmhnaidh ag gearain air na bhiodh aice ri dheanamh de dh'obair san tigh. Bha i deanamh a beò-shlainte air fighe chlò.

Aon fheasgar bha i ag obair gu trang, agus 's ann a mhiannaich i gu robh cuid de na Sitheannaich aice air son a cuideachadh, 's thubhairt i: "O, nach robh agam na Sitheannaich a tha fuireach an Dun Bhuirbh!"

Cha robh am facal mu dheireadh a mach as a beul nuair lìon an tigh le Sìtheannaich, gach aon dhiubh ag éigheach, "Obair! obair! dhuinne obair!"

Thug am boirionnach bochd dhaibh obair, ach cha chumadh i obair gu leòr riutha, agus cha robh an seanfhacal riamh air a choimhlionadh cho math gus an oidhche ud—"S e llonmhorachd nan làmh a ni an obair aottom."

Bha na Sìtheannaich ag glanadh an tighe dhi, agus cuid aca a' snìomh is cuid eile a' fighe.

Mu dheireadh cha robh comas aig a' bhean obair a chumail riutha 's dh'fhalbh i a mach a shireadh comhairle air seann bhodach a bha ri taobh an tighe.

Thubhairt esan rithe: "A bhean gun toinisg, car son a dh'iarr thusa air na Sìtheannaich tighinn chun do thighe; ach falbh is éigh aig an dorus, 'Dun Bhuirbh 'na theine,' agus théid mise an urras dhuit gum bi an tigh falamh."

Rinn am boiríonnach so, is ghrad leum na Sitheannaich a mach 's iad ag éigheach, "Mo chreach 's mo léireadh!," agus chan fhaca a' bhean sin tuilleadh iad.

Bha na seann daoine ag cumail a mach nach robh e fortanach iarraidh air na Sìtheannaich cuideachadh a thoirt do neach sam bith.

> MURCHADH ALASDAIR MAC-AN-TUAIRNEIR. (Sitheannaich = Sidhichean (F.-D.))

#### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

LUCHD-LAGHA GANN .-- Chì mi gu robh am Morair MacGib, ard-bhreitheamh Cùirt an Fhearainn ag ràdh an là-roimhe gu bheil fir-lagha air fàs glé ghann air feadh na Gàidhealtachd, agus gu bheil sin 'na bhacadh mór a bu chòir a leasachadh.

Car son a tha feum air luchd-lagha anns a' Ghàidhealtachd no an àite air bith ? Saoilidh cuid gur e an aon obair a th'aig fear-lagha a bhith aona chuid a' dìteadh no a' dìon neach a tha air beulaibh na cùirte. Ach tha móran ghnothaichean ann a bharrachd air sin a tha cur feum air eòlas is comhairle luchdlagha. Anns an t-saoghal a th'ann tha sinn uile air ar cuairteachadh cho mór le riaghailtean is le achdan pàrlamaid 's nach 'eil e soirbh dhuinn gach nì a chur an òrdugh mar as còir, agus sheachnamaid iomadh dragh nan robh sinn a' deanamh an tuilleadh feum de luchd-lagha ann an gnothaichean cruaidhe a thig 'nar rathad.

Nach bu mhath do bhalaich Ghàidhealach a tha cur rompa dol do'n Oil-thigh smaoineachadh mu dhéidhinn dreuchd an

lagha a leantainn?

Camanachd.—"Tiugainn a dh'iomain!" "Dé an iomain?" "Iomain chaman!" Coltach ri iomadh nl eile, chuir an cogadh stad air an iomain, ach tha sinn toilichte gu bheil na balaich an iomadh àite air na camain a ghlacadh as ùr agus an fhaiche-chluich a thoirt orra. Tha sgiobaniomain air ceann a thogail a rithist anns na ceàrnan far an robh cliù aca roimhe so mar luchd-iomain-am Bàideanach, an Lochabar, an Latharna, an dùthaich MhicShimidh, anns na bailtean móra agus an àitean eile. Meal-an-naidheachd air Sgioba Baile Ur an t-Sléibhe air dhaibh Cuach Iomain na h-Alba a chosnadh air son na naoidheamh uaire; rinn iad so le buaidh a thoirt air Sgioba Taobh Loch Fin. Tha Cuach MhicAmhlaidh fhathast ri chosnadh.

Is e ball-coise as motha a th'air aire a' mhór-chuid de shluagh na dùthcha so, agus eadhon anns a' Ghàidhealtachd tha na gillean a' dol ris gu dian, ach tha sinn an dòchas gun cumar air aghaidh a' chluich-iomain fad iomadh latha is bliadhna. Chan 'eil nas taitniche na bhith faicinn dà sgioba a' strì air a' bhlàr-iomain, agus a bhith cluinntinn brag a' bhuill air na camain.

GLIOCAS NAN GAIDHEAL.—Cha do shéid gaoth riamh nach robh an seòl cuid-eigin.

FIRINN AIR SON A' MHIOS SO .- "Dùisgidh fuath aimhreitean, ach folaichidh gràdh gach coire."-Gnàthfhacail x.12.

#### CLO NA HEARADH.

Rinn an clò-mór cosnadh a chumail ri muinn ir Leòdhais is na Hearadh ri linn a' chogaidh. Feumaidh na h-Eileanaich greim teann a chumail air an còir air an ainm 's air an aodach no is goirid gus an toirear an dà chuid bhuapa.

Ri linn a' chogadh shealladh dhomh aodach am muileann aig Walkerburn, agus "Clò na Hearadh" air. "Bha dùil agamsa," arsa mise, "gur ann as na Hearadh

fhéin a thigeadh an clò so."

"Chan ann," arsa m'fhear-iùil; "chan 'eil san Harris ach an t-ainm a tha air an t-seòrsa aodaich so. Is mise bha thall 's a chunnaic, 's a thàinig a nall 's a

dh'innis.

BODICHIN

#### AN ARD-COMHAIRLE.

Chumadh Coinneamh Ghàidhlig na h-Ard-Chomhairle air Di-haoine, an aona là deug de'n Gibhlein, 1947, an Seòmraichean Mhic a' Mhuilleir an Sruighlea. Bha an Ceann-Suidhe, an t-Ollamh Iain Camshron, LL.B., anns a' Chathair, agus bha na buill a leanas an làthair:-A' Bhean-uasal M. Barron, Glaschu; Neacal Caimbeul, Inbhir-nis; A' Mhgdn.uasal Catriona Chamshron, Glaschu; Stiùbhart Cunningham, M.A., Cill-Fhinn; A' Bhean-uasal Mórag C. Edgar, Sraththire; Domhnall Greum, M.A., Inbhir-nis; An t-Urr. Iain MacAoidh, M.A., Glaschu; Iain MacAoidh, Dìn-éideann; An t-Urr. T. M. MacCalmain, M.A., Glaschu; Dòmhnall MacDhòmhnaill, Inbhir-nis; Iain MacDhòmhnaill, M.A., Peairt; Eachann MacDhùghaill, Glaschu; Iain MacGhill-Iosa, Goraig; Iain N. MacLeòid, A' Mhanachainn; Iain A. MacNeacail, M.A., Glaschu; Alasdair T. M. MacNéill, Glaschu; Fearchar MacRath, M.A., B.Sc., Glaschu; Uilleam MacRath, Baile Bhàillidh; Dòmhnall MacThòmais, M.A., An t-Oban; A' frithealadh :—Niall MacGhille-Sheathanaich, Rùnaire ; Alasdair MacMhathain, Iar Rùnaire ; Dòmhnall MacPhàil, Fear-Deilbhe na h-Airde Tuath; Dòmhnall P. Mac a Phearsain, Fear nan Lùth-chleas; agus A' Mhgdn.-uasal C. Nic an Tuairneir, Bana-chléireach.

#### CAIRDEAN NACH MAIREANN.

Aig toiseach na coinneimh labhair an Ceann-Suidhe mar a leanas :

"Bho choinnich sinn mu dheireadh rinn am bàs iomadh bearn am measg ar luchd-cuideachaidh.

"An toiseach, tha A' Bhean-uasal Oighrig Nic a' Chombaich, no Phemie Marquis, mar a b'fheàrr a b'aithne do'n mhór-chuid i. Bha i còrr is deich bliadhna fichead 'na ball de'n Ard-Chomhairle so, agus mar an ceudna 'na ball de thri Fo-Chomhairlean eile. Air Comhairle a' Mhòid 's a' Chiùil gu h-àraidh thug i seirbhis shònraichte do'n Chomunn. Chaill i a céile trì seachdainean mun do chaochail i fhéin, agus tha ar comh-fhaireachdainn ris an teaghlach a dh'fhàg iad 'nan déidh.

"Bha Ceann-Cinnidh Chloinn Fhionghuin 'na dhuine a fhuair aois mhór, agus ged nach robh e riamh air a' Chomhairle, bha e 'na bhall de'n Chomunn fad còrr is dà fhichead bliadhna.

Bha e còmhla ruinn aig Mòd Obar-Dheadhain,

"Le bàs Iain MhicCòrmaig thàinig call mór air aobhar litreachas ar cànain. Is ann a mhuinntir an Ros Mhuilich a bha e, agus bha e air oileanachadh greis ann an Oil-thigh Ghlaschu. Choisinn e móran dhuaisean aig Mòdan a' Chomuinn, agus bha e air an treas fear de na bàird a chaidh a chrùnadh aig a' Mhòd. Dh'fhàg e cuimhneachan as a dhéidh an rosg is am bàrdachd a mhaireas iomadh latha.

"Tha ar comh-fhaireachdainn a' dol a mach gu ar bana-charaid, A' Bhean-uasal Dunlop, anns an sgaradh a dh'fhiosraich i. Chaochail a céile caomh bho chionn beagan sheachdainean, agus bu mhath leinn fios a bhith aice gu bheil

sinn ag cuimhneachadh oirre aig ám a bróin.

"Chaochail Gàidheal caomhail eile, Dòmhnall Mac a' Phearsain, a bha 'na mhaighstir an Sgoil Srath na h-Apunn fad dà fhichead bliadhna. Bha e 'na dheagh sgoilear Gàidhlig. agus bha e 'na bhreitheamh aig Mòdan móra is beaga. Bha e 'na Cheann-Suidhe air Meur a' Chomuinn san Apuinn ré móran bhliadhnachan agus 'na bhall de'n Chomhairle so.

"Thàinig bàs aithghearr air ar caraid, An t-Urramach Tòmas S. Mac a' Phearsan, goirid an déidh dha a dhreuchd a thoirt suas. Bha e deich bliadhna fichead 'na bhall de'n Chomhairle so. Bha e mar an ceudna 'na Iar-Cheann-Suidhe agus 'na Fhear-Gairme air Comhairle a' Chlò-bhualaidh. Bha e 'na chùl-taic mór do aobhar na Gàidhlige am Baile Chinnloch Chill Chiarain, mar a bha e anns gach sgìre san robh e riamh. Tha ar comh-fhaireachdainn le a bhantraich agus a thriùir

"Thàinig mar an ceudna call mór air aobhar ceòl ar dùthcha le bàs na Mnà-uasail Ghrannd am Baile a' Chaolais. Bha i 'na seinneadair barraichte agus choisinn i móran dhuaisean aig na Mòdan Nàiseanta. Bha i 'na ball de'n Chomunn ré móran bhliadhnachan, mar a bha a céile, an Lighiche Lachann Grannd nach maireann.

"Chaochail càirdean eile nach robh cho aithnichte do ar buill ach a bha dìleas do'n Chomunn 'na uile shaothair as leth AN GAIDHEAL.

na Gàidhlige, mar a bha Gilleashuig Caimbeul, Rudha Ard-Driseig; Iain MacGhille-Bhride, Arainn; Iain Stiùbhart Bannatyne; Alasdair MacDhòmhnaill, Dearabhaig; agus Calum MacCaluim, a bha an Ohar-phuill.

"Tha àireamh mhór an sin de chàirdean a' Chomuinn, agus tha ar comh-fhaireachdainn a' dol a mach do'n luchd-dàimh 'nam bròn. Bithidh sinn 'gan cuimhneachadh 's 'gan ionndrainn.''

MacNéill, Glaschu.

Leughadh tagraidhean neo-làthaireachd bho àireamh de bhuill na Comhairle

Leughadh Gearr-sheanchas na coinneimh roimhe agus chaidh gabhail ris. Chuir an Ceann-Suidhe fàilte fhuranach air na huill a leanas a hha an làthair air son na ceud uaire :-Iain MacDhomhnaill, Fear-Gairme Comhairle Ionadail a' Mhòid am Peairt; Iain MacGhill-Iosa, Goraig; agus Alasdair

Leughadh Geàrr-sheanchas coinneimh de Chomhairle an Ionmhais. Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle, mar a dh'iarradh, air Riaghailtean is Rian-Cise a thaobh cosdas siubhail is pearsanta hhall taghte na h-Ard-Chomhairle air dhaihh frithealadh aig coinneamhan na h-Ard-Chomhairle agus a Fo-Chomhairlean. An déidh heachdachadh air na riaghailtean so agus le heagan fhacal a chur riutha, ghahhadh riutha.

Thugadh taing chridheil do Mhgr. Iain A. MacNeacail air son a shaothrach ann a hhith ag ullachadh nan riaghailtean cho comasach agus cho diongmhalta. Thugadh taing do'n Rùnaire air son an eadar-theangachaidh shoilleir a rinn e air

an iomradh agus air na riaghailtean.

Air iarrtas an Fhir-Ghairme, Mgr. Iain A. MacNeacail, chaidh gabhail ri Geàrr-sheanchas Comhairle an Ionmhais.

#### COMHAIRLE AN FHOGHLUIM

Leughadh Geàrr-sheanchas coinneimh de Chomhairle an Fhòghluim. Dh'iarr a' Mhgdn.-uasal Catriona Chamshron fiosrachadh mu dhéidhinn Cùrsa Aithghearr a bhios freagarrach do oileanaich Diadhaireachd a tha air Feachdan an Rìgh fhàgail agus a tha fo stiùradh Eaglais na h-Alha. Thug an t-Urr. Iain MacAoidh mìneachadh air a' chùrsa so agus na cuspairean a dh'fheumas oileanaich a ghabhail. An déidh sgrùdaidh dh'iarradh air Comhairle an Fhòghluim a' cheist ath-hheachdachadh agus iarraidh gum hiodh Gàidhlig air aon de na cuspairean a dh'fhaodadh oileanaich a ghabhail anns a chùrsa ghoirid so comh-cheangailte ris na h-Eaglaisean uile.

Dh'iarradh air a' Chomhairle mar an ceudna iad a thoirt fa chomhair nan Oil-thighean gur còir na leabhraichean Gàidhlig as am hi na ceistean a bhios air an cur anns a' Cheud Cheasnachadh a hhith air an ainmeachadh roimh-làimh, mar a thàtar a' deanamh a thaobh chànainean eile.

Air iarrtas an Fhir-Ghairme, Mgr. Fearchar MacRath,

chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh.

#### COMHAIRLE A' CHRAOBH-SGAOILIDH.

Leughadh Geàrr-sheanchas coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Chraohh-sgaoilidh. Bha deashud ann mu luchd-teagaisg ciùil, agus bha cuid de na huill am heachd gum bu chòir oidhirpean a dheanamh gu Mòdan Dùthchail a chumail codhiuhh hhiodh fear-teagaisg ciùil air fhasdadh leis a' Chomunn no nach hiodh

Lahhair Mgr. Dòmhnall Greum, Fear-Gairme na Fo-Chomhairle an Inhhir-nis, agus thug e taing do'n Ard-Chomhairle air son Seòmar-gnothaich agus Bana-chléireach a thoirt dhaibh an Inbhir-nis, agus air son cho sgiobalta 's a rinn iad na gnothaichean a shocrachadh.

Air iarrtas an Fhir-Ghairme, Mgr. Dòmhnall Mac-Dhòmhnaill, chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh. Chaidh heachdachadh air litir bho'n Urr. Calum MacGilleathain a chumail thairis gus an ath-choinneamh.

#### GNIOMHACHAS IS EALDHAIN. Leughadh Geàrr-sheanchas coinneimh de Chomhairle a'

Ghnìomhachais is nan Ealdhain. Chuireadh Fo-Chomhairle air bonn gu bhith deasachadh clàr-iomairt an ath-Mhòid. Tha a' Chomhairle a' deanamh ullachaidh air son Cairtean ùra a hhith air an clò-hhualadh roimh am na Nollaige. Air iarrtas na Mnà-uaisle Edgar chaidh gabhail ris an

Iomradh.

COMHAIRLE A' MHOID 'S A' CHIUIL.

Leughadh Gearr-sheanchas air dà choinneamh de Chomhairle a' Mhòid 's a' Chiùil.

Chaidh heachdachadh air comh-fharpais shònraichte air son còisirean dùthchail an Earraghàidheal, agus thugadh aithisg nach rohh e comasach a' chomh-fharpais so a chumail air a' bhliadhna so an Ceann Loch Gilh. Chliùthaich a' Chomhairle sgrìobhadh gu Meur an Obain agus iarraidh orra a' chomh-fharpais a chumail am mìos Lùnasdail.

Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh so air iarrtas Mhor. Iain A.

MhicNeacail. Anns an dara Gearr-sheanchas bha a' Chomhairle ag iarraidh

ùghdarrais Clàr-eagair Mòd 1948 a shocrachadh gun tighinn fa chomhair na Comhairle Ghnìomhaich, a chum is gum hiodh gach ceòl is cuspair eile ullamh aig Mòd na hliadhna so.

Air iarrtas Mhgr. Dhòmhnaill MhicThòmais chaidh

gabhail ris a' Gheàrr-sheanchas so.

Air iarrtas a' Chinn-Suidhe thug Mgr. Iain MacDhòmhnaill, Fear-Gairme Comhairle Ionadail a' Mhòid am Peairt, aithisg air na tha iad a' deanamh fa chomhair Mòd na bliadhna so. Bha móran ri dheanamh, ach bha e toilichte innseadh gu robh a' soirbheachadh leotha, ged a bha fhathast dragh aca àiteanfuirich fhaotainn do hhuill nan còisirean. Dh'ainmich e mar an ceudna gu rohh buidheann math Gàidhlige aig Mgr. Ruairidh MacFhionghuin anns a' bhaile, agus nach robh e oidhche na bu lugha na deich ar fhichead a hhith an làthair aige.

CLANN AN FHRAOICH IS COMUNN NA H-OIGRHDH, Thugadh aithisg gun do chumadh coinneamh ghoirid de Chomhairle Clann an Fhraoich air an fheasgar sin. Thug Mgr.

Dòmhnall MacPhàil iomradh air an ullachadh a thàtar a' deanamh fa chomhair Campa na hliadhna so; agus thug Mgr. Dòmhnall P. Mac a' Phearsain iomradh air an ohair a rinn e fhéin am measg nam Feachd san Eilean Sgitheanach, an Ile, agus am Muile, hho'n choinneamh mu dheireadh.

Ghahhadh ris an dà aithisg so air iarrtas an Fhir-Ghairme. Mgr. Eachann MacDhùghaill.

AM MOD NAISEANTA AN 1948.

Leughadh Geàrr-sheanchas air coinneamh de'n Chomhairle-Earalach.

Dh'ainmich an Ceann-Suidhe gu robh fios a nis air fhaotainn hho Fo-Chomhairle a' Chraohh-sgaoilidh an Inhhir-nis nach robh e freagarrach Mòd 1948 a chumail anns a' bhaile sin. Tha a' Chomhairle ag cliùthachadh gun iarradh air Comh-Chomhairle nam Meuran an Glaschu iad a ghabhail ri riochdairean hho'n Chomhairle so a chum is gum heachdaich iad air a' Mhòd a chumail an Glaschu air an ath-hhliadhna. Dh'iarr an Ceann-Suidhe gun tugadh a' Chomhairle Ghnìomhach làn ùghdarras dhaibh am Mòd a shocrachadh.

Labhair Mgr. Dòmhnall MacDhòmhnaill agus Mgr. Dòmhnall Greum mu na h-aobharan nach robh e comasach am

Mòd a chumail an Inhhir-nis air an ath-bhliadhna, Air jarrtas Mhor, Dhòmhnaill MhicDhòmhnaill thugadh an

t-ùghdarras a dh'iarradh do'n Chomhairle-Earalach am Mòd a shocrachadh, agus chuir Mgr. Iain A. MacNeacail aonta ris. Air iarrtas a' Chinn-Suidhe chaidh gahhail ris an Iomradh.

#### COMH-CHRUINNEACHADH NAN CEILTEACH

Leughadh Geàrr-sheanchas coinneimh de Chomhairle Shònraichte nan Còirichean. Thàinig a' Chomhairle gu comh-dhunadh mu leabhraichean "Còisir a' Mhòid," agus tha iad ag cumail f'an comhair còrdadh mu "Orain a' Mhòid" agus clàran a' ghramaphoin. Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh air iarrtas Fhir na Cathrach.

Shònraicheadh ath-choinneamh na Comhairle a chumail

air a' cheathramh là de'n Iuchar.

Thug an Ceann-Suidhe iomradh gun d'fhuair e litir bho rùnaire Comh-chruinneachadh nan Ceilteach, ag innseadh gu bheil an Comh-chruinneachadh ri bhith air a chumail am Baile Ath Cliath hho'n dara là fichead gus an naodhamh là fichead de'n Iuchar. Thuirt an t-Ollamh Camshron gu hheil e fhéin a' leigeil dheth a dhreuchd mar rùnaire a' Chomh-chruinneachaidh an Alhainn, agus gu hheil e iomchuidh gum biodh rùnaire eile air a thaghadh. Is e ainm is seòladh an Rùnaire an Eirinn, Oscar MacUilis, "Inis Chaoin," Deilginis, Co. Atha Cliath.

Thugadh a' Choinneamh gu crìch le taing chridheil a thoirt do Fhear na Cathrach.

#### BAS CHAIRDEAN.

We regret to record the deaths of the following friends and supporters of our movement.

#### Rev. T. S. MacPherson.

The Rev. Thomas S. MacPherson, formerly of the Highland Church, Campbeltown, died at Langholm, Dunfries-shire, on 2nd April. Born in Ardnamurchan in 1870, Mr. MacPherson was educated at Raining's School, Inverenses, and the Universities of St. Andrews and Edinburgh. He served as Assistant at St. Columba's, Glasgow, and was ordained in 1895. Thereafter he held the following Charges—Tiree (1895-1904), Tarbert, Lochfyne (1906-9), Voker (1909-16), St. Vincent Parish, Glasgow (1916-25), and the Highland Church, Campbeltown (1925-46).

For nearly fifty years Mr. MacPherson was a member of An Comunn and served for some thirty years on the Executive Council, being a Vice-President for four years and Convener of the Publication Committee from 1911 to 1914. He also officiated many times as a Mod adjudicator. But perhaps his most signal service to the Cause was rendered in Campbeltown during his long and notable ministry there. Campbeltown, as we know, has long been strongly affected by Lowland and non-Gaelic influences, but in recent times there has been a remarkable revival of interest in Gaelic in that area. The Campbeltown Gaelic Choir has won renown, and individuals from the area have gained distinction in literary and other activities connected with the Gaelic Movement. Mr. MacPherson, it may be said, was the guide and inspirer of that revival. We had hoped that in the leisure of his retirement, upon which he had so recently entered, he might have continued to serve the Cause, and his passing has left us much the poorer.

Many fine tributes have been paid to Mr. MacPherson's Gasciates in church and civic life and in the Gaelic Movement, but we have pleasure in publishing the following tribute by Mr. Charles Reppke, who was his close associate in helping on the cause of Gaelic in South Kintrye.

"It was my good fortune to be intimately associated with the late Rev. T. S. MacPherson in the work of the Campbeltown Branch of An Comunn, and during that period I had ample opportunity to assess his outstanding qualities of heart and opportunity in the gentleness, sincerity, tolerance, patience, generosity, and tact, all contributed to the sum of a most lovable personality. He was exceptionally well gifted in the ability to adapt himself to the occasion. His concern and sympathy for the sorrowing; his humour and cheerfulness at our Ceilidhs and similar events; and his incisive and clear-cut comments at business meetings-all these denoted a unique flexibility of mind. These qualities are the explanation of his popularity and the respect in which he was held. In his varied activities—and they were many—his zeal in the cause of Gaelic was exceeded only by his devotion to his ministerial duties. For weeks prior to the local Mod the Highland Manse was 'Liberty Hall' to all who aspired to Gaelic musical honours, and it was in this connection that his amazing patience and tact were fully portrayed. I am quite certain that no one ever put in so many 'man-hours' at teaching Gaelic to soloists and choirs as did Mr. MacPherson; and it was all a labour of love without thought of reward other than the satisfaction of having done something for the language he loved.

"Whatever proficiency the writer has attained in reading Gaelic is wholly due to Mr. MacPherson, and it was a matter of some satisfaction to me that I was able latterly to repay him in some measure by relieving his ageing shoulders of part of the burden of preparing competitors for the Mod.

"Mr. MacPherson's retiral from the Highland Church and his consequent residence outside Campbeltown was a sore blow to many of us, but softened somewhat by his assurance that we would all meet at the Perth Mod.

"' Not now in Perth,' as the Rev. Mr. Blackwood said at the crowded Memorial Service, 'shall we meet him in the flesh, but somewhere further out beyond the bounds of our poor earthliness we shall think of him listening to us.'

"In a gently falling drizzle of rain I stood as a pall-bearer by the side of his open grave, and it seemed to me that the heavens were shedding tears at the committal of all that was mortal of our dear friend to a last resting-place among the Lowland hills, his heart and soul being ever in his beloved Highlands.

"But he wished it so, and that should satisfy those of us who mourn the passing of one whom to meet was a pleasure, and whose friendship was a blessing.

"He lived by the precepts of his Bible and died in the glory of his service to Gaeldom."

#### Mrs. Grant, Ballachulish.

Mrs. Catherine Grant, widow of the late Dr. Lachlan Grant, Ballachulish, died at a comparatively early age on 21st March, She was for many years a zealous member of An Comunn and was widely known as an accomplished singer in Gaelic and English. Mrs. Grant won many prizes at the Mods. She was a gracious lady, ever eager to help in good causes, and gave splendid service especially during the war in connection with W.V.S. work and charitable organisations. She took a keen interest also in the efforts to ameliorate the economic and social conditions of the Highlands, efforts in which her late husband, Dr. Grant, founder and first President of the Highland Development League, and her late brother, Mr. Angus Clark, also a member of the Council of the League, were so closely concerned.

#### Mr Donald MacPherson, Appin.

Mr. Donald MacPherson died on 28th March at the age of 81. He was a native of Badenoch, and was the Headmaster of the school in Strath of Appin. Not only was he the President of the local Branch of An Comum, but he also helped on many occasions as an adjudicator at Mods, particularly in the oral competitions. He was highly respected by all and loved by many—a fine old man who cherished the best traditions of his people.

We place on record our deep sympathy with the families and friends of those whose passing we have mentioned and also with several others among our membership who have recently suffered bereavement.

# CAIFIDH MOR NA H-OIGRIDH, 1942.

("Grand Café de la Jeunesse").

Le Deorsa Caimbeul Hay.

Bha mi fhéin is Gilleasbuig 'nar suidhe gu seasgar socrach aig bòrd beag cruinn an Caifidh Mór na h-Oigridh, agus eadarainn dà ghlaine de'n fhìon dearg sin nach 'eil ro dhona is nach 'eil ro mhaith.

Caifidh na h-Òigridh, Caifidh an Dechais, Caifidh an Ama-Gu-Teachd—sin agad an seòrsa tiotail as mò aig na h-òsdairean Arabach am bailtean beaga is móra Alidir is Thònaisi; ach, a dh'aindeoin sin, bltear ag cumail a mach gur ni nach gabh athurrachadh an gnè nan Arabach an dèidh a th'aca air a bhith ag ràdh, "Tachraidh na thachras—kull shi fy yedd Allad, d h-uile nì an làimh Dhè). "Ma tha iad buailteach gu "ibbadh leis a' chùis a bhith mar tha e," nach 'eil seanfhacal againn fhéin a their, "An rud at has and dan, 'ae thachras "?

Inem a their, "An rud a tha san dan, se unachras "
Ach coma dheth sim—chuala mi mar an ceudna a bhith cur
mar fhiachaibh gu bheil luchd Josaim cumhangi, mitinneach,
mi-shìobhaits; nach fhaodar idir earbes a chur sa a h-aon
diubh (chuala mi aig Frangach, a chuir sacadar oinn de
pholosia, on ingigean as bòidhche, no de chuid de'n t-asophal air
fad fhàgail air chiram aoin de na Drbasich "fhiadhaich"
agus faibh gun smaoin gun iomagain d'an taobh ré dheich
bliadhna, oir cha bheanar riù); gum bi deichnear bhan aig
h-uile mac mathar dhiubh (mas e is gun gabhadh "ma
màthar " a ràdh ri cloim athraichean a bhiodh air am bleith
eadar briogada bhan), agus a leithlid sin de bhlialum.

Biodh sin mar a thogras e, bha an dithist againn gu seasgar aitheil a stigh ann a' chaifidh, a chuideachd air fichead Frangach, dà Gheancach, trì maraichean Lochlannach, aon "chan'eil-fhois-agam-6-6" do'm bu deise a' Ghreugais na gach cainnt eile, dà Spàinteach o'n Chorps Franc d'Afrique, am balachan abhaisteach a bhioich thall 's a bhos ceadar casan nan daoine ag atach, "Tsiris! Leig dhomh leus a chur air bhur brògan. Kiwi, Johnnie! Zùj dùro! (deich franc);" agus, mar cheannard agus mar chrùn orra uile, mo sheanneòlach Diemai Muhammad.

Is e bu chosnadh do Djemài Muhammad, cogadh no sìth ann, na seòladairean a chuireadh cas air tìr air ceidhean Bhóna a threòrachadh chun gach àit a bu roghnaiche leò—a dh'ithe, a dh'òl, chum a' chionama, agus mar sin air aghaidh.

An tró so bha Djemài car air mhisg le cus nin rouge, is bha e bruidhneach, briathrach. "Haqq Rabbi (Firman, an Tighearna)!" shéid easa dìreach 'nam chluais, is e corrach air a chasan: "Gun teagamh chan 'eil mo leithid eile a dh'Arabach eadar Thanis agus Oràn. Na dean ach falbh sìos agus foòraich fad is leud nan ceidhe, agus their iad riut, 'Is e Djemài Muhammad prìomh Arabach nan ceidhe so. Is e Djemài Muhammad prìomh Arabach nan ceidhe so. Is e Hein crìn agus lochran ham Moslamach taobh a 'chalaidh.' Djemài Muhammad ch', dh'éigh easa, agus cha mhòr mach do thuit e as a sheasamh.

"Ma tà, a shùilean t'athar," arsa mise, "tha rud beag a dhith ormas a bhios mi 'ga iarraidh ort. Wa rdeek (air do cheann), innis dhomh ciamar a ghabhas e bhith gu bheil thuas, mas ann de Ioslam thu, ag òl an fhìona sin a chaidh a thoirmeasg leis an Fhàidh, agus, a thuilleadh, 'ga fhìor òl is 'ga shìor òl gus a bheil thu a' faicinn a h-uile rud air a dhibliachadh.

"Ol is fìon," arsa Djemài, le sealladh fad as a' teachd 'na shùilean, "shereb wa shiràb (d) is fìon!) Fìon dearg is fìon buidhe, aràqi is sùgh nan craobh-pailme agus facal an Fhàidh!", agus le sin dhìrich e air cathair a bha làimh ris agus thàinig e mach

le sriut rann as a' Choran.

Is e nì ceòlmhor, binn, sòluimte an Coràn 'ga ghabhail an Arabais, agus dh'éisd mi ri Djemài le mór-thlachd. Bha mi fad air ais, agus m'inntinn leagte air na Càilifean, air na Sùltain, air naoimh Allah—na Sùfaidhean—a bhiodh a' sìreadh na Firime an sgoltaibh nan creag agus air feadh nan dìthreabh, agus air rìghrean na h-Alhambra is sgeulaichean Bhaghdàid, nuair dhùisg straighlich uathbhasach mi.

Bha Djemài agus a' chathair, an dà chuid aca, corrach air na casan, agus, sùil d'an tug mi, bha an searmonaiche air slait a dhroma air ùrlar a' Chaifdh, agus a' chathair 'na pìosan

beaga mu'n cuairt dha.

"Berra! (a mach!)," sgairt an t-òsdair; "cha tu a phàidheadh a càradh. Mach thu, bhurraidh!"

Agus dh'fhalbh Djemài a' bòrdaireachd troimh an dorus. "Esta loco, pobreció (tha e as a rian, an truaghan)," arsa fear de na Spàintich; agus rinn na Frangaich, na Geancaich, na Lochlannaich, an Greugach (mas e Greugach a bh'ann),

agus balachan glanaidh nam bròg gàire le chéile.

"Chan ionghnadh mise bhith searbh dhiubh," area Gilleasbuig, is a s' meannaich gut rungh. "Uair gheith thu lad cho cràbhach, còir, is ainm Allah an dèidh a h-uile facail a thig as am beul. Uair gheibh thu lad air leud an droma an ceò na misg—agus feuch am fear sin ag gabhail a' Choràin agus samh an fhìona dheth. Tha iad cho luaineach ràs a'ghaoith an ám tàirneanaich, agus leig mi dhìom a bhith strl ri tuigsinn an naduir. Air gach aon chor chan ann mar na Gàidheil iad. Nuair a bhice sinn etch gheibhear teth sinn, agus nuair a bhice sinn tara cha bhi sinn ach fuar, agus chan ann meadhbhice sinn tara cha bhi sinn ach fuar, agus chan ann meadhcoinneimh neach de ar n eòlas le fiamh a' ghàire air ar facaill agus ar lamh chil air a sìneadh thuige." (An comharradh dimeas as mò am measg nan Arabach.)
"A bheil thu 'g ràdh, a Lasbuig r'y area mise. "Tha mi

"A bheil thu 'g ràdh, a Lasbuig ?" arsa mise. "Tha mi creidsinn gun cuir thu 'aonta ris, gum faodar nàdur is gnà cinnich air bith a leughadh as na sgeulachdan aca. An diugh cheannaich mi am Mosachan Arabach ud, An Nars (A' Bhuaidh), agus tha sgeul éibhinn ann a leughas mi dhuit; agus an déidh dhomh a leughadh faodaidh tu do bharail a thoirt seachad air nàdur ana doine a dh'innseadh agus a dh'éisdeadh

a leithid."
"Cha b'urrainn na b'fheàrr!" arsa Gilleasbuig; "tha mi

leat. Leugh romhad."

Thug mi An Nasr as mo phòca, dh'fhosgail mi e, agus thòisich mi air an sgeul so a leughadh le corra shealladh uam rathad Ghilleasbuig.

"Bha an lighiche so, Mirza Sadik Khan, iomraiteach air feadh na tìre a chionn gun do shàbhail e beatha duine àraidh a bha ris a' bhàs le cnàimh an sàs 'na shlugan. (Agus ma thuiteas do'n sgeul so teachd fo shùilean dotair Eòrpanaich air bith, tha mi ag comhairleachadh dha e thoirt fainear cionnus a chuir oighre eòlas Avicenna urram eile ri sàr urram feallsanachd na h-Ioslaim). Bha an duine tinn gu bhith togail air as an t-saoghal so, agus nuair a mhìnich a chuideachd a chor do Mhirza, shlìog an lighiche ionnsaichte fheusag fhada agus thuirt e : 'An ainm Allah as Aon Dia ann, mur b'e mise agus mo thuigse, nach 'eil a seise no a leithid air sgeul idir, bha càs an truaghain so a dh'easbhuidh dòchais air bith. Is e aobhar cunnart an duine so cnàimh—seadh, cnàimh—a tha an sàs tarsainn 'na shlugan, agus a chaidh ann cho domhain sin is nach gabh i carachadh. Ma tà, aon chuid chan fhuilear a' chnàimh a thoirt as a h-àite no soraidh slàn leis an duine. Agus ciod e am meadhon a dh'fheumas sinn a chur gu feum los sin a dheanamh-ciod e am meadhon? le Allah, is fìor lighiche mise agus sàr Mhoslamach, agus thug mi fainear gu bheil na faolchoin a' teachd beò air feòil aimh is air cnàmhan, agus, gidheadh, nach do thachair riamh leithid driodart an duine thinn so do aon aca. Tha e soilleir dhomh, le sin, gun téid cnàmhan a leaghadh le anail an fhaolchoin, agus ma shéideas faolchu an slugan an truaghain so gun leaghar a' chnàimh a tha an sàs ann.'

"Nach do-àireamh mìorbhailtean Allah! Oir, nuair a thugadh a làthair faolchu le cearraiche-siubhail air choreigin, agus a shéid e aice an slugan an duine thim, sud an truaghan car taeain 'ga thachdadh leis a' chasadaich gus an do leagh a' chnàimh (agus sin uile gun teagamh le anail an fhaolchoin) air mhodh is gun tugadh as i gun mhóran dragha. Ach is e Allah d'an eol gach nl."

Nuair a sguir mi bha Lasbuig e fhéin 'ga thachdadh leis a' ghàireachdaich a bh'air.

"Tha mi agad cheana," arsa mise. "Nach soilleir a' bharail a th'agad air a' chinneadh a dheachdadh a leithid ?"

"Ho, ho!" arsa Lasbuig, is e a' suathadh a shùilean. "Có air thalamh a thuigeas iad?. Blialum! Ròlais! Anail an fhaolchoin! Ha, ha, ha!", is e'ga aornagan air a' chathair.

"Moille bheag," arsa mise; "stad ort, 'ille chòir! An cual thu riamh mu'n Ollamh Mhuisech agus mu'n mhlreachadh a thug e air oro mnà a chuala iad a' seinn gu binn bòidheach is iad fo sheòl an Caol Muile? Nach cuimhne leat a' bhean a bha losgann 'na slugan? Agus nach cuimhne leat an seanfhacal againne, gur feàirrde an saoghal a thuigsinn na a dhlieadh? "

Sheall Gilleasbuig orm gu balbh sòluimte.

"A Thighearna, tha 'n fhìrinn agad," ars esan. "Bitheamaid a' tarraing á so."

Agus dh'éirich e is thug e an dorus air mar gu robh e ann an neul.

Anns an dol a mach dhomh sheall aon de na Spàintich orm is ceist 'na ghnùis.

"Do chompanach," ars esan, "a bheil e uile ann? Sud e ag gàireachdaich, agus prìobadh 'na dhéidh cho tosdach smuainteach ris a' bhàs. *Esta loco, pobrecito*?"

"Is e sin an dara uair a thuirt thu sin an nochd," arsa mise, agus thug mi an dorus orm an déidh Ghilleasbuig.

An Caifidh, m. The Cafe. Moslamach, Moslem.

Aildiri, Algeria. Moslamach, Moslem.

An Coràn, the Koran (leabhar-naomh nam Moslamach).

Tùnaisi, Tunisia. Arabiai, Arabie (language).

Tunass, Tunisia.

Arabais, Arabic (I
An Ioslam, f. Islam.

Càilif, m. Khalif.

Drùsach, a Druse.

Gennach, a Yankee.

Sufaidh, m. a Sufi.

Sufaidh, m. a Sufi.

An Albamkea f. ii

Franc, m. a franc.

An Cionama, the cinema.

Baghdad, m. Bagdad.

Tùnais, Tunis,

cearraiche-siubhail, an itinerant

acrobat.

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

KIIIIn. —The KiIIin Branch had arranged a Ceilidh in aid of the Perth Mod Funds, to be held on 18th March, and I was invited to attend and preside. I travelled with the midday train from Clasgow, and arrived at Killin Junction when the second blizzard of the Spring was at its worst. Notwithstanding the severity of the weather there was a fair attendance in the MacLaren Hall, but we missed the regular visitors from the outlying glens and corries. The Ceilidh opened with a service of tea, after Grace had been said in Gaelic by the Rev. Donald Thomson. A short programme of songs and Highland and English. Votes of thanks were proposed by the President, Mr. James MacRaw. It is hoped to arrange another Ceilidh for the same object when weather conditions may be more favourable.

Lochtayside. — The Lochtayside Branch had arranged for a Concert in aid of the Central Fund for the evening following the Killin Ceilidh, but this had to be cancelled as all roads leading to Kenmore, where the Concert was to be held, were blocked with now.

Dundee.—On the evening of 28th March I paid my annual visit to the Dundee Branch. There was a large attendance in Keiller's Restaurant, and, in the unavoidable absence of the Chief, Mr. MacDonald Chalmers, Mr. Roderick MacDonald, one of the Chieftains, presided. The guest-singer on this occasion was Miss Kitty MacLeod, Mod Gold Medallist, and as usual there were vocal and instrumental items from local artistes. This Branch is maintaining the good work of former years. The Gaelic Class, conducted by Mr. Roderick Dance Class. In my address I made special reference to the National Mod which is to be held in the neighbouring city of Perth, and was assured that Dundee would give the Mod their whole-hearted support. Votes of thanks were moved by the Rev. Angus Duncan, Ladybank, Chaplain to the Branch.

Kinloch Rannoch.—The Kinloh Rannoch Branch staged a very successful Ceilidh in aid of Perth Mod Funds in the Dunalastair Hotel on 21st March. Mrs. Petrins Stewart and Alasdair Matheson of An Comunn Concert Party attended and materially contributed to the success of the evening. Mr. James Grant Scott, the genial President, was in the Chair and also contributed to the programme.

Cette Congress.—The Celtic Congress is to be held this year in Dublin from 22nd to 29th July. Professor Agnes O'Farrelly is the National Secretary, and Mr. Oscar MacUlis, "Inis Chaoin," Delighia, Co, Dublin, is the Local Secretary, Dr. John Cameron, President of An Comunn, who has been Scottish Secretary for close on twenty years, has now, because of his many duties, retired from office as Scottish Secretary, Calcils singers from Scotland will be asked to take part at the forthcoming Congress, where also it is hoped to have a paper from someone in Scotland.

Corrections. — Two corrections fall to be made to my notes in last month's Magazine. At the concert at Motherwell on 16th February, Miss Helen T. MacMillan was also with the party of artistes who accompanied me and helped with the programme. In my report of my visit to Mull I paid tribute to the good work being done for Gaelie by Mr. Duncan MacDougall at Bunessan School. This, of course, should have read "Mr. Duncan MacDougall" and I much regret the error, which was due to an oversight.

## PROPAGANDA NOTES.

#### Northern Area.

Another Successful Concert Tour.— From 31st March to 4th April a Gaelic Concert Party, sponsored by the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee, sustained a series of five Concerts in Sutherland, the Tour being arranged by the Northern Organiser who accompanied the Party, which included Petrine M. Stewart, Angus Whyte, and Alasdair Matheson.

Lochinver.—Up to within a few days of the first Concert is was feared the Tour would have to be cancelled, as many of the roads were blocked by snow. The weather changed, however, and when the Branch President, The Rev. Angus MacKenzie, took the Chair at Lochinver there was a gratifying attendance. The Official Party were assisted by local talent, notably two Gaelic Dialogues presented by Miss M. Graham and Mr. Duncan Urquhart. These were greatly enjoyed, as were all the items on the programme. Major A. M. Ross, were all the items on the programme. Major A. M. Ross, lilhnes, but prior to bis going south for treatment he had completed arrangements for the Concert. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Dornoch.—The following evening the Branch President, Mr. John MacLean, presided in the Drill Hall, Dornoch, where the hall was full to capacity. Here sgain local artistes assisted, and altogether the evening was a most successful one. Mr. Calum MacDonald, Hon. Secretary, and his Committee are to be congratulated on their excellent arrangements.

Durness,—Early next morning the Party were off to Durness, the most northerly village in Sutherland, and only the Kyle separating it from Cape Wrath. Durness has always been noted for its singers of Gaelic songs, and the local artistes who assisted with the programme worthily maintained the high standard of those gone before. Mr. A. Morrison, M.A., a worthy son of worthy parents (the late Mr. and Mrs. Morrison of the Post Office), made an ideal Chairman. Mr. MacFishni made sympathetic reference to the Chairman's mother, Mrs. Morrison, who held the post of Branch President until the time of her death. No one, he said, had done more for Gaelic Song in these areas than Mrs. Morrison, and he was proud to have this opportunity of paying tribute to her worth and work.

Melness.—Those who know the "Moine" roads after heavy frost and a quick thaw will understand that great care is required, but the Party arrived at the village of Melness (Por Talmine, as the Post Office has it) on time. Mr. MacPolial visited the school, had a talk with the children, and enrolled fifteen new members in Comunn na h-Uigridh. He was assured that Melness School would be well represented at the County of Sutherland Mod on 27th June.

At 8 p.m., the time due for the Concert to begin, there was not a vacant seat in the Hall; old and young had turned out. The Organiser presided, and a first-class programme was submitted by the Official Party and also by local talent, including the school children. As there is no hotel or boardinghouse in Melness, the Party had to go to Tongue after the Concert, and this was accomplished in a blizzard of snow. Arriving there at 1 a.m., the Party were hospitably entertained by Domhnall Iain Maskenzie, the proprietor.

Lairg.—Next evening found the Party at Lairg, and on this occasion there was a special item on the Concert programme. The Inverness Post Office Players presented the play By Order, depicting a scene from the Sutherland Clearance. The play was very well received, and sincere thanks are due to the players for having come all the way from Inverness to assist in the Cause of An Comunn. Prior to the presentation of this play, Mr. William MacDonald played appropriate music on the Pipes, and Mrs. MacKenzie acted as accompanist for the singers. Mr. William Grant, the Branch President, presided and urged on all present the necessity of giving all support to the local Mod to be held in June. The Mod Secretary is Mr. R. D. MacDonald, St. Murie, Lairg, to whom all communications should be sent. Mr. MacDonald is also the local Branch Secretary, and sincere thanks are due to him and his Committee who made all the arrangements for the Concert.

Thus ended a series of five Concerts in aid of the Central Pund of An Comum and, despite the weather conditions and other difficulties, a sum of \$73 \text{ 6th} as been forwarded to the Fund. To Petrine, Angus, and Alasdair sincere thanks are due for having given unsparingly of their excellent repertoire of Gaelie songes.

Easter Ross Tour Planned.—The Organiser has completed arrangements for a further series of Concerts from 5th to 9th May inclusive. These will be held at Kiltarlity, Muir of Ord,

Tain, Dingwall, and Alness (in that order). The Official Party will include Petrine M. Stewart, Chrissie MacKenzie, and Alasdair Mathseon, and the play By Order will be presented at Muir of Ord and Dingwall. All of these Concerts are in aid of the Central Pund of An Comunn, and the Northern Organiser will give short addresses on the activities of An Comunn in the North and West.

Aberdeen.—The Organiser paid his annual visit to the Aberdeen Branch on 20th March. There was a large attendance presided over by the genial President, Mr. Dugald MacDonald. This Branch continues to draw large audiences to the monthly open Celildha, and the all-Gaelic Celildha are also well supported.

Committees.—Meetings of the Northern Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees were held in the Office at Inverness on Saturday, 22nd March.

Nairm and Fort William,—On 25th March the Organiser presided at a Ceilidh of the Nairm Branch, when there was a good attendance. He also presided at a Ceilidh of the Fort William Branch on 27th March. The Masonic Hall was packed, and Mr. Hector Kennedy, who had arranged the programme, is to be congratuitated, It was a first-class all-Gaelic evening, and the Branch was honoured share in the programme by teiling some stories of the days when he was a boy in Lewis. Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon proposed the votes of thanks.

Camanachd.—On 29th March the Organiser was present at meeting of the Schools Camanachd Association, and the Association honoured him by electing him one of the three Vice-Presidents.

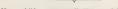
Dingwall.—During recent months the Dingwall Branch has found that the Lesser Town Hall was not large enough for the monthly Cellidhs. They therefore ventured to book the Town Hall for the April Cellidh, and their foresight was fully justified, for there was a large gathering which included Provost A. MacKae. The Northern Organiser presided, and there was an excellent Cellidh programme. The Provost moved a very hearty vote of thanks to all who had helped to provide such a grand programme.

# IN BRIEF.

Cornish Books.—The Gaelic article on the Cornish language, which appeared in our March number, appears to have aroused considerable interest, and a number of people have written to Messrs, James Lanham, Lid, High Struck, Ives, Cornwall, for copies of the books listed at the end of the article. Messrs, Lanham have informed us that, unfortunate, many of the books listed are at present out of print and, because of paper restrictions, may not be reprinted for some considerable time. They say that only the following are now obtainable:

Henry Jenner: "Who are the Celts and what has Cornwall to do with them," Is; "St. Mark's Gospel in Cornish," 2s; "Lyver an Pymp Marthus Seleven," Is; Cornish-English Dictionary, 9s 6d. (Postage extra in all cases).

An Comunn Publications.—"Am Fear-Ciùil" by Donald Mas-Keehnie, a collection of his Gaelie proce and poetry, and "The Elementary Course of Gaelie," by Reid and MacLeod, have been unobtainable for some time, as the bound copies were sold out; but we are glad to report that a large number of copies of both works have now been received from the binders, and copies may be ordered from An Comunn Office. "Am Fear-Ciail" costs 56 (postage 8d) and "The Elementary Course" 2 8 6d (postage 8d). T. M. M.



Mar a théid an t-eun o dhuilleag gu duilleig, theid am mèanan o dhuine gu duine—As the bird goes from leaf to leaf, the yawn goes from man to man.

#### EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

#### Advisory Council's Reports.

The Advisory Council on Education was appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland over four years ago and consists of twenty-four eminent, practical and experienced educationists—University Principals and Professors, Directors of Education, Headmasters and Mistresses, Class Teachers, Members of Parliament and of Local Government bodies, and Scottish Education Department officers. It is obvious that any pronouncement on education, coming from such a body must be taken very servously and treated with every respect.

The Council has devoted over three years to receiving evidence and representations from about three hundred public bodies and private individuals, and row, after due deliberation, it has submitted to the Secretary of State far-reaching recommendations, which run to 340 pages and 1,400 paragraphs, dealing in fascinating and attractive detail with practically every aspect of our educational system.

#### SWEEPING CHANGES.

Among many sweeping changes suggested, the Council would displace from their traditional specially privileged position subjects like Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, and give added place to Hand-cartix, Art, Music, Physical Education, Games, and Social Subjects. It forestalls the stormy protests and criticisms by pointing out that the traditional Scottish Education certainly provided the in ellectually able minority, whose aim was the University, with a schooling fitting their needs and their abilities, but that the same mental provender, when forced on the (academically) less gifted majority of pupils, proved quite indigestible and of little value to them.

indigestible and of little value to them. The new recommendations, they maintain, while continuing to make ample provision for the former, ensure that the latter are not neglected; and they emphasize, as the former system did not, that the spiritual wisdom are greater than knowledge, and that character is infinitely more important than learning. Throughout its length the Report is rich in suggestions as to how our education can be improved in conformity with these high ideals.

As a Comunn, we are particularly interested in the attitude of the Council to our language and traditions. Here are extracts from the Report:

#### ALL SCOTLAND ESSENTIALLY GAELIC.

"The question of Gaelic studies has been too The question of cashe studies has been accessively regarded as affecting only the 'Celtic fringe' of Scotland, and the language that of a scattered and diminishing remnant. We suggest a scattered and diminishing remnant. We suggest a different attitude. This was the language of the whole land before a word of English was ever spoken in it. Any large scale map of the Highlands or the Western Isles bristles with names of mountain, stream and glen that seem strange and foreign to the lowlander but were bestowed long ago by the ancient race whose homes were there. Even in the lowlands the great majority of the hills and streams have Celtic names. In varying amount there must be Celtic blood in most native Scots, though they know not a word of Gaelic; and so too perhaps some little-suspected Celtic element in their character. People poor in this world's goods, and living somewhat apart from the main stream of civilisation, tend to maintain in their primitive life the dreams and thoughts and arts of an earlier age; and this is true of Gaelic Scotland. We think it is worth while cherishing this language and culture, not merely for those who are born into it, but for the sake of the rest of Scotland. We therefore recommend that all Scottish children should learn something of Gaelic life and legends and traditions. Some pupils as they grow older may wish to learn the Gaelic language and read its literature; and for these, opportunities at selected schools may one day be provided. As for the Gaelic-speaking areas themselves,



we recommend that all possible steps be taken to get an adequate number of Gaelic-speaking teachers and an ample supply of suitable class books and texts in the Gaelic language."

The foregoing was for pupils in the Primary Schools.

The following are extracts from the Report on Secondary Education:—

#### More Facilities for Gaelic.

"Where pupils enter the secondary school already able to speak Gaelic, the systematic study of that language is, we believe, the best linguistic training that can be offered them. They can look to attain in it a proficiency far greater than would reward a corresponding attention to French or Spanish; and they have the key to a literature which, since it enshrines the experience of their own race, will come home to them with an intimacy of appeal no other could rival.

"Every secondary school in a Gaelic-speaking area ought, therefore, to have a fully qualified teacher of the language on its staff, and facilities for the study of Gaelic either alone or in conjunction with Latin should always be available. There should not, however, be an indirect compulsion to take Gaelic, arising from the denial of the opportunity to study any other foreign language.

foreign language.

"We further recommend that in large centres,
where there is a considerable population of Celtic origiu,
facilities for learning Gaelic should be available in one
school at least.

#### THE UTILITY OF GAELIC.

"But we cannot support the claim of An Comunn Gaidhraáach that Gaelic should have complete parity with other foreign languages in all the secondary schools of Scotland. Even were it possible to find all the spectalist teachers required—and no one knows better chan An Comunn how wildly impossible it would be within any measurable period—we think the position untenable for the following reasons:—

(1) For the pupil with no previous knowledge, Gaelic is not easier but much harder than the romance than the reason of the second of the control of the the Lower Standard in the Senior Leaving Certificate would mean five years of very hard work, except

for the most gifted.
(2) The utility value of Gaelic is not high.

(3) While Gaélic Literature is rich in appeal for those to whom it is native, it could hardly be claimed that it has either the sustained greatness or the immense range and volume of the European Literatures."

#### CRITICISM.

We welcome the recommendations with regard to the Gaelic-speaking areas, but in dealing with the other areas of Scotland the statements seem to fall from the Council's usual high level of balanced judgment.

(1) Surely, after enlarging in previous sections on the Celtic origin of practically all native Scots, it was a bad lapse to classify Gaelic as among "other foreign languages?"

(2) Leaving Certificate examinations in Gaelic are undoubtedly hard at present as compared with Foreign Language examinations, because the standard is specially designed and set for those who are native speakers. For those commoncing the study of Gaelic at the age of twelve it would be a simple matter to the French or German Leaving Certificate standard of difficulty.

(5) "The utility value of Gashic is not high?" May we sak what is the usefulness of French or German to S5 per cent. of those who etudy them in school? But in any case are we to measure utility according to the standard of the market-place? Surely on the standard of the market-place? Surely on the standard of the

Scotsmen) enshrines the experience of their race and will come home to them with an intimacy of appeal no other could rival.

# ARTS AND CRAFTS. "There is no cry more insistent throughout Scotland to-day than the demand for new industries.

It is too often assumed that these will fall from the sky or come from somewhere else on the initiative of some individual or corporation or the State itself. All the great businesses and industries we know began originally in a small corner from the initiative of an individual or a group of individuals, . . . and it is not too much to suggest that self-help and enterprise are still typical Scott sh qualities. A considerable part of Scotland is not so well suited for industry on a mass production scale as for small and characteristic local industries, in which labour forms a large percentage of the cost and quality is an important consideration. . . . We still have a considerable number of small industries scattered over the country. If these are to be cherished and developed, and older crafts revived, there must be a close association between the industries and the schools. Without knowledge there can be no pride, and pride in craftsmanship is an important element in publicity and commercial success. . . . We believe that the industry of the district should wherever possible be reflected in the crafts of the Apart from other advantages direct and indirect of such a policy, many who will never enter the industry will be better educated by getting insight into at least one industrial process. If they are still living in the same community they will be able to give the industry more intelligent understanding and support from outside; if they make their home elsewhere they will become conscious or unconscious

of their native place." (Primary Report, p 79.). The foregoing extract, though not referring particularly to the Highlands and though making no mention of Gaelic, is strictly relevant to our Highland and Gaelic situation. Any native art or craft or industry founded on native soil and tradition will tend to retain in the glens happy contented speakers of Gaelic, their presence and example and activity will make the canoniative soil. We amad attractive for others, and in the canoniative soil. We amad attractive for the content of the content

publicity agents for the industry and craftsmanship

These two Reports are packed with interesting, fascinating, and stimulating reading, and amply repay most careful perusal. They may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Edinburgh, the Primary Education Report, 3s. And the Secondary Education Report, 3s.

As a Postscript to the above, I should like to add

two points.

Scarcity of Teachers.

The Council consider it a serious difficulty in the way of extending Gaelic teaching throughout the secondary schools of Scotland that Gaelic specialist teachers are few and an adequate number could not be provided "within any measurable period." Nevertheless the Council urge considerable greater facilities for the teaching of Spanish, and add: "We realise that the problem of finding suitably qualified teachers preduder rapid, large-scale change in the incidence of language teaching; but it is important that a start be made, and propress should not be slowed by a too finicking insistence on academic gualifications which can to in general be forthoming in the immediate future." (Italics mine). Surely this should apply to Gaelic-teaching also.

RURAL EDUCATION.

The second point is that, apart from the question of Gaelic, there is in the Secondary Education Report what seems to me to be an excellent chapter on "Secondary

Education in Rural and Highfand Scotland," The Council reject "any conception of rural secondary education which tacitly assumes that children, country-bred, are in any sense adscriptae glebae" (bound to the soil) "or that the school may justly conspire with circumstances to narrow their opportunity in any way. A good secondary education for rural as for town children must be one that gives them the fullest opportunity for social usefulness and personal advancement in either town or country, according as temperaments and talents incline them."
"But," they add, "we do not accept the opposite extreme that there is nothing distinctive about secondary education in the country save the administrative problems raised by distance and lack of numbers. To go that length is to deny the fundamental truth that education must be rooted in reality, finding its material and its starting point in the environment of the child." The Council therefore plead for "rural colour" being given to the curriculum, but not "agricultural bias." While the Council hold that "agriculture as such should have no place in the secondary curriculum within the years of compulsory schooling," they say that the most serious deficiency of all in rural education is "the meagre provision for advanced technical education, whether on the mechanical or on the agricultural side." The Council consider that junior secondary courses in certain rural areas and in the Highlands generally are too bookish, and, in regard to senior secondary courses, "while some of the soundest secondary work in Scotland is being done in very small schools," "the curricula of our rural secondary schools are in most cases too narrow to meet the needs of the contemporary world. EDITOR.

#### FHIR A' BHATA.

#### (An Islay Boatman).

Blackford Pond-and the mallards basking-Recall Port Askaig and the day Peter MacPhee, that mild sea-rover.

Ferried me over to Colonsay. Deep and green, 'neath the Paps of Jura,

The Sound allured, with a swell and sway, And every colour of sea-bird flashing,

Diving and dashing for darting prev. Deep and green and as subtly rhythmic. With flashes swift as the turn of wing,

Was the steersman's coaxed-out store of Gaelic, Putting the name on everything.

Sheldrakes, guillemots, puffins, cormorants-

All he conjured with druids' words, Till a-sudden I knew that old magician,

The god and king of the sea of birds. Manannan, master of all disguises,

Come out, you're spied! I have you here! The pipe you smoke and your oil-stained raincoat Have failed to fool me, shy MacLear. ALBERT MACKIE.

(Manannan MacLir or MacLear, whose name is preserved in Isle of Man, or Ellan Vannin, and perhaps in Clackmannan, was the old Gaelic sea-god, a great hand at magic disguises.)

#### Fear-Bàta Ileach.

Tha dràcan fiadhaich sa' phàire ag grianachadh-Ghairm iad air ais dhomh là mo sgrìob Thairis gu Colbhasa bho Phort Asgaig Am bàta Phàraig Mhic-a-Phì.

Bu domhain uaine, fo mhàman Dhiùraidh, Na tuinn a' tulgadh shìos sa' chaol, Le dath gach seòrsa de dh'eòin na mara A' dealrachadh cho luath ri gaoith.

Bu domhain uaine, bu bhinne siùbhlach, Cho luath mùiteach ri car na sgéith, An stòras Gàidhlig bh'aig fear na stiùrach,

Ag cur an ainm air gach eun.

Cràdh-gheadh 's buthaid, 's eun-a'-chrùbain-

Chuir e iad uile fo gheasaibh treun, Is dh'aithnich mi air ball an druidh ud,

Seann dia buidseach aig muir nan eun A Mhanannain, a mhaighstir na mealltachd. Fhuair mi mach thu, cha ghòrach mi, Le còta ùilleach is pìob-thombaca,

Cha tug thu 'n car asam, a Mhie Lir. AILBEART MACAOIDH.

# EADAR SINN FHEIN.

#### FOLKLORE.

Dear Sir,-I would like to express agreement with "A.M.'s" remarks in his review of Bealoideas.

It is not only a question of lack of money here, but also of the lack of training for the work. Ten years ago, when I first began recording songs and stories in Barra and Cape Breton, I suggested to the Lecturer in Celtic at a certain Scottish University that he might do much worse than persuade the authorities there to purchase an Ediphone which his best Gaelic students could use to collect folklore and folksongs on their vacations in the Highlands and Islands. His reply was that, if he went before the authorities with such a suggestion. he would only be laughed at. Yet that University sont expeditions to the Inner Hebrides in 1936 and 1937 to study the flora and fauna of certain Islands, and published a lengthy report in the Proceedings of the Royal Physical Society, illustrated with maps, plates, and drawings, which cannot have been less expensive to produce than, e.g., a booklet on the local folksongs and place-names would have been,

With few exceptions, the present flora and fauna of these Isles will be with us fifty years from now, but many of the best songs and stories will have gone for ever within ten, or even five, years. It is to be hoped that our Universities will wake up to this fact before it is too late.

What is wanted is something like the following:-

(a) The creation of an archive in Scotland which can house MSS and records of Gaelic folklore.

(b) following (a), a friendly offer of collaboration and exchange of material with the Irish Folklore Society (c) the endowment of the collection of Gaelic folklore

in Scotland. At present money can be obtained only for publication, but collection is far more urgent.

(d) realisation of the fact that J. F. Campbell, Alexander Carmichael, Frances Tolmie, and Mrs. Kennedy Fraser have by no means exhausted the field.

(e) following (c), the selection of a McCaig scholar to study the methods of collecting and transcribing folklore under Professor Delargy in Dublin. He should be guaranteed at least five years' employment (so long as he produces results) after his training.

(f) the question of publication is least urgent and can be taken up later.

The Irish Folklore Commission and their friends cannot possibly cover all the ground in the Highlands and Islands. There is enough in Barra and Uist alone to keep Calum MacLean busy for his whole life. There are vast areas in Argyllshire, Skye. Wester Ross, Mull, Islay, Tiree, Coll, and Lewis, which the Irish Folklore Commission can hardly hope to reach at all. Moreover, it should be remembered that there is not unlikely to be opposition in Ireland itself to the idea of spending Irish money on collecting folklore in Scotland, so that it is to be hoped that things will not be made more difficult by people taking a narrow view over here

Professor Delargy has already shown a most friendly and co-operative spirit by sending his folk-music transcriber, free of charge, to transcribe the tunes of the songs recorded in Barra and Cape Breton by my wife and myself in 1937-38, and it is to be hoped that we in Scotland shall meet his workers in the same spirit. Gaelic folklore, whether in Scotland, Ireland, or Man,

is one field.

One word on the meaning of "folklore," which for some people perhaps is apt to connote "superstition." In the sense it is used here, it comprises the whole oral tradition of the Gaelic people-local history, songs, stories, music, place-This tradition goes back in Gaeldom to the times of Fionn MacCumhail and the Fiann, 1500 years at least, probably the oldest living tradition in Europe to-day,-Mise le meas,

Tele of Conna

[Although this letter was received while this month's issue was in the printers' hands, I have arranged to have it inserted immediately, in view of the urgency of the matter, and in the hope that action will quickly follow. I had already written this month's Gaelic Editorial on the same theme. - EDITOR.]

#### IMPORTANT DATES.

May Kintyre Provincial Mod.

24 Edinburgh Provincial Mod.

30. Glasgow Provincial Mod. 31.

3. Mid-Argyll Provincial Mod.

6. Badenoch-Strathspey Provincial Mod. 6. Oban, Lorne, and Mull Provincial Mod. Lochaber Provincial Mod. 20 Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod.

26. Lewis Provincial Mod.

27. Sutherland Provincial Mod.

Meeting of Executive Council. 10. Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp opens at Inversilort.

12. Closing date for Entries and submission of Musical Compositions and Literary Work for National Mod Competitions.

22-29. Celtic Congress (Dublin).

4. Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp closes. Aug. Sept. 30 National Mod at Perth begins.

Oct. 3 National Mod concludes.

Annual General Meeting of An Comunn.

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to whom all literary communications should be addressed. Business and other communications should be sent to the General
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inclusion in the Magazine should be in the Editor's hands by the 12th, of the month preceding publications.

Leabhar XLII.]

An t-Og-mhhos, 1947.

[Earrann

#### DRAMAIDHEACHD GHAIDHLIG.

Air duilleig eile gheibhear iomradh air an dealbhchluich "Crois-Tàra" a bha air a chluich an Glaschu o chionn ghoirid, agus bu mhath leam an so smuain no dhà a chur sìos mu'n dràma Ghàidhlig.

Ann an sgeulachd tha an seanchaidh ag innseadh nu dheanadasan agus mu bhriathran na feadhna air a bheil e ag aithris. Ann an dealbh-chluich tha na dealbh-chluicheadairean a' riochdachadh nam pearsachan anns an sgeul air beulaibh luchd-amhaire agus sin ann an coltas agus éideadh, ann an gniomh agus ann an labhairt. An àite a bhith a' leughadh an sgeòil no 'ga chluinntinn air aithris le aon duine, tha thu 'ga fhaicinn fa chomhair do shìla mar gum b'e rud an da-rìreabh a th'ann agus na pearsachan anns an sgeul a' labhairt gach aon a bhriathran fhéin.

Is e an còmhradh-dithis an seòrsa dhealbh-chluich air an eòlaiche a' mhór-chuid againn. Saoilidh mi gur e "Caraid nan Gàidheal" a' cheud sgrìobhadair Gàidhlig a sgrìobh còmhraidhean-dithis-am Maoi agus Ailean Croitear, Cuairtear nan Gleann agus Eachann Tirisdeach, am Maighstir-sgoile agus Calum Posta, Fionnlagh Pìobaire is Màiri is Para Mór. Ged is ann a chum an leughadh a chaidh na còmhraidhean sin a sgrìobhadh an toiseach, is math a dh'fhaodadh iad a bhith air an cluich le cluicheadairean a' riochdachadh nam pearsachan a dh'ainmich mi. Ach ann an dealbh-chluich tha barrachd phearsachan ag gabhail pàirt na ann an còmhradh, agus ann an dealbh-chluich tha barrachd aire air a thoirt do na tha na pearsachan a' deanamh cho math ri ciod a tha iad ag ràdh. Ann an còmhradh-dithis faodaidh an còmhradh tòiseachadh agus crìochnachadh gun mhóran mothachaidh air a bhith ag innseadh sgeòil. Ach ann an dealbh-chluich tha gach gnìomh is gach facal air an cur an altaibh a chéile agus iad ag oibreachadh a mach a chum crìch shònraichte; tha aon rud a' treòrachadh gu rud eile gus mu dheireadh,

mas e dealbh-chluich as fhiach an t-ainm a th'ann, tha thu ag aideachadh gu robh crìoch na cuise dosheachanta.

Faodar dealbh-chluichean a roinn 'nan dà sheòrsa, ris an abair na h-Eireannaich (tha mì an dùil) "goldrama" agus "gean-drama" agus ris an abrar anns a' Bheurla "tragedy" is "comedy" agus ris am faod sinne "bròn-chluich" a radh.

Is e "gean-chluich" dealbh-chluich àbhachdach, agus mar as trie 's e sin an seòrsa air an eòlaiche sinn anns a' Ghàidhlig, agus saoilidh mi gur e sin as aobhar gu bheil móran de na Gàidheil a théid a dh'amhar dealbh-chluich an dùil ri feasgar aighearach a chur seachad, agus ma thachras gur e "bròn-chluich" a tha f'an comhair tha iad ro bhuailteach gàire as dheanamh an uair nach 'eil aobhar-gàire am do'n neach a tha tuigsinn gu bheil e ag amharc mar ann an daelbh air fosrachadh duilch a tha riochdachadh thachartasan muladach a bhios a' tachairt an darlreabh.

Tha ealdhain na dràmaidheachd ag iarraidh eòlais agus tuigse agus sgil neo-chumanta, an dà chuid air an dealbh-sgrìobhadair agus air na dealbhchluicheadairean.

Is ann am measg nan Greugach anns na linntean fad as a thòisich an dràma an toiseach, cho fad 's is aithne dhuinne. Roimh âm an Ath-leasachaidh chuireadh an dràma air aghaidh fo sheòladh na h-Eaglaise. Agus 's e an t-aon nì a bha san amharc aig luchd-dràma na Gréige agus luchd-dràma na h-Eaglaise, agus b'e sin dealbh-chluichean a dheanamh 'nam meadhon air sluagh a theagasg. Anns na trì cheud bliadhna mu dheireadh tha an dràma air fàs gu ìre ann am mòran dhùthchannan agus, ged a tha mòran ag amharc air mar chur-seachad a mhàin, tha e fhathast 'na mheadhon-teagaisg cho buadhmhor 's a th'ann, a' brosnachadh smuain agus ag gluasad mac-meanman dhaoine.

An coimeas ris na Goill agus na Sasannaich bha na Gàidheil fada air dheireadh ann a bhith gabhail gnothaich ris an dràma. Bha iomadh aobhar air so. Their cuid gur e aon aobhar gu robh an Eaglais Athleasaichte an aghaidh an dràma. Bha so fìor an tomhas mór, ach saoilidh mi nach b'e so an t-aobhar air dàil nan Gàidheal sa' chùis, oir bha na h-Eireannaich cuideachd fada gun làmh a thoirt air dràma. Is e mo bheachd fhéin gur e an t-aobhar ceart gur e sluagh dùthchail a bh'anns na Gàidheil; cha robh bailtean-móra aca. Agus is ann anns na bailteanmóra a thòisich agus a dh'fhàs an dràma. Is ann am bailtean-móra na Gréige a dh'éirich dràma nan Greugach. Is ann anns na bailtean a tha e a' soirbheachadh an diugh, ged a tha e o chionn beagan bhliadhnachan a' ruigheachd nas motha air àitean dùthchail. Dh'fhaodamaid a ràdh cuideachd gu robh an seanchaidh le chuid sgeulachdan agus am filidh agus an clàrsair a' lìonadh an àite am measg nan seann-Ghàidheal a bha air a lìonadh leis an dràma am measg chinneach eile. Agus an uair a chaidh an seanchaidh agus am bàrd agus an clàrsair á fasan, gu sònraichte an déidh ám Chuil-lodair agus na lean air, bha cath cruaidh na beatha làitheil ro throm air na Gàidheil air son gum biodh càil no cothrom aca a dhol an car an dràma.

Ach ged a bha na Gàidheil caran fada gun tionndadh ris an dràma, tha comharraidhean ann gu bheil iad nas motha agus nas motha a' nochdadh ùidh ann. Tha àireamh dhealbh-chluichean againn cheana anns a' Ghàidhlig a tha glé mhath, agus tha a dhà no trì a tha fìor-mhath. Beagan bhliadhnachan air ais chuir Mgr. Dòmhnall MacPhàil, Fear-Deilbhe a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich san Airde Tuath, air chois Féill no Mòd Dhealbh-chluichean an Uidhist, agus shoirbhich gu math leis an oidhirp sin. An dràsda agus a rithist, chan ann a mhàin anns na bailteanmóra ach ann an àitean dùthchail na Gàidhealtachd chithear dealbh-chluich air àrd-ùrlar aig cuirmchiùil. Agus tha luchd-Gàidhlig a' Bh.B.C. air tomhas mór de fheum a dheanamh leis na cluichean a bhios iad a' craobh-sgaoileadh air an ràdio o ám gu ám. A nis tha an sgioba chluicheadairean a chluich "Crois-Tàra" a' leigeil fhaicinn ciod a ghabhas deanamh le luchd-gnìomha ealanta, an uair a tha gach achfhuinn is àirneis is deisealachd aca-tighcluiche freagarrach, éididhean, soluis, bratan-cùil is sgàil-bhratan is gach uidheam eile. \*

Tha trì nithean a dhith oirnn ma tha dràma na Gàidhlig ri dhol am feabhas.

An toiseach, luchd-gnìomha no dealbh-chluicheadairean a ghabhas dragh agus aig a bheil sgil is eòlas a chum cluichean a chur an céill fa chomhair an t-sluaigh.

An dara ni, dealbh-sgrìobhadairean a chuireas an làmh ri sgrìobhadh nan dealbh-chluichean. Cha bhi gainne chuspairean orra. Tha eachdraidh is litreachas nan Gàidheal, agus mar an ceudna suidheachaidhean an latha an diugh, loma-làn de chuspairean freagarrach mar aobhar-chluichean. Agus chan e mhàin bròn-

chluichean is gean-chluichean a tha a dhith oirnn, ach ceòl-dràma (no "opera") mar an ceudna. Tha mi de'n bheachd gur e "Iseabal na h-Airigh" o làimh Mhaol-Chaluim MhicAonghais an nì as fhaisge air an t-seòrsa so a th'agaim.

An treas nì, gun biodh na Gàidheil a' nochdadh ùidh anns an dràma, agus a' misneachadh na feadhna a tha strì ris. Dheanadh e cuideachadh mór ann a bhith a' dùsgadh ùidh de'n t-seòrsa sin buidheann chluicheadairean (mar a chunnaic sinn an "Crois-Tàra") a dhol air chuairt air feadh na Gàidhealtachd is carbad aca a' giùlan leotha gach acfhuinn fheumail.

Chan e cur-seachad a th'anns an dràma idir (ged a tha sin ann) ach meadhon cumhachdach air inntinn is mac-meamma dhaoine a dhùsgadh agus a ghluasad agus air cliù is cor ar daoine a thoirt am follais agus buadhan na Gàidhlige mar shàr-chànain a dhearbhadh.

#### LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi an dùil gur e an ceud nì a dh'fheumas mi a dheanamh anns an litir so mìneachadh a thoirt, mar a gheall mi an litir a' mhìos a dh'fhalbh, air an eadar-dhealachadh a tha eadar "sgoill," "stiall," "stròic," agus "sgonn."

Mar a tha sinn anns an eilean san d'fhuair mise m'àrach ag cleachdadh an fhacail "sgoill," tha sinn ag ciallachadh earrann nach 'eil idir beag no suarach, am bitheantas de aran, bonnach no sgon, gun a bhith ro chuimir an cumadh, seadh, gun a bhith air a gearradh gu finealta le sgian-arain.

Gabhaidh "stiall" agus "stròic" cur an cleachdadh mar an deanadair no an deanadas, mar a dh'fhaodamaid noun no earb a chur an Gàidhlig. Tha iad ag ciallachadh (a) mìr no earrann a théid a shracadh de aodach, de phaipear no a leithid sin, agus (b) an gnìomh an uair a tha an sracadh sin air a dheanamh.

Tha an ceud aon ("stiall") glé thric air a chleachdadh an dòigh eile, an dòigh nach 'eil fada bho bhitd dhneasach, mar so— Thàinig stiall mhòr de nighinn a nuas an rathad, le cuaille bata aice 'na làimh." Chan 'eil mi a' dol a mholadh dhuibh an facal a chleachdadh anns an t-seagh sin, eadhon ged a dh'fhaodas e a bhith glé eirmseach mar sin am beul seanachaidh!

Tha "sgonn" ag ciallachadh mìr no earrann de nì a tha cho cruaidh 's gun laimhsichear e gun bhriseadh no gun tuiteam as a chéile—fiodh, gual, chìse, no nì amh sam bith mar sin gun chumadh shònraichte sam bith air a thoirt air. Tha am facal mar an ceudna air a chur an cleachdadh, car mar a tha "stiall," mar choimeas do bhalach, do dhuine, is air uairean do ainmhidh mar a tha each no gamhuinn a tha tiugh, làidir 'na dheanamh. Cuirear mar an ceudna an cleachdadh e mar "bha sgonn de'n latha air tighinn mun tàinig na fir dhachaidh."

Beachdaichibh air so, ma tà. "Thàinig Iain a mach an dorus le sgoill de bhonnach coirce aige anns an dara làimh is cuach bhainne anns an làimh eile." "Cha robh stiall aodaich againn nach do ghoid na mèirlich." "Shrac e stiall as a léinidh gu casg a chur air an t-sileadh fala a bha air Iain." "Stiall Seumas fichead duilleag as an leabhar." "Thàinig droch phiorradh gaoithe oirnn is stròic (shrac) e an seòl 'na stiallan bho'n t-slait gu ruig an sgòd." "Mí ceangailt' aig an stiùir aice, 's na siùil a' falbh 'nan stròicean!" (Lag nan Cruachan). "Bha sgonn daraich aige mar mhathachadh connaidh leis an tuaigh." "Is e sgonn de each làidir a thug Calum dhachaidh bho'n fhéill an dé." Tha dòchas agam gun do rinn mi an gnothach soilear gu leòr.

A nis, bho'n a sgrìobh mi litir a' Chéitein, bha mi air chuairt, is cha bu chuairt thoil-inntinneach no air an robh iarraidh agam a bha ann. Is ann am Muile a bha mi, is bha mi rathaidean an sin nach robh mi riamh roimhe. Chaidh mi troimh bhad de'n eilean air a bheil ainm glé annasach : agus air chùl a bhith annasach tha mi an dùil gu bheil e cho fada ri ainm àite sam bith eile air a' Ghàidhealtachd uile gu léir. Gun teagamh chan 'eil e cho fada ris an ainm an-mhór ud a tha air àite sònraichte anns a' Chuimridh, ach tha e fada gu leòr, oir feumaidh e seachd litriche fichead gu a litreachadh le ceartas. Chuala mi am facal, no na facail, de a bheil an t-ainm air a dheanamh suas bitheanta gu leòr, ach cha do thuig mi riamh gu so gur e ainm àite a bha ann le cinnt. Is e an t-àite so "Druim-tighe-Mhic-Ghille-Chatain," agus tha aobhar eile air chùl fhaidead agam gu ainmeachadh an so.

Is e aon de na cnapan-starra a bhios ag cur dragha air luchd-taibse Gàidhlig (grammarians) co-dhiubh is e "ceann tighe an tuathanaich" no "ceann tighe an tuathanaich", no "ceann tigh an tuathanaich," "crann dorus sabhail an t-sagairt" a bu chòir a ràdh is a sgrìobhadh. Tha cuid—is tha mi fèin dhiubh—a tha am beachd gur e a' cheud dòigh a chuir mi sìos a tha ceart; ach tha cuid de sgoilearan an làdiugh a tha ag cumail a mach nach 'eil ach am facal mu dheireadh a mhàin ri chur anns an genitive (mar as feàrr a thuigeas sibh).

Bha am fear-taibse ealanta nach beò, Uisdean Camshron MacGhill-Iosa, de'n làn-bheachd gur e "crann doruis tighe an tuathanaich" a bu chòir a ràdh, is chuala mi e a' toirt a bheachd an argumaid glé theth anns na làithean san robh Acadamaidh na Gàidhlig am bith. Bha cuid a bha de atharrachadh beachd, agus is coltach gun cumadh iadsan ris a' bheachd gur e "Druim-tigh-Mhic-Ghille-Chatain" a bu chòir a ràdh; ach tha an dòigh anns an abrar e le tuath is nàistinnich Mhuile-"Druim-tighe-Mhic-Ghille-Chatain"-a' dearbhadh gur ann mar sin a theireadh na seann daoine e is gur e a tha ceart. Bha mi féin riamh am beachd gur e cur-dearbhaidh air a' chùis so an taibse Gàidhlig a bha anns an fhacal, is bha mi glé thoilichte fhiosrachadh gu bheil a leithid de àite ann le cinnt agus fhaicinn le m' shùilean féin.

Chan urrainn dhomh soillearachadh a thoirt air a' chùis gu bheil "Mac-Ghille-Chatain" a' tighinn a stigh anns an ainm, leis gu bheil dùthaich Chloinn Chatain glé fhada bho Mhuile; ach, air an làimh eile, bha aon de Chinn-fheadhna Leathanach Dhubh-aird is an abairte Lachunn Catanach, ach chan aithne

dhomh ma bha buintealas aig an dara aon ris an aon

Is ann air enoc a tha an so a thugadh an t-ainm an toiseach—enoc a tha ro choltach le amharc air bho thaobh sòrraichte ri druim tighe—ach theirear an diugh e, is coltach leam, ris an t-slios-bheinne uile gu léir. Chan 'eil e fada bho'n bhaile bheag, bhòidheach ud. Dearbhair.

An uair a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh tha an t-sìd air tighinn gu rian fàis mu dheireadh thall. Lean fuachd is gaillionn geamhraidh glé fhada am bliadhna, agus is beag nach bu gheamhradh an t-earrach uile. Bha cailleach mhór an reodhaidh is na h-an-shìd ro reachdmhor, làidir air an earrach a bha an so, agus bu ghann a thugadh gu stamhnadh i idir; ach tha i féin is a slachdan draoidheachd air an ruaig a nis, is cùmhnglaichear i ris a' Bheinn Bhric anns a bheil a dachaidh gus am bi geamhradh eile a' tarruing dlùth. Bidh Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh againn bhuaithe sin, agus tha ar sùil ri làithean fada, sona an Inbhirailleart an ùine nach 'eil fada bhuainn a nis. Bidh mean-iomradh is seòladh air gach taobh de'n tionnsgnadh sin agam dhuibh an àireamh an Iuchair. Bhur Caraid Dìleas.

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

#### OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

#### DONNCHADH MOR CHINN T-SAILE.

Bha Donnchadh Mór Chinn t-Sàile uair a bha sud a' dol còmhla ri a mhàthair gu Gearasdan Dubh Inbhir-Lòchaidh, is iad a' reic an annlainn.

Dh'iarr Donnchadh airgiod a cheannaicheadh boineid air a mhàthair, oir cha robh ann an uair ud ach an glas-ghille agus is maith dh'fhaoidte nach robh boineid riamh air a cheann calma.

Dhiùlt a mhàthair airgiod a thoirt da. Ach an uair a bha iad a' tilleadh dhachaidh thachair na robairean riutha anns a' mhonadh agus sheas iad aig Donnchadh leis a' bhagradh àbhaisteach ag iarraidh air gach sgillinn ruadh a bha aige a liubhairt dhaibh.

Thuirt Donnchadh nach robh bonn-a-sia aige-san, gur h-ann aig an té ud thall (a mhàthair) a bha an sporan, agus iad a dh'fhiachainn rithe, agus nach cuireadh esan dragh air an talamh orra.

Shuidh e air cloich fhad is a bha a mhàthair a' liubhairt na bha aice de airgiod, agus an uair a thug i seachad e thuirt i riutha gu robh a nis aca na h-uile sgillinn a bha aice de'n t-saoghal, ach gum biodh i 'nan comain an déidh na rinn iad oirre nam buaileadh fear diubh sròn a bhròige air a' ghille mhaol ud a bha na shuidhe air a' chloich

Rinn fear diubh sin, agus is e a bha ann gun d'éirich an gille maol is cuirear na robairean air muin a chéile, agus thugar uapa na h-uile tasdan.

An uair a ràinig Donnchadh agus a mhàthair faisg air an tigh fhéin ruith Donnchadh air thoiseach gus an innseadh e fhéin mar a thachair. Thug e an t-airgiod d'a athair agus dh'fhoighnich esan ciod a choisinn da-san gur h-ann aige a bha an t-airgiod. Dh'innis Donnchadh facal air an fhacal mar a thachair, mar a dhiùlt a mhàthair airgiod a cheannaicheadh boineid dha, agus mar a rinn esan pronnadh nam mial air na robairean.

Arsa athair ris, "Bheir mise boineid dhuit," agus chaidh iad a mach far an robh greigh de lothan agus thug a athair dha a roghainn diubh.

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### AINMEAN-AITEAN. Feuchaibh ris an so.

Anns an litir aige air a' mhìos so tha Eachann a' toirt iomraidh air àite ann am Muile air a bheil ainm fada, agus, anns an dol-seachad, thug e tarruing air àite anns a' Chuimridh

air a bheil ainm sònraichte fada. Saoilidh mi gur e so an t-ainm-àite Cuimreach air a bheil Eachann a' smaoineachadh: "Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwymdrobwll-llantysiliogogogoch." Sin agaibh ainm, is dà fhichead litir 's a h-ochd-deug am (58)

Is e an t-ainm Muileach a thog Eachann "Druimtighe-Mhic-Ghlie-Chatain"—seachd Utrichean fichead (27). Tha ainm-aite eile ann a tha litir nas fhaide. Is e sin an t-aite ris an abrar anns a' Bheurta "Campbeltown"— Baile-Ceann-Loch-Chille-Chiarain." Tha ochd litrichean fichead an so (28).

Bha iomradh anns na paipearan-naidheachd o chionn ghoirid mu àite ann an Siorrachd Dhun-phris, agus 's e an t-ainm a th'air anns a' Bheurla "Ae." Chan aithne dhomh ainm-àite eile anns a' Bheurla nas giorra na so, ach tha ainm againn anns a' Chàidhlig a tha nas giorra eadhon na "Ae." Tha e cho goirid 's nach gabh a dheanamh dad nas giorra. Is e sim "1." an t-eilean naomh aig Calum-Cille.

A nis, ma tà, bheir mi leabhar mar dhuais do'n neach fo aon t-ainm-aite Gàidhlig as fhaide.

Siùthadaibh, agus cuiribh bhur n-aois air bhur litir.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

# FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

An t-Urramach Cyril Dieckhoff,—Air an latha mu dheireadh de'n Chéitein choimhlion an t-Athair Urramach Eanraig Cyril Dieckhoff leth-cheud bliadhna anns an t-sagartachd, agus tha An Gaidhead ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air agus ag guidhe dha gum bi móran bhliadhnachan eile air am buileachadh air, agus neart is slàinte 'nan cois. Tha leth-cheud bliadhna anns an t-sagartachd no mar mhinistear no an dreuchd sam bith 'na thachartam mór, agus is e flor aobhar-duend sha bha tha cheud bliadhna anns an t-sagartachd no mar mhinistear no an dreuchd sam bith 'na thachartam mór, agus is e flor aobhar-duend sha cheadh agus chair a chair an chair an an Liubile de'n t-seòrsa so. Ged nach e Gàidheal (ne. saoilidh mì cadhon Albannach)

a channa Gaidhean an daidhean an daidhean

Chuirinn air thoiseach mar a phrìomh-obair am Paclair Gàidhlig a chuir e mach an 1932. Tha am Faclair sin air a at-idheachadh air dual-chainnt Ghàidhlig an t-seann ghìnealaich an Gleann-garadh, agus tha e luachmhor ann fhéin agus 'na eisimpleir air mar as còir dol an ear oibre de'n t-seòrsa.

Anns a' cheud leabhar de "Scottish Guelic Studies" rinn e iomradh feumail air dual-chainntean Gàidhlig na h-Albann, agus tha aon oraid eò-dhiubh aige ann an leabhraichean Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir-nis, far a bheil e a' toirt cunntais air beul-aithris ann Gàidheal.

O chionn móran bhliadhnachan is ann am Manachainn no Abaid Chille-Chuimein a tha Maighstir Cyril a' deanamh a chòmhnaidh, ach tha e aithnichte agus tha meas air an iomadh ceàrn de'n Ghàidhealtachd. Gach beannachd leis!

"'(Trois Thra." — Beagan sheachdainean air ais, fo riaghladh Commun na Morbhairne, chaidh an dealbh-chluich "'Crois Tòra" a chluich air air chaidh an dealbh-chluich "'Crois Tòra" a chluich air air deal Tigh-cluiche an Atheneum an Glaschu tha oithche an diella. Bha air as gioba-cluiche à iomadh ceàrn de'n Chàidheannail a bh. Bc. Chan eil sinn idir neo-chleachte ri dealbh-chluichean ann an Gaidhlig, ach tha mi de'n bheachd gur eo an dara nuir a chuireachd dealbh-chluich Gàidhlig air na claran ann an Tigh-cluiche. (Chuireadh "Mairead" an céill san dheneum an 1921). Bha mar sin gach goireas is acfhuinn aig a' chuideachd, — airneis is sgàil-bhratan is soluis is eile. Mar an ceudna bha na gioba air an éideadh gu freagarrach a réir có am pearsa a bha ind a' rìochdaichadh.

Ach, nas fheàrr na sin, rinn gach aon de'n sgioba gu maith agus gu fior-mhaith. Bha a h-uile nì cho dòigheil is cho nàdurra 's gun saoileadh tu nach e cluich a bh'ann idir ach rud a' tachairt an ceart da-rìreabh. Is a Dòmhnall Mac-na-Ceàrdaidh nach maireann a sgrìobh an dealbh-chluich so. agus tha mar chuspair aige tachartasan co-cheangailte ri "Bliadhna Thearlaich" Tha am Prionnsa Tearlach air tighinn air tìr am Mùideart agus roimhe crùn is rìgh-chathair a shinnsir a chosnadh air ais le faobhar a' chlaidheimh. Tha feadhainn de na Cinn-fheadhna ag coinneachadh ris, is cuid dhiubh dian gu éirigh leis is cuid eile caran teagmhach. Ach tha òraidean fileanta a' bhàird ainmeil, Alasdair Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair, 'gam brosnachadh. Chì sinn an sin seann bhodach. Dòmhnall MacEachainn, a' rùrach sìos is suas 'na thigh beag fhéin 's e a' sireadh a dheagh chlaidheimh 's gun sgeul air is Màiri, a bhean, air a chur am falach. Fhuaras an claidheamh ach 's e an gille as òige aca a dh'fhalbh leis a sheasamh còir a' Phrionnsa. Aig deireadh an sgeòil tha am Prionnsa 'na fhògarach, blàr oillteil Chuil-Iodair seachad, bròn is dibhealmisnich an iomadh dachaidh Ghàidhealaich, ach tha Raonull Og MacEachainn sàbhailte.

Is e obair mhath a rinn Dòmhnall Mac-na-Ceàrdaidh an uair a sgrìobh e an deabh-chluich so, agus is e obair ro-mhaith a rinn an sgìoba aig Fionnlagh ('s e fhéin a riochdaich pearsa a' Phrionnsa) ann a bhith 'ga chur an céill. Taing dhaibh-san agus do Chomun na Morbhairre air son an saothrach. Tha sinn an dòchas gum faicear an dearbh sgioba sin ann an dealbhchluich eile an bùin ghòirid.

Goille-Chnagaidh.— Chl mi gu bheil an t-Urnas Nàiseanta (The National Trust) air seilbh fhaotainn air plos mór fearainn mun cuairt air Bealach Choille-Chnagaidh. Is e an t-Urnas so buidheann a tha gabhail fo dhion is fo'n cùram plosan de'n dùthaich a tha sònnaichte air son maise nàdurra no air son thachartasan ainmeil an eachdraidh co-cheangailte riutha, air eagal 's gum millear iad air dòigh sam bith.

B'ann aig Coille-Chnagaidh a chuireadh an cath ainmeil ria an abradh na Gàidheil "Cath Raon Raniridh," Anns a' chath so, ann an 1689, chuir am feachd Gàidhealach, fo chommand Iain Ghreumaich ("Claurchouse"), Morain Dhìmdeagh, an ruaig air feachd an Rìgh Uilleam, fo chommand san t-Seanalair MacAoidh. Rimeadh sgrìos mór air armait Mhicaoidh. Mar a thuirt Alasdair Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair, is e cuimhreachadh air euchdan nan Gàidheal an aghaidh nan Gall, bu llommhor air "tatha Coille-Chnagaidh sin na chnag sinn iad d'an uaigh."

Bha àite sònraichte aig a' chath so ann an cuimhne nan seann-Ghàidheal, agus tha móran de na bàird a' luaidh air. Rinn Iain Lom dà oran m' a thimchioll, agus tha iomradh air ann an Làmh-sgrìobhainn Fhearnaig. Tha Silis na Ceapaich ag insseadh gu robh a ceile an làthair aig a' chath "an Coille Chrìothnaich is là an t-Sléibhe." Be "Coille Chriothnaich" ainm eile air Coille Chnagaidh.

Ach ged a bhuidhinn Clébheris an cath chaill e a bheatha. Mar a tha Iain Lom ag ràdh:

"An Raon-Ruairidh nam bad Is lìonmhor uaigh is corp rag, Mìle sluasaid is caib 'gan léidigeadh. AN GAIDHEAL

" A shàr Chlébheris nan each, Bu cheann-feadhn' thu air feachd : Mo chreach léir an tùs gleac mar dh'éirich dhuit."

Gliocas nan Gàidheal .-- Chan fhaighear math gun dragh.

Firing air son a' Mhios so .- Chan ann do na daoine luatha a tha an réis no do na daoine treuna an cath.-Ecles,

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Ayr .- The closing Ceilidh of the Ayr Branch was held in the Ayr Academy Hall on Friday, 18th April, and I had the honour of occupying the Chair. There was a very large attendance of members and friends, and I was introduced by the Branch President, Mr. Alasdair MacKechnie. The Ayr Gaelic Choir, conducted by Mr. Donald MacIssac, made a most creditable appearance in the programme and their repertoire of Gaelic songs was a revelation to many of the older members. Mr. MacIsaac, now resident in the district, is a distinct asset to the Branch. His enthusiasm for Gaelic Music and his ability to interpret its beauty and enthuse others augurs well for the success of the Choir. Miss Helen T. MacMillan and Mr. MacIsaac contributed Gaelic solos which were much enjoyed.

The Ayr Branch is in a flourishing condition. There is a large membership and Gaelic is given its due place at all meetings. In mentioning Mr. MacIsaac's work for the Gaelic Choir, it is interesting to recall that he accompanied me when

the Branch was formed in 1929.

Glasgow and Govan Branches. - The Monthly Concert of these Branches was held in the Christian Institute. Glasgow, on Saturday, 19th April, when Mr. John C. MacLean, Gourock, presided. There was a very good attendance and an excellent programme was submitted. These monthly concerts of the Glasgow and Govan Branches have been highly popular during the winter and the programmes submitted have been of a high order.

Taynuilt.—On Friday, 2nd May, I presided at a Concert organised by the Cruachan Branch in aid of the National Mod Fund. The artistes who sustained the programme are all well known, and each gave a delightful performance. Indeed it was agreed all round that it was one of the best concerts held in Taynuilt for many years. Miss Helen T. MacMillan, Miss Chris Turner, Messrs. Angus Whyte, Alasdair Matheson and Iain MacSween, as visiting artistes, were ably supported by Dr. MacNicol and Mr. MacCallum (piano and violin) and Piper Leitch. A successful dance followed the concert. We are much indebted to Mrs. Bell. Secretary. and a faithful and hard-working Committee for the Gaelic Cause, for undertaking so successfully the necessary local arrangements in promoting this happy function.

Perth .- On Friday, 18th April, the National Mod Local Committee held a Gaelic and Scots Rally in the City Hall, Perth. The Chairman, Lieutenant-General Sir A. F. F. Christison, Bart., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., G.O.C. Scottish Command, was introduced by Mr. John MacDonald, Convener of the Mod Local Committee and Chieftain of the Perth Gaelic Society. As was fitting on an occasion such as this, the Chairman opened the proceedings with a Gaelic address, and the Concert which followed was of a high order. The artistes taking part were Petrine M. Stewart, Rose B. MacConnachie, Jean Hastings, Chrissie MacKenzie, Margaret MacDonald (Violinist), Alasdair Matheson, Angus Whyte, Matthew Nisbet, Miss M. Martin (Accompanist), and Pipe-Major MacPhee and Party. A successful dance followed the concert and a goodly sum was added to the Mod Fund.

Lochearnhead.—A highly successful Concert and Dance was held in the Public Hall on Friday, 25th April, in aid of the National Mod Fund. Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor, Bart., presided, and among the artistes who submitted an excellent programme were Petrine M. Stewart. Mary B MacLean, Mairead MacRae, Kenneth MacRae, Angus Whyte, Alasdair Matheson, Stewart Cunningham and Miss Spy (Accompanist). Kenneth MacRae, Junr., opened the Concert with piping selections. The credit for organising this successful function goes to Mr. Cameron and family of Lochearnhead Hotel.

#### THE GOLDCREST AND THE WREN.

When the test-flight to choose a king of the birds took place, the goldcrest (Regulus cristatus), by secreting itself-as is its wont on long flights-among the plumage of the golden eagle, managed to win the crown, but was accused of having stolen the sacred fire from heaven, thereby weakening the life-giving rays of its sacred patron, the Sun-god.

The Earth-mother took umbrage at the theft and refused to produce food for mankind, while the Sea-goddess, to whom the goose was sacred, lashed herself into a raging fury. Hence the reason that the goldcrest and the wren (Troglodytus vulgaris) -the latter considered sacred to the Earth-mother, and therefore used for divination purposes by the druids—were sacrificed at the Winter Solstice ( $L\acute{a}$  Caill).

At the subsequent Feast of the Bonds (Fleadh na nGeamhal). held with the object of binding the gods to help mankind, roast goose was the principal dish on the menu, while the sacred fir-tree and holly were set alight.

The following verses refer to the Celtic tradition, but cf. the story of Prometheus.

Dréinin óir, dréinin óir, Ri nan Ean! Le ceilg ghoid tú ó neimh an teine. Gidh mór do mhuirighean, 's beag tú féin, Fá dheo', gabhadh thú 'sna h-aiteannaibh.

A Ri na nEan, cá bhfuil do bhaile ? I ndos iubhair, ach' ni'l an áit lom, Idir an chuileann a 's an shailigh, An áit mo mhuirighne as feárr liom.

Dreóilin, dreóilin, a Ein na nDruadh ! Gidh mór do mhuirighean, 's beag tú féin, Gabhadh thú ar Ló Caill dod' iodhbradh,

Guidhim, a Shaoir-bhean, tabhair dhom séan. Note:- Dréan, dim. dréinin-draoi-éan, druidic bird. Dreóilin-draoi-eól-éinin, little bird of druidic know-

ledge, the wren. Saoir-bhean, Madam, applied to the Earth-mother.

GLEANN COMHANN.

#### KINTYRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The 19th Kintyre Provincial Mod was held in Campbeltown on 8th and 9th May and there were large entries in both the Junior and Senior Sections. The competitions were held in the Town Hall and the Christian Institute, and at each session there were large attendances of the general public who showed a keen interest in all the proceedings. A very high standard was attained by all in both Gaelic and Music and the task of the Adjudicators was a difficult one. Great credit is due to those who prepared individuals and choirs, and special mention is made of those stalwarts of the Gaelic Movement in Campbeltown, the Rev. B. B. Blackwood and Mr. Charles Reppke.

In the sphere of Music, Campbeltown is extremely fortunate in having in Mr. M. G. MacCallum, Mrs. Carson, Miss I. Graham, and Mrs. MacNaughtan qualified teachers who have a deep interest in Gaelic music and have also the art and the will to impart their knowledge. In Carradale there are Mrs. Paterson and Mrs. McIntosh; in Southend Miss Rose MacConnachie and the Rev. Angus J. MacVicar; in Lochgilphead Mrs. Isabel Campbell and Mrs. Crawford; and in Tayvallich Miss Gillies. Miss Flora Kennedy, who served the cause of Gaelic faithfully and well in the Island of Luing, is now teaching in Whitehouse, where she continues the good work. She had several competitors forward in the Junior Section,

The Junior Oral Section was extremely interesting and encouraging. The reciting of the prescribed Scripture passages and the poem was exceedingly well done and the reading with expression was highly commendable.

One of the most interesting competitions in the Oral Section was the Conversation between the Adjudicator and members of the Gaelic Continuation Class. Mr. Donald Thomson, who as adjudicator had this difficult task, approached the subject with the tact and sympathy to be expected of a teacher of his experience and enthusiasm. We commend this innovation to other Provincial Mod Committees. It undoubtedly stimulates interest and encourages students to continue

with their study of the language.

The Junior Concert was held in the Christian Institute and
was presided over by Miss Hall of Tangy, President of the
Campbettown Branch, and she also presented the prizes. The
Rev. John MacEchern announced the programme items and
also moved a vote of thanks to Miss Hall. The programme was
sustained by the prize-winners and by Miss Rose MacConnachie,
1946 Mod Gold Medallist. Every seat in the hall was occupied.

The closing Grand Concert was held in the Rex Cinema which has a seating capacity of 1200, but this was not sufficient to accommodate all who wished to gain admittance. The Chairman was Mr. T. G. Henderson, M.A., Director of Education for the County, and he was introduced by Provost Keith.

Mr. Henderson said that he was very much interested in the teaching of Gaelic and would do whatever he could to promote the interest of Gaelic in the district, if there was a corresponding response from the parents. Two graduate teachers with Gaelic qualifications had just been appointed, and Mr. Henderson said that he was quite prepared to appoint a Gaelic teacher to Campbeltown Grammar School, if there was a sufficient demand for the teaching of Gaelic there. Mr. Henderson stressed the great social and cultural value of the Mods and emphasised that Gaelic is a living language, it would be most regrettable if Scotland were to lose that language which had contributed so much to its cultural life. It could be kept alive only by the young people, both at school and at home. Mr. Henderson also paid tribute to the remarkable enthusiasm for Gaelic in the Kintyre area and to the high standards achieved at this Mod.

The prizes were presented by Miss Hall of Tangy, who was introduced by Mr. Peter J. Campbell who has been Secretary of the Branch since it was formed in 1921. Miss Hall was thanked by Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary, for her generous support of An Comunn and all its activities. Mr. Malcolm G. MacCallum, who acted as official accompanist, thanked Mr. Repple for his labours in promoting the Mod and for carrying

it through so successfully.

The Adjudicators were: for Gaelic, Mr. Hugh MacPhee, Glasgow, and Mr. Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban; and for Music, Miss Mairi Pate, Glasgow and Mr. Willis Calder, Greenock.

The following is a list of the First-Prize Winners:-

JUNIOR SECTION.

Oral. Reading Poetry—Anne Mairi Cameron, Southend. Prose—Anne Mairi Cameron. Reciting "Am Bruideargan" from Memory—May Newlands, Campbeltown. Reciting Scripture from Memory—May Newlands.

Vocal Music. Solos—Own Choice (Girls)—Rosemary Colliver, Campbettown. Own Choice (Boys)—James Gillies, Lochgilphead. Girls and Boys (under 14), Prescribed—Helen Martin, Campbettown. Girls and Boys (over 14 and under 16), Prescribed—Mairi Leitch, Lochgilphead. Girls and Boys (12 and under), Prescribed—Helen Martin. Duets (Own Choice)—May MacKinnon and Sarah Hawksley, Rhunahaorine.

Choral. Unison Singing—Lochgilphead Junior Gaelic Choir (Conductor, Mrs. A. Crawford). Singing in Two-part Harmony—Dalintober Junior Gaelic Choir (Conductor, Isa Graham). Winners of the Tangy Shield.

Instrumental. Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey and Reel on the Pianoforte—Jean Lamont, Lochgilphead, SENIOR SECTION.

Literary. Translating from Gaelic to English—Mrs. Smith, Campbeltown. Translating from English to Gaelic—Mrs. MacQuilkan, Campbeltown.

Oral. Conversation with Adjudicators—Mrs. MacSporran, Campbeltown.

word Music. Solos—Own Choice (Ladies)—Isa Graham,

Campbeltown. Own Choice (Men)—Malcolm MacEachran, Campbeltown. Girls and Boys (over 16 and under 18)—Carol Galbraith, Campbeltown. Male and Female Voices (Prescribed)—Mary MacShannon, Campbeltown. Solo Puirta-Beul—Mrs. Campbell, Lochgilphead. Duets (Own Choice)—Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Crawford, Lochgilphead.

Choral. Ladies' Choirs (Prescribed)—Southend Ladies' Choir (Conductor, Rose MacConnachie). Mixed Voice (Choirs (Prescribed)—Southend Gaelic Choir (Conductor, Rose MacConnachie), Winners of the Campbeltown Cuach.

Aggregate Prizes. Ladies—Mary MacShannon; Runnerup, Isa Graham. Men—Malcolm MacEachran; Runner-up, Duncan MacPhee.

Sheriff MacMaster Campbell Memorial Medals. Girls—Helen Martin. Boys—Malcolm Watson.

R. A. Wallace Memorial Prize—Isa Graham.

# NAIDHEACHD A MELBOURNE. Dùghall MacGòrmaic.

Dh'fhàg sinn ar beannachd aige an raoir. Chruinnich sinn ri chéile shìos aig carbad-na-smùide air son làmh a bhreith aon uair eile air Dùghall mun d'fhàg e sinn.

Duine iongantach, duine neònach—duine a tha làn tuigse agus toinisg gun a bhith daonnan glé thuigseach: duine coibhneil, fialaidh—gun a bhith daonnan làn coibhneis.

Có dhiubh, tha e a nis trì fichead agus a ceithir deug. Tha e alan. Tha e glan agus usasal na dhòigh. Tha e àrd, tiugh, neartmhor agus fallain, agus cho dìreach ri giuthas. Bha e bhith-chridheach, tapaidh, agus sunndach an raoir, agus ghabh sinn thachd as br dheth. Bu mhinic, ann a làithean a dh'fhaibh, nach do thuig sinn gu ro-mhaith e; bu mhinic an a dh'fhaibh, nach do thuig sinn gu ro-mhaith e; bu mhinic bu thrir, gun aobhar, a bheireadh e an ear á na theireadh tu ris; g'fé thrie bha e ri feala chha-uaireanann oha robh.

Ma tà, dh'fhàg e sinn an raoir, air dha a bhith fomadh bliadhan 'an measg. An ceann mìosa no a dhà bhithlé e air ais am Muile, far an d'rugadh e agus far an d'fhuair e a krach. Tha cuimhne mhaith air na sgrìobh sinn mu a dheidhin air cheud uair a chunnaic sinn e aig ar céilidh anns a' bhaile so, bho chionn faisg air deich bliadhnaichean ar fhichead:

". Thànig a staeah do'n Chéilidh a nis seoladair mór, àrd, tiugh, colgarra, agus bhruidhinn e ruinn mar gum biodh fuaim nan tonn ann. Is e as ainm dha Dùghall Mac-Còrmaic, agus is ann de Ros Mhuile a bhuineas e. Air dha a bhith làimh rist tiota, tuigidh tu car son a dh' fhàg e Muile—cha robh an t-àite beag sin farsuing gu leòir! Thug am Muil-each mòr so a' mhuir air an uair bha e ôg, agus an ceann dine gòirid bha e 'na chaiptean air bòrd a bhàta fhéim—far nach bìodh 'na aghaidh ach a' ghaoth agus na tuinn a mhàin."

Gu tà, a bheil eomharradh àraidh da-rìreadh air Dùghall MacCòrmaic as fhiach dhuinn a chur an céill? Car son a bheir sinn cliù air? An urrainn duinn iomradh sam bith a dheanamh air a leigeas ris dhuit gur e duine air-leth sònraichte a tha ann ?

Chan urrainn domh fhéin a h-aon de na ceistean sin a fhreagairt, ach so mar tha cuid againn a' faicinn an Dùghaill so . . . . Le ar sàilean dùinte, chi sinn, an toiseach, balach ard, làidir, lauth, sparragach, shìos ir taobh na mara—am baile beag, am Muile. Tha Dùghall air a' chladach, aig bun an uilt, mailte ri balaich eile s'huile; tha eagal air cach roimhe-luaithe, a tha 'nam measg; le glaodh dian tha e ag éigheach rit: "Grossabh oirbh uile agus cuiribh an t-eathar a mach. Giblainibh a nuas, agus bithibh cabhagach, na ràimh, an crann agus na siùil. Bitheadh cabhag oirbh." Ni na balaich na tha Dùghall ag àithneadh dhaibh. Tha an t-eathar a nia sir bhog agus tha Dùghall fhéin air an stiùir, ach cha robh dùil aige gum bìodh an sruth cho làidir. "Grosairbh!" Cumairbh rithe gent uile nhae màtlara agaibh "gaodh-cha har cha gun gairth a chair a tha chair a saidh an tha chair a chair a

Seadh, seadh, a Dhùghaill, tha eagal air na gillean beaga sin romhaí; tha, tha, chan 'eil teagamh sam bith againn nach 'eil. Ach, a sheòid, a Dhùghaill, air feasgar an dearbh latha ud fhéin nach thuas a leurn a stach anns an fhairge bho mhullach na Carraige Duibhe sin air son Iain beag Chaluim Dhuinn a tharruing a mach as an t-sal gra shèalle gu thragus e air dhol leis a' chreife agus gun chomas anàimh? I susa a rinn sin, a ghaoil, ged nach dubhairt thu fhéin facal m' a dheidhinn ri duine riamh.

Chi ainn ar Dòghall a rithist an Gleann Comhann aig cèig uairean anns a' mhaduinn-a' mhaduinn phrumda, dhorch, oillteil sin—an treas latha deug de'n Ghearran, sia ceud deug ceithir fischead agus a dhà dheug. Nach 'eil sinn a' faicinn Dhùghaill a' dol air adhart leis fhèin, a bhiodag 'na làimh, an aghaidh naimhdean a athar ? Nach 'eil Dòghall air son Maclain fhèin a ghliótheadh bho chunnart—nach e mac dhà-san a tha ann ? Ach tha na naimhdean ro chealgach, ro llomhnor, agus tuitidh Maclain agus Dùghall e chèile. Sin agud Dùghall MacCòrmaic mar a chl sinn glé thrie an diugh e, na mhac caima agus na ghaisgeach, oi tha fuil bhilath silochd a' mhac a chainn agus na ghaisgeach, in chuisibh . . . is 'a thà' :

"Is mise Tighearna Innse Gall, Is mise Fear-gléidhidh na Eilean; Cha téid birlinn air tonn Eadar Barraidh is Ceann-tìre, Eadar Ile agus Uibhist, Eadar Colbisaa is Sléibhte, Bho Mhuile gu Gob Leòdhais, Bho Dhìm-bheagain gu ruig Hiort, Gun chead bhuam fhéin."

Am faic thu fhéin a nis an duine còir mu a bheil sinn a' sgrìobhadh? Tha sinn an dòchas gum faic, oir, ma chì, cha chreid sinn nach bi cuimhne agad-sa air cuideachd—mar bhios againne.

I. M. M.-P.

#### PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

Wick. The Organiser paid his annual visit to the Wick Branch on I8th April. There was a large attendance at a Ceilidh, where an informative paper was read by Mr. D. G. Henderson, a former Hon. Secretary of the Branch. Song were sung by members, and a welcome visitor was Mr. Shearer, late of Loch Boisdale, South Uist, who song several Gaelic songs. The Annual Meeting was afterwards held. Mrs. Rosie, a native of Skye and a fluent speaker of Gaelic, continues as President, as do Miss M. Miller, Northoote Street, as Hon. Secretary and Mr. Cochrane of the Commercial Bank as Hon. Treasurer. £2 2s was donated to the Central Fund and £5 5s to the Perth National Mod.

Sutherland. During the course of this visit the Organiser made useful contacts at Brora and Golspie in connection with the forthcoming County of Sutherland Mod.

Badenoch/Strathspey.—On 22nd April the Organiser visited Badenoch and had an interview with the Provincial Mod Secretary about the prospects for the forthcoming Badenoch/Strathspey Provincial Mod. A meeting of the Provincial Mod Committee was held at Kingussie on 28th April, with the Very Rev. Dr. Dugald MacFarlane, Convener, in the Chair. It was reported that, due to the very severe weather experienced in the district, preparation of competitors discussion, if was unanimously decided to hold the Mod on 6th June, even on a small scale.

Lochaber.—On 24th and 25th April the Lochaber Provincial Mod area was visited as far west as Mallaig, where arrangements for the Mod are proceeding satisfactorily. Mr. MacPhail had interviews with the President and Hon. Secretary at Port William.

Tigharry.—The Tigharry Branch has had a very successful session, and the sum of £6 16s has been forwarded to the Central Fund.

Mr. Neil A. MacDonald, Barra. We congratulate Mr. MacDonald, M.A., Headmaster of Eoligarry Public School, who has been appointed Headmaster of Casilebay Junior Secondary School. From a short leet of three, two of whom were non-facilie speakers, Mr. MacDonald was appointed by a large majority to this very important post. Gach soirbheachadh a bhith 'na chois

Sub-Committees. — Meetings of the Northern Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees were held on Saturday, 3rd May.

Concert Tour in Aid of the Central Fund.

Kittartity. — A very late Spring, coupled with Double Summer Time, did not tend to bring out large audiences, but nevertheless all of the five Concerts were successful, especially from a propaganda point of view. The first of these was held at Kiltarlity on 5th May and was presided over by the Northern Organier. In addition to the Concert Party of four—Ferting Minister. In addition to the Concert Party of four—Ferting Minister. In addition to the Concert Party of four—Ferting Minister. In the Concert Party of four—Ferting Minister. In the Concert Party of four—Ferting Minister. In the Concert Party of the Conce

Muir of Ord.—The second Concert was held at Muir of Ord, the first part being devoted to solos, duets and puir ta.-beut. The Inverness Post Office Players sustained the second part by the production of George Grant's play "By Order," a scene from the Sutherland Clearances. The author himself was present and gave a short synopsis of the play. Both Concert and Play were thoroughly enjoyed by a most appreciative audience. Mr. Murdo MacLean, Tarradale Arms, made all the arrangements for this Concert and also provided hospitality for the Party. Readers in the South will remember Mr. MacLean's many good deeds for the Gaelic Cause while he was resident in Wishaw, Lanarkehire. His interest is as keen as ever. Votes of thanks were proposed by the Rev. Roderick Smith, M.A., and the Chairman, Mr. MacPhall.

Tain. — On the following night the Party were at Tain where ex-Provost William Ross presided. There was a fair attendance. The Chairman exhorted all to support the cause of An Comunn and said that he presided at a meeting twenty-seven years ago when Miss Farquharson of Invercauld formed the Tain Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach. He was very happy, he said, to be able to preside again, although he had passed his eighty-fourth year. The Concert was much enjoyed by the audience, and thanks are due to Mr. Alasdair MacKenzie, who made the local arrangements, and to local artistes who contributed so willingly to the programme. The Organiser suggested that the Tain Branch should be resuscitated, and it was decided that a meeting be held early next session to get the Branch under way. Votes of thanks were moved by the Chairman and Mr. MacKenzie

Dingwall. - On the following evening the Party were at Dingwall, and, as at Muir of Ord, the Inverness Post Office Players presented "By Order." Both Concert and Play were very well received. Mr. A. W. MacKay, M.A., Rector of Dingwall Academy, presided and at the close moved a hearty vote of thanks to all who had provided such an excellent entertainment. Mr. George Grant, the author of the play, was also present and his talk on the Clearances was much appreciated. The Chairman was thanked by the Northern Organiser. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. Reid, who attended to the sale of tickets, and to Provost A. MacRae who supplied the Stewards.

Alness .- The last Concert of the Tour was held at Alness, where the Rev. Malcolm Laing, M.A., (late of South Uist), presided and spoke in Gaelic and English. There was a very good attendance, and the Concert Party were assisted by the Simpson Brothers, Alness, and the Chisholm Troupe of Highland Dancers from Inverness and Pipe-Major Calum Chisholm. This Concert was voted one of the best ever held at Alness and the hope was expressed on all sides that the same Party might soon pay a return visit. On the suggestion of the Organiser it was decided to make an effort to form a Branch of An Comunn at the beginning of next session. The Chairman moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the artistes, Mr. Alasdair MacKenzie who organised the Concert, and Mr. A. MacKenzie who attended to the sale of tickets. Mr. MacPhail proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Mr. Laing for presiding. The singing of "Soraidh Leibh" and the National Anthem brought the Concert and the Tour to an end.

The Party afterwards returned to Inverness after a strenuous week's work, but satisfied that good propaganda work was accomplished, and more than ever convinced that the approach to the language through music can be very effective. To Petrine, Chrissie, Mairi, and Alasdair sincere thanks indeed-a happy Party, who gave of their best and who have the satisfaction of knowing that their interpretation of Gaelic Song was thoroughly appreciated by understanding

Due to causes stated, the financial side of this Tour was not so successful as that of former Tours, but the sum of £42 8s 8d has been forwarded to the Central Fund.

#### MNATHAN NAM MARAICHEAN. (O Ghreugais an latha an diugh).

Chualas gal aig na mnathan air a' chladach so uam.

Mnathan-pòsda nam maraich, fir-chaitheamh a' chuain.

An ceann sìos air am broilleach,

gu bochd ìosal fo ghruaim. A' tilgeadh chlach air an lìonadh, is iad ag iarraidh sgeòil uaith.

"A mhuir shearbh 's a mhuir ghàbhaidh, aigein bhàirrghil nan stuadh!

" Càit a nis bheil na daoine

is na gaolain chaidh uainn ? "

"Ciamar fhreagras mi sibhse, a chuideachda thruagh ?

"Na fir ghaoil thug mi sìos leam gu tigh ìosal, tigh buan.

" Is iad 'nan cadal, 's iad mùchte, anns a' ghrunnd dhomhain fhuar."

DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

#### HISTORY OF PRE-CHRISTIAN IRELAND. An Important New Book.

EARLY IRISH HISTORY AND MYTHOLOGY, by T. F. O'Rahilly (Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 568pp., 25s.)

Professor O'Rahilly has many publications to his credit, some of which are of special value to the student of Scottish Gaelic (notably his "Irish Dialetts, Past and Present" in various articles in "Scottish Gaelic Studies"). In his latest book — which bears on every page the indications of prodigious industry—he sifes the legends, traditions, sagas, and records bearing on the history of Ireland prior to the official introduction of Christianity in 431 A.D., and out of the apparent chaos of conflicting evidence he weaves a fascinating account of the history and mythology of the peoples who inhabited Ireland in pagan times. He gathers into his wide net a wealth of information on a large variety of

On various points, Professor O'Rahilly's conclusions run counter to those of other scholars, and to one reader at least the violent treatment (reminiscent of the notorious odium theologicum) meted out to some of these scholars is the least pleasant feature of an entrancing volume. The late Professor Eoin MacNeill takes some hard knocks, although on many points his findings are accepted, while Professor R.A.S. Macalister and the archæologists generally (including V. Gordon Childe) are vigorously assailed. It is Sir John Rhys, however, who receives the roughest handling, chiefly because it is his main theory that Professor O'Rahilly is primarily intent on demolishing once and for all.

#### RHYS'S THEORY.

Rhys's theory was that the first Celts to arrive in the British Isles were the Goidels, who came between 1000 and 500 B.C. These islands had previously been inhabited by the Cruithni or Picts or Iverni, who were non-Indo-European in language. After the Goidels there were two other invasions—the Brythons (before the middle of the 4th century B.C.) and the Belgæ (shortly before Cæsar's time). That is, the Goidels were the earliest Celts to arrive; they occupied Britain first and thence they spread or were driven to Ireland. Rhys's theory, although rejected by Zimmer, Kuno Meyer, W. J. Watson and others, has been very influential, and has been favoured particularly by many of the archæologists. It was held to some extent by the late Professor John Fraser and in a modified form by the late Professor Eoin MacNeill.

As against Rhys and his followers, Professor O'Rahilly's main contention is that the Irish tradition is correct which holds that the Goidels came to Ireland direct from the Continent and that, before their arrival, Ireland had been colonised by other Celtic peoples, and that the Goidels were the last to

Taking as his main sources native Irish tradition, supplemented by linguistic evidence and references in classical authors (but, for reasons stated, ignoring the "findings" of archæology), Professor O'Rahilly subjects to severe and searching criticism the pseudo-historical annals of later times, particularly "Lebor Gabala Erenn" (The Book of the Invasions of Ireland), and seeks to extract from the chaff of fictionised history a few grains of historical fact.

In the early Christian centuries, says Professor O'Rahilly, the ethnic origins of the different sections of the Irish population were still vividly remembered, but, in order to foster the unity of the whole country (already linguistically united by the disappearance of pre-Goidelic dialects), the chief concern of the early historians and genealogists was to efface these ethnic distinctions by inventing for the people generally a common ancestry in the fictitious Mil of Spain, the ancestor of the dominant Goidels. Thus they date the Goidelic invasion some two millennia earlier than its actual date.

#### THE INVADERS OF IRELAND

While a detailed and dated history of pre-Christian Ireland cannot be expected. Professor O'Rahilly considers that there is reasonable certainty that there were four well-defined groups of invaders, and their invasions can be approximately dated. He holds that the Goidels were not the first, but the last, to arrive, and that they came direct from the Continent. Dismissing the first alleged invasion (that of Partholon) and the later one of the Tuatha de Danaan as fictitious ("learned inventions "), and regarding the invasion of Nemed as being identical with that of the Fir Bolg, Professor O'Rahilly arranges the four invasions as follows:

(1) The Cruthin (Pretani), the earliest inhabitants of Britain and Ireland to whom a definite name has been given, although, of course, there were other peoples earlier still. The Cruthin were in Ireland by the 6th century B.C., and so the first Greeks to gain knowledge of the British Isles called them "the Pretanic Tales "

(2) The Fir Bolg or Builg, otherwise known as the Erainn (Iverni), identical with the Belgæ of Britain and the Continent. They invaded Ireland from Britain about the 5th century B.C.

(3) The Laginian invaders (including the Lagin, Domnainn, and Galioin), who arrived after 325 B.C. and were originally Gauls who came to Britain and Ireland from Armorica. Their conquest of Ireland was only partial (the province of Leinster takes its Gaelic name from them).

(4) The Goidels, who came direct from Gaul (not Spain) to Ireland between 150 and 50 B.C. (but nearer the latter date than the former), and whose conquest of the country was still incomplete at the beginning of the 6th century A.D. The three previous groups of invaders were P-Celts, while the Goidels were Q-Celts.

A close scrutiny is made of the place and tribal names in Ptolemy's account of Ireland, and Professor O'Rahilly considers that Ptolemy is describing, not the Ireland of his own time (c. 100 a.D.), but that of the time of Pytheas (c. He concludes that the Ireland of the 4th century B.C. was dominated by the Erainn, who were P-Celts; there are no traces of Goidels nor of the Laginians.

#### THE PICTS.

Of special interest to us in Scotland is Professor O'Rahilly's discussion of the Picts and their language-a much disputed question. The Cruthin were at one time common to Ireland and Britain. In Ireland remnants of them survived in the early Christian period in scattered communities, mainly in the north, the most important being the Dal nAraidi. The Cruthin were much more prominent in Scotland, where they preserved their independence until the 9th century A.D. and (before the arrival of the "Scots" or "Gaidheil" from Ireland) held nearly all Scotland north of the Forth and Clyde. They were distinct from the northern Britons (of Strathclyde), whose capital was Dun Bretan (Dumbarton). From the 3rd century onwards the Cruthin of Scotland were known to Latin writers as "Picti" (but the Cruthin in Ireland were never called "Picti").

What was the language of the Picts? There are three main theories. (a) Rhys and others held that Pictish was a non-Indo-European language. (b) W. F. Skene's view was non-indo-European language. (2) W. F. Skene's view was that the Picts spoke Gaelie, a theory advanced again in recent years by the late Mr. F. C. Diack ("The Inscriptions of Pictland"), while the late Professor John Fraser seemed to favour a modified form of the same theory. But (c) "the preponderant opinion of modern scholarship is that Pictish was a Celtic language, different from both British and Goidelic, but decidedly more akin to the former than to the latter." This is the opinion of Whitley Stokes, Alexander MacBain, W. J. Watson, and of Professor O'Rahilly himself.

#### CELTIC MYTHOLOGY.

Of special interest also, particularly to students of comparative religion and of folklore, is the discussion of the

religious ideas of the pagan Celts of Ireland. Sun-worship was the chief feature of the pagan religion of pre-Christian Ireland. The supreme deity was the sun-god (there was also a sun-goddess), the god of the Otherworld. This supreme deity was conceived of as assuming various forms (horse, bull, wolf, eagle, swan, salmon) and as having many different attributes and functions. He was therefore known by many different names—the Dagda ("the good god"), Eochaid Ollathair (the great father), Aed (fire), Dian Cecht, etc. In course of time, names which originally denoted different attributes of the one deity came to be regarded as the names of different deities. Still later, these divinities were mortalised and humanised, and came to be thought of as historical personages of the distant past.

Celtic tribal names were very often pluralised forms of deity-names. For example, the Builg (for which Fir Bolg was a later periphrasis) were the devotees of their ancestor-god. Bolg ("he of the lightning"), one of the names of the sun-god, the god of thunder and lightning. From its shape and brightness the sun was regarded as the divine eye of the heavens, whence the word suil (eye), akin to the Latin sol(is) (sun). The sun-god was conceived of as a huge one-eyed god, whence one of his names was Goll (the one-eved). The lightning flash from the sun was thought to be the flashing glance of the sun-god's eye, and the lightning-stroke or thunderbolt (the most powerful missile imaginable) was conceived of as a fiery weapon (spear, arrow, sling, hammer, or club). This lightningweapon was forged by the Otherworld god (as the divine smith), but it was usually wielded by a younger and more human-like deity, the Hero, who with it overcame the Otherworld-godthe Hero slavs the god with the god's own weapon. Cuchulainn's deadly weapon was in gai Bolga (the spear of lightning), which he got from the goddess Scathach, from whom also he learned another feat, in torannchles (the thunder-feat). The luin of Celtchar was also a lightning-spear (possibly Finn's "mac an luinn" was a variant of the same). The lightning, thought of as a flashing sword, became "an claidheamh soluis in folklore. Other two names for the lightning-weapon were in corrbolg (pointed lightning) of Finn and in caladhbolg hardlightning), from which latter (through a Latinised form) came "escalibur." the sword of King Arthur.

Many other words and names are linked with this dominant idea of a sun-god. There was the sun-goddess Grian or Ainne, toes or a sun-got. Indee was tensus-goudess criain or anne.

Ainne (fleriness, speed) was derived from dn, which originally
meant "travelling" and was applied to the solar deity as
"traveller of the heavens"; whence it came to mean "sunlike," "speedy, fiery, illustrious, great." It occurs in these
meanings in later literature (cf. Scottisk Gaelic, &in an latina, "the heat of the day": Wm. Ross's "ain na gealghreine"). The word an is akin to Latin Janus, "the traveller," the allseeing sun-god (represented as two-faced). This is one indication of the special kinship between the religion of the ancient Latins and that of the Celts. A diminutive of an is (f) dinne, originally meaning "a sunlet," then "a ring" (a gold ring in shape and brightness resembling the sun). The sun-god was also the great healer, and so rings were much worn, primarily as healing amulets rather than as ornaments. The sun-god as "traveller of the heavens" was also conceived of as a horse or a horse-rider, whence the many names derived from "ech" -Roach (great horse), Echbel (horse-mouth), Eochu, Eochaid,

#### FINN MACCUMAILL.

Two great cycles of tales have come down to us from ancient days-the Ulidian Tales (about Cuchulainn, Conchobor, Ailill, Medb. etc.) and the Finnian Tales (about Finn Mac-Cumaill, Oisin, etc.). The older scholars (Keating, Zimmer, O'Curry, etc.) regarded the characters in these stories as historical, but Nutt, Rhys and most modern scholars regard them as more or less mythical. Professor O'Rahilly declares that they are wholly mythical and have not the slightest basis in history. His discussion of the Finnian Cycle (which became thoroughly acclimatised in Gaelic Scotland) is of great interest. One of our Scottish tales is about how Finn got his wisdom ("Mar a fhuair Fionn fiacail an eòlais"), Finn's custom of chewing his thumb to acquire occult knowledge is not dismissed with the explanation (given by another scholar) that Finn, "when in deep thought, seems to have been in the habit of biting his nails!" Professor O'Rahilly does some ingenious unravelling of "the wisdom of Finn.

Tuathal Techtmar, leader of the Goidels, is, however, regarded as a historical character, and Niall Noigiallach and his father, Eochu, are accepted as the earliest historical kings of Tara. Conn Cétchathach and Cormac mac Airt may have had a basis in history but have acquired mythical accretions.

Altogether, this book, which casts new light on so many different and obscure tonics, must be regarded as a landmark in the study of early Irish history and mythology, and, while it is too much to expect that the last word has now been said on that subject, this work will undoubtedly determine the course of further research into the material with which it T. M. M. deals

#### CAILLEACH BARNEY.

O chionn ceithir fichead bliadhna no mar sin bhiodh ban-Eireannach, ris an canadh iad Cailleach Barney, dol timchioll Eilean Leòdhais le each is cairt làn ceannachd de gach seòrsa; agus am measg gach bathair a bhiodh aice bhiodh pige uisgeheatha aice an còmhnaidh.

Air feasgar briagha samhraidh thàinig i gu baile beag ris an canar Tobson, an Eilean Bheàrnaraidh, agus an uair a chuala na bodaich gun tàinig Cailleach Barney air tìr an Ceann an Taib, chruinnich iad timchioll oirre air son drama fhaighinn. Ghabh na bodaich drama, is drama, is drama, gus an robh

sogan maith air cuid aca a' dol dhachaidh.

Goirid an déidh sin thachair gu robh leasachadh teaghlaich aig Murchadh, fear de'n sgiobaidh a bha an oidhche ud ag òl còmhla ri Cailleach Barney; agus chaidh esan a dh'iarraidh baistidh air son an leanaibh air an Urr. Iain Caimbeul, ministear na h-Eaglaise Saoire anns na h-Uigean.

"Chan urrainn mi am baisteadh a thoirt dhuit, a Mhurchaidh," arsa Mgr. Caimbeul. "Chuala mi gun do ghabh thu an daorach an oidhche bha Cailleach Barney an Tobson, agus mar sin feumaidh tu tighinn air bialaibh an t-Seisein.' "Ceart gu leòr, a mhinisteir," arsa Murchadh. "Ni mise

Shuidh an Seisean an Eaglais Cheann Langabhat, agus ghairmeadh Murchadh air am bialaibh

'A nis, a Mhurchaidh," arsa Mgr. Caimbeul, "an innis thu do'n t-Seisean cia lìon drama a dh'òl thu an oidhche bha Cailleach Barney an Tobson ? "

"O uill, a mhinisteir, tha mi creidsinn gun do ghabh mi trì no ceithir no is dòcha còrr."

"Ud, ud, a Mhurchaidh," arsa Mgr. Caimbeul, "tha sin cus. Seall nan gabhainn-sa aon drama fhéin rachadh e 'na mo cheann."

"Tud, a mhinisteir," arsa Murchadh, "chan 'eil sibh a' tuigsinn a' chiùil idir. B'fheàrr aon drama a thigeadh as a' bhotul agaibh-se na sia bhiodh aig Cailleach Barney.

Fhuair e am baisteadh!

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### IN BRIEF.

Birthday Greetings to Princess Elizabeth .-Dr. John Cameron, President, and Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary, on behalf of An Comunn Gaidhealach, sent a message of sincere congratulations and good wishes to H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth on the occasion of her twenty-first Birthday on 21st April. Dr. Cameron received the following acknowledgement by cablegram from Cape Town from Her Royal Highness's Lady-in-Waiting:—"The Princess Elizabeth desires me to thank you, the Secretary, and all the members of An Comunn Gaidhealach for your very kind message of Birthday Greetings.'

International Festival and Gaelic .- In connection with the International Festival of Music and Drama to be held in Edinburgh in August, Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary of An Comunn, has been informed by the Festival Manager that a Gaelic Concert has been arranged to take place during the

Festival. The Concert will be in the Freemason's Hall, George Street, Edinburgh, on 29th August at 7.30 p.m.

The Lord Provost of Edinburgh had been approached with a view to having Gaelic represented at the Festival, and it is very satisfactory that the efforts of An Comunn in this matter have been successful. An Comunn have cordially thanked the Lord Provost for his good offices in this connection.

It would have been a great pity if the ancient language of Scotland had been denied a place at such an important Festival where the music and song of so many countries are to be represented in our ancient Capital.

Celtic Art Exhibition .- The Celtic Art Exhibition . arranged by the Dunedin Society (which is now affiliated to An Comunn Gaidhealach) is to be held in Lewis's, Argyle Street, Glasgow, from 28th May to 7th June, and it is hoped that all who can will visit it.

Scottish Gaelic Texts Society. - This Society which was instituted in 1934, was in abeyance during the war but activities have now been resumed. Professor W. J. Watson is Hon. President, the Hon. Lord Mackay is Watson is Hon. Fresident, the Roll. LOTA MARNAN J. President, and Mr. Hugh Watson, W.S., 16 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, is Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The Society has already published three important Square, Edinburgh, 18 1101. Secretary & Mail Account.
The Society has already published three important works—"Scottish Verse from the Book of the Dean of Lismore," edited by Professor W. J. Watson (1937), "The Songs of John MacCodrum," edited by Rev. Wm., Matheson (1938), and "Heroic Poetry from the Book of the Dean of Olasska, and " Lismore," edited by the Rev. Dr. Neil Ross (1939). A number of works are in course of preparation, including the poems of Duncan Ban Macintyre, edited by Mr. Angus MacLeod, Oban High School.

"Scotland," - This is a new monthly magazine published by the Scottish Council (Development and Industry), and aims at reflecting the events and ideas which affect the future of Scotland, with special reference to industrial achievements. The first number appeared in March, and the price is ls. It is well produced and illustrated, and the contents are of varied interest.

"Scottish Historical Review." - In 1928 this Review ceased publication, after continuing for twenty-five years. Its cessation was a matter of regret, and it is with pleasure that we hail this revival of a publication which in the past so well served its purpose of encouraging interest and research in Scottish history. The Review is to appear twice a year, April and October, and costs 6s per issue. Among the several scholarly contributions in this number two are of special interest to those who are concerned with Highland history-"The Numbers and Distribution of the Population of Medieval Scotland" by Lord Cooper, and The Tacksman and his Holding in the South-West Highlands" by Andrew McKerral. The Review is published by Messrs. Thomas Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh, and the general editor is Dr. H. W. Meikle, with the assistance of an editorial board consisting of our leading Scottish historians.

Old Irish Grammar .- "A Grammar of Old Irish," by Rudolf Thurneysen; revised and enlarged edition, translated from the German by D. A. Binchy and Osborn Bergin (Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 688pp., 21s.). This magnificent volume has recently appeared. Professor Thurneysen died in 1940 at the age of 84. As long ago as 1909 he had published his "Handbuch des Altirischen," which for almost forty years has been the standard work on Old Irish grammar. Since then, however, scholarship has advanced (largely by the labours and under the inspiration of Thurneysen himself) and thus there was need for a revised edition as well as for an English translation. This new edition in English was undertaken some eleven years ago at the request of the Irish Government, but the outbreak of war and Thurneysen's death caused delay. While the book is primarily of interest to students of Old Irish, it is also of great value to the student and writer of Modern Scottish Gaelic, and many points of grammar, syntax, and orthography in our modern language are clarified by reference to this great work. It is intended to issue later a new English edition of Part II. of Thurneysen's "Handbuch. consisting of a selection of Old Irish texts, with notes and T. M. M. glossary.

#### EADAR SINN FHEIN. LITIR A CANADA.

A Dhuine Uasail.-Bha mi a' leughadh ann an Gàidheal a' mhìos a chaidh-mìos an Fhaoiltich-cunntas air mar a tha nithean agaibh air an taobh thall, agus mar a bhios cuid agaibh ag gearan fo ghainne 's fo theanntachd 's fo dhaoiread, agus bha sibh ag ràdh nach sibhse idir as miosa cor agus, nan robh barrachd eòlais air suidheachadh dhùthchannan eile, gum biodh sibh nas taingeile na tha sibh. Mar sin, ma tà, tha mi feuchainn ri dealbh a thoirt duibh mar a tha cùisean r'am faotainn an ceartair an so.

An ám dhomh a bhith 'g éisdeachd ri trioblaidean na Roinn-Eòrpa, bithidh iongantas orm mu chor mo chàirdean thall; agus tha mi an dòchas nach 'eil sibh a' faotainn 's a' fulang na h-éigin le fuachd agus tuiltean a thàtar a' faighinn gu deas oirbh. Bha aimsir mar sin againn féin am bliadhna, agus tha móran sneachd 'na laighe air làr nan sràidean fhathast. Tha mi ag creidsinn co-dhiubh gu bheil pailteas agaibh de lòn ged a tha gainnead ann de nithean bu ghnàthach leibh fhaighinn mun do thòisich an dara eogadh. Is e so an suidheachadh an so mar an ceudna. Bithidh feadhainn ag ràdh gum bi firlàimh-oibre ag cumail air ais bathair air son phrìsean nas troma. ach chan 'eil mi cinnteach mu'n so, ach tha mi cinnteach gu bheil iad (na prìsean) a' dol am meud anns na bailtean móra.

Bithidh na fir-oibre, fir-cèaird, na cosnaichean, an còmhnuidh sìreadh àrdachaidh 'nan tuarasdal agus na fir-làimh-oibre gu seasmhach ag cur an aghaidh sin. Chan 'eil beachd agam có as miosa. Ach 'nam bharail-sa bha cothrom aig an dithis aca air tairbhe mhaith a dheanamh aig ám a' chogaidh, agus ma tha iad a mach air a chéile tha a' choire orra fhéin. Tha fios againne gu bheil Breatann a' deanamh nas motha air son nan daoine cumanta na thàtar a' deanamh air an taobh so, agus is e so an tìr as beairtiche a tha air an talamh an dràsda.

Mar a chì mise e, bha sliochd na Gàidhealtachd bochd riamh o nach d'fhuair iad saothair ann ar tìr fhéin, ach bu chòir tairbhe na sìthe a bhith air a sgaoileadh air feadh na tìre gu léir. Mura bheil roinntean ri bhith air an cumail anns an Roinn-Eorpa agus àitean eile, cha bhi annta ach strì am feasda, ach cha bhi dad againn ri dheanamh ach a bhith sìreadh air son na fìrinn oir, mar a thuirt Criosd fhéin, 's e an fhìrinn a ni saor sinn, agus gu bheil Dia air an stiùir is bithidh latha an ath-dhìolaidh fhathast ri teachd.

Tha gach cinneadh Roinn-Eòrpach a' tàmh an so an roinntean dhaibh féin. An Ceap Breatainn gheibh sibh Gàidheil na h-Alba; an Quebec, an New Brunswick agus an Saskatchewan Fraingich; an ceàrnan de Alberta chan fhaighear ach Ukranians-agus na h-uile ag cumail ri an cainnt féin. An Ontario a deas 's e muinntir Shasainn is Eirinn a tha toirt am bàrr; agus am mór-roinn Bhritish Columbia 's ann as an t-Suain a tha a' mhór-chuid de'n t-sluagh, agus gun teagamh is iad an sluagh as cinneadail a th'anns an tìr, eadhon a' toirt barrachd air na Leódhasaich mar siod. Tha luchd imrichte na Gearmailt 's na h-Eadailte an sud 's an so, gu h-àraidh an Ontario; agus tha móran eud eadar cach a chéile air feadh na tìre, ach tha mi an dòchas gun téid i fa-sgaoil anns an uair ri teachd, agus nach bi ach an dà chainnt labhairt ann, a' Bheurla 's an Fhraingis. B'e siod am miann co-dhiu. SGITHEANACH.

## THE CELTIC CONGRESS.

Dear Sir,-It is to be hoped that a good group from Scotland will be found in Dublin at the Celtic Congress, which is being held this year from 22nd to 29th July. It is most desirable that the leaders of the younger generation should be to the fore, and—most important—that teachers of Gaelic and Gaelic students should arrange to be there. During the same week the Oireachtas, the All-Irish national festival, will be held in Dublin. There is much to be seen, much to be enjoyed, and much to be learned during such a week in Dublin.

With our Scottish force rather disorganised (our minds were on other things for six solid years), might I suggest that all who wish to be members of this Congress might lose no time in getting into direct touch with Oscar uasal MacUilis, "Inis Caoin," Deilginis, Co. Atha Cliath, Eire.

Tha Oscar còir cho laghach, dàimheil agus a tha e eudmhor, gnìomhach. Tha Gàidhlig Albannach aige a thog e am Barraidh. An uair a ràinig e Bàgh a' Chaisteil có bha roimhe san tigh-fuirich ach an sgoilear gleusda sin, Borgstrom, agus cha luaithe bha Oscar a steach na bha Borgstrom a mach. Thug e am Bàgh Tuath air agus ars esan ri Oscar, "Chan e so a' cheud uair a chuir Eireannach ruaig air Lochlannach: rinn sibh roimhe aig Cluain Tarbh e!" B'e fàth na h-imrich gu robh eagal air an Lochlannach gu milleadh am blas Eireannach aig Oscar a' chluas sin aige fhéin a bha cho geur a' togail an fhìor bhlais Bharraich.

Tha Oscar e fhéin 'na sgoilear math agus 'na chànanaiche barraichte. Tha Gàidhlig de gach seòrsa aige (tha e teagasg cruinne-eòlas agus iomadh eòlais eile an Gàidhlig), tha Beurla aige, agus tha Breatannais is Fraingcis is Gearmailteis is Eadailteis aige leis.

Siùthadaibh, ma tà, a dhaoine òga Albannach, togaibh an Ded-aréine ri crann.—Dìreach mar a bhà. CALUM MACGILLBATHAIN.

> THE NATIONAL MOD. 1948. To be held in Glasgow

The Committee at Inverness, having decided that the time is not opportune to hold the 1948 Mod in Inverness, the Advisory Committee, as directed by the Executive Council, approached the Joint-Committee of the Glasgow and Govan Branches to see if they would renew their former invitation to hold the 1948 Mod in Glasgow

A deputation from the Advisory Committee conferred with the Joint-Committee, and the latter unanimously agreed to renew the invitation on the assumption that the support of the affiliated societies would be forthcoming. The Advisory Committee accepted the renewed invitation and expressed their cordial thanks to the Glasgow and Govan Branches Joint-Committee for undertaking this work for An Comunn.

A National Mod Local Committee has now been formed, with Mr. John A. Nicolson as Convener.

RAINN.

(O'n Ghreugais aig Simonides,)

A mach á Sparta gun sheòl iad le deicheamh Phòibes, mo thruaighe. Nuair nach robh dùil ris, ghabh d'an ionnsaigh aon fhairge, aon oidhch', aon uaigh iad.

DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

IMPORTANT DATES.

3. Mid-Argyll Provincial Mod. June

Badenoch-Strathspey Provincial Mod. 6. Oban, Lorne, and Mull Provincial Mod.

19. Dingwall Provincial Mod

20. Lochaber Provincial Mod. Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod.

26. Lewis Provincial Mod. 22

Oct.

27. Sutherland Provincial Mod. Meeting of Executive Council.

 Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp opens at Inversilort.
 Closing date for Entries and submission of Musical ..

Compositions and Literary Work for National Mod Competitions.

22-29. Celtic Congress (Dublin).

4. Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp closes.
29. International Festival, Edinburgh—Gaelic Concert. Aug. Sept. 30 National Mod at Perth begins.

3. National Mod concludes. 4. Annual General Meeting of An Comunn. £2.881 3 10

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To enable An Comum to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propagands campagn now that the war is over, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity, donativity, 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 Comum Guidhealach."

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eabhar XLII. [Earrann 10 An t-Iuchar, 1017

#### "FUIL NA FEINNE FO'N BHREAGAN."

Is e so òraid a liùbhradh air an ràdio aig toiseach a' Chéitein Is e so òraid a liùbhradh air an ràdio aig toiseach a' Chèitein le Fo-Sheanalair an Ridire Philip MacCristein (Lieutenant-General Sir A. F. Philip Christison, Bt., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.), Ard-Chomanndair an Airm an Albainn. Tha sinn an comain an t-Seanalair agus luchd-Gàidhlig a' Bh.B.C. air son cead an òraid a thoirt am follais an so.

A chàirdean: Tha mi toilichte an cothrom so a bhith agam gu bhith a' bruidhinn ruibh. Mar a dh'fhaodas fios a bhith agaibh, tha sinn ag cur fa chomhair nan gillean òga gum bitheadh iadsan 'gan ceangal fhéin gu saor-thoileach ris na seann réiseamaidean a choisinn iomadh cliù do'n dùthaich air feadh an t-saoghail. 'S e bu mhath leam gu sònraichte gun cumadh na Gàidheil a suas na réiseamaidean Gàidhealach agus gun gabhadh iad an cothrom gu bhith ag cuideachadh leis na "Territorials," mar a their sinn,

Ri linn a' chogaidh, an uair a bha cunnart a' bagairt air gach taobh, rinn sluagh na rìoghachd so strì nach fhacas riamh a leithid agus thug iad buaidh. Dhearbh an cogadh mu dheireadh dhuinn nach 'eil aon sam bith saor bho chunnart. Tha sinn uile an dòchas gun tig an latha anns am buailear na claidhean gu coltair agus na sleaghan gu corranaibh-sgathaidh, nuair nach tog cinneach claidheamh an aghaidh cinnich agus nach fòghlum iad cogadh nas mò.

Ach ged a bha a' mhór-chuid a' saoilsinn an uair a thigeadh latha na buaidhe gun tigeadh sìth agus soirbheachadh, chan ann mar sin a tha, agus is gann ceàrn de'n t-saoghal far nach 'eil dragh agus buaireas an diugh. Agus cuimhnichibh gum b'ann an uair a shaoil leis a' Ghearmailt gu robh sinn lag is ar neart 'gar tréigsinn, a theann iad ri bhith fàs uaibhreach agus a' bagairt air gach sluagh. Chan fhaod a leithid sin tachairt a rithist, agus cha tachair e ma ni sinn uile ar dleasdanas.

Tha e mór agam gum buin mi do na Camshronaichréiseamaid cho Gàidhealach, cho ainmeil, agus cho curanta 's a tha san arm.

Tha an sgeul so a' dearbhadh nach do chaill na Gàidheil an gaisge no an treuntas anns a' chogadh mu dheireadh. Thachair so aig Keren. Cha ruig mi leas innseadh dhuibh mu na creagan casa a bha dìon an àite sin. Bha an nàmhaid air a dhaingneachadh an sin le seòltachd agus le gach seòrsa gunna. Cha robh cothrom air faighinn a dh'ionnsaigh an àite sin ach leis na gillean againne a bhith ag gabhail dìreach rompa. Dh'fheuch iad uair is uair ris an nàmhaid a ruagadh as a sin gus an do shoirbhich leotha, agus an uair a thug iad a mach am binnean a b'àirde gu dé a fhuair iad an sin ach trì Camshronaich 'nan sìneadh, ag cumail an nàmhaid fad trì làithean bho a bhith a' losgadh air an companaich. Trì daoine an aghaidh a' mhór-chuideachd, ach bha cliù na réiseamaid ri chumail, agus cha do dhì-chuimhnich iad mar a bhios sinn ag ràdh, "Géill cha tug Camshronach riamh."

B'e na h-Earraghàidhealaich a' chuid mu dheireadh de'n arm a ghabh thairis air an drochaid chloiche gu Singapore, an déidh maille a chur air na h-Iapanaich, agus rinn iad sin le ceum uallach, a' mèarsadh le ceòl pìoba mar nach robh cunnart air thalamh ag cur curaim orra.

B'e so an teisteanas a thug an Seanalair Havelock-Sasannach-air na Sìothphortaich anns an "Indian Mutiny"-"Chan 'eil mise 'nam Ghàidheal : b'fheàrr leam gun robh !"

Tha eachdraidh nan réiseamaid Gàidhealach eile a cheart cho urramach, agus faodar a ràdh an diugh mu'n deidhinn uile, mar a thubhairt Uilleam Pitt, an déidh cogadh mór na Frainge, ann an Tigh nan Cumantan: "Tha e mór agam," ars esan, "gur mise a' cheud aon a chaidh an tòir air fiùghantas air feadh garbh-chrìochan an taoibh tuath; dh'iarr agus fhuair mi an sin, is thug mi gu bhur taobh, daoine cruadalach, gaisgeil. Anns a' chogadh mu dheireadh chathaich iad le dìlseachd agus choisinn iad buaidh dhuibh anns gach ceàrn de'n t-saoghal."

Faodaidh cuimhne a bhith agaibh aig toiseach a' chogaidh mu dheireadh, an déidh do na Gearmailtich bualadh rompa, bha iad a' feuchainn gach innleachd a bha 'nan comas gu fios a bhith aca gu dé a bha sinn a' dol a dheanamh. Thòisich iad ri éisdeachd ris gach òrdugh a bha sinne ag cur air an telephon. Cha robh na gillean Gàidhealach fada ag cur stad air sin, an uair a theann iad ri bhith a' bruidhinn ri cach a chéile anns a' Ghàidhlig. Tha feum air a' Ghàidhlig fhathast mar a tha air na gillean Gàidhealach.

A nis, 's e so a' cheist. B'e na Gàidheil, luchd na Gàidhlig, ar n-athraichean, a choisinn gach cliù a tha aig na réiseamaidean Gàidhealach uile, agus is e an cunnart gum bi a' mhór-chuid de na tha anns na réiseamaidean sin gun bhoinne de fhìor fhuil Ghàidhealaich 'nan cuislean. A chàirdean, chan fhaod sin a bhith: feumaidh sinne ar tomhas féin a chur ris a' chliù a choisinn ar daoine. Tha an cothrom againn ; a bheil sinn a' dol a ghabhail ris? Is cinnteach gu

A chàirdean, tha mi ag iarraidh oirbh air sgàth nan daoine bho'n tàinig sibh an cliù-san a thogail agus a bhith cur ris : agus, mar sin, gun abair iadsan a thig 'nar déidh gu bheil an t-seann dìlseachd agus an seann dualchas am measg nan Gàidheal gus an latha an diugh -seadh, gun do lean am mac mar an t-athair.

Cluich no gleachd air muir no raon, B'e 'n dual daonnan bhith smachdail; 'S beag an t-ionghnadh iad bhith treun, 'S fuil na Féinne fo'n bhreacan.

#### LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Is ann air Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh a bha briathran mu dheireadh litir àireamh an Og-mhios, agus is ann far an do sguir mi, theagamh, a dh'fhaodainn tòiseachadh an litir na h-àireimh so, àireamh an Iuchair.

An ám dhomh sgrìobhadh tha a' chuid as reutanaiche de'n uidheamachadh a tha feumail air cheann a' chaimp air a dheanamh le bhur deagh rianadair, Dòmhnall MacPhàil. Bidh dorsan a' chaimp, ma tà, air am fosgladh, do na caileagan an toiseach, air Di-ardaoin, an 10mh latha de'n Iuchar, is bidh iadsan a' fàgail soraidh aig Inbhir-aoilleart air Di-luain, an 21mh de'n Iuchar. Bidh an sin trì làithean gu réiteach an déidh na clann nighean, le deasachadh air cheann nam balach, is iadsan a' ruigheachd air Di-ardaoin, an 24mh de'n Iuchar. Bidh iad a' fàgail air Di-luain, an 4mh latha de'n Lùnasdal.

Bidh tuille de chaileagan na de bhalaich anns a' champ, is the aobhar air sin-aon dhiubh, gu bheil campan eile a' tàladh nam balach an ceartair; ach tha sinn an dòchas, an uair a bheir iadsan a tha a' tighinn, maille ris na caileagan, deagh thuairisgeul air dol Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh, mar nach 'eil guth air a labhairt ann ach a' Ghàidhlig, cho math ri iomadh maise eile, gum bi a' chlann bhalach is a' chlann uile a bhios a' tighinn do'n champ a' sìor dhol am meudachd gus nach bi talach sam bith againn air cho beag 's a bhios ann.

An ceartair, an uair a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh, is e 33 de nigheanan is 10 balaich a chuir a steach an ainmeannan. Tha làn-fhiughair againn gum bi tuille a' dol ris an aireimh, gu sonraichte na balaich, leis nach bi iadsan a' tighinn gus an 24mh de'n Iuchar.

Dh'fhaodainn a ràdh, a chùm is nach bi sibh air bhur teumadh le iomagain air chor sam bith, ma bhios deasachadh sam bith, no eadar-dhealachadh bho'n rian a chuir mi sìos an so, r'a dheanamh, gun téid rabhadh a chur chugaibh cho luath 's a ghabhas sin deanamh.

Agus tha an t-ám air tighinn a nis gu paipearan a' cheasnachaidh aig Comunn na h-Oigridh (air cheann nam bràisdean) a bhith a' tighinn a steach. Tha cuid air tighinn mar thà; agus dh'fhaodainn na sgoiltean as an tàinig iad cheana ainmeachadh. So agaibh iad, leis an àireimh a tha air aghaidh air tòir bràisde Làn-Ghàidheil air a toirt seachad an toiseach. is Sàr-Ghàidheal an sin:-Bodha-mór (Ile) 20, 11: Staon-a-brig (Uidhist) 6, 0; Tairbeart na Hearadh 14, 16; Plana-sgeir (Leódhas) 10, 4. Uile gu léir, 50 agus 31; 's e sin, ceithir fichead 's a h-aon.

A nis, tha mi dìreach an déidh litir fhaotainn bho dheagh charaid dhuibhse is mo dheagh charaid féin, an t-Urr. Calum MacGilleathain, an Conan, agus bu mhath leam stiall de na tha innte a thoirt dhuibh air a' mhìos so is an còrr uair-eigin eile, or chan 'eil facal innte nach bu mhath leam gum faiceadh sibh e. Bha e an déidh Gàidheal an Og-mhios fhaotainn is Litir Comunn na h-Oigridh a leughadh an uair a sgrìobh e. Chan 'eil mi dol a chur sìos nam briathran coibhneil leis a bheil e a' moladh Litir na h-àireimh so; ach cha bhiodh e iomchuidh dhomh mur abarainn "Móran

taing dhuibhse, a dheagh charaid!" son 'Druim-tighe-Mhic-Ghille-Chatain' dheth," tha e ag ràdh, " nach fìor, a nis, gum feumar a' Ghàidhlig a chluinntinn mum bi cinnt aig duine air an iomlan! Chan urrainn dhomhsa a ràdh an litir sgrìobhte có aca is e (1) 'Druim-tighe | Mhic-Ghille-Chatain' a tha ann, no (2) 'Druim | Tighe Mhic-Ghille-Chatain.' Mas e (1) a tha ann, chan 'eil teagamh nach e tighe a tha ceart. Ach mas e (2) a tha ann, is fìor dhomhsa a ràdh gur e 'Druim Tigh Mhic-Ghille-Chatain ' a thigeadh chugam féin gu nàdurra. Ged thà, có is urrainn a ràdh nach 'eil an dà sheòl ceart ? Tha aobhar air na dhà, agus gabhaidh na dhà fhìreanachadh. Is e càil na Gàidhlige as ùire teannadh air falbh bho'n dòigh aig Camshron Gille-Iosach, an nòs as sine. Tha fios agaibh sàr-mhath air mar a chante 'Fear' (sud no so) ri fear-fearainn: bha mo sheanamhair bho fhear anns na Hearadh ris an canadh iad 'Fear Sheile-bost.' So mar a chuireamaide e anns na Hearadh, 'cù Fear Hùisinis ' (cù a bhuineadh do Fhear Hùisinis), ach 'cù fir Hùisinis' (cù a bhuineadh do thuath Hùisinis)."

Ach feumaidh mi an còrr de'n litir fhàgail gu uair

A thaobh an ainm-àite so, "Druim-tighe-Mhic-Ghille-Chatain," is am beachd a thug am Feardeasachaidh nas fhaide air aghaidh an àireamh an Og-mhios, an uair a tha e a' toirt fainear gu bheil an t-ainm-àite, "Baile-Ceann-Loch-Chille-Chiarain," nas fhaide na "Druim-tighe-Mhic-Ghille-Chatain," tha e ceart gu leòr nam biodh daoine ag cleachdadh an AN GAIDHEAL.

ainme sin, ach chan 'eil. Cha chuala mise riamh Gàidheal ag ràdh "Barle-Cheann-Loch-Chille-Chiarain " ach " Ceann-loch " a mhàin, agus " Chille-Chiarain" air a chur ris an uair a bhiodh iad air mhiann a chomharrrachadh a mach gu soilleir ciod an "Ceann-loch" a bha a' tighinn fainear dhaibh, oir tha iomadh "ceann-loch" ann, mar a tha "Ceann-Loch-Iall," "Ceann-Loch-Iùbh," "Ceann-Loch-Raineach," "Ceann-Loch-Speilbh," is iomadh aon eile. Chan 'eil " Baile " air a chur air thoiseach air aon sam bith de na cinn-locha sin, agus mar sin tha mise a' tagar, gus am faighear le cinnt ainm-àite air chor-eigin eile a tha cho fada ri (no nas fhaide na) "Druim-tighe-Mhic-Ghille-Chatain," gu bheil an t-urram sin aige fathast, ged a tha e fada air deireadh air an fhamhair mhór Chuimreach a bha air m'inntinn anns an am is a thug am Feardeasachaidh dhuinn-agus tha mi toilichte gun tug, oir tha fios againn a nis càite am faigh sinn e uair sam bith a bhios sinn air mhiann ar n-eòlas air ùrachadh.

Agus, a nis, cha bu mhath leam, is cha bhiodh e iomchuidh dhomh, crìoch a chur air mo sheanachas air a' mhìos so gun an call mór a thuit oirnn mar Ghàidheil, am bàs Iain A. MhicNeacail, a thoirt fainear. Bidh iomradh mhion air a' churaidh so, a thuit oirnn anns an strì cho uile gu léir obann, an roinn shonraichte de'n àireimh so bho làimh eile; ach bu mhath leamsa clach a chur 'na chàrn an so.B'eolach sinn air a chéile, agus sin iomadh bliadhna. Thuit esan anns an strì gu cinnteach, oir shaothraich e as leth cànain a dhùthcha is as leth nan Gàidheal cho fada 's a bha e air chomas sin a dheanamh. Duine làidir, beachdail, meanmnach; làidir am bodhaig, am barail, is an comas-inntinn, am fòghlum is an gnìomhachas, bidh sinn 'ga ionndrainn agus a' toirt fainear na bearn mhóir leathainn a dh'fhag e an sreaththoisich nan deanadach as leth a shluaigh iomadh latha.-Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

EADAR-THEANGACHADH.

[Bheirear leabhar mar dhuais do'n neach fo aois a h-ochddeug as fheàrr a dh'eadar-theangaicheas an earrann a leanas gu Beurla. Cuiribh bhur n-oidhirp a dh'ionnsaigh A' Ghàidheil roimh dheireadh a' mhìos].

#### Cuairt San Tódha.

Cha diochuimhnich mi gu bràth an sealladh air an do leag mì mo shùil air a' nhaduinn sin an uair a ràinig mì mullach an Tódha. Bha gnùis flathail na gréine dìreach air fàgail beanntan nam Mór-thir agus a' cur a gathan tlàtha thairis air a' Chuan Sgith gu ruige aodann na creige fodham. Shios gu fada fiadhaich bha am muir cho sèimh 's gun seòladh an t-slìge bhàirnich air, agus faileas nan eilean a' snàmh eadar da lionn; ach ged a bha sin 'na shealladh glòirmhor, 's a ghlac m' aire aghaidh nan creag a bha beò le còin mhara agus a cheart uiread ag itealaich 's a' scrèachail unn cuait orm 's gach taobh a sheallath

Cha robh leud mo bhròige air palla no bile nach robh ag èaladh le iseanan an fhulmair 's na faoileige.

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Chuir mi romhan greim fhaighinn air fear de na h-eòin chroma, ach ma chuir, thòisich an othail 's an uspairtich. Leum an sgarbh 's an gearradh-breac o an daingnichean rag 's rinn iad toll gorm 's an uisge: dhùisg na trìlleachain a bha air na leacan agus le rabhadh 'nam beul bha iad air sgéith bho phiorra gu piorra. "Bi glic, bi glic," arsa iadsan, ach cha tug mi feart orra. An uair a bha mi a' dlùthachadh air an nead agus a' sìneadh a mach mo làimhe spùt an t-eun mosach steall mór de dh'ola lìgheach bhuidhe as a bheul agus thug an samh orm mo chùl a chur ris an nead. Shaoil leam an uair sin gun ghabh na h-eòin mu m' thimchioll an cuthach gu buileach agus bha plosgadh mo chridhe agus seadhan mo chléibh ag cur an céill gun cuir sgread na faoileann geilt air an nàmh. D. MacT.

#### COILLE MHOR SRATH GHLAIS.

O chionn iomadh bliadhna bha Gàidheal còir, tapaidh ag còmhnaidh an Srath Ghlais, agus bhiodh e a' dol gach bliadhna gu Loudaidh a dh'ionnsaigh na buana.

Anns an ám sin cha robh carbad na smùide cho farumach o bhaile gu baile agus a tha e an diugh, agus mar sin cha robh aig na buanaichean bochda air ach coiseachd ceum air cheum gus an ruigeadh iad an eann-uidhe. Is iomadh àmhghar a bha tachairt riutha air an rathad, agus bu tric a bhiodh am beatha an cunnart, gu h-àraidh air an t-slighe dhachaidh an uair a bhiodh fios aig mèirlich nan coilltean gum biodh beagan thasdan air an subhal.

Chaidh buanaiche Srath Ghlais a theasairginn uatha fad iomadh bliadhna, ach mu dheireadh thall cha robh eadhon esan gun a eachdraidh fhéin aige air àmhgharan turus na buana.

Bliadhna an déidh bliadhna an uair a bhiodh e fàgail an tighe air son Loudaidh, is e an àithne mu dheireadh a bhiodh e faighinn o bhean an tighe e a bhith glé chinnteach nach dì-chuimhnicheadh e corran a thoirt dhachaidh, ach a cheart cho minic agus a gheibheadh e an àithne a cheart cho tric sin bha e 'ga dì-chuimhneachadh.

Mu dheireadh thall cheannaich e an corran mun d'fhàg e Loudaidh agus cheangail e suas e gu chramach an truaill fhodair. Ghabh e air gu Srath Ghlais, agus air a shlighe dhachaidh choinnich seann nàbaidh ris agus chaidh iad le chéile steach do phràban a bha ri taobh an rathaid agus dh'iarr iad dà dhrama.

Thòisich an còmhradh agus drama an déidh drama 'ga òrdachadh, agus cha b'fhada bha an ùine ag goid seachad, air chor agus gu robh seachd dùirn de'n oidhche ann mun d'fhàg iad am pràban. Cha robh aig a' bhuanaiche air ach aghaidh a thoirt air a' choille mhóir ùdlaidh uaignich a bha eadar e agus a dhachaidh, agus ge b'fhada uaithe bha a dhachaidh cha b'fhada 'na bheachd-san a bhiodh e 'ga ruigheachd.

Bha oidhche bhriagha, chiùin ann le gealaich air a coinneil, agus shaoil leis gu robh sin có-dhiubh 'na fhàbhar. Cha deachaidh e fada air adhart an uair a chunnaic e duine a' tighinn 'na choinneamh agus an uair a bha e dìreach gu bhith aige dh'fholaich an duine e fhéin air chùl craoibhe.

Bha am buanaiche a' tuigsinn gu robh an t-ám aige an corran a thoirt as an truaill, agus gun an còrr dàlach a dheanamh rinn e sin. Chaidh e a null gu taobh an rathaid far an robh an duine, agus dh'fhoighnich e dheth ciod e an uair a bha e, agus a cheart cho luath agus a dh'innis an duine sin da dh'fharraid e dheth ciod e a thug air a dhol air cùl a' phris an uair a chunnaic e e.

"O," ars an duine, "is e àite glé chunnartach a tha so. Is iomadh mèirleach a chaidh troimh an choille so, ach o'n a tha coltas cho suilbhireach ort fhéin chan 'eil dad de dh'eagal agam romhad, agus o'n a tha sinn ag gabhail an rathaid còmhla, is feàrr dhuinn greasad oirnn agus gheibh sinn drama am pràban a tha mu mhìle uaithe so."

"Ro mhaith," ars am buanaiche, agus ghabh iad air

aghaidh.

Cha robh am buanaiche ro chinnteach as a chompanach, agus mar sin bha e ag cumail geur shùla air fad na slighe. Bha e a' dearcadh do'n duine ag cur a làimhe 'na bhroilleach an dràsda agus a rithist, agus cha robh so ag còrdadh ris idir. Bha eagal uamhasach air gur e dag a bha e a' fiachainn ri ghleusadh gu a bheatha a thoirt air falbh.

Is ann a rug e fhéin air a' chorran air a shocair, agus, an uair a fhuair e fàth air an duine, tharraing e e agus chuir e an ceann deth le aon sgobadh, air chor agus gun do thuit an ceann air an aon taobh de'n rathad agus a' cholann air an taobh eile. Bha an ceann a' sgriachail agus a' rànail agus ag éigheach ris a' bhuanaiche: "Is dona a rinn thu! Cha robh olc sam bith air m'aire-sa ged a bha mi ag gabhail an rathaid cuide riut. Bha mi ionraic, onarach, gun ghunna, gun daga, agus dhòirt thusa an fhuil neochiontach."

An uair a chuala am buanaiche so bha e gun fhios ciod e a dheanadh e. Bha an oidhche reòta, agus gun dàil sam bith a dheanamh chàirich e an ceann gu cùramach air a' cholainn agus cheangail e an amhaich gu cruaidh, teann le nèapaicin-pòca, agus an tiota thuirt an duine: "Cha chreid mi nach dean mi feum fhathast. Tog mi agus thoir mi do'n tigh-òsda."

Choisich iad do'n tigh-òsda le chéile, agus an uair a ràinig iad bha an tigh lom-làn de bhuanaichean, agus bean an tighe agus a' bhan-chòcaire a' pronnadh dà phoit mhór bhuntàta air son na suipearach. Dh'iarr am buanaiche dà ghloine de uisge-beatha gun bhaisteadh, ag ràdh gu robh e fhéin airtnealach agus gu robh a chompanach air a leòn gu dona. Fhuair iad sin, agus shìn iad air seanchas.

Bha an duine leòinte a' fàs blàth araon le teas an uisge-bheatha agus blàths an teine. Thòisich e ri sreathartaich agus ri séideadh a shròine is cha robh fhios air an talamh ciod a bha ceàrr air.

Rug e air a shròin le a dhà mhiar air son an sreathart a chumail air falbh, agus an uair a rug thuit an ceann mar a bha e anns a' phoit bhuntàta, agus chaidh an tigh gu ùpraid.

Theich am buanaiche cho luath agus a dheanadh a chasan da, is cha d'fhuaradh gréim riamh air, agus cha mhotha a tha lorg air duine a bhuineas da air an latha an diugh. IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### THE LATE MR. J. A. NICOLSON.

We regret to record the death on 7th June (after a very brief illness) of Mr. John Alexander Nicolson, M.A., F.E.I.S., a Vice-President of An Comunn Gaidhealach and Convener of the Finance Committee.

"John A.", as he was familiarly known to many in Glasgow and Skye, was born in the Braes district of the parish of Portree in 1890, and was educated at the local school, at Portree Secondary School, and at Glasgow University. For fourteen years he held teaching appointments in various Glasgow schools and was on the staff of Garrioch School when he was appointed first Supervisor in Glasgow of the Junior Instruction Centres set up by the Ministry of Labour in 1934. For some years past he held the responsible post of Youth Welfare Organiser of the Glasgow Education Committee, and in this connection, had much pioneer work to do in organising the rapidly expanding youth services of the city. He took a prominent part in the activities of the Educational Institute of Scotland, and from 1931 to 1934 he was President of the Glasgow Local Association of the E.I.S. He was also for seven years Secretary of the Glasgow Elementary Schools' Football Association.

It was, however, as a keen and energetic leader among the Highland community in Glasgow that John A. Nicolson was best known. He identified himself particularly with the Glasgow Skye Association, of which he was at one time Secretary and served as President from 1932 to 1935, and with the Highlanders' Institute, of which he was President from 1933 to 1936, and of which also he was a Trustee and a member of Executive Committee up to the time of his death.

To An Comunn Gaidhealach Mr. Nicolson gave over twenty years' service as a member of the Executive Council and of several of its Committees. At the last Annual General Meeting he was appointed a Vice-President and succeeded Dr. John Cameron as Convener of the Finance Committee. He was one of those responsible for establishing the Glasgow Central Branch of An Comunn, and was President of the Branch from its inception, while he played a leading part in founding the Glasgow Local Mod some five years ago. Only a few weeks ago he had undertaken the onerous duty of Convener of the Local Committee which is to prepare for the National Mod to be held in Glasgow in 1948. On many occasions he served as a Gaelic Adjudicator at provincial and national Mods; and he also broadcast frequently in the Gaelic programmes of the B.B.C.

John A. Nicolson was a man of forceful personality and of much ability. In particular he had the gift of fluent and impressive speech and a good platform manner, with a clear and orderly mind which swiftly

fastened on main issues.

The interment took place in his native parish of Portree, and the cortege was followed by a very large gathering of fellow-islanders, especially of the people of Braes. The funeral service was conducted by a fellow-Braesman, the Very Rev. Norman Maclean, D.D., and the Rev. A. J. Macleod, B.D., Minister of Portree. An Comunn Gaidhealach was represented at the funeral by Mr. Jack Ross, Mr. Iain F. Steele, and Mr. Donald Matheson, President, Vice-President and Secretary respectively of the Portree Branch.

And so there has passed from us with startling suddenness an able fellow-Highlander whose presence and voice will be much missed among us in the days to come. We would express our deep sympathy with his wife and daughter in their sore bereavement.

T. M. M.

# THE LATE MR. A. D. CUMMINGS.

We regret to record the death on 2nd June of Mr. Alexander Dougal Cummings, J.P., F.E.I.S., at the age of 69. Mr. Cummings was native of Grantown-on-Spey and was educated at Aberdeen University. He was Headmaster of Callander Public School for forty years and retired four years ago.

Mr. Cummings was a fluent Gaelic speaker and served for a time on the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach. He was the author of Old Times in Scolland and other books.

#### NATIONAL MOD (1948), GLASGOW. New Local Convener Appointed.

At a meeting of the Glasgow National Mod (1948) Local Committee, held on 23rd June, the Vice-Convener, Mr. Coll MacDougall, made appropriate reference to the great loss sustained by the Committee by the death of its Convener, Mr. John A. Nicolson.

Mr. Farquhar MacRae was unanimously appointed to succeed Mr. Nicolson as Convener. Mr. MacRae is a Vice-President of An Comunn and Convener of the Education

Committee.

#### WELSH LEAGUE OF YOUTH. Founder Honoured.

In the recent King's Birthday Honours List it was announced that a Knighthood is to be conferred on Mr. Ian ab Owen Edwards, M.A., J.P., the Founder and President of the Welsh League of Youth. The new Knight is in a sense the "spiritual father" of our own Comunn na h-Oigridh, as the founding of Comunn na h-Oigridh was in large measure due to the example and inspiration of the Welsh movement. A message of congratulation has been sent to Sir Ifan

Edwards from An Comunn Gaidhealach and Comunn na h-Oigridh.

The following account of the Welsh movement may be of interest to our readers. It is extracted from "Youth Organisa-

tions of Great Britain, 1944-45 "Gordan & Sons, Ltd., London).
"The Webh Lague of Youth (Urdd Gobaith Cymru) is an unsectarian and non-political youth organisation. Founded in 1922 by Mr. Ifan ab Owen Edwards, it soon spread from the village of Llanuwehllyn in the heart of the Merionethshire hills to all patter of the Principality. Its object is to promote Christian Webh Citizenship among the youth of Welse, and to the youth of other nations. Its threefold promise is well known to many thousands of Welsh boys and girls, whether they be Webh-speaking or not:

I PROMISE TO BE FAITHFUL—

To Wales, and worthy of her.

To my fellow-man, whoever he may be.

To Christ, and His Spirit of Love.

"For practical purposes, the League's work is divided into there: spiritual, physical, and cultural. It finds incentives for activities in religious services and hymn-singing festivals, Eisteddfodau (competitive and cultural gatherings), Mabolgompua (sports and games), and camps. Pligirmages and torshave been arranged to other countries, and the youth of other lands have attended the league's festivals in Wales.

"Children under 14 are eatered for in Adramaus (branches) and boys and girls from 14 to 25 in Adusydydd (Youth Chubs). Boys and girls who, though perhaps of Welsh extraction, are not conversant with the Welsh language, are catered for in 'Young Wales Clubs,' an English-speaking counterpart of the medium of expression in these clubs, they are Welsh in spirit and atmosphere, and they are founded only in the Anglicised

areas of Wales."

The activities of branches and clubs are many and variousdramatics, music, history and literature, rural crafts, study circles, and discussion groups, devotional services, agriculture, indoor and outdoor games, civics, etc. In 1944 the total membership was 107,400, and there were 407 clubs and 656 branches. T. M. M.

#### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Ant-Oliamh Urramach Lachlann MacGilleathain MacBhatir.—Tha an Gàidheal ainmeil so air a luibile a ruigheachd mar mhiniatear, oir the leth-cheud bliadhna o shuidhicheadh e anns a' cheud agire a bh'aige. B'ann an Eaglais Mhóir Ghlaschu a bha e air son àireamh bhliadhnachan nun do leig e dheth uallach na h-oibre. An 1933 bha e' na Cheann-suidhe (Moderator) air Ard-sheanadh Eaglais na h-Alba. Choisinn e cliù gife òg mar shearmonaiche comasach agus mar bhàrd agus ùghdar leabhraichean. Tha a dhachaidh a nis o chionn iomadh bliadhna ri taobh Loch Carrann, agus tha sinn ag guidhe dha móran bhliadhnachan eile ann an sith agus socair na sgìre alainn an sith agus socair na sgìre alainn ain.

Eaglàis Ghàidhealach Cheann-Loch.—Chì mi gu bheil ministear ùr air a phòsadh ris an Eaglais Ghàidhealaich an Ceann-Loch-Chille-Chiarain. Is e so an t-Urramach Gilbeart Stùbhart Camshron, B.D., agus tha sinn ag guidhe dha fhéin is do'n choimhthional beannachd is soirbheachadh

Tha mi tuigainn nach 'eil Gàidhig idir aig a' mhinistear nr, agd is Gàidheach an t-ainn a th'air, agus is duilich leinn sin. Chan aithne dhomh de cho tric agus a bha seirbhisean Gàidhig air an cumail anns an eaglais so anns na bliadhnachan mu dheireadh, ach tha fhios againn nach robh nas cudmhoire no nas dlès do'n Ghàidhig am meag mhinistearan Gàidhealach na am ministear mu dheireadh a bha cas neaglais so, an t-Urramach Tòmas S. Mac-a-phearsain nach maireann. Tha fhios againn cuideachd gu bheil feadhainn an Ceann-Loch aig à bheil idid anabarrach anns a' Ghàidhig.

Is iomadh ministear ainmeil a bha air ceann a' chòimhthionail so anns na linntean a dh'fhalbh. B'ann anns an t-siathamh linn a thàinig an Naomh Ciaran á Eirinn a shearmonachadh an t-Soisgeil an Cinn-tìre, agus riamh o'n àm sin bha an Soisgeul air a chur an céill an sgìreachd Chille-Chiarain,

agus anns a' Ghàidhlig cuideachd.

B'ann an 1672 a thugadh an t-ainm "Camphelionen" nir a' bhaile an toiseach. Anns an t-seachdamh linn deug, an uair a bha móran dragh is aimhreit an Albainn mu chlisean Stàit is Eaglaise, thàinig móran air imrích á taobh an irar-dheas na h-Albainn do Chim-tire agus iad fo dhion Marcuis Earraghàidheal. Cha robh Gàidhlig aig na coigrioth sin, agus ma sin thogadh eaglais dhaibh fhéin—an Eaglais Ghailda. Fad uine mhóir bha an dá eaglais—an Eaglais Ghaildha Fagus an Eaglais Ghallda—for iaghladh an non sheisein, ged a bha ministear is àit-aonraidh an urra aca.

Bu mhath cuimhne a chumail air cuid de na ministearan a bha thairis air a' choimhthional Ghàidhealach, oir bha feadhainn

dhiubh a rinn sàr-sheirbhis do'n Ghàidhlig.

Anns a' phrìomh-shreath chuirinn "Caraid nan Gàidheal." Tormod MacLeòid. Bha easn air ceann na h-Eaglais Ghàidhealaich bho 1808 gu 1825. Bho 1781 gu 1807 is e an t-Ollamh Iaim Mac-a-Chobhann a bha 'na mlinistear an so. Rinn esan cuideachd saothair mhòr as leth na Gàidhlige agus sar measg nan leabhraichean a chuir e mach bha iad so: "Sean Dàna,"
"Dàn an Deirg," "Sailm Dhaibhidh," agus eadartheangachadh air àireamh leabhraichean eile. Roimhe sin bha
ministearan eile an Ceann-Loch aig an robh làmh ann an eadartheangachadh a' Bhiobuil agus nan Saina agus Leabhar nan
Ceist-Dùghall Darach (1649-1664), Iain Camshron (16691680), agus Raibeat MacDhonnchaidh (1681-1697). Nas
fhaisge air ar latha féin bha iad so anns an Eaglais Ghàidhcalaich—an t-Ollamh Seumas Curdie Russell, Eachann MacFhionghuin, Iain Calum Mac-an-Rothaich, agus Dùghall
MacCaluira.

A' Ghàidhlig agus Luchd na Postachd, — Beagan bine air ais chomhairlich ar caraid, Iain N. MacLeòid, dhuinn seòladh Gàidhlig a chnr air ar cuid lltrichean, agus e de'n bheachd gun toireadh sin air na h-Oifigean Puist cléirich fhasdadh aig am biodh Gàidhlig air son rian a chur air a'

phostachd sin.

Ma thà, tha mi dìreach air fios fhaotainn bho Ghàidhead dìleas aig a bheil an cleachdaidh seòladh ann an Gàidhlig a chur air na litrichean a sgrìobhas e, leis an t-seòladh Bheurla san oisinn. O chionn ghoirid bha e a' sgrìobhadh A Glaschu gu bana-charaid dha am Bàideanach; chuir e seòladh Gàidhlig air an litir, ach dhl-chuimhinch e seòladh Beurla a chur san oisinn. Ciod a thachair? Cha b'urrainn do luchd Oifig a' Phuist an Ghachu an seòladh a leughadh, ach thuig ouid-eigin 'nam measg gur e Gàidhlig air chor-eigin a bh' ann agus bha fhios aca gu bheil Gàidhlig ani chor-eigin a bh' ann agus gu bheil Gàidhlig an Albainn 1), agus mar sin chuir iad an litir a null gu Baile Atha Cliath.

An Eirinn rinn Muinntir na Postachd an gnothach air a' Ghàidhlig a leughadh agus thill an litir air ais do dh'Albainn,

agus ràinig i mu dheireadh a ceann-uidhe.

Ciod a tha rī fhòghlum á so ? Thà, gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig 'na coigreach 'na tìr féin; agus, an dara rud, is glie seòladh Beurla a chur air litir còmhla ri seòladh Gàidhlig, ma tha cabhag air an litir. Cha deanadh e a' chhis gum biodh gach litir eadar Glaschu agus a' Ghàidhealtachd a' dol rathad Baile Atha Cliath.

Mòd Shan Francisco .-- An latha roimhe fhuair mi fios á San Francisco ag innseadh mu'n Mhòd a bh'aca an Oilthigh a' bhaile sin ann an deireadh mìos a' Ghiblein. Thàinig cuideachd mhór cruinn as a' bhaile agus á bailtean eile an California, Los Angeles agus Pasadena ; agus bha Mòd mór aca. An déidh a' Mhòid bha céilidh aca agus thugadh seachad corr is trì fichead leabhar Gàidhlig mar dhuaisean. Is e so an cóigeamh Mòd a chumadh an San Francisco, agus air clàrinnsidh a' Mhòid gheibhear còrr is deich ar fhichead de chomhfharpaisean de gach seòrsa air son òigridh is inbheach-seinn is aithris, còmhradh is litreachadh-fhacal, òrain-dithis, còisirean, sgeulachdan, leughadh a' Bhiobuill, puirt-a-beul is eile. Chan e mhàin Gàidhlig na h-Albann a bha aca, ach seinn òran Cuimreach is Eireannach cuideachd. Bha faisg air ochd fichead neach a' feuchainn anns na comh-fharpaisean. Agus có a bh'air ceann na cuideachd, có am fear-iùil gnìomhach dealasach a bha air chùl gach oidhirp is gach saothrach ? Có, ach Seumas MacGaraidh, agus is airidh e air a mholadh air son gach saothair is dragh a tha e gabhail air an aobhar na Gàidhlige an tìr fad as. Ach chan 'eil Seumas còir leis fhéin, is e nach 'eil. Cha dean aon duine Mòd, agus mar sin cliù dhaibh-san uile an California a tha cuideachadh leis anns an obair.

Comharradh nan Gall,—Tha Alaedair MacEach-Thighearna ag ràdh gum bu chòir oidhirp a dheanamh air na h-ainmean-àitean Fort William, Fort Augustus, Fort George agus an leithid sin a chur & cleachdadh agus na h-ainmean Gàidhlig aiseag 'nan àite—Inbhir-Lòchaidh, Cille Chuimein, is eile. Car son a bhitheamaid, ars ean, ag gléidhead chomharraidhean air smachd nam feachdan Gallda thairis air ar Gàidhealtachd? \*

Gliocas nan Gàidheal.—Chan fhaighear an dé air ais an diugh. \* \* \*

Firinn air son a' Mhìos so.—Feuchaibh uime sin gun gluais sibh gu faicilleach, chan ann mar amadain ach mar dhaoine glice, ag ath-cheannach na h-aimsir.—*Ephes.* v. 15-16.

#### EDINBURGH LOCAL MOD.

The Edinburgh Local Mod, which had been in abeyance since 1938, was resumed on Saturday, 24th May, in the Carll Halls. Although competitors were fewer than had been hoped, nevertheless the standard of performance was remarkably high, and the Mod Committee were quite satisfied with the measure of success achieved.

The Grand Concert in the evening attracted a large audience and was presided over by Lieutenant-General Six A. F. Philip Christison, Be., K.B.E., C. B., D.S.O., M.C., G.O.C.-in-Chief, Scotdish Command, who was accompanied on the platform by Committee), Group-Captain Mwrdo K. MacLood, R.A.F., and Mrs. MacLood; and Colonel the Rev. Alasdair Ross, Deputy Chaplain-General, Scottish Command. The Chairman spoke in Gaelic and reminded the audience how in olden times Gaelic Haben et al. (1998), and the control of the command. The Chairman spoke in Gaelic and reminded the audience how in olden times Gaelic had been the language of King and Court. He himself was a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, and he made a former member of the Choir of

Arrangements for the Mod were in the hands of a Committee with Mr. Hetor MacIver as Convener, Mr. Ina Cameon as Hon. Secretary, and Mr. D. J. MacCuish, L.L.B., as Hon. Treasurer. The Adjudicators were: for Gaelie, Messrs. John MacLean and Alex. Nicolson and the Rev. T. M. Murchison; for Music, Miss Matri Pate and Mr. J. N. McConnochie—all from Glasgow; for Piping, Mr. Euan MacDiarmid, C.A., and for Fiandford, Mr. Frank Moyes, both from Edinburgh.

The following were the First-Prize Winners:

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

Gaelic conversation for learners—Catrions Macdonald. Solo singing (Girls—Own Choice)—Mairead MacRae. Solo singing (Boys and Girls—Prescribed)—Jessie M. Cameron. Pianoforte solos (age under 16)—Shelia Elizabeth Campbell. Piobaireachd (for the John Ross Cup—age under 18)—John D. Burgess.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

Reciting from memory—Peggy MacDonald. Reading modern Galeip rose—Peggy MacDonald. Gaelic speech on a subject bearing on life in Highlands—L. MacNaughton. Gaelic conversation—L. MacNaughton. Reciting modern poem from memory—Peggy MacDonald. Solo singing (Ladies—Own Choles)—Mrs. J. M., Ward. Solo singing (Ladies—Own Choles)—Mrs. J. M., Ward. Solo singing (Ladies—Own Choles)—W. MacKay. Solo singing (define—Pesserthed)—Murdo MacLeod. Solo singing (define—Pesserthed)—Murdo MacLeod. Solo singing (define—Singing (estimates)—Indipendent of the properties of the properties

# SEANN CHARAID IS NIGHEAN. (O Ghreugais an latha an diugh).

Is ann tha tigh taobh an rathaid anns a' bhaile ud shìos.

Is tha cailleach 'na suidh' ann, mar ri duinean crom, crìon.

Tha cù ac' is sgraing air; tha caileag dheas ghrinn.

A Dhé, nach fhaigheadh a' chàraid cùil shàmhach sa' chill,

Is an cù aca puinnsean; is gheibhinn cruinneag mo chridh!

DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

#### GLASGOW AND DISTRICT PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Fifth Annual Provincial Mod was held in the Highlanders' Institute on Friday and Saturday, 30th and 31s May. There was an increase in the entries over last year's figures, and competition was very keen. The Convener paid warm tribute to the competitors and the parents who had encouraged the junior competitors to come forward. It is indeed every difficult for those of us who were privileged to be present to realise that the Convener, Mr. John A. Nicolson, is no longer with us. A tribute to his memory appears elesewhere in this issue.

Lieut-General Sir A. F. Philip Christison, G.O.C.in-Chief, Scottish Command, presided at the closing Concert, which was held in the High School Hall, and he addressed a full house both in Gaelic and English. The programme was sustained by the first-prize winners, assisted by Neil McLean and Jenny Currie. The Chairman was thanked by Dr. John Cameron, President of An Comunn, and the prizes were presented by Mrs. Cameron.

The Adjudicators were: for Gaelic—Messra. Neil MacLeod, M.A., George Morrison, M.A., and Murdo MacLeod, M.A.; for Music—Miss Mairi Pate, M.A., L.R.A.M., and Mr. Neil H.—Lees, M.A.; for Violin—Mr. John D. Hereus, for Pianofred—Miss Jenny M. B. Currie; for Piping—Pipe-Major Robert Reid.

The leading prize-winners were as follows:-

Junior Section.

Oral.—Reciting "Am Bruideargan" from Memory— Jean MacArthur, Balfron. Reading Unseen Passage—David MacBride, Glasgow. Sgeulachd (Own Choice)—Christina C. Dick, Glasgow.

Vocal Music.—Solo Singing (under 12)—Alistair B. Gillies, Glasgow. Solo Singing (Girls—ago 12-16)—Margaret H. MacDonald, Glasgow. Solo Singing (Boys—12-16)—Angus MacLean, Glasgow. Duet—Sheila A. MacDougall and Margaret H. MacDonald.

Choral.—Unison Singing — Govan Junior Gaelic Choir (Conductor, Miss Mary Hunter).

Instrumental. — Violin—Charles Cowie, Glasgow. Piping (March)—John D. Burgess, Edinburgh. Piping (Strathspey and Reel)—John D. Burgess. Piano (March, Strathspey and Reel)—Jean B. MacDonald, Glasgow.

SENIOR SECTION.

Oral. — Reciting Prose ("Na Seanfhacail") — John MacLeod, Partick. Reciting Poem ("Oran an t-Samhraidh") — John MacLeod.

Vocal Music.—Solo Singing (Men)—Peter MacKay, Oban. Solo Singing (Ladies)—Margaret C. MacCallum, Glasgow. Duet—Janet Justice and Nan MacDonald, Glasgow. Ouartette—An Ceathrar Rhenis Govan.

Quartette—An Ceathrar Ròcais, Govan.

Choral.—Mixed Voices—Uist and Barra Association
Gaelic Choir (Conductor, Donald D. MacIsaac).

#### NA BAILLIDHEAN.

Bha fear an Leódhas a' pàidheadh a' mhàil. An uair a dh'imniseadh dha mar a bha cha bu sùgradh leis e agus, nì nach b'ionghnadh, thàinig spluc air.

"Tasdan eile ort air son do dhrein," ars an seumarlan. Agus b'fheudar dha siud a phàidheadh a bharrachd.

Aig tiodhlacadh seumarlain an Leódhas agus iad ag cur na h-ùrach air, thog fear a ghuth agus thuirt e, "Cuiribh air, cuiribh air, 's e fhéin a chuireadh oirnne!"

Aig tòrradh bàillidh cruaidh, ard-ghuthaich, an-iochdmhoir an Dùthaich MhicAoidh thuirt boirionnach bochd, "Cha deachaidh am fear ud riamh cho sàmhach troimh an bhaile so!"

### BAS MHIC NEILL.

"An uair a bhàsaich MacNéill Bharraidh thug an

talamh uile brag," ars am bodach.
"Chan 'eil mi creidsinn facal dheth," ars am balach.
"Nach ann agad a tha bhathais làidir!" ars am bodach.
"Mi fhéin a bha sa' chnoc ud shuas 's a chual e." B.

#### MID-ARGYLL PROVINCIAL MOD.

The first post-war Dailriada Mod, under the auspices of the Mid-Argyll Provincial Mod Committee, was held at Loch-gliphead on Tuesday, 3rd June. There were large entries in the Junior Section but the numbers competing in the Senior Section were much below those of pre-war years. Junior Choirs were forward from Cairnbaan, Kilmartin, and Loch-gliphead, and great credit is due to the instructors of these for the various competitions.

The closing Concert was highly successful, the Drill Hall being packed to its utmost capacity. Dr. John Cameron, President of An Comum, occupied the Chair and addressed the large andelence in Gaelie and English. Miss Rose MacConnachie and Mr. Alexander Brown, Mod Gold Medallists, helped to sustain a first-class programme. The prizes were gracefully presented to the winners by Miss Campbell of Invernell, M.E. Votes of thinks were proposed by Sir George I. Campbell of Successh, Dr. John Cameron, and Mr. John working of the arrangements reflects most creditably on Mr. Duncan M. Hunter, M.A., Secretary and Treasurer, who must have laboured hard to secure such efficient organisation. He was ably assisted throughout the proceedings by members of the Local Committee.

The Adjudicators were:— for Gaelio—Rev. Alexander MacDonald, Ardehattan, Mr. Hector MacDonald, Glasdonald Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary; for Music—Mr. Malcolm G. MacCallum, A.R.C.O., Campbeltown, and Mr. Graham Campbell, Yr. of Shirvan; for Art—Mr. C. R. S. Malcolm, Lockpilphead.

The First-Prize Winners were:-

JUNIOR SECTION.

Literature — Letter—Jean MacVicar, Lochgilphead, Writing from dictation—Jean MacVicar. Translation from Gaelic to English—Jean MacVicar. Collection of Wild Flowers with their Gaelic and English Names—Marie Gartshore, Invorarsy.

Oral — Reciting from memory—John MacVicar, Cairnbaan. Reading poetry—Margaret Campbell, Tayvallich. Reading prose—James R. Gillies. Reciting poetry (Own Choice)—Betty MacJellan, Lochgliphead. Reading unfamiliar prose—Jean MacVicar. Reciting "Am Bruideargan"—John MacVicar. Reciting poetry (advanced pupils)—Jean MacVicar. Conversation—Jean MacVicar.

Vocal Music.—Solo Singing (Girls)—Cathie MacCallum, Lochiphead. Solo Singing (Boys)—Charles Ferguson, Kilmartin. Prescribed Songs—Malcolim MacLachlan, Tayvallich, Solos (Girls and Boys)—Jean Lamont, Ardrished, Puirt-a-Beul—Jean Lamont. Duet—Donalda Leitch and James R. Gillies.

Choral.—Two-part harmony—Lochgilphead Junior Choir.
Unison Singing (The Misses Strang Shield)—Lochgilphead
Junior Choir.

Instrumental. — Piping—James Ferguson, Kilmartin. Pianoforte: Class (a), Jean MacVicar; Class (b), Jean MacVicar.

Aggregates. — Oral and Literature—(Girls) Jean MacVicar; (Boys) John MacVicar. Vocal Music—(Girls) Jean Lamont; (Boys) James R. Gillies. Winner of Gold Pendant presented by Miss Madge Campbell Brown—Jean Montgomery.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

Literature.—Best list of Gaelic names of freshwater lochs within the Mid-Argyll area—Hector MacNeill, Kilmichael.

Vccall Musit. — Solo Singing — Mrs. E. Campbell, Lochighhead, Solos (Orn Choice)—Miss M. J. Gilles, Loch-gilphead, Paslm 43 (Tune, "Wiltshire")—Miss Elizabeth MacPhail, Lochgilphead, Solos (Prescribed) — Miss Aunice M. Gillies, Lochgilphead, Puirt-a-Beul—Mrs. E. Campbell, Oran Mor. —Miss Aunice M. Gillies,

Gold Pendant presented by Sir George I. Campbell of Succoth for highest aggregate of marks—Miss Aunice M. Gillies,

LORN, MORVERN AND MULL PROVINCIAL MOD.

After a lapse of many years a most successful Mod was held at Oban on Friday, 6th June, and over 200 Competitors from a wide area gave a good account of themselves. There was clear evidence that teachers and conductors had worked hard to achieve a high standard in both language and music. During the forencon competitions were carried on simultaneously in three halls, and in the afternoon Solo and Choral Singling the largest hall available.

A very successful Gaelic Concert was held in the evening, with Mr. Nell Shaw, General Secretary of An Comunn, with Mr. Nell Shaw, General Secretary of An Comunn, presiding. The programme was sustained by the leading prize-winners and by Miss Helen T. MacMillan and Mr. Dould MacVicar, Mod Gold Medallists. The prizes were presented to the successful competitions by Mrs. Atholl Robertson.

The Oban Branch Committee are to be heartily congratulated on the excellent arrangements made and on the success of the Mod, which had been in abeyance since 1938. Mr. Angus MacLeod, Rector of Oban High School, is President, with Mr. Dorald Thomeson, Vice Pseident Mr. M. Lunes

with Mr. Donald Thomson, Vice-President, Mrs. M. Innes, Secretary, and Miss Isa MacIntyre, Treasurer.

The Adjudicators were: for Gaelic—Mr. Donald Graham, Inverness, Rev. William MacDonald, M.A., Oban, and Mr. Neil Shaw, Glasgow; for Vocal Music—Dr. MacCourt, Edinburgh; for Instrumental Music—Dr. Atholl Robertson, Oban.

The following is a list of the First-Prize Winners:-

Oral. —Reading Poetry (Own Choice—age under 14)—
David Stewart, Oban. Reading Prescribed Prose—Duncan
MacInnes, Duror. Reading Prose at Sight—Anne MacDungall,
Oban High School. Reciting "Am Bruideargan "from
Memory—Mary Bremmer, Duror. Reciting Story (Special
Prizes by Mrs. Atholl Robertson, Oban)—Anne Cameron and
Mary MacKinnon, both of Oban Hs. (equal)

Vocal Music, — Solo Singing (Own Choice—age under 12)—David Balfour, Claggan, Solos (Own Choice—Boys)— Dugie McColl, Duror. Solos (Own Choice—Girls)—Catherine Anne Clarke, Taynuilt. Solos (Prescribed—Boys and Girls)—

Isobel MacKechnie, Tobermory

Choral.—Unison Singing (Prescribed Songs)—Duror Choir (Conductor, Miss Nan Hunter). Singing in Two-part Harmony (Prescribed Songs)—Oban High School "A" Choir (Conductor, Mr. Stallybrass).

Instrumental.—Chanter Playing: March—Dugie McColl, Duror; Strathspey and Reel—Dugie McColl. Pianoforte (March, Strathspey and Reel)—Agnes Cowe, Tobermory.

Comh-fharpaisean air son Comunn na h-Oigridh. Còmh-radh—R. Nic-an-t-saoir. Dealbh-cluich—Ard-Sgoil an Obain "B."

SENIOR SECTION.

Oral.—Reading Prose at Sight—Dolly Cameron, Oban High School. Reciting "Oran an t-Samhraidh" from Memory—Rachel MacIntyre and Dolly Cameron, both of Oban H.S. (equal). Dialogue—Isabel Stewart, Oban, and Alasdair Kennedy, Oban H.S.

Vocal Music.—Solo Singing (0wn Choice—Ladies)— Nan Hunter, Duror. (0wn Choice—Men)—Hugh MacIntye. Oban. Male and Female Voices (Prescribed)—Nan Hunter. Porta-Beul (0wn Choice)—Nan Hunter. Duets (0wn Choice)—Isabel M. Scott and Hugh MacIntyre, Oban. Choral.—Prescribed Song and 0wn Choice (Female Voices),

Taynuilt Choir (Conductor, Iain MacSween).

Pendants for Highest Aggregates (Vocal Music)—Ladies—

Nan Hunter; Men-Hugh MacIntyre.

# CUM SUAS DO GHAIDHLIG.

An uair a bha mi òg b'aithne dhomh seann bhean chòir a bha glè dhèidheil air a' Ghàidhlig a bhruidheann, ged a bha pailteas Beurla aice. Bha i 'na bean shunndaich agus air leth deas-labhrach agus geur-fhoclach.

Latha bha sud thubhairt fear òg spaideil rithe : ''A Bheitidh, car son a tha sibh a' bruidheann Gàidhlig daonnan? Tha fios agaibh gu bheil Beurla gu leòir aig a h-uile neach anns an àite so."

"Tha thu ceart, a laochain," ars ise, "ach tha mi a nis na mheann bhean, agus có aige bheil fios dé a' chainnt a bhios aca anns an ath-shaoghai? Bidh cothrom nas fheàrr agam an uair a tha a dhà dhiubh agam. Mar sin chan 'eil mi dol a dhl-chuimhneachadh mo Ghàidhlie!"

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#### BADENOCH-STRATHSPEY PROVINCIAL MOD.

The first post-war Mod in this district was staged at Kingussie on Friday, 6th June. The Mod was originally fixed for April, but the very severe weather conditions at that time necessitated a postponement to June. Although the entries were not up to pre-war standards, there was a satisfactory reponse from the various districts.

The Mod was officially opened by Mr. John Campbell, who gave a spirited address in Gaelic comparing the Badenoch of his younger days with the present. He missed, he said, the old Bards, Pipers and Story-tellers, but he was glad to see that an effort was being made to retain the language and Music

of our people. He wished the Mod every success.

Proceedings began at 9.30 a.m. and the Adjudicators, Pat Sandeman, Calum Iain MacLeod, Rev. Dr. John Mac-Pherson, and Mrs. J. M. Matheson, L.R.A.M., had a busy day. The Concert in the evening was of a high standard, sustained

The Concert in the evening was of a high standard, sustained by the first-price wimers, assisted by Duncan M. MacKenzie Mod Gold Medallieb). Pat Sandeman, and Dugald Campbell. Mod Gold Medallieb). Pat Sandeman, and Dugald Campbell. The manner of the mann

The following is a list of the First-Prize Winners:

JUNIOR SECTION.

Literature. — Essay — J. A. Campbell, Kingussie. Dictation—J. A. Campbell. Translation from English to Gaelic—A. MacRury, Kingussie.

Gaelio—A. Mactury, Kungussie.

Oral.—Reading Poetry (Own Choice)—J. A. Campbell.

Reading Unseen Prose—J. A. Campbell. Reciting "Am
Bruideargan"—A. MacRury. Reciting "Caiseamachd
Comunn na h-Oigridh"—Norma Stewart, Kingussie. Con-

versation (native speakers)—A. MacRury.
Vocal.—Solos—Girla under 12 (19vn Choice), Margaret
Barnett, Newtonmore; Girls 12-16 (Prescribed), Joyce
Cattanach, Kingussie; Boys under 12 (19vn Choice)—Edward
Campbell, Newtonmore; Boys 12-16 (Prescribed)—Angue
Montgomery, Newtonmore. Duets (Prescribed)—Agea

Tennant and Ann Reat, Kingussie.

Choral.—Singing of "Chuir iad an t-suil a Pilat".—
Kingussie School Choir. Unison and Puirt-a-Beul.—Kingussie
School Choir.

SENIOR SECTION.

Literature. — Collection of old Place-names in Mod area—James MacAulay, Abernethy.

Oral,—Reading unseen prose (native speakers)— Dugald Campbell, Laggan. Reading unseen prose (learners)— Mrs. Guthrie, Newtonmore. Reciting "Oran an t-Samhraidh" (native speakers)—Dugald Campbell. Narrating Sgeulachd— Dugald Campbell.

Vocal. — Solos — Ladies (Prescribed), Elsie Ross, Abernethy; Men (Prescribed),—Andrew MacPherson, Newtonmore. Former First-Prize Winners (Prescribed)—Jessie MacKerral, Abernethy. Song by local bards—Mrs. MacKerral, Abernethy. Duets (Own Choice)—Mr. and Mrs. MacKerral,

Abernethy.

Chorál.—Singing of "An t-Ailleagan" and "Ri Guallibba a Chéile" (Mixed Voices)—Newtomnore Gaelle Choir. Singing of "Mo Nighean Chruinn Donn" and "Na Seam Orain" (Mixed Voices)—Newtomnore Gaelle Choir. Singing of "Puinneagan Call" (Ladles" Choirs)—Kingussei Ladles. Choir. Futa-Beul (Mixed Voices)—Kingussei Gaelle Choir Choir. Futa-Beul (Mixed Voices)—Kingussei Gaelle Choir

AN GAIDHEAL.

Winner of Choral Trophy for Four-Part Harmony-Newtonmore Gaelic Choir. Instrumental .- Pianoforte-Mariette Sinclair, Kingussie.

#### PERTH NATIONAL MOD.

A meeting of the Local Committee was held in the Station Hotel, Perth, on 24th May. Mr. John MacDonald, Convener, was in the Chair, and the Mod and Music Committee was represented by Dr. John Cameron, President, Mr. James T. Graham, Treasurer, Mr. Neil Shaw, Secretary, and Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary

Mr. James Livingstone Milne and Mr. H. Kirkcaldy, Local Secretary and Treasurer respectively, submitted reports which showed that the Local Committee had been very active throughout the winter and that arrangements were well in hand for the organisation of the Mod. The Financial state-

ment was considered very satisfactory.

Arrangements for the Mod week will be similar to those of previous years. Four Concerts will be held viz :- JUNIOR CONCERT on Tuesday, 30th September; RURAL CHOIRS CONCERT on Thursday, 2nd October; GRAND CONCERT, on Friday, 3rd October-First House, 6.30 p.m.; Second House, 8.45 p.m. Seats will be reserved for members of An Comunn up to 31st August and full particulars regarding prices will be published in the next issue of An Gaidheal

Competitors who intend entering for the National Mod at Perth are reminded that all entries must be in the hands of the Secretary, Mr. Neil Shaw, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow,

C.2., not later than Saturday, 12th July.

#### ARGYLL RURAL CHOIRS. New Challenge Cup.

An interesting ceremony took place in the Stag Hotel, Lochgilphead, after the close of the Dailriada Provincial Mod. when a handsome Challenge Cup was presented to An Comunn by Captain and Mrs. Samuel L. Smith, Stag Hotel

Recently Captain and Mrs. Smith placed this Cup at the disposal of An Comunn for competition by Rural Gaelic Choirs within the County of Argyll. This offer was gratefully accepted by An Comunn and, when Dr. John Cameron, President of An Comunn, and other officials attended the Lailriada Mod, advantage of their presence was taken to present the Cup.

In accepting the Cup from Captain and Mrs. Smith, Dr. Cameron said he was sure that the presentation of this Cup for annual competition would greatly encourage the culcivation of Gaelic music within the County and would be an impetus to revive those Rural Gaelic Choirs which were forced to abandon their activities during the years of war. An Comunn were accepting it with sincere gratitude, and he trusted that in generations to come it would be competed for with enthusiasm by choirs in the County.

Mr. Hector MacDougall, Convener of the Southern Propaganda Sub-Committee, said he was sure that this Cun would prove a valuable medium of propaganda for the Gaelic Cause

in the County of Argyll.

It was recommended that this Trophy be known as "The Dailriada Cup for Rural Gaelic Choirs within Argyll," An Comunn consider this an inspiring gesture and a

magnanimous gift from Capt, and Mrs. Smith.

The Mod and Music Committee have already decided, with the approval of the Executive Council, to hold this competition on 29th August in Oban. In addition to the Choral Competition there will be two competitions in Solo Singing, one for Female Voices and the other for Male Voices. These will be confined to former first and second prize-winners at previous Provincial Mods within the County of Argyll. The Mod and Music Committee are fortunate in having the full co-operation of the Oban Branch of An Comunn in organising these competitions. It should be noted that all entries, choral and solo, should be sent to Mr. Neil Shaw, Secretary, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2. as soon as possible and not later than 5th July.

#### PROPAGANDA NOTES. Northern Area.

Aviemore .- An all-Gaelic programme was sustained at a Ceilidh of the Aviemore Branch on 21st May. The President, Col. J. P. Grant of Rothiemurchus, acted as Fear-an-Tighe. A splendid programme of songs, sgeulachdan, instrumental music and a luathadh was submitted. On the same evening the Organiser had an interview with the Badenoch Strathspey Provincial Mod Secretary and arranged a Programme and Time-Table for the local Mod.

Golspie .- On the following evening the Organiser attended at the Annual General Meeting of the Golspie Branch presided over by the President, Mr. George Grant, Craigneath. The business of the past session was reviewed and Balance Sheet adopted. The President announced that, as his health is not too good at the moment, he wished to resign from the office. The Honorary Secretary also resigned owing to pressure of other duties. Both were heartily thanked by Mr. MacPhail on behalf of An Comunn, and he stated that the present satisfactory position of Gaelic in the Sutherland schools was in no small measure due to the untiring efforts of the President, who is a member of the County Education Committee. Pipe-major Donald MacLeod was appointed President in place of Mr. Grant, and Miss Betty MacRae, a native of Coigeach and a member of Comunn na h-Oigridh, as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Grant was appointed Branch representative on the Executive Council.

Sub-Committees. - Meetings of the Northern Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees were held on Saturday, 3rd May. Among other matters it was resolved to start a Gaelic Discussion Group in Inverness next session.

Inverness .- Mr. MacPhail attended a meeting of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis on Saturday, 24th May, when

arrangements were made for next session.

Lochaber .- On 26th May the Organiser visited the Lochaber Area in connection with the Lochaber Provincial Mod and Comunn na h-Oigridh camp matters. A donation of two guineas has been received from the Aberdeen Branch to be used for the benefit of the children attending this year's Camp at Inversilort. The Aberdeen Branch has made an annual donation to Comunn na h-Oigridh for several years now and sincere thanks are due to the Branch for their practical interest in Gaelic Youth.

Sutherland .- On 28th May the Organiser visited the east coast of Sutherland and also attended a meeting of the County of Sutherland Provincial Mod Committee at Lairg. Arrangements for this Mod were brought forward and it was decided that, in order to find accommodation for intending patrons, it would be necessary to have two Mod Concerts running concurrently, one in the School Gymnasium and the

other in the Drill Hall. Dingwall.—On 29th May a meeting of the Dingwall Mod Committee was held. Owing to insufficient entries having

been received, it was reluctantly decided to cancel this Mod.

#### IN BRIEF.

Celtic Art Exhibition. — The Exhibition, "3000 Years of Celtic Art," promoted by the Dunedin Society in Glasgow from 28th May to 7th June aroused much interest and attracted many visitors, and the Convener (Mr. J. H. Miller) and members of the Committee responsible for the Exhibition are to be heartily congratulated. There was a wide and varied range of exhibits—replicas and examples of masterpieces of Celtic workmanship in ancient days and an amazing display of the products of modern craftsmanship: embroideries, metal work, pottery and glass, wood work, leather work, textiles, printing. Of particular interest were the exhibits which are the results of a winter's work in Glenurquhart under the auspices of Mr. George Bain's "College of Celtic Cultures." There are here tokens of great possibilities in developing our Celtic Folk-Craft on a national scale. The Exhibition is to visit Inverness this summer and then Edinburgh during the period of the International Festival of Music and Drama.

"The Highland Herald."-This is the name of a new Highland weekly newspaper (price 2d) which has begun publication in Inverness. It is a purely private concern, and is not subsidised by any party or organisation. Its policy therefore will be completely independent. There is a Gaelic article. One hopes that this new venture will be successful, and that it will provide a forum for the discussion of Highland affairs and a voice to declare Highland aspirations.

nk: Cornish .- We are informed that the book, "Cornish Simplified," is obtainable from A. S. D. Smith, Coombe Cottage, Amberley, Arundel, Sussex, price 3s 3d post free.

#### FOLKLORE SOCIETY PROPOSED.

Following upon the recent discussion of Folklore collection in this magazine and in the press and correspondence between various people interested, a meeting was held recently in Glasgow, when a number of persons came together and were fortunate to have with them Professor Delargy of the Irish Folklore Commission-one of the leading authorities on folklore, a scholar with an international reputation

After a full discussion it was decided to form a Representative Committee to take the necessary steps to establish a Scottish Gaelic Folklore Society to undertake the collection, preservation, and publication of oral lore. This will be done in close collaboration with the Irish Commission and other folklore authorities. It is hoped that ultimately a Scottish Folklore Institute will be founded, covering the whole field

of Scottish tradition and folk-culture.

The Convener of the Committee is the Rev. T. M. Murchison, and the Secretary is Mr. Duncan MacDougall, 20 Glebe Street, Renfrew. It is hoped to have the first meeting of the Committee shortly, and as soon as possible thereafter fuller information will be given.

## ->-EADAR SINN FHEIN.

#### BEUL-AITHRIS.

Fhir mo Chridhe,-Is e a' cheud nì as ceart duinn uile a dheanamh a bhith buidheach air son na tha deante aig a' Choimision Eireannach agus a dheanamh cinnteach dhaibh gu bheil saorsa aca san nì 's a bheil iad an sàs 'nar tìr. Cumadh iadsan orra.

Tha sinn, a nis, a' beachdachadh air trì Comuinn :-(a) Comunn ri Beul-Aithris a tha cheana an Albainn (ach

nach 'eil Gàidhealach agus nach 'eil a' deanamh móran maitheis san raoin so).

(b) Cumann Bealoideasa na h-Eireann a tha beò, brìgh-mhor, buadhach, agus fo làn réim.

(c) Comunn ùr a bu mhiann le daoine chur air chois an Albainn cosmhail ri (b).

Tha mise coma ged a bhiodh na trì ann, agus ged a bhithinn pàidheadh càin do gach aon! Ach air son obair mhoir, cheirt, tharbhaich air luathair, is ann san dara comunn a mhàin a tha m'earbsa.

Gabhamaid so gu cridhe. A chum agus gum biodh éifeachd an oidhirp mar so 'nar measg fhéin san tìr so, de'n t-seòrsa bhuadhach a tha an Eirinn, cha b'fhuilear trì nithean a bhith againn an ceann a chéile:

(a) Comunn àraidh ri Beul-Aithris.

(b) Oilthigh, no Oilthighean, air a chùl.

(c) Coimision làidir, le neart airgid, air an cùl sin.

An cuala sibh riamh an rann so ?

"Tha iomadh rud a dhìth orm A dh'fheumainn innse Dhòmhnall; Tha iomadh rud a dhìth orm

A dh'fheumainn fhìn mum pòsainn!"

So cuid de na dh'fheumadh sinn :-

(i) Maoin. "Cha dean bean gun urras aodach." Bu chòir duinn £5000 sa' bhliadhna de theachd-a-steach buan cinnteach a bhith againn. Bhiodh sin na bu lugha no na bu mhotha a réir mar a dheanadh no nach deanadh daoine bhiodh a cheana air an tuarasdal aig na h-Oilthighean an cuid féin de'n obair gun tuarasdal mór eile. Cait as an tig an t-airgead so? Chan 'eil dùil agam gun tig ach á sporan na Rìoghachd. Cha ruigeadh sinn a leas nàire bhith oirnn a' sireadh sin bhuapa. Tha, a rithist, Urras Chairnégidh ann. Agus, mar a thuirt am bodach Scarpach, "The airgead aig na ceàrdainnean an Ameriga." Agus có aige a tha fhios nach fhaodadh Oilthigh seach Oilthigh mosgladh?

(ii) Aros. Cha deanar an nì tha iomchuidh gun teach no aitreabh a chumas buan, tèarainte an tasg. Chan 'eil àite de'n t-seòrsa air lorg againn, agus cha deanar a' chùis as aonais.

Sin uallach mór agus cosgais nach bi beag.

(iii) Sgioba, Gheibhear iad sin an uair a bhitheas feum is féill orra. Chan fhaighear an asgaidh iad. Tha iad ann agus cha bhitheadh iad doirbh an oileanachadh an uair a thigeadh

Cha dean "caistealan san Spàinn "a' chùis!

Na deanamaid dì-chuimhne, nis, air Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir-nis. Is mór a tha deante againn sa' chomunn so agus roinn cheart deth san dearbh raoin so. Ged a chuireamaid comunn eile air chois, is fhada bhitheamaid mun deanamaid teachd gu inbhe a' chomuin so. Nam bitheadh Oilthigh againn mar chùl, agus maoin gu àileas, dheanadh Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir-nis a' chùis, mar chomunn, pailt na b'fheàrr na aon rud ùr a thaghamaid 'na àite.

Is e sin, ma tà, an cor a bhitheadh cothromach.

Tha mi cur m'aonta ris a' Chaimbeulach nach dean sinn móran gun mhaoin is gun ghillean. Tha mi cur m'aonta ris gur e dubh-bhròn agus éigin a bhiodh ann nan deanadh na h-Eireannaich a nis tarruing air ais. Fhuair sinn rabhadh gu leòir le mar a thachair roimhe an uair a thuirt An Comunn Gàidhealach ri na dearbh sheòid, "Fàgaibh sin againne; ni sinn fhéin e." Dh'fhàg sin sinn le Ediphone "et praeterea nihil!" Is iomadh ceann a chaidh an currac o'n uair sin! Is e an nì mór gu bheil obair cheart 'ga deanamh is eòlas a' dol far nach ruig na rodain air.

Cha toigh leam cho tarcuiseach agus a tha Mgr. I. L. Caimbeul an car "native students!" Cha dean dimeas air "natives" Caimbeulach àrdachadh an Albainn. Is i ceist nan daoine cearta, fìor-Ghàidhealach a' cheist as lugha tha oirnn. Is e an cùinneadh ceist as motha. Chuirinn sgioba maith de dhaoine dùthchasach a mach air mo mheuran gun dàil. Chuirinn an t-Ollamh uasal Dòmhnall Seumas MacLeòid air an stiùir agus ochdnar air na ràimh, agus dheanainn fhéin "gocaman" dhaibh!—Thoir buaidh is beannachd,

CALUM MACGILLEATHAIN.

#### A BADGE FOR LEARNERS.

Sir,-Mr. Duncan MacDougall's suggestion (in April issue of An Gaidheal) that a badge should be designed for wearing by learners of Gaelic has everything to commend it, and I am very surprised that no one has written in support of the proposal.

At the March meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn I suggested that either the Propaganda or the Education Committee should take the matter up, but I am not sure

that I was taken seriously.

I consider the provision of a badge for learners far more important than that of one for Clann an Fhraoich or An Comunn. The question of whether or not Gaelic is to survive depends wholly on the encouragement of learners, and I know of nothing more likely to discourage learners than to be addressed in Gaelic by a native speaker who, perhaps quite justifiably, assumes that all wearers of the badge of An Comun speak fluent Gaelic.

Incidentally, are there so very many members of An Comunn who are fluent Gaelic speakers?

To the arguments put forward by Mr. MacDougall I would add that wearers of the Learner's Badge would be able to recognise a kindred spirit.

Why not have a competition for a design for a Learner's Badge at the Perth Mod ?

In these critical days for the Gaelic language every suggestion that promises to bring results should be welcomed. Who then will take the first step ?-Yours truly,

CHAS. REPPER.

#### CLO-BHUAILTEARAN GAIDHLIG.

A Charaid,-Cho fada agus is aithne dhomhsa chan 'eil fiù aon chlò-bhuailtear (no compositor) an Albainn a leughas no sgrìobhas Gàidhlig, agus is e sin nì cho duilich is a tha ann a thaobh clò-bhualadh leabhraichean Gàidhlig

Bheir clò-bhuailtear a thrì fhaidead air cur Gàidhlige an clò is a bheir e air Beurla Shasainn no cànain sam bith as urrainn da a leughadh, a chionn gu bheil aige ri sealltainn air litir an déidh litreach mum buail e iad 'nan àite, agus tha gach mionaid a bharrachd a bheir e mar sin air cur na Gàidhlige an alt a chéile ag ciallachadh tuille cosgais

Bha ionghnadh orm fhéin riamh nach 'eil balaich aig a bheil Gàidhlig agus a fhuair ionnsachadh innte cho fada ris an Leaving Certificate ag gabhail fasdaidh mar chlò-bhuail-tearan. Is e obair airgiodach a tha ann a nis, agus bhiodh an eòlas air a' Ghàidhlig 'na chuideachadh mór ann a bhith ag cur àirde air clò-bhualadh leabhraichean Gàidhlig. Cha bhi e comasach am feasda a bhith foillseachadh leabhraichean. Gàidhlig air prìs chuibheasaich gus am bi clò-bhuailtearan ann a chuireas a' Ghàidhlig an alt a chéile cho luath is a ni iad

Beurla Shasainn,

Tha mi smaoineachadh gum biodh e glé riatanach gum biodh an obair so air a toirt fa chomhair nam balach a tha fòghlum na Gàidhlige anns na h-àrd-sgoilean aig an ám so. agus gun gabhadh An Comunn suim de'n chùis sin cuideachd. Cha bhi soirbheachadh ceart am feasda le clò-bhualadh na Gàidhlige gus am bi sin air a dheanamh le luchd-obrach do an aithne an cànain cho maith ri iomairt a' chlò. IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### "GAELIC COLONISERS."

Dear Sir .- With reference to the strengthening of Gaelic in districts where it is declining, I have often wondered whether it would be possible to arrange colonies of Gaelic "missionaries," containing not less than five individuals.

They would require to have a good knowledge of crofter agriculture, bee-keeping, etc., and settle on the land. On our West Coast they might do very well if they took up vegetable cultivation and dairying. At present large quantities of vegetables and milk are imported, chiefly in the tourist season. These, if produced locally, would arrive at the hotels and boarding-houses in much better condition than they do at present. Our climate is very suitable for vegetables, and even flowers, like daffodils, a Government agricultural official told me, are a fortnight earlier than on the East Coast

In addition to speaking Gaelic on all possible occasions, these "colonists" should support the Gaelic Church Services, which give a status to the language. The singing at Gaelic services, if well done in the traditional way, is most attractive, and why should we be more copyists or imitators ? At present, in most places, there is some difficulty in getting young men to "put out the line," and some of the "colonists" might

help in this matter.

These colonies, to begin with, might be in the neighbourhood of Kyle, Mallaig, Oban, Stornoway, etc., where there are likely to be fair markets for produce. The housing question is certainly difficult, but surely the Government will soon release some of the huts which for years have been lying unused in some of the places I have mentioned

GAIDHEAL.

# A GAELIC MAP OF SCOTLAND.

A Charaid,-Many years ago An Comunn were making preparations for publishing a Gaelic map of Scotland and, if I remember well, the services of Professor W. J. Watson were solicited for that work, but, whatever happened, the

proposal was never carried into effect.

We in the Highland counties know very well the gross ignorance of the average Gaelic speaker in reference to the Gaelic forms of even the commonest place names in the surrounding districts. I do not know how much attention is being given to this matter in the teaching of Gaelic in Highland schools, but there is no doubt that the ordinary School Map of Scotland, with the place-names written in Gaelic, would be an enormous help in interesting the Highland pupil in this very important subject of Gaelic studies. The map of Scotland at

present in use in schools is not over-burdened with place-names. and, with the help of our noble band of Celtic literary scholars, it would be possible to have all those names translated into Gaelic. Such a map would undoubtedly be most valuable in educating the Gaelic-speaking child, as it would be the means of giving him a new outlook on the form and meaning of our Scottish place-names-a subject which seems to be so much neglected at the present day. JOHN N. MACLEOD.

#### IMPORTANT DATES.

July 4. Meeting of Executive Council.

 Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp opens at Inversilort.
 Closing date for Entries and submission of Musical Compositions and Literary Work for National Mod Competitions

22-29. Celtic Congress (Dublin).

4. Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp closes. 29. International Festival, Edinburgh—Gaelic Concert. Aug. Sept. 30 National Mod at Perth begins. Oct.

3. National Mod concludes. Annual General Meeting of An Comunn. **→** 

#### LIST OF NEW MEMBERS from

1st JUNE, 1946, to 31st MAY, 1947

The Most Hon. The Marquis of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Mrs. Catherine Bannatyne, Arran. Mrs. Margaret Scott Brown, Oban Donald Cameron, Esq., Edinburgh Donald Campbell, Esq., Lochboisdale. G. C. Colmar, Esq., Aberdeen. Donald Cumming, Esq., Inverness. A. Currie, Esq., Bombay. Miss Margaret Scott Davidson, Oban. Iain R. Douglas, Esq., Glasgow. Dr. Alastair Gibson, Buckie. Dr. Winniefred M. Grav, Aberdeen. John Kennedy, Esq., Glasgow. Hamish Lindsay, Esq., Glasgow. Mrs. Dora M. Campbell, Lye, Exeter. Mrs. B. MacCallum, Glasgow. Miss Anna J. MacDonald, Stornoway. Mrs. A. MacDonald, Elgin. D. MacDonald, Esq., Harris. Rev. John MacDonald, M.A., Onich. Rev. John MacDonald, M.A., Appin. M. MacDonald, Esq., Dornoch Miss Morag MacDonald, Edinburgh. Mrs. Mary MacGathan, Kinloch Rannoch. Mrs. H. MacIlchere, Campbeltown. Mrs. MacIntosh, Carradale.

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Miss Grace MacKenzie, B.Sc., Perth. Miss Jessie L. MacKenzie, Clachan, by Oban. Miss Catherine MacKinnon, Struan, by Portree. Neil MacKinnon, Esq., Oban. Miss E. MacLauchlan, Oban.

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Leabhar XLII.]

An Lùnasdal, 1947. [Earrann 11]

#### EALAINEAN - LAIMHE.

Anns na seann làithean b'ann á toradh na talmhainn agus á saidhbhreas na mara a bha na Gàidheil a' faotainn am beòthachd, agus tha fhios againn uile gur ann ris an fhearann agus ris an fhairge a dh'fheumas a' mhór-chuid de shluagh na Gàidhealtachd a bhith ag amharc a nis agus anns na làithean ri teachd. Tha feum cuideachd air dòighean-cosnaidh eile, agus tha iad ann, agus bithidh iad ann, gu sònraichte na h-oibrichean ùra a shuidhichear an cois obair an eileactrachais.

Ach, a dh'aindeoin sin uile, tha nithean eile ann a bha agus a tha na Gàidheil a' deanamh—oibrichean beaga, gnìomhachas-tighe, ealainean anns an robh agus anns a bheil iad an sàs ri taobh an teine fèin afns na h-oidhcheannan fada geamhraidh. Is iad so na h-ealainean-làimhe ris an abrar anns a' Bheurla "Hand-crafts" agus "Home Industries." Tha mise de n bheachd gu bheil àite sònraichte aig na h-oibrichean beaga so am measg gach oidhirp a nithear a chum leas nan Gàidheal.

Cluinnidh tu muinntir a' bhaile mhóir air uairean ag ràdh gu bheil ùine gu leòir agus r'a seachnadh aig muinntir nan àitean dùthchail. Faodaidh sluagh na dùthcha a bhith trang gu leòir 's t-earrach is 's t-fhoghar, ach o Shamhainn gu earrach ciod a th'aca ri dheanamh? Ma thà, tha am pailteas aca ri dheanamh air an dùthaich; ; ach fhathast that na h-oidhcheannan fada geamhraidh aca, agus cha mhath le daoine easgaidh a bhith 'nan tamh.

Nach iomadh uair an uaireadair a chuir an clobair sacahad is ea' snaidheadh bhataichean is chromagan, agus an t-iasgair le plos maide 'na dhorn a' deanamh bàtachain bhig do ghille beag air chor-eigin no 's dòcha bàta beag fo làn sheol am broinn botail, mar is tric a chunnaic sinn, agus is mór an t-ionghnadh ciamar air thalamh a fhuaradh am broinn a bhotail i!

Agus chunnaic sinn feadhainn eile a' suidhe sìos a h-uile feasgar ri taobh an teallaich agus iad trang a' deanamh brat-stairsich á plos ròpa no brat-ùrlair de chanabhas is de clòithtean ioma-dathach. Agus cha ruigear a leas iomradh a thoirt air a liuthad dòigh a th'aig na mnathan 's na caileagan air an làmhan a chur an sàs an obair ghrinn is fheumail air choreigin—a' fighe 's a' fuaigheall 's a' deanamh obairghréis le snàthaid.

Chan e nithean ùra is annasach idir a tha anns na h-ealanean-làimhe sin. Is fhada o'n a bha daoine riutha, agus tha móran riutha cheana. Is math a dh'fhaodadh barrachd dhaoine ann am barrachd cheàrnan de'n Ghàidhealtachd a' dol an sàs anns an t-seòrsa oibre so.

Ciod a' bhuannachd a th'ann do neach na h-uairean saora aige a chur seachad ri oibrichean is gnìomhachas de'n t-seòrsa a dh'ainmich mi? Car son a ghabhadh duòin gnothach ris na h-ealanan-làimhe so? Nach elòir do dhuine obair an latha? Nuair a thig e dhachaidh air an fheasgar, sgith is sàraichte, nach foghainn e dha a bhrògan a chur dheth 's a phìob a lasadh (is gonadh air Dalton is cis an tombaca 1) is suidhe gu sàmhach ri taobh an teine? Car son a bhiodh e aig an dragh a làmh a thionndadh gu obair san bith?

Tha trì freagairtean agam do'n cheist sin. A' cheud nl—is neònach an duine leis am miann a bh'th 'na thàmh oidhche an déidh oidhche. Anns na bailtean mòra tha mòran nithean ann a thàirngeas achur seachad—coinneamhan is cluichean is tigh-nan-dealbh is nithean eile. Ach anns na h-àirean dùthchail, agus gu sònraichte anns a' Ghàidhealtachd, chan 'eil uibhir nithean ann gus am feasgar a chur seachad do neach; tha eadhon a' chéilidh fhéin air dol á fasan an iomadh àite, agus is e an ràdio fhéin an t-aon rud a tha cur seachad an the do dhaoine. Ach fàsaidh duine coma de'n ràdio—is fheàrr beagan na cus dheth; agus mar sin is neònach mur am bi thu a' dheth; agus mar sin is neònach mur am bi thu a'

faireachadh na h-ùine caran fada anns na h-oidhcheannan fada geamhraidh. Tha feum air cur-seachad. Gheibh duine cur-seachad anns na h-ealanean-làimhe, na h-oibrichean ris an tionndaidh e a làmh 'na dhachaidh fhéin. Chan e mhàin gun cuir iad seachad an tide dha ach bheir iad ùrachadh inntinn dha. Chan 'eil ni ann nas fheàrr do dhuine na gum biodh rud air chor-eigin eile aige eadar-dhealaichte o obair làitheil anns an gabh e sàs o ám gu ám, an ni ris an abair sinn anns a' Bheurla "hobbu,"

A rithist, tha e domhain ann an nàdur an duine gur toigh leis rud grinn a dheanamh le a làimh agus a sgil fhéin. Seall mar a tha leanabh beag-seall an toileachadh a th'aige ann a bhith deanamh nithean, ag cur nithean ri chéile no 'gan toirt as a chéile. Agus tha e domhain ann an nàdur an duine a bhith faotainn toileachais ann an grinneas agus snas na h-oibre a ni e. Cha dean rud sam bith a' chhis dha; feumaidh an obair a bhith grinn agus snasail. Tha na h-ealainean-làimhe a tha an so ag iarraidh snas is grinneas is sgil is ealantachd.

An treas dòigh anns am faighear buannachd anns na h-ealainean so—gun gabh airgiod a dheanamh leotha. Gheibhear reic air na nithean a nithear. Tha sinn cleachte gu leòir—a' chuid as motha againn, gu sònraichte anns na bailtean móra—a bhith coss airgid (agus móran airgid cuideachd) gus an oidhche a chur seachad dhuinn; is ann ainneamh a chosnar airgiod mar sin, ach cosnar e mas e so an seòrsa cur-seachad a th'agad. Tha féill air obair ghrinn shnasail; tha luach ann. Cuiridh e buinn anns an sporan.

Gu dé seòrsa oibrichean is ealainean-làimhe a th'ann ris am faod neach a làmh a chur? Is iomadh iad, is faodaidh neach a roghainn a dheanamh a réir a chàil agus a chothroim. Is e fiodh is leathar is snàth na stuthan cumanta as an deanar iomadh nì feumail agus grinn-"toys" air son na cloinne, bàtaichean beaga is barachan is cairtean beaga is dolaichean is cluichean de gach seòrsa, sporain is bocsaichean, bascaidean is bratan-ùrlair, obair-ghréis air aodaichean agus mar sin air aghaidh. Chan 'eil feum air móran uidheim air son cuid de na nithean sin-sgian gheur is pìos fiodha, fòghnaidh sin air son iomadh rud snasail is feumail a ghearradh a mach 's a shnaidheadh. Gheibhear air beagan thasdan acfhuinn ris an abrar "fretwork set," 's e sin, sabh beag is inneal beag no dhà eile air son fiodh oibreachadh. Air son obairleathrach fòghnaidh sgian is tolladair.

A nis, ma tha duine dol a dh'fhaotainn toileachaidh as an t-seòrsa oibre a tha an so, agus ma tha na nithean a ni e dol a chosnadh airgid dha, feumaidh iad a bhith air an deagh dheanamh, agus gu sònnaichte feumaidh iad grinneas a bhith orra agus rud-eigin Gàidhealach no Albannach de choltas orra. Gach bliadhna tha mòran sluaigh à dùthchannan eile a' tighinn do Albainn agus do'n Ghàidhealtachd a chur seachad an làithean saora, agus is miann leotha nithean beaga a cheannach a bheir iad air falbh leotha dhachaidh mar chuimhneachan air an dùthaich leotha dhachaidh mar chuimhneachan air an dùthaich

so. Mar sin, tha reic air na gnothaichean beaga grinnaagus is math a dh'fhaodadh a' mhòr-chuid de na nithean sin a bhith air an deanamh anns a' Ghàidhealtachd fhéin agus chan ann anns na bailtean mòra mu dheas mar is trice a tha tachairt an dràsda. Ach feumaidh cruth is cumadh a bhith air na gnothaichean sin a tha da-rireabh Gàidhealach is Albannach.

Bha na seann Ghàidheil, no co-dhiubh na Ceiltich. anns na linntean fad as ainmeil agus sònraichte air son an ealainean-dealbhaidh, agus rinn iad dealbhtharraing air cloich agus air craicionn a tha innleachdach da-rìreabh. Chithear eisimpleirean air an t-seòrsa dealbhaidh a bh'aca ann an seann leabhraichean, air seann chroisean cloiche is seann leacan-lighe agus air àireamh nithean eile air an tug iad dealbh is cumadh gu grinn agus gu seòlta. Anns an ealain Cheilteach so bha iomadh ball-sgeadachaidh-iomadh seòrsa dealbh-tharraing-sreathan is crìosan, lùban is cuairteagan is cearcaill is móran shamhlaidhean eile. Bha an ealain so cho fìor innleachdach agus leis gach ùpraid a thàinig an déidh-làimhe air na Ceiltich gun do chailleadh eòlas air an sgil iongantach so. agus, ged a bha eisimpleirean de'n obair ghrinn innleachdach sin air am fàgail, cha b'urrainn do neach sam bith a thuigsinn ciamar a bha e air a dheanamh. Bhiodh daoine a' feuchainn ri leth-bhreac dheth a dheanamh, agus rinn feadhainn sin gu fìor-mhath, ach cha robh eòlas ann idir air an dòigh-dhealbhaidh so gus o chionn beagan bhliadhnachan nuair a thòisich daoine ri móran as ùr fhaotainn a mach mu'n t-seann ealain Cheilteach so. Ach a nis tha cothrom aig daoine air an eòlas ealanta so ionnsachadh agus an sgil so a thogail, agus ma ni iad sin théid aca air

grinneas a chur air na nithean a ni an làmhan.

Aig toiseach an Og-mhìos ghléidheadh féill-thaisbeanaidh an Glaschu (agus cumar an fhéill cheudna an Dùn-éideann air a' bhliadhna so fhathast) gus a bhith cur fo aire dhaoine nan dearbh nithean nu' nrobh mi' sgrìobhadh. Aig an fhéill ud chunnacas rudan de gach seòrsa air an deanamh de mheiteal, de fhiodh, de phaipear, de chlò is de dh'aodachrudan grinn le cumadh is dealbh-tharraing Ceilteach orra: feadhainn dhiubh sean, ceudan bliadhna a dh'aois, feadhainn eile ur, nithean a rinneadh air a' gheamhradh so chaidh ann an dachaidhean Gàidhealach. Cia as a thàinig na nithean ùra is có a chruinnich ri chèile iad ?

Tha Mgr. Seòras MacGhille-bhàin, aig a bheil eòlas anabarrach agus sgil neo-chumanta ann an ealdhain Cheilteach, an déidh Colaiste bheag a chur air chois an Gleann Urchardain dìreach air son a' cheart aobhair so-ealain Cheilteach a theagasg; agus ri ùine tha dòchas ann gum bi clasaichean air an cumail air feadh na dùthcha uile. Tha Mgr. Mac-Ghille-bhàin cheana air leth-dusan de leabhraichean

beaga a chur an dò anns a bheil e deanamh soilleir innleachd-tarraing nan Ceilteach, air chor 's gum faod neach sam bith a ghabhas an dragh deilbh ùra a dheanamh air paipear no air fiodh no leathar no meiteal. Tha a' Cholaiste ùr agus na clasaichean ùra so gus a bhith teagasg do shean 's do dh'òg a bhith grinn is sgileil le 'n làmhan agus nithean maiseach is feumail a dheanamh á fodh is á leathar is á meiteal is le snàth is snàthaid is le stuthan eile, agus cumadh is leathart na cheilteach a thoirt orra. Tha dòchas gun soirbhich leis an duine chòir anns an oidhirp ionmholta so. Cheana chunnaic sinn na nithean grinne a rinn feadhann a fhuair an ionnsachadh bhuaithe.

A rithist, the buidheann ann ris an abra anns a' Bheurla "Highland Home Industries"—"Cuideachd Ealainean-Tighe na Gàidhealtachd." Tha greis a bhliadhnachan bho thòisich iad so, agus bha agus tha làmh aig a' Chomunn againn fhéin ann an riaghlaidh na cuideachd. Tha a' chuideachd so a' brosnachadh 's ag cuideachadh fhear is bhan air feadh na Gàidhealtachd nithean a dheanamh de'n t-seòrsa mu'n robh mi a' sgrìobhadh shuas, agus tha iad ag reic nan nithean sin dhaibh agus 'gam pàidheadh gu math. Tha iadsan a tha ag obair fo sheòladh na buidhne so ri àireamh oibrichean—cuid a' fighe, cuid a' deanamh clò, cuid a' deanamh bhascaidean, agus fichead rud eile, is gach nl grinn is fiachail.

Mar sin, ma thà, a bharrachd air obair-fearainn is obair-iasgaich is gach cosnadh eile ris am feum daoine an làmhan a chur, tha na h-oibrichean beaga grinne a tha an so, na h-ealaidhean-làimhe, saothair a chuireas seachad an tide, a bheir toileachadh do'n neach a tha sgileil is ealanta, agus a chuireas barrachd san sporan. Tha dòchas ann gun sgaoil agus gum meudaich an seòrsa oibre so agus gum bi so 'na bhuannachd do'n Ghàidhealtachd.

#### LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha Camp Comun na h-Oigridh a nis 'na uidheam an Inbhir-ailleart, ach an ám dhombas agrìobhadh, oir feumaidh an litir so, maille ris a' chòrr de'n Ghàidheal, a bhith glé thràth an làmhan a' chlo-bhualadair, chan urrainn dhomh a' bheag a ràdh air a' cheann sin ach gu robh sè nigheanan deug air fhichead air an aghaidh an ám fosglaidh, agus gu robh latha math aca an ám dhaibh bratach a' chaimp a thogail ri crann. Agus bhuaithe sin lean an t-sid air a bhith fàbharach, is gach gealltanas air gur ann nas feàrr a bhios i a' dol.

Gun teagamh, chan 'eil móran gréine againn an diugh féin, ach tha a' ghlaine ag éirigh, agus bidh fiubhair againn gum bris a' ghrian a mach as a mogal 's gun sgap i na neòil a tha 'ga còmhdach air falbh do àite sam bith anns am bi iarraidh aca orra—àit-eigin far a bheil iad a' faotainn tuille na tha iad ag iarraidh de theas gréine is nas lugha na shireadh iad de neòil 's de thaisealachd.

A bheil fios agaibh, bho'n a sgrìobh mi na facail ud, mar gum biodh aon-eigin aig m' uilinn a chunnaic ciod a bha mi a' sgrìobhadh 's a dh'innis dhise e, nach ann a tha i air briseadh a mach 'na làn neart, agus an ceartair, an uair a tha mi a' sealltainn a mach air an uinneig, tha dà dhealan-dé gheal ag itealaich 's a' réiseadh a chéile os cionn nam blàth a tha a' fàs cùl an tighe—" Cùl-tighe-Eachainn-Mhòir-Mhic-Dhùghaill!" Saoil sibh nach 'eil an t-ainm-àite sin eadhon nas fhaide na an t-ainm a thug Mac-Ghille-Chatain dhuinn!

Mar a dh'innis mi dhuibh air a' mhìos a dh'fhalbh, bidh na caileagan a' fàgail a' chaimp' s a' dol dhachaidh air Di-luain, an 21mh de'n Iuchar, agus na balaich ag gabhail seilbhe trì làithean 'na dhéidh sin. Bidh iadsan a' toirt a steach an Lùnasdail ann 's a' fàgail air Di-luain, an 4mh latha dheth. Tha sinn an dòchas gum bi iad le chéile fortanach a thaobh sìde, agus nach brùchd torrunn is dòrtaidhean orra mar a bhuail air a' champ an uiridh.

B'fheudar do'n chlann nighean na bùithean fhàgail is an leapannan cadail a chur suas an cairtealan nan seòladairean anns am biodh iad ag gabhail am bìdh 's ri nithean eile. Gu cinnteach, bu mhath dhaibh gu robh na cairtealan sin aca gu fatradh fhaotainn annta an uair a thàinig an éigin! Thug mi féin cuairt suas do'n champ agus bu sud a' cheart latha is oidhche a bha mi ann. Is fìor gum faotainn mar sin a ràdh gur mise "bha thall 's a chunnaic." Thàinig am feasgar is an oidhche gu bhith còrr le tein-adhair is tàirneanach; ach cha "threabh gach bliadhna d'a chéile," is tha ar sùil am bliadhna ri aimsir nas feàrr, a réir 's mar a tha na comharraidhean 'gam foillseachadh féin. Is ann aig an t-sìd a tha e r'a dheanamh, cha mhór uile gu léir, agus ma tha i fàbharach, laighidh gach nì eile gu socrach 'na àite féin.

Tha sùil agam cuairt a thoirt suas am bliadhna a rithist—an uair a bhios na balaich ann, oir b'ann an uair a bha na caileagan ann a thug mi mo chuairt an uiridh. Is ùrail mo chuimhne air aon nì cocheangailte ris a' chuairt ud. Bha buagan leabhran agam leam, "Balaich an t-Sratha," a sgrìobh an duine ceanalta, an Lighiche Alasdair Mac-an-t-saoir, Airdruighe, a bhuineadh do Shrath Gheàrrloch, 's a chuir e an tairgse na cloinne a bha anns a' champ, leabhran an t-aon, 's a liubhair mise do na caileagan agus Dòmhnall MacPhàil do na balaich an uair a thàinig iad féin do'n champ. Chan fhaigh iadsan no sibhse an còrr ghibhtean bho làimh an Lighiche chòir, oir thàinig a' ghairm nach fhaodar a dhiùltainn air mun do ruith a' bhliadhna gu crìch, agus tha na bha talmhaidh dheth an diugh 'na laighe an Srath a ghràidh. Srath Gheàrrloch. Bidh sinn 'ga chuimhneachadh 's 'ga ionndrainn am bliadhna.

Ma tha cuimhne agaibh, thug mi dhuibh an litir an luchair earrann á seanachas a fhuair mi bho mo charaid féin is bhur caraid-sa, an t-Urramach Calum MaGGilleathain, an Conan, agus thubhairt mi gun tillinn rithe uair eile. Chan 'eil ach aon taobh dhith do bheil rùm agam gu buntainn an ceartair, agus is e so c.

Bha mi ag innseadh dhà mar a bhiomaid, an uair a bha sinn gòrach is anns an sgoil (aon eile a bu shine na mise is mi féin), a' dearmad na sgoile is ag cluich truant. Bha mi ag innseadh dhà mar a bhrathadh sinn, latha anabarrach grianach, teth a thàinig, agus an uair a chaidh sinn dhachaidh, seadh, an uair a chunnaic sinn an còrr de'n chloinn a' faotainn m'a réir as an sgoil, thug mo mhàthair fainear gu robh sinn air ar droch losgadh leis a' ghréin, is thuig i nach robh cùisean mar bu chòir dhaibh! Tha e cho math brat-sgàil a tharruing air na thachair an uair sin!

Ach is e a bha mi a' tighinn air uile gu léir ciod a' Ghàidhlig a tha air truant. Chan abramaide ris ach gu robh sinn " a mach air na cnuic." Chì mi gur e "lùrdan" a tha am Foclair MhicGillinnein mar cho-fhreagartas dha, ach cha chuala mise am facal sin air a chleachdadh riamh. Tha ar caraid ag ràdh nach cuala esan nas mò facal a tha fìor fhreagarrach, ach gun cuala e "falach-fead" air a chleachdadh. Chan abramaide "falach-fead" ri truant idir. B'àbhaist cluich a bhith againn ris an abramaid "falach-fead," agus bhiodh e air a chleachdadh an dòighean èile mar an ceudna, ach cha b'ann mar cho-fhreagartas do truant.

Có agaibh aig a bheil facal cothromach is nas feàrr na aon a thug mi dhuibh air truant? Gun teagamh, is dòcha gur e facal Gàidhlig a tha an truant e féin, co-dhiubh gur e freumh Gàidhlig a tha aige, 's gu bheil buintealas aige ris an fhacal "truagh." Anns a' Bheurla féin tha ciall nas farsuinge aig truant na bhith a' dearmad na sgoile. Tha e ag gabhail a steach dùil shuarach sam bith, aon gun diù, no neach a tha dearmadach air a dhleasanas; agus is cinnteach gu bheil an seòrsa sin uile gu léir ro phailt anns an t-saoghal a tha ann.—Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

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#### OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH. Bodach a' Bhogha.

Bha a' fuireach ann am Beàrnaraidh na Hearadh aig ám an Ridire Tormod MacLeòid fear ris an abradh iad Murchadh Mór Sgalabroig.

'Na òige bha am fear so ealanta leis a' bhogha saigheid, ach aig an ám a thachair an tachartas so bha Murchadh air an leabaidh le seann aois is tinneas.

Bha e 'na chleachdadh aig an Ridire Tormod MacLeòid a bhith a' tathaich Mhurchaidh Mhóir is ag éisdeachd a chuid sgeulachdan. Aon latha bha MacLeòid shìos ag céilidh air Murchadh nuair a thàinig mac Mhurchaidh a stigh agus thubhairt e, "Athair, nam faiceadh sibh na geòidh a tha shios air iochdar an locha!"

Thubhairt Murchadh Mór, "Bha mi latha de m' shaoghal 's bhiodh geadh agam air bàrr na saigheide;" ach fhreagair MacLeoid 's thubhairt e, "Tog dheth do ranntachd, a Mhurchaidh!"

Dh'iarr an seann duine air a' mhuinntir a bha a stigh a thogail a mach gu ceann an tighe 's a sheann bhogha a thoirt chuige. Rinn iad sin 's chuir iad e 'na shuidhe aig ceann an tighe air cathair.

An sin dh'iarr Murchadh air a mhac am bogha a chur air lagh ach cha rachadh aig a' ghille sin a dheanamh. Thug am bodach am bogha bho làmhan

a' ghille 's air dha am bogha a chur air an lagh loisg e air na geòidh 's dh'iarr e air a' ghille a dhol a lorg a shaigheid. Thàinig an gille dhachaidh is geadh aige air bàrr na saigheide.

An uair sin dh'iarr MacLeòid air Murchadh leantainn air le chuid sgeulachdan, ach thubhairt an seann laoch ri MacLeòid, "A' chuid a fhuair, fhuair; 's a' chuid nach d'fhuair, chan fhaigh," agus riamh bho'n latha sin cha do dh'innis Murchadh sgeul do MhacLeòid.

MURCHADH A. MAC-AN-TUAIRNEIR.

#### LUS.

Is deagh chaomh leam fhéin am facal lus. Ged nach 'eil e mór, tha e làn brìgh. Togaidh e dealbh tomadach agus taitneach fa chomhair sùil na h-inntinn-liosan ùrar, glinn uaigneach, is cùiltean fasgach air an còmhdach le gorm-fhàs dosrach is blàthan cùbhraidh fo theas na gréine samhraidh.

Bha na seann Ghàidheil móran na b'fhiosraiche air ainmean, gnè agus feartan nan lus na tha an sliochd an diugh. Cha robh aspirin, cascara, no pilichean fasanta 'nan latha, ni motha bha bùth fear-reic nan cungaidh-leighis aig bun na h-ursainn. Nach robh gach locshlaint a bha dhìth orra ag cinntinn mun cuairt orra anns an fhìon-lios dhùthchasach aca fhéin -Gilead mhaiseach na Mòirthir is nan Eileanan an

Tha cuimhne agam bodach toinisgeil a ràdh rium aon uair nach robh eucail a bha dualtach do chorp mhic an duine nach strìocadh do bhuaidh nan lus a bha a' fàs anns a' choimhearsnachd, nam biodh an sùgh air ullachadh le sgil agus comhairle eagnaidh air a chùl. Cha robh mór chreideas idir aig ar sinnsear ann an éifeachd cungaidhean ùra nan lighichean. Chuala mi mu aon bhean chòir a dh'fhàs seachd sgith de "dhotair nan gràineanan," agus, ars ise, "Thilg mi na pilichean do'n todhar agus dh'fhàg mi mo stamag an urra ris a' Chruith-fhear!"

Is muladach da-rìreadh mar chaidh ainmean Gàidhlig nan lus a chall air feadh na Gàidhealtachd, gun tighinn air an tur aineolas a tha cho coitchionn a thaobh am feartan fa leth. Iarr air clann na sgoile an diugh cur sìos air paipear ainm Gàidhlig a h-uile lus as aithne dhaibh, agus tha mi meallta ma gheibh thu bho'n chuid as motha barrachd air deich no dusan

Innsidh na unathan dhuit mu Lus nam Beannachd—an tea—agus na fir mu Lus nam Beannachd am bógaidh-rol-ach foighnich dhiubh dé an t-eolas a th'aca orra so a leanas, agus saoilidh iad gu bheil thu a' mabadaich an cainnt nan Dùitseach: Lus nan Capull, Lus a' Chraois, Lus nam Ban-sìth, Lus na Fola, Lus a' Chrùbain, Lus nan Laogh, Lus nan Laoch, Lus Mhic Rìgh Bhreatainn, Lus nam Miall, Liath-lus, Slàn-lus, etc.

Nach ann air cànain ullamh, shaidhbhir Dhonnachaidh Bhàin is Mhic Mhaighstir Alasdair a thàinig an dà latha!

SULA SGEIR.

#### DUIL RIS.

## (Calum is Coinneach).

Air fonn :- "Crodh Laoidh nam Bodach."

Ma tha mo thogair,
Ma tha mo thogair,
Ma tha mo thogair,
Gun togar leinn crann.

Coinneach: B'i 'n sgoil an droch obair, Is càch mar a thogras, Orm feumaidh mi togail Ged a dh'ob mi dhol ann!

CALUM: Cha bhi an sgoil fada, Ma chaillear oirnn madainn Bidh feasgar math againn, Ge b' oil le na th'ann.

COINNEACH: Cà 'n téid sinn trath feasgair?
Cha chreid mi ma sheasas
A' ghaoth o an deas dhomh
Gur leise leam bhith thall.

CALUM: Gun cuir sinn linn bheaga Fiach an tàrr sinn muc-creige, Cha chuir cearbanach eagal No teagamh 'nar ceann.

COINNEACH: Fan gu'n tig am blàths gréine A ni moch-eirigh éibhinn, Sinn gun bhrògan, 'nar leine, A' leum 'na ar deann!

CALUM: Ni sinn Tairbeart dheth furasd', Le slige-fhiasgain mar chulaidh, Là nach dùirigeadh Iuibili Dhol gu muir ann.

Mac-Talla: Sin agad e!

Tha Calum is Coinneach cho fada siar agus a leigeas eilean mara dhaibh e, agus tha iad anns na h-oghaichean, agus iad mu na comh-aoisean; agus, mar a thuirt Coinneach MacLeòid, is dual daibh bhith sireadh na mara. Is i a' ghainneamh mhín gheal an cuan a tha aca-san, agus slige-fhiasgain 'na h-eathar aca. Is ann air ceann na tràghad a thu ''An Tairbeart' aca. Tha tigh Choinnich a deas air tigh Chaluim, agus is mór am maitheas do ghille beag a' ghaoth a bhith air a chùl, agus an dà chabhaig air. Is ann air eathar beag iasgaich a bha iomraiteach aig a' bhaile a tha an ''Iubill'!

Bodachan.

#### CELTIC ART EXHIBITION.

The Celtic Art Exhibition (promoted by the Dunedin Society) will be on view in Edinburgh at the Clan House, 117 Grove Street, off Lothian Road, from 3rd August to 13th September. The official opening is at 3 p.m. on the 23rd.

#### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

A' Bhana-Phrionnsa Ealasaid.—An ám dhomh a bhith sgríobhadh is mór an gàrideachas air feadh na rioghachd agus co'radah-pòsaidh air a dheanamh eadar a' Bhana-Phrionnsa agus an duine-usasl òg, Philip Mountbatten. Bithidh sinne mar Ghàidheil agus mar Chomunn ag cur meal-an-naidheachd orra agus ag guidhe dhaibh gach beannachd. Ma tha nas lugha cumhachd aig an teaghlach rìoghail na bha aig an sinnsirean anns na h-amannan a dh'fhaibh, tha barrachd àghdarrais aca de sheòrsa eile. Saoilidh mi gu bheil acthair rìoghail Bhreatainn air a bunaiteachadh air deagh-ghean a' mhòr-shluaigh ann an dòigh a tha air leth sònraichte, agus guma fada mhàreas sin. R' tinne—agus guma fada bhuainn an latha—gabhaidh a' chàraid òg orra uallach cho trom 's a chuirear air gualainn sam bith, ach tha sinn ag creidsinn gu bheil iad le chéile, 'nan gnè nàdurra agus 'nan oileanachadh, agus tha sinn an dòchas cuideachd tre ghràs Dhé, air an uidheamachadh fa chomhair nan dleasanasan mòra agus cudthromach a tha feitheamh orra.

Coinneach MacLeoid .- Chì mi gu bheil an t-Ollamh Urra mach Coinneach MacLeòid, Ministear Sgìr Ghiogha is Chara, do a' leigeil dheth uallach a dhreuchd a dh'aithghearr. Có nach cuala ainm Choinnich MhicLeòid? Tha a chliù air dol fad is farsaing eadhon am measg nan Gall. Chan 'eil ceàrn de'n t-saoghal far an togar fonn Gàidhealach anns nach 'eil iomradh air an Ollamh choir. Tha greis mhór a nis bho'n choisinn Coinneach MacLeòid àite dha fhéin mar bhàrd agus mar sheanchaidh, mar dhuine aig a bheil eòlas is tuigse anabarrach air inntinn is anam nan Gàidheal agus aig a bheil mar an ceudna comas neo-chumanta gu bhith cur an céill, an rosg agus am bàrdachd, a bheachdan agus a bhreithneachadh agus sin ann an Gàidhlig agus am Beurla. Tha cuimhne agam mar gum b'ann an dé a' cheud uair a chuala mi e a' labhairt. Bha e a' liubhart oraid Bheurla fa chomhair Comunn Oiseanach Oil-thigh Ghlaschu, agus an tiota bha mi air mo ghiùlan air sgiathan a' mhìc-mheanmna air falbh bho'n fhicheadamh linn gu linntean àrsaidh. Bha ceòl sìdhe eadhon 'na ghuth. Agus tha taisgte gu cùramach agam fhathast litir a fhuair mi bhuaith mu'n ám sin—litir làn dibhearsoin is àbhach. An làithean òige bha e 'na Cheann-suidhe air a' Chomunn Oiseanach agus thug e toileachadh mór dha gun d'rinneadh Ceann-suidhe Urramach dheth a' bhliadhna bha sud; bha e nas moiteil, ars e fhéin, na ged a dheante Moderator na h-Eaglaise dheth. Is iomadh Ceann-suidhe is Moderator is D.D. a th'ann agus a bh'ann, ach chan 'eil ann, cha robh 's cha bhi ann, ach aon Choinneach MacLeòid, agus guma fada a mhealas e sìth is slàinte is sonas. Shaothraich e gu maith agus gu sàr-mhaith ann an seirbhis na h-Eaglais agus ann an aobhar na Gàidhlig. Tha ceithir bliadhna fichead bho shuidhicheadh e an Giogha; roimhe sin bha e greis an Colbhasa; agus rugadh e an Eige. Ged a chuir e seachad móran bhliadhnachan 'na shearmonaiche an àireamh cheàrnan air tir-mór, bha "gàir a' chuain, a nuall 's a gàir.' daonnan 'na chluais.

Iain Mór an Fhéilidh.—Tha dùil aig Mgr. Iain M. Mófatt-Pender a bhith tighinn á Astralia air chuairt do'n dùthaich so roimh dheireadh na bliadhna, agus is naidheach am fhór is mhath sin. Tha Clann an Fhraoidh ri gàirdeachadh und ei ann an Gharoidh ri gàirdeachadh ann eir lein, agus sta uillachadh 'ga dheanann gus céilidh mhór a chumail an uair a ruigeas ar caraid Glaschu. Gheibh e fàilt is furan da-fireabh.

Am B.B.C. an Gille-Mhoire.— Dh'éisid mì le mórthlachd an là roimhe ris an deasbud a bh'asa an Cille-Mhoire san Eilean Sgitheanach agus am B.B.C. 'ga chraobh-sgaolleach. Chan e rud ir a th'ann a bhith 'g' éisdeachd deasbuid de 'n t-seòrsa, eadhon deasbud Gàidhig, ach an fheadhainn a chualas roimhe so b'ann as na bailtean no na leth-bhailtean. Bha an deasbud so am meadhon nan daoine a tha an sàs an obair na croite agus chan ann a' bruidhinn mu chroitearachd an seasgaireachd cosmidh eile. Agus is gasda a chaidh muinntir Chille-Mhoire ris an deasbud. B' is oa' cheist: ''Gu de ghabhas deanamh, gus an sluagh, a chumail air a' Ghàidhcaluchd? A bheil croiteannoid gu leo? "F Eo threòrachdha" amhinisteir (an t-Urramach Murchadh MacLeòid) agus a' mhaighairi agoile (Mgr. Domhnall Fionnlasan) tha comun àiteachais aca san sgìr ao a bhios ag gléidheadh choinneamhan gus beachdachadh air chiseann is ceistean a bhuineas da dh'obair is do ghoireasan na sgìre. Is boold nach 'eil comunn den t-aeòrna sin anns gach sgìr. Nam bitheadh, bhiodh barrachd dòchais ann gun gabhadh rud as fhiach a dheanamh a chum leas na Gàidhealtachd.

Gliocas nan Gàidheal.—Is math an naidheachd a bhith gun naidheachd.

Firinn air son a' Mhìos so.—Mar uisgeachan fuara do'n anam thartmhor, mar sin tha deagh sgeul à tìr chéin.—
Gnàth-fhacail xxv. 25.

# AM FEILE BEAG.

By Albannach.

How firmly imprinted upon our memories are the days of our boyhood! I remember, for instance, as if it were yesterday, how I read Guth na Bliadhna by candle-light in a dug-out at Arras, and how I was strangely moved by Sinclair's Gaelic poetry. Two copies of Guth na Bliadhna were left in that dug-out, for there was no room for them in the pack! About the same time I bought a Minro's little poem on the kill—"The Kill of the Highlands is my delight." And its appearance is, as it were, now before my

These two things stand out for what are very dear to us Gaels—our language and our garb. Our Comunn, let us remember, has as one of its aims "the wearing of the Highland Dress."

When I was a boy in the Burgh School at Kirkwall; Sheriff Mcreer gave a public lecture on "The Forty-Five," illustrated by Jacobite songs. He described how the Southerners were surprised at the aspect of these Highlanders with "their outlandish garb." At the close of the lecture our Headmaster, Dr. MacEwen, got up to propose a vote of thanks. He objected to that description of the kilt. He himself called it "the most picturesque garb that ever adorned the human male."

I have lived to see the kilt become more and more popular in Scotland, and I confess that I would like it be a lot more common. It is an attractive garb, and it is serviceable and warm. It is Scottish. Always with the Scots has appeared the kilt, and, small as our country is, its sons have appeared in all corners of the globe, the spear-head in every relieving force and the most gallant and most dauntless and the gentlest of men. And with them and their kilts there have been their Gaelic and their pibroch. While we do well to put first things first in our Gaelic cause—the language first of all—let us realise how important and how advantageous these others are, our music and our dress. I am convinced that their importance is under-rated rather than over-rated.

The English are the greatest politicians the world has known. Queen Elizabeth is their true heroine. Ours is poor Mary! It ought to enlighten us to recollect that the English in their constant policy of the elimination of our civilisation have found it expedient to do their utmost to rob us of our kilts and tartans. They realised, did they not, that a measure of the esprit of the Gael was dependent upon external things that made a distinction in personal appearance. Under Queen Elizabeth were passed the atrocious "Penal Laws" which made the wearing of the Irish "Habit" punishable by death. The Irish were compelled to wear their har in the English fashion!

Their language could not be removed so swiftly, for a man must have some language, but, had it been as possible, they (the English) had been the lads to do it. Let everything be Anglicised!

An Linasdal, 1947.

In Scotland we were dealt with in the same way precisely, and with the same ambition. Even the MacKays and the Campbells lost their kilts and their tartans. Fortunately, for us, we did not forget our loss and did not rest reconciled to it. Our Highland Regiments kept the garb and the tartan to the front and made them more conspicuous.

It is rather a shame that our kilt and our language have been rather separated from one another. If you find a kilted man you suspect too often that he is not a Gaelie speaker. Frequently, indeed, he turns out to be an Englishman! That is all wrong. Highlanders and Scotsmen should value their garb and their tartans more highly still. Not only would the wearing of the kilt and that an cloth add to our sense of nationality, but it would benefit us financially. A Scotland where the kilt and the not lack its visitors. We have often met strangers who have confessed their disappointment at finding Scotland so English in language and habit. That, of course, is the real English conquest of Scotland. All Scotsmen are not complacent about it. They ought not to be.

Let all our lads get kilts and wear them; and let our girls favour the tartan and wear it in one form or another. One cannot learn the language in a month's time, but, for Scotland's sake,

"Bring Forward the Tartan,"

#### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the North Church Hall, Stirling, on Friday, 4th July, 1947.

The President, Dr. John Cameron, was in the Chair, and the following members were present:—Col. D. C. G. Ballingall, Kippen; John M. Bannerman and Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Balmaha; Kims. M. Barron, Glasgow; Miss Catriona B. Cameron, Glasgow; Nicol Campbell, Inverness; J. Stewart Cunningham, Killin; Mrs. C. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Donald Graham, Inverness; Campbell, Perth.; Roderick MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Alexan, Graham, Graham, Graham, Graham, Graham, Graham, Jor. J. A. MacLean, Inverness; Rev. Malcolm MacLean, Conon; Alex. C. M. MacNelli, Glasgow; Parquhar MacRea, Glasgow; Chades Repple, Campbeltown; Angus Robertson, Chades Repple, Campbeltown; Angus Robertson, Glasgow; and Donald Thomson, Oban. Attending were James T. Graham, Tresaurer; Neil Shaw, General Secretary; Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary; and Miss Chris. Turner, Clerkess.

#### TRIBUTE TO LATE J. A. NICOLSON,

At the outset the President referred in appropriate terms to the sudden death on 7th June of Mr. John A. Nicolson, who had been closely associated with many Highland organisations but especially with An Comunn Gaidhealach. For over 20 years he had been a member of the Executive Council and was chiefly responsible for founding the Glasgow Central Branch, of which he was the first President. Last year be became a Vice-President of An Comunn and Convener of the Finance Committee, and only a week before his death he had been appointed Convener of the Glasgow Local Committee for the National Mod in Glasgow in 1948, an appointment which would have given full scope to his organising ability. Mr. Nicolson, said Dr. Cameron, had many of the qualities of leadership. Reference was also made to his willingness to help others and to his sense of humour. He accomplished much, and his help and guidance would be much missed for many a day. The Council would record their deep sense of loss and their appreciation of his services to An Comunn, and they would also convey to his widow and daughter heartfelt sympathy in their great sorrow.

The President cordially welcomed Dr. J. A. MacLean, Director of Education for Inverness-shire, and Mr. Donald Grant, who were attending the Council for the first time,

#### DIVINITY STUDENTS AND GAELIC.

Minute of the Education Committee was approved on the motion of Mr. Farguhar MacRae, Convener. Miss C. B. Cameron again raised the question of Gaelic in the Church of Scotland's Modified Course and Special Ex-servicemen's Course for students intending the Ministry. After considerable discussion it was agreed to make further enquiries and also to enquire about similar courses in the other Churches which have Gaelic-speaking Divinity Students. Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon pointed out that Gaelic is not included as a subject in the Civil Service Examinations and it was remitted to the Committee to take up this matter with the authorities.

It was noted with satisfaction that, as a result of representations made by the Committee, arrangements have been made to teach Gaelic in two of the Glasgow secondary schools, 52 children having enrolled at Bellahouston Academy and 36 at Woodside Secondary School. Mr. Alex. Nicolson, Lecturer at Jordanhill Training College, is to conduct these classes.

#### THE MAGAZINE.

In moving the adoption of the minute of the Publication Committee, the Convener, Rev. T. M. Murchison, stated that the Committee were much concerned with the deficit incurred on the Magazine but such loss was inevitable so long as An Comunn continued to sell An Gàidheal at less than half its cost-price. Since there appeared to be strong opposition both to ceasing the free issue of the Magazine to members and to the raising of the membership subscription, the Committee recommended that the price of An Gàidheal be increased to 6d. per copy and that the copies supplied to members be charged for at the rate of 3d. per copy. After some discussion, and in view of Mr. D. Thomson's intention to give notice of motion to raise the membership subscription, the Committee's recommendation was withdrawn and the remainder of the minute was approved.

Minute of the Propaganda Committee was read and, on the motion of Mr. Hector MacDougall, Convener, was adopted. At this stage a memorandum by the Rev. Malcolm MacLean. which had been circulated to members, was discussed at some length. This document dealt with the position of Gaelic and made suggestions for more effective propaganda. Mr. D. Thomson took strong exception to some of the views expressed in the memorandum and Mr. MacLean gave a fuller explanation of some points. It was then moved, seconded, and agreed to pass to the next business.

Minute of the Art and Industry Committee was adopted on the motion of Mrs. Edgar. It set forth the arrangements for competitions for Celtic Design Classes in the 1948 Mod Syllabus.

Minute of the Mod and Music Committee was approved on the motion of Mr. J. M. Bannerman, Convener. This minute laid down an age-limit for Juniors as follows:-Juniors are those under 16 years, Seniors are those over 16 years, excepting competitors in Choral Competitions where the age-limit for Juniors is to be 17; age to be reckoned as at the first day of the Mod.

Mr. John Macdonald, Convener of the Perth National Mod Local Committee, gave information about Mod arrangements. Financially the position is satisfactory, he said, but the provision of accommodation is proving most difficult. He hoped however that they would be able to accommodate all the members of

Minute of Clann an Fhraoich Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hector MacDougall, Convener. The arrangements for the Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp which was to open at Inversilort on 10th July were described; it was expected that a satisfactory number would attend. It was noted with satisfaction that there was an increase in the numbers taking part in the examinations for Lan-Ghaidheal and Sar-Ghaidheal badges.

#### NEW FINANCE CONVENER.

Minutes of two meetings of the Finance Committee were read. On the motion of Mr. J. M. Bannerman, seconded by Mrs. Dunlop, Mr. Robert Bain was appointed Convener of the Committee in succession to the late Mr. J. A. Nicolson.

The Treasurer submitted the Accounts for the financial year which ended on 31st May, 1947. These showed that there was a very satisfactory surplus of over £1.200 for the Aberdeen Mod. However, in spite of this surplus, the increased expenditure forcast in last year's report resulted in a deficit for the year of almost £200. The Central (War Comforts) Committee had raised the sum of £2,771 2s 6d for the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund, and this sum would be invested in the names of the Trustees of An Comunn and held for the purpose for which it was raised. On the motion of Mr. Farguhar MacRae the Minutes and Accounts were adopted.

Annual reports of the Standing Committees were submitted. amended, and approved. It was agreed to include in the printed reports a list of office-bearers and members of the Standing Committees, and also a statistical note giving the total number of members (honorary, life, ordinary, and representative), number of Branches and of Affiliated Societies. number of Feachdan in Comunn na h-Oigridh and number of children at present members of that body.

Nominations were received for the offices of President, Vice-President, and ten places on the Executive Council. Minute of the Advisory Committee was adopted on the

motion of the President. Minute of the final meeting of the Central (War Comforts) Committee was read, and tribute was paid to the leadership of the Convener, Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, and to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Shaw, and Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Graham. There was also read a minute of the War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Committee, which outlined future activities and recommended that a whole-time organiser be appointed, preferably with office facilities. Since the National Mod is to be held in Glasgow in 1948, there is an undertaking that (apart from four functions previously arranged) no money-raising activities will be organised in the Glasgow area until after the Mod except by the Local Mod Committee: it is recommended. however, that the time allowed for raising the Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund be extended to 31st December, 1950. On the motion of Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Convener, these minutes were approved.

RE-ORGANISATION.

Minute of the Re-organisation Sub-Committee was read, The Secretary, as instructed, had circularised the 77 Branches about the re-organisation proposals (as set forth in An Gàidheal, February, 1947, pp.63f.), but only six had replied. In the light of the replies received and on further consideration the Committee recommended the institution of a Junior Membership and the creation of a Standing Committee for youth work, and members of the Committee were to submit notices of motion giving effect to these proposals. The Committee were not at this stage prepared to make any recommendations about membership subscriptions, the magazine, or regional organisation. On the motion of the President the minute was adopted.

Notices of motion to amend the Constitution and Bye-laws were tabled as follows (proposed changes and additions are

indicated by italics) :-

By the Rev. T. M. Murchison :-

(1) That Rule 3 of the Constitution be amended to read: "The Association shall consist of Honorary, Life, Ordinary, Junior, and Representative Members."

(2) That after Rule 5 of the Constitution a new Article be inserted, namely: "Junior membership shall be

open to persons, not older than twenty-one years and not younger than fourteen years, who are interested in the objects of the Association."

(3) That Rule 14 of the Constitution be amended to read : "The Subscription of Ordinary Members shall be five shillings per annum and of Junior Members shall be one shilling per annum, and shall be payable in advance on the 1st day of June in each year. The name of any Ordinary or Junior Member who is twelve months in arrear with his subscription may be struck off the roll. Members of Comunn na h-Oigridh aged fourteen years and over shall ipso facto be regarded as Junior Members but shall not be required to pay the Junior Membership subscriptions."

By Mr. J. M. Bannerman :-

(4) That Rule 27 of the Constitution be amended to read: "The Executive Council shall at the Preliminary Meeting in each year appoint from among its own members eight Standing Committees, viz.:-Finance. Publication, Propaganda, Art, and Industry, Mod and Music, Clann an Fhraoich, and Comunn na h-Oigridh.

(5) That, in Rule 34 of the Constitution, Section (7) be deleted and replaced by two new Sections as follows:

"(7) CLANN AN FHRAOICH COMMITTEE

shall organise and develop the activities of Clann an Fhraoich, which consists of those members of the Association, including learners of Gaelic, who pledge themselves to use Gaelic on all possible occasions, particularly in communicating with each other. The meetings of the Committee shall be held in Gaelic."

"(8) COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH COMMITTEE shall be responsible for the direction and development of the youth activities of the Association, including Comunn

na h-Oigridh."

By Mr. Donald Thomson:-(6) That Rule 13 of the Constitution be amended to read : "Life Members shall each pay one subscription of six

(7) That the first eleven words of Rule 14 of the Constitution be amended to read: "The subscription of Ordinary Members shall be ten shillings per annum,

(8) That Rule 24 of the Constitution be amended to read ; "Ordinary Meetings of the Executive Council, other than the Preliminary Meeting, shall be held at Stirling or at such place as may be decided by the Executive. Council at the previous meeting."

By Rev. T. M. Murchison :-

(9) That, under the heading "THE MOD-Procedure," a new Bye-law be inserted immediately before Bye-law 25, namely: "In selecting a place for the National Mod the Annual Meeting shall consider only written invitations submitted by responsible and representative local parties who desire the Mod to be held in their particular areas."
(10) That Bye-law 46 be amended to read: "The financial

year of the Association shall run from 1st May to 30th April in the following year inclusive.

A Vote of Thanks to the Chairman terminated an unusually lengthy meeting.

#### TAILLEAR NA MANACHAINN.

Ann am Manachainn nan Lios, no Manachainn Mhic Shimidh, tha tobhtaichean seann Abaid ainmeil a thogadh anns a' bhliadhna 1230. Bhiodh iomadh seann sgial air an aithris le na seann daoine mu'n togail àrsaidh so, agus tha an seanchas a leanas air bial nan seann daoine anns an sgìre

Chaidh fathunn mun cuairt gu robh coigreach as an tsaoghal thall a' tadhal gu tric air tobhtaichean na h-Abaide mu mharbhan na h-oidhche, agus an uair a chuala muinntir na Manachainn sin cha d'rachadh mac màthar aca air àruinn nam ballachan àrsaidh aon uair is gun tuiteadh an oidhche.

Ach bha tàillear crùbach uailleil anns an nàbachd, agus thubhairt esan nach robh eagal sam bith aige-san roimh gach droch spiorad a bha anns an t-saoghal iochdrach ged thigeadh iad còmhla timchioll air na ballachan mu mheadhon oidhche, agus gun cuireadh esan geall gun cuireadh e crìoch air deise aodaich an taobh a stigh de na ballachan air oidhche àraidh, ged bhiodh na spioradan mu thimchioll cho tiugh ri plàigh nan locust anns an Eiphit.

Chaidh an oidhche a shuidheachadh, agus thog an tàillean crùbach air le a chlò agus a shnàthaid agus a dheamhais, a gus thòisich e ri tàillearachd anns na tobhtaichean aig cridhe a' mheadhon-oidhche. Cha robh a shnàthad fada an greim an uair a chunnaic e f'a chomhair tannasg aibheasach a bha ag cur sgàile air na

speuran m'a choinnibh. Shìn an tannasg a mach a ghàirdean anns nach robh dad ach cnàmhan a bha cho oillteil mór is gun do chuir sealladh dhiubh crith air creubhaig an tàilleir. Labhair an tannasg is thubhairt e, "Seall, a thàilleir, làmh mhór gun fhuil gun fheòil," agus fhreagair an tàillear, " Chì mi

sin agus fuaighlidh mi so. Thuirt an tannase na briathran ceudna trì uairean, agus

thug an tàillear crùbach an aon fhreagairt.

An uair a chuir an tàillear crìoch air an obair dh'éirich e is sgioblaich e an t-aodach air an robh e ag obair is rinn e air an tigh. Ach ma rinn, lean an tannasg e le a ghàirdean cnàmhach sìnte mach air son a bhualadh.

Gu fortanach do'n tàillear cha d'eirmis an làmh chumhachdach air a bhualadh, ach thug i sgailc air ursainn a tuath an doruis mhóir, agus tha an làrach a dh'fhàg i ri fhaicinn an sin fhathast.

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### LOCHABER PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Lochaber Provincial Mod, which was held at Fort William on 20th June, was probably the most successful Mod yet held in Lochaber. The entries were good (over 200), and the standard both in Gaelic and music was high. Large audiences were present throughout the day, and at the evening Concert, held in the Playhouse (kindly granted by Mr. Robert Wotherspoon and the Directors), not a seat was vacant,

Mr. F. S. Cameron-Head of Inversilort presided at the Concert and was introduced by the Northern Organiser, who referred to the splendid work being done by Mr. and Mrs. Cameron-Head for the Gaelic Cause, mentioning specially the accommodation provided for this year's Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp at Inversilort. The Chairman gave a stirring address in Gaelic and English, and he was heartily thanked by Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Neil Shaw.

Sincere thanks are due to the local Mod Committee, and especially to the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, on whom

a great deal of the Mod work devolved.

The Adjudicators were:-for Music, Mr. David Yacamini, Perth, and Mrs. Tomison, Linlithgow; for Gaelic, Rev. A. J. Maclean, Fort William, Mr. Neil Shaw, Mr. Donald MacPhail. Rev. M. A. MacCorquodale, Kinlochleven, Mr. Donald Thomson, Oban, and Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, Fort William,

#### The following were the First-Prize Winners:-

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

Oral. - Reciting prescribed poem, George H. Smith, Kinlocheil. Reading prescribed prose, Christina MacLeod, Kinlocheil. Conversation, Anthony MacDonald. Reciting poem, Mary Ferguson, Fort William Secondary School. Reading unseen prose, Annie T. Campbell, Fort William Secondary School. Reading prescribed prose, Annie T. Campbell. Reading unseen Scripture passage, Annie T. Campbell.

Vocal Music .- Solos-Under 12 (prescribed): Girls, Ann Margaret Kennedy, Fort William Secondary School; Ann Margaret Kennedy, Petr Villam Scoolhary School, Boys, Iain Donald Hamilton, Corpach. 12 to 16 years (prescribed): Girls, Isleen Mackintosh, Fort William Secondary School; Boys, Thomas MacKenna, Kinlocheil. 12 to 16 years (prescribed): Girls and Boys, Thomas Mac-Kenna. Duets, Fiona Cameron and Anne Grant, Fort William Secondary School.

Choral. — Unison, Mallaig School Choir. Two-part Harmony, Roy Bridge School Choir.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

Oral.—Reading unseen prose, Kate Sarah MacInnes, Fort William Secondary School; Reciting prescribed poem, Catherine MacDonell, Fort William Secondary School. Read. AN GAIDHEAL.

ing prescribed prose. Kate Sarah MacInnes. Competition arranged by Judges, Margaret MacIsaac, Fort William Secondary School. Acted Dialogue, Catherine M. Morrison and Catherine MacDonell, Fort William Secondary School.

Vocal Music. — Solos — Prescribed : Ladies, Ishbel MacLellan, Fort William Secondary School; Men, Ewen Fraser, Glen Urquhart. Solos (former Trophy winners), Joan Stewart, Fort William. Open competition, Ishbel MacLellan, Duets, Patricia and Ishbel MacLellan, Fort William Secondary School. Quartette, Kilmallie Quartette.

Choral. — Ladies' Voices, Fort William Secondary School Choir. Mixed Voices, Kilmallie Gaelic Choir. Challenge

Shield competition, Glen Urquhart Gaelic Choir.

## ARD NAMURCHAN PROVINCIAL MOD.

After an interval of eight years the Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod was once again held at Strontian on 24th June. There was a large entry in both senior and junior sections, competitors coming from places as far apart as Kilchoan and Trislaig.

Such was the length of the Mod programme that judging continued until the evening. Later there was a concert sustained by the leading prize-winners and presided over by the Hon. Mrs. Maclean of Ardgour, who presented the prizes. Mr. Neil Shaw, speaking in Gaelic, moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Maclean and also thanked the people for their generous support of the Mod. After the concert a dance was held by the Strontian Youth Club in aid of An Comunn funds,

The adjudicators were :- Gaelic, Rev. A. D. Maclean, Ardgour; Mr. Neil Shaw; Rev. M. A. MacCorquodale, Kinlochleven; and Rev. A. J. Maclean, Fort William; Music, Mrs. Tomison and Mr. Willis Calder; Piping, Mr. Neil Shaw.

The First-Prize Winners were :-

JUNIOR SECTION.

Oral. — Reading at sight, Norman MacLeod, Strontian. Reciting from memory, Norman MacLeod. Re-citing from memory (learners), Mairi Macdonald, Strontian. Conversation, Norman MacLeod.

Vocal Music. - Solos: Girls, Margaret Cameron, Trislaig; Boys, Norman MacLeod; Learners, Creina Mac-Gregor, Lochaline. Duets, Annie and Cathie Macpherson, Glenborrodale.

Choral .- Lochaline School Choir.

# SENIOR SECTION.

Oral. — Reading at sight, Isabella Mackenzie, Kilchoan. Recitation, Donald Cameron. Sgeulachd, Annie M. C. Macphail.

Vocal Music. — Solos: Ladies, Morag Cameron, Claggan; Men, Peter MacQueen, Ardgour. Unpublished local song, Ellen M. Cameron, Acharacle. Morven song, Morag Cameron. Ardnamurchan Silver Pendants Competitions (solos): Ladies, Morag Cameron; Men, William pecutions (solos): Ladies, morag Cameron; Men, Wilham Lawrie. Solos (learners), Dolly Henry, Morven. Duets, Ena Graham and John Macdiarmid, Morven. Quartettes, Morven No. 2 Quartette. Puirt-a-beul, Sheila F. Dewar. Solos (former First-Prize winners), Mrs. Johan Stewart, Ardgour.

Choral, - Unison, Morven Choir. Harmony, Morven Instrumental. - Piping: March, Iain Johnston; Strathspev and Reel, Iain Johnston.

### FALBHAIDH 'S CHA TILL. (O'n Eadailtis)

Thuirt an gobhlan ris an òigear: "Tha 'n tìde reòta-falbhaidh mi. Nuair thilleas blàithean maoth a' Chéitein, thig mi fhéin an taobh-s' a rìst."

Thuirt an duilleag ris an t-slataig: "Is fuar an latha. Falbhaidh mi. Nuair a thilleas ort an gobhlan, le tuil an t-snodhaich tillidh mi."

Thuirt an tìom ri mac an duine : "Chan eòl domh fuireach. Falbhaidh mi. Tillidh ort na h-eòin 's na blàithean, ach mise gu là bràth cha till."

DEORSA CAIMBEUL HAY.

### LEWIS PROVINCIAL MOD.

The first Provincial Mod in Lewis since 1939 was held in the Town Hall, Stornoway, on 26th and 27th June. There was a good number of competitors and large audiences filled the hall. The standards attained were very high, and the Mod a most successful one. A gratifying feature was the number of boys and girls who competed.

Stornoway Gaelic Choir, Stornoway Ladies' Choir, and the Nicolson Institute Class V Choir took part in the proceedings, not as competitors, but for the sake of getting a "crit" from Mr. McConochie. High commendation was given to the choirs

both for music and for Gaelic.

At the Junior Concert on the first evening, Mr. John MacKay, Edinburgh, a native of Carloway and a member of the Executive Council of An Comunn, complimented the local Branch on the success of the Mod and the children on the excellence of their work, and strongly urged the latter to attend the Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp. A comprehensive vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary of An Comunn, who acted as compere at the Concert.

For the Senior Concert on the following evening the Town Hall was packed. The programme was sustained by the senior prize-winners, and Mr. Alasdair Matheson also contributed. Votes of thanks were moved by Mr. Murdo MacLeod, President of the local Branch. The success of the Mod reflects much credit on the local Committee, particularly Mr. Murdo MacLeod,

Branch President, and Mr. Alex. Urquhart.

Branen President, and Mr. Alex. Ucqunart.
The Adjuictators were:—for Music, Mr. J. N. MacConochie,
Glasgow; for Gaelic, Rev. R. Macdonald; Stornoway; Mr.
Derick Thomson, Bayble; Mr. James Thomson, Bayble;
Mr. John MacArthur, Bayble; and Mr. Alex. Urquinart,
Stornoway, Mr. Carr, County Music Organiser, was also in attendance.

The First-Prize Winners were as follows :-

JUNIOR SECTION.

Choral. - Two-part Harmony, Laxdale School Choir-Unison, Nicolson Institute (Secondary) and Aird School Choirs (equal). Waulking Songs, Laxdale School Choir.

Vocal Music.—Solos, prescribed (12 to 16): Girls, Peigi M. Matheson (Back), Nicolson Institute; Boys, Donald W. Matheson (Brue), Nicolson Institute, and Murdo MacIver (Bayble), Nicolson Institute (equal). Solos, prescribed (under 13) Girls, Ann Innes, Aird; Boys, John MacAulay, Aird. Solos, own choice (12 to 16): Girls, Morag Morrison, Lionel; Boys, John Crichton, Laxdale. Solos, own choice (under 12): Girls, Mary Murray, Laxdale School, Annie Murray, Bragar School, and Margaret MacLeod, Nicolson Institute; Boys, Donald M. Morrison, Lionel School. Unpublished song (under 16), Flora Morrison, Lionel School.

Oral Delivery — Rural Schools. — Reading (under 12), Katie M. Morrison, Bragar School. Reading (under 15), John Murray, Lionel School. Reading at sight (under 12) John Murray, Lionel School. Reading at sight (under 15), John Murray, Lionei School. Residation, verse (under 13), Isabella MacLean, Breasclete. Recitation, verse (under 13), Mary Morrison, Bragar School. Recitation, Mary Morrison, Bragar. Conversation, Donald MacAulay, Shawbost.

Oral Delivery - Nicolson Institute. - Reading (under 15), Christina MacIver. Reading at sight, Morag MacLeod. Recitation, Isabella Murray. Sgeulachd, Euphemia MacLeod. Conversation, Christina MacIver.

SENIOR SECTION.

Vocal Music. - Solos, own choice: Ladies, Joan MacKenzie, Aird, and Jane Mitchell, Shawbost (equal); Men, Malcolm Smith, Stornoway. Solos, prescribed: Ladies, Joan MacKenzie; Men, Malcolm Smith. Duets, Catherine MacLeod (Carloway), Nicolson Institute, and Normanna MacDonald, Bernera.

## SUTHERLAND PROVINCIAL MOD.

The County of Sutherland Provincial Mod, held at Lairg on Friday, 27th June, proved an outstanding success in every way. There was a large entry—over 200—and the standard throughout was high. There was such a demand for tickets for the Mod Concert that two concurrent Concerts had to be held, and both halls were full to capacity. The Convener of the County, Mr. C. B. Simpson, Helmsdale, presided at one Concert and the Branch President, Mr. Wm. Grant, at the

The Mod was officially opened by Mr. J. M. Bannerman, Vice-President of An Comunn, and Mrs. Bannerman presented the various trophies to the winners. Votes of thanks were moved by Mr. Bannerman and the Northern Organiser.

Among notable enthusiasts who visited the Mod were Sir Archibald Sinclair and his daughter, and the Wick Branch of An Comunn sent a special Bus with twenty-seven members.

The competition for the best poster with a Celtic border design attracted an entry of about 40. The designs submitted are to be judged by experts and the awards will be announced later

The local Committee and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. D. MacDonald, are to be congratulated on the excellent arrange-

ments made.

The Adjudicators were :-- for Music, Mr. Pat Sandeman, Glasgow, and Mr. Mollinson, Inverness; for Gaelic, Messrs. J. M. Bannerman and Donald MacPhail; for Piping, Mr. Angus Macpherson, Inveran.

The following were the First-Prize Winners :-

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

Literary. - Dictation, Jemima Barnetson, Melness.

Translation into English, Ruby MacKay, Melness,
Oral. — Reading poetry, Catherine MacLeod, Lochinver. Reciting prescribed poem, Colin MacKenzie, Lochinver.
Conversation, Hugh Morrison, Durness. Reciting Psalm

Conversation, Hogi Morrison, Duffiess, Receiving Teach, under 12 years), William Fraser, Lochinver. Commun na h-Oigridh Competition, Wilma Ross, Embo.
Vocal Music.—Solos—Under 12 (own choice); Girls, Ishbel MacKenzie, Lairg; Boys, William Ross. 12 de 16 years (own choice); Girls, Heather MacDonald, Durness; Boys, William George MacKay, Durness. Duets, William Ross and Hugh MacLean, Lochinver. Solo (Song by Rob Donn), Open, William Ross.

Choral. — Two-part Harmony, Lochinver School Choir. Unison and Puirt-a-beul, Lochinver School Choir.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

Literary .- Essay on any local historical incident,

Miss Christina Polson, Spinningdale.

Hector MacKay, Oral. - Reading unseen prose, Reciting prescribed poem, Miss Christina Polson Sgeulachd, Miss Christina Polson. Acted Dialogue, Mr. D.

Urquhart and Miss M. Graham, Lochinver.

Ladies Miss Vocal Music. — Solos (prescribed) Cathie Sutherland, Golspie. Men, Mr. W. A. Calder, Embo. Song by Rob Donn (male and female voices), Mr. C. M. Campbell, Durness. Solos (former prize-winners), Miss Jean MacKay, Golspie. Puirt-a-beul, Mr. C. M. Campbell. Duets, Misses

Jean MacKay and Cathie Sutherland, Golspie.

Choral.—Four-part Harmony, Dornoch Senior Choir.

Unison, Dornoch Senior Choir. Ladies' Voices, Lochinver Ladies' Choir.

Instrumental.—Piping—March, Strathspey and Reel (under 20 years), Donald Corbett, Lairg. Chanter playing, William MacKenzie, Lairg. Piping theory. Billy Seaton, Lairg. Violin (Gaelic song air, Strathspey and Reel), Mrs. Lairg. Violin (Gaelie song air, buraumpy) and J. W. Duncan, Golspie. Pianoforte (March, Strathspey and

Reel), Miss Jean MacKay, Golspie.

Special Prizes. — Silver Cup (presented by Duke of Sutherland) for choral singing, Dornoch Choir. Silver Cup (presented by late Sir Edgar Horne) for junior choirs (two-part harmony), Lochinver School Choir. Silver Cup (presented by X. Buxton) for unison and puirt-a-beul, Lochinver School Choir. Silver Cup (presented by Mr. Lawrence Kimball) for ladies' choirs, Lochinver Ladies' Choir.

#### FORTY-FOURTH NATIONAL MOD. Perth. 1947.

The dates of the Mod are the 30th September and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd October. The Daily Sessions and Evening Concerts will be held in the Perth City Hall, and the Concerts have been arranged as follows:

JUNIOR CONCERT, Tuesday, 30th September, 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 2/- (reserved) and 1/- including tax,

RUBAL CHOIRS, Thursday, 2nd October, 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 3/6 (reserved) and 2/6 and 1/- including tax. MOD GRAND CONCERT.

Friday, 3rd October, 6.30 p.m. and 8.45 p.m. Tickets, 5/- and 3/6 (reserved) 2/6 and 1/-.

Special allowance is made for Members only to reserve seats for the Concerts until 30th August, and application should be made to An Comunn Office as soon as possible before that date, stating which house, if for Grand Concert. Members wishing to attend the Civic Reception on 1st October, must notify the Secretary before 27th August. No application will be accepted after that date.

## IN BRIEF.

"The Celtic Time."-It is announced from Eire that a new inter-Celtic paper is being published, under the name, "An Aimsear Cheiltiach" or "The Celtic Time." It will give news, articles, topical comments, etc. on subjects of interest to Irish, Welsh, Scottish, and Breton readers, "with a true national, modern, and realistic outlook." It is published on the 15th of each month, starting in July (1947). Subscriptions (5/- per annum) should be sent to "An Aimsear Cheltiach," Fort Street, Cork, Eire.

Scottish Folklore Institute .- A further step forward has been taken in connection with this scheme. Considerable interest has been shown in non-Gaelic circles in the proposal to establish a Gaelic Folklore Society as a first step towards an all-Scotland organisation. The sponsors of the Gaelic Folklore Society have therefore held a conference with representatives of the Scottish Anthropological and Folklore Society and the Saltire Society, and as a result the Folklore Committee is being made more widely respresentative and it is hoped to present a detailed scheme and constitution in the early autumn.

## EADAR SINN FHEIN.

#### CEILTIG AN OIL-THIGH DHUN-EIDEANN.

Uasail is a Charaid,-The statement made recently at Stirling about some objections to the study of Celtic as a first year's study for ex-service students has caused me no amazement. As a first year's student I had an experience at Edin-

burgh University that was an eye-opener.

selected Edinburgh University because of its Celtic Chair. I matriculated in due time, and filled up a schedule with details of a course I desired, and with it I approached a gentleman whose advice was considered essential. When he saw Celtic was one of my first-year subjects he drew his pen through it and told me that Celtic was valueless, and advised me to take one of several other subjects which he indicated ! I objected. With an amazed expression he said, "Why?" I said that I had come to Edinburgh for that class. He told me to take my paper away and to go and reconsider it all. He would not sanction my choice. I thereupon looked up the Celtic Professor's address and visited him. I had no further difficulty.

At that period little was done to encourage students who sought a course in Celtic at Edinburgh. I found that Celtic was a subject for native Gaelic-speakers. One student, indeed, whose mother tongue was English, graduated with distinction in Celtic. The credit for that was his own and that of a teacher in Oban. It was possible at Edinburgh University to begin the study of Greek and Hebrew and Sanskrit at the alphabet. The Celtic Society organised a Gaelic class for some of its own members! The Celtic Society was an old society that had

done something formerly for the campaign which secured a Chair for Edinburgh in Celtic. It had certain privileges which it shared with other "Associated Societies." In it certain men of distinction made their mark. I need only name Ian of distinction made their mark. I need only name fan Macpherson, Mackenzie of Canada, and W. S. Morison. This Celtic Society has been "liquidated" by "official sanction," I was told! An innocuous "Highland Society" exists now. Is it surprising that Celtic at Edinburgh University is so

reduced? It is, in my opinion, the Cinderella of the University. This is a disgrace to Scotland, but it is not incongruous in the situation with which all of us who are Gaels are confronted all along the line. In fairness to the Professor, I can truly say that he was not surpassed, as a scholar or teacher, by any man of his day at Edinburgh University. "Mi-run mor nan Gall" did not end with Alasdair Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair. It is always with us, in one form or another. We need patience and persistence and a love for our own language that nothing can daunt or destroy. Ex uno disce omnia. Agus "is ann aig deireadh an latha as fheàrr na h-Albannaich." Is mise do DONNCHADH RUADH. cho-Ghàidheal,

#### IMPORTANT DATES.

4. Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp closes.
29. International Festival, Edinburgh—Gaelic Concert. Aug.

29. Sept. 30 National Mod at Perth begins.

Oct. 3. National Mod concludes. 4. Annual General Meeting of An Comunn.

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF

Leabhar XLII.] An t-Sultuin, 1947. [Earrann 12

#### CLIU NAN CEILTEACH.

Bha uair ann, ceudan bliadhna roimh theachd Chrìosd, agus bha a' mhòr-chuid de mheadhon agus de thaobh siar na h-Eòrpa fo ùghdarras nan treubhan Ceiteach. Mun d'éirich an Ròimh no eadhon a' Ghréig gu clùi is cumhachd anns an t-saoghal bha na Ceitich air tighinn gu ìre mar ghaisgich agus mar luchd-ealain.

An diugh tha na dh'fhàgadh de na Ceitich air an teannadh a steach air oirthir siar na h-Eòrpa, an cuan mór air aon taobh dhiubh agus lhonmhorachd nan Gall air an cùl. Cleachdar a bhith labhairt mu shia cinnich a tha dol fo'n ainm Cheilteach—Gàidhealtachd na h-Albann, Eilean Mhanainn, Eire, A' Chuimridh, An Còrn, agus Breatainn Bheag (san Bhraing).

O chionn àireamh mhór bhliadhnachan bha e 'na chleachdadh aig na cinnich so a bhith o ám gu ám ag gléidheadh comhdháil, na riochdairean aca a' tighinn cómhla gus càirdeas a chumail agus a chéile a bhrosnachadh.

Do bhrìgh a' chogaidh mhóir a tha nise seachad cha do chumadh comhdhàil nan Ceiltich o chionn naoi bliadhna gus an samhradh so fhéin, agus aig deireadh an Iuchair choinnich riochdairean nan dùthchannan Ceilteach am Baile Atha Cliath air son seachdain. Gheibhear air duilleig eile iomradh am Beurla air a' Chomhdhàil

Dh'iarrainn an so rud-eigin a ràdh mu àite nan Ceilteach anns an t-saoghal a th'ann.

Tha fhios againn uile gu bheil àrd-ùghdarras agus sàr-chumhachd san latha so ann an seilbh ceithir no cóig de na dùthchannan móra, no eadhon trl a mhàin—Stàitean Aonaichte America, Breatann, agus an Ruis. A réir coltais feumaidh na dùthchannan eile amharc ri aon seach aon de na dùthchannan móra sin, agus cluinnidh tu feadhainn ag ràdh nach urrainn dùthaich bheag sam bith mairsinn gun a bhith an cisimeil aoin air chor-eigin de na cumhachdan móra.

A nis, ma tha eachdraidh nan linntean fada a dh' aom a' teagasg dhuinn dad idir, tha so soilleir: gur ann an dùthchannan beaga a dh'fhosgladh na fuarain bho'n do shruth na beannachdan agus na sochairean as prìseile a bhuillicheadh air cloinn ann daoine.

Bu bheag tir Phalestin, agus bu lag sluagh Israeil a bha chòmhnaidh an sin, an coimeas ris na rìoghachdan mòra làidir ceannsachail mun cuairt—Asiria is Babilon is an Eiphti is Persia is a' Ghréig 's an Roimh —ach anns an dùthaich bhig sin agus troimh an t-sluagh anmhainn sin dh'fhoillsicheadh do'n t-saoghal

t-sluagh anmhainn sin dh'fhoillsicheadh do'n t-saoghal nì nas luachmhoire agus nas maireannaiche na dad a bhuilich na rìoghachdan móra treuna sin eile air cloinn nan daoine.

Bu bheag agus bu dìplidh cinnich na Gréige fhéin aig an dearbh ám a bha litreachas is feallsanachd is caldhain a' tighinn gu àirde 'nam measg—àirde air

nach tugadh bàrr riamh o'n uair sin.

'Nar latha fhéin, ma tha dhith oirnn dùthchannan far a stheil soirbheachail fhaicinn, dùthchannan far a bheil an sluagh a' nochdadh gur aithne dhaibh toileachadh ceart a bhith aca agus làn-fheum a dheanamh de'n cuid chothroman, càite an amhaire sinn? Amharcaidh ri dùthchannan beaga mar a tha Switzerland agus Denmark agus Lochlann agus an t-Suain. Faodaidh iad a bhith beag agus faodaidh iad ann an seagh a bhith bead, ach a réir gach iomraidh tha sluagh nan dùthchannan beaga sin air thoiseach air sluagh nan dùthchannan móra anns na nithean as fheàrr meas.

Mar sin, faodaidh na dùthchannan Ceilteach a bhith han leòban beaga air iomall an iar na h-Eòrpa, agus a thaobh àireamh faodaidh na Ceiltich a bhith 'nam buidhinn bhig fa chomhair nan cumhachdach. Ach, a dh'aindeoin sin, tha aobhar uaill agus aobhar misnich aca. Chan 'eil an latha idir seachad.

Bithidh sgoilearan a' rannsachadh ach ear son a shearg na Ceiltich as, car son nach do ghléidh iad an t-ùghdarras farsaing a bha aca aon uair. Tha luchdeachdraidh mar a tha Hubert is Toynbee a' toirt am beachdan. Is e a b'fheàrr leam-sa faighneachd; gu dé a dh'fhag cho righinn agus cho buan na Ceiltich? Is e lagh an t-saoghail agus lagh nàduir gu bheil gach ni a' sìor dhol bàs, a' sìor chaitheamh as. Anns an dearbh mhionaid a rugadh sinn thòisich sinn ri bàsachadh. Tha sin fìor mu chinnich mar mu dhaoine fa leth. A rèir an lagha sin is fada bho bha còir aig na Ceiltich dol bàs mar a rinn na Hittich is iomadh cinneach eile roimhe.

Ach, a dh'aindeoin na bha 'nan aghaidh, mhair na Ceiltich gus an là an diugh, agus cha ann gun aobhar a mhair iad. Bha rud-eigin annta a thug sìneadh làithean dhaibh, agus, ged a tha iad cho aosda ri shuagh sam bith san Eòrpa, tha comharraidhean ann

gu bheil iad ag ath-nuadhachadh an òige.

Is ann air machraichean móra teis-meadhon na h-Eòrpa a tha sinn a' faicinn nan Ceilteach aig tùs an eachdraidh. Cha d'amais iad air a bhith aonaichte agus cha b'ann air innleachd-riaghlaidh no air smachdalachd a bha an aire, agus mar sin chaidh am fuadach gus an iar gus an do chuir an cuan mór stad

Anns na limtean fada a chuir iad seachad air na h-iomaill an iar ghlèidh na Ceiltich trì subhailcean air a bheil saoghal ar latha-ne ag cur feum—miann air saorsa, suil thar fàire, agus meas air nithean nas fhearr na òr is airsead.

Cha b'fhuilear dhuinn leabhran a sgrìobhadh ann a bhith leudachadh air a' chuspair so, ach fòghnaidh e an dràsda na trì subhaileean sin a mhìneachadh.

Miann air saorsa.—Cha do ghéill na Ceiltich riamh gu toileach ri smachd nàmhaid. An Albainn 's an Eirinn, anns a' Chuimridh agus anns a' Bhreatainn Bhig, bha agus tha strì air son ceartais agus air son saorsa. Chan 'eil an spiorad sin idir air a mhùchadh eadhon 'nar Gàidhealtachd fhéin, ged a dh'fhaodas cus dhaoine 'nar measg a bhith 'nan suain. Bha agus tha àite-còmhnaidh nan Ceilteach comharraichte le muir is monadh, agus tha an dà chuid an cuan agus na beanntan a' brosnachadh spiorad na saorsa.

Su'il thar fàire.—Faodaidh an Sasannach a bhith gu math fada sa' cheann (mar a chanas iad sa' Bheurla), ach tha e caran geàrr-sheallach; chan fhaic e am bitheantas nas fhaide roimhe na bàrr a shròine. 'S fheàrr leis daonnan eun san làimh na dhà-dheugh air iteig. Ach bha na Gàidheil agus na Ceiltich eile daonnan ag amharc thar fàire, a' sealltainn seachad air na nithean faicsinneach a bha mun cuairt. Theagaig an cuan siar sin dhaibh. Air feasgar 's iad ag amharc gus an iar 's a' ghrian a' falbh bhuapa air iomall a' chuain, gu dé bha thall? Bha "Tir nan Og." Is beannaichte an sluagh aig a bheil léirsinn de'n t-seòrsa sin.

"Ag caitheadh airgid air nì nach aran agus saothair air nì nach sàsaich." B'e sin dìteadh an fhàidh air sluagh a latha fhéin. Ach saoilidh mi gu robh na Gàidheil agus na Ceiltich eile riamh ag cur meas air nithean eile seach òr is airgead; no, 'ga chur air dhòigh eile, bha fhios aca gu bheil nithean ann nach

ceannaichear le òr no airgead agus gur iad sin na nithean a tha dà-rireabh prìseil agus buan-mhàireannach. Bha agus tha saidhbhreas ann nach goid na mèirich agus na truaill na leómainn, agus cha robh an sluagh o'n tàning sinn idir aineolach a thaobh sin.

Tha an saoghal an diugh am mór fheum air na th'aig na Ceitich ri theagasg is ri thabhairt. Agus mar is dlùithe a chumas na dùthchannan Ceilteach r'a chéile 's ann as treasa an guth agus as drùidhtiche an cisimpleir do na sìòigh.

## CAMPA COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH, 1947.

Chumadh campa na bliadhna so aig Inbhir-ailleart bho'n 10mh là de'n Iuchar gus an 4mh là de'n Lùnasdal. Thàinig sia caileag dheug ar fhichead as na trl Siorrachdan—Earraghàidheal, Rois, is Inbhirnis—agus chuir iad seachad aon-latha-deug cho sona is a dh'iarradh duine.

Chuir iad cuairt air a' Ghearasdan far an do thadhail iad an Tigh nan Ionghnaidhean agus an Tigh Mór nan Dealbhan. Thug iad a mach Gleann Fhionghuin air latha eile, agus streup iad gu mullach a' Chuirn. Bheòthaich iad teine taobh a' chladaich agus cha b'fhada gus an robh an coire mór air ghoil agus an tea deiseil. B'e Di-haoine feasgar nan cleasan agus, fo stiùradh Dhòmhnaill nan Cleas, chaidh gach sian gu rianail, réidh. Os cionn trì bliadhna deug a dh'aois thug caileag á Eòlagarraidh a mach an duais a b'àirde agus fo thrì bliadhna deug caileag á Uibhist a Deas

Bha Ceannard a' Champa air ceann céilidh mhóir a chumadh sa' Chaisteal air oidhche Shathuirme agus, fo stiùradh ar deagh bhana-charaid, Eilidh Nic-Mhaolain, dh'éisd còmhlan mór ris na seann òrain air an seinn le thr is tuigse agus ann an Gàidhlig neo-mhearachdach. Is bochd nach robh a' chéilidh so air a craobh-sgaoileadh. Ged a rinn am B.B.C. an dlcheall, bha enap-starraidh san rathad nach do cheadaich craobh-sgaoileadh a dheanamh am bliadhna.

Sgaoil Campa nan Caileag air Di-luain agus bha cuid dhiubh gu math tùrsach a' fàgail nan companach ùra a rinn iad, ach ag gealltainn gum biodh iad iar ais an ath-bhliadhna, ach iad a bhith beò agus cothrom aca. Bha Seonag Chaimbeul á Ròdhag 'na mnaoi-eiridinn aig Campa nan Caileag agus, nuair a thàinig an sgeul a mach gu robh i air còrdadh a dheanamh ri Calum MacLeòid, ball eile de Chomunn na h-Oigridh, chuir na caileagan is an luchd-dreuchd sgillinnean ri chéile agus thugadh tiodhlac laghach do Sheonag chòirleth-bhreac de "Ghùthan o Na Beanntaibh" agus Breacan-siubhail. Thubhairt Ceannard a' Champa nach e a mhàin gu robh Seonag Chaimbeul 'na mnaoiciridinn an uiridh is am bliadhna, ach gu robh i 'na cùl-taic do Chomunn na h-Oigridh fad iomadh bliadhna agus gu robh an campa air fad ag guidhe buaidh is piseach orra le chéile. Fhreagair Seonag gu dòigheil agus chuir i an céill a taing do na h-uile air son an coibhneis.

Thàinig na gillean, a dhà-dheug dhiubh, air Diardaoin, an 24mh là de'n Iuchar. Bu bhochd an



Caileagan A' Champa, 1947.

sgeul a thàinig chun a' champa, nach b'urrainn Dòmhnall MacRuairidh tighinn, gun do bhuail an Greim-mòr e agus gun tugadh e do thigh-eiridinn an Glaschu. Buinidh Dòmhnall do Uibhist a Deas ach tha e 'na bhall de'n Fheachd am Port-righeadh. Is maith an sgeul gu bheil e a' deanamh adhartais agus is e guidhe a' champa gum bi e air a aiseag gu slàinte a dh'aithghearr.

Mar a rinn na caileagan, chuir na gillean cuairt air a' Ghearasdan is Gleann Fhionghuin, agus air feasgar àlainn thug iad a mach Arasaig agus chunnaic iad an uaimh anns an do chuir Prionnsa Tearlach seachad oidhcheannan is e 'na fhògarrach, mun tàinig bàta a dh'aisig e do Bheinn-a-bhaoghla. Tha an uaimh so ann an creig an cois na mara agus tha craobhan làidir daraich 'ga falach. Feumar streupadh chun na creige agus an déidh dol a steach is ann air mhàgan a dh'fheumas neach cumail air gus an ruig e an uaimh, far am faod aon dusan fear fasgadh fhaotainn. Tha i dubh dorcha, ach bha biucan mór aig Fear Inbhir-ailleart agus chunnaic na brogaich gach cùil de'n uaimh. Is cinnteach nach 'eil móran de ghillean na Gàidhealtachd aig an robh cothrom air an uaimh iomraiteach so fhaicinn, agus bithidh latha is bliadhna mun dì-chuimhnich an dusan ud an turus a thug iad do Arasaig.

Chumadh cleasan Gàidhealach nan gillean air feasgar Di-haoine, agus thug balach as an Eilean Sgitheanach a mach an duais a b'àirde: Tha hidh mhốr aig an Urramach Dominic Mac-Ceallaig, Drochaid Ruaidh, ann an Comunn na h-Oigridh, agus aon latha ràinig e fhéin, am maighstirsgoile, agus dusan gille a h-uile ceum chun a' champa gu bhith ag iomain le ar gillean. Bha a' bhuaidh leis na coigrich anns an iomain ach, ma bha, cha b'e sin e aig "Tarraing Rôpa." Fo stiùradh an oileanaich-leighis, am Màidsear Tormod MacGilleathain á Ratharsaidh, dh'fhalbh gillean a' champa leis na coigrich mun do thuig iad dé bha dol. D'fhiach iad a rithist. Bha strì ann, ach mu dheireadh, le aon oidhirp mhóir, bha a' bhuaidh le gillean a' champa. Thug Fear Inbhir-ailleart duaisean do gach buidheann fa leth, agus le ceòl na ploba-móire dh'fhàg ar càirdean à Drochaid Ruaidh an campa air an t-slighe dhachaidh.

Tha taing ri thabhairt do luchd-dreuchd a' champa air son an dlaeachd is an dealais. Cha do chuireadh dleasnas romhpa nach do choimhlion iad agus sin le fiamh a' ghàire. Tha sinn gu sònraichte an comain Fear Inbhir-ailleart is a chéile chaomh air son gach coibhneis a nochd iad ruinn ré ám a' champa, agus cha dt-chuimhnich na caileagan is na gillean a liuthad rud laghach a thug iad seachad aig cosdais nach bu bheag. Gach beannachd a bhith 'nan cois!

Anns a' chomh-dhunadh, bu choir a ràdh gu robh an t-sìde dìreach àlainn, agus gun d'rinneadh ullachadh gus an campa a chumail anns an dearbh àite an athbhiadhna: Domhnalb MacPrail.

Ceannard a' Champa.

### LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha cachaileith a' chaimp a bha am bliadhna shuas air oighreach an Uasail, Mgr. Camshron-Head, an Inbhir-ailleart, a nis air a dhùnadh is pasgadh nan seòl air a dheanamh air na bùithean gu bliadhna eile. Bha an t-sid gu mòr na b'fhàbharaiche am bliadhna na bha i an uiridh, oir, mar a thubhairt mi mar tha, "cha treabh gach bliadhna d'a chéile," agus is math nach treabh! Bha, mar a thubhairt mi an àireimh an Lùnasdail, sè caileagan deug air fhichead anns a' champ ceud leth na h-ùine; ach cha robh uiread de bhalaich ann rè na leth mu dheireadh, is bha aobhar air sin cuideachd.

Bha mi am beachd gum faighinn cuairt a thoirt suas am bliadhna a rithist, agus an uair a bhiodh na balaich anns a' champ, ach cha robh e comasach dhomh a dhol ann. Chan 'eil agam a nis ach mo leisgeal a ghabhail 'ga thaobh sin dhuibhse, a chlann. agus do Dhòmhnall MacPhàil : agus, an ám dhomh a bhith ag gabhail mo leisgeil air a' cheann sin, tha mi an dùil gum biodh e freagarrach mar an ceudna taing a thoirt do gach aon a chuidich an obair a' chaimp, bho uachdaran na h-oighreachd agus a chéile caomh gu ruig sibh féin a leig ris cho comharraichte bhur dealas anns a' chùis. Os cionn sin, chan 'eil mi a' dol a dh'ainmeachadh aoin seach aon, air eagal gum fàg mi aon air chùl. Taing mhór dhuibh uile! Tha fiughair agam ri mean-iomradh air gach nì a thachair bho Dhòmhnall an uair a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh, agus theagamh gun till mi ri nì sam bith anns an iomradh sin a bhios gu bhur feum ann an litir an Dàmhair. Is dòcha gur ann air a' cheart fhonn a bhios an camp an ath-bhliadhna, agus cha bhi sibhse a bha ann am bliadhna 'nur coigrich an uair a thilleas sibh; agus, air a' chùl sin, faodaidh sibh, mar a bha "am fear a bha thall 's a chunnaic 's a thàinig a nall 's a dh'innis. gach iomradh a thoirt dhaibh-san a tha an dùil ri bhith ann air son na ceud uaire mu mhaise is mu loinn na dùthcha àghmhoir ud anns a bheil an camp r'a chumail. Fàgaidh sinn, ma tà, an camp le a dhorsan dùinte an ceartair, ged is cinnteach gu bheil dorsan bhur cuimhne-se a bha ann glé fhosgailte, is gum bi iomadh latha.

Tha mi an déidh crìoch a chur air sgrùdadh nam paipearan ceasnachaidh a chuireadh a steach air cheann nam bràisdean is bharrantas Làn- is Sàr-Ghàidheil. Chan e obair fhaoin, agus tha dòchas agam nach b'obair gun stà, a bha ann, beachd is dearbh-bheachd a bhuail a steach air m'inntinn tuille na aon uair mar a bha mi a' dol air m'aghaidh anns an sgrùdadh. Chuir mi a steach uairean de thìm 'gan leughadh gu mean, ag cuimseachadh àireamh chomharraidhean dhaibh agus 'gan cur fo chinn a réir nan sgoiltean as an tàinig iad, is co-dhiubh a b'e teist Làn- no Sàr-Ghàidheal a bha iad air a thòir. Fhuaras paipearan bho aon sgoil dheug (ach càite bheil an còrr ?) mar a leanas, ceud gu leth is naoi oidhirpean uile gu léir, 38 á aon sgoil, is aon a mhàin (is cha bu an t-aon sin féin a bha air an deireadh) á sgoil eile. So agaibh iad air an cur sìos a réir na h-aibideil, leis an aireimh fo gach ceann as gach sgoil :-

			,	
Scorl.		Làn.	Sàr.	Uile,
Ath-leathann (An t-Eilean Sgitheans	ch)	13	6	19
Baile na Creige (Barraidh)		2	3	5
Bodha-mór (Ile)		17	6	23
Còrnaig-mhór (Tiridhe)		8	6	14
Dalabrog (Uibhist)		20	18	38
Eòlagarraidh (Barraidh)		6	8	14
Plana-sgeir (Leódhas)		4	6	10
Staon-a-brig (Uibhist)		4	_	4
Tairbeart na Hearadh		13	12	25
Tigh-a-gheàrraidh (Uibhist)		4	2	6
Uachdar-àrd-thir (Peairt)		_	1	1
Uile gu leir		91	68	159

So agaibh na h-aon-deug as gach roinn, Sàr- is Làn-Ghàidheal, a b'àirde a fhuair de chomharraidhean, an àireamh chomharraidhean a fhuair gach aon fa-leth, agus na sgoiltean as a bheil iad —

SAR-GHAIDHEAL.			
	Comha	rraidh	ean
AINM. SGOIL.		(á ceu	d)
Rodina NicDhòmhnaill, Tairbeart na Hearadh			94
Mórag NicLachainn, Uachdar-àrd-thir			92
Curstaidh Mórag Chaimbeul, Tairbeart na Hes	radh		91
Coinneach MacGhill- Fhionain ,,	,,		91
Una NicFhionghuin ,,	13		91
Murchadh N. MacGhille-Mhoire ,,	22		90
Calum MacFhionghuin "	,,		90
Ealasaid NicDhòmhnaill, Dalabrog			89
Dòmhnall Iain MacGhille-Mhoire, Tairbeart na	Hear	adh	89
Dòmhnall Uilleam MacLeòid ,,	19		89
Dòmhnall Iain MacDhòmhnaill, ,,	,,		88
LAN-GHAIDHEAL,			
Seumas MacAonghais, Baile na Creige			86
Iain M. MacNèill			86
Mórag NicCuinn, Tigh-a-gheàrraidh			86
Dòmhnall MacLeòid, Tairbeart na Hearadh			85
Iain N. M. MacDhonnchaidh ,, ,,			84
Una F. NicFhionghuin ,, ,,			84
Donnehadh Màrtainn ,, ,,			84
Lachann MacAmhlaidh ,, ,,			84
Catriona Anna NicLeòid ,, ,			84
Sine NicGhille-Fhaolain, Tigh-a-gheàrraidh			84
Niall Iain MacDhòmhnaill, Staon-a-brig			84

A nis, mun teann mì ri buntainn ri mearachdan anns an obair a rinneadh a chomharrachadh a mach, is dòcha gum bu chòir an toiseach na paipearan fèin fhoill-seachadh, agus an sgrùdadh fhàgail gus an ath mhlos Bha iarrtas bho na h-uiread againn an uiridh air an foillseachadh anns A' Ghàidheal, agus rinneadh sin. Is cinnteach gum bì a' cheart iarrtas orra am bliadhna rithist, agus is fìor gur ann mun teannar ri an sgrùdadh is còir an toirt seachad. Chan 'eil, mar sin, an còrr 'a ràdh an ceartair ach so: glèidhibh gu cùrannach An Gàidheal so is bìodh e aig bhur làimh an uair a bhios sibh a' beachdachadh air coire no seòladh sam bith a bhios agam dhuibh air an ath mhìos, ma tha e comasach eadhon na tha agam r'a ràdh a chur slos an litir son mhìos fèin.—Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL

# COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

# Na Paipearan-Ceasnachaidh, 1947.

## I.—DEUCHAINN LAN-GHAIDHEAL.

- (a) Cuir Beurla air an earrainn so. (An ùine cheadaichte-aon uair).
  - 1. Na bi a' tarruing as a' ghamhainn mu'm buail
  - Thàinig air Seumas beag am baile fhàgail.
  - 3. B'fheudar cur as do'n chù ruadh.
  - 4. Is feàrr dhuinn tàr as mu'n téid ar cur an laimh.
  - 5. Tha Calum an nis an ceann a chosnaidh.
  - 6. Ciod a tha 'san amharc agad an nis ?
  - 7. Tha thu ag cur bochdainn orm,
  - 8. Nach bochd mar a dh'éirich do'n loth.
  - 9. Tha an truaghan ag cur nan seachd gràin orm le a chànran is le a ghearan.
  - 10. Ghabh Dòmhnall cam òran, 's ann dhà a thigeadh.
  - 11. Na biodh sochar ort, chan 'eil thu ach am measg do chàirdean.
  - 12. An uair a leig mi sgreuch, thug Iain dubh na buinn as.
  - (b) Cuir Gàidhlig air so. (An ùine cheadaichteaon uair).
  - 1. How big you have grown!
  - 2. The stirk has been tethered too near the edge of the cliff.
  - 3. James is 37 years of age.
  - 4. Who suggested that to you?
  - 5. Such a thought never occurred to me.
  - 6. Were you advised not to do it?
  - 7. The foal had to be shot; what a pity!
  - 8. It is much more difficult to save money than to
  - earn it. 9. Did Mary not mention the matter in her last letter?
  - 10. Do not disturb her as she is very tired,
- 11. When were you told to see about it?
- 12. James has not as many cows as Donald, but he has far more sheep.

### II.—DEUCHAINN SAR-GHAIDHEAL.

(a) Cuir Beurla air an earrainn so. (An ùine cheadaichte-3 na h-uaire).

Tha Iain Mór a' sgaoileadh grinneil air an rathad mhór an uair a tha a' chlann a' tighinn dhachaidh as an sgoil. Sheas iad a bhruidhinn ris, is bha còmhradh

car mar so eatorra. IAIN MOR. "Seadh, a chlann, dé bha sibh ag

ionnsachadh anns an sgoil an diugh?" IAIN BEAG. "Is iomadh ni sin; bha sgrìobhadh, leughadh, cùnntas is rudan eile againn.'

I.M. "Dé bha sibh a' leughadh?"

MAIRI. "Bha sinne a' leughadh mu Phrionnsa Tearlach."

I.M. "An robh, an nis-Tearlach Og Stiùbhart!" CALUM. "Bhà, agus bha sinne a' leughadh mu Fhionnghal NicDhòmhnaill."

I. M. "O, Fionnghal rùnach, a chuir a beatha féin an cunnart air sgàth a' Phrionnsa."

FIONNGHAL. "Nach mise tha mór asam féin 's gur e 'Fionnghal Dhòmhnallach' an t-ainm a tha

I. M. "Seadh, agus is mise tha cinnteach an uair a dh' fhàsas sibh uile suas, ma bhios gnìomh mar a rinn Fionnghal r'a dheanamh-as leth ceartaisnach 'eil aon agaibh nach dean e!"

UILE, 'Is sinn a ni!'

I. M. "Ni; ach ach till Tearlach Og Stiùbhart tuille gu gnìomh misneachail a dheanamh as a leth.'

UILE. "Cha till; agus tha sinne glé dhuilich." I. M. "Cha till Tearlach gun teagamh; ach tha

còir is ceartas daonnan a' tagar cuideachaidh!"

UILE. "Agus cha dearmad sinne còir is ceartas fad 's is beò sinn!"

(b) Cuir Gàidhlig air an earrainn so. (An ùine cheadaichte-aon uair).

Many are the occupations that come the way of the crofter and his family; and to the family whose croft borders on the sea-shore, there is no more interesting and enjoyable work than cutting sea-wrack on a beautiful spring day. Sea-wrack is used as manure for the ground, and when the very low tides of spring come, every opportunity is taken to get a sufficiency of sea-wrack cut to assure of a good crop, be it potatoes, turnips, corn, or hay. Sea-wrack makes good manure, and the earlier in the season it is put on to the ground, the better the result, and the drier the potatoes in particular prove. There are two main varieties of sea-wrack used as manure, the black kind, which can be cut at half-tide, and the red, which can be cut only at low tide. There are at least four ways of securing the wrack and getting it on to the ground, (1) carting it direct as it is cut, (2) allowing it to drift in on to the shore, if the wind is favourable, (3) making a raft of it, and (4) loading it into a boat. A boat is, of course, used when the wrack is cut on outlying rocks or islands.

No better occupation to give one a good appetite could possibly be engaged in than cutting sea-wrack on a fine spring day.

# OISINN NA H-OIGRIDH.

# Am Buachaille agus Am Ministear.

Bha balachan òg, mac bantraich, aon uair 'na bhuachaille laogh aig tuathanach àraidh. Bha e a' faighinn a bhìdh mar thuarasdal o'n tuathanach, agus bha a mhàthair ag cosnadh a lòin mar a b'fheàrr a b'urrainn i le bhith ag obair do na coimhearsnaich, agus còmhla ri sin bha i faighinn beagan o Bhòrd nam Bochd.

Bha fearann an tuathanaich ag crìochadaireachd ri glìob a' mhinisteir, agus có dhiubh a leig am buachaille na laoigh am measg coirce a' mhinisteir no ciod air bith a b'adhbhar, ghabh e fuath agus gamhlas mór do'n bhalachan, agus chan iarradh e ach a bhith 'ga smàdadh gach uair a gheibheadh e cothrom.

Bha sgalag mhiodalach, thràilleil aig a' mhinistear agus b'àbhaist da esan a thoirt leis an uair a bhiodh e, le a charbad beag, a' dol o àite gu àite troimh an sgire. Thachair dhaibh a bhith gabhail sgrìob air là àraidh agus chunnaic iad buachaille nan laogh 'na shuidhe ri taobh an rathaid mhóir is deise ùr aodaich

Bu mhaith a bha fios aig a' mhinistear càite an d'fhuair am balachan an deise, agus smaoinich e gun gabhadh e an cothrom ud air a nàrachadh.

"Có," ars esan, "mo ghille maith, a chuir an deise

ùr ghasda sin ort ? "

'Chuir," thuirt am balachan bochd is e a' togail a chinn, " le bhur cead, a mhinisteir, a' cheart fheadhainn a chuir an deise sin oirbhse-chuir an sgìre!" An uair a mhothaich am ministear gu robh a'

chùis air a tilgeil cho deas 'na aodann leis a' bhalachan

thug e a' chuip do'n each agus thàrr e as.

Ach air dha dol beagan air adhairt smaoinich e gum bu tàmailteach dha leigeil leis an ruaig a bhith air a cur air mar so an làthair a sgalaig fhéin. Stad e an carbad agus dh'iarr e air an sgalaig ruith air ais agus foighneachd de'n bhalachan an gabhadh e muinntearas gu bhith 'na bhurraidh aig a' mhinistear.

Thill an sgalag le othail mhóir agus chuir e a' cheist

ud ris a' bhuachaille.

"Bheil thusa dol 'ga fhàgail?" ars am balachan.

"Chan 'eil," fhreagair an sgalag.

"Ma tà, mur h-'eil," fhreagair am balachan, "rach air t'ais agus abair ris a' mhinistear gu bheil mise de'n bheachd gu bheil a stìpean beag gu leòr air son dà bhurraidh a chumail suas gun ghuth air a bhith ag jarraidh an treas fir.'

Dh'fhalbh an sgalag is a theanga 'na phluic, agus dh'innis e freagairt a' bhalachain do'n mhinistear, agus is e mo bharail nach do chuir e fhéin no am ministear tuille dragha air buachaille nan laogh.

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Taing .- Taing dhaibh-san uile a bhitheas an dràsda 's a rithist ag cur do'n Ghàidheil rud-eigin a bheir e am follais do'n luchd-leughaidh. Chan 'eil iarraidh aig an fheardheasachaidh aon fhacal a bharrachd a sgrìobhadh le a làimh fhéin na dh'fheumas e sgrìobhadh. Is fheàrr leis gu mór na sgrìobhas daoine eile. Tha sinn mar sin an comain gach neach a tha ag còmhnadh leinn. Air uairean cha teid againn air gach nì a chur an clò san ath-àireamh, ach cuiridh sinn gu feum gach nì freagarrach uair no uair-eigin.

Gliocas nan Gàidheal.-Cha do bhris facal maith fiacaill riamh.

Firing air son a' Mhios so .- Pillidh freagradh mìn corruich; ach dùisgidh briathran garga fearg.-Gnàth-Fhocail xv.l.

## LOCHABER PROVINCIAL MOD. A Correction.

In the prize-list printed in the August magazine, Roy Bridge School Choir were stated to have won first place in the Junior Section Two-part Harmony competition. This should have read Fort William Secondary School Choir "A". The error is regretted.

#### THE CELTIC CONGRESS, 1947.

The Celtic Congress held in Dublin in July was an outstanding success from every point of view. Our Irish hosts put themselves to no end of trouble to attend to the wants of the delegates from Scotland, Wales, Brittany, and the Isle of Man,

and a most attractive programme was arranged.

Lectures on the position of the language movements in the various Celtic countries were given by authorities from each country. In the ensuing discussions many different opinions were expressed as to how the Celtic languages and cultures could be preserved. Much could be learned from hearing the views born of the experience of the other Celts.

The delegates were honoured by being given receptions both by Mr. de Valera and the President of Eire, Mr. O'Kelly, These functions took the form of garden parties and were also attended by Government Ministers and officials and their

The Congress coincided with the golden jubilee of An t-Oireachtas, which was holding its annual festival of Irish Gaelic music and drama accompanied by literary and oral competitions. The officials of An t-Oireachtas invited us to their main functions and festivities. Visits were paid to the Irish Book Exhibition, which included the famous eighth century Book of Kells, and to the exhibition of photographs of the rapidly disappearing customs, dress, and way of life of the Irish people. This exhibition was arranged by the Irish Folklore Commission. The Registrar of the Commission, Mr. Sean O'Sullivan, very kindly showed some of us over the Folklore Department in the National University. We saw the important work done by the Commission in preserving on paper and on gramophone records the oral tradition of song and story handed down from the past. The Commission, of course, has a Collector in our Western Isles and is willing to give every assistance to our own newly formed Folklore Society.

The other entertainments included a pageant of the troubled history of Ireland, a gymkhana, and an evening at the Abbey Theatre at which plays were presented in Irish and Welsh and songs were sung in Scottish Gaelic, Manx and Breton by

delegates from these countries.

Radio Eireann arranged some programmes at the Broad-casting Studio, in which these delegates again provided an international, and yet all-Celtic, flavour. The broadcasting officials gave me the impression that they would welcome an occasional Scottish Gaelic programme from this country. Such a programme may cut across national agreements and disagreements and so prove impracticable, but it seems worthy of consideration and, if the compliment could be returned, so much the better.

At the business meeting at the finish of the Congress various officials were appointed for the ensuing year. Mr. Oscar MacUilis, who was the local secretary in charge of arrangements this year, was rewarded for the success of his labours by being unanimously appointed International Secretary. It was decided to investigate the possibility of Cornwall as the venue of next year's Congress, with Wales as the next choice. The Scottish delegates appointed their own Committee, with the Hon. David Watson, Edinburgh, to act as Interim Secretary until a more representative meeting is called. This raises the point that An Comunn should see that it is represented in future Congresses by a stronger contingent than it was this year. The other Celtic countries send their leaders of thought and action. Why should An Comunn not step forward and take its rightful place in giving the Scottish point of view?

The Congress was a very happy one. The Irish were the perfect hosts, and we were very pleased to see again such enthusiasts as Professor Agnes O'Farrelly and An Seabhac and others who have attended our National Mods on various occasions. It was stimulating to meet men of moment in our sister Celtic countries and to exchange opinions and ideas as to how our languages and traditions could be maintained. The weather was fine, the food was excellent, and the ladies of the party seemed very pleased with their purchases of nylons and silk stockings and other things so long denied them, vet so dear to the feminine heart. It was a Celtic invasion, but the raiders were cheerfully welcomed by the Dublin shopkeepers. Let's hope that the Customs officers were equally considerate to the homeward returning reivers!

JOHN A. MACRAE.

# PROBLEMS BEFORE THE CELTIC NATIONS. By Professor Agnes O'Farrelly.

The Celtic Congress was probably the best gathering yet held of representatives of the various Celtic countries. Under the pageant and the high lights of the proceedings there was a deep undercurrent of almost tragic seriousness as the speakers from each group presented a picture of the slow leakage of the Celtic languages and Celtic culture in face of the inroads of cinema, radio, and world Press.

But youth and hope and enthusiasm cut across the gloom until one felt that to him who willed strongly enough victory

would finally come in this uphill fight.

The dominant note of the Congress was a desire for mutual help and encouragement and a determination that help would be given whenever practicable. To this end, a resolution to be sent to the French Ministry of Education, urging a change of policy with regard to the teaching of Berton, was passed unanimously. This resolution was proposed by Wales and seconded by Ireland.

The papers on the state of the language and native culture in each country were of revealing interest to the delegates, and the discussions which followed were, on the whole, of much importance to the movement towards checking the decay which has set in already in so many districts, and, further, towards the extension of both language and culture.

No two countries of the Celtic group have, other than in a general way, the same problems to face, nor can the approach to the solution of these problems be the same. Political, econo-

mic and religious differences exist.

The Congress has revealed that two main factors of decay are common to the entire group—first, the exodus from the country to the towns and cities; and, secondly, public indifference.

Except in Wales, and to a lesser extent in Brittany, the towns rapidly diseard the local language and absorb the younger migrants, who by degrees lost their early and more national outlook on life. How to stem this movement, now grown to an avalanche, was the great concern of the Congress, where many wise and many unwise things were said on the subject.

Public indifference is a barrier we have had to face here in the old days when the language movement was a living force in Ireland—a barrier more or less broken down by the pristine enthusiasm of a generation of selfless workers. To-day public indifference, in some cases changed to hostility, has reappeared, due, in part, to the rush of life and change of interest during the war years and the succeeding depression, and in part to unwise and mistaken methods for the spread of the language.

The indifference of the mass of the people in all the Celtic countries is largely the outcome of conditions of modern life—ease of transit, the influx of world ideas through radio and Press, and the impact of the civilisations of bigger countries.

Wales has no natural boundary between it and England, not has Brittany any line of division between it and France. Yet both these countries have succeeded in a remarkable way in maintaining their language, the most assured mark of their nationality. How this has been achieved is a matter of great interest to the other countries, where, in spite of natural emphasised particularly, and that is that in Wales and in Brittany the Church played a large part in preserving the language by using the native tongue in the services. This is surely a lesson for the other countries of the Celtic group. Where the language is used by the Church public indifference cannot exist.

The rush to cities and towns is, as we all realise, largely economic. This has been emphasised at our discussions, and the representatives of the various countries have now set their minds to endeavour, in their various ways and by various methods, to a solution of this problem.

Bring work now concentrated in towns to the countryside as far as possible, and so save the outlook of the younger generation. This is the solution favoured in Ireland and already partly in practice. But it needs development on a nation-wide scale, and particularly in the Gaeltacht, to bring the relief necessary to save the dwindling country population. Here we are fortunate in having a native Government already awake to this urgent need. What we require is immediate action before it is too late.

The lure of industrial work, both in Wales and England, is draining the Welsh countryside, just as it is draining the Irish countryside; whilst the Scottish factories and ship-building works are depopulating, not alone the Highlands, but the country parts of the Lowlands. The whole tempo of life in these countries has got to be changed if we are to save our culture. The process will, I think, be slow in the other countries outside of Ireland, whilst here our first care must be to evolve a plan that will keep the population in their own homes and living in such comfort that there is no temptation to emigrate. We have the means, and the will is there.

This burning question of migration to the cities was discussed earnestly by the delegates from Scotland, who calculate that at least 20,000 native speakers of Gaelic are concentrated in Glasgow to the irreparable loss of the Highlands and the Islands. Paradoxically enough, it is in the towns and cities of Scotland the fight goes on, but, if we are to depend on the Census returns, it is a losing one.

An interesting suggestion made at the Congress was that we should aim at a common literature and standard language for Ireland, Scotland, and Man, seeing that the Gaels of these countries can even still, without much intercourse between the countries since they broke away from the parent. Irish stem, understand each other fairly well. There is something in the ides, but the burning problem for the Celtic groups is to save our produced to the countries. All other things will follow in due course.

In communities like those of Man and Cornwall the best we can hope for in our time is the preservation of the language by a small number of speakers, and, further, that they hold on to the old culture infused into their way of life by ancestral associations. The delegates from those centres have given many ideas to the Congress and have received in return much encouragement from the larger groups. We have much to show our Celtic brethren in the way of advance and much to teach them to avoid. They will learn from us that in this struggle for the survival and the advance of a language due struggle for the survival and the advance of a language due. Humanity in this question of language will be led, but it eannet be driven.

Association at this very successful Congress with representatives of the Celtic countries still holding on to the native language will help the delegates in a variety of ways in their efforts in their own countries. They will realise, for instance, from the example of Ireland that work in the school, however good and however earnest, is not sufficient to revive the language in the home. They will learn from Wales how vitally important are the Church Services in keeping the native world about us to-day, how essential his tracker, in the new world about us to-day, how essential his tracker, in the new world about us to-day, how essential his tracker, in the new world about us to-day, how essential his tracker, in the new world about us to-day, how essential his tracker. There we see youth expressing itself and voicing its aspirations in the old tongue.

(The above article is reprinted from The Times Pictorial, Dublin.)

#### AN IONGHNADH?

Is e pàirt de bhochdainn a' chinne-daonna cho beag agus a tha de dhraph aig gach darmacha duine de chùisean cud-thromach agus buadhmhor. Bha Winston Churchill aguin leasgar an dè le òraid a chaidh a chraobh-sgaolladh air an ràdio à Talla Ailbeirt an Lunnainn agus cainnt aige a b'fhiach do dhuine ciallach air bith a chluinntian. An diugh chaidh bean sa' bhaile so sìos an t-aràid agus dh'imis i do bhean cile gun cuala i an òraid. "Ma thà," ars an tè eile, "bha mìs ag éisdeachd ris mi fhéin, ach chuir mi dheth e agus dh'il agan gur e Wilfred Pickles a b'fhear."

# THE CELTS IN THE MODERN WORLD. Address to Celtic Congress, 1947.

By Professor Agnes O'Farrelly, International Secretary.

We meet again under the shadow of nine years of world derangement—world lunacy is perhaps the better term—to gather together the threads of our Congress loosened but not broken by this dire catastrophe.

Through the Celtic Congress the scattered Celts in many lands have been enabled on many occasions during the past thirty years to hold great reunions in the various countries where the language and the culture of the Celt still persist.

I am often asked of what value is this annual or biennial Congress of ours, to what road it points, or what is its ultimate goal? I need hardly emphasise that its value is largely spiritual and its outward expression is a tightening of the bonds of friendship and of mutual help between the Celtic countries.

This meeting proclaims that the Celt is still a living force in the world; that his way of life and his culture have not yet passed; that he has still to be reckoned with in the councils of nations; that his swan song has not been sung; and that in the future, as in the past, he will project the waves of his thought and the lightning of his will into the currents of human endeavour and human advancement. Here we emphasise the contribution of the Celtic races to freedom and to civilisation, history of Europe from East to West. Philosophy from the time of Eringena, Music, Science, and in more recent centuries Folikore which we may call the literary imagination of the ordinary people.

But, though our roots are fixed firmly in the past, our gaze is on the future. The world changes and the Celt must adapt himself to the changes without giving up the root principles of his being.

This Congress has representatives from countries with a total population of roughly twelve million people. The number of Celtic-speaking people in these countries—and they are well represented here—is about three million. That is a substantial body of people and certainly worth the ear of the world.

What will be the outcome of these meetings and these deliberations? First, I see a warming and illumination of mutual esteem, private and national. Secondly, help to each other by example and encouragement in our language and cultural struggle, a struggle made infinitely more difficult today by the widespread influence of radio and cinema and mass reading, by the power of the property of the pro

These Congresses are not so impractical as may seem at first sight for already help has been given where help was needed, as in 1918 where the news came from Scotland to the Congress at Neath in Wales, that in the Scotlish Education Bill just passed a better place was given to Gaelic in the school curriculum; or again many years later when as a result of the complaint of one of the Breton delegates at another Congress, a memorandum was sent to the French government the outcome of which was a betterment of the language position in the Breton schools.

Mutual help, mutual encouragement are the watchwords of the Congress. The Welshman can point us the way in one direction, the Scot in another. Little Manann can still rouse our enthusiasm. Cornwall sends her message to say they are keeping The cellic flag flying and, though the language has almost ebbed away, the old customs and the old ways are still there.

The Breton has come this time to be comforted and helped. He can sit today with his Celtic brethren and warm his hands at the fire of their enthusiasm and their sympathy. Here in the only self-governing State of the group we have perhaps much to teach and much to learn and still more to learn to avoid. Thus we are all depending on each other.

So here in this old city of ours, in an atmosphere far removed from wars and ancient sorrows, we welcome this most representative assembly from overseas—our brothers in blood and culture, representing the remnants of the old Celtic races bordering the western seaboard of Europe. We also welcome the Irish delegates who represent societies and institutions working in various ways to keep our culture alive and glowing in a world plagued with ready-made thought and much futility.

Let us register at this Congress a solemn and heartfelt resolution that the languages and the culture of the Celt will not be extinguished in the western sea. Let our motto be, "What we have we keep."

For one glorious week or longer we shall have in being in our midst a real living Celtic nation, the nearest approach possible in an imperfect world to the full unity of the Celt Let us make it also, as far as we can, a little corner of God Kindom on earth.

#### AM BRON BINN.

Chunnaic Rìgh Bhreatann 'na shuain A' bhean b'àille snuadh fo'n ghréin, 'S gum b'fheàrr leis tuiteam dha cion Na comhradh gin ach i fhéin.

Sin labhair Sir Falaich gu fial, "Théid mi fhìn 'ga h-iarraidh dhut, Mi fhìn, mo ghille 's mo chù 'Nar triùir a shireadh na mnatha."

Seachd seachdainnean is trì mìosan Thug sinn sgìth a' siubhal cuain Mun d'fhuair sinn fearann no fonn No àit an dianadh an long tàmh.

A steach aig iomall a' chuain ghairb'i Chunnacas caisteal mìn-gheal gorm, Uinneagan glainne ri a stuaigh, Bu lìonmhor ann cuach is còrn.

'N àm dhuinne teàrnadh ri a bhun Thàinig slabhraidh dhubh a nuas; Eagal cha d'ghabh mi no fiamh, Chaidh mi oirre 'nam ruith suas.

Chunnacas a' bhean bhréid-gheal òg Ann an cathair òir a staigh, Sròl dhe'n t-sìoda fo a dà bhonn, Bheannaich mi fhìn d'a gnùis ghil.

"Fhleasgaich sin a thàinig o'n chuan, 'S fuathach do bheannachadh oirnn; Teann a nall do cheann air mo ghlùin 'S gun seinninn dhut ceòl is cruit."

Cruit air uchd na h-ighinn ghil' ùir 'S guirme sùil 's as gile deud. Thuit esan 'na shiorram suain An deidh bhith cuairteachadh cuain ghairbh.

Thug i an claidheamh geur o a chrios 'S sgud i dheth gun fhiost an ceann. Chruinnich na daoine gu léir, 'S bha a' bhean fhéin a' cumha a chuim.

Sin agaibh deireadh mo sgcòil Mar a sheinneadh am bròn binn.

(The above is "an Arthurian legend" collected in Uist by Mr. K. C. Craig).

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES. The National Mod.

Arrangements are well in hand for the National Mod, which opens with the Junior Competitions in the City Hall, Perth, on Tuesday, the 30th of this month. The total entries show a considerable increase from last year, due without doubt to the tremendous enthusiasm created by the highly successful Victory Mod held at Aberdeen last year, when the National Mod was resuscitated after being in abeyance during the war years. Following upon this the various Provincial Mods held throughout Scotland this summer (ten altogether) have also given added stimulus.

The total entries for the Aberdeen Mod reached 620, and this year we have 1076 entries, which must be considered highly satisfactory. The following table shows the number of entries in each section of the Mod Syllabus.

	JUNIOR	SE	CTION.		
Literary				 120	
Oral		٠.		 87	
Solo and Duet				 196	
Choral				 33	
					436
	SENIOR	SE	CTION.		
Literary				 32	
Oral				 52	
Solo and Duet				 430	
Instrumental				 40	
Clarsach				 13	
Musical Compi				8	
		• •		 65	
Choral		٠.		 60	040
					640
			Total	 	1076

In the Junior Section there are choirs entered from Campbeltown (two), Laxdale (Lewis), Glasgow (three), Oban (three), Nairn, Portree, Lochgilphead, Carradale, and Killin. The other Junior Competitions have attracted entries from all over Scotland, and we can look forward on the Tuesday to a fully-occupied but pleasant day with the children. The Junior Concert will be held that evening at 7.30 p.m.

The Senior Section will open on the Wednesday morning; and the Official Opening of the Mod will be held at 12 noon that day in the Large Hall. The following competitions will be completed during the day: Oran Mór, Kennedy-Fraser, Mull and Iona, District Songs, Oban and Lorn Medal, and Members. In the evening there will be a Civic Reception for members of An Comunn and Mod competitors, and those members who wish to be present should notify this Office without delay.

Thursday will be devoted to the Senior Oral Competitions and also the remainder of the competitions for solo-singing, with the James Grant, Quintin MacLennan, Uist and Barra, Clarsach, and Mod Gold Medal Finals Competitions. In the afternoon the rural choirs hold the stage, in the Large Hall, and the Folk-songs Competition will be held in the Lesser Hall. Following the usual custom the Rural Choirs' Concert will be held that evening at 7.30 p.m.

Friday is confined to Duets, Quartettes, and Senior Choirs, and also the Instrumental Section, culminating in the evening with the Mod Grand Concert which will be held at 6.30 p.m. and repeated at 8.45 p.m. All applicants for tickets are reminded to state, when making application, which house they wish to attend (6.30 p.m. or 8.45 p.m).

Tickets for the various concerts may be obtained from Messrs. Paterson, Sons & Co., Ltd., 38 South Methven Street, Perth, with whom all tickets have now been deposited. Prices of tickets are as follows (all including tax):- Junior Concert, 2/- (Reserved) and 1/-; Rural Choirs' Concert, 3/6 (Reserved). 2/6, 1/-; Grand Concert (6.30 p.m. and 8.45 p.m.), 5/-(Reserved), 3/6 (Reserved), 2/6, 1/-

There are 68 aspirants for the Mod Gold Medals—36 ladies and 32 gentlemen. The Medals are, of course, awarded to the lady and gentleman gaining the highest aggregate

marks in the Oran Mór, James Grant, and Gold Medal Final Competitions. The Oban and Lorn Medal claims the attention of 64 competitors, while other competitions which have attracted large entries are those confined to members of An Comunn, its Branches and Affiliated Societies.

The competition for the supreme award for choral singing at the Mod-the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield-has assumed its pre-war proportions, and entries are forward from the four Glasgow choirs, in addition to choirs from Stornoway: Greenock, Campbeltown, Oban, and Clydebank. The competition for Ladies' Choirs has attracted seventeen entries. including several from the rural areas, which are also challenging the bigger choirs in the Puirt-a-Beul Competition. In addition to those forward last year, we welcome the return to the Rural Choirs' Competition of Killin, Taynuilt, Tarbert (Argyll), and Newtonmore.

Many of our members and others interested in the Mod. who are not in the fortunate position of being able to be present in Perth, will welcome the news that the B.B.C. have decided to make several broadcasts from the Mod, full details of which will appear in The Radio Times and the daily press. The B.B.C. have further decided to broadcast a Mod Gaelic Service on the Sunday following the Mod, and this will be held in the City Hall, Perth. At the time of going to press full details are not available.

All Choir Secretaries and Conductors are respectfully reminded and earnestly urged to have all choristers in their places in good time, as it is only by united co-operation that we shall be able to commence competitions and concerts at the advertised time, thereby keeping faith with the public and making for the smooth running of the Mod.

# -----BAS CHAIRDEAN.

Mr. Duncan Johnston.

It was with deep regret that we learned of the death, on Sunday, 20th July, of Duncan Johnston of Islay. Mr. Johnston, Bard and Gaelic scholar of note, had been fighting ill-health for a considerable time; indeed, ill-health was the reason for relinquishing his appointment on the staff of Glasgow University as Attendant and Librarian in the Department of Natural Philosophy. He died at his home in Kelbourne Street, Glasgow, and was interred in Kilnaughton Cemetery in his native Islay. Our deep sympathy goes out to his widow and family in their great bereavement.

Born in Lagavulin, Islay, sixty-six years ago, Duncan Johnston spent his whole life in the service of the language and culture of his people. A man of super-abundant talent, he was poet, musician, historian, genealogist and folklorist, and he gave of these talents unstintingly to his country and fellow-Gaels.

In my capacity as Hon. Secretary of the constituting committee for the proposed Scottish Folklore Institute, I had much correspondence with Duncan Johnston during the last few weeks of his life; for, though his state of health would not permit him actively to participate in our meetings, he was more than willing to help us with suggestions and advice by letter, and he did so in several long letters, the last one reaching me just two days before he died. His letters made it abundantly clear that, whatever the state of his health, his interest in the affairs of Gaeldom was as strong as ever, one of his last acts being to write down a considerable part of the lore that he himself knew, in order that he might give it to the new Insti-

At the Perth Mod in 1929 Mr. Johnston was crowned Bard of An Comunn Gaidhealach. His prize-winning poem, "Do'n Ghealaich," though among the finest examples of modern Gaelic poetry, is not his best piece; the longer poem, "An Guth," is, in the opinion of many, the best Gaelic poem written in the last half-century. In 1938 Mr. Johnston published the first volume of his works, "Cronan nan Tonn," and at the time of his death he had the second volume almost ready for publication. It is to be hoped that his complete works will be published at the earliest possible date.

It is as a poet and musician that Dunean Johnston will be most remembered. Wherever Gaelic is spoken and sung his name will live in affection and reverence. He wrote with an understanding and sympathy that were the manifestations of his own deep love of Gaelic and of all things Highland. His poetry and music are characterised by spontaneity, lack of strain, and the simplicity that is the essence of true genius.

His own native island owes much to the Bard. Since the days of Iain tog Ile no one has so diligently collected the fragments of Isiay history, song, and story. Because of his diligence and loyalty, much that might have been lost can now be preserved for all time. Lovingly and patiently he gathered fragments of old Islay songs and music, and in rebuilding them invested them with something of his own genius, giving to them an added lustre and beauty.

By the death of Duncan Johnston a loss has been sustained by the Gaelic Cause that will not easily be made up. The revival of interest in the Gaelic language and culture, which has been making itself so much felt during the last few years, owes much to his efforts. His constant faith that the cause of Gaelic was not a lost one and the tremendous amount of work that he put in to ensure that it would not be lost, will not be forgotten by the self of the constant faith that the cause is that they should make greater and greater efforts to make Gaelic a living and revitalising force in Scottish life.

Thànig obair a' bhàird gu crìoch, ach cho fad 's a bhitheas Gàidheal beo, 's einn agus a' labhairt no Gàidhig, bibidh meas agus cliù air ainm Dhomchaidh Mhiclain. Fàgaidh sinn e a nìs, mar a thuirt e fhéin, 'Na chadal skimh maille ris na seann daoine còire ann an Cill Neachdain, fada shìos ri taobh na tràgha.

"Far an caoin na daimh 's nach saltair nàmh,
'S nach freumhaich beud no truaigh."

Duncan MacDougall.

We also regret to record the deaths of other members and friends.

#### MR. KENNETH M. GRANT.

Mr. Kenneth M. Grant, M.A., The Schoolhouse, Braco, Perthshire, died suddenly at Dunblane, on 31st July, at a comparatively early age. A native of Skye, Kenneth Grant spent most of his teaching career on the staff of Fort William Secondary School, and there he played a prominent part in the community, being associated particularly with the Dramatic Club and with Comun Gaidhealach a Ghearasdain. Four years ago he was appointed to Dunblane School and last October he transferred to Braco. During these past two or more command and rendered aplendid service as teacher of the Gaelic class. Kenneth's death removes from us a keen and hard-working supporter of the Cause and a most likable personality. We would express deep sympathy with his wife and family in their sore loss.

### REV. D. J. ROBERTSON.

The Rev. Donald John Robertson, Minister of Jura, died no 16th July in his 78th year. He belonged to the parish of Strath, Skye, and was ordained and inducted to the parish of Jura, his only charge, forty-four years ago. He was a member of An Comunn and on occasion served as an adjudicator in mod junior literary competitions. In his early days he was associated with the founding of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal in Glasgow.

#### MR. WILLIAM NICHOLSON.

Mr. William Nicholson, Ardeneaple, Rhu, died recently. He was a life member of An Comunn and was a former President of the Helensburgh and Clan Colquhoun Highland Association and a keen supporter of the movement.

We express our sympathy with the relatives of these departed friends:

#### SUIL AIR AIS.

- Gur tric a bhios mi smaointinn air na b'aithne dhomh 's mi òg.
  - 'S nuair thig iad 'na mo chuimhne, le mo shùilean thig na deòir:
  - Tha aoibhneas tighinn gu m'inntinn, ged a bhios mo chridhe leònt',
  - 'S mi faicinn an cuid ìomhaigh mar gum biodh iad fhathast beò.
- Bha seann daoine san àite sin san d'fhuair mi m'àrach òg; Iad coibhneil is neo-eismeileach, neo-uaibhreach ach làn
  - Cha lùbadh iad mar thràillean h-aon dhiubh 'n glùn do neach bha beò; Bha uaisle agus àrdan annt' gun chealgaireachd 's gun ghò.
- 3. Bu tric a thug iad earail domh gu coibhneil, tiamhaidh, blàth.
- 'S a dh'iarr iad orm bhith faicilleach am briathr' 's an gnìomh gun tàmh ;
  - Bhith 'n còmhnaidh strì ri deanamh sith ri caraid agus nàmh, 'S gun uachdranas bhiodh mi-chiatach a chur an ùis gu
- bràth.
- O, 's iomadh mais' bha fuaighte ris na seann daoin' uaisle còir;
- Iad ciallach is deas-bhriathrach agus fialaidh anns gach dòigh. Bha gliocas 's tùr 'nan còmhradh-san 's beachdan geur gun
- sgleò, 'S bha cùisean tric glé shoilleir dhaibh tha 'n diugh cur
- 5. Nis cumamaid 'nar cuimhne iad d'an tug sinn rùn is spéis, Bha uasal agus cuimneasach—iad ciatach, rianail, réidih. Bidh sinn tha beò san linn so 'gan ailleis anns gach ceum, 'S ag comandh meas is artachaidh am beachd na thig 'nar

NIALL MACGILLEATHAIN.



### SWITZERLAND'S FOURTH LANGUAGE.

déidh.

By Alexander McKechnie.

A recent convalescence in the Engadine has introduced to me the fourth national language of the polyglot Swiss Nation, namely, Rhaeto-Romanic. This is spoken, in two dialects called Ladin and Romansch, by about 40,000 people in Switzerland, and by an unknown number in Austria and Fruili (Italy).

The Rhaetians—I presume a Celtic tribe—were conquered by the Romans in A.D. 15, and they adopted the language of their conquerors, which they still speak in a comparatively pure form. As a matter of interest, I. was told that the only remaining Celtic word in the vocabulary was the word for a wood, i.e. "god" (Brythonic "cred"). From the national point of view it is indeed a sign of the

From the national point of view it is indeed a sign of the racial and linguistic impartiality of the Swiss that for the last twenty years the language of a virtually purely agricultural community has been placed on the same level as that of the Swiss German, French, and Italian speaking members of the rest of the Swiss Confederation, and that all Swiss children— Civil Servants' in particular—irrespective of the parental language, living in the Grisons are taught Romanseh from the kindergarten stage, as well as German (and later, of course,

For these 40,000 Swiss there is a flourishing Press and many books are printed in Ladin (the dialect around St. Moritz) and Romansch. The most attractive children's book I have ever seen (and bought) has recently been published in both dialects. This deals with the trials and troubles of young "Oursins" who wants to get a redly big cow-bell for the "Chalandamar," (first of March), when the little bdys dress up and ring in the Spring. For those who pridd themselves upon their Latin, the

first four lines of this delightful poem in its "Ladin" text may be of interest :

"Sue of in las muntagnas blovas Dinuonder vegnan gio las ovas, Lo ais uen pitschen miser vih

Al pe dad uen superbi spih . . (" Pitschen," however, sounds a bit Teutonic !)

Encouraged by the Swiss Government, and controlled by the Lia Rumantscha/Ligia Romontscha, at the helm of which stands young, enthusiastic Doctor Pult of the Chiesa Planta (a magnificent house and museum once belonging to the de Salis family), the ancient language of Rome still proudly resounds around the majestic peaks of the Engadine and even in the streets of St. Moritz !

And, if 40,000 people can develop this culture, when surrounded by languages like German, French, and Italian, and deafened daily by every form and dialect of English, why cannot another equally ancient race with four times the number do the same? What about it, a Chlanna nan Gaidheal!

Tha lionn-dubh oirnn, mar a theirear ann an Eirinn!

## A' GHAIDHLIG ANNS NA SGOILEAN ARDA.

Tha an Sgrìobtur ag aslachadh gun "coir dhuinn an ro thuilleadh aire a thoirt do na nithibh a chuala sinn air eagal uair sam bith gun leigeamaid ruith leotha," ach tha eagal orm nach 'eil an fhìrinn-sa a' deanamh móran drùdhaidh air cuid de chinn-iùil an fhòghluim an àrd-sgoilean na Gàidhealtachd.

Gabh mar eisimpleir té de na h-àrd-sgoilean as motha th'againn anns na h-Eileanan. Tha àireamh mhór de a sgoileirean air an tarruing bho bhailtean beaga na tuath, far a bheil còrr is 20,000 pearsa a' bruidhinn Gàidhlig a h-uile latha dh'éireas iad. Chan aithne dhomh sgoil eile an Alba aig a bheil cothroman cho fàbharach gu Gàidhlig a theagasg 's a tha aig an sgoil so, bho'n cheum as ìosla gus an ceum as àirde. Ach, seall ort, ciod e tha tachairt ?

Aig ceasnachadh an Leaving Certificate am bliadhna cha do choisinn an sgoil ach dà theisteanas air son Gàidhlig mu choinneamh 21 air son Frangais, 14 air son Laidinn, agus 5 air son Gearmailt (cànain nan Nàsach)! A nis, chan 'eil mise idir an aghaidh a bhith ag ionnsachadh chànainean coimheach. Tha sin ceart gu leòir 'na àite fhéin. Ach, ann an ainm Iehosaphait agus fìor fhòghluim, car son a thàtar a' meas na

Gàidhlig mar chuspair gun diù ?

Tha a làn thide aig "curriculum" na sgoile so a bhith air a
dhealbh air a leithid de dhòigh 's gu faigh a' Ghàidhlig—

cainnt mhàthaireil nan oileanach-cothrom na Féinne Bu chòir do'n Chomunn an "Riot Act" a leughadh agus

gaoth a chur fo na h-itean aig na màirnealaich. LUCHRUBAN.

## BRETON-SCOTTISH FESTIVAL IN BRITTANY.

At the beginning of August a Celtic Festival was held at Morlaix, Brittany, for the benefit of widows and orphans of the Free French Forces and also, according to a press statement, as an effort to revive interest in Breton customs and traditions, which has been waning since the German occupation.

The Friends of France Council, under the chairmanship of Lord Invercivde, arranged for a large party from Scotland to attend the Festival. An Comunn were invited to send over a party of Gaelic singers. As holders of the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield, the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Choir were asked to take part, and also Mrs. Petrine M. Stewart (Mod Medallist), Mr. Angus Whyte (Mod Medallist), and Mr. Alasdair Matheson. Others invited were the Glasgow Police Pipe Band and Queen's Park Football Club. The party went by air from Prestwick and had a most comfortable crossing.

A very successful concert was given, and the programme included several pieces by the "G.G." Choir and solos by Petrine Stewart, Jean Cameron Greer, Donald MacVicar, and Iain R. Douglas. Angus Whyte and Alasdair Matheson contributed puirt-a-beul items and were well received. In addition the Bretons had several soloists and a team of folkdancers. The huge audience were thrilled by the Glasgow Police Pipers and Dancers. A repeat concert was held the following evening. The G. G." Choir and the Police Pipe Band also took part in an open-air broadcast the following day, arranged in co-operation with the B.B.C. There was also a religious service, and a beautiful wreath of heather was laid on the Morlaix War memorial on behalf of the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association.

Scottish football prestige was well upheld by the Queen's Park team, who gained a 6-2 victory over a combined eleven of Breton amateurs.

Lord Inverslyde headed the Scottish contingent, and the Scots were most hospitably entertained throughout the visit, under the direction of General Sice. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. MacConochie for his capable handling of the arrangements on behalf of An Comunn.

#### EADAR SINN FHEIN.

#### COMUNN BEULOIDEAS NA H-ALBANN.

A Charaid,—Rinn sinn uile gàirdeachas ann a bhith faicinn gu bheil ullachadh 'ga dheanamh air son Comunn Beuloideis a chur air chois an Albainn, agus is cuimir dealbhach an litir a chuir an t-Urr. Calum MacGilleathain anns A Ghàidheal mu dheireadh timchioll air a' cheart chuspair sin. Gun teagamh, nam biodh comunn de'n t-seòrsa so air iomairt o chionn leth-cheud bliadhna bhiodh e comasach ioma seanchas is beul-aithris luachmhor a chur air mhaireann, ach is mór m'eagal gun deachaidh iad sin uile fo fhòid na tunga còmhla ri duslaich nan daoine còire a bhiodh 'gan aithris gu cuimir, ach tha iarmad maith de sheann eachdraidh is de sheanchasan an Innse-Gall fhathast.

Tha seanchaidh cho abalta agus a thachair rium fhéin riamh beò, slàn, foirmeil. anns an Ob (Leverburgh) anns na Hearadh-Tormod MacLeòid no Tormod Seònaid, mar a chanas na h-eòlaich ris. Fhuair mi fhéin móran de fhiosrachadh uaithe mu sheann eachdraidh na Hearadh agus is e mo bheachd nach 'eil duine air an t-slios aig a bheil uibhir de bheachd air eachdraidh Eaglais Mhór Chliamain agus air na seann laoich chòire a tha air an tiodhlacadh an caibealan aosda a' chlaidh sin. Sheall e dhomh a' cheart bhad anns an eaglais far an robh Màiri Nighean Alasdair Ruaidh air a tiodhlacadh, agus is e fhéin an glùn as fhaisge oirre an càirdeas.

Tha mo charaid a' cheart cho fileanta am Beurla Shasainn agus a tha e an Gàidhlig, agus chan 'eil seanchas no aithris a chuala e riamh nach do chùm e air a chuimhne gu cuimir.

B'fhiach do Chomunn a' Bheuloideis duine fileanta a chur fad geamhraidh a dh'aon ghnothach do'n Ob, agus gheibheadh e eachdraidh is beul-aithris na Hearadh gu pongail dealbhach o Thormod Seònaid. Agus is e fhéin a bhiodh suilbhir sona ag cur gach cuspair àrsaidh a tha sin air mhaireann. Tha mise an dòchas gun gabhar cothrom air a' chothrom anns a' chuis sin.

IAIN N. MACLEOID.

#### AM BIOBULL GAIDHLIG.

Fhir mo Chridhe,-Is eadh, is ann mar sin a bha agus a tha. Tha cuimhne agam air cho minic agus a chuala mi daoine ag ràdh, "Is ann anns a' Bhiobull a tha a' Ghàidhlig as feàrr a tha ann." Agus uair is uair (ris an duine cheart, tha fhios agad) thuirt mi, "Có am Biobull a tha sibh ag ciallachadh ?

Is iomadh sin laimhseachadh ùr a fhuair am Biobull Gàidhlig o chuireadh an clò e air tùs! Tha tomhais de eachdraidh a' chaochlaidh a thàinig agus a tha tighinn air a' Ghàidhlig anns gach "ceartachadh" a rinneadh air cainnt nan Sgrìobturan againn. Nach minic a ghabh fear an tsuidheachain ionghnadh mu leughadh fear-na-crannaige agus Biobull de'n t-seana chumail aige shuas!

Is glan agus is cothromach Gàidhlig a' Bhiobuill againn, ged nach ruig a h-aon againn a leas a chumail a mach gu bheil i neo-choireach mar chainnt. Bha Gàidhlig againn sgrìobhte roimh Ghàidhlig a' Bhiobuill a bha uasal agus grinn agus nearthmhor. Agus tha a chomharra eadhon air Gàidhlig a' Bhiobuill, agus is maith gu bheil.-Le na beannachdan,

BODACHAN.

#### TAING!

Dear Six.—Allow me to thank someone who has sent me ten copies of An Gaidheal, without any note that I can trace and without any identification marks. I found in them signs that some portions had been studied with care! These copies I shall now redirect to the Isle of Boerany in North Uist, where Colin MacLean is the sole tenant in occupation. His must be one of the most isolated families in Scotland to-day. Ach is maith a choir ann.—Yours beartily, MatColM MaCLEAN.

#### TAILLEAR NA MANACHAINN.

Fhir-deasachaidh ionmhainn,—Tha an sgeul a thug ar caraid, Iain N. MacLeòid, dhuinn air a h-aithris anns na h-Eileanna Siar, agus tha e iongantach muc cuala e an dearbh sgeul mu'n chagailt iomadh uair anns na h-Eileanan.

Anns an eilean bheag san d'fhuair mìse m' àrach (ged nach b'ann ann a rugadh mì) tha iomadh sgeul aca air nithean a thachair ann an cladh. Ann an naidheachd an tàilleir is e tha an guth ag ràdh, agus gun nì ri fhaicinn ach dòrn a mhàin, 'Am faic thu mo dhòrn mhòr, gun fhuil, ag chirgh riut, a thàilleir?' Tha an tàillear air ball a' freagairt, 'Faicim sin is fuaighim sc! 'Faicim sin is fuaighim sc!'

Ann an naidheachd eile, chuir tàillear crùbach geall nach deanadh duine a ghiùlain troimh an chladh aig marbhan a' mheadhon-diche. Ghabh gille tapaidh os làimh so a dheanamh, agus rinn e air a' chladh leis an tàillear aige air a' dhronnaiz.

Ciod e ach gu robh dithis fhear a muigh an oidhche sin agus iad dol a ghoid muilt. Chaidh fear dhiubh a dh'iarraidh a' bheathaich, agus dh'fhuirich am fear eile 'na shineadh gu sàmhach san fheur anns a' chladh. An uair chunnaic am fear so an gille a' tishinn leis an tàillear chrìbach, shaoil e gur h-c

a chompanach à bha air tilleadh leis an t-sithinn, agus ghlaodh e, "Am bheil e reamhar?" Ghabh an gille a leithid de dh'eagal 's gun do thiig e an taillear bhuaithe, agus thug en a buinn as. "Reamhar no de," ars esan, "tha e agad an sud, 's dean do thoil ris."—Mise le spéis,

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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 Sk. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.I. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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