

# An Gaidheal.



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# An Gaidheal:

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212 WEST GEORGE STREET, GLASGOW.

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*An Dàmhar, 1931.*

[Earrann 1

## OROID A' CHINN SUIDHE.

(Aig Mòd Inbhirpheotharain.)

Tha aobhar gàirdeachais againn gu bheil am Mòd air tighinn air ais gu taobh tuath na Gaidhealtachd. Tha e iomchuidh gum biodh eud ga dhùsgadh anns an taobh tuath. Chan eil aon mheadhon cho maith ri Mòd gu eud a dhùsgadh. Tha còig bliadhna fichead o chumadh an cruinneachadh bliadhnail an Inbhirpheotharain roimhe. Anns an aimsir sin is iomadh caochladh a thainig air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Chan eil feum a bhi togail ùine le bhi cuir-neachadh air na thachair. Tha an rìoghachd an diùhr ri aghaidh nithean doirbhe. Chan fhaodar misneach a chall ged tha cùisean cruaidh. Bha e riamh mar chleachdadh aig na Gaidheil gum biodh iad duineil an uair a thigeadh iad ri uchd cruadail.

\* \* \*

Tha sinn a' cur fàilte aon turas eile air ceannabhaille Siorramachd Rois. Tha sinn a' tairginn buidheachais do luchd dreuchd na comhairle anns a' chearn so, airson cho saothrachail agus cho soirbheachail 's a bha iad a' deanamh ullachaidh airson a' Mhòid. Tha sinn mar an ceudna a toirt taing chridheil do luchd riaghlaidh a' bhaile agus do mhuinntir an àite, airson furan cho caoimhneil a chur oirnn an am dhùinn tighinn gu Inbhirpheotharain. Air an t-seachdain so gheibh sinn cothrom air coinneachadh ri Gaidheil as gach cearn. Bidh an comh-chomunn cairdeil so air a

dhaingneachadh mar bu dual le aoidhealachd is ceòl. Tha na cothroman so luachmhor gu bhi 'neartachadh a chèile, agus a' gabhail beachd air na gnòthuichean a tha tachairt ann ar latha a thaobh soirbheachaidh a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich.

\* \* \*

Is ceart ainmeachadh aig an am gun tainig call mòr air aobhar na Gaidhlig troimh bhàs ceithreir no chòigneir a bha eudmhor is gnìomhach air sgàth na cànan. Thachair sin anns a' bhliadhna so chaidh. Is i a' cheist a bheil gaisgich as ùr ag éiridh suas nan àite? Tha e feumail gum biodh a' bhratach ga cumail suas, air eagal mas fàilnich misneach na feadhnaich a tha strì an aghaidh tàire is mì-chùram. Tha sinn taingeil gun teagamh gu faodar sgeul thaitneach innse mu dheidhinn A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich; gu bheil a' fhreumhan a' gabhail greim daingean anns an fhearann; gu bheil a' mheanglain a' sgaoileadh a mach air feadh na dùthcha; gu bheil e a' fàs a thaobh àireamh nam ball, agus a thaobh lìonmhòrachd nan còisir agus nam mòd dhùthchail. A thuilleadh air sin tha an ceòl a' faotainn aire shonruichte. Tha an luchd seinn a' slor thighinn gu feabhas anns an alt sin; agus tha an luchd éisdeachd a' fàs nas géire nan càil, agus nas gleusda nam breithneachadh. Tha foghlum na cànan a' dol air aghaidh an àireamh de na sgoiltean. Tha luchd stiùiridh an fhoghlaim a' deanamh cuidichidh leis A' Chomunn air feadh na Gaidhealtachd. Ach tha siorramachd no dha anns an taobh tuath far a faodadh iad an corr a dheanamh.

Gus a so cha d'ainmich mi ach na nìthan taitneach. Tha dà thaobh air a' chùis. O chionn ghoidid chuala sinn gu bheil àireamh nan Gaidheal a' slor dhol nas gainne, agus gu bheil a' chànan fhéin a' slor dhol a cleachdadh. Feumar aideachadh gu bheil na Gaidheil a' fàgail na dùthcha. Chan urrainn An Comunn casg a chur air sin. Ach is e tha ann ceist eile a thaobh dearmad na càinain. Chan eil leigseul aig a' Ghaidheal airson a chainnt mhàtharail a leigeil bàs. Cha chumair ar càinain beò mur bi sinn ga labhairt. Is e sin, tha mi an dùil, an nì as miosa anns a' ghnòthuch so air fad; is e sin—nach labhair daoine an càinain fhéin an uair a thig iad an ceann a chèile aig mòd no aig coinneamh chàrdeil. Thig Gaidheil gu mòd agus labhraidh iad Beurla, an uair a tha an cainnt bhlasda féin a' fulang tàire, agus a slor dhol bàs le cion cleachdaidh. Tha fios gu maith nach eil a' Ghaidhlig farusda a h-ionnsuchadh. Is ann mar sin bu chòir do Ghaidheil an tuilleadh dlchill a dheanamh gus a' chainnt fhoghlum. Ged tha an ceòl gu maith, cha chum seinn a' Ghaidhlig beò. Tha e iomchuidh gum biodh a h-uile ball de'n Chomunn a' cur roimhe gu dian, gun dean e oidheip air a' chainnt a thogail agus a chleachdadh. Bu chòir gum biodh cròilean leughaidh anns gach meanglan, agus gum biodh comhradh ga chumail aig gach tràth anns an t-seann chàinain. Mur deanar so cha bhì ar saothair gu léir ach diomhain; theid ar càinain air di-chuimhne; agus theid ar cinneadh a shlugadh suas agus a chall am measg sluagh nan coigreach.

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### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—The official opening of the Mod affords an opportunity for a reference to our present position, and for a brief survey of things that ought to be done. In the past few weeks, between the financial crisis and the results of the census, we have been plunged into a sombre mood. I have mentioned the financial crisis. May I use it as an illustration and no further, to suggest the need, in this movement, for the practical mind that will take immediate action.

The Gaelic Mod has been the means during the past forty years of creating within us a race-consciousness. We were about to be swallowed up when we became

aware of the fact that we had a language, and a culture of our own. Incidentally we began to look within, to see whether all the things that had been said about us by strangers were true. They said that we were easily discouraged if our first attempt was not crowned with victory. The practice of war through many centuries has bred in our folk a quality of determination. Let it be carefully noted, however, that this determination grew in an atmosphere of hostility. It would seem as if the pertinacity of our race demanded a "cue for passion," a certain spur, such as a feeling of resentment or indignation. The problem for us is to maintain this habit of pertinacity in time of peace, and in the arts, industries, and professions which belong to peace. The doggedness and staying power which the Gael has displayed in war will soon be applied to the interests and pursuits of civic life.

You may hear it sometimes said that this Gaelic movement is founded on enthusiasm, and that Gaelic enthusiasm soon dies down. Well, that is the way with enthusiasm, whether in Gael or Saxon. This quality never remains long at the boiling point. The Gael is capable of intense enthusiasm. It is in regard to this noble though volatile gift that he has still to study his own temperament, and bring the force of reason to bear—not, indeed, to quench enthusiasm when it is strong, but rather to step in and supply the necessary spur when a healthy enthusiasm tends to wane.

If you desire to keep a language alive you will need to *speak* it. Sheer neglect has been the main reason for the decline of Gaelic. How frequently has one heard a non-Gaelic-speaking Gael express himself in words of regret such as these: "It is a pity I never learned Gaelic when I had the opportunity. My parents spoke it very well, but I haven't got a word of it. I wish I had." There are hundreds of people to-day who are in this position. Such cases illustrate how, if we had all been like that, the language would have passed away under our very eyes in one generation. What lesson are we to learn from this circumstance? The lesson is—let parents who know the language speak it to their children in the home. Unless Gaelic is spoken between parent and child in the home, the chance of its survival is slender. The child entertains a greater respect for the language on being addressed in it by the parent.

Whenever a language ceases to be used in the playground the fate of that language is sealed.

An Comunn Gaidhealach has many hundreds of members who are fluent Gaelic speakers. But when they come to a Mod no one would ever suspect they had any Gaelic. They never speak it to one another. Herein, of course, lies the misfortune and the tragedy. This anomalous feature of our National Mod has been a source of amazement and amusement to intelligent strangers. To think that you can keep Gaelic alive by merely talking *about* it in English! A few weeks ago I was present at the Celtic Congress in the Isle of Man. There were about a score of delegates from Wales. When they addressed each other they spoke in Welsh every time. They only spoke English to those who did not understand Welsh. We shall have to take a leaf out of their book. Those of us who already know Gaelic will require to speak it to each other at our gatherings. And those who are not yet sufficiently familiar with it, will need to practise until they attain a reasonable proficiency. Let this be your hobby. It would be an intelligent hobby which would add to your knowledge, and give you the satisfaction of doing your share to preserve the grand old tongue.

Every branch of An Comunn ought to have a language class. In the meantime the social element is very strong in not a few branches. But it ought to be the aim of every branch to encourage the study of the language. An Comunn has provided a series of graded reading books. *There is more Gaelic now being read than ever before.* The press of the country is favourable. Recently an important weekly paper, the *Scots Observer*, devoted a whole issue to the Highlands, and also published a Gaelic article in the same number. There are several publications which print Gaelic regularly. Readers are growing in numbers and critical acumen. There is an increasing demand for good prose. A considerable body of educated Gaels, men and women, have gained a University degree in Gaelic. I believe these could write excellent prose if only they set their minds to it. Let them but make the experiment, and they will be surprised to see how warmly their effort will be appreciated. There is need for a fresh note in Gaelic prose. The past has already been sufficiently emphasised. Interest can now be arrested more easily by stressing the requirements of the present. The fact that

such a need exists is surely a sign of vitality. It also indicates how greatly the press could help to resuscitate the life of Gaelic.

I feel that a definite statement should be made as to the utility of Gaelic to the man whose mother tongue it is. Let him regard his language not merely as an object of sentiment, but as an intellectual possession. It is to him a great advantage mentally. It will be admitted that the capacity of the human brain is increased in proportion to the number of impressions it contains. Just as your arm gets stronger by exercise, so the brain grows more powerful by an increase in its stock of ideas. Say that an ordinary business man understands 10,000 English words. He has a distinct conception for every one of these terms. His mental efficiency will depend, generally speaking, on his power to master so many ideas. But supposing you also take the case of a bilingual Gael who knows these 10,000 English words, but has also, in addition, an absolute control of another 10,000 words of his native Gaelic. The man has a larger range of mental impressions. And it sometimes happens that his mental grasp is larger accordingly. And further, a knowledge of Gaelic gives you such a control of sounds that you can pronounce any language. Highlanders who go to the Indian Civil Service assure us that their knowledge of Gaelic is a great help in acquiring other tongues. The young Gael who goes to fill a post in Brazil soon discovers the utility of knowing *two* languages. The advantage of possessing a mother tongue so rich and expressive as Gaelic is a valuable asset to the young aspirant in business or service abroad.

The natural setting for Gaelic is a life in the open. Its genius clings to the sea, the mountain, and the glen. It was in that rugged environment that the language was formed; its words and idioms were moulded in the shadow of the hills; its poetry and music drew their colour and quality from the heart of Nature. Though the Gael who has migrated to the city may do his best to maintain an interest in Gaelic, yet the main hope for the language is not in the city, but in the country. We can see that the future of our mother tongue is controlled by forces which are industrial and economic. However little we may be able to influence these forces, yet it is proper to express the conviction that Gaelic can only be at its best in those surroundings in which it first acquired its peculiar charm.



## THE DINGWALL MOD, 1931.

The National Mod of 1931 was held in the town of Dingwall. Notwithstanding the long distance of Dingwall from the larger centres of population, the Mod of this year has been an unprecedented success, both in point of numbers attending the sessions and concerts, and also in point of the sums of money gathered beforehand, and drawn in the course of the Mod week. An Comunn has cause to be proud of the event; and the local committee deserves, and receives, the highest honour and gratitude for its wonderful achievement in this matter. The Mod was truly on its native heath, and the heather was indeed on fire. The fire will spread in the North. This was no mere surface enthusiasm. Its reality and effectiveness are amply proved by the results.

The municipality of Dingwall, the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors, extended the most cordial welcome to the Mod. The extent and warmth of the hospitality were remarkable. And the inhabitants entered with equal zest into the spirit of the occasion. The streets of the town were gay with bunting. The shops were decorated with Gaelic inscriptions. The atmosphere was intensely Gaelic; and many a Gael who cannot yet read his native tongue received his first lesson from deciphering the inscriptions over the business establishments. The press of the country has been most favourable. The news placards were printed in Gaelic. The reports were full and friendly. An Comunn is grateful to editors and reporters for an excellent press, which is so helpful in bringing the cause before the public with literary grace and power.

According to precedent, the whole of Tuesday was devoted to the Junior Competitions. No less than fourteen junior choirs from all parts of Scotland took part in the competitions. This point is particularly interesting. The destinies of Gaelic are with the young. To hear natural and correct Gaelic from the lips of so many youthful enthusiasts may be taken as an assurance that Gaelic will not die quite so soon as some prophets have foretold. The quality of Tuesday's work was generously appraised by the judges. The junior choir from Laxdale maintained its high reputation, and secured the *Oban Times* Trophy for choral singing, and the Shiant Shield for action singing. In the evening of Tuesday a very good concert was given by the prize-

winners in the vocal and oral departments. The chair was taken by D. J. Macleod, Esq., D.Litt., who very clearly and succinctly pointed out the great value of Children's Day at the National Mod. The numerous prize-winners were heard to advantage. The winner in recitation, open to all juniors, was Chrissie Campbell, twelve years of age, from Dunvegan, Skye. For the first time in the history of the Mod, the junior recitation was encored by a very appreciative audience. In the course of the proceedings, Mrs. Macleod of Skeabost gracefully handed the two shields, cups, medals, and the other prizes, to the successful competitors.

Wednesday was devoted to solo singing. In one competition, the Oban and Lorne, there were 65 competitors. In the class for members of An Comunn, there were 32 men singers. The first prize was gained by John Mackenzie, Strathpeffer, who sang the new rallying song *O hi ri ri*. For the female section of this class there were 35 ladies. For the "James Grant Memorial" there were 33 men and 28 ladies.

The official opening of the Mod took place at noon on Wednesday, in the Town Hall. There was an unusually good attendance. The President gave an English address and a Gaelic oration, the substance of which is given in this number. Provost Murray of Dingwall extended a cordial welcome to the Mod, and voiced the pleasure of the municipality over the evident success of the National Mod in the capital of Ross-shire. He very rightly emphasised the importance of a Mod such as this in kindling new interest and enthusiasm. Dr. Galbraith, Medical Officer for Ross and Cromarty, proposed a vote of thanks to the President. In the evening a civic reception was given in the Town Hall by the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors. The attendance was very large, and the spirit of the gathering made one realise a note of genuine purpose such as one seldom feels at ordinary social functions. The Provost gave a graceful and cordial welcome, and very happily showed that the Mod must feel at home in that ancient burgh, which was the capital of a county that had produced so many distinguished men, soldiers, preachers, poets, and men of learning. The gratitude of An Comunn was expressed by the President. Provost MacEwen of Inverness referred in felicitous terms to the Mod and the movement which it stands for. His speech was marked as usual by wise insight and elegance of diction.



On Thursday, the leading events were the oral competitions, the rural choirs, and the final struggle for the two gold medals of An Comunn for solo singing. In this class the medal for ladies was won by Miss Helen T. Macmillan, Scotstoun (a native of Mull), and for male voices the gold medal went to Archibald Grant, Glasgow (a native of Skye). There was keen competition in the oral classes. This is a most vital part of the Mod proceedings, and deserves every encouragement. Thirteen rural choirs entered. The rural choir is a recent development, and is attracting great attention. Those choirs who were not successful deserve the thanks of all for their trouble and devotion, coming long distances and at great expense. They have the satisfaction of giving a good lift to the cause, even if their turn for a prize has not yet arrived. Let them persevere. Their turn will come. The Campbell of Airds Shield was won by the Glenurquhart Choir. The rural choir concert on Thursday evening was an unprecedented success. The chair was taken by the Hon. Mrs. Smyth of Ness Castle, who has been so generous to the movement, and has also presented a shield for ladies' choirs. Her able speech from the chair evinced her deep interest in the work of An Comunn. The vote of thanks of the gathering to the Hon. Mrs. Smyth was proposed by the President.

Friday was the day for quartette and choral singing. Seven quartettes entered, and nine choirs competed for the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield. Special credit and recognition are due to the London Choir. By travelling close on 700 miles to the Mod they have set an example which is most helpful, and which shows indomitable pluck. The audience appreciated their performance very highly. The winning choir also came a long and difficult journey, all the way from Campbeltown. Let all unsuccessful choirs remember that if this time they go home without the shield, they do not go home without appreciation and gratitude. They have all borne their important share in making the Mod the success it was. The concerts on the Friday evening were wonderfully attended. Four concerts were held, two in each of the two halls, when between three and four thousand people must have been present in all. The performers reflected the enthusiasm of the audience. We have never yet seen at a Mod anything to compare with the keenness and attentiveness of these great audiences.

Where did they all come from? The Mod is surely a living reality. The Countess of Cromartie presided at the first two concerts. She referred to the Mod which she opened at Dingwall twenty-six years ago, and to the growth of the movement since then. In the absence of the Rt. Hon. Ian Macpherson, M.P., the chair at the second houses was taken by Colonel Mackenzie of Ord, who commented on certain chivalrous features of the Gael's character which might suffer if his language and music and traditions were allowed to perish. These things must be preserved at all costs.

These gatherings brought a most wonderful Mod to a close. The local committee have very great credit of the Mod for the thorough preparation and the efficient carrying through of arrangements. The Business Meeting and Meeting of Executive took place on the Saturday.

## MOD PRIZE-LISTS.

### LITERATURE—JUNIOR.

Pupils in or below the Qualifying Class—Reproduction in Gaelic of a short, simple Gaelic story, read twice by the Teacher—1, Isabella Macleod, Broadford Public School; 2, John Mackay, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 3, Joan Macdonald, do.; 4, Katie Ann Robertson, Broadford Public School; 5, Alick Mackinnon, do.; 6, Malcolmina Robertson, do.; 7, Alasdair Maclean, Tobermory H.G. School; 8, Iain Macdonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 9, Donald J. Macinnes, do.; 10, Isabel Anderson, Broadford Public School.

Pupils in the First and Second Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—Reproductions in Gaelic of a short Gaelic story, read twice by the Teacher, followed by a rendering of the same story in English—1 and 2 (equal), Mary Macleod, Sir E. Scott School, Harris, and John Maclean, Tobermory H.G. School; 3 and 4 (equal), Donald Fletcher and Malcolm M. Robertson, Broadford Public School; 5, Lachlan J. Matheson, Portree Secondary School; 6, Christine Mackinnon, Broadford Public School; 7, John N. MacSween, Portree Secondary School.

Pupils in the Third and Fourth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—Writing from Dictation of a Gaelic prose passage—1, Peggy Lowe, Tobermory H.G. School; 2, 3, and 4 (equal), Flora Mackinnon, Broadford Public School, Annie Macmillan, Fort William H.G. School, and Roderick MacQuish, Portree Secondary School; 5 and 6 (equal), John Robertson, Broadford Public School, and Mary Campbell, Tobermory H.G. School; 7, Rebecca Macleod, Broadford Public School.

Pupils in the Third and Fourth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—Reproduction in Gaelic of a short story in English, read three times by the teacher—1, Donald Stewart, Fort-William H.G. School; 2, Mary Ann Macpherson, Broadford Public School; 3, John Walker, Fort-William H.G. School; 4, Catherine Macdonald, do.; 5, John Campbell, Tobermory H.G. School; 6, John S. Macleod, Portree Secondary School.

Pupils in the Fifth and Sixth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—Translation of an English prose passage into Gaelic—1, John Mackinnon, Oban High School; 2, John Macdonald, Royal Academy, Inverness; 3, Janet M. Robertson, Portree Secondary School; 4, Angus J. MacInnes, Royal Academy, Inverness; 5, Chrissie M. Macfadyen, Oban High School; 6, John Mackinnon, Portree Secondary School.

Translation of a Gaelic Prose Passage into English, followed by a rendering into English of ten Gaelic idioms—1, Katie M. Macisaac, Royal Academy, Inverness; 2, Donaldina Macphee, Oban High School; 3, Janet M. Robertson, Portree Secondary School; 4, Cathie Hay, do.; 5, Morag Macdonald, do.; 6, Christine Macfadyen, do.

A Gaelic Essay, given a choice of three subjects—1, Christine Macfadyen, Portree Secondary School; 2, Chrissie M. Macfadyen, Oban High School; 3, John Mackinnon, Portree Secondary School; 4, Harry R. Mackinnon, do.; 5 (equal), Donald Bain and John Macdonald, Portree Secondary School.

University or Training College Students—Translation into English of a Gaelic prose passage or poem—1, Jessie Mackenzie, Gairloch; 2, Alexa Macdonald, Uigish, Skye; 3, Cath. M. Robertson, Elgoll, Skye; 4, Christine Macritchie, Carloway, Lewis.

Gaelic Essay on a Literary or an Historical Subject, given a choice of four subjects—1, Christine Macdonald, Kilmaluag, Skye; 2, Johanna MacCuish, Leverburgh; 3, Mary Cumming, Tote, Skye; 4, Christine Macsween, Connel Ferry; 5, Neilina Macdonald, Breakish, Skye (all of Jordanhill Training College—Alexander Nicolson, M.A., teacher.).

Evening Continuation Classes or Special Classes—Reproduction in Gaelic of a short Gaelic story, read twice by the teacher—1, Finlay Morrison, Tarbert, Harris; 2, Alasdair R. Mackenzie, Fearn; 3, Catherine L. Rankin, Oban; 4, Neil Macleod, Oban; 5, Donald Gunn, Tarbert, Harris.

Essay for Boys and Girls between 12 and 16—Girls—1, Peggy Lowe, Tobermory; 2, Susan Campbell, Tobermory. Boys—1, John N. Macdonald, Portree; 2, Donald A. Macleod, Harris.

#### PRIZES TO TEACHERS FOR THE HIGHEST MARKS.

Group A—Aggregate—1, Angus Macdonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 2, John Macpherson, M.A., Broadford Public School; 3, Miss G. L. Macdonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School. Average—1, John Macpherson, M.A., Broadford Public School; 2, Miss G. L. Macdonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School; 3, Angus Macdonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris.

Group B—Aggregate—1, Roderick Chisholm, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, John Macpherson, M.A., Broadford Public School; 3, Lachlan Mackinnon, M.A., Fort-William H.G. School. Average—1, Angus Macdonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 2, Roderick Chisholm, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 3, John Macpherson, M.A., Broadford Public School.

Group C—Aggregate—1, Roderick Chisholm, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, Lachlan Mackinnon, M.A., Fort-William H.G. School; 3, Angus Macdonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris. Average—1, Miss G. L. Macdonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School; 2, John Macpherson, M.A., Broadford Public School; 3, Lachlan Mackinnon, M.A., Fort-William H.G. School.

Group D—Aggregate—1, Roderick Chisholm,

M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, Donald Graham, M.A., Royal Academy, Inverness; 3, Miss M. D. MacQueen, Oban High School. Average—1, Lachlan Mackinnon, M.A., Fort-William H.G. School; 2, Miss M. D. MacQueen, Oban High School; 3, Roderick Chisholm, M.A., Portree Secondary School.

#### LITERATURE—SENIOR.

Gold Pendant to Most Distinguished Prize-winner—John N. Macleod, Kirkhill.

Poem on any Subject—1, Geo. E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan; 2, Donald Gillies, Glasgow.

Essay on "The Gaelic Poetry of the Nineteenth Century"—Geo. E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan.

One Short Essay, not exceeding 600 words—Mrs Catherine F. Urquhart, North Kessock.

Gaelic Story, extending to over 2000 words—John Macfadyen, Cokerhill.

Gaelic Dialogue, not more than fifteen minutes in delivery—1, Iain M. Moffat Pender, Stornoway; 2, John N. Macleod, Kirkhill.

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

(1) History of Eilean Donan Castle—John N. Macleod. (2) Old Kintail Cures for Diseases—Mrs Catherine F. Urquhart, North Kessock. (3) Place Names of Kintail—Mrs Catherine F. Urquhart, North Kessock.

Compilation of Unpublished Gaelic Vocal Music—Miss Cathie Macnab, Kilmuir, Skye.

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

Reading with Expression a Piece of Prose or Poetry by Native Speakers—1, Catherine A. Smith, Laxdale; 2, Georgina Macleod, Achiltibuie; 3, 4, and 5 (equal), Johanna Smith, Laxdale, Margaret Maclean, Ardindrean, and Donald Macleod, Letters; 6, Catherine M. MacDonald, Nairn.

Reading with Expression a piece of Prose or Poetry by Learners—1, Alasdair Maclean; 2, Annie Maclean; 3, Kennethina Maclean—all Leckmelm; 4 and 5 (equal), Margaret MacMurchie, N. Luining, and Mary Forsyth, Leckmelm.

Reading at Sight an unfamiliar Prose Piece chosen by the Judges—1, Jane A. MacRae, Laxdale; 2, Catherine A. Smith, Laxdale; 3, Colin Macleod, Inverness; 4, Isabella MacLean, Leckmelm.

Narrative Based on Some Local Incident, Tradition, or Legend, to be followed by conversation on the subject of the narrative between the competitors and the adjudicators—1, Catherine A. Smith, Laxdale; 2, Alasdair Maclean; 3, Kennethina Maclean, Leckmelm.

Excellence in Gaelic Conversation (Boys and Girls)—1, Donald Macleod; 2, Colin A. Macleod.

Acted Dialogue by Two Performers—1, Willie Stewart and Hugh C. Stewart, Inveraray; 2, Annie Maclean and Alasdair Maclean, Leckmelm; 3, Catherine A. Smith and Catherine Macdonald, Laxdale.

Reciting from Memory "Am Faigh a' Ghaidhlig Bas" (Neil Macleod)—1, Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan; 2, Alasdair Maclean, Leckmelm; 3 (equal), Mary Forsyth, Leckmelm, and Donald Macleod, Letters.

Conversation between Judges and Competitors on any Lesson in Reader III.—1, Jane A. Macrae, Laxdale; 2, Catherine A. Smith, Laxdale.

Repeating the 23rd Prose Psalm, Boys under 12—1, Walter R. Matheson, Laxdale; 2, Alasdair Maclean, Leckmelm; 3, John O'Brien, Leckmelm. Girls under 12—1, Johanna Smith, Laxdale; 2 and 3, Margaret Macmurchie, North Luining P.S., and Annie Maclean of Ardgour (equal).

Girls—Solo Singing of "Gheibh thu Caoraich" or "Mo Dhomhnall Fheinn"—1, Caroline Owen, Balmnac; 2, Flora Maclean, Balmnac; 3, Sheila Fleming, Lochcarron.

Duet Singing of Song "Bruthaichean Ghlinn Braoin"—1, Effie Fisher and Mary Macdougall, Carradale; 2, Nan Davidson and Iris Mackenzie, Inverness.

Solo Singing by Boys of Song, "Am Fiaidh" or "Màil Dhoimh"—1, Digby Mackenzie, Inverness; 2, Donald A. Macdonald, Inverness; 3, James Macarthur, Dunvegan.

Solo Singing by Boys of Song, "An Lair Bhan" or "Togaibh a' Bhrataich"—1, Walter R. Matheson, Laxdale; 2, Donald N. Macleod, Beaulay; 3, Alex. Maclellan, Luining.

Traditional Singing of Unpublished Gaelic Song—1, Colin Macleod, Inverness; 2, Jessie Macarthur, Luining; 3, Margaret Stewart, Laxdale.

Solo Singing by Girls of Song, "Ho mo Luran" and "Luchd nam Breacan"—1, Mary B. MacLennan, Laxdale; 2, Flora Mackinnon, Luining; 3, Jessie Macarthur, Luining.

Duet Singing of Song, "A' Chuaire Shamhraidh"—1, Bessie Steele and Betty Steele, Dunvegan; 2, Mary B. MacLennan and Chrissie M. Reid, Laxdale.

Choral Singing of Song in Two-part Harmony—Mrs. Miller Trophy—1, Beaulay Public School; 2, Carradale Junior Choir.

Solo Singing of Song by Boys and Girls (open only to former first prize-winners), "Ma chuir thu cùl rium"—1, Jessie Macarthur; 2, Willie Stewart, Inveraray.

Choral Singing of a Song with or without Chorus, in Two-part Harmony—*Oban Times* Trophy—1, Laxdale Junior Choir; 2, Nicolson Institute Choir.

Action Song—Shiant Shield—1, Laxdale Junior Choir.

Unison Singing—Mrs. Campbell Blair Trophy—1, Portree Junior Choir; 2, Laxdale Junior Choir.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

Solo Singing (Male Voices), confined to Members of An Comunn Gàidhealach, its branches and affiliated societies (former gold medallists excluded)—1, John Mackenzie, Strathpeffer; 2, Roderick Macintyre, Oban. Female Voices—1, Mrs. Catherine Grant, Ballachulish; 2, Miss Helen T. Macmillan, Scotstoun.

Solo Singing of Gaelic Songs for the James Grant Memorial Prize—1, Helen T. Macmillan, Scotstoun; 2, Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead.

Solo Singing of a Gaelic Song connected with the County of Inverness to be known as the "James Grant Memorial"—1, Alex. MacRae, London; 2, H. Crawford Macalpine, Ardrishaig.

Best Rendering of Two Songs from Mrs. Kennedy Fraser's "Songs of the Hebrides"—1, H. Crawford Macalpine, Ardrishaig; 2, Miss Helen T. Macmillan, Scotstoun.

Solo Singing of an Unpublished Mull or Iona Song—1, Miss Helen T. Macmillan, Scotstoun; 2, Miss Nancy Macdonald, Oban.

Gaelic Folk-Songs—Best Rendering of Two Unpublished Gaelic Folk-Song Airs—1, Arch. Grant, Glasgow; 2, H. C. Macalpine, Ardrishaig.

Oban and Lorn Association War Commemoration Medal (open) for the Best Rendering of One of the following Songs by Lorn Bards: "Mo Ghille Dubh," "Cruchan Beann," "Ceol nan Cruinneag" (Gold Medal Series)—1, Archibald Grant, Glasgow; 2, Miss Kirsty F. MacLennan, London.

Recitation of the Poem, "Brathainn nan Steud"—1, Miss Chrissie Macpherson, Ardour; 2, William J. Macleod, Glenelg.

Recitation of a Piece of Original Poetry specially composed by the Competitor—1 and 2 (equal), Donald Macmillan, Corrybeg, and Iain M. Moffat Pender, Stornoway.

Ancient Folk Tale, preferably unpublished, narrated in the traditional style—1, Miss Susan Mackenzie, Luining; 2, Miss Catherine Campbell, Achiltibuie.

Reading of an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose—1, Archd. Munn, Oban; 2, John Campbell, Easdale.

Recitation of Prose Piece from "Comhradh eadar Lachann nan Ceist agus Donnchadh Mor"—1, Allan Maclean, Greenock; 2, Malcolm A. Macleod, Lochmaddy.

The Best Prepared Original Gaelic Speech on any Subject—1, Miss Susan Mackenzie, Luining, and Miss Mary Macintyre, Auchnacraig; 2, Archd. Munn, Oban, and Captain Moffat Pender, Stornoway.

Best Acted Dialogue by Two Performers—1, Miss Margaret Campbell and Donald Campbell, Easdale; 2, Miss A. Macleod and Iain M. Moffat Pender, Stornoway, and Miss Mamie Fraser and Miss Annie Ferguson, Portree (equal).

Solo Singing of the Oran-mor: "An Rìgh agus Bonaparte—Male Voices—(The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize, £2 10s)—1, Duncan M. MacKenzie, Inverness.

Solo Singing—Confined to Natives of Glenmoriston, Glenurquhart, and Stratherrick—The Mrs. Quintin MacLennan Prizes—1, Pat. Cameron, Balmnac; 2, Miss R. Campbell, Fort Augustus.

Solos (Females) of the Song, "Tha mi fo churam" and another of own choice—Prizes presented by Mr. Duncan Macinnes, Royal Chief of the Order of the Scottish Clans of America—1, Miss Helen T. Macmillan, Scotstoun; 2, Miss Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead.

Solo Singing of Old or Less Known District Song—Prizes presented by Mrs. Ryan, Roy Bridge—1, Allan Maclean, Greenock; 2, H. Crawford Macalpine, Ardrishaig, and Donald MacIsaac, Jura; 3, Simon Campbell, Glenshiel, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow, and Miss Flora MacLennan, London.

Senior Singing of "Puir a Beul"—1, Allan Maclean, Greenock; 2, William Galbraith, Carradale; 3, H. Crawford Macalpine, Ardrishaig.

Solo, with Clarsach Accompaniment—1, Miss Christine Campbell, Edinburgh.

Solo of the Oran-mor, "An Domhnallach Deas"—Female Voices—(The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize, £2 10s)—1, Mrs. Catherine Grant, Ballachulish.

Male Solo Singing of "Is cianail m'aigne"—Prizes presented by Mr. Duncan Macinnes—1, Archd. Grant, Glasgow; 2, Duncan M. Mackenzie, Inverness.

Rural Choirs—"An-t-Ailleagan" and "Braith Rusgaich"—The Lorn Shield, presented by Colonel and Mrs. Iain Campbell, Airds, and £8—1, Glenurquhart Gaelic Choir; 2, Portree Gaelic Choir; 3, St. Columba Choir, Beaulay; 4, Badenoch Gaelic Choir.

Quartette Singing (Mixed Voices)—1, Greenock Quartette "A"; 2, Campbelltown G.M.A. No. 2.

Choral Singing of Two Songs—Esmé Smyth Shield—Female Voices—1, Inverness Gaelic Musical Association; 2, Campbelltown G.M.A.

Choral Singing, with or without chorus—Lovat and Tullibardine Trophy—1, Campbeltown G.M.A.; 2, Inverness G.M.A.; 3, Greenock Gaelic Choir.

Choral Singing (Male Voices only)—1, Inverness Male Voice Choir; 2, Oban Gaelic Choir.

Duet Singing—1, Marie W. Paton and Effie Watson, Greenock; 2, Misses Flora A. M. Souter and Mary Mackintosh, Inverness.

Quartette Singing (Male Voices only)—1, Campbeltown G.M.A. No. 1; 2, Greenock Quartette "A."

Choral Singing of "Puir à Beul"—1, Inverness G.M.A.; 2, Campbeltown G.M.A.

March, Strathspey, and Reel on the Piano—1, Kathleen Wilson, Golspie; 2, Morris Mackenzie, Dingwall; 3 (equal), Donald Macalister, Greenock, and Betty Wooley, Bonarbridge.

Gaelic Song, Air, Strathspey, and Reel on the Violin—1, Donald Riddle, Kirkhill; 2, Lachlan Wynne, Fort-William; 3, Mary Cameron, Aberfeldy.

Strathspey and Reel on Violin (Natives of Glenmoriston, Glenurguhart, and Stratherrick)—1, Mary Cameron; 2, Lachlan Wynne.

#### GOLD MEDALS.

Winner of Glasgow Skye Association Gold Medal for Highest Aggregate of Marks in Four Competitions in Oral Section—Miss Chrissie Macpherson, Ardgour.

#### SOLO SINGING.

Ladies—1, Miss Helen T. Macmillan, Scotstoun; 2, Mrs. Catherine Grant, Ballachulish; 3 (equal), Miss Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead, and Miss Cathie M. Clark, Glasgow.

Men—1, Archd. Grant, Glasgow; 2, Duncan M. Mackenzie, Inverness; 3, Donald D. MacIsaac, Jura.

### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The Annual Business Meeting of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held at Dingwall on 26th September. Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, Laggan, presided. The Secretary intimated the result of the election of Members of Council. Dr. Ross and Mr. Alexander Fraser were unanimously re-appointed President and Vice-President, respectively. The new list of Executive Members will be published in our next issue. On discussing the venue for next year's Mod, Mr Campbell, representing the local Association, seconded by Colonel Campbell, moved that Campbeltown be the venue. Mr Campbell referred to its position as a favourable rallying point for Argyll, Inverness, and the Highland area generally.

Ex-Provost N. B. Mackenzie proposed Fort-William, pointing out its central and readily accessible position, and that suitable accommodation was available. Mrs. Ryan seconded. On a vote being taken, 21 supported Campbeltown and 48 Fort-William.

Mr. Hector Macdougall, Glasgow, submitted the following motion:—"That the Publication Committee of An Comunn

Gaidhealach should be constituted into a body having the functions of a Gaelic Academy, so as to co-operate towards the standardising of Gaelic and be in a position to give advice and direction to students of the language; as a first step in this direction that they should see that all publications issued under the authority of An Comunn should have the Gaelic matter appearing in them consistent and uniform, and, in order that the work might be in order and undertaken effectively, that Gaelic scholars of proved ability be invited to become members of the committee, if only in a consultative capacity."

Supporting the motion, Mr. Macdougall instanced various publications where on the same page certain words were given in different spellings. He said that a similar academy existed before the war, but had since been in abeyance.

In the course of a lengthy discussion, Mr. George Marjoribanks, Sonachan, the Mod bard, suggested that there was more need for bringing the language up to date as far as speaking it was concerned. The Gaelic vocabulary was not equal to the requirements of modern life in respect of words to express modern terms, as Gaelic speakers had too frequently to revert to English words when referring to current events and terms, so that if the Gaelic was to be preserved as a spoken tongue the vocabulary would have to be extended to include many modern terms. It was ultimately agreed to remit the matter to the Publication Committee for consideration and report.

Mrs. Macleod of Skeabost reported on the formation of a society of harpers for the popularising of this ancient musical instrument of the Gael, and hoped that the society might be affiliated with An Comunn. This was unanimously agreed to.

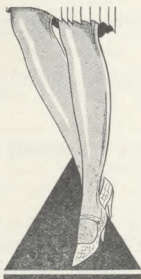
The President and others referred to the gratifying success of the Dingwall Mod, and thanked the local committee for their splendid work for the Mod and the Gaelic cause, and also the Town Council of Dingwall for their enthusiastic reception and hospitality.

A letter from Sheriff Macmaster Campbell indicating the progress made in collecting funds towards the establishment of a Musical Scholarship was read. All members had been circularised, and a ready response to the appeal was hoped for.

The Preliminary Meeting of the Executive followed, and appointed the Standing Committees.

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A deep gloom and a keen sense of loss was felt by many Highlanders not only in Edinburgh and Southern Gaeldom, but throughout the whole Highlands and Islands, when it became known that Dr. MacLennan had passed away on Tuesday, 1st September. He had been in indifferent health for the last few years, but he bravely carried on his work with the help of an ordained assistant till a colleague and successor was appointed this summer. Since then he was practically incapacitated, and passed peacefully away on the 1st of September last.

Dr. MacLennan was born in Uig, Lewis, sixty-nine years ago. Owing to health reasons he went to Canada as a very young man, and continued his studies there. After a distinguished career at MacGill University, he graduated in Arts and Divinity; and his *alma mater* afterwards conferred on him the honorary degree of D.D. In 1897 he was called to St. Columba's Church, Edinburgh, and there he laboured for the last thirty-four years.

From his early years in Edinburgh he took his place as one of the leading Gaelic preachers of the day, and was a great favourite at Communion seasons and at other times. He was known everywhere in the Highlands, and was beloved by all, for he was a man of a most genial and generous nature. He had many gifts to appeal to his fellow-Highlanders — fine appearance, a beautiful voice, a clear pictorial mind, a keen spiritual intuition and sensitiveness, and withal was a master of the Gaelic language. He threw himself whole-heartedly into any scheme that was for the material or spiritual benefit of his fellows. He was a lover of men, and especially his fellow-Highlanders at home and abroad, a man of wide sympathies and many interests—everything that was for the benefit and uplift of his people: so in his younger and stronger days he threw himself into the Gaelic movement, realising that the preservation and extension of our language,

music, literature, and art, is not only for the material and cultural benefit of the people, but also for their spiritual enrichment and blessing. For a period he edited the monthly magazine of An Comunn, and served for many years on the Executive Committee, and was a Vice-President.

He was editor of "An Fhianuis Ghaidhealach," the Gaelic supplement of the *Record* of the United Free Church, from its inception, and joint-editor, since the union of the Church of Scotland, of the Gaelic supplement to *Life and Work*. In this capacity he rendered noble service to the Church and to his fellow-Highlanders at home and abroad. He also translated the *Monthly Visitor* tract into Gaelic for nearly thirty years, till it ceased to be published in Gaelic a few months ago; and he alone and unaided was responsible for the last revision of the Gaelic Bible published by the National Bible Society of Scotland in 1911.

Dr. MacLennan was a distinguished scholar and a great linguist—one of the finest in Scotland, and one of the greatest in the Highland pulpit of his generation. He was master of many languages, and had a working knowledge of sixteen, but his mother tongue—Gaidhlig bhog bhlath a mhathar—was nearest his heart, and in it he was continually writing and publishing. His *Pronouncing and Etymological Dictionary of the Gaelic Language*, published in 1925, is the most up-to-date Gaelic dictionary we have; it is a work of great learning and erudition, and of tremendous labour. He published a new translation of *Turas a Chrìosduidh* ("The Pilgrim's Progress") in 1929, the only one now in print. For these and several other publications in Gaelic, his fellow-Highlanders at home and abroad, as well as scholars of other lands, are truly thankful.

He was a true nobleman, a friend of God, and a great minister of the Word; and he adorned the Highland name and the great race to which he belonged.

M. M.

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## CEILIDH AM BUTH A' GHRIASAICHE.

Le DONNACHADH MACDHOMHNAILL,  
Sannabhaig.

AN GRISAICHE (*'na shuidhe air an stòl a' leughadh leabhrain, agus a' còmhradh beag leis fhéin*)—So dhuit, a nis, a Choinnich Ghlais. Bha thu a' dearbhadh air Uilleam Beag an latha roimhe nach robh taibhsichean, sìthichean, no buidsich ann. Na'm biodh tu a stigh an dràda chitheadh tu gu robh thu cearr. Ach cò a tha aig an doras a' bruidhinn ri Màiri?

COINNEACH GLAS (*a' tighinn a steach le a phìob 'na phluic agus a làmhnan 'na phòcaidean*)—Is mise tha ag aithneachadh leis a' phraois a tha ort gu bheil an leabhar sin a' còrdadh ruit. Is cinnteach gu bheil rud-eigin ann is fhiach an t-saothair. C'aite an d'fhuair e?

AN GRISAICHE—Thug am maighstir-sgoile dhomh leughadh dheth. Bha mi dìreach a' smaoinachadh ort, a Choinnich. Siuthad, dèan suidhe a steach ris an teine ach an cluinn thu so. Seallaidh an leabhran so dhuit gu robh thu cearr anns an rud a bha thu a' dearbhadh air Uilleam Beag an t-seachdain so chaidh. Bu mhath an dràda gu'n tigeadh Uilleam fhéin.

UILLEAM BEAG (*a' fosgladh an doruis agus a' tighinn a steach air a shocair*)—Fàilte stigh. Is beag gutha tha aig a' ghriasaiche air na tha de bhrògan gun chàradh air ùrlar na bùtha aige. Ach ma chumas tu Ceit Bhòidheach bho òrduighean an Rudha tha do latha-dubh mu do chasan thugad. Leig seachad do chuid leughaidh agus gabh do mhinidh.

AN GRISAICHE—Dean suidhe suas ri taobh Choinnich; ach is mór m'eagal nach bi sibh fada réidh. Is ann dìreach a' bruidhinn ort a bha mi féin is Coinneach an uair a thàinig thu steach.

UILLEAM—Tha iad ag radh gun tig an donas ri linn iomraidh, ach tha mise an dòchas nach ann, ga m' chùl-chàineadh a bha sibh. An ann?

AN GRISAICHE—Chan ann idir. Is fhada a ghabh e uainn. Ach nach ann a fhuair mi leughadh de leabhran gasda a tha dìreach a' stèidheachadh nam beachdan a bha thusa a' cumail a mach ri Coinneach an latha roimhe.

COINNEACH—Inns dhuinn an toiseach cìod iad na nithean mòra mu bheil an leabhran sin air a chur a mach, agus bheir sinn breith air cùisean a rithist air a socair.

AN GRISAICHE—Tha leabhar an so da-rireadh. Ach is mór m'eagal nach còrd na

beachdan a tha ann riutsa. Tha òraidean gasda ann a thug smior an Leòdhasaich, an t-Ollamh Dòmhnall MacLeòid à Inbhirnis seachad air a' wireless.

COINNEACH—Thachair mi air an duine chòir sin uair no dhà an uair a bha e 'na fhear sgrùdaidh air sgoiltean an eilein so, agus gu dearb is ann aige féin a bha taghadh na Gàidhlig air nach robh blas Beurla Steòrnabhaig. Ach ciod e so a tha aige an dràda nach còrd riumsa?

AN GRISAICHE—Tha gu bheil e a' toirt cunntais air geasagan agus air cleachdaidhean Gàidhealach a bha gu bitheanta am meas an t-sluaigh anns na làithean a dh' fhalbh. Agus gu dearb is ann da féin a thigeadh a dhol a chur a bhriathran ann an cainnt bhlasda.

UILLEAM (*a' biorachadh a chluasan*)—Sud agad, a nis, a Choinnich. Nach robh mise ag radh riut gur h-i a' bhriag a bha agad an latha roimhe an uair a dhearbh thu orm nach robh taibhse no sìthich ann.

AN GRISAICHE (*a' priobadh air Coinneach*)—Sin thu féin, Uilleim; is tu a tha ann fhathast. Cùm air, a nis, agus leig fhaicinn dà nach toir thu boineid a nuas dà.

UILLEAM—Cha b'ann an diugh no an dé a fhuair Coinneach a mach air a chosg nach tugainn-sa boineid a nuas dà. Ach an taobh a théid esan théid e ann. Chan eil duine beò a bheir às a cheann nach ann aige fhéin a tha an fhirinn an còmhnuidh.

COINNEACH—Agus nach ann againn a bha an fhirinn an latha roimhe. Tha mise ag radh riutsa nach eil, nach robh, 's nach bi taibhse no bana-bhuisteir air uachdar an t-saoghail.

UILLEAM—Fheara, a bheil sibhse ag éisdeachd ri amaideas an duine bho chod so. Bha taibhsichean agus buidsichean ann, tha iad ann, agus bidh iad ann. Mur a biodh iad ann cha bhruidhneadh leithid an Ollamh MacLeòid orra. Is mór a ghabhadh e, is e 'na sgoilear cho mór agus 'na dhuine cho glic.

COINNEACH—Ach cuiridh mise mo chluas air a' gheall riutsa, nach eil e féin, an duine foghlumaithe, a' creidsinn anns na nòsan faoine sin. Chan eil e ach a' toirt cunntais dhuinn air na beachdan gòrach a bha aig sluagh na Gàidhealtachd anns na linntean dorch a chaidh seachad.

UILLEAM—Tha thusa agus do sheòrsa a' smaoinachadh nach robh dad idir ceart anns na làithean sin. Ach is ann an uair ud a bha daoine ann ris an canadh tu daoine. Ged nach robh foghlum no fasanan an latha an diugh aca bha iad fiosrach agus làn eòlais 'nan latha féin.

COINNEACH—Bha iad mar a bha iad. Bha iad beò a réir an solais fhéin. Shaoilinn-sa, Uilleim, duine aig e bheil eòlas na litreach mar a tha agadsa nach biodh tu cho fada air ais agus a tha thu.

UILLEAM—Innis dhomhsa, an dràsda, a Choinnich, carson a tha thu ag radh gu bheil mi fada air ais? Cothromaich do chainnt, a dhuine.

COINNEACH—Tha duine 'sam bith fada air ais a tha a' toirt an leithid a dh' àite agus a tha thusa a' toirt do na beachdan faoine agus do chleachdaidhean gòrach a bha aig daoine aineolach ann an linn do shìnsirean. Ach dh' fhalbh na faoinnean sin, agus is math gu'n d' fhalbh agus nach till iad a chaidh tuilleadh.

UILLEAM—Dh' fhalbh sud agus thàinig so; ach gu dearbh chan ann a' dol am feabhas a tha gnothaichean. C'àite an diugh a bheil ann blàthas, an t-ìochd, 's an càirdeas a b' àbhaist a bhi am measg an t-sluaigh anns na làithean bho shean? Càite, innis sin dhomh?

AN GRIASAICHE—Uilleim, ged a tha mi leat ann am mòran de na thubhairt thu, feumaidh mi radh riut gu bheil barrachd iochda agus bàigh air a nochdadh an diugh na bha a riamh roimhe. Seall fhéin, a dhuine, cho math agus a tha Ard-riaghladh na rioghachd an diugh do bhochdan, do bhantraichean agus do dhilleachdain.

COINNEACH—Chan eil math dhuit feuchainn ri gliocas a chur an ceann Uilleim. "Is duilich ciall a chur anns an amadan, agus ged chuirte ann i cha b'fhada a dh'fhanadh i."

UILLEAM—Fàr a bheil an t-amadan tha e ann, agus tha e follaiseach do chàch. Ach, a Choinnich bhochd, "An rud nach d'fhuair Niall chan iarrar air e."

COINNEACH—Laighidh a' bhròg sin mòran na's fhearr ort féin na ormsa, a bhalaich. Ach, co-dhiùbh, cha bhi mi a' leudachadh air a' chùis an dràsda mu'n téid sinn a mach air a chéile.

IAIN MURCHAIDH (a' tighinn a steach)—Sith 's an fhardaich! Tha mi a' faicinn, Uilleim chòir, gu bheil thu féin agus Coinneach an amhaichean a chéile. Cha b'e a chiad uair a bha an dithis a' trod agus a' toirt da chéile.

UILLEAM—Tha mise agus Coinneach a' tuigsinn a chéile glé mhath. Chan eil dithis eile eadar dà cheann na sgìre a tha cho mór aig a chéile ruinn. Ach is e ar sùgradh a bhi a' dearbhadh air a cheile mar so.

AN GRIASAICHE—Suidh eadar an dithis aca, Iain, ach an cùm thu bho chéile iad ma thig iad gu bhi garg. Is ann a' connspaid mu thaibhsichean agus mu bhuidhsichean a bha iad an uair a thàinig thu steach, agus ma's math mo bheachd chan eil aca fhathast ach toiseach tòiseachaidh.

COINNEACH—Bha an griasaiche ag innseadh do dh' Uilleam cho fialaidh agus 'a tha an rioghachd an diugh ri bochdan.

UILLEAM—Tha na mathasan sin ceart gu leòir 'nan àite féin, ach thig thusa, a Choinnich, an dràsda air ais a dh' ionnsaidh a chinn-teagaisg aig an do thòisich sinn.

COINNEACH—Tha mi deònach, ach cha d' innis thu fhathast domh a bheil an t-Ollamh MacLeòid fhéin a' gabhail ris na nithean air a robh e a' labhairt mar smior na firinn.

UILLEAM—Chan e esan an t-aon fhear de àrd sgoilearan na rioghachd so a tha a' cur an aonta ris gu bheil taibhsichean, sìthichean, bana-bhuistearan, maighdeanan-mara, eich-uisge, agus giùlanan ann fhathast.

COINNEACH—Faodaidh gu bheil e a' creidsinn gu robh iad ann uair-eigin, ach chan eil e ceum a' creidsinn gu bheil iad ann 'nar latha-ne. Tha thusa cho gòrach 's gu bheil thu a' smaoinichadh gu bheil e coltach riut fhéin a tha lán chreidsinn gu'n tig easgunn á fionnadh chon is each.

UILLEAM—Agus, nach eil mi ceart ann an sin. Chunnaic thusa a cheart cho math riumsa gaoisnean clòimhe a dh'fhàgadh tu ann an allt a' fàs 'na easguinn ann am beagan ùine.

COINNEACH—Chan fhaca agus chan fhaic. An siol a chuireas tu is e a bhuaineas tu. A bheil thusa a' smaoinichadh ma chuireas tu féin calg chon no clòimh chaorach gu'm buain thus' easgunn?

UILLEAM—Chan eil ortsa ach do leigeadh seachd. An easgunn a thig á fionnadh coin ni i comhart cho luath agus a thig i air bòrd, an té a thàrmaicheas á calg eich ni i sìtrich, ach an té a thig á clòimh tha i a cheart cho stòlda ris an uan.

COINNEACH—Chan eil math dhomh a bhi a' deasbhuireachd riut. Tha thu cho ealanta ann an cainnt is gu'n cuireadh tu an dubh air a' gheal. Chan eil ort ach leigeadh leat a bhi beò ann an fàraidh do sheann-seamar.

UILLEAM (gu sgaiteach)—Na gabh thusa a dh'anam ort, mo ghille math, ainm mo sheanar-sa a thoirt ann an diomhanas. Bha e, latha 'sam bith, cho math ri duine bu duine dhuitse.

AN GRIASAICHE—Na bi cho fadhaich,

Uilleim, air-neo chan eil fhios nach ann a bhios an aimhreit air a bonn eadar mi féin is tu féin.

IAIN—Tha Uilleam a' smaoineachadh leis mar a bhruidhinn Coinneach gur h-ann a' sealltainn sìos air fhéin agus air a chluideachd a bha e. Ach cha téid an dearbhadh dhis a mach air a cheile idir. Bidh iad an ceartuair mar dà cheann eich.

COINNEACH—Tha mi duilich, Uilleim, gu'n ghabh thu gu dona na thubhairt mi. Cha b'ann ag iarraidh gu tàthag a thoirt duit a bha mi idir, idir. Is fhada a ghabh e uam, a charaid.

AN GRÌASAICHE (*air dòiseachadh a' fuaghal bròige*)—A nis, Uilleim, innis dhuinn an dràda gu séimh stòla a bheil thu féin da-rìreadh ag creidsinn anns na sìthichean.

UILLEIM—Tha, is mise a tha sin. An uair a bha mo sheanair 'na bhalach beag ann an Ceann-an-Taib bhiodh a phàrantan a dùnadh nan uinneag cho luath agus a rachadh a' ghrian fodha, gun fhios nach tigeadh na sìthichean a ghoid na cloinne orra.

COINNEACH—An cuala tu féin no am faca tu balach no nighean a chaidh a ghoid le sìthiche?

UILLEAM—Chan urrainn mi a radh gu faca, ach chaidh balach beag le Iain bràthair mo sheanamhar a ghoid le sìthiche, agus chaidh creutar beag lachdunn fhàgail 'na àite air nach iarraidh a' dol ach a' gul a dh'oidhche 's a latha.

COINNEACH—An d'fhuair iad a riamh air ais am balach aca féin?

UILLEAM—Fhuair, is iadsan a fhuair sin, agus thàinig e gu bhi 'na dhuine ainmeil anns an àite. Tha iad ag ràdh gur h-e an t-ainm aige a thug iad orra féin—ainm rìghrean is cheardan.

COINNEACH—Leig cead an coise leis na rìghrean is leis na ceardan, agus innis dhuinn ciamar a fhuair iad an leanabh féin air ais.

UILLEAM—Dh' fhàg iad an truaghan odhar ud—an sìthiche beag—air mullach creagain am maobhan na h-oidhche, agus leis an rànaid a bha air chuala na sìthichean e agus mar gu'n gabhadh iad truas ris thainig iad 'ga iarraidh agus dh' fhàg iad an leanabh ceart 'na àite. Sin agadsa mar a fhuair iad e.

COINNEACH.—Faodaidh mise a bhi a' toirt oidhirp air gliocas a chur annadsa, ach is e sin uile 's na bhios agam air a shon. Gabhaidh tusa do chùrsa féin, Uilleim Chòir.

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

## CELTIC STRATEGY AND TACTICS.

At a meeting of the Scottish Literary Society, University of Toronto, addresses were given on the history of the automotive industry, the president, Dr. W. J. E. Scott, in the chair.

Reviewing some 6,000 years of the history of the car-building industry, the president in his address, "The old Tin Lizzie, as known to Classical and early Gaelic literatures," said that its vicissitudes had been influenced by Asiatic and European military theories for and against the use of speed cars in warfare. In the Bronze Age its prosperity had been linked with Sumer-Akkad, Babylon, Assyria, and the Hittite and Egyptian empires which subsidised the industry by levying taxes to maintain large squadrons of chariots, employed in the rapid transportation of shock troops over wide areas of hostile territory, or from one battle sector to another. The element of surprise counted for much in Asiatic psychology as much as in tactics.

All Oriental nations with any military prestige to sustain regarded the use of fast cars as indispensable in offensive operations. The only exception was the Jew, who sojourned in the Wilderness for some forty years. Thus it happened that some 6,000 years ago, the speed car, which was the ancestor of the automobile, had made history at a time when the Zionist imagined that the Holy Land was an easy "walk-over."

With the fall of Oriental empires before the Macedonian phalanx and the Roman legion, there emerged on European soil a new theory of infantry training which retarded the speed car's development. The new armies crawled over the world on their bellies, no faster than the baggage waggon, and the war chariot was relegated to the arena as a sports car unsuited to civilised warfare. Car-building ceased to be a state-subsidised industry, and only in the Far West—in Gaul, Spain and Britain, where tactics and strategy were as antiquated as in the Orient—did the war chariot preserve its ancient popularity down to the Christian era.

Although the Celts of Gaul after the days of Brennus must have learned the art of chariot-building in western Europe, where the Iberian had long been influenced by contact with Oriental civilisation, they excelled all peoples in the number and variety of models they produced. The Romans adopted them along with their Gaulish names, and the English word "carpenter" (from Gaulish *carpentum* "chariot," related to Latin *corbis*, "basket") was a reminder that the Gaulish car-building



industry was largely restricted to the assemblage of parts and construction rather than actual manufacturing. All metal fittings were supplied by the smithcraft which formed a very exclusive class of artificers, and among the Celtiberians at least, the title of *Cerdu-belus*, "Chief of Smiths," was one that all the Joneses envied. The "carpenters," on the other hand, were men specially skilled in woodworking, particularly wickerwork and basket-weaving.

Most of the Gaulish models of two-wheeled and four-wheeled vehicles—coupes, sedans and roadsters—were familiar to the early Britons, of whom Cæsar wrote that they were the most skilful, but reckless, roadhogs he saw anywhere. He was also struck by a freak car that was the forerunner of the British war tank or armoured car—a scythed chariot for mowing down infantry and cavalry, and speedily disorganising all ranks as far as the drivers could penetrate. The British theory of speed tactics was sound, of "getting there fustest with the mostest men," but the natives lost out with the legions from their want of trained infantry support, and this oriental neglect of infantry training and discipline ruined all Celtic armies down to the "45."

Another peculiarity about the British chariots was their terrible noise in battle, the kind that at first deafened the Roman legionaries when the British "Heavies" went into action, and the same to which frequent allusion is made in the Cuchullin saga. In Cuchullin's day, the clatter of the wheels of a Sinn Fein squadron would send the thatch flying off the roof, and every time a hero tried out a new model, the onlookers were invariably struck dumb by the amount of dirt that flew around, and by the deep impression left by the tyres on Erin's sacred soil. According to the romance of *Mescaid Ulad*, a good set of tyres was tested by the way "the iron wheels cut the roots of immense trees;" and from other passages in the *Tain Bo Chualigne* one gathers that Cuchullin's style of driving altered the face of nature until roads looked like dykes or lakes, according to the unfortunate pedestrian's viewpoint.

With the Romanisation of Britain and the spread of Roman culture, the building of fast cars for military service everywhere decayed as a national industry until the 19th Century, when a little Scotch boy, engrossed in the singing of a kettle, later conceived the idea of harnessings team power to industry as a substitute for the old grey mare. And then all Europe's wooden navies went to the scrap heap, military and naval text books on strategy

and tactics had to be revised, and the whole world of industrialism was revolutionised by the aid of steam, gas, and electricity. Already the age had returned, concluded Dr. Scott, when the car was regarded among Europeans as essential to fast transportation in war and peace, but the dawn of this new era saw Asiatic and European military theories now linked together.

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Nach gasda an eairail ghrinn a tha Seòras Gallda a' toirt dhuinn uile! Gu dearbh, chan eil aon ni a tha briseadh cridhe an fhìor Ghàidheil na 's mó na aineolas nan Gàidheal do thaobh an càinain féin.

Nach eil an t-am air dhol seachad air son a bhi toilichte no riaraichte ma chluinneas sinn na Gàidheil a' bruidhinn na Gàidhlig?

Ma tha a' chàinain gu bhi air a caomhnadh, nach feum sinn—nach feum sinn uile—nach feum a h-uile duine agus boirionnach anns a' Ghàidhealtachd—a' Ghàidhlig a sgrìobhadh? Cha dèan bruidhinn a' chùis. Cha dèan leughadh a' chùis. Bithidh na Gàidheil 'n an truaghain gu bràth mur a cuir iad so ceart. Ann an àite a bhi moladh duine ma tha a' Ghàidhlig aige—rud a tha cho nàdurach dha—nach bu chòir nàire a bhi air mur urrainn da a' Ghàidhlig a sgrìobhadh?

Tha còr agus cóig fichead bliadhna a nis o sgrìobh Caraid nan Gàidheal an còmhraidh eadar Lachann nan Céist agus Donnchadh Mór. Ma bhios sibh-se, a leughadair, ann an Inbhirpheotharain aig a' Mhòd, cha b' urrainn duibh na b' fhearr a dhèanamh na dhol a dh' éisdeachd ris na comh-fharpuisich beul-aithris, agus iad ag aithris earrainn de an còmhraidh so. Agus sibh-se, a leughadairean, do nach urrainn a bhih aig a' Mhòd, leughaidh an earrann so anns an leabhar. Agus an déidh sin, leigibh fios do an Rùnaire gu bheil sibh air son a bhih 'n ur buill de Chlann an Fhraoich.

IAIN OG SHEORAI.

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

## THE ORAL SECTION.

The reader of this magazine may observe that the main portion of the prize-list is occupied by vocal competitions. The remainder is given up to the literary and the oral part of the Mod. Any one who attended the great Mod at Dingwall could also observe that while the musical sessions were full to overflowing, the oral items were not nearly so well patronised by the public. This has been a feature of oral competitions during the past thirty years. It was not so evident, however, throughout the early Mods of An Comunn. In those early days the public were very interested in the oral side. It would be well if the old custom were revived, so that the aspirants in elocution would receive the encouragement of public patronage.

One need hardly emphasise how very important the oral section is. In the musical department an indifferent acquaintance with the language may pass muster, so long as flagrant errors of pronunciation are avoided. But for the more searching test of oral competition, a much fuller grasp of Gaelic is required. These competitions ensure that the reading and speaking of the language are practised. An Comunn encourages the reading and speaking of Gaelic by offering handsome prizes as the reward for proficiency. Apart from the power to read the actual words there is also a likelihood that an expressive style of elocution is maintained. The average Gael has a racial aptitude withal direction. It was an old Roman writer, Porcius Cato, who said that the two special talents of the Celt were, a talent for war and a talent for polished speech. And that hereditary quality has not yet died away. His vivid imagination seldom fails to give a graphic touch to the utterance of the Gael. The tests in recitation undoubtedly afford full scope for this gift in our people. It is in the oral section that the oratorical flair of the Gaelic race can be quickened and developed.

Spectators at the Mod concerts have often been surprised and impressed by the dramatic power shown by young persons from the country who have perhaps never stood on a public platform before. It must be subconscious faculty suddenly realizing itself, and making itself evident under the influence of a sympathetic audience. It is part of the work of An Comunn Gaidhealach to resuscitate these things, and by encouraging the oral section to attract as many competitors as possible. F. E.

## MOD CELTIC ART COMPETITIONS.

Design Suitable for Rug. Prizes—1, £2; 2, £1.—1, Miss Lamont of Knockdow; 2, Miss Joan Macdonald, Arisaig.

Needlework—Reproduction in Colour of Design No. 152. Prizes, 1, £1 10s; 2, £1; 3, 10s.—1, Miss Winnie Murchie, Ayr; 2, Miss Margaret Macdonald, Arisaig; 3, Miss Joan Macdonald, Arisaig.

Clann An Fhraoich Prizes.—Best and Most Suitable Gaelic Advertisement in Shop Window.—1, A. Henderson, Ironmonger, Dingwall; 2, George Souter, stationer, Dingwall; 3, Colin Campbell, Café, Dingwall; 4, MacKay & Son, butchers, Dingwall. Prizes presented by Mr. Iain M. Moffat Pender.

## THE M.A. IN GAELIC.

The University have very kindly supplied lists of the thirty-three students who passed the M.A. degree examination in Celtic at the recent degree examinations. We feel that the publication of the names of these new graduates in Celtic will make our readers pleased and proud that so many promising students are studying the language on academic levels. Many of these graduates will no doubt become teachers who, in their turn, will impart instruction in Gaelic, and will inculcate among the young a love of the old tongue and a taste for its literature.

## EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.

John Fletcher, Breakish, Skye.  
Angus Matheson, 35 Warrender Park Road, Edinburgh.  
Murdo Matheson, Uig, Lewis.

## ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY.

Christina Mackay, Betsy M. Macleod, Norman Macleod, William Macleod, Roderick M. Shaw, and Bella Macleod.

## GLASGOW UNIVERSITY.

Roderick Campbell, Fiscovaig, Portnalong, Skye.  
Annie M. Mackinnon, Broadford, Skye.  
Mary F. Nicolson, Isle Ornsay, Skye.  
George Ross, 16 Minerva Street, Glasgow.  
Margaret S. Beaton, Roag, Skye.  
Donald Cameron, Ardchattan, Argyll.  
Kenneth G. Cameron, Glendale, Skye.  
Angus MacAskill, Eileananabich, Harris.  
Catherine Macdonald, Lochmaddy, N. Uist.  
Donald B. Macleod, Watnish, Skye.  
Kenneth Macleod, Lochs, Stornoway.  
Mary M. Macleod, Barvas, Stornoway.  
Duncan M. Macneill, Scarinish, Tiree.  
Henry Macrae, Aultbea, Ross-shire.  
Lachlan Matheson, Broadford, Skye.  
Mary Ross, Kilmuir, Skye.  
Marion Stewart, Portree, Skye.  
John M. Urquhart, Furnace, Lochfyne.  
Donald Fraser, Gairloch, Ross-shire.  
Duncan M. Hunter, Drynoch, Skye.  
John Mackay, Ness, Lewis.  
Jessie S. Mackinnon, Struan, Skye.  
Catherine Macleod, Achmore, Lewis.  
Donald Morrison, Port of Ness, Lewis.  
Roderick Morrison, Ness, Lewis.  
Mary Nicolson, Camustiniavaig, Skye.  
Christina Paterson, Bernera, Lochmaddy.  
William A. Robertson, Breakish, Skye.



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Leabhar XXVII.]

An t-Samhuin, 1931.

[Earrann 2

### THAR CHUANTAN.

Fhuair sinn dearbhadh aig a' Mhòd mu dheireadh gu bheil dùrachd blàth cho beò an diugh 's a bha e riamh. Chunnaic sinn gu soilleir ciod e cho foghainteach is a bheir Gaidheil an gnothuch gu crìch, an uair a ghabhas iad cùis as laimh le deagh dhùrachd. Tha aon ni cinnteach. Is e sin nach b'urrainn Mòd cho soirbheachail tachairt mur b'e gu robh tapadh is rian air an stiùir. Rinneadh ullachadh mòr gu h-òrdail agus gu greimeil. Tha sinn an dùil gum bu chòir an t-eisimpleir so a chur gu buil mhaith—ciod e ghabhas deanamh le eud is òrdugh. Nam biodh an rian foghainteach beothail so ga chleachdadh a thaobh nam mìltean Gaidheal thall thar chuantan, bhiodh toradh ri fhacinn. An déidh Mod cho ciatach; an déidh dealas cho dian; an déidh oidheip cho soirbheachail—is glic dhuinn ar n-inntinn a chur gu iomairt feuch ciamar a bheir sinn ceum ar aghart, gun bhi a' seasamh anns an aon seas gu bràth tuilleadh.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tha na Gaidheal thall thar chuantan a cheart cho Gaidhealach ruinne. Is e an aon spiorad a tha nan com agus an aon fhuil nan cuislean. Tha cuid dhiubh a chum an cuid

Gaidhlig ged tha còig ginealach o dh' fhàg an sinnsear Alba. Chum iad greim riamh air a' chànan, air na sgeulachdan, na seanfhacail, agus na h-òrain. Gabhaidh an aignidhean gluasad fhathast, gabhaidh an toil a bhrosnachadh le òraid anns an t-seann chànan. Thig tioma fathast air an cridhe, agus thig na deòir gu an stùlean ag éisdeachd ris na seann òrain 'gan seinn. Agus ma tha fhios againne air sin nach bochd an gnothuch mur cuir sinn teachdairean a mach fo ughdarras A' Chomuinn, gu bhi a labhairt ri ar bràithrean anns an t-seann chainnt, agus a' seinn a' chiùil dhaibh a thàlas an cridheachan? Tha e pailt cho furasda do Ghaidheil a' Ghaidhlig a chumail beò am bailtean Chanada agus a tha e an Glascho no an Lunnainn. Tha sinn a' tuigsinn gu bheil mòran Gaidhlig fhathast ga labhairt an cèrnaibh de Chanada. Bu chòir gum biodh an rian is an deagh òrdugh a dh'ainmich sinn, ga chleachdadh a thaobh gach cèarn dhiubh sin.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tha na làithean so làn iomagain air gach laimh. Tha gnothuichean na riochdachd cho luaineach ri gnothuichean na Gaidhlig. Ach air an laimh eile, is minig a thachair e, gur ann ri am cruadail a thàirneas Gaidheil ri chéile. Biodh sin flor air an turus so. Ma fhuair sinn fios o àireamh an t-sluaigh gu bheil

ar muinntir a' fàs na's gainne anns a's Ghaidhealtachd, cuireamaid an crois tàra air shiubhail, cuireamaid teachdairean a mach, far a bheil ar cuideachd pailt thar chuantan. Anns na làithean so tha luach as ùr ga chur air teachdaireachd phearsanta. Ma bhios ceist mhór ri réiteach eadar da rìoghachd, tha an gnothuch ga dheanamh, chan ann le sgrìobhadh, ach le guth beò an luchd gnothuich a tha air an cur a mach le ughdarras. Tha sinn a' creidsinn gum biodh am meadhon so soirbheachail eadar An Comunn agus na Gaidheil an tìrean céin. Nach bu chothromach am meadhon, nan cuireadh An Comunn buidheann a mach, dithis fear labhairt, agus dithis luchd seinn. (Gheibheadh iad fàilte chridheil. Gheibheadh iad iomadh coinneamh is cuirm chiùil anns am biodh na ceudan cruinn. Bhiodh deagh chothrom aig na fir labhairt òraidean freagarrach a liubhairt mu obair A' Chomunn is bu chor na cànan. Bhiodh na h-òraidean a' cumail gu sonruichte anns an t-sealladh a bhi dhsgadh an luchd éisdeachd gu gnìomh. Agus a thaobh nan seinneadair, is mòr an fhàilte agus an cothrom a gheibheadh iadsan. Thàladh iad air an ais cridheachan nan Gaidheal gu Tìr nam Beann; dhùisgeadh iad gràdh dùthchail; agus bhiodh dearbhadh ga nochdadh gur maith is airidh ar cànan is ar air cèol an cumail suas.

\* \* \* \* \*

Anns a' cheud dol a mach bhiodh cosgais an comhcheangal ris na teachdairean. Ach tha sinn cinnteach gun tìonaileadh a' bhuidhean iad fhéin air an cuairt, tuilleadh airgid na phàidheadh an cosgais. Ach gun ghuth air cosgais idir is maith a b' fhiach an obair a deanamh air sgàth A' Chomuinn is air sgàth ar bràithrean. Feumar gnìomh a chumail anns an amharc. Dh' fheumadh na fir labhairt cumhadh a bhi aca gu meanglain ùra fhosgladh agus a shuidheachadh, air a' cheart dòigh anns a' bheil obair A' Chomuinn ga deanamh an ar dùthaich féin. Bu mhaith gum biodh na meanglain ùra sin a' cleachdadh dìchioll air cròilean leughaidh is coisrean a chur air chois. Gheibheadh iad comhairle is stiùradh o'n Chomunn anns an obair sin. Dh' fhaoidte mòid bheaga no eadhon mòd mòr a chumail aig tràthan suidhichte. Dh' fhaoidte iarrtas a chur gus an ard-riaghladh gum biodh Gaidhlig fo dhìcean lagh na tìre mar tha i an Alba. Mar tha Fraingeis fo chùram an luchd foghlaim an Quebec, bu choir gum biodh Gaidhlig anns an ionad cheudna an Nova Scotia, no an àite sam bith eile anns 'a bheil a' chànan an còmhraidh làitheil.

## THE GAELIC SUMMER SCHOOL, TOBERMORY, 1931.

By EDGAR MACWILLIAM, B.Sc., B. Com., LL.D.

I have been invited to give my impressions of my first Summer School, and to submit any suggestions which I might wish to make for future Schools. Other newcomers will no doubt give their impressions, and, in order not to trespass unduly on the Editor's space, I will endeavour to be brief.

When I reached Tobermory, on the evening of Friday, July 24th, the School had completed four days' work. I joined the Advanced class on the following Monday, and found that my fellow-students, under the able and stimulating guidance of Miss Macmillan, had already settled down to their work in earnest. The class hours were 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a short break about 11.30 a.m. The curriculum consisted chiefly of:—Reading a selected passage from Book IV. of the *An Comunn Readers*, with oral translation; short Dictation; Grammar; occasional reading and translation from *An Dileab*. There was also some conversation, based usually on pictorial charts.

As we were all keen students, the mornings flew. To do justice to one's work, it was advisable to spend two or three hours in the afternoon in preparation for the following day's work. But, in fine weather, some of us (including myself) were unable to resist the temptations which beset us in the shape of walks, picnics, sails, etc. The evenings were usually given up to walks and, during the third and fourth weeks, to numerous ceilidhs and other entertainments. Week-end excursions were also organised, one of which—a road tour of the island, with visits to Dugald MacPhail's memorial, Duart Castle, Torosay House, and Glenforsa—was so thoroughly enjoyable that it will always remain clearly impressed in our memories.

I am probably right in stating that most of us were sorry to see the end of the session. The genuine cordiality and hospitality of the people of Mull, the beauty of the island, the friendly relationships between staff and students, and among students animated by a common object, were things which filled one's departure with regrets, though fortunately their recollection will also afford one much pleasure for a long time to come.

Turning now to the primary object of the School, one question which naturally arises is: To what extent did one's Gaelic benefit by attendance at the classes? Perhaps that

is a question which each student ought to answer for himself, but the observer may be allowed to express a general opinion.

Though I did not attend the Elementary class, I have ample evidence that its members had every opportunity for acquiring a sound and practical foundation in the language. Miss Annie Johnstone modestly disclaims any outstanding qualities; but those who have been privileged with her acquaintance think otherwise. In addition to professional competence and an uncommon mastery of the language, she has boundless energy; and she has a way with her which endeared her to her students.

In the Advanced class, we were equally fortunate. It must have been obvious to all of us that Miss Annie Macmillan had a particularly difficult task to perform, because the proficiency of the students varied over such a wide range. But that task was performed admirably, and we are much in her debt. Her sunny personality was no insignificant factor in attenuating the frightfulness of Gaelic Accidence, and I especially wish to put on record my appreciation of the patience and readiness with which she answered the questions which one insatiable student fired at her almost without intermission.

In my opinion, then, the language classes (with which alone these notes are concerned) have been highly successful. The extension of the session to nearly four weeks (as compared with the three weeks which have in recent years been given to it) strikes me as a valuable innovation, and it is to be hoped that the longer session will be maintained in future.

I believe there were twelve members on the roll of the Elementary class, and eighteen on that of the Advanced. Could not those numbers grow with comparative ease? I venture the opinion that a little more advertising could produce a substantial rise, and that the movement would benefit if more adolescents were attracted to the School.

With larger numbers it would become possible to divide the classes into three grades instead of the present two; but, on the assumption that only two grades are maintained, I will set out a few random thoughts which occur to me.

It almost goes without saying that the aim of the Summer School is not so much to provide a complete course of Gaelic (how could that be done effectively in so short a time?) as to help the student who attends or intends to attend an evening class, or who works privately. With that point in mind, I would

suggest that the time-table in each grade—Elementary and Advanced—should be on lines such as the following:—

9.45–10.45—Grammar.

10.45–11.45—Reading and Phonetics.

12–1—Conversation (based on charts) and Dictation.

If the Elementary and Advanced courses on each subject are held simultaneously, students who wish it might be given the option of attending the Elementary classes in some subjects and the Advanced in others; also, of leaving out subjects in which they are so well grounded that attendance at a class would confer no substantial benefit. The resulting economy of time and effort would give greater satisfaction and make for speedier progress.

I now come to individual subjects.

The content of Gaelic Grammar is so vast that it is impossible to cover the whole field in three or four weeks. I therefore suggest that the Elementary and Advanced course in this subject should be carefully correlated. The simpler portions—enough to give the beginner a safe start—could be dealt with in the Elementary class. The work of the Advanced class could well be confined to the more complex portions of the subject, such as numeration, compounds, passive form of verbs, irregular and defective verbs, syntax, and idiomatic constructions; if time permits of it, a short study of prosody would be profitable. To ensure adequate correlation, detailed syllabuses would need to be drafted, but the work involved in their preparation would certainly bear rich fruit.

With regard to Reading, the Elementary class would perhaps find enough material in the Grammar text-book; if additional matter is wanted, I think *An Ceud Cheum* is as good a book as any. But though *An Comunn* reading books are excellent for the purpose for which they were designed, I am of the opinion that the thorough study of a good short play would be far more profitable to the Advanced class than the rapid reading of parts of the school book prescribed for this year. If the play were publicly produced about the end of the session the finances of "An Comunn" would also benefit.

Phonetics need not be treated formally. Probably a certain amount has always been done in the Elementary class, but there is need for it in the Advanced class too.



About Conversation and Dictation nothing will be said here except that it seems advisable to allocate a definite period to these subjects.

The above observations and suggestions have been made hurriedly, and would have been elaborated if time had been available; but I trust that the appropriate committee will consider them, and perhaps invite further suggestions from teachers and students.

I take this opportunity to write a few words about two friends who have given so much of their time and thought to the movement. The placidity and imperturbability of Mr. Neil Orr were deceptive. He gave one the impression that he had no problems to solve, no obstacles to overcome. We know, however, how manifold and complicated his functions were, and we realise how heavy the demands on his time and energy must have been. Much the same can be said of Mr. A. H. MacColl whose work, though done mainly behind the scenes, has earned our gratitude.



## CEILIDH AM BUTH A' GHRIASAICHE.

Le DONNACHUADH MACDHOMHNAILL,

Sannabhaig.

### II.

IAIN—Is mise a tha ag aithneachadh air Coinneach nach eil e a' creidsinn facail a tha a' tighinn as do bhial. Ach a bheil fhios agaibhse air so, gu'n cuala mise ag mo mhàthair chòir, nach maireann, gu'n do rug na sìthichean air Dòmhnall, bràthair a h-athar, uair 's e dol le buideal uisge-bheatha air a mhuin a null gu ruige Nis, agus gu'n d'thug iad a steach leotha e do chliathaich Beinn Gheàrgha far a robh e 's dannsadh còmhla riutha corr is bliadhna leis a' bhuideal ceangailte air a dhruim. Agus cha d'fhairich e an tìde ri dol seachad còmhla riutha.

COINNEACH—Bha mo bheachd féin agam air Uilleam bho chionn fada, ach cha d'fhainig a steach a riamh roimhe orm gu'n creideadh tusa gach ròlaist a chluinneadh tu thall 's a bhos. Tha thu a' cur iongnaidh orm, Iain bhochd.

IAIN—Tha an rud a thubhairt mise a cheart cho fhirneach agus ged a chanadh am ministear féin e. Chan eil agam ach an rud a fhuair mi bho mo mhàthair bheannaichte.

COINNEACH—Bha do mhàthair chòir agus a leithid 'nan latha féin a' creidsinn anns na faoineisean ud, ach chan eil sin ag radh gu'm bu chòir dhòmhsa agus dhuitse a fhuair fòghlum agus eòlas a bhi toirt àite do sgiallachdan bhodach is chailleachan a tha cho fada air ais agus ged a bhiodh iad beò ann an linn Mhic Chrìstlig.

UILLEAM—A bheil sibhse a' cluinntuinn a' chòmhradh a tha aig an duine aig am bu chòir beagan ceille a bhi? A Choinnich bhochd, shaoilinn-sa nach biodh tu cho fliuch agus a tha thu. Duine aig a bheil na h-oghaichean mar thusa a' cur an suarachas beachdan t-athraichean agus a' creidsinn gach beachd ùr a chi thu anns na paipearan naidheachd agus anns na *novels*. Tha thu dìreach air fàs cho gòrach aotrom orm ri balaich bheaga na sgoile.

COINNEACH (*a' cur spurteig 'na bhial*)—Ach is e a tha gòrach mise a' caitheamh ùine a' còmhradh ribh. Ma, gu dearbh chan eil mise gun chuir agam ag èisdeachd ris gach rabhd faoin a thogras sibhse innseadh do dhaoine.

AN GRIASAICHE—Tha mi air son faighinn a mach a bheil mo nàbaidh, Uilleam, an so a' creidsinn gu bheil buidseachd ann, agus a bheil dearbhadh aige air gu bheil bana-bhuidsearan ann.

UILLEAM—Is math a tha fios aig a' ghriasaiche gu bheil mise le m'ùile chridhe a' creidsinn ann am bana-bhuidsearan. Agus gu dearbh fhéin is mise a fhuair an t-aobhar air gun creidinn anna. Na'm biodh uiread de bhrath aca air Coinneach agus a tha aca ormsa bhiodh duan eile aige. Tha fios agus faireachdainn agamsa gu bheil buidsichean ann.

COINNEACH—Chan eil aona bana-bhuidsear an diugh air tìr tioram ann an Leòdhas. Tha thusa coltach ris an fhear a thachair riumsa an dé fhéin a bha a' cumail a mach gu'n cuir buidsichean iad féin ann an cruth ghearr no starraig.

UILLEAM—Cha robh facal aig an duine chòir ach an fhirinn. Is mise a bha thall agus a thàinig a nall agus a chunnaic sin. Chan eil bana-bhuidsear ann an diugh, an e a thubhairt thu? Tha mise ag ràdh riut gu bheil cho math ri leth-dusan diùbh air clàraibh do bhaile féin.

AN GRIASAICHE—Chan eil aon. Ach innsidh mise dhuitse mar a tha. Tha balaich na sgoile air faighinn a mach gu bheil thusa a' toirt àite do no buidsichean, agus thig iad air chéilidh ort agus fàgaidh iad air eil na béinge agad enocan air a dhèanamh suas de gach seòrsa snàtha a gheibh iad thall 's a bhos. Tha thusa cho gòrach is gu'n tòisich thu ag

éigheach ris a' bhaile cho luath agus a chi thu an cnocan ud gu robh na buidsichean a' toirt an toraidh o'n bhoìn agad.

UILLEAM—Tha thusa coltach ris fhéin. Nach fhaca mise le mo dhà shùil a bhean agad fhéin le peile bainne an latha roimhe. Bha e follaiseach do dhuine 'sam bith gu robh an toradh air a thoirt as. Chuireadh an dath aige eagal ort.

AN GREASAICHE—Tha ise a' làn chreidsinn gu robh e millte aig na buidsichean. Ach chan eil mise a' dol leatha idir, idir. Co-dhiùbh thug i Steòrnabhagh oirre a shealltuinn air na clachairean ach an cuireadh iad stad air a bhana-bhuidsear a mhil a bho oirre. Tha i fhéin ag radh gu'n d'innis iad di có a bha a' dèanamh a croin.

COINNEACH—Ciod e a b'urrainn clachair a dhèanamh dhi nach deanadh saor ?

IAIN—Is cinnteach nach eil thusa, a Choinnich, gu ruige so gun chluinntinn mu chlachairean Steòrnabhagh. Tha fiosachd agus cumhachd aig na daoine ud air nach ruig sinne. Agus is dòcha gu bheil sin cho math.

COINNEACH—Bheir iad sin a chreidsinn ortsa agus air do leithid ma chanas iad riut gur h-i an t-é a' milleadh a' chruidh ort a' chiad té a thig a steach an ath latha. Cha b'iongnadh ged a chuireadh iad an teanga 'nam pluic a' fanaid oirbh.

UILLEAM—Tha mise ag innseadh dhuitse gu'n d'innis iad dòmhla có i a bha air mo chron a dhèanamh. Ach thug mise oirre, bradag, gu'n do ghabh i 'na shiubhal e leis an eagal a chuir mi oirre an uair a thill mi bho fhaicinn nan clachairean. Cumaidh i fad an sgadain uamsa a chaidh tuilleadh. Bheir mise sin oirre.

AN GREASAICHE—Ach is cinnteach, Uilleim, nach eil thusa a' creidsinn gu'n toinndaidh bana-bhuidseir i féin gu bhi na h-ian.

UILLEAM—Tha mi: carson nach biodh ? A bheil cuimhne agad, Iain, air an latha a bha mi féin agus tu féin a' tighinn dhachaidh a Steòrnabhagh le deoch an réitich agam mar a chaidh a' chairt thairis leinn ann an leathad a' Bhealaich Chais. Bha am pìge leis an uisge-bheatha air briseadh 's an deoch air dòrtadh. Bha an dìrhis againn 'nar sineadh an dlig an rathaid. Shùil 'gan d'thug mi nach ann a bha an dà starraig sin a' sgiathalaich os ar cionn agus aogas an droch spioraid orra.

AN GREASAICHE—Tha eagal orm gun ann a bha an deoch oirbh le chéile. Bithidh daoine a bhios air an daoraich a' faicinn rudan nach eil idir ann.

IAIN—An cluinn sibhse an griasaiche ! Tha mi cho cinnteach 's a tha mi ann an so gur

h-iad cailleachan a' ghlinne ud thall a bha ann. Sud am peanas a rinn iad air Uilleam bochd airson nach d'thug e dhaibh cuireadh chun an réitich aige.

UILLEAM—Thubhairt thu dìreach a dh'auon fhacal e. Mur a biodh gu'n do chuir mi mo chomhairle ri clachairean Steòrnabhagh bha iad air an dearbh rud a dheanamh orm an latha a thainig mi leis a phige eile. Ach sheall iad sud dhaibh gu'm feumadh iad Uilleam bochd a sheachnadh.

COINNEACH (*A' toirt sìla timchioll na butha agus a' deanamh snodha gaire*)—Ach fheara an t-saoghail nach garbh a' chainnt ris a bheil agamsa ri eisdeachd. Chan iongnadh ged a thigeadh grad bhreitheanas air an fhàrdaich so leis na chaidh a labhairt de chainnt amaidich innte air an oidheche nochd. Uilleim, Uilleim, gabh do Bhlobull, a bhròinein. Chan eil droch fheum agad air gu dearbh.

UILLEAM—Tha mise aig mo Bhlobull, tha mi cinnteach, a cheart cho tric agus a tha thusa aige. Chan eil latha a tha'mo thaobh ag éirigh bho'n leabaidh nach eil mi a' cuairteachadh an aoraidh moch is anamoch.

COINNEACH—Ma, cha mhór buaidhe a tha aig sin ort féin, a charaid. Nam biodh tusa a' creidsinn le t'uile chridhe anns a' Bhlobull cha bhiodh tu air bhoil le geasagan mosaach mar a thù thu.

IAIN (*a' toiseachadh air lionadh na pìoba*)—Tha eagal ormsa, a Choinnich chòir, nach eil thu féin aig do Bhlobull cho tric agus a tha thu ag radh ruinne. An do leugh thu riamh mun bhana-bhuidsear a thug air Sàmuil éirigh as an uigh. Cha chreid mise gu bheil a dh'anam agad a radh gu bheil geasagan anns a' Bhlobull. Leugh ciod e a tha Pòl ag radh ris na Galàtianaich.

UILLEAM—Nach e sin Iain ! Ach chan e ciod e a thubhairt Pòl ris a bheil Coinneach a' coimhead ach ris gach creud ri a chi e ann am paipèaran an Taoibh-deas far nach aithnicheadh iad taibhse no bana-bhuidsear ged a thachradh iad riutha. Chan eil a' chiall sin aca, na truaghain.

COINNEACH—Tha fòghlum is eòlas air saorsa a thoirt do mhuinntir an Taoibh-deas bho eagal thaibhsichean is bhuidhsichean. Siubhlaidh iad sud baile is monadh gun eagal is gun fhiamh aig dearg mheadhon oidheche. Chan ann idir coltach ri Uilleam Beag a tha iad nach teid a mach air toll doruis an dèidh tuiteam na h-oidheche.

IAIN (*a' toirt na pìoba as a bhial*)—Na cluinneam an tuilleadh agad mu mhuinntir an Taoibh-deas. Ma dhòirteas iad eadhon

gràinne salainn air bòrd thig droch dhath orra leis an eagal a ghabhas iad, agus leis mar a tha iad leis na geasagan tilgidh iad rud deth thairis air an gualainn chli gun fhios nach cuir iad le sin stad air an dòlas a tha 'gan ruith. Na bi 'gan innseadh dhomh, a Choinnich.

AN GRIASAICHE—Tha thu ceart an dràsda. Tha feadhainn de na Sasunnach cho làn de gheasagan agus a tha an t-ubh de an bhìadh.

IAIN—Tha mi ceart. Ma thachras gu'm bi trì duine diag dhiubh aig bòrd bidh no ann an càrbad cha mhòr dìreach nach tèid iad as an ciall leis an eagal a tha orra gu bheil droch rud air chore-eigin an dàn daibh.

UILLEAM—Ma tha sinne geasagach ann an Leòdhas faodaidh sinn a ràdh gu bheil brìgh ann na geasagan againn. Chan ionnan sin is geasagan nan Sasunnach aig nach eil bun no barr. Tha iad féin agus an cuid gheasagan coltach ri a chéile.

IAIN—Tha cuimhne agam an uair a bha an Cogadh Mór ann gum biodh seòladairean Sasunnach a bha anns an luing còmhla rium ag éigheach an uair a chitheadh iad faoileag no farspag nach robh an sud ach spioradan Nelson is Dhrake. Sin agadsa' dhuit na Sasunnach.

COINNEACH—Is ann a bhiodh iad ag radh sud ribhge gu tarruing conuis asaihb, chionn gu'n do thuig iad cho math gu robh sibh làn gheasagan.

UILLEAM—Cha b'ann idir. Is ann a bhiodh iad ag gabhail uamhais nach robh sinne ag aontachadh leotha féin.

AN GRIASAICHE—Chan eil teagamh 'sam bith nach eil feadhainn de na Sasunnaich aig a bheil beachdan faoine gu leòir. Ach an deidh sin agus 'na dhéidh bu chòir dhuinne a bhi glic agus gun a bhi ann an daorsa aig na geasagan gòrach a tha agad féin agus aig muinntir eile. Gabhaibh ar Biobuill fheara. Is ann annta a gheibh sibh beatha do bhrì-anam.

UILLEAM—Nach d'thubhairt mi riut mar tha: ciod e a tha am Biobull ag radh air a' phuing a tha againn.

COINNEACH—Tha mise ag radh riutsa nach do thog bana-bhuidsear Endoir Sàmuèl a riamh a mach as an uaigh. Cha robh a chumhachd sin aice, a bhalaich. Leugh thusa a rithist an earrann sin de an fhìrinn air do shon féin agus chì thu nach fhaca Sàul féin Sàmuèl idir, idir. Is ann a thug i a chreidsinn air an duine bhochd ud gu'n robh Sàmuèl 'na bruidhinn.

IAIN—Tha mi an dòchas nach eil thu a' gabhail ort a chumail a mach gu bheil geasagan anns a Bhìobull.

COINNEACH—Chan eil idir, ach canaidh mi so: nach eil thusa a' tuigsinn na fìrinn mar bu chòir dhuit. Tha thu mar a tha gu leòir eile 'nar measg 'ga mìneachadh a réir is mar a thig i riut féin. "O, a Ghàlatianacha amaideach, cò a chuir druidheachd oirbh?"

UILLEAM—Nach ann ort a tha a' bhathais laidir an uair a bhiodh a dh'anam agad a dhol a chur fàraidh anns an fhìrinn bheannaichte.

AN GRIASAICHE—Togaibh dheth an dràsda, fheara, mu'm bi sibh a' toirt suilean dubha a chéile a mach a' deasbaireachd air facal an Tighearna. Gabhaibh ceann-teagaisg air chore-eigin eile air eagal gu'n toir sinn toibheum do'n fhìrinn.

COINNEACH—Tha e 'na làn thìde dhuinn sin a dheanamh. Tha tuilleadh 's a' chòir de dheasbaireachd mu'n fhìrinn anns an latha nialach dhorch anns a bheil sinne beò. Chan ann a chum glòir na fìrinn a tha an deasbaireachd idir, ach a chum glòir dhaoine. Daoine, aig am bu chòir ciall a bhi a' feuchainn ach cò is motha a chanas de bhrosul air Facal an Tighearna; agus cò aige a bhios a' bhuaidh, dìreach mar gu'm faiceadh tu balaicha' feuchainn ach cò is fhaide a thilleas an dòrnag.

AN GRIASAICHE—Tha mi air an aon fhacal riut, a Choinnich. Chan ann a chum math an t-soisgeul a tha mòran de na tha sinne a' dèanamh 's a' labhairt idir. Chan ann, chan ann, is duilich nach ann.

UILLEAM—Tha muinntir an Taoibh-deas, bho bheil mo nàbaidh Coinneach an so a faighinn nam beachdan a tha aige, a' tòiseachadh air creudan ùra. Chan eil searmoin aca na's fhaide a leanas na cairteil na h-uarach. Agus is ainneamh ainneamh a chluinneas tu sàilmean Dhàibhidh air an sènn. Chan eil dad an sud ach *hymns* agus *Orgain*, agus nach eil a' bhuil!

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

## SANAS DO CHLANN AN FHRAOICH.

O nach d'fhuair sinn cothrom air ar cinn a chur r'a chéile aig àm a' Mhòid an Inbhir-phaotharain, bithidh a' cheud choinneamh de Chlann an Fhraoich air a cumail an Glascho air Di-Sathuirne an 14 la de'n mhios so (ceud mìos a' Gheamhraidh) ann an aitreamh a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, 212 Sraid-an-Iar Sheòrais, aig ceithir uairean feasgar. So an t-aon sanas a bhios 'ga chur a mach mu'n choinneamh. Tha dòchas gum bi àireamh mhaith aig a' choinneamh.

SEORAS (Fear-gairme).



## PROPAGANDA TOURS.

The recently formed Branch in Dumbarton held its first ceilidh in the Masonic Hall on Friday, 18th September. Provost Barr presided, and other speakers were, Mr. Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Mr. Hector MacDougall, Mr. Peter MacKenzie (President), and Mr. Neil Shaw. There were over 400 people present who enjoyed a splendid programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs.

The General Secretary commenced the visitation of Branches on 12th October by holding a meeting of the St. Catherine's Branch in the Hall at Cairndow. About 80 people were present. The following evening Mr. Shaw attended the opening meeting of the Inveraray Branch. There was a large attendance here also, and the proceedings were almost entirely conducted in Gaelic. A Branch of An Comunn was formed at Furnace on 14th October. Mr. Peter Boyd is president, and Miss Mary MacDiarmid is secretary. Captain Campbell, Yr. of Succoth, presided over an attendance of 80 people representative of the whole district.

Mr. Shaw proceeded to Ardrishaig, and held a meeting in the Hall on the 15th. About 40 people attended and the Branch was reformed, all the former members taking office. Twenty-nine members enrolled at the close of the meeting.

A new Branch was formed at Ormsary on the 15th, to be known as the Ormsary and Achahoish Branch. Mr. Jas. MacKenzie is President, and Mr. Dugall Campbell, Ormsary, is secretary. Provost Greenshields, Lochgilphead, accompanied the General Secretary, and presided at the meeting.

Another Branch was added to the number on 19th October. A company of 40 people met the Secretary in the School, Kilfinnan, and after hearing the story of the institution of An Comunn and the work since accomplished, unanimously decided to form a Branch. Rev. Hector Cameron, who presided, is president, and Mr. Angus Macphail, Drums, is secretary.

Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Northern organiser, visited Sutherland, and made arrangements for Gaelic Classes in the Evening School. He also visited the Strathspey district, and addressed the Branches there. Mr. Carmichael was present at the opening ceilidh of the Arisaig Branch on 9th October. He also attended a meeting of the Morar Branch at

Mallaig on the 10th. He is now visiting the Outer Isles arranging for Provincial Mods, and forming new Branches.

Mrs. Margaret MacDonald commenced teaching in Skye early in October.

## THE OLD GAME OF SHINTY.

By LACHLAN GRANT.

The old Highland game of shinty is as popular as ever, and it is good to see the fresh enthusiasm of the players and the lively interest of the public in the numerous shinty matches all over the country.

How old the game is, or where it originated, nobody knows, but of all the outdoor games it is probably one of the most ancient.

The shinties, I suppose, would be at first crude things compared to the camans of our time. Very likely they were just roughly-cut sticks from the branches of the harder trees, selecting rods, as many boys do now, with a transverse twist at the end to catch the object more readily.

In these days there would be no manufactured materials to make such balls as are at present used, and pieces of wood cut to a shape, or natural knots, were among the primitive expedients in use.

Like other games, the evolution of camanachd, the caman, the ball, and rules, has been a gradual effort, and the outcome of many generations of players. So now we have the highly-finished steamed oak, or ash camans, the firm well-made resilient balls, and the elaborate rules of our modern clubs. The implements of the game have developed, and so has the play. An outsider unacquainted with shinty might think at first sight it was a rough-and-tumble sort of display, just a dangerous scrimmage without art or reason in it. But after a time he would realise that there was more of art and science in it than he had imagined. It is certainly a most strenuous game, and not one for weaklings. It is a game primarily of early manhood, when the mental and physical powers are in full swing, and the supple body is responsive to the impressions of the senses and the commands of the mind.

A good shinty player must be something of an athlete, and be endowed with sound mind, sharp visual acuity, quick perception, and considerable power of endurance. Much of this can be acquired by constant practice and careful habits. It is largely a question of nerves, and the wise player will avoid extremes in everything, even in play. Whilst practising he will ca' canny with tobacco, cigarettes, strong tea, and heavy foods that might clog the system or disagree with "little Mary." Especially will he beware of insidious King Alcohol, whose rule is apt to prove killing under the guise of kindness, and mar the best of efforts. So the rule for good players of shinty, or of any game, should be moderation in all things, and avoidance of habits that waste and weaken. The majority of our clubs are not in need of advice of this nature. Their members have often demonstrated on the field, they are often almost equal in their results, and they all also know how to play clean and fair, to face disappointment or bad luck, and to take hard knocks and little accidents that will happen under the most favourable conditions. One writer was perhaps thinking of shinty when he wrote:

"No game was ever yet worth a rap

For a rational man to play,

Unto which no accident or mishap

Could possibly find its way."

And Tennyson's lines might apply to it:

"Strength of heart

And might of limb, but mainly art and skill,

Are winners in this pastime."

Shinty might appeal to Kipling if he saw a good game, for he seems to think cricket rather tame when he describes it as "Casting a ball at three straight sticks, and defending the same with a fourth." Probably he would sum up one of our big matches as "The victory of endurance born."

According to some modern Jeremiahs, the world is going to pot, and soon there will be nothing for us to do but die, so that even doctors will be superfluous on the stage of life. Other more encouraging prophets think they see silver linings in the social and political clouds, and predict an era of prosperity in the near future. Our country, and every other country, are up against unforeseen difficulties and tremendous problems never thought of by our forefathers. All thoughtful people must give some attention to matters of moment appertaining to the national housekeeping and the general welfare of mankind. But

while this is a duty incumbent on all responsible citizens, it is wise not to allow dark and heavy thoughts to overcloud the mind and depress the spirit. On life's journey at the best all require uplifting influences to sustain faith and hope, and some antidotes against dullness and depression. Amongst these, though not perhaps the most important, is sport in its various branches. Sport has varied according to nationality and period of time, and its evolution from primitive beginnings to the present regularised big-scale games would make an interesting story. Sport and games of all kinds are so many safety valves for human nature.

There is no better way of forgetting worries and troubles, imaginary or otherwise, than taking part in some game in the open air, and even mere onlookers are diverted and refreshed by the mild excitement of watching others play while bathing in the fresh air and sunshine.

For an out-of-doors game, whether for players or spectators, shinty is a fascinating one, and stands pre-eminent. It is in a category by itself, and is a demonstration of the strength and manhood of the Scottish nation

Shinty, besides being a fine, healthy, manly game, just suits the Highland Celtic temperament. Its effect is good in every way, and it requires the all-important qualities of discipline, obedience, and courtesy.

Therefore, it should be countenanced and encouraged by the community, and those who, unfortunately, are too stiff to take a hand in the strenuous game itself should patriotically give it their lively interest and support.

The chief motive of the players is not to gain all the prizes all the time—for while trying their best to beat the competing clubs, their enthusiasm is based on hereditary pride in camanachd, and they have learned

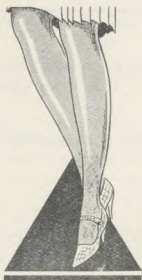
"To love the game above the prize."

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## DARA TURUS SHEUMAIS.

## FHIR MO CHRIDHE.

Am feadh nach robh Seumas a' nochdadh aig a' chéilidh 's beag a bha fhios agam gu'n robh eachdraidh 'ga deanamh air an rathad mhór. Tha e fhathast air chuimhne aig na bha an làthair aig céilidh Clann an Fhraoich a chumadh 's an Oban air a' Ghearan so chaidh nach d'thàinig Seumas gus an robh sinn brath dol a ghuidhe fàilt an Rìgh. Bha anail Sheumais 'na uchd, bha neul glas air 'aodann, bha e reàsg-shuilcach, falt-sgapte, pabach, loireach, uilleach, airtnealach, ach cha luaithe fhuair e clàran an ard-uirleir fo'chasan na sheinn e dhuinn ceithir òrain an dèidh a chéile, 's ma bhios an leithid a' dol aig Mòd Inbhirpheotharain am bliadhna 's fhiach a bhì ann.

Nis, bha fhios agam gu'n robh trioblaid aig Seumas air an rathad eadar Glascho, 's an t-Oban, is gur e sin a chuir gu robh e air dheireadh aig a' chéilidh. Ach 's e sin na chuala mi aig an àm agus cha do thuig mi gu'n robh tachartasan an latha sin a' laighe air broilleach Sheumais fad choig miosan. Cha b'ann gus an d'thàinig féill Glascho, mu'n cuairt, laithean saora a thug Seumas gu taobh Loch-Odha rithist, is e air a cheum chun nan eileanan, a fhuair e an trom-lighe sin bharr a uchd, agus sin ann am briathran smiorail, cumhachdach a ghiulain dearbhachd 'nan cois. Cha teid agam air an aithris facal air an fhacal mar a fhuair mi iad o bheil mo laochain, ach so agad eachdraidh-san fhad is cuimhne leam.

Arsa Seumas is e slnte an cathair dhomhain dhàlaimh, a' sealltainn air mullach an t-seomair 's a dhà òrdaig an echlais a pheiteig:—

“Anns a' cheud dol a mach b'fheadar dhomh feitheamh dà uair an uaireadair ann am Bad na Caol-Aibhne le *Fiat* beag air an robh againn ri ar buill 's ar beatha chur air iomairt. Inneam dhuit gu bheil Beistean 'na charbadair agam, no b'fhlirinniche ràdh gu robh. Tha e an seomars-giorraidh an tigh-eiridinn an ceartair. Chan e mhàin gu bheil Beistean ro-eblach air na carbadan-ola, ach tha e murrach a h-uile seòrsa carbaid a thoirt air lom as a thomad-tàmh, agus ri àm gabhaidh agus brisidh sìos, air na h-uiread leth-sgeul a thoirt air lom cuideachd.”

Gun fhios dhomh cionnus, chuir mi droch-umhail air an *Fhiat* ud cho luath 's a leag mi mo dhà shùil air.

Coma, chunnaic tri uairean feasgair sinn a' fàgail Ghlascho as ar dèidh agus ràinig sinn Dun-Breatann gun sgiorradh sònraichte ach corra chearc air an glacadh ri linn rannsachadh na ceiste “Carson a ghabhas cearc tarsuing air an t-sràid?” Chan fhada gus an robh sinn air a' gabhail mu'n rathad a tha 'ga shìonmh fhéin gu cama-lùbach ri Taobh Loch Laomainn, Shaighdich *Sunbeam* mòr seachad oirn air a stiùradh le maighdinn ùr-fhasanta, is fiamhaire fanaideach air aodann an fhir ùr-fhasanta r'a taobh.

“Am faca tu?” arsa mise sud Chùnnais Beisdean.

“Na cuireadh sud glong ort,” arsa esan; “faodar daonnan dol seachad air boireannach aig oisinn.” An sin, thòisich an fhaoghaid air oisnean—bu lhomhor iad—agus ge neònach a riuth dhearbha a' cheud aon dhiubh firinn a bhriathran. Air dlùthachadh oirre dhuinn chaill an “Deoghréine” astar, is air do m'charbadair fath a ghabhail air a' chothrom, dh'oisinn e seachad oirre cho sgeannail, sgìobhalta 's a b'urrainn a' chiste cheithir-rothach, chorrach againn a dheanamh. Chan fhacas riamh an loch a' coimhead cho maiseach, ach le mo charaid aig an stiùir, dìreach car tuilleadh is dlùth air mo shon-sa.

Ag gabhail cronain dha air luinneig nach robh rianh, gu freasdalach, an clò, lean Beisdean air a shiubhal 's e siùdagan a nunn 's a nall, is a' meudachadh dian-ruith a rannaireachd leis gach stadhadh a b'oillteile na chéile. Bha gach ròineag de m'fhalt a nis 'na seasamh air mo chlaigean mar bhioran air druim gràineig, ach shìl mi m'fhein air ais air a' chluasaighuidhe cho sèimh, ciùin 's a bh'agam is mi feitheamh na spaidse as àbhaist tighinn an ceann a' cheud fhichead mìle an cuideachd Bheistean. An robh m'airgid-urrais air a phagheadh? Co-dhiù air an loch air mo làimh dheis no air muin a' gharaidh-thobhta air mo làimh chlì a bhiodh a' chrois ag comharrachadh a mach an ionaid 's am faighteadh na cuirp? Cha robh mi fada feitheamh. Ann an ulfhartaich dheireannaich na luinneig aig Beistean chualas an spreadhadh tinnsgadalach ud, thug an carbad cuibhle air mu'n cuairt agus ghabh e tàmh air a' bhruaich, an rathad a thàinig sinn. Rinn sgrùdadh comharra biora leigeil am follais ann an aon de na rothan toisich. Thugar am bachall dheth an cois sruth de dh'fhacail nach eualas an leithid roimhe, agus cuirear an roth-caomhnaidh, culaidh broineagach le dà sgàineadh air dhroch-càradh, 'na àite.

Air ruigsinn na Crianlaraich dhuinn bha sinn rùnaichte air tùthag a bhi againn air an roth thollta, oir bha e soilleir nach fhada sheasadh an roth-caomhnaidh. Theagamh gu'n cuir e longnadh ort a chluinntinn nach robh duine a' freasdal 's an tigh-charbaid an sin, agus seach a bhi call ùine chuir sinn romhainn deanamh air Tigh-an-droma. Is gann a ràinig sinn drochaid an rathaid-iarrainn an uair a thug am faghar 's an stadhadh ro-aithnichte sin rabhadh duinn nach bu mhaireann an roth-caomhnaidh. Cha robh atharrachadh fodhainn, agus nach truagh leat sinne 'nar deann-ruith air ais gu na Crianlaraich fo'n ghliob a bha tuiteam a nis 'na steallan mu ar cinn, 's sinn a' ridhil a' cheud rotha-thollta romhainn, cleas cearcall balaich-sgoile air mirean.

Ach cha robh ar fear-ceirde ri fhaotainn. Bha e air dol gu Tigh-an-droma le eallach feòir is bha e coltach nach biodh e air ais am feasgar ud 's a leannan aige an sin. Sud an naidheachd bhrosnachail a fhuair sinn bho mhuinntir a' bhaile a bha nis air cruinneachadh a' dh'fhaicinn ath-thilleadh nam fògarach. Dh'fhoighnich sinn an deanadh iad ar stiùradh gu fear-ealdhain air choireigin nach biodh cho trang ri leannanachd. Dh'bisg so deasbaireachd nach beag air teisteanas math agus dona gach inleachdair mar fhichead mìle mun cuairt, agus is e thàinig a sin gu'n do chomhairlicheadh dhuinn an ceannaiche fheuchainn "aig bun a' bhruthaich ud." Bha nis dorchadh nan tràth ann agus rinn sealladh de'n dithis thruagan an ceannaiche còir a chur, cha mhór, as a chiall, is iad a' feuchainn ri roth-charbaid a stiùradh troimh'n dorus-bùtha gun char a chur 's a' bhuntàta.

"A dhuine, dhuine. 's mi-fhortanach sin" arsa esan an uair a thug e ar càs. "Tha'n seirbheiseach agam a mach leis a' charbad 's a h-uile giorras aige leis." 'S e chomhairliche e dhuinn tadhal air Alasdair Crotach shuas an bruthach.

Gu trom, athaiseach 's an cathadh 'gar dalladh thog sinn oirnn aon uair eile a' putadh an rotha romhainn troimh'n t-sneachd mar a b'fheàrr a dh'fhaodamaid, gus an d'ràinig sinn tigh Alasdair, ach ma ràinig, cha robh againn ach an gad air an robh an t-iasg. Is ann a bha Alasdair an dèidh fàlbh mu dheas gu dol—seach àite!—do'n Chuimridh air an là sin féin. Bha sinn a nis air blas a' chragain a ghabhail de gach dàil a chuireadh oirnn, ach dh'fhàg sinn beannachd aig bean Alasdair, ghuidh sinn àrd-shonas mìos-nam-pòg air a' chàraid

leannanachd an Tigh-an-droma, beannachdan an rathaid-mhòir air carbad a' cheannaiche agus cuairt an àigh air an duin' uasal 's a' Chuimridh.

Mar earraig dheireannaich dh'fheuch sinn am bothan beag a tha air iomall na Crianlaraich agus, Dia 'na thoiseach, shoirbhich leinn air a' cheann thall. Fhuair sinn bodach biorach, murrach a stigh a ghabh an suidheachadh fo a làimh gu h-iomlan air ball. Bha chroileagan math cloinne nu'n cuairt agus cha do dhearbhadh buannachd teaghlach mhòir na bu ro-eifeachdaiche na rinneadh leis a' bhodach air an oidhch' ud.

"Uilleam! faigh soitheach ionnlaid. Bi sgiobalta, Phàruig; 's tusa Alasdair, teannaibh a null am bòrd as an rathad. Nuas as a' chathair sin a Mhairearaid is leig leis an duin' uasal suidhe." O'n is ann orm-sa bha shùil rinn mi suidhe a dh'aon phlub 's mi air mo chlaoidh, a' leigeil le Beistean crùbadh air an urlar leis a' chloinn, is iad a' rannsachadh feadan-adhair a' bhachail air son tuill. Mach o Mhairearaid chuir an teaghlach uile surd air comhdach a' bhachail a thoirt dheth. Dh'fhoighnich ise dh'iom am b'urrainn domh-sa "cunntasan" a dheanamh. Air dhomh an comas sin aideachadh gu diùid thug i sglèat air lom agus ann am prìoba na sùl a bha mi suas gu m'amhaich a' fuasgladh "ma thug trìur dhaoine dà là a ghiùlan deich tunnachan chreadha-leac, cia fada . . ." 's mar sin sios. Cha do mhòthaich mi 'n ùine dol seachad gus an do chuir aon ghlaodh sgalanta an céill gu'n robh am feadan-adhair air a bhreicladh gu math 's gu ro-mhath. Air do chùisean a bhi réidh eadar-ruinn, is mi ag innseadh do Mhairearaid gu'n robh an *solution* aig a h-athair 'na làimh, thug sinn as na buinn sios an rathad aon uair eile, gu h-aotrom, iollagach, agus ràinig sinn far an robh ar *Fiat* meanmnach a nis 'na thorran-sneachda.

"Do chas air, a lnochain!" bu chais-meachd dhomh, ach bha òrdag Bheisdein air 'na ghnoban-greasaidh mu'n gann a bha na faeil bharr mo theangan. Ghabh sinn uile chunnartan an rathaid—am beagan a bha ri fhaicinn dheth—agus leis an t-sneachd dalladh an sgàil-ghnoithe, bu chio-gailteach da rìreadh ar siubhal. Bha'm *Fiat* ag itheadh nam miltean té an dèidh té; cha robh dìth sleamhanachaidh oirnn. A' tuirling dhuinn sios am bruthach gu Dàil-mhaidh thilg Beisdean sùil orm, is m'adach mu'm chluasan 'nam oisinn, is dùileam toirleum gach ceann tacain air carragh-cuimhne Dhonnachaidh Bhàin,

"A Sheumais," deir esan, "saoil an lean puist na *telegraph* taobh an rathaid daonnan?"

Ag amharc dhomh gu geur troimh 'n ghloine fad leth-bhuileag na sguabaig cha bu léir dhomh ach sneachd-bhrat an t-sléibh romhainn cho fhad 's a leigeadh an solus-dealain sealladh duinn, is gun choltas rathaid ri fhaicinn idir. "A Bheistein," arsa mise eadar na h-ospagan; "An ann a tha thu ag ràdh gu bheil thu an déidh na puist-*telegraph* sin a shìor-leantainn o'n a dh'fhàg sinn a' Chrìanlaraich?"

An iongnadh ged a dh'fhairich mi an earrann sin de'n sgrìob car luaisgeach? Tha dearb-chinnt again nam biodh na puist sin féin a' ruith suas gu mullach Cruachain gu'n d'rinn mo charbadair dealasach dìreadh a bheireadh bàrr air gach iomradh riamh.

Bho Dhail-mhàilidh lean sinn làrach carbad eile. Shaighdich Tigh-an-Uillt seachad oirnn.

"Dè'n uair a tha e?"

"Tha leth-uair an uaireadaig agad fhathast gu 'oidheche mhath leibh'."

Aiseag na Connuil! "Do chas air, a Bheistein."

Sud Gleann Cruitein as ar déidh, an sin an t-Oban is doras Talla na h-Eaglais. Is aithne dhuit-se an còrr.

Is e bu duilich leam gu'n robh mo ghuth beagan reasgach car na h-oidhch'ud. Air son na codach eile dheth is iomadh gàire thug mi orm fhéin is mi cuimhneachadh driadhfortain na Crìanlaraich agus puist-dealain "Gleann Lochaidh nam fuar-bheann."

A Sheumais chòir, is tu fhéin an gille. Is mòr 's cha bheag an t-euchd a rinn thu air sgàth Clann an Fhraoich!

Mise,

SEORAS GALLDA.

## AN TUNNAG.

LE DAIBHIDH URCHADAN, A.M.

Ged nach fear fearainn mi chan eil mi buileach gun suim anns na tha an talamh ag ràdh eadar luibhean agus feudail, agus is toigh leam a bhi a' faicinn cleachdaidhean nam beo-chreutarain a tha ag àiteach na talmhainn cuide ri clann nan daoine agus a' beachdachadh air na doighean iongantach

anns a bheil lusan agus ainmhidhean a' frithealadh air daoine chum an crannchar air thalamh a dheanamh seasgarra. Tha e àbhaisteach dhuinn a ràdh gur creutairean gòrach a tha anns na gobhair, na geoidh, na cearcan agus na h-asail; ach chan eil mi idir cinnteach nach fhaodamaid an cliu ceudna thoirt do an neach a chleachdas na briathran tarcuiseach so mu bheathach sam bith. Is ann tha eagal orm gur ann a tha daoine a labhras air an dòigh so 'gan dìteadh fhéin agus a' toirt dearbhaidh gur ann á doimhneachd an aineolais fhéin a tharruing iad a' bhreith neo-chothromach ud. Mur 'eil sin fìor is cinnteach mi gur e mi-fhìin a tha a' toirt leth-bhreith air na daoine còire a tha a' deanamh di-meas air tuigse nam beathach.

Is e thug gus a' cho-dhunaidh so mi a bhi a' toirt fainear dòighean seann tunnaig a tha na dilleachdan am measg nan ceare bho chionn trì bliadhna. Tha mi an dùil gun d' innis mi uair-eiginn eile gu bheil mi 'am sheallbhadair air garadh càil, agus air a thàilleabh sin gun do chleachd mi a bhi a' ruamhar as t-earrach agus a' cabadh 's a sgrìobadh 'san lios fad an t-samhraidh. Chan 'eil muinntir eile an tìghe so idir déidheil air an dromanan a chùrradh no an cinn a chur 'nan t-uairneil air sgàth lusaidh. Is mòr gur docha leo a bhi a' gluasad gu luath, aighearach air rothair na bhi a' tarruing slainte is fallaineachd á àiteach no gart-ghlanadh. Mar chomach ris na beachdan so a bhi cho teann an claignean an teaghlaich, tha mi fhéin gu math tric air m' fhagail 'nam aonar anns an iomaine, agus bithidh mi cho sgìth de mo chuideachd fhìin is bha an té a bha "a" buain na raimh daonnan." Ach cha bhiodh e iomchuidh dearmad a dheanamh air na creutaran gasda nach d'fhàg riamh fada leam fhìin mi, agus feumaidh mi an t-urram a thoirt, air son a' chùrann a tha i a' gabhail dhìom, do "Ghranny." Is e "Granny" a thug sinn air an tunnaig an uair a chaill i an neach mu dheireadh de a teaghlach le bàs aithghearra, air nach ruigear a leas leudachadh an so ach a radh anns an dol seachad gur ann do bhrìgh gu bheil clann nan daoine aig amannan an crochadh air eunlaith an adhair air son teachd-an-tìr a thainig an sgiòradh ud air companach "Granny." Tuigidh "Granny" a h-ainm cho math ri fianuis ann an eùirt an t-siorrain, agus freagraidh i e le guth cho sgairteil ris a' bhalach is airde bun-cluaise air suidheachan an tigh-sgoile, agus cho luath is a dh'èigheas i, "Uag, Uag," aig

air a cinn, "théid i 's gun téid i leam," a stigh air cachailleth an lios. Cha tionndaidh mi putadh ris nach gog i a ceann agus 's ann a bhios mi a' smusineachadh gu bheil i 'gan cunnadtadh; ach tha mi a' creidsinn nach e dad de thogamh a tha aice nach dean mi cuid fir is coireach i bhi a' crathadh a cinn ris na putaidhean. Is ann a tha i, saoilidh mi, 'ga mo mhisneachadh gu tuilleadh saothrach a chura agus gu'n coisinn mi cliu bho luchd gabhail an rathaid. An uair a chi i bhoiteag mhór reamhar ni i glag mór agus mu'n abradh tu "Bonn a h-oidh," tha a' bhoiteag as an t-sealladh agus 'na laighe gu mi-shuaimhneach an goile "Granny." Ge b'e cho fad agus a bhitheas mise a' lèimhseachadh na spaide, bithidh mo thunnag 'na mo chois agus cha tig bhoiteag an fradharc air nach cuir i failte chridheil agus nach falbh air an t-slighe tha a' treorachadh gu fuil is feoil a chur air cìosaich an eoin chaidrich so.

Chan'eil e modhail a bhi a' cumail cunnantas air a h-uile greim a dh'itheas neach a bhios leat air aoigheachd, agus mar sin tha nàire orm aideachadh gu'n do chùim mi beachd air an aireimh bhoiteag a dheanadh tràth do "Ghranny," agus bho nach 'eil mi air dùil gu'm bi i diombach orm airson tighinn thairis air innsidh mi gun dàil gu'n dh'ith i air feasgar àraidh am bliadhna naoi fichead is seachd bhoiteag an. Bho'n thuit mi gur e am feasgar a bha ann faodaidh thu a bhi deimhinn nach b'e sud a ceud-lomaidh, ach gu'n robh earrann chuimseach aice de dha thràth comhla ris na cearcan gun ghuth a radh mu gach sgudal a thionail i fad an la anns a' Chaochan Dubh a tha a' ruith aig taobh an rathaid mhóir agus anns an tric le "Granny" a bhi 'ga failleadh fhéin an uair a bhios i a' sealg air na creutaran snáigeach, snámhach a thaitneas ri a càil.

An uair a bhios an aimsir car greannta gu obair-a-muigh agus a shuidheas mi ri taobh na cagailt le leabhar no paipeir naidheachd ann mo làimh, thig mo ghàladh chun na h-uinneige agus cha mhór nach tùch oirre a'gladhaich "Uag, uag" gus an téid mi agus an toir mi dhi làn an duirn de aran. Ma tharlas do chùl de aran cruithneachd a bhi deiseil agus gu'm bi e car cruaidh chan eil "Granny" idir cho maol agus gu'm fiach i ri a shlugadh mar tha e. Is ann a thogas i leatha 'na gob e agus theid i cho sgiobalta agus a thàras i gu òb anns am bog i am mìr gus am bi e fais gu leoir gu a shlugadh gun chunnart tuacadh.

Ma théid mi a ruamhar gun fios a leigeil chuire le bhi a' luaidh air a h-ainm, cluinnidh na cluasan biorach aig "Granny" an spaid a' bualadh air na clachan agus chan fhada gus am faic mi i air a turas a chumail cuideachd rium; agus chan'eil i idir toilichte an uair a chi i na cearcan a'sgriobadh am measg na h-brach a thionndaidheas mo chaibe. Is ann dhi is aithne sgràin a chur oirre, agus caobaidh i té thall 'sa bhos gus an cuir i an teicheadh buileach air luchd nan crean dearga. Cha seas i anns an t-sreath a'gabhlail gréim mu seach ris na cearcan. Is e tha innte maor-urlair, ach tha eagal orm nach abradh a dearbh charaid gur e maor-sith a tha innte. Is e mi-rìan agus aisth a bhios aig an eunlaith eile an uair a bhios "Granny" an làthair.

Feumar a moladh air son na bheireas i de uighean. Bheir i seachduinnean agus beiridh i ugh mór blasta an ire mhath a h-uile la, agus an uair a thig a stigh 'san earrach gabhaidh i gur agus ni i nead cho pongail ri tunnaig anns a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus suidhidh i orra gu foighdinneach dòchasach fad shia seachduinnean, ach do bhrìgh agus gur bantrach i cha chinn beatha anns na h-uighean ged nedaichidh i iad gu Feill-Màrtuinn. Cha bu bhuidhe do neach sam bith a rachadh ro fhaisg air an uid, an uair a bhios "Granny" air ghur. Eiridh colg mi-chneasd oirre agus tha greann oirre a chuireas eagal air a ghlaisein agus fàitcheas air breac-an-t-sil. Is ann glé ainneamh a dh'itheas i biadh no dh'òlas i deoch, agus chan'eil mi idir cinnteach de thachradh na'n tigeadh piseach air a' ghur. Tha mi a' creidsinn gun rachadh i as a toinng leis an aoibhneas agus bho'n tha toil agam barrachd eolais fhaighinn air a' bheathach àraid so chan'eil e a' cur mòran dorrain orm ged nach tig as an ugh ach glog.

Chan'eil gur no deireas air "Granny" aig an am agus tha a h-uile coltas gu'm faigh i troimh an Gheamhradh a tha air thoiseach oirn gun an cnatan-mór a thoirt dhubhan do a slainte no a beatha.

## TEACHERS OF SINGING.

The Propaganda Committee is prepared to accept applications from persons willing to act as Music Teachers. Applicants, who must be able to read and write Gaelic, should communicate, stating qualifications, to the General Secretary, 212 W.-t George Street, Glasgow, G.2.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**FORT WILLIAM.**—A well-attended meeting of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held on Friday, 9th October, for the purpose of appointing a Committee to make the necessary arrangements, in conjunction with the parent Association, for the National Mod to be held in Fort William next year. Major N. B. Mackenzie, Craigdarroch, presided, and Mr. Neil Shaw, secretary of An Comunn Gaidhealach, was present. An influential Committee was formed, including representatives from the contiguous districts. The following officials were elected:—Convener, Major N. B. Mackenzie; vice-conveners, the Hon. Mrs. Maclean of Ardour and Mrs. Ryan, Blar-cha, Roy Bridge; treasurer, Mr. Kenneth MacLeod, British Linen Bank; secretaries, Miss M. MacInnes, Secondary School, and Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, Secondary School. It was agreed that the Mod should be held from the 2nd to 5th October, 1932.

**INVERARAY.**—The members of the Inveraray branch of An Comunn held the opening meeting for the season in the St. Malien Hall on the evening of Tuesday, 13th October. There was a good attendance presided over by Mr. Robert Bain, vice-president. Addresses were delivered by Mr. Neil Shaw, secretary, An Comunn; Mrs. Nicol MacIntyre, vice-president, to whom the branch owes much of the success that has attended it; Rev. Angus Gray, vice-president, and Mr. Marjoribanks of Upper Sonachan. Tea was served by the Ladies' Committee, under the direction of Mrs. Alex. Gillies, convener. A programme of songs was gone through. Those who contributed were Mrs. Stewart, The Castle Gardens; Miss Peggy Ferguson, Mr. Marjoribanks, Miss Hebe MacGugan, Mr. Neil Shaw, Rev. Angus Gray, Provost MacIntyre, Mr. Lachlan MacArthur, and Mr. James MacGugan. The usual votes of thanks were proposed and responded to.

**KILBRANDON.**—The opening meeting of the Session of the Kilbrandon branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach took place in the Easdale School last week. Mr. Alex. MacIntyre, Balvicar, the President, presided. The proceedings took the form of a social evening and ceilidh. Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Campbell, of the Balvicar Slate Quarries, entertained the large company to tea, and the question of what would be the most useful way to apply the time spent at the meetings of the session was discussed. An interesting musical programme was rendered. The meeting was one of the largest held in the district. The Gaelic Choirs (Junior and Senior) have given an impetus to the movement. The branch is very fortunate in having such capable and efficient conductors as Mrs. MacKenzie, head teacher of Easdale Public School (the Junior Choir), and Mr. Donald Dewar, Easdale (the Senior Choir). To Mr. J. N. Mackay, the energetic secretary, praise is due for the very efficient manner in which the opening meeting was arranged, and the best thanks of the branch are due Mr. and Mrs. Campbell for the great practical interest and the expense they have gone to on many occasions for the welfare and encouragement of the branch.

**MANCHESTER.**—The first ceilidh of the session was held at "The Manchester Restaurant," Cross Street, Manchester, on 2nd October. The President, Dr. Ronald MacKinnon, presided over an enthusiastic gathering of Gaels and friends. He was accompanied by a very welcome guest, Rev. Dr. Neil Ross,

Laggan, President of An Comunn Gaidhealach. Dr. MacKinnon, in the course of his address, given in Gaelic and English, reminded those present that besides these ceilidhs, to be held every second Friday till March, 1932, the activities of the branch included weekly meetings of the Gaelic circle and monthly meetings for dance practice. These extra meetings last winter, in spite of a short session, proved very popular and were very well attended. He urged those present to get into touch with Gaels in Manchester and district, and to preserve for these ceilidhs their Highland character. Dr. Ross said he wished to convey to those present a message of good cheer from the parent body in Scotland. Celticism, as interpreted by An Comunn Gaidhealach, was strictly cultural, non-political, and non-sectarian. Rev. Dr. MacKinnon, Kilmonivaig, formerly of Grosvenor Square, Manchester, who was on a short visit to the city, was also present and addressed the ceilidh. On Sunday evening, 4th October, Rev. Dr. Neil Ross conducted a Gaelic service in St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church, Didsbury, Manchester, which was well attended. The singing was conducted in the old Highland manner, with Dr. Allan MacDonald, Oldham, as precentor.

**NEWTONMORE.**—Miss Farquharson, Coignashee, presided at the opening ceilidh of An Comunn, Baile Ur an t-Sleibhe, when a large gathering assembled at her invitation to tea. She introduced the new secretary, Miss Ferguson, who, with Miss K. Cattanaich and Mr. Russell, was busily engaged throughout the evening enrolling members. Miss Farquharson welcomed the branch, and spoke of the success of last winter's proceedings, expressing certainty that the new session, in spite of prophesied depression, would see a yet greater interest in Gaelic. Miss Farquharson then referred feelingly to the loss sustained by Gaelic and by Newtonmore since the last ceilidh through the death of Mr. Guthrie and Mr. Donald Macdonald. She asked the secretary to convey to their bereaved families the sincere sympathy of the branch. She announced that owing to pressure of work Mr. Murray had intimated to her that he could not hold a music class at Newtonmore this winter. She expressed the branch's gratitude for all he had done in the past, and alluded to the fine appearance made by the Badenoch Choir under his guidance at Dingwall, albeit they were not the winners, the competition being very strong. Mr. Angus Maclean had consented to give the Newtonmore Choir musical instruction until a teacher from An Comunn could visit the district. Application was being made to Inverness for a continuation class in Gaelic, and it was hoped to reform the children's choir. Free lectures on Gaelic literature were suggested for the end of October, November, January, and February. The meeting cordially assented, and Miss Farquharson will read the first paper in October.

**WICK.**—Mr. R. J. G. Millar, the President, presided at a meeting of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, when preliminary arrangements were made for the current session. It was stated that Mr. M. Mackenzie, M.A., will again teach Gaelic classes (junior and senior) this season if a number of pupils enrol. A committee was appointed to arrange for an opening public ceilidh on or about 11th November. It is expected that several lecture-ceilidhs for members will be held again this session, together with the training of a junior choir, and a hearty invitation is given to all interested in Gaelic sentiment, music, and story to join the branch.



## DINGWALL NATIONAL MOD, 1931.

Amount previously acknowledged ...	£827 16 6
Skye Provincial Mod, per Mr. Ian MacKenzie, treasurer ...	10 0 0
Parish of Kiltearn Flag Day, per Mr. D. Maclean ...	1 19 1
Glenorchy Branch of An Comunn, per Mr. J. C. Campbell, secretary ...	2 0 0
Kilt Society, Inverness, per Major David Ross, secretary ...	2 2 0
Gleusiel Branch of An Comunn, per Mr. Colin Campbell ...	12 0 0
Mr. Aeneas Adam, London ...	1 1 0
Provost MacLennan, Stornoway ...	1 1 0
Rogart Branch of An Comunn ...	5 0 0
Fortrose Flag Day, per Mr. Macleod, The Rectory, Fortrose ...	2 10 3
Rev. G. R. MacPhail, Dundee ...	1 1 0
Proceeds of Concert at Letterfearn, per Mrs. Logan ...	9 0 0
An Comunn, Abrach, per Miss Juliet Macdonald, Fort William ...	5 0 0
National Party of Scotland, Inverness Branch, per Mr. R. R. MacLaren, secretary ...	2 2 0
Proceeds from Sales ...	283 19 9
Flag Day at Dingwall, per Mrs. Pender Smith ...	12 7 1
Proceeds of Cake and Candy Sale at Strathpeffer ...	40 17 10
Mrs. Finlayson, Marsule, Dingwall (second donation) ...	1 0 0
Kinlochleven Branch of An Comunn, per Mr. W. MacKenzie ...	1 1 0
Proceeds of Concert at Dornic, per Mr. John D. MacRae ...	12 14 0
Proceeds of Concert at Auchtertyre, per Mr. K. J. MacKenzie ...	11 9 0
Proceeds of Whist Drive at Lochduich Hotel, per Mr. W. Fraser ...	8 10 0
Mr. F. H. Campbell, Solicitor, Dornoch ...	0 10 6
Proceeds from Sale ...	6 11 1
Miss Alexander, Bridge of Allan ...	1 0 0
Mrs. MacKenzie Gillanders of Highfield ...	1 1 0
Mr. D. MacLeod of Mosses, Stewart & Welch, Vancouver ...	2 1 9
Inverness Branch of An Comunn, per Captain MacKay ...	5 5 0
Kildalton and Oa Branch of An Comunn, per Miss E. MacGillivray ...	2 2 0
Colonel MacKenzie of Ord ...	0 10 0
Anonymous ...	0 5 0
Rev. Angus Cameron, The Parsonage, Tain ...	0 7 6
Proceeds of Whist Drive at Inverinate, per Miss Katie T. MacRae ...	3 0 0
Kinlochranoch Branch of An Comunn, per Miss Cameron ...	2 2 0
The Town Council of Dingwall ...	10 0 0
Glenquhart Branch of An Comunn ...	2 2 0
Professor W. J. Watson, Edinburgh ...	1 0 0

## Received at Head Office:—

James MacLean, Sheffield ...	0 10 0
Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association ...	1 1 0
Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour ...	3 3 0
Mrs. Stewart, Dalry ...	1 1 0
Mrs. C. MacLennan, London ...	1 1 0
Campbeltown Branch ...	5 5 0
Mr. and Mrs. D. MacIntyre ...	1 1 0
Miss W. M. Weir ...	1 1 0

Miss H. Russell-Ferguson ...	1 0 0
Greenock Highland Society ...	5 0 0
Balvraid Branch ...	2 2 0
Oban and Lorn Association ...	3 0 0
Hector MacDougall, Glasgow ...	2 0 0
Mr. and Mrs. MacNaughton, Glendaruel ...	2 2 0
Glasgow Tirc Association ...	3 0 0
Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds) ...	3 0 0

£1327 16 4

## NEW MEMBERS.

## ORDINARY.

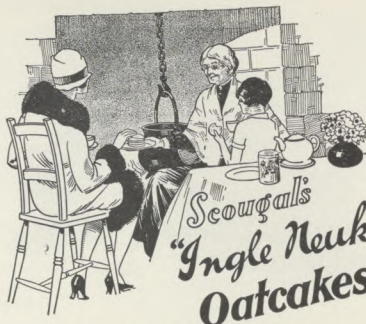
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William Campbell, Esq., Uig, Skye.
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Norman Symington, Esq., Edinburgh.
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John MacLeod, Esq., Snizort, Skye.
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Leabhar XXVII.]

*An Dùtlachd, 1931.*

[Earrann 3

### SGOIL EALADHAIN.

Tha An Comunn a' gabhail suim de na h-ealadhainean a bha gan cleachdadh anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. Air àireamh Comhairle Gnothuich A' Chomuinn tha buidheann bheag aig a bheil mar obair a bhi a' misneachadh ealadhainean is gnìomhachas anns an taobh tuath. Mar sin is ceart gun gabhamaid beachd air ghlasad sam bith a bheir togail do na nithean sin anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. O chionn ghoirid thainig feabhas air cuid de na h-ealadhainean mar tha deanamh bhrat-ùrlair de chloimh air a h-oibreachadh le mnathan an Leodhus is an àiteachan eile. Tha clò na Hearnadh a' faotainn aire air na margaidhean. Chan eil an sin air fad ach earrann bheag de na dh' fhaoidte chur air aghaidh de ghnìomhachas airson maith nan Gaidheal. O chionn corr is trì bliadhna thug sinn iomradh air na ceairdean cumanta, mar tha iad a' sior dhol a cleachdadh. Mar thugadh dòighean is innleachdan Gallda a steach do'n Ghaidhealtachd, chaidh na seann ealadhainean Gaidhealach a dhearmad. Agus chan e sin a mhàin. Ach na ceairdean coitchionn, mar tha saor is clachair, gobha is tàileir, chaidh iad sin a dhearmad gu mòr. Ma bhios fear ceaird ga iarraidh an ceann tuath na rìoghachd feumar a dhol ga fhaotainn anns a' bhaile mhór. Chan fhaicear an duigh ach

gann an àite air feadh na Gaidhealtachd urad is aon òganach ag ionnsuchadh nan ceairdean gnàthaichte a chaidh ainmeachadh.

\* \* \* \* \*

Chan urrainn a' Ghaidhealtachd mairsinn mar ionad comhnuidh sluaigh ma theid na h-ealadhainean a leigeil bàs. Ciamar tha e comasach gum bi comhfhurtachd no oilean far nach bi luchd oibreach aig am bi eòlas air obair làmh? Am bi sinn gu léir nar sgoileirean agus nar luchd dreuchd, nach leig a leas gum biodh smal air coileir no air meòirean? An deachaidh sinn cho fada air seacharan a thaobh gliocais agus gu bheil sinn an dùil nach eil urram no uaisle an saothair nan làmh! Tha e ro choltach gu feum òigridh an latha an diugh gun tòisich iad réis na beatha so fada nas àirde an inbhe na bha am pàrantan an am tòisichidh. Ach tha an saoghal ùr a' cur car dheth ris nach robh dùil againn; agus faodaidh gum bi leasan aig an àl òg ri fhoghlum, agus is e sin, nach eil leabhraichean leo fhéin foghainteach airson feumalachd làitheil na beatha, agus gu feum sinn ar làmhnan a chleachdadh cho maith ri ar cinn. Tha na h-uile coltas gum bi aig ar muinntir ri dhol air an ais a dh'ionnsuidh an fhearainn; agus mar is luaithe a dh'fhoghlumas iad na h-ealadhainean is ann is fhearr dhuinn uile e.

\* \* \* \* \*

Chuir sinn na faclair "Sgoil Ealadhain" aig ceann na h-earrainn so. Is e tha gu sonruichte againn anns an amharc an Sgoil ùr a tha gu bhi

air a cur suas an Inbhirnis le Comhairle Foghlaim na Siorramachd sin. Anns an Sgoil ùir bithidh ealadhainean de gach seorsa air an teagasg do'n òigridh. Teagaisgear na ceairdean do na gillean; agus obair tìghe, fuaghal, is laimhseachadh bainne, is nithean freagarrach eile do na h-ingheanan. Bithidh an Sgoil so fosgailte do chloinn na Siorramachd no do'n òigridh a thoilicheas, ge be earn as an tig iad. Tha an Sgoil a'dol a bhi mór, cosgail, agus uidheamaichte leis gach goireas a dh'fheumas togail de'n t-seorsa. Bithidh sgìoba teagaisg innte a bhios làn fhoghaiteach air an òigridh a stiùireadh gu h-eagnuidh. Gheibh gach òganach is maighdean fa leth cothrom a bhi a' leantainn cuspair sam bith is aill leò. Chan fhaod a bhi nach tig deagh thoradh o leithid sin. Tha sinn an dùil gu robh airgid mór ga chosg o chionn bhliadhnaichean, a' feuchainn ri luchd foghlaim a dhanamh de fheadhainn aig nach robh buadhan airson a leithid. Ach a nis tha Comhairle an Fhoghlaim a' dol a dh' fheuchainn dòigh eile. Faodaidh gu bheil òigridh ann nach biodh gu bràth nan deagh sgoileirean, ach a bhiodh comasach gu leòir air ceaird a thogail. Tha an leithid sin a nis, a' dol a dh'fhaotainn cothrom.

\* \* \* \* \*

Maith dh'fhaoidte gu feòirich neach ciamar is urrainn an òigridh iad fèin a chumail suas anns a' Sgoil. Tha Comhairle an Fhoghlaim a' dol gan cuideachadh gu sin a dhanamh. Tha sinn a' tuigsinn gur e tha de rùn orra aig an am, cuid de 'n airgid a chuireadh air leth airson foghlaim a thoirt seachad mar dhuaisean airson Sgoil nan Ealadhainean. Tha sin na chomarradh gu bheil Comhairle an Fhoghlaim a' toiseachadh ri chreidsinn gu bheil teagasg na laimhe cho iomchuidh ri eideachadh na h-eanchainn. Nach fìor an déidh sin uile gun gabh an eanchainn fèin eideachadh troimh an laimh. An fheadhainn a chuireas seachad bliadhnaichean anns a' Sgoil Ealadhain bithidh iad ullaichte gus an lòn a sholar an àite sam bith, aig dachaidh no ar chéin. Anns an dùthaich so bithidh iad feumail mar luchd ceaird aig am b' eòlas rinneil. Agus thar chuan cha bhi an t-ur no an sgl am falach. B'abhaist do na seann Ghaidheil a bhi loinneil teoma le alt is innleachd anns na h-ealadhainean. Chan cìil an Gaidheal idir a dh' easbhuidh seòltaich is gleusdachd an obair làmh. Gabhaidh an t-alt Gaidhealach cur air obair ghrèis le snàthaid, air fiodh le sgèithinn, air cloich le geill, air umha is airgid is òr leis na h-innlean freagarrach. Bheir Sgoil Ealadhain na buadhan so gu buil as ùr mar anns na laithean o shean.

## THE GAELIC MOVEMENT.

By the Rev. A. C. MACLEAN, F.S.A. (Scot.)  
Contin.

Ross-shire and the whole area of the North of Scotland welcomed with acclamation the presence of An Comunn Gaidhealach within the gates, and the unfolding of the wealth and the riches of the language, the literature, the music, and the idealism of the Celtic movement in Scotland.

For, does not the very place-name of Dingwall show forth the conflict that she endured to preserve the call, to her people "Leansa dluth ri cliu do shinnsear," the noble motto of the Ossianic Society of the University of Glasgow. And Dingwall had need to be true to the traditions and the language of her own people when the struggle for her corporate life was fierce, even for her very existence. For is Dingwall not a twice-named town? The very fact that the place-name, "Dingwall," survives, reveals the fierceness of the battle, waged furiously for more than three hundred years, and sustained by the proudly aggressive Norseman who believed that he had come to stay for ever. That alien foe had conquered the person and the lands of the people, but he was unable to conquer, or to subdue, the soul of a proud race, who regained liberty for themselves and for their beloved land at the Battle of Largs, in 1263. For was it not the Earl of Ross who stung the pride of the Norseman by a foray in Skye, so that King Haco in Norway "caused the trumpets to be blown" throughout the length and breadth of Norway to gather his forces to avenge the "insult" to his name and to his honour.

To the Gaelic-speaking people, Dingwall is still known by its Gaelic name of "Inbhir-phheotharainn," just as Campbelltown, in Argyll, is still known to the Gaelic speaking people there as "Ceannloch," as Tain is still known as "Baile-dhubhaich," the town of Saint Duthac, or Saint Duthacus. Around Dingwall are the Norse place-names showing the fierceness of the struggle, the long continued strangle-hold of the oppressor, and at last—the triumphant recovery of the liberty, the possessions, the very language, and the idealism of the native Celtic people. Do not these Norse place-names show that the rule of the Norsemen was long and complete, that the older place-names had been completely forgotten, because the people who had known them were themselves dead, and that a new and alien people had come across the North Sea who gave the new place-names after their own fitful fancy? Like a torrent that overwhelms its banks, spreading far and wide, and the

flowers and the beautiful things that grow beside the stream are buried amid the heaving tumult of the waters, when the anguish passes, they blossom once again in the clean fresh air and turn their faces to the sun, as if, new-born, so did Dingwall, and so did Scotland, free once again, rejoice in the freedom so bravely and so nobly won.

The Celtic movement which An Comunn Gàidhealach stands for in Scotland, stands also for the embodiment of the movement which in its glory held imperial sway from Ireland to the Caspian Sea, a vast empire loose-hung in temporal power, but bringing to pass over the face of Europe a mighty intellectual movement that changed the whole manner of life and outlook in Europe. In like manner, that movement brought the day-dawn of the noble idealism that has made Europe the great leading power in spiritual vitality, in intellectual forcefulness, and in the age-long evolution in the world-march to the larger life of our own day. That world progress was inaugurated by the Celtic movement sweeping across the face of Europe, overflowing their northern fastnesses, irrupting southwards and ever southwards into Spain, into Italy, into Greece, into Thrace, eastwards to the shores of the Caspian Sea, and spilling over the Bosphorus into Asia Minor to found the people known as "The Galatians" in New Testament narrative.

In the period about 800 B.C., the Celts, having moved down from the Highlands of South Germany, were at that time in the area south of Jutland and east of the Elbe. The history of the period is open only to the archaeologist, and to the discoveries which he has won with scientific research, with unwearied skill, and with enduring patience. Thereafter began that great race-movement of the Celts which swept through the territory now known as modern France, across the Pyrenees, and into modern Spain, known then as Iberia. Of that great race-movement some of them reached the English Channel, on the coast of France, spilled over into Ireland, making Ireland their new home, and in time spilling over from Antrim into Wigtown and Argyll. In time also they made Scotland their home and, uniting the kingdoms of the Picts, who had been dwelling in Scotland, and the Scots who had come from Ireland, under the crown of Kenneth Macalpine, in 844 A.D., at Fortreun, near Invermay, ten miles south west of Perth. In that long march of history, Campbeltown, in Argyll, still has its local place-name, "Parliament Close," memory of the time when Campbeltown was the centre of the kingdom

of Dalriada, extending from the Mull of Cantire to the shores of Lochbroom.

In like manner, the border family-names—many of them are good Celtic names. The Scotts, e.g., are they not the Scots from Ireland who crossed over to their new home in Scotland; then, Kerr, still pronounced in the good Gaelic way as Carr; the Inneses, the Douglasses and the rest. Within the Border area the interfusion of the races has been varied enough to satisfy the mind of Sir Arthur Keith. The people in the Border Counties of Gaelic origin have lost their Gaelic tongue long ago, but Professor Watson has amply proved their Celtic origin and language at the beginning.

North of the line of the Forth and Clyde, the fusion of the Pict, in Scotland, and the Scot, from Ireland, was complete, union of race and of language merging into one new family group. The Celts were true to their racial characteristics, assimilating the new peoples, not exterminating them, and out of the fusion building a new nation. In the West of Ross-shire, in Kintail, were the Mackenzies, and with them the Macraes, the MacIennans, the Mathesons, and in Gairlochs the Macbeths, as old as any of the clans in the West. In Skye were the Macdonalds. In Coigach and Lewis were the Macleods. Then, in the lands of the Earl of Ross, were the Rosses, both in Mid Ross and in Easter Ross. At Ferindonald were the Munroes, old in lineage as the oldest of them all. In Sutherland were the Mackays, in the north-west, holding their own by a strong and very active right hand. According to Dr. Alexander Macbain the oldest family in Sutherland are the Morays, or Murrays; and with them the Sutherlands and the Gordons. Also Gunns, Macphails, and Polsons. Then, to the south of Dingwall, at Beauly, are the Frasers, including Strathglass, extending to Kintail in the West. Down the centuries, in in the northern area of Scotland, these clans, strong and virile, have defended their rights against all comers from the North and from the South with equal determination and with sustained valour.

And when James Macpherson was writing and giving to the world "Fragments of Ancient Poetry," in 1760, followed in 1762, and in 1763, by "Fingal" and "Temora" amid the literary 'mists' which he created, he turned the eyes of intellectual Europe to the literary wealth of the Celtic language and the beauty of the Celtic literature, awakening the whole world to the royal lineage of the Celtic race, and the ungarnered riches in the literature of the Celtic people.



The work and purpose of An Comunn Gaidhealach is—To continue that great and splendid service; to revive its ancient and honourable traditions; to cause a world and a people that were being forgotten to stand forth in the lambent glory of their proper sphere and historic place in the sun; to thrill the soul of the world of to-day, and to cause them to behold the wonder, the riches, and the splendour of soul of a people whose very name was in danger of extinction, and to rekindle the patriotism, the love of their native land, the love of great literature, the love of music and the love of the true felicities of their home and of their own folks; in very truth to turn the heart of the world growing weary with the trivial things of life to the wonder and splendour of "Tir nan Og" the land of the Ever-Young and to give worthy and abiding honour to a race and to a people whose name shall be for ever illustrious and whose name shall be upheld in enduring esteem. Dr Johnson's saying is still true, "That man is little to be envied whose piety would not grow warmer among the ruins of Iona." So does the Celtic spirit of which that spirit was part, operating in Scotland, reveal to the world the true spirit of inspiration, consecration, and service, setting forward a nation in the new task that lay before her workers and her people—a task spiritual, national social, economic—for the upbuilding of Scottish intellectual life, maintaining their place of honour throughout the long and weary centuries, and emerging triumphantly into the rich inheritance of the present day. In very truth the saying is true in Gaelic poetry—"Is rioghail an duthaich as an d' fhalbh sinn : "royal is the land we have gone out from."

In the closing sentence of the introduction to the "Macdonald Collection of Gaelic Poetry," writing of the singers of the ancient Gaelic people in the Scottish Highlands, in language throbbing with true poetic fire and nervous with fine literary feeling, the authors use these words—"Whether they sang of the joy or the sorrow of life, or uttered those 'sweetest songs that tell of saddest thought' they sang because it was their nature so to do, not for posthumous fame, but to instruct and charm the men and the women of their own day: but they attained to the goal they did not seek, by furnishing delight to lovers of beauty in the generations that were to follow."

To that great and splendid work An Comunn Gaidhealach nobly has set its hand, with the promise of work, richer and more splendid still, in the years that lie unopened in the achievement of the future.

## CEILIDH AM BUTH A' GHRIASAICHE.

Le DONNACHADH MACDHOMHNAILL,  
Sanndabhaig.

### III.

AN GRIASAICHE—Na bi a' tarruing buairidh, Uilleim. Leig cead an coise le na h-eaglaisean an dràsda agus innis dhomh am faca tu mo dheagh charaid, Dotair Thùilm, air do chuairt do'n bhaile mhòr an dé.

IAIN—Ach cò a tha ann an Dotair Thùilm. An e sin an dotair-ùr a thàinig airson na teasaich?

COINNEACH—Is cinnteach mise nach eil thusa gun fhios agad fhathast gur h-e Dotair Thùilm an tuathanach ud ann an Tolm a leigheis a bhò aig Uilleim bho theasach a' bhainne.

IAIN—Tha mi agad, a nis. Is fhada bho a dh' aithnichinn e, agus is iomadh gàire a thug e orm.

AN GRIASAICHE—Bha e a stigh uair an uaireadair còmhla rium an t-seachdain so chaidh. Is e a tha an dràsda os cionn Luchd Comhairle nan rathaidean. Tha mi an dòchas gu'n cuir e a bheag no a mhòr de dh' airgid thugainn airson càradh an rathaid. Am faca tu e idir?

UILLEAM—Chunnaic, agus bha e ag gabhail do naidheachd. Ach, fheara, cha chreid mise bho dhuine geal nach eil an sgoil-dhubh aige. Am faca sibh mar a thug e air a' bhoin a bha ri uchd bàis éirigh le déiseag air a màs dìreach air an dearbh mhionaid air an dubhairt e a bhiodh i air a cois.

COINNEACH—Bi thusa aig an aon rud. Cha chreid mi nach eil e 'na thìde dhuit a thighinn gu ciall.

UILLEAM—Chan eil rian air nach eil rudeigin aige nach eil aig daoine eile. Co-dhiùbh, a cheart cho luath agus a fhuair mise a mach air an dorus e dhòirt mi burn bho bhonn tri sgillinn air a' bhoin gun fhios nach tug e an toradh uaipe. Ach, a chlann gun bhuaidh, na tugaibh sin a mach air ursannan an dorus so air neo cluinidh mise air a chluais is buidhe agam e bho Cheit mo phiuthar.

COINNEACH—Cha b'e a chleith ort bu chòir a dhéanamh. Mur a b'e glé bheag dhomh chluinneadh Aonghas fhéin e fo cheann nan ceithir uairean fichead. Nach grannd dhuit féin a bhi a' cur air an duine chòir gu bheil a' sgoil dubh aige. Nach mach mar a phàigh thu mo charaid a thàinig air a dhà chois a shealltuinn air a' bhoin agad, agus nach gabhadh sgillinn uat airson a shaothrach.



AN GRIASAICHE—Bu chòir do Chalum Ruadh Dotar Thùilm a thoirt a shealltuinn air an reith aige. Thug e còrr agus coig puinnnd Shasunnach air, air an t-seachdain so a chaidh aig na Lochan, agus tha e an diugh na shineadh le tinneas a tha air shìos aig a' chladach.

UILLEAM—Ma, chan eil sin 'na iongnadh agus Tormod na h-aibhne air greis mhór a thoirt an dé a' coimhead ris an reith aig Calum. Cuiridh mise geall riutsa gur h-i a shùil a chuir e anns an reithe, agus nach éirich e a chaidh gus an crath iad uisge bhar airgid air. Chan eil mi ag radh idir nach cuireadh fear Thùilm a mhiar dhuit air an dearbh fhear a rinn cron an reithe.

COINNEACH—Nach duilich far an do thachair mi. Ach, Uilleim bhochd, ma ghabhas tusa air adhart, mar a tha thu, is e droch dheireadh a bhios ort. Cha bu mhath leam a bhi 'nad bhrògan.

UILLEAM—Is fhearr dhuitse truas a bhi agad riut fhéin, a bhròinein. Cuiridh na beachdan úra sin a tha agad chun na h-aoidheachd thu féin agus na tha 'gad leantuinne.

AN GRIASAICHE—A bheil fios an e an fhirinn a tha ann gu bheil tinneas-an-righ air Niall Crotach? Chuala mi gu'n do chuir a mhàthair fios air Iain Og ach an cuireadh e eòlas tinneas-an-righ air an othar a tha air an amhaich aig Niall bochd.

IAIN—Is ann a tha mòran de shluagh an latha an diugh a' sealltuinn sìos air an doigh leighis a bha aig ar n-athraichean air tinneas-an-righ. Ma dh'ainmicheas tu tinneas-an-righ do lighichean an latha an diugh is ann a nì iad sgàil gaire a' fanoid ort.

UILLEAM—Chan éisd sinne riutha. Seall féin, a dhaoine, a bhuaidh a bha le Rob Bàn agus le Iain Og. Cho luath agus a chuireadh iad am miar ris an othar bha e a' tòiseachadh a' slànachadh. Ach chan eil sion saoghalta air aire lighichean an latha 's a bheil sinne beò ach tigh-éiridinn is *operations*. Ma ghabhas iad romhpa chan fhada gus an tòisich iad a' cur dhaoine air am bi sàileagan tre *operation*.

COINNEACH—Chan eil an leithid de rud agus tinneas-an-righ ann idir. Is e a tha ann miar de an tinneas-chaitheamh. Agus is e sgian an lighiche an t-aon leigheas a tha air an leithid.

UILLEAM—Chan e idir. Bha iad a' leigheas dhaoine bho chian nan cian le eòlas tinneas-an-righ a chur riutha. Is e an seachdamh mac aig a robh an t-eòlas so. Cha deanadh mi féin no Coinneach feum 's am bith air ged a chuireadh iad fios oirnn.

COINNEACH—Tha mi seachd searbh de do chòmhradh. Chan eil annad ach àmhlaire

truagh. Bidh mi a' smaoinichadh aig amanan gur mi is gòraiche na thu féin an uair a tha mi a' cumail chlaise riut. Cha mhór nach eil thu air a' bhuidheach a chur orm le do dhòl a mach agus le do ghearra-gheòbaich.

UILLEAM—Tha mise ag radh riut, a Choinnich, gu robh na cungaighdean leighis a bha aig ar slhnsirean mòran na b' fhearr na dad a gheibh thu an diugh am buth an *druggaist*. Seall fhéin mar a leighis iad an teine-dé a bha air piuthar m' athar le fuil a' choilich dhuibh.

AN GRIASAICHE—A bheil thusa an dùil nach biodh fuil a' choilich bhàin a cheart cho math?

IAIN—Cha bhiodh idir. Is e fear dubh a bha aca riann airson a leithid. Faic cuideachd, mar a leighisidh an tinneas-tuiteamach a bha air Calum Beag le coileach dubh a thiodh-lacadh anns an dearbh àite anns an do thuit am balach leis an tinneas ud an toiseach.

COINNEACH—A bheil an corr de chainnt gun cheill agaibh idir air an toir sibh tarruing. Cha chreid mi féin nach eil e 'na thlde dhuibh na slatan a phasgadh agus a dhòl dachaidh. Tha mi air mi féin a chall 'nar measg.

UILLEAM—Tha iad ag innseadh dhomhsa gu'n do rinn piuthar t-athar fhéin cnap luaidhe air cumadh cridhe agus gu'n do thilg i a mach air an fhaighe e far nach tràigheadh e a chaidh, feuch an deanadh sin feum do 'n duine aice agus tinneas a chridhe air aig an am.

IAIN—Cha robh sin ach rud a bhiodh iad a' dèanamh bho shean. Tha mise a' làn chreidsinn gu robh an duine air a leigheas.

UILLEAM—Bha gu dearbh. Cha robh an cridhe luaidhe ach air a' ghrund an uair a chuir an duine umhail air féin a dol am feabhas.

COINNEACH—Chan fhiach briag gun riag leatha. Cìod air an t-saoghal a thàinig ort, an uair a chuireadh tu féin do bhial 'na leithid a' chainnt ghòraich? Nach ann ort a tha an fhàgail, Uilleim bhochd!

UILLEAM—Tha thusa de'n bheachd gur h-ann agad féin a tha an gliocas gu léir a' fuireach. Ach tha thu a' cur mór-fheum air a h-uile dad a tha agad air cho bòsdail's 'ga bheil thu.

COINNEACH—Cha chuir thu mise troimhe a chéile, Uilleim, ged bu bhuidhe leat. Ach is iomadh uair a thàinig e a steach orm ann sgleog a thoirt duit a chuireadh bàs do shean-amhar às do chuimhne.

UILLEAM—Agus cìod e a bhithinn féin a dèanamh an uair sin. Cha thàinig e mar a thàinig thu, a bhalaich, a chuireadh mise an comhair mo chùil.

COINNEACH—Tha thu cho furasda do chur 'nad shradagan 's a b'abhaist duit. Ach chunnaic sinne latha oirnn féin nach fhaicheadh sinn às an rathad oirnn thu.

UILLEAM—Ithidh tu cruach eòrna eile, a charaid, mu'n teid agad air an ruaig a chur ormna.

AN GRIASAICHE—Togaibh dheth fheara. Bha mi aig céilidh a Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich ann an Steòrnabhagh an oidhche roimhe, agus thug fear a bha làthair sgialachd seachad air maighdean-mhara a bha pòda aig Niseach. Bha e duilich dhomh fhéin a chreidsinn ciamar a ghabhadh sin àite. Bha e ag radh gu robh dithis chloinne aca. Cho luath agus a lorg ise am brat aice féin a bha air fholach fo'n chonnlaich anns an t-sabhal thug i muir oirre a rithist.

IAIN—Chuala mise an seanachas sin aig mo sheanair, agus bha e féin 'ga lan chreidsinn.

COINNEACH (*a' sealltainn le uamhas mu'n cuairt air*)—An d'innis e idir dhuibh dé a chaint anns an do rinn iad an t-suirgidh?

UILLEAM—Tha fios aig a h-uile neach air a sin: rinn anns a' Ghàidhlig chòir—cainnt nan taibhseachan 's nan sìthichean.

COINNEACH—Agus cò am ministear a phòs iad? An cuala tu sin aige?

IAIN—Is ann aig Sealbh mór féin a tha fios.

UILLEAM—Bha iad pòda co-dhiùbh, agus bha an Niseach glé thoilichte leatha cuideachd.

COINNEACH—Chan eil fhios agam féin, Uilleim, nach creideadh tusa gur h-e càis a tha anns a' ghealaich.

UILLEAM—Agus cò aige a tha fios nach e sin a tha innte?

AN GRIASAICHE—Bha fear eile aig a chéilidh a bha ag innseadh dhuinn mu ghiùlan a chunnaic fear a mhuinntir Bhearnaraigh a' dol a mach aig na h-aoidhean móra. B'fheudar dha féin a dhol fo'n ghiùlan so, agus cha d'fhuair e cuidhte 's e gus an do ràinig e uisge a bha a' ruith.

IAIN—Tha iad ag radh ma théid thu fo ghiùlan gu'm bi thu fodha gus an ruig thu allt no amhainn.

COINNEACH—Tha e cho math dhomhsa mo bhial a chumail dùinte. Tha sibh air a dhol uaithe buileach glan orm an nochd.

NIALL BEAG (*a' tighinn a steach agus a' toirt sùla timchioll*)—Tha bean an tighe ag iarraidh oirbh Uilleim, sibh a dhol dhachaidh gu bhur suiper. Tha i a' cur a' bhìdh air a' bhòrd.

UILLEAM—Is e mo chuid a bhi toirt as an dràsda, ach tha mise an dòchas gu'm bi oidhche mhath agam féin agus aig Coinneach fhathast air leabhran nan geasag. Oidhche mhath leibh gu léir.

AN GRIASAICHE—Mar sin leatsa, Uilleim. Feuch nach bi thu fada gun tighinn a chéilidh a rithist.

UILLEAM—Cha leig thu leas iarraidh orm. Thig mi an ath-oidhche.

COINNEACH—Tha a' bhuil air Uilleam gu robh e fada gun phòsadh. Na'm biodh e air a bhi pòda cho fada riumsa agus riutsa, Iain, cha bhiodh e idir cho umhal do a mhnai agus a tha e.

AN GRIASAICHE—Fhuair Uilleam tilgeadh a chait do'n t-sabhal an uair a ghabh Màiri Dhonn e.

COINNEACH—A bheil sibhs an dùil, fheara, a bheil Uilleam féin a' creidsinn anns na rudan gòrach air am bi e a' tighinn. Tha mi féin de'n bheachd gur h-ann a dh' aon bhàghadh ach an téid aige air mise a chur troimhe chéile a bhios e mar sud.

IAIN—Tha e glé dhéidheil air a bhi a' gearraghobaich, ach chan eil sion dona air cùl sin aig Uilleam bochd. Chan eil ann deth ach brod nàbaidh.

COINNEACH—Ged a bhios mise ris mar sud tha mi glé cheangailte ris. Tha lán fhios agam gu bheil e le uile chridhe a' creidsinn anns na bàna-bhuistearan. Chunnaic mise le mo dha shuil athair a' tilgeadh fad teine an deidh boireannaich air a robh amharus aige. Bha na geasagan a' ruith anns an fhuil aca.

AN GRIASAICHE—A bheil thu ag radh rium?

IAIN—A Choinnich, tha e 'na thìde dhuinn a bhi a' deanamh air ar dachaidhean.

AN GRIASAICHE—Chan eil an oidhche ach òg fhathast, a chàirdean.

COINNEACH (*ag éirigh 'na sheasamh*)—Tha an crodh 's na h-òisean agam ri sealltainn riutha fhathast an nochd. Ged nach ann sgìth de ur cuideachd, ach thig orm a bhi a' fàgail an dràsda. Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil i cho dorch ris an tearr. Tiugainn, ma ta, Iain.

IAIN IS COINNEACH LE CHEILE—Oidhche mhath leat an nochd, a Mhurchaidh.

AN GRIASAICHE—Mar sin leibhse. Tapadh leibh airson bhur céilidh.

(*A' Chrìoch.*)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—It is to be sincerely hoped that the editorial in this month's issue of *An Gaidheal* will focus attention on the lamentable lack of contact between the Gaelic speaking areas of Scotland and Canada. It seems to me imperative that An Comunn should take the initiative of organising a small delegation of speakers and singers to visit our brethren in Nova Scotia, and more especially the Gaelic speaking island of Cape Breton. Economic problems might be discussed at the same time, and our commerce quickened. We can take our kinsmen's agricultural produce, they can take our woven goods and other manufactured products. Above all, intellectual bonds could be strengthened by interchange of Gaelic teachers, dissemination of Gaelic books, and even establishment of an all Gaelic paper for the two countries.

Union, after all, is strength, and with five hundred thousand Gaelic speakers co-operating we can do more than by regarding ourselves as a mere Celtic fringe doomed to extermination.

A trip such as outlined above, covering Sydney, Glace Bay, Halifax and Glengarry, would probably be self supporting, but surely our purse strings will be unloosed for so grand and pious an object even if it were not.

Is mise le meas,

SIOL EACHAIN.

London, 17th November, 1931.

### Nighean Maighre nan Corn Fial.

Dear Dr. Ross,—This version of the ballad, "Nighean Maighre nan Corn Fial," or "Laoidh Fhraoich," I noted in *Skye* in 1913, principally from the dictation of the late John MacPherson, Ollach, Braes, brother of Neil, the bard (Nial Ceannaiche), with a few additional lines contributed by the late Mrs. Mal. MacLean, Osgaig, Raasay, the late Miss Catherine MacLean of the same township, and Mrs. Lachlan MacPherson, Upper Ollach, Braes.

It is clearly fragmentary. The terminology is obscure in places, but is expressed as narrated.

It may be worthy of note that before commencing his rehearsal, the reciter removed his cap (Highlanders of the past rarely going bareheaded inside the house), that as the piece was being written down the words were chanted in a curious monotone, and that, when asked by one of his sons to speak it in his ordinary voice, memory failed the old man so frequently

that, in order to complete the work, recourse was necessary to what was obviously the traditional method of repeating our ancient ballads.

My justification for communicating it to you is that, as it presents certain features diverse from those variants I have seen, as, among others, the Dean of Lismore's, Stone's, Campbell's, Sage's, and Sir George MacKenzie's, by the last of which it is most closely paralleled, you may consider it worthy of preservation by publishing it in "*An Gaidheal*."

I am,

Yours faithfully,

ALEX. NICOLSON.

211 Drumoyne Road, Glasgow, S.W.1.

### NIGHEAN MAIGHRE NAN CORN FIAL.

NO

#### LAOIDH FHRAOICH.

Bhuail easlainte throm throm  
Nighean Maighre nan corn fial;  
Thàinig iad le fios gu Fraoch,  
Is dh'fhidrich an laoch gu de'miann.

Thubhairt ise nach biodh i slàn,  
Gu'm faigheadh i làn a bas maoth,  
De chaorainn an lodain fhuir,  
Is gun a dhol 'gam buain ach Fraoch.

Dh'fhalbh Fraoch, 's cha bu ghille trom;  
Shàmh e gu grinn air an loch:  
Fhuair e a' bhias 'na sìr-rom-suain,  
'S a craos suas ris an dos.

Rug e air na caorainn dearg  
Gu nighinn Mhaighre is i air tìr:  
Cha'n fhóghnadh sin do'n rì' chluain\*  
Gun an fhriamh a bhuain as a bun.

Dh'fhalbh Fraoch, 's cha bu thurus àigh,  
Shàmh e gu grinn air an loch.  
Na'n robh fios aic' cia mar bha,  
'Ne sud am bàs 'san robh a chuid?

Rug e oir' e'ar' bhun 's bhàrr,  
Is tharruing e 'n crann as a' bhun;  
'S an am dha chas a thoirt gu tìr  
Mhothaich ise dha a' bhias.

Thug ise sin air an t-snàmh;  
Sgioblaich is a làmh na craos.  
Rug esan oirrise air ghiall;  
Is' struidheadh a chiall gun sgian aig Fraoch.

Nighean bu chama-bhuidhe falt,  
C'arson nach tug thu sgian 'na dhòrn ?  
An am iorghail, nam mór éuchd ?  
Cha robh fo'n ghréin aig robh a threòir.

Còmhraig 's cha bu còmhraig cheàrr  
Bh'eadar an laoch 's a bhiast mhór.  
Bha stuaidh a' beucaich, leum gu tràigh,  
Na duil a' gàirich le dubh-bhròn.

Seann mhactalla nan creag àrd  
Bho choir' gu càrn ag iarraidh clos ;  
Gus na thuit iad bonn ri bonn  
Air tràigh nan clach lom a bhos.

Thainig eunlaith|| as an Fhéinn  
Is ghlac iad e nan lánhan bog :  
'S ged' tha thu nochd 'nad chlodainn thaimh  
Is mor an t-éuchd a rinn thu bhos ;

Seachd rìghrean a chur gu bàs,  
Ged bu bheag an càs no'n lochd,—  
Coireal, is Connal, is Caoilt,  
Is gile caomh nan arm an nochd,

Cuchullain ri sgoltadh sgiath,  
Is fear fial' an fhaobhair ghil,  
Rasg, macmathaiche nan clìar,  
Nach gabh fiamh roimh dhuin' air bith.

'Nam strì ri guailibh nam beann àrd  
B'e 'n còmhradh ris an éisdeadh Fraoch,  
Ceileireadh londubh nan càrn,  
Is burraich damh allt' nan craobh.

Snàmhach na b'fhèarr na Fraoch  
Cha do shìl a thaobh ri sruth ;  
'Nuair a dh'éireadh còmhraig gheur  
Cha robh cho treun ge fann e'n diugh.

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Bha 'cheud choinneamh bhliadhnail aig Clann an Fhraoich air a cumail an aitreabh a'Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich air Di-Sathuirne an 14 là de'n t-Samhuin aig ceithir uairean feasgar. Labhair am Fear-Gairme, Seòras Marjoribanks, beagan fhacal an toiseach, agus an sin chaidh luchd-riaghlaidh na Cloinne a thaghadh as ùr, mar a tha iad, ach gu'n robh Eachann MacDhùghaill air a thaghadh an àite Thormoid MhicLeòid nach maireann.

Bha conaltradh gasda aig na buill mu obair rùintean agus rian-dealbaidh na buidhne. Ghabh a' choinneamh an sin orra Céilidh Clann an Fhraoich a shocrachadh, agus thairg Calum MacLeòid oidhche do'n Chloinn fo chomaraich Céilidh nan Gaidheal, a leigeadh le Clann an Fhraoich an t-airgead (sia sgillinn thar cheann) a thogail, ach cosdas an t-seomair a bhi orra. Ghabh a' choinneamh gu togarrach ris an tairgse fhialaidh so. Mar sin, bithidh Céilidh Clann an Fhraoich 'ga cumail còmhla ri Céilidh nan Gaidheal air feasgar Di-Sathuirne an 19 là de'n Dùdhlachd aig 7.30 an Aitreabh nan Gaidheal.

SEORAS.

## GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH.

At a recent fortnightly meeting of the Gaelic Society of Perth a most interesting lecture was delivered by Mr. James Robertson, solicitor, Perth. His subject was one which is dear to Scottish hearts, namely, the "Heather and Highland Plants." The speaker displayed a happy familiarity with the botany of the Scottish Highlands, and placed the Heather in its proper setting from the botanist's point of view. There are, of course, many ways in which a Gael can be interested in his native land. He may find himself attached to its language or music, its history or its economics; but hardly any aspect is more alluring than its plants and flowers which so greatly conduce to its charm. After the Society had been treated to a delightful and instructive lecture they were entertained to vocal and instrumental music.

\* Is this "righinn chluainich" (deceitful maiden).  
† E'ar=eadar.

‡ This line is very corrupt.

|| Obscure passage. In "Tain Bo Chuailgne" it will be remembered that, on his being drowned after the fight with Cuchullin, Fraoch is brought to the bank of the river; and as the Keeners mourn over him, it is noticed that a band of diminutive creatures arrayed in green tunics swim around him and drag him into a fairy-knoll.

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## PROPAGANDA TOURS.

Mr. Shaw, General Secretary and Organiser, continued his tours in the Mid-Argyll area, and attended a meeting of the Tarbert (Loch-fyne) Branch on 21st October. There were about 400 people present, and a programme of Gaelic songs was sustained by the Senior Gaelic Choir. Kilmartin was visited on the 22nd, and Mr. Shaw addressed an audience of about 80 in the Victoria Hall. The Senior Choir is resuming practice, and a Gaelic Reading Circle was arranged, the Rev. J. M. Munro being the teacher.

On the evening of the 23rd a meeting was held in the Hall at Tayvallich. The Rev. Kenneth Stewart presided, and after the usual address by Mr. Shaw the Branch was reformed. Mr. Donald Gillies is president, and Mr. Malcolm MacLachlan (Jun.), secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Shaw attended the opening ceilidh of the Lochaline Branch on Monday, 26th October. The Rev. Hector MacSween was appointed president in place of Mr. D. B. Fletcher, who has left the district. There was a very large attendance of members. Dervaig was next visited, and Mr. Shaw addressed an enthusiastic gathering in the village hall. Since this Branch was reformed in December of last year regular ceilidhs have been held, and all are well attended. The members of the Tobermory Branch arranged a Special Meeting to suit Mr. Shaw's convenience, and he addressed a gathering of 80 members in the Higher Grade School. This Branch holds fortnightly ceilidhs throughout the session, and all are well attended.

Mr. Shaw attended a Business Meeting of the Torosay Branch in Lochdonhead School on 29th October. Office-bearers were appointed, and a meeting arranged to enrol members. Lochbuie was visited the same evening. The Schoolhouse was packed with an enthusiastic audience over which Miss Macphail, president, presided.

Mr. Shaw travelled to Islay on 2nd November. The meeting arranged at Ballygrant for that evening was postponed owing to a death in the village. On 3rd November a large gathering met in the Hall, Port Ellen, and during the evening Mr. Shaw addressed the meeting in Gaelic. This Branch meets regularly, and gives whole-hearted support to the Islay Provincial Mod. The following evening the Portcharlotte Branch was reorganised. There was a very large attendance, and the proceedings were very enthusiastic. Mr. Angus

MacLucas, headmaster, is president, and Mr. Alex. MacIndoor continues as secretary.

A meeting was held in Portnahaven School on 5th November. About 70 people attended. Miss Mary MacKinnon, Rhinns Hotel, was appointed secretary in place of Miss MacNiven, who resigned.

A concert in aid of Mod Funds was held in the Hall, Bridgend, on 6th November, Mr. J. MacKillop presided, and Mr. Shaw addressed the gathering in Gaelic and English. There was a large attendance at the concert, and the funds will benefit considerably.

The Oban Branch held its first ceilidh in the Caledonian Restaurant on 19th November. Mrs. MacDonald of Dunach, presided over an attendance of about 130, and during the evening Mr. Shaw addressed the members. A splendid programme of Gaelic songs and sgèulachdan was submitted. Lismore was visited on 20th November, and Mr. Shaw addressed a gathering of 60 people in the local hall. Mr. Neil MacIntyre presided in the absence of Rev. Dugald Bell, B.D., who was indisposed. Twenty-two members joined.

Mr. Shaw intimates that he addressed on the aggregate about 2000 people.

Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Organiser for the Northern area, had a most successful tour in the Outer Isles. Enthusiastic meetings were held in a number of centres, and branches were formed at Daliburgh, Mr. Lomax, headmaster, secretary; Gerinish, Miss Macpherson, teacher, secretary; Iochdar, Mr. Peter MacLean, secretary; Torlum (Benbecula); Mr. Matheson, secretary, Balvanich (Benbecula); Paible (North Uist). Mr. Carmichael arranged for Provincial Mods in South Uist and North Uist. He attended a ceilidh of the Golspie Branch, and interviewed officials of the Balvraid Branch.

Mr. Carmichael formed a new Branch in Plockton, with Mr. D. Kennedy, secretary. The Lochcarron Branch was reorganised, and 38 members enrolled. He also visited Auchtertyre and Ardelve, and arranged a joint Gaelic evening class. Mr. Carmichael visited Halladale on 17th, Wick 18th, and Kinraig, 19th November.

Mr. Hugh Macphee visited Arran, and held meetings at Shiskine on 22nd October; Lochranza and Pirnmill on 23rd October. Gaelic singing classes were arranged at these centres, and a teacher is now in attendance.

Teachers are employed as follows:—

Miss Margaret MacDonald, Skye.

Mrs. A. C. Scott, Arisaig.

Mr. John MacDiarmid, Arran.

Mr. Hugh MacLean, Mid-Argyll.

## A PROPOSAL TO CONVERT GLENCOE AND DISTRICT INTO A SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARK.

BY LACHLAN GRANT.

It would appear that the formation of several national public parks in the three kingdoms is now being considered.

There are municipal parks in many towns and cities, but in Scotland, with the exception, of Ardgool, there are no great national playgrounds such as they have in the United States, Canada, and other countries. Such national parks would be most useful as outlets for holiday makers from towns and cities, and, organised for this purpose, with the nation as proprietor, and caterer, for the citizens, they would furnish a cheap and pleasurable means of recreation and social intercourse.

They would also enable the people to see more of their own country and come into touch with Mother Nature. And while preserving the natural aspects and health-giving qualities of our modern life with music, sport and educational activities of all kinds would be provided for. The idea is to secure for all time wide but sparsely populated tracts of nature for recreation and culture, combining as nearly as possible natural environmental conditions with modern facilities for rational enjoyment and useful change.

Now that our good friend and greatly respected Lord Strathcona has decided to part with the Glencoe estates here is a golden opportunity to secure for Scotland a national park immortal in history and in majestic grandeur unsurpassed in Europe. These historic domains, over 70,000 acres in extent, embracing part of the Moor of Rannoch, Glen Etive, and the world-famous Glencoe, could be made an ideal playground for the Scottish nation.

There are present here all the requirements for a great Scottish national recreation centre, almost everything that nature can give—mountains and glens, rivers and torrents, waterfalls, lakes, natural and artificial, with trout and salmon, moorland ground, silviculture or afforestation in all stages of development.

Wild animals such as the red deer, red foxes, roe deer, hares, rabbits, eagles, ptarmigan, grouse, etc., and great wealth of wild flowers are all in this area. The Royal Forest of Dalness (Glenlivet) is a natural home of deer.

The magnificence of the scenery is such that every year tourists in their thousands come

from every part of the world to see it. Scope for mountaineering is almost unlimited. Range after range of great towering mountains, the highest of them is the noble Ben known as Bidean nam Bian, 3,766 feet high! and the view from its summit is almost unrivalled anywhere.

Here we have the scene of that notorious episode in our history, the massacre of Glencoe, while right through the glen for miles is winding General Wade's road, now being superseded by a carefully planned and up-to-date highway. To those who are interested in our Gaelic language, its literature and music, there is the further attraction that on these historic mountains frequently roamed not only the great Gaelic bard, Duncan Ban Macintyre, but if tradition be true, the still greater genius known to the world as Ossian. On a spot almost inaccessible, high up in one of Glencoe's mighty Bens, is Ossian's cave.

In this district Scotland has almost in its centre an asset which could be made invaluable for her people. All that is required is a little of the foresight and go-a-head methods of Switzerland. Given a scenic electric railway to the top of the Bidean, visitors would thus be enabled to reach the higher altitudes, and also, if a gallery were erected for looking down the straight, rugged precipice of 2,700 feet on to Loch Treachen, such would be a wonderful source of attraction. If this is done in other places, as for example, at Cape Town, why should it not be feasible in the Highlands of Scotland?

There are now good facilities of transit from the centres of population; but better and more up to date accommodation for visitors is required. In these days, when we hear such a lot about the come to Britain movement, the opportunity to secure this magnificent National playground should not be missed.

In these glens we have scenery that is wild and majestic, a natural grandeur, amazing and inspiring, and unequalled throughout Great Britain.

There is also available a magnificent modern residence looking down Loch Leven, commanding a gorgeous view of the setting sun's reflected glories on the mountains of the West. Connected with this particular view, it may be added that travellers who have visited America and every part of Europe have frequently stated that nowhere have they found anything to surpass it.

The assets available, such as timber growing, plant cultivation, rock gardens, fishing, scope

for climbing, interesting tours, walks, botanizing, and nature study have already been mentioned. The district is approached by two railways from Ballachulish terminus, and Bridge of Orchy stations. It is also well supplied, and the various centres linked up by charabanc and motor routes.

The idea of National Parks is a good one, and commends itself to most people.

Here is an opportunity for the Secretary for Scotland to secure for the nation a first class playground, which is in every way suitable, and in arranging for an immediate survey, the authorities will have the enthusiastic support of all those who wish to see a definite move made to secure an invaluable and inspiring national heritage. The acquiring and setting in order of such a large National Park would mean the making of suitable paths, fencings, hostels, and so on, giving work to some of the unemployed, and assisting the health of these people at the present time, as unemployment makes for degeneracy. There is only one solution of our problem of unemployment and the prevention of the monstrous evils in its train, and that is simply work, even if only at a moderate wage, while the period of depression lasts.

## AN TAMHASG.

Le IAIN MACCORMAIG.

(*A' Cheud Duais, Mòd 1926.*)

Bha Eileanan na Gaidhealtachd, riamh gus an latha an duigh, ainmeil airson na bha de sheoladairan greimeal, sgariteil, air an togail anna. B'ann diubh Aonghas Bàn Mac-an-Oiseil, a Eorsaidh. Cha robh anns na h-Eileanan Gaidhealach gu leir aon seoladair ra linn a thug uimhir uine aig muir, no a thainig troimh bharrachd cruadail ri Aonghas Bàn.

Bha e 'na fhior sheann duine, 's e 'na shuidhe taobh an teine 'g a gharadh fhéin air oidhch' fhuar gheamhraidh, 'n uair a dh'innis e dhomh mu aon driadhortan neonach troimh 'n tàinig e r'a latha. B'e soithichean seòlaidh a bu mhotha chiteadh air cuan ri linn 's ri latha Aonghais, agus bha'n long air an robh e 'n uair a thogadh an sgeul so, air an sgriob dachaidh, an deidh tighinn mu'n cuairt na h-Adhairc (Cape Horn), agus an t-sid air socrachadh an deidh seachduinnean de mharcachd-sine a bha cuidhleadh na luinge roimpe fo chroinn ruisgte.

A cheud oidhe an deidh an onfhaidh, agus siochaint am measg nan siantan, bha

Aonghas an tigh na cuibhle, 's a' stiùireadh "Tuath 's a bhi'n Ear," mu'n d'huirt e fhéin e. Bha màrbh na h-oidhche ann, ach ciod e ach leis an t-sàrachadh a fhuair sgìoba na luinge, le an-shid, gun robh Aonghas air a chur 'bharr a chas, agus 's ann a thuit e 'na chadal aig a chuibhil. Bha gach nì sàmhach, socrach. Na siuil làn ach gun mhóran uallaich air sgòd no tarruing, agus rollag gheal chaidreach fo ghuala na h-ubhreach. An deidh greis cadail dhùisg e le clisgeadh: fhuair se e féin 'na chon-shuidhe an oisean tigh na cuibhle, agus bha leis gu'm fac e fear mór cnàmhach, an eideadh-uisge seoladair, a' casadh na cuibhle. Sheall Aonghas gu dùr air, an da chuid an geilt, 's le iongnadh. Dh'eirich e 'na sheasamh, dh'fhàisg e 'shùilean, agus shìolaidh an tamhasg air falbh mar bhoitein ceò sàmhraidh.

Sheall Aonghas air a' chòmbaist, agus ciod e ach gu'n d'atharraicheadh an cùrsa gu "an Ear 's an Ear Thuath." 'N uair a bha Aonghas a' casadh na cuibhle a chum sròn na luinge a thoirt gu'n chùrsa cheart, co 'thainig an lathair ach an sgiobair.

"Co chaidh a mach an doras an ceart uair?" ars' an sgiobair. Dh'innis Aonghas mar a chuala sibh cheana.

"Leora" ars' an sgiobair, "bheirinn m'fhacal, ma tha leithid de nì agus tamhasg ann, gu'm b'e tamhasg bràthar domh nach cualas guth mu' bheò no 'mharbh o chionn fichead bliadhna, 'bha sud. Ciod e'n cùrsa bha e stiùireadh?"

"An Ear 's an Ear Thuath, le'r cead," ars' Aonghas.

"Seadh, mata," ars' an sgiobair, "tha e air bualadh an inntinn gur e rudeigin neonach a bha ann. Theid sinn greis leth-mu-leth, feuch ciod e 'thachras. Stiur "Tuath 's an Ear-Thuath" ars' an sgiobair, 's e sealltuinn air a chòmbaist. Rinneadh sud. Leanadh an cùrs' ud fad thrì làithean, agus air feasgar an treas' latha thog an sgiobair leis na gloinneachan, soitheach 'na h-eigin, i ach gann "eadar-dhà-lionn," mar their iad, agus gun 'na sheasamh ach an crann deiridh, 's gun rib aodaich ris. Chaidh geolachan a chur chuire. Thugadh dìth an sgìoba, 's iad air an-cothrom mór, 's an uair a bha iad a' tighinn air bòrd fear an deidh fir, ghlaodh Aonghas ris an sgiobair 'n uair a bha fear sonruichte 'dol air bòrd, "sud a nis a cheart fhear a chunnacas an tigh na cuibhle."

"'S e 'cheart duine" ars' an sgiobair, "tha mi 'g a aithneachadh gu gasda," 's e 'dol far an robh e.

Thuit an dà bhrathair air muinneil a cheile le gairdeachas. Thachair iad air druim a chuain airson na ceud uair fad fichead bliadhna,



## BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

By the EDITOR.

Under the wing of the Celtic Church there were educational establishments in the Middle Ages at such centres as Dunkeld, Kilmun, Deer, Turriff, Rosemarkie, and even at Applecross in the west of Ross-shire. From the survival of the Gaelic names for the professional scribes and lecturers, *scribhnidh*, and *firoleiginn*; and also from the fact that the Book of Deer itself contains a considerable amount of Scottish Gaelic as well as Latin, we may conclude that even in those far-off days there were two languages in use, namely, Gaelic and Latin. It might be alleged that such knowledge as was available however was confined to clerics and a privileged few. But, on the other hand, there is evidence in the monastic records, as late as the fourteenth century, that a numerous class of humble scholars, the *scoloc*es or poor lovers of learning, willingly gave their service as labourers on church lands, in exchange for the instruction they received in the monasteries. The Gaelic *scalag* is still used for a farm servant. This reference to ancient conditions is intended to suggest that the love of learning is nothing new, and that the bilingual habit, the double point of view, may have been familiar for many centuries to the Scottish Gael, no less than to his Celtic brethren in other lands.

It was at the instance of John Knox that the first printed book in Scottish Gaelic was published, A.D. 1567. The stern Reformer very rarely gets any credit for his generous plans for the spread of culture among the people. He drew out a national system of education, whereby the boon of knowledge might be brought within the reach of even the poorest. His idea was that there should be a school and a teacher in every parish in the land. He intended that a certain portion of the patrimony of the Pre-Reformation Church should be devoted to the endowment of these parochial schools. The scheme, however, did not materialise. The nobles claimed the principal share of the old church property. It is true that certain church revenues were set aside by the Crown for educational purposes; but this was devoted to grammar schools and colleges rather than to the encouragement of elementary education.

The failure of the plans of John Knox for the furtherance of education was the cause

of much bitterness and disappointment. As a result of constant agitation the Scottish Parliament and Privy Council took the matter in hand. In the year 1616 A.D. an Act was passed whereby a school should be erected in every parish, "that all His Majesty's subjects, especially the youth, be exercised and trayned up in civilitie, etc." It was not, however, the aim of this particular Act, that *bilingual* education should be promoted. The teaching was to be exclusively in the *English* language. Gaelic was to be rooted out entirely. The words of the Act are: that the "Ingleeshe tongue be universallie planted, and that the Irish language (that is the Gaelic), which is one of the chief and principall causes of the continuance of barbaritie and incivilitie among the inhabitants of the Isles and Hylands, may be abolisheit and removit." Probably no more effective means could be taken of rousing the determination of Gaels to maintain their mother tongue, than thus to pass an Act of Parliament, expressly ordaining that Gaelic "be abolisheit and removit."

The first really effective attempt to further bilingual education in Scotland was made by the S.P.C.K., the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge. Beginning in 1711 with the establishment and support of twelve schools, it went on from strength to strength, until by the year 1795 it had as many as three hundred and twenty-three schools throughout Gaelic Scotland. The Society paid the salaries of teachers, and gave school books to the children. It also established public libraries in many parishes. Among the school books were portions of the Scriptures in Gaelic; and the Lexicon in Gaelic and English by the poet Alexander Macdonald, who was also a school-master under the S.P.C.K. All these school books were published and distributed at the Society's expense. Following the generous example of the S.P.C.K. other agencies arose, such as, the Gaelic School Society in 1811, and the Educational Scheme of the Church of Scotland in 1824. With regard to the latter, one of its founders, Dr. Norman Macleod, "The Friend of the Gael," was able to declare in a speech in Exeter Hall, London, in 1844, that the scheme by that time had no less than 146 schools, and two Normal Colleges for the training of young teachers. After the Disruption in 1843, the Free Church of Scotland entered with much enthusiasm and success into the work of bilingual education on the traditional lines.

(To be continued)



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Thursday, 26th November. The President, Rev. Neil Ross, D.Litt., presided, and the following members were present:

William D. Barclay, Esq., Glasgow; Mrs. Barron, Glasgow; Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale; Captain A. R. Campbell, O.B.E., Glasgow; Captain George I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth; Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds); Mrs. Christison, Glasgow; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Neil Campbell Colquhoun, Esq., Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Esq., Bishopton; Kenneth Fraser, Esq., Glasgow; Col. A. D. Greenhill Gardyne of Glen Forsa; Mrs. Wm. Hendry, Glasgow; G. I. Innes, Esq., Killearn; Miss Lamont of Knockdow; Hugh McCorquodale, Esq., F.S.A.Scot., Glasgow; Rev. Alexander MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Donald MacDonald, Esq., Inverness; Col. Kenneth L. MacDonald of Tote, D.S.O.; John MacDonald, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; T. D. MacDonald, Esq., Glasgow; Hector MacDougall, Esq., Glasgow; Duncan C. MacKenzie, Esq., Glasgow; The Hon. Mrs. Iona MacLean, Edinburgh; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Esq., Glasgow; George E. Marjoribanks, Esq., Upper Sonochan; John A. Nicolson, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; Neil Orr, Esq., F.E.I.S., Edinburgh; Colin Sinclair, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; John Stewart, Esq., Dunblane; M. Sweet, Esq., Skelmorlie; Miss Harriet Stewart, L.L.A., Levenhall; Rev. Donald Thomson, B.D., Glasgow; and Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria. Robert MacFarlane, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, General Secretary, and Hugh MacPhee, Assistant, were in attendance.

Minutes of previous meetings were read and approved.

The President made suitable reference to the loss sustained by the death of Ex-Bailie Archibald Campbell, Glasgow. He also welcomed the members of the Executive who were present for the first time.

Minutes of Finance Committee were submitted and approved. These showed that the estimated surplus from the Dingwall Mod was £1258. The Secretary was instructed to convey to the Local Committee the cordial and grateful thanks of the Executive for the splendid service they had given in organising and carrying through the Mod.

Minute of Education Committee was submitted and approved. A very satisfactory report on the Summer School of Gaelic held at Tobermory was submitted, and it was recommended that next year's School should be held at Newtonmore. It was agreed that the attention of the Argyll Education Committee be called to the absence of provision for the teaching of

Gaelic in Dunoon Grammar School, and that the Education Department be communicated with regarding the unduly high standard of the Higher Leaving Certificate in Gaelic. A report on the Conference held at Dingwall in September was read.

Minute of Publication Committee was read and approved. The Committee considered the remit from the Annual Meeting regarding motion of Mr. Hector MacDougall, on the subject of the standardising of Gaelic. The Committee recommended that in all articles appearing in the magazine, a uniform grammatical and spelling form should be used, and that it be remitted to a sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Hector MacDougall and Mr. John MacDonald, to consult with the editor with a view to this being done.

Minute of Propaganda Committee was read and approved. The Minute contained reports by the Sub-Committees, and by the Organisers. Four Music Teachers are at present employed, and several Provincial Mods have been arranged.

Minute of Art and Industry Committee was read and approved. Correspondence had taken place with Messrs. Newall as to their taking over the Rug Industry carried on by An Comunn, and negotiations were still in progress.

Minutes of the Mod and Music Committee were read and approved. The Committee had considered the suggestion that adjudicators at the National Mod should not be allowed to adjudicate at Local Mods which took place prior to the National Mod. After consideration, it was agreed not to lay down such a rule, but to recommend that, as far as possible, adjudicators be appointed who are not likely to be acting at Local Mods, and that adjudicators should not be appointed who are known to have prepared competitors. This was agreed to. The Committee accepted with grateful thanks the kind offer of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Cameron, Sunderland, to present a shield to be known as the Mull and Iona Trophy, for male voice choral competition.

Mr. Marjoribanks reported in Gaelic on Clann an Fhraoich.

Dates of Meetings were fixed as follows: 22nd January, 11th March, 8th October (Fort William), and 25th November.

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

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**CONNEL.**—The opening Ceilidh for the session was held in the Hall, when there was a large attendance. Mr. MacNeill, The Schoolhouse, on behalf of the members of An Comunn, welcomed to the Branch Miss MacAllister Hall, who is an ardent enthusiast in the Gaelic cause.

**FORT AUGUSTUS.**—The first ceilidh of the current session, arranged by the local branch, was held in the Public Hall. Mr. John Macdonald, Malvern president, presided over a representative attendance, and the guest of the evening was that well-known Gael, Mr. John N. Macleod, Kirkhill. Among other enthusiasts present was Rev. Father Cyril von Deickhoff, O.S.B. In the course of an interesting and encouraging address, Mr. Macleod made a strong appeal for Gaelic-speaking parents to speak the language to their children on every possible occasion, for after all that was the proper way to foster their mother tongue. The practice of Gaelic-speaking parents using the language at times when they deemed it desirable not to bring their children into the conversation he rightly characterised as a particularly insidious form of "dry rot." He wished these ceilidhs every success, and he hoped that by the end of the session there would be a marked improvement in both the quality and quantity of the Gaelic spoken by those who were interested in its study. Needless to say, Mr. Macleod was frequently applauded for his able and stimulating address. A splendid programme sustained by prominent ladies and gentlemen followed.

**FORT WILLIAM.**—The Town Hall was thronged when a ceilidh took place in aid of the Mod funds, Mr. Beattie, headmaster of the Secondary School, presided. Such gatherings, always appeal to the public, and enthusiasm is invariably the dominant note. Variety was lent to the programme by the presence of a contingent of male singers from Ballachulish, who contributed much appreciated solo and choral pieces. Local artists included the Fort William Junior Choir, members of the Higher Grade School, as well as singers, dancers, and pipers well known to Fort William audiences. The whole proceedings, which were marked by harmony throughout, delighted a large section of the community.

**GLENELG.**—The opening ceilidh of the local Branch took place in the Reading-Room recently, Mr. Angus Macdonald, who has been convenor for two sessions, presided over a large gathering. Songs were contributed by several of the ladies and gentlemen present.

**GOLSPIE.**—A well-attended and most enjoyable ceilidh, under the auspices of the local Branch took place in the West End Mission Hall, and was presided over by the Rev. John MacKenzie, West Manse. During the course of the evening a programme of music and recitation was submitted.

**INVERARAY.**—The members of the local Branch met in the St. Malieu Hall, when a programme of much interest was carried through. The principal item was the dialogue, "Comhradh Mair Dhubh is Dhomhnuil Phìobaire," by William and Hugh Stewart, which won first prize at the present Mod at Dingwall. This was composed by their mother, Mrs. D. M. Stewart, Castle Gardens. An address was delivered by Rev. Angus Gray and Mrs. D. M. Stewart gave a reading. Bagpipe selections were rendered by Piper Peter Munro. A song was contributed by Mrs. Robert.

**ISLAY.**—Under the auspices of the Bridgend Branch a Gaelic Concert was held in the Territorial Hall, Bridgend. Mr. MacKillop, Eallabus, presided, and he was supported by Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary,

who was on one of his periodic visits to Islay. The programme was sustained by local talent assisted by friends from Ballygrant, Bowmore, and Port Charlotte. Mr. Shaw also gave valuable assistance in singing several Gaelic songs.

**KINGUSSIE.**—Rev. Dr. Macfarlane presided over the annual general meeting of the local Branch, when the financial statement, submitted by Mr. E. Catanach, disclosed a small credit balance. It was arranged to hold a Gaelic class this winter, and the members hope to have also a series of ceilidhs. Dr. Macfarlane intimated his willingness to hold a Gaelic service in the near future. Sympathetic reference was made to the Committee's loss in the death of Miss Grant, Corriegour, who had been an enthusiastic worker for the Gaelic cause. The usual committee and office-bearers were appointed. The services of an excellent chairman were secured in the person of the Rev. Dr. Macfarlane, parish minister. In his opening remarks, Dr. Macfarlane delighted the company with a series of old-time interesting fairy tales common throughout the Highlands and Islands. The evening's programme comprised Gaelic songs by Mr. James Cameron, Misses Lizzie Macdonald, Jean Cattanaach, Mr. Alistair Macdonald, and Mr. John Wright; Gaelic readings by Mr. Angus Maclean; humorous stories by Mr. Mackinnon, and bagpipe music by Mr. John Macpherson.

**TAIN.**—The first ceilidh of the session under the auspices of the local Branch was held in Queen Street Church Hall, Mr. Macrae, The Schoolhouse, Logie-Easter, president, presided over a large attendance. The proceedings were opened with the singing of "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig." Thereafter the president welcomed the company, first in Gaelic and then in English. Then a varied and interesting programme, consisting of songs, recitations, stories, and instrumental music was sustained by well-known artists.

**TREE.**—The Balemartin Branch of An Comunn held the first ceilidh of the session in Balemartin School. A large company assembled and engaged in dancing. Throughout the evening Gaelic songs were artistically rendered by Misses Flora MacArthur and J. Maclean, Messrs. D. and H. Campbell, and J. Macdonald. A sumptuous tea was provided. The piper for the evening was Mr. Lachie Macdonald, and the duties of M.C. were ably carried through by Mr. Hector Maclean, the energetic treasurer of the Branch. Mr. W. G. MacDiarmid, Hon. President, presided over a large gathering at the second monthly ceilidh of the Branch. He was supported on the platform by Mrs. MacDiarmid, Miss Macdonald, and Mr. Alick Campbell. A most interesting and instructive talk on the Three Bards was delivered by Mr. Archibald Currie.

**WICK.**—The first public ceilidh for the current session of Wick Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Old Parish Church Hall on Wednesday evening, 18th November. There was a very gratifying attendance, and a most enjoyable programme was gone through. Mr. A. M. Carmichael, organiser for the northern area, and Mr. Stewart MacInnes, Mod medallist, Inverness, were present and delighted the audience with Gaelic songs. Mr. Carmichael also gave a short address and congratulated the branch on its work. He also advocated the more general wearing of the kilt. Other highly appreciated contributors to the programme included Misses Henderson, Macadie and Robertson (trios), Miss M. S. Henderson (violin selections), Mr. Donald Mackay, Shebster (recitations), Miss J. Macleod (solo), Mr. William Coghill (bagpipe selections). All the artistes were heartily encored. Mrs. Gilbertson was accompanist.

THEY STAND SUPREME!



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Leabhar XXVII.]

Am Faoilleach, 1932.

[Earrann 4

## AN LATHA CHI 'S NACH FHAIC.

Is iad sin na facail leis am bu ghnàth le deagh Ghaidheil a bhi a' cur fàilte air a chèile mar thigeadh bliadhna ùr mun cuairt. Leis na briathran ceudna tha sinn a' guidhe anns an t-sean dòigh slàinte agus sòlas do ar luchd leughaidh anns gach àite agus cor anns a bheil iad. Gu robh sonas 'n an cridhe, agus soirbheachadh 'n an crannchur. Os cionn gach ni bu mhaith gun cumadh iad cuimhne air an dùthaich is air am muinntir. Cluinidh sinn air uairean nach eil e gu mòran cuideachaidh dhuinn a bhi cho tric ag ionndrain is a' caoidh mar thachair do ar dùthaich is do ar sluagh; gu bheil ar fearann fàs, agus air sluagh sgaipte. Ach is e sin an aon seòl gu ar cridhe a ghluasad. Cha deanar a bheag a chum cùisean a leasachadh, mur tuigear gu bheil cuisean an càs cruaidh. Agus chan e caoidh a tha iomchuidh aig an am ach misneach is gnìomh.

\* \* \* \* \*

Is àbhaist dhuinn aig toiseach bliadhna ùire iomradh goirid a dheanamh air na thachair o an am so an t-uiridh. Gun bhi a' leudachadh gu farsuinn air gach earrann fa leth de'n obair, their sinn an aon fhacal gur e bliadhna shoirbheachail a tha nis air tighinn gu crìch. Anns an ùine sin mar is maith tha fhios againn uile bha iomairt mhór feadh na dùthcha a thaobh gnòthuichean sìobhalta, taghadh Parlamaid, iomaguin nu fhiachan na rìoghachd, maille ri iomadh caochladh eile ris nach robh dùil.

Nochd an t-sean bhliadhna mar an ceudna mar tha na Gaidheil a' dol nas gainne, agus mar tha saothrachadh fearainn is tuathanachais a' sìor dhol air an ais. Chan fhaod sinn ar sùilean a dhùnadh do 'n ghothuch mhladach so. Is diamhain dhuinne bhi strì mur deanar oidheirp le cuid eigin gu casg a chur air siubhal an luchd àiteichidh air falbh as an dùthaich.

\* \* \* \* \*

Is cubhaidh gum biodh iomradh an so air an luchd oibreach dhileas agus fhoghainteach a chaill An Comunn feadh na bliadhna. Is mór de thoradh an saothrach a tha ri fhaicinn. Bha an t-Ollamh Urramach Macaoidh 'n a' cheann suidhe fad thrì bliadhna; agus bha e ùine mhór air ceann buidheann a' chraobh-sgaoidh. Bha e a thaobh a nàduir blàth, coibhneil, eudmhor; agus rinn e saothair anabarrach gus a bhi a' suidheachadh mheanglan feadh na dùthcha. Chaill sinn feadhain eile mar tha Calum MacPhàrlain, Lachlainn MacBheathain, agus Tormod MacLeod, A.M. Thug gach fear dhiu sin, 'na a dhòigh fhéin togail air leth do aobhar na càinain. Tha sinn a nis nas bochda as an déidh; agus tha sinn an dòchas nach fhada gus an éirich luchd oibreach ùra 'n an àite. Ged is fortanach gu bheil àireamh nam ball a' dol an Ìonmhorachd, bu maith gum biodh an sean eud agus an sean dealas a' leantainn, agus air an cur an céill gu dian leis an chuideachd a dh'fhuirich. Tha deagh eisimpleir againn anns na laoch a tha a nis aig am fois.



Is maith an sgeul gu bheil na meanglain an diugh nas pailte na bha iad riamh. Tha meanglain a nis air am fosgladh anns na h-eileanan an iar, far a bheil a' chànan fallain gu leoir fathast. Cha mhisde a' chànan idir gum biodh an cunnart anns a bheil i aithnichte do luchd àitichidh nan eilean. Cuiridh sin bacadh air an nàire mhaslaich a b'abhaist a bhì air cuid a thaobh na Gaidhlig. An àite sin is ann a bhios uail orra a nis gu bheil Gaidhlig aca. Tha leughadh na cànan a' sìor fhàs cumanta. Anns a' chuid mhóir de na meanglain gheibhear cròilean leughaidh. Tha deagh chleachdadh mar an ceudna aig cuid de Chomhairlean Foghlum nan Siorramachd. Tha iad a' cosg ri cròilean leughaidh a ghiùlan air adhart an cuid de dh'àiteachan. Tha a' chainnt 'g a labhairt nas trice aig na cèilidhean. Cluinnear comhradh ro dealbh chluich gu tric aig na tionail. Tha so 'na chleachdadh a bhios feumail do luchd labhairt is do luchd èisdeachd. Tha adhart mar an ceudna air teagasg a' chiùil. Bu mhaith gum biodh luchd teagaisg ciùil na bu pailte na tha iad. Thainig feabhas mòr feadh na bliadhna air na còisirean dùthchail.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tha bliadhna ùr eile a' fosgladh le cothroman ùra. Tha saothair is toradh nam bliadhnaichean a dh'fhalbh a' feitheamh ri ar laimh aig an uair a tha làthair, a chum gun cuir sinn iad sin gu léir a dh'ionnsaidh na buil is fearr. Tha sin fìor anns gach seadh. Ach anns an duilleig so is e tha freagarrach gur i obair A'Chomuinn a bhiodh againn anns an aire. Is ann mun chuspair sin a tha na h-carrailean ri thuigsinn gu sonruichte. Thagh sinn luchd dreuchd. Chruinnich sinn airgid. Shuidhich sinn fichead meanglan. Chum sinn dà fhichead mòd dùthchail. Theagaisg sinn còisirean deas is tuath. Ciod nach d'rinn sinn? Ach is i a' cheist chudthromach a nis, a bheil sinn riarachail le sin gun dol nas fhaide air adhart. A bheil sinn riarachail le Alba mar ar raon, an uair a tha na mìltean de ar cinneadh an tìrean eile. Càite a bheil ar gliocas ma ni sinn iadsan a dhearmad. Is mòr an t-ùrachadh a gheibheadh iad uainn a thaobh leughaidh is leabhraichean, a thaobh scinn is chòisirean, a thaobh mheanglan is mhòd. Ma tha do chluas idir fosgailte cluinnidh tu an guth ag èigheach ruinn an taobh thall de 'n chuan "*Nach tig sibh a nall gar cuid-eachadh!*"

## BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

By the EDITOR.

### II.

This brief outline of education generally is at the same time an outline of the practice of two tongues, for the whole system in those days was bilingual throughout. The teachers under the old system were native Gaelic speakers. They regularly employed the Gaelic language side by side with English. Gaelic and English were taught at the same time. The great boons to be gained from an acquaintance with English were admitted on all hands. It was the key and the passport to the larger world of the South. The people welcomed and respected knowledge in all its forms, irrespective of the manner in which it was conveyed. Before the coming of the Education Act of 1872, which ended the old system, knowledge was conveyed to the Gaels of Scotland in a sensible manner. That is to say, common sense dictated to the old fashioned teachers an important truth which the makers of the Act of 1872 failed entirely to appreciate. That important truth was—that the Gaelic language, which the native pupil already knew on entering school, was, for him, the easiest and most natural instrument for acquiring further knowledge. It was by ignoring this elementary principle that the Education Act of 1872 approached the problem in a very unscientific spirit.

The Education Act of 1872, in so far as it applied to the Gaels of Scotland, gave no consideration to their language or music, their literature or native culture. It was framed exactly in the spirit of the Scottish Act of 1616, from which an illuminating quotation has just been made. It may not have repeated in so many words the charge, that Gaelic was "one of the principal causes of barbarism and incivility;" but it treated the language of the Gael with contempt. It was for us a dire misfortune that in a free country we were content to have our education regulated in such a crude way by absolute strangers. The middle of the nineteenth century was a time of humiliation for the Scottish Gael. Our Highland Society, which early in the century was a patron of learning, and which served bilingual education by publishing those monumental tomes the Highland Society's Gaelic and English Dictionary, now gave its patronage and money, not to learning, but to prize animals. While prize



animals are valuable enough in their place, yet the change illustrates the materialistic attitude of that age.

The rise of the industrial era in the south; the decline of agriculture in the North; the stream of migration from the glens to the cities; the constant flow of emigrants to the colonies—all these changes, economic and social, had a serious effect on the fortunes of the Gaelic language. When a youth left his native district, and sought a situation in the city, it was found that a knowledge of English was an advantage; and so it was a natural, though erroneous conclusion, that his knowledge of Gaelic was a hindrance. In a mercenary age the Gaelic language was neglected as being of no commercial value. There was no word of the extra alertness and mental dexterity of a master of two languages. There was, as yet, no idea of the benefit the mind derives, as the psychologists tell us, from the double stock of definite verbal impressions which of necessity belongs to the person who can efficiently express himself in two tongues. At a time of economic difficulty, and of undue interference with education by unsympathetic outsiders, the average Highlander of those days took on a certain mood. Three years ago, at Inverness, Mr. Lloyd George, in all friendliness, and rather to rouse than to discourage us, truly spoke of that mood as being an "inferiority complex." The majority of Scottish Gaels appeared content to believe that their language and culture were only worthy of being contemptuously passed over in silence. Parents who wished their offspring to succeed in life had no desire that they should learn Gaelic. There are people still alive who were punished in school for speaking the Gaelic language in the playground.

We need not dwell at the moment on those conditions in the North of Scotland in the eighties of last century, which drew the attention of the British Government to provide new legislation by the Crofters' Act. It was shortly after that time of upheaval that An Comunn Gaidhealach was formed. There are now thirty-nine years since it held its first Mod. The main object of An Comunn is the preservation of Scottish Gaelic. The English language is inevitable. We are grateful that its rich resources are open to all alike. But there is nothing to prevent the Gaels of Scotland from continuing to be a bilingual people. An Comunn has no objection to English. What it strives for is a place for Gaelic. We desire to retain our native language

and so maintain the link with our ancestral culture. The Empire is all the stronger when every race shall bring its own distinctive qualities and mental equipment. An Comunn has already done much to educate the Gael of Scotland as to the dignity and beauty of their native speech. It has helped to remove that sense of false shame which used to make young persons from the Highlands deny that they knew Gaelic! In this respect it has helped to dispel a good deal of the bad "inferiority complex."

The leaders of An Comunn have all along recognised the importance of obtaining recognition for Gaelic in the educational system. Every intelligent Highlander was aware of the limitations of the Education Act of 1872 in this vital respect. It was felt that unless the young were taught the language, there was no hope or possibility of its survival. Efforts were made, early in this century, to get the School Boards of the time to favour the teaching of the language. But the School Boards themselves were still under the control of a cold, unsympathetic Act. It was intolerable that it should be only on sufferance that a place could be found for the living language of a great portion of the inhabitants. Meantime, An Comunn faithfully adhered to its programme, encouraging the spirit of friendly emulation in music and literature. It is vain to deny that healthy rivalry is beneficial when directed in wise channels. Gradually the charm of Gaelic melodies dawned on the rising generation; and the Mod, when held in the cities, acted as a missionary agent, appealing to the sympathy and taste of a wider public.

The Scottish Education Act of 1918 made considerable changes in organisation. It made the county the administrative unit, instead of the parish as formerly. It set up Education Authorities with very wide powers. At a time when such big alterations were made an opportunity seemed to present itself, to assert the claims of the Gaelic language. A petition bearing 20,000 signatures was presented to Parliament, in favour of Gaelic being taught in the schools. The result of the movement was the insertion of the Gaelic Clause, which is not merely permissive, but is mandatory, ordaining that Gaelic be taught in the schools of Gaelic speaking areas. It was a great step in the forward movement when the teaching of the language was thus legally enjoined, and the authorities were provided with means and power to carry the injunction into effect. The following quotation is from an article by Professor Watson of Edinburgh,

with reference to the application of the Gaelic Clause:—"Scotland is not the only country where this problem has had to be faced, and is now being faced. Language goes with nationality; wherever there is a national feeling there is bound to be a demand for the preservation of the national language. It is this that keeps French in the schools of the province of Quebec, and Dutch in the schools of the Transvaal. On the continent of Europe it has revived languages which were supposed to be dead or dying. . . . What both Wales and Ireland are resolved against is being spoon-fed with so called English culture; they propose to be Welshmen and Irishmen, not imitation Englishmen. For us the question at the root of the matter is whether or not we are content to be denationalised? Have we enough national spirit left to determine us to be Gael and not Saxons? The matter at issue is more than a question of Gaelic; it is one of continuing to exist as a people or, ceasing so to exist."

Lest it should be thought that the mere passing of the Gaelic Clause was sufficient to secure the steady progress of Gaelic, it is well to say that only a certain number of the Education Authorities gave practical effect to the provision of the Clause. We ought not to convey the impression that there was enthusiasm for the teaching of Gaelic in *all* the schools of the Gaelic area. Much credit is due to the Authorities of Inverness, Ross, and Argyre. While the others have not been altogether inactive, yet there is still a great deal to be desired. The Clause itself requires to be made wider in its application. More influence will need to be brought to bear on those educational bodies in the Highlands who have not yet done their duty by the language. A further change has recently been made in Scotland by the De-rating Act. The management of education has now passed into the hands of the County Councils. The former *ad hoc* authorities have ceased to function; and their place has been taken by Education Committees of the County Councils. The writer happens to have been a member of a former Education Authority, and to have directly passed from that to the membership of a new Education Committee. He has seen no sign, so far, of any serious departure from the recent educational policy. The main change has been in methods of administration. It is anticipated that the teaching of Gaelic will be carried on as faithfully, for example, in the County of Inverness under the new regime, as it was under the recent Education Authority.

Great numbers of Scottish Gaelic children used to be sorely handicapped at the start of their school career, by being placed under teachers who had no knowledge of the Gaelic language. For the first year or two the child is in an intellectual fog. The beginner has not only to cope with the mental process of learning to read, write, and count. He is confronted with the additional task of learning a new language. And he must grasp the new language intelligently before he can understand what the *uni*-lingual teacher is saying. It is, if you like, a kind of Berlitz method, but with two points of difference, the lack of an already trained intelligence on the part of the pupil, and an utter ignorance of the skilful Berlitz method on the part of the teacher.

With regard to the use of Gaelic exclusively at the beginning of the school life of the purely Gaelic child, it may be said that very interesting experiments are being made. While much has been spoken and written of late years about the wisdom of using the child's native language during the earlier stages of instruction, yet the merits of this method had not been actually tested of set purpose. But this method is meantime under observation in an island where the surroundings of the children are entirely Gaelic. It may be more satisfactory if we give the opinion of the educationist who inaugurated this step, and who is now watching its operation. The Director of Education for the County of Inverness wrote in reply to a query on this important matter: "It is the case that at Castlebay and Northbay, Isle of Barra, we inaugurated a scheme whereby all the instruction was given in Gaelic for the first year or two after enrolment. It is difficult to make a categorical pronouncement at this early stage, but it may be stated with safety that the intelligence of the children has been developed rather than retarded by the experiment."

It is hardly necessary to give a detailed account of the method adopted to encourage teachers to qualify themselves for the teaching of Gaelic. On that point also the Director for Inverness County writes briefly and without hesitation: "I am of opinion that so far as this County is concerned, we are producing sufficient Gaelic Teachers to carry on the necessary services in connection with the bilingual section of the Act." Owing to the vast improvement in the status of the teaching profession since the war, a considerable number of Highland young men and women have chosen to follow this calling. In the majority

of instances the candidates have been financially assisted in their training, by the Education Authorities. It is the policy of the Education Committee, of which I have the honour to be a member, to find employment in our area for the young teachers who know the Gaelic language. In fact, these actually have a preference, in view of their special qualification. Between the Universities and Training Centres there are at this moment about one hundred students of both sexes, who are to be teachers, and who are duly receiving academic instruction to qualify them to teach the subject afterwards. It is, indeed, in the teaching profession that Gaelic as a subject is acquiring a distinct vocational value.

It is with regret that one records the diminishing use of Gaelic in the Highland pulpit. The tragedy happens in this way. A public discussion arises between two sections of a congregation. They argue as to which service, the Gaelic or the English, shall have the place of honour as the first service of the day. The supporters of English, backed no doubt by the social magnates of the small community, gain their point. Gaelic is relegated to the second place. The attendance gradually declines, until in the end the service disappears entirely. Here is a department in which the Church in general might well look to its own interests. Even if there were no concern for the disappearance of Gaelic, there ought to be some concern for a reduction of the number of religious gatherings, and for the loss of a venerable asset, the old Gaelic speech, in the devotions of the sanctuary.

It may have been observed that emphasis is laid in this article on the place of Gaelic in the educational system. We do not refer to the cases in which it is used in the home or in business, in some newspapers, and a few magazines. Reference ought to be made to the fact that bilingual education has been greatly helped in recent years by the school books and college text books published under the auspices of An Comunn Gaidhealach. These are the school books that are generally used in the three hundred and thirty-one day schools and continuation classes in Scotland, in which Gaelic is regularly taught to ten thousand one hundred pupils. Instruction is carried on to the level of the Leaving Certificate of the Scottish Education Department. In the County of Inverness this year, twenty seven Higher Grade, and one Lower were gained. It may be remarked that the papers in Gaelic (including modern Irish) in this examination, are fully abreast of the

standard of merit required in other languages. Higher education is provided in Celtic on the graduation and honours level.

In conclusion, I may quote from an article by an ardent Gael, Sir Donald MacAlister of Tarbet, a master of many languages, late Principal and now Chancellor, of Glasgow University. "We therefore urge that every child, whose home language is Gaelic, should be taught in our Highland schools to read and write Gaelic as he is taught to read and write English. The effect of this training has proved to be, not only that he gains access to Celtic literature, but that his progress in English becomes surer and speedier, and his intellectual grasp becomes wider and stronger. Having already command of two tongues differing in structure and idiom, he can make comparisons and observe analogies. He gains, in fact, the mental aptitude and versatility that, in the public schools of the South, the Southron is supposed to gain from his training in Latin or Greek. And he gains it the more certainly in that his 'second language' is to him a living vernacular, in which he can constantly exercise himself colloquially, and not a dead language that he never speaks. Moreover, his Gaelic is a language so rich phonetically, and so diverse from English in its grammar and phrasing, that he is thereby prepared, as no Englishman is, for the easy acquisition of other modern languages. Not only his tongue, but his mind, becomes adaptable, and he is the better fitted to make headway in foreign lands and new surroundings, wherever his lot may be cast."

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## IAIN LOM—A BHEATHA IS A BHARDACHD.

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LE IAIN MAC CORMAIG.

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A' Cheud Duais, Mod, 1924.

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### I.

Ged nach eil a bhàrdachd cho sinearail no cho blada mar oidheirpean litreachais ris a' mhòr-roinn de bhàrdachd nan Gaidheal, chan eil gin de na bàird (ghaidhealach is motha leanamhuinn na Iain Lom, a thaobh na tarruinn shònruichte a tha 'na ranntachd. Bha Iain Lom de fhìor fhuil uasail. Bu fhreumh e de theaghlach na Ceapaich, agus shìolaich e o mheanglan ris an abairte *Sliochd a' bhràthar bu Shine*.

B'e ainm baistidh Iain MacDhomhnuill agus ged theirte Iain Lom agus Iain Manntach ris mar fhar-ainmean is ann mar Iain Lom is fearr a dh'aithnichear e. Bha e 'na chleachdadh am measg nan Gaidheal a bhi ag ainmeachadh neach air ni eigin comharraichte a bhiodh comhcheangailte ri a chom no ri a ghùlan. Le sin is gann gu robh duine air am b'fhiach far-ainm a thoirt, nach robh far-ainm air.

Tha cuid am barail gun tàinig am far-ainm "Lom" air ar cuspair a thaobh geurad a theangan, ged nach eil e furasda dheanamh a mach càite bheil an coimeas ri fhaicinn. Ach an diugh fhathast theirear gu bheil fear gun fheusaig "lom"; agus chan eil e eucoltach nach ann a chionn gu robh e lom gun fheusaig a theirte Iain Lom ris a' bhàrd. Air an amhail cheudna theirte Iain Manntach ris, a chionn gu robh stad 'na theangaidh no gu robh a gagach. Codhiu tha e gle choltach gun d' rugadh Iain Lom 'na bhàrd, agus gun do mhothaichte a gheire eadhon an uair a bha e 'na bhalach casruigte. Bha e uair an Inbhirneis an cuideachd athar is a chuid dhaoine; agus feadh na h-oidheche, is a' chuideachd 'gan garadh fhein ri teine mór chraobh, thainig mar bu dual coigreach nam measg. Anns an t-seanachas a bha dol thuit faclaireil air chor eigin o 'n choigreach, a bha bualadh air Iain, is gun e ach 'na bhalach anns an am. Ach eadhon 'na bhalach cho robh a shreagairt fada uaidh, agus an trian na braise thuir Iain beag:

"Breith luath lochdach  
Breith air loth phealagach  
No air gille luideagach."

Chan eil fhios codhiu is ann no nach ann uaidh so a dh'èirich an ràdh, ach tha e gus an la an diugh air a chleachdadh anns a' Ghaidhealtachd, mar shean-fhacal gle fheagarrach an uair a chluinnear tàir 'ga dheanamh air balachan luideagach. Ach ged a b'e a chluinntean fhein a dheanadh e, chithear geurad a' bhalaich ann a bhi a' cleachdadh gnath fhacal cho sgiobalta aig am cho freagarrach. Chinn glicas Iain Luim le a bhliadhnaichean, agus chaith 'ainm feadh na Gaidhealtachd mar bhàrd geur sgaiteach.

Ri linn Iain Luim agus iomadh la 'na dhéidh cha robh na bàird Ghaidhealach an eisimeil clo-bhualaidh no leabhraichean, a chum an saothair a thoirt mu choinneamh an t-sluaigh. Cha robh aca ach am bàrdachd a labhairt aig ceilidh no aig faidhir, gu sònruiche aig faidhir, far am biodh móran

choigreach as gach cearn; agus am beagan ùine bha i am beul gach dara duine anns gach oisein de 'n Ghaidhealtachd. Chan ionnan is mar dh'èirich dhuinne 'nar la féin. Bha an sluagh an uair ud beachdail geur-chuiseach, ag ionnsuchadh troimh an chluais, an àite mar thachair dhuinne mar is trice a bhi ag ionnsuchadh troimh an t-sùil. Le sin bha meamhair an t-sluaigh cho geur is cho oileinichte is nach robh facal a chluinneadh iad nach togadh iad is nach gleidheadh iad. Air a' mhodh sin rachadh obair nam bàrd a chraobh sgaileadh agus a liodairt móran na bu deise na thachras an diugh an uair tha bolg-solair is leabhar cho goireasach. Air a' mhodh cheudna rachadh ainm a' bhàird far nach ruigeadh a chas am feasda, agus aon àite a ruigeadh e, bha 'ainm roimhe. A nis bha Iain Lom gu maith ubraideach anns an rìoghachd so, an uair a bha rìghrean 'gan crùnadh is 'gan di-chrùnadh, 'gam fuadach is 'gan aiseag air ais, an uair a bha Pròstanaich is Catalaigh an uganabha a chéile a chum lamh an uachdar fhaotainn anns an rìoghachd; an uair a bha Cromwell is a cheatharnaich ag imeachd troimh an dùthaich. Bu Chatolaigeach Iain Lom, agus is ann air na cuspairean eudthromach a dh'èirich suas ri a linn a gheus e a chlarsach. Do dhuine a bha a' fuireach an àite cho iomallach ri Lochabar bha e anabarrach fiosrach an cùisean sìobhalta. Sheas e gu dàingeann fearail air taobh nan Stiùbhardach, an dà chuid le a chlaidheamh is le a theangaidh, gu sònruichte mar bhàrd, agus sin cho foirmeil is gun d'rinn Tearlach II. ard-fhìlidh Gaidhlig de, ni a tha gus an la an diugh a' cur urram air cànan nan Gaidheal.

Chaidh urram a' bhàird am farsuinneachd agus dh'èisdeadh a chomh oidheirpean ri a rannan aig gach cruinneachadh an iomadh cearn. Bu tric a thachair e gum biodh bàird an eud ri a chéile, agus a' bhearradh a chéile an uair a thachradh iad. Tha e coltach gu robh Iain Lom gle theabannta air uairean mar so. Bha e aon uair an Inbhirneis ri am faidheach. Co bha aig an fhaidhir mar an ceudan ach O'Brian. Codhiu a dh'aithniche e Iain no nach d'aithnich, chuir e bruidheann air an uair a chunnaic e breacan na Cèapaich 'na eideadh. "An aithne dhuit Iain Manntach 'ille, on is Abrach thu," dh'fhaighnich O'Brian gu dàna.

"Is aithne gu maith," ars Iain.

"An toir thu soraidd uamsa chuide mata," ars O'Brian a rithist, is e a' cumail a shùil gu beachdail air Iain Lom.

"Bheir gun teagamh a charaid," ars Iain, is e mar gum biodh e a' deanamh seorsa breithneachaidh air ciod a bha dol a thighinn a mach.

"Abair ris mar so uamsa mata, arsa O'Brian:

"Thoir soraidh gu Iain Manntach uam,  
Rag mhearlach nan each breannalach,  
Is tric a thug am mearlach ud  
Am meann a mach a crò."

"B'e fasan fir a' bhraighe ud,  
Dà thaobh Lochial is Arasaig,  
Bhiodh sgian 'san dara bràthair dhiubh  
Mu urad àra dh'fheòil."

Leoin na facail so Iain Lom gu a chridhe, gu sonruichte na facail mu dheireadh, oir shamhlach e iad ri driadhthortan anns an do thachair dha le tuiteamas a bhràthair a leònadh, ged a chuir tuaisleas aogasg eile air a' chùis. Ach ma bha O'Brian ullaichte gu saighead a thilgeadh air bàrd Lochabar, cha robh bàrd Lochabar dad 'na eisimeil. Chithear cho deas is a bha 'fhacal an uair a thuit e an làrach nam bonn:

"A theanga lioadaich mhiorbhuillich  
Nach tuig thu bhi 'gad dhì-moladh,  
'S mithich teannadh gu cloich-liomhain  
leat.  
'S gu faigheadh Brian a leòir."

"Cha b'chùbair a ghoid ghearran mi,  
Cha d' chuir mi ùidh 's an ealaidh sin;  
Cha mho a chum e caithris orm  
Toirt mhult a cara chrò."

"Ged's cam a stigh fo d'ghluinean thu,  
Gur caime stigh fo d' shùilean thu,  
'S tu troiteor na seachd dùthchannan  
A reic an crùn air gròt."

Air son na bheil ri fhaicinn anns na rainn sin cha bhiodh cuimhne air a' bhàrd an diugh, agus chan eilear 'gan toirt am follais a chum a gheurad a nochdadh. Thachair nithean aig amannan eile a dhuais am bàrd an Iain Lom, agus a bhuail gach teud ann a chlàrsaich.

(Ri Leantainn.)

## CIRCULAR LETTER

from

Mr. James MacNeil,

Editor of *Teachdaire Nan Gaidheal*, Sydney,  
Nova Scotia.

You are no doubt aware of my connection with the publication of *Teachdaire Nan Gaidheal* for the past five years. To assist me in promoting this laudable enterprise, I had the honour to secure as my associate and co-worker a loyal and stalwart Highlander, Mr. Alexander MacKechnie of London.

In the semi-sacred cause of the Gaelic Renaissance we are both giving of our time and efforts freely, without money and without price, believing as we most sincerely do that whatever of good seed is sown through the medium of the *Teachdaire* in the fertile mind of our Highland youth, whether it be in promoting our eloquent mother tongue, the expressive Gaelic, or perpetuating the noble faith and tradition of our ancestors, that same sowing will naturally and infallibly produce a glorious harvest in the hearts and soul of our Highland kinsfolk for all years to come.

This potentially great and noble literary journalistic enterprise, maintained and supported in the past through the dollar subscription received from its readers, is in need of a few thousand dollars to push it along the path of prosperity and financial success.

Already a fine and far extended foundation has been well laid, and the *Teachdaire* receives a warm welcome, and is read with pleasure in over a thousand homes scattered throughout the British Empire and the United States.

In my opinion two thousand dollars together with its present income from subscribers and advertising patronage will place *Teachdaire Nan Gaidheal* in a position to grow and prosper financially, and make for itself a secure place in the homes and hearts of thousands of our kinsfolk of Gaelic tongue in every part of the British Empire.

In my opinion it has unlimited possibilities of growth and circulation, of moral, social (and in the highest sense political) influence, as well as of splendid financial success and profit to investors.

Some of the best cultured and scholarly minds in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and Scotland contribute to its columns, both prose and poetry, matter that is clean in

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its humour, pure and wholesome in its moral teaching, and deeply loyal and patriotic in its civic and imperial sentiment.

Fellow-kinsmen of the Celtic race and Gaelic tongue, a language that blossomed into poetry and eloquence more than four thousand years ago—a language of feeling and of sentiment—of ideals and aspirations of a great, free, and liberty-loving people—a language that was crooned over our cradles, and dreams of mystery and the dim remote past “as the shells do of the tide and sea.” I esteem it not only an honour and a privilege, but also a deep moral obligation to make this urgent appeal to you through my loyal co-worker, Mr. Alexander MacKechnie, to contribute a substantial sum in perpetuating and promoting in speech and in literature, our ancient mother tongue, the expressive Gaelic, through the medium of *Teachdaire Nan Gaidheal*. Any amount will be held in trust, and safeguarded by Mr. MacKechnie and a committee appointed by yourselves. If we meet with success, an office will be opened in London under the management of Mr. MacKechnie, and one in Glasgow.

On this broad, free basis, I appeal to you who inherit the language, literature, and traditions of that noble race whom your own learned Emerson was pleased to call “the oldest blood in the world,” to unite with me and my stalwart co-worker with a generous contribution to help us make *Teachdaire Nan Gaidheal*, the eloquent and powerful spokesmen of Gaelic interests—the courageous defender of Gaelic rights, fame, and character, and a bond of friendship and union between all our kinsfolk in the British Dominions and other lands, and I, your humble servant, have sufficient faith, in the proud and chivalrous qualities of your Highland heart, to believe that we shall not be disappointed, for as the tuneful bard has well said, “Nowhere beats the heart so kindly as beneath the tartan plaid.”

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### PROPAGANDA TOURS.

The General Secretary visited Crieff on 23rd November, and addressed the members of the Highland Association there on “Duncan Ban and His Songs.” There were about 150 people present.

The following evening, Mr. Shaw attended a meeting of the Skelmorlie Highland Association, and after referring to the work of An Comunn, addressed the members on “Orain Mhora.” Sixty people were present.

On Friday, 24th, Mr. Shaw travelled to Killin, and spoke at a ceilidh of the local Branch. Mr. Gilbert MacIntyre has been appointed President, in room of the late Dr. G. W. MacKay. About 120 people were present.

On Saturday following, the Secretary addressed the members of the Glasgow High Gaelic Class Ceilidh. Seventy people were present.

On Tuesday, 1st December, Mr. Shaw visited Aberfeldy, and spoke at a ceilidh, attended by fully 150 people, in the Lesser Town Hall. This Branch is having splendid meetings, and a Gaelic Continuation Class has twenty-two members on the roll. Rev. Iain MacLellan is the teacher.

Pitlochry was visited the following evening, and the Branch was re-organised. Mr. Scott Rankin is President, and Mrs. Panton, Portnacraig, is Secretary. A ceilidh attended by about 250 people followed the Business Meeting, and Mr. Shaw addressed the gathering. Rev. Coll A. MacDonald gave a short address in Gaelic.

The Secretary presided at a concert of the Cruachan Branch in Taynuilt, on the 4th. There was an attendance of about 180 people, and a splendid programme was submitted.

Dalnally was visited on the 5th. Eighty people attended, and the meeting was most enthusiastic. An original Gaelic dialogue was performed by Miss Catherine Campbell, Letterwood, and Mr. George E. Marjoribanks.

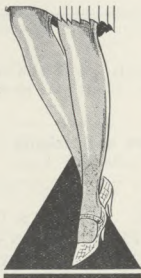
Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Northern Organiser, visited Gairloch on 23rd November, and arranged for a ceilidh of the Branch to be held on the 27th. The ceilidh was most successful, and 100 people attended. He attended ceilidhs at Aultbea and Laide. There were thirty present at the former and sixty at the latter. Mr. Carmichael formed a new Branch at Inverasdale. Eighty were present at the meeting, and Miss MacRae, Firestone, is Secretary. Mr. Carmichael was present at ceilidhs of the Laggan Branch on 1st December, and Kingussie on 2nd December. He also attended a concert in Newtonmore, on 4th December.

Mr. Carmichael attended a concert in aid of Singing Class funds at Auchtertyre, on 11th December. Teachers are employed as follows:—Miss Margaret MacDonald, Skye; Mrs. A. C. Scott, Morar district; Mr. John MacDiarmid, Arran (proceeding to Mull, 22nd December); Mr. Hugh MacLean, Mid-Argyll (proceeding to Tayinloan, 28th December).



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## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Is e cruinneachadh mór, gasda, a bha aig Clann an Fhraoich còmhla ri Céilidh nan Gaidheal Ghlaschu, an Aitreabh nan Gaidheal airoidhe Di-Sathuirne an naodham la deug de'n Dùdlaichd. Seadh is dòcha nach robh a leithid ann roimhe, oir an déidh do'n talla mhór a bhi cur a mach air na dorsan is ann a lòn iad an talla ùr cuideachd, agus chualas gu'n deach mu dhà cheud a thionndadh air falbh air muin sin. Chaill mar sin a' mhòr-chuideachd lathaicheachd Eachainn Mhic-Dhughaill do'm b'èiginn falbh a riaghladh chùisean 'san àth shomar. Ghabh Calum MacLeòid, Ceann-suidhe Céilidh nan Gaidheal, a' chathair 'san talla mhór an toiseach, agus an déidh do'n fheasgar fosgladh mar is àbhaist le ùrnuigh, thug e seachad òraid ghrinn 'san do leig e ris an co-cheangal a tha eadar an dà bhuidhinn ann a bhi cur adhartas na seanna chànan roimh gach nì eile. Air thàilleamh na saothreach a ghabh luchd-riaghlaidh na Céilidh gu sònruichte an iar-rùnaire Aonghas Domhnullach, bha brod nan seinneadairean air an àrd-urair agus is ainmrig a fhuair cuideachd Ghaidhealach a leithid de chuir-m-chiùil air prìs shia sgillinn gach neach. Fhuair sinn òrain bho Ghilleasbuig Grannnd, Niallina Nic Ill' Fhinnein, Sheumas Caimbeul, Edith Nic an Tailleir (leis a' chlarsaich) agus Iain òg Mac'Ille na Brataich—bha iad air an cumail trang feadh na h-oidheach eadar an dà thalla: comhradh-dithis ("Domhnall Mór agus Cailean Tailleir") bho Alasdair Mac an Leigh agus Aonghas MacDomhnuill, agus puirt-dannsaich anabarrach grinn, sunndach, bho Bhuidheann nan Fidhleirean.

Am measg sin uile bha eadar-chuic a thug toileachadh mór do gach aon a bha lathair anuair a thug Calum MacLeòid, an ainm Céilidh nan Gaidheal, sporan eireachdail, nach sumhail, seachad do Eoghann Mac a Phì, Rùnaire na Céilidh agus Iar-rùnaire a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, air dhà bhi nuadh-phòsda, mar chuimhneachan air an t-saothair fhada, urramach a rinn e do'n Chéilidh fad iomadh bliadhna. Labhair an sin Niall Mac'Ille Sheathanaich,

Rùnaire a' Chomuinn, ann am briathran blatha, caoimhneil, a' moladh feobhas na seirbhis a fhuair e bho Eoghann mar cho-oibriche dha ann an gnothuichean a' Chomuinn. 'Na dhéidh sin dh'fhàg Calum MacLeòid a' Chathair aig Fear-Ghairme Clann an Fhraoich, Seòras Marjoribanks. Thug esan tarruinn air meud na tairbhe a rinn Céilidh nan Gaidheal do mhuinntir na Gaidhealtachd a tha an crannchur 'gan tilgeil 's a' bhaile mhór, agus air an aon suidheachadh a thug breith do'n dà bhuidhinn fa leth—cor na Gaidhlig. Mu obair na Cloinne thubhairt e "Tha mòran againn an cumantas le Céilidh nan Gaidheal. Ann an seadh tha ar dleasdanas-ne na an dleasdanas agaibhse—cha'n eil againn ach a' Ghaidhlig a chleachdadh. Ann an tomas àraidh, tha e na's dorra. Faodaidh muinntir na Céilidh an Gaidhlig a leigeil dhiubh cho luath 's a tha iad a mach air na dorsan—chan e gu'n creid mi gu'n dean iad sin! Ach Clann an Fhraoich—feumaidh iad an Gaidhlig a thoirt leo gach àit 'an teid iad, agus a sparradh air a h-uile duine a thuigeas i, togarrach no leig g' am bi iad. Feumaidh iad a cleachdadh gun taing an aghaidh mì-rùn agus fochaid agus caoin-shuarachais; feumaidh iad a bhi misneachail 'nuair a tha am misneach a' sìleadh a mach troimh shàiltean am bròg. Na truaghain! Ach is cinnteach gu faigh sinn neartachadh ùr ann a leithid so de chéilidh, a' cur ar cinn ri chéile ann an cuideachd dhaoine agus bhan a tha cho seasmhach air cùil na Gaidhlig agus a tha ar deagh chairdean Céilidh nan Gaidheal. Gu ma buan a bhios an co-cheangal eadrainn a thatar a' sculadh an nochd!"

Bha e 'na thoileachadh do na h-uile gu robh Iain Moffat-Pender, "Seanair na Cloinne," 's a' chuideachd, a thug seachad facail-bhrosnachaidh fhosgarra, smachdail—direach o'n ghualainn mar a thubhairt e féin, air dleasdanas gach Gaidheil a thaobh a chànan—facail a nochd a luchd-éiseachd am meas orra agus air-san le ard-iolach agus luathghair. Chaidh gairm air na seinneadairean a rithist, agus thàinig crìoch tuilleadh is luath air feasgar nach dì-chuimhnich na bha ann gu ceann iomadh latha. Aig an àm cha ghabhar innseadh truitead an sporain a thog Clann an Fhraoich trid fhialachd an cuid chairdean 's a' Chéilidh, oir bha iad fhathast a' cunntas nan crotagan an uair a bha sinn a' fàgail an talla!

## GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH.

On Thursday, 10th December, a lecture was given before the Gaelic Society of Perth by Mrs. M. Wilson, Dunblane, Secretary of the Stirling Branch of An Comunn, whose subject of lecture was "A Summer Visit to Skye, Mull, etc." By charm of delivery, piquant criticism and interesting information, the lecturer told her experiences and those of the party who formed the company in visiting by modern motor car many of the Western Islands, and attending the School for Gaelic at Tobermory during the past summer. The lecturer had her audience at once with her in the harp, touching the chords of the well-known "Road to the Isles," and said that the words of the song brought a thrill to every true Highlander. Along "the road" for a time she took her audience in fancy, crossing the vast and fragrant moor of Rannoch, down through romantic Lochaber, and, eventually reaching the Kyle of Lochalsh and on to the slippery jetty for the ferry boat, to cross to the Misty Isle. There was the uninterrupted first view of the Coolins, the ancient Castle of Maol, which was said to have been built by a Scandinavian princess, and where Norse kings anchored their galleys, to Kyleakin, to Broadford, to Sligachan, to Glenbrittle, with its elfin lore and wild cats, to Talisker, and on to Dunvegan and Vattin. Portree has a wonderful bay. James V. landed at Portree and gave the place its Royal name as the metropolis of Skye, and the first fair of commodities was held as early as 1580. At that time a stone of oatmeal was 8d, a stone of cheese 1/-, and the equivalent of money as the price of a cow was 10/-. At the old inn at Portree (now the Royal Hotel), Prince Charlie presented Flora MacDonald with a miniature of himself on the eve of his departure for France. Not many miles from Portree are the weird points of rocks called the Quiraing, and looking across is the Island of Rona, where there are no horses. Kilmuir and Uig were brimful of

historic romance and of Lady Grange's imprisonment on St. Kilda. While the MacLeods of Vatternish were at church one Sabbath, some four hundred years ago, the MacDonalds from Uist landed, surrounded the church and set fire to it — only one woman escaped through a window and told of the tragic deed ere she expired. The MacLeods sent out the fiery cross, men came from all quarters, a battle ensued, the MacDonalds were defeated, and were buried by a dyke being overturned on their dead bodies. After telling of the great Dunvegan and of Rory Mor's two-handed sword and drinking horn, and of the ceremony of being able to drain the latter as a proof of manhood, of the stories of pipers and pipe tunes associated with the place, of Rum, Eigg, and Muck, the party went to Tobermory, where there was a summer school of Gaelic, which was greatly enjoyed. The hills of Morven interested some, the story of the sinking of the Spanish treasure ship by Sir Francis Drake interested others, battles between MacLeods and Vikings others, and all enjoyed the pleasant and never-ending ceilidhs and Highland hospitality. The party afterwards visited Iona and Staffa, the associations of St. Columba and his last days, the spot where the Kings of Scotland were in old time laid, and the wishing Fingal Cave. As one ascends the rising ground and sees the Outer Hebrides away on the horizon, and to the north the towering Coolins, there is the charm of the mists and perfect peace, and, above all, in dreams one beholds the lone shieling, the misty isles of the Hebrides.

Throughout the lecture Miss Taylor, with harp accompaniment and nicely modulated tone, sang at intervals the following Gaelic and Hebridean songs: "Road to the Isles," "Crones Creel," "Over the Sea to Skye," "Dunvegan Cradle Croon," "MacCrimmon's Lament," "The Sound of Mull," and "Iona Boat Song," the vocalising of "MacCrimmon's Lament," and "Iona Boat Song" being particularly well done and appreciated by the audience. The harp is seldom heard in Perth, and the treat was a rich one.

Chief Beaton occupied the chair,



## CLASS IN CELTIC ART.

Under the auspices of the Education Committee of the Corporation of Glasgow, a Class in Celtic Art will be formed in Woodside School, Woodlands Road, Glasgow, beginning on Wednesday evening, 13th January, and extending for ten weeks.

The Class will meet one evening each week, the hours being from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. The work will consist of short lectures, practical drawing, and design.

Mr Colin Sinclair, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., will conduct the Class.

It is hoped that many of those interested in the cultivation of Celtic Art will take advantage of the opportunity offered by a course of instruction in the subject—recognised, it is believed, by a public authority for the first time. The fee for the course is ten shillings.

### “FRITH-RATHAID.”

Le MURCHADH MACRATH.

Chan eil frith rathad ann an diugh. Tha rathad mór an Rìgh a dol troimh gach sgrì, agus meanglain a sin gu baile an deidh baile, a freumhachadh a' dh' ionnsaidh gach doruis. Air an oidhche is duirche, gheibh an gille a bha a' cèilidh dhachaidh ma chumas e a ghreim air an rathad. “Bha latha eile aig fear na mònadh,” mar a theireadh iad. Ma bha an oidhche dorch, bheireadh e leis fad teineannan coran, gu bhì a' soillseachadh na slighe a dh' ionnsaidh a dhachaidh fhéin. Is minic a dh' fhalbh sinn fhéin gun solus gun soillse, an uair nach robh aon rathad carbaid ann, agus na ruigeadh sinn a stàrsach gun tuiteam ann an tobar, na slochd bhiodh sinn toilichte. Tha cuimhne mhaith agam an uair a rinneadh rathad troimh na bailtean chum 's gu faigheadh clann na sgoile slighe cheart thioram o an dachaidhean a dh' ionnsaidh na sgoile. Cha robhan rathad so na bu leatha na sia troidhean, ach 'nar suilean-ne bha ann rathad iongantach, agus an uair a thainig iad leis gu na h-aibhne, agus a thoisich iad air togail drochaid thairis oirre, cha robh staran air am b'abhaist dhuinn a bhì dol a null, air a thaghal na bu mhotha. Bu tric a thill sinn dhachaidh air an t-slighe do'n sgoil, aig an staran, an uair a thigeadh tuitean a' Gheamhraidh. Cha robh clach ri fhaicinn anns an staran. Ach a' dh' aindeoin

rathad mór, agus drochaid, bha rud eigin de ghràdh againn air clachan a' starain. An uair a leumadh tu o thé gu té, bha fhios agad a chlach nach gluaiseadh, cho math ris an té a thulgadh fo bhonn do chois. Tha staran coltach ri frith-rathad. Thig atharrachadh air aghaidh na tìr, thig ginealaich agus cleachd-aidhean ùra, ach bithidh am frith-rathad agus an staran ann o linn gu linn. An uair a bha sinn a dol do'n sgoil, casruisgte le ar fàd fo aon achlais agus am pasgan leabhraichean fo achlais eile, bha druim an rathaid annabarrach gort air na casan. Ma bha rathad a dol air fiaradh cnuic, bha sinn dol thairis air an taobh eile, gus a faigheadh bonnan ar cas talamh bog air son coiseachd; oir bha sin a toirt comhfhurtachd dhuinn aig an àm. Bha frith-rathad a cromadh sìos gu cladach, agus a lubadh suas aghaidh a bhearraidh. Bha'n crodh a' dol a mach gu mointeach, a' leantuinn an fhrith-rathaid, a bha dìreach agus a cromadh, a dol thairis air allt, agus cnocan. Bhitheadh a' bhò dhubh air thoiseach na treud, leanadh i h-uile ceum de'n fhrith-rathad a null agus a nall. Bu docha leis a' bhoin bhochd am frith-rathad na rathad mór an Rìgh. Ged a bha aon rathad cruaidh, tioram, dìreach a' dol gu ionaltradh, bha barrachd daimhe aig a bhrùid ri rathad a bha fliuch, bog, cam, agus fada. Bha am frith-rathad na cheum coise mu dheireadh an uair a bha adhlacadh anns a' bhaile. Bha am frith-rathad a cromadh na lùban sìos gu cladach, agus bha an ceum mu dheireadh air a thoirt an latha sin air an fhrith-rathad.

### SGEULACHD.

#### BLAR SLIABH-GHAOIL.

*Prize Story, Mid Argyll Mod 1931.*

Tha ann an Gleann-Daraich a tha suidhichte beagan os cionn Ard-dreasach uamh mhòr ris an abrar Uamh nam Mearlach. Anns na làithean a dh'fhalbh bha duine d'am b'ainm Mac a Phiocair a' còmhnuidh anns an uaimh so. Bha e pòda air boirionnach d'am b'ainm Nic Iobhair—aon de Cloinn Iobhair a bh'aig an am so a' fuireach ann an Cille-Mhicheil. Air aon uair chunnaic i Cloinn Alastair o Chnapadal mu dheas ag iomain dròbh mór de spréidh seachad air a' ghleann. As dèidh

dhi amharc gu geur orra chunnaic i gur e'n spréidh aig Cloinn Iobhair a bha iad a' toirt leotha. Cha robh duine aig an tigh ach i fhéin 's a mac a bha 'na ghille òg agus marsin cha b'urrainn di dad a dheanamh 'nan aghaidh. Ghlaodh i ris a' bhalach, "Tha Cloinn Alastair an déidh móran de'n spréidh aig Cloinn Iobhair a thoirt air falbh." Lean am balach iad agus tháinig e a suas riutha aig Sliabh-Ghaoil, beinn mhór a tha suidhichte eadar Ard-dreasach agus an Tairbeart. Bha iad an déidh damh a' mharbhadh agus bha iad 'nan suidhe a gabhail féisd mhór ann am bothan beag a bh'air a' bheinn. An uair a bha iad a' piocadh nan cnámhan, theireadh aon ri fear eile "Nan robh aon de Chloinn Iobhair agam an so, thilginn e mar so" agus thilgeadh e an cnaimh an aghaidh a' bhalla. Thilg am balach clach agus bhual e aon de Chloinn Alastair. Thuit am fear a bh'air a bhualadh gur e a chompanaich a rinn e. Ann am prìobha na sula bha iad uile a' cath an aghaidh a chéile. Am feadh a bha iad a' cònsachadh, thrus am balach an spréidh agus thug e iad air falbh leis gu Gleann-Daraich.

An uair a' mhòthaich Cloinn Iobhair mar a thug Cloinn Alastair an spréidh aca air falbh, chaidh iad as an déidh. Tháinig iad a suas riutha mu'n d'ràinig iad an Tairbeart agus bha blàr feargach air a thilgeil 's an àite sin, anns an robh Cloinn Alastair air an ruagadh. Rinn ceann-feadhna Chloinn Alastair seasamh foghainteach. Chuir e a chùil ri creig agus ged a bha Cloinn Iobhair mu'n cuairt air a l-uile taobh dheth, chum e iad air falbh gu gaisgeil. Thug boirionnach a bha 'na seasamh air tom beag dlùth air làimh dhìth a stocain. Chuir i clach innte agus an sin thilg i an stocain air ceann-cinnidh Chloinn Alastair. Bha e air a' bhualadh leis a' chloich agus thuit e sìos marbh. Chaidh Cloinn Iobhair air aghaidh agus ràinig iad an taigh aig ceann-cinnidh Chloinn Alastair feadh na h-oidheche. Bha a bhean 'na laidhe air a leabaidh shiùbhla. Ghabh iad comhairle 'nam measg fhéin air dé dheanadh iad anns an staid so. Rinn iad a suas an inntinn nam b'e balach a bh'air a bhreith gum marbhadh iad e, an òrdugh gum biodh Cloinn Alastair uile air am marbhadh. Is e balach a bh'air a bhreith. Chuala a' bhean-ghlùine dé bha gabhail àite am measg Chloinn Iobhair. Cheangail i am pàisd' a' suas 'na trusgan agus theich i leis. Chaidh i gu uaimh aonarach agus ann an dòigh air choir-eigin thog i am balach ann, agus a réir an sgéil, an uair a dh'fhàs e suas na dhuine, chum e suas onoir Chloinn Alastair.

DUGALD CAMPBELL, Ormsary.

## BOOK REVIEW.

A GRAMMAR OF THE MANX LANGUAGE.  
J. J. Kneen, Oxford University Press. Pp. 209.  
18/-.

For many years students of Manx Gaelic have lacked the most essential means for acquiring a working knowledge of the language—a grammar describing the characteristics of the spoken, as well as the written, tongue. Dr. Kelly's *Practical Grammar of the Ancient Gaelic*, although in conception a very scholarly work, is far too brief and circumscribed, and in addition, has for many years been out of print. Nor is the structure of Latin Grammar best fitted to describe a Celtic language, and in Kelly's time most, if not all, grammars were written in this form. In consequence the appearance of a new Manx Grammar, and that written by the foremost living authority on the Manx language, is a literary event of the very greatest interest.

It can be said at once that Mr Kneen has written a book that is likely to be regarded as authoritative upon its subject for all time. He may perhaps be considered fortunate that the entire history of the Manx language and its literature—his bibliography only comprises sixty publications—as well as its grammar, can be exhaustively described within the compass of 209 pages. In this respect, as in some others, the Grammar resembles the equally notable *Handbook of the Cornish Language* of Mr Henry Jenner. In any case the Grammar is packed with the most valuable information from end to end, although the statistics of Manx-speakers given might well have been implemented by a map of the Island, to give the uninitiated some idea of the distribution of speakers.

The first thirty pages consist of a historical and bibliographical introduction that is as exhaustive as it could possibly be. The statistics relating to the language and its decline are of particular interest. These show, amongst other things, that the number of Manx speakers surviving in 1921 was but 896, and further, that Manx services have not been held regularly in any church on the Island since 1879. Elsewhere in the Introduction, lists of loan words occurring in the language are given, and an account of its relationship to the other two Gaelic languages. Here by the way (p. 29) Mr. Kneen prints a version of the Lord's Prayer in Scottish Gaelic that is both obsolete and badly spelt. *Aran* and *buaireadh*, for instance, should not have two *rs*. The Introduction, as indeed is the whole book, is concise, clear, and well-arranged, and any one who reads it, can feel more than well informed upon the subjects which it treats.

The remainder of the book is devoted to the orthography, accent and syntax of the language, with appendices of nouns and irregular verbal nouns. Orthography and phonetics are treated first, and it is surprising to learn that the "phonetic" spelling in which Manx is written is both imperfect and out of date. This orthography was the invention of Bishop Phillips and his helpers, who about 1610 translated the Prayer Book into Manx, though it has been somewhat amended by later writers. To what an extent the adoption of this system of spelling, instead of one based upon the Irish, as the Scottish is, has obscured and confused Manx grammar, will be abundantly clear to anyone reading this book. Instances which leap to the eye are the word *nah* for "second" (Ir., Sc. an *ath*), *ny smoo* for "more" "greater" (*na's mò*), the "verb" *she* "it is" (*is e, is i*) in which the notion of

the pronoun has become quite lost, the same form serving for predicates of both genders. Hence also expressions such as *S'coinn thiam* "I remember" (*Is cuimhne lionn*) where the apostrophe is quite unnecessarily used, for nothing has been omitted. This "verb" has even developed a dependent form *ne*, which in reality is no more than the pronoun of third person singular prefixed by the eclipsing nasal of the verbal particle, e.g., as in *cha n-e*. Equally remarkable is the extent to which the verbs *cuirim* and *bheirim* (Manx *cur*, imperative, and *verrym*, present indicative) have become confused, it now being quite impossible to disentangle the two meanings. P. 91, *goll* (Sc. *dol*) is stated to be a contraction of *ec doll* (*aig dol*). It is more probably the form *dhol* wrongly de-aspirated. Compare *feddyn* or *geddyn*, "to get, find" (p. 87) (*faoitainn*, *dh'faoitainn*) where the same phenomenon seems to have taken place.

If there is one criticism which can be made of this book, it is that the Irish or Scottish forms, which would have made perfectly clear the origin and literal meaning of words like *nah*, *ny smoo*, and *she*, not to speak of many others, have not been given. No doubt it can be claimed that to have done so would have greatly increased the volume of the book, and elsewhere ample evidence of Mr Kneen's acquaintance with the grammar of Irish Gaelic is forthcoming, but for the student of Manx alone, apart from any one who reads the Grammar for comparative purposes, there is much that could have been made easier by references to the usage of the other Gaelic languages, whose orthography has kept much clear, that has been obscured by the method used in spelling Manx.

There is one surprising omission from the Grammar, for no account of the forms of the Article, as used with nouns of different gender, number, and case is given. This is one of the many difficulties of the Gaelic languages, and it is odd that it has not been discussed here. However, there is no other aspect of the language that has not been fully described, and the arrangement of the Grammar makes it clear and very easy to read, and the chapters on the Syntax are extremely well supplied with examples furnished from Mr Kneen's unrivalled knowledge of both the spoken and the written language.

The book, as is to be expected, is extremely well printed, and very easy to handle. Typographical errors are very rare, but the following may be noted:—

P. 7 line 10, for "Mann" read "Man."

P. 15, l. 3, for "Manx" read "Man."

P. 49, l. 29, *olloo* is wrongly printed in heavy type instead of italics.

P. 54, l. 18, in the word "syllable" the sixth and seventh letters are from a wrong fount.

P. 139, l. 5, for *bher* read *ber*. (Cp. Appendix I.).

P. 200, l. 19, for "rein" read "vein" (*cuisse*).

The thanks of all who love the Gaelic are due to Mr Kneen for the Grammar of the Manx language. In 25 years it is doubtful if a single person will be left who learnt the Gaelic of Man as his mother-tongue. To-day there is no one living who knows that tongue, both written and spoken, as Mr Kneen knows it, and in the course of natural events, no other person ever will. The Grammar is a worthy companion to the "Place Names of the Isle of Man"; and it is to be hoped that all Scottish Gaels, to whom the kindred dialects of their tongue are of any interest, will give to this book the support it most undoubtedly merits.

J. L. CAMPBELL.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**ABERFELDY.**—The first ceilidh for the season was held in the Town Hall Library. A large attendance of Gaelic enthusiasts was presided over by Mr. A. Stewart. In Gaelic he spoke of the loss which the Branch had sustained in the deaths of Mrs. Menzies, Rannochlea; Mr. Adam Menzies, and Mr. Duncan Cameron. An interesting Gaelic lecture on Iona was given by Rev. Coll A. MacDonald, Logierait. He gave a resumé of the history of the Sacred Isle from the time that Columba and his followers set up the religion of the Cross there, which supplanted the ancient worship of the Druids. He told how the Norsemen had ravaged the fane, how for centuries it was neglected until it was again restored to fame. Tea was afterwards served by a committee of ladies, and a musical programme followed.

**ARISAIG.**—To mark the close of the Music Classes conducted by Mrs. A. C. Scott, a largely attended concert was held by this Branch. The Rev. Mr. Mackintosh Logan presided, and a most delightful entertainment was provided by the choir and soloists, who all acquitted themselves with distinction. A dance followed.

**BALEMARTINE (THREE).**—A Gaelic debate followed by a short musical programme formed the proceedings at the recent meeting of this Branch. The subject, "Co 's fhearr an saoghal a bha no'n saoghal a tha?" was engaged in by Miss Sara F. MacDonald and Mrs. MacLeod, and after a full discussion, the members decided in favour of our present-day world.

**BENBECULA.**—The third ceilidh of the session arranged by the Baile-na-manach Branch was held in the Schoolroom at Balivanich. Mr. Donald MacAulay, Pennilodan, Vice-President, presided over a large gathering. A debate on "Is Married Life Desirable" was taken part in by Mr. Donald Lamont (affirmative) and Mr. Donald John MacMillan (negative), who were seconded by Misses Mary Ann Johnson and Mary B. Campbell. Songs, sgeulachdan, and a humorous recitation were contributed. A successful evening was brought to an end by the singing of the Gaelic rallying song. The number of members on the roll of the branch is now ninety.

**BENDERLOCH.**—The first ceilidh of the winter was held in the Victory Hall, when a good company was present. Rev. Alex. MacDonald, the President, presided. A programme of songs, instrumental items, and sgeulachdan, was submitted, and afterwards Miss Carmichael, Hon. Treasurer, gave the financial statement, and Miss Crerar submitted the Secretary's report. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary, were re-elected, and a Committee was formed. A dance followed.

**BONAWE.**—A meeting of the Branch was held in the Workmen's Hall recently, when Rev. A. MacDonald, Hon. President, presided. The Committee for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—Hon. President, Rev. A. MacDonald; President, Mr. D. Douglas; Secretary, Miss C. Nicolson; Treasurer, Miss A. MacNab; Mrs. MacLellan, Mrs. Gemmell, Miss M. MacDonald, Messrs. C. MacDonald, D. MacArthur, J. Scouler, J. MacDonald, and D. MacDougall. Mr. D. Douglas thanked Mr. MacDonald for presiding.

**BUNESSAN.**—The proceedings at the meeting of the Bunessan Branch took the form of a ceilidh, at which a dialogue, instrumental music, and Gaelic songs were submitted. Mr. L. H. MacCorkindale, J.P., President, occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance.

**DERVAIG.**—The local Branch held their monthly meeting, when Mr. MacDonald, Ardow, was in the chair. An enjoyable evening was spent in song and story.

**GLENELG.**—The second ceilidh took place in the Reading Room recently. Mr. Murdo MacKenzie, Convener of the local Branch, presided over a large attendance. A debate took place on "Agriculture versus Fishing." Messrs. John MacKenzie and Alex. Macrae sought to claim support each for his own subject. On a vote being taken, the majority decided in favour of agriculture. This is the first occasion since the formation of the Branch in 1925 that papers for a debate have been given in Gaelic. Songs were contributed by several of the local singers. Bagpipe selections were given by Messrs. MacLennan and John MacPhee, who played together.

**HALLADALE.**—The opening Ceilidh of the session was held in the Public School, Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Northern Organiser, presiding. The meeting opened with bag-pipe selections by Mr. John Mackay. Thereafter the choir led the audience in the singing of "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig!" and a delightful "tea" was served by a competent staff of ladies. Mr. Carmichael gave a rousing address in Gaelic and, for the benefit of those who did not understand it, in the "foreign" language. Mr. Carmichael, speaking in favour of the universal wearing of the Highland Dress, said he was pleased to see so many of the young men displaying the kilt and he hoped that, by the time he would again visit Halladale, *all* would be wearing it. He also gave a picturesque survey of his recent tour in the Outer Islands. Mr. Carmichael congratulated all those who had competed at the Sutherland Provincial Mod at Lairg and at the National Mod at Dingwall. Mr. John Mackay, he said, deserved special mention, being only seven points below the first prize-winner in the Oban and Lorn Competition. He hoped he would compete again and some day bring home the Medal. Mr. Carmichael's services were in great demand as a contributor to the programme, and in response to the many encores, he rendered several of the lesser-known Gaelic songs in his usual taking style. The programme (principally Gaelic) consisted of recitations, readings and solos; the choir also contributed several pieces. The Branch was re-constituted during the evening. Mr. John Mackay (temporary President) retired from office, and on the motion of the former, Mr. Donald Mackay, Dyke, an ardent Gael, was unanimously appointed President. Mr. John Mackay was appointed Vice-President. The committee was also revised and several ladies were appointed members. The singing of "Oidhe mhath Leibh" led by the choir, brought a very happy and homely gathering to a close.

**KILMALLIE.**—An enjoyable opening ceilidh, presided over by Mr. James Weir, supported by Mr. MacAulay and Mr. Donald MacMillan, Corrybeg, was held in the Hall recently. Mr. Weir extended a welcome to members of An Comunn, and expressed deep regret over the loss of two of their staunchest members, the late Rev. R. B. Crawford, Chairman, and Mr. Cumming, Treasurer. The sympathy of the ceilidh has been conveyed to Miss Crawford and Mrs. Cumming and daughter. Programme of songs, stories, and instrumental music, organised by Mr. MacPherson, Locks, was greatly appreciated by a large audience. At a meeting held at the close of the ceilidh, and presided over by Mr. Weir, Vice-President, the following office-bearers and members of Committee were elected for the ensuing year:—Mr. James

Weir, President; Mr. M. MacAulay, Vice-President; Mr. H. MacPherson, Secretary; Mr. J. Wilson, Treasurer.

**KINLOCH RANNOCH.**—One of the most successful functions held under the auspices of the Kinloch Branch took place in the Jubilee Hall. Mr. James W. Scott presided, and among the artistes was Mr. Kenneth MacRae. The programme consisted of Gaelic and English songs, instrumental music, and a dialogue. A dance followed.

**LISMORE.**—A meeting of the local Branch of the An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Public Hall recently. In spite of very inclement weather, there was a good attendance. In the unavoidable absence of the President, Rev. Dugald Bell, the Vice-President, Mr. Neil MacIntyre, Achnacroish, occupied the chair, and gave an interesting address, in which he referred to several late bards in Lismore. Mr. Neil Shaw, Organising Secretary, Glasgow, gave an appropriate address, in which he outlined the work carried on by An Comunn. He referred to the duty of Gaelic-speaking parents in reference to their children, and, among others, contributed towards the musical programme.

**LOCHDONHEAD.**—Torosay Branch held a ceilidh in the Lochdonhead School. In the absence of the Hon. President, Mrs. Murray Guthrie, J.P., of Torosay Castle, Mr. N. C. MacKinnon, President of the Branch, presided. Meetings are being well attended, and in a stirring address, he urged the greater use of Gaelic in the homes. He also admirably acted as "Fear an Tighe" at the ceilidh part of the proceedings.

**ORMSARY.**—Under the auspices of this Branch, a most successful concert was promoted by Junior and Senior Choirs, which have recently been instructed by Mr. Hugh MacLean, music teacher. The Rev. J. Gillies presided, and among the large company present was Sir James Lithgow, Bart., of Ormsary. Both the choirs sang with much feeling and understanding, and their renderings and interpretation of Gaelic songs reflected most excellently upon the work of Mr. MacLean. A dance followed.

**TARBERT.**—The Choir of the local Branch of An Comunn is this winter again strong in numbers, and Mr. MacLean, who is instructing several classes in the county, gives tuition on Tuesday evening each week. The practice is well attended, and the enthusiasm shown augurs well for the future success of the Branch.

**THE LAGGAN Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach** held another very enjoyable ceilidh in Balgowan Schoolhouse on 1st December. There was a large turnout of the local public, and the Rev. Neil Ross, D.Litt., J.P., Manse of Laggan, President of An Comunn, presided.

**TOBERMORY.**—At a meeting of this Branch, an enjoyable hour was spent listening to Mr. Archibald Munn, A'Chaillebheag, Oban, on reminiscences not only of Oban but also of Mull. In stories, related with much wit and spirit, he vividly portrayed many characters of the past, and incidentally gave an idea of the life and customs of last century. Mr. Munn also recited the poem entitled, "Am P'nuid Sasunnach," composed by Mr. John Campbell, Ledaig.

**WEST GERINISH (SOUTH UIST).**—Under the leadership of Mr. R. MacMillan, President; Mrs. A. MacLeod, Vice-President; and Miss MacPherson, Secretary, a successful Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach has been inaugurated in West Gerinish. Already two very enjoyable ceilidhs have been held, at which songs, sgelachd, dance, etc., have provided entertainment.

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TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXVII.]

An Gearran, 1932.

[Earrann 5

## TUILTEAN A' GHEAMHRAIDH.

Is gnàth leam luaidh mu obair A' Chomuinn anns an duilleig so an comhnuidh. Is iomadh oidheirp a thug mi air aobhar na càinain a thoirt fo chomhair an luchd leughaidh. Ach air an turus so gabhaidh sinn cuspair a tha dlùth air aire gach neach o chionn ghoidh; agus is e sin sìleadh an uisge is seideadh na gaoithe. Eadar Galldachd is Gaidhealtachd tha an geamhradh so aithnichte airson tuiltean troma; uinneagan nan speur a' fosgladh; tobraichean nam beann a' bruchdadh thairis; agus aibhnichean ag at os cionn am bruachan agus a' comhdach nan raontan. Tha leth cheud bliadhna o chunnacas a leithid roimhe. Cha ruigear a leas ainmeachadh mar tha iomadh duine feadh na dùthcha fo chùram aig an am. Agus mar sheallas sinn air fiadhantachd na h-aimsir is gann nach saoil thu gu bheil na dùilean fèin fo bhuaireas, an comh-fhaireachadh ri trioblaidean an la an duigh.

\* \* \* \* \*

Chan eil ach ceithir mlosan o bha Tìr nam Beann sgèadaichte le feur is fraoch, le lusan cùbhraidh agus le coill fo bhlàth. Iadsan a tha anns a' bhaile mhòr gu seasgair leis gach goireas is comhfhurtachd, cia mar thuigeas iad uamhas an torunn am measg nam beann no beucaich a' chuain ri an-uair. Ach is ann air an dùthaich a thaisbeanar corruich nan speur air do na h-uisgeachan dortadh gus an ruith na h-uillt mar shruth rabhairt air fairge. Is mòr an caochladh a thug stoirmean a' gheamhraidh air aghaidh na dùthcha. O chionn trì seachdainean air ais bha Baideanach

comhdaichte le sneachd; agus beagan an déidh sin bha clàr na dùthcha fo thuil, mar aon loch a bha fichead mìle air faid agus mu aon mhìle air leud. Chan iongnadh ged fhuair Baideanach an t-ainm, fearann bàithe. Rinn so na machraichean torach gu leor nam biodh rian air spréidh is barr a dhìon o sgrios nan uisgeachan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Is minic a mhothaich sinn gu bheil mòran de chumhachd nàdurach a' dol a dhòlaidh le bhì air a dearmad. Is mòr an call nach eilear a' cur cumhachd an uisge gu buil ann ar dùthaich. Is cuimhne leam facal suaicheantais a dheanamh suas an uiridh, air iarratus luchd stiùiridh na h-obair uisge an Lochabar. Rinneadh buinn airson cuimhneachain de'n cheud mheall aliminium a fhuaradh o'n obair. Is iad na facail a thug mi seachad dhaibh gus an gearradh air na buinn cuimhne, *Rath le rian is neart nan dùl*. Tha sin a' ciallachadh gur ann le bhì a' cur neart nan dùl gu feum le seoltachd is tìr a gheibhear deagh rath is soirbheachadh. Is bochd an gnothuch gu bheil sinn mar shluagh a' cosg mòran airgid air foghlum, agus an déidh sin uile nach faigh sinn de theomachd o ar luchd caladhain na chuireadh neart an uisge gu feum. Tha sinn a' cladhach fo'n talamh airson guail, a bheir dhuinn solus is teas is cumhachd. Ach tha pailteas de na trì dùilean sin an tuiltean nam beann, nam b'aithne dhuinn an cur gu buil mhaith.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mas e is gun cuirear uisgeachan nam beann gu feum is lìonmhor toradh a thig uaidh sin.

Gheibhear solus is cumhachd le neart nan allt. Gheibhear maith an fhearainn a tha dlùth air na h-aibhnichean. Cha bhi barr no spréidh gan call le tuiltean. Bidh cothrom aig na tuathanaich air buannachd an fhearainn a chruinneachadh an deagh am. Faoaidh muinntir a bhi an dùil gu bheil beò shlàinte ri sholar a ghnàth anns a' bhaile mhór. Ach tha sin a' teannadh gu crìch. Cha seas ionmhas a' bhaile mhóir mur bi e air a chumail suas leis an dùthaich. Is gann gu bheil duine an Glaschu an diugh is urrainn a ràdh gun d'rugadh a dha sheanair agus a dha sheanamhair anns a' bhaile sin. Feumaidh fuil na feadhnach a tha a' fuireach anns a' bhaile, a bhi 'g a neartachadh le fuil na dùthcha. Agus ciamar a chumail suas fuil na dùthcha mur cumair an sluagh air an fhearann? Feumar an tìr a dheanamh freagarrach anns gach seadh gu bhi air a h-àiteach leis an t-sluagh. Tha na h-uile coltas gu feum sinn mar chinneach air dòighean atharrachadh. Feumar am fearann a dhìon o mhilleadh nan tuiltean, agus neart nan dùl féin a chur fo chuing airson seirbheis an luchd àiteich.

## DEATH OF TWO PROMINENT GAELS.

The Death of Colonel John MacGregor, bard to the "Clan MacAlpine," which took place in London, on 13th January, has removed a notable figure from the field of Gaelic literature. The late Colonel MacGregor was one of the leading Gaelic bards of our own day, and by authorities on our poetry he was classed with such bards as Dugald MacPhail, Dr. John MacLachlan, Henry Whyte, John Campbell, and others. He was a native of Lewis, but his forebears hailed from the MacGregor country several generations ago.

When the name of MacGregor was prescribed after the Battle of Glenfruin in 1603, under the penalty of death, and as a result of the persecutions with which the MacGregors were relentlessly followed during subsequent years, one of the family of Glengyle, named John, found his way to Carlaway, Lewis, and settled there. The late Colonel MacGregor was the great-grandson of this refugee, and very proud indeed he was of the fact.

In recognition of his bardic merit, both in Gaelic and English, he was appointed bard to the Clan Alpine, otherwise MacGregors, and was the first to hold that post since the old days when MacGregor was the predominant clan on the borders of Argyll and Perthshire.

Through his faithful and constant study of the native tongue of Alba while in Government service in India, both in composing and reading the works of others, he was said, when he came back to the Homeland again after many years, to have been "a better Gaelic scholar and speaker of the language than when he went away." This was, no doubt, true.

Much of his poetry is contained in the book *Luinneagan Luaineach*, published over 30 years ago, the most of the contents being written when on Government service in India.

His *Tir nam Beann Ard* is a fine patriotic poem, written when thousands of miles away from the "Land of Bens." It is often to be heard at our concerts, and just the other evening it was one of the test pieces at the High School Ceilidh Mod held in Glasgow, and is one of the Junior choral test pieces selected for the National Mod at Fort William this year.

The death of Mr. John MacLean, popularly known as the "Kaid," occurred as the result of a railway accident at Ardlui on 14th January. Mr. MacLean was for many years a member of An Comunn, and was a very prominent personality at social functions of a Gaelic nature, where his services as an entertainer were much in demand. A raconteur who possessed all the qualities of the seanachie, he was a capable Gaelic actor. It is interesting to recall that he took part in the original cast of the Gaelic play, *Mairead* by the late Mr. Archibald MacCulloch, which was presented in the Glasgow Athenaeum Theatre in 1921. Much sympathy is expressed to his widow.

## DUNDEE FESTIVAL.

It is of interest to mention that through the good offices of the Dundee Highland Society, an open Gaelic vocal solo class has been included for the second year on the syllabus of the Dundee and District Musical Festival. The pieces selected are "Kishmul's Galley" and the "Bens of Jura," from the "Songs of the Hebrides," by the late Mrs. Kennedy Fraser, to whose great work on behalf of Gaelic music this competition is dedicated. All entries close on 31st March, and intending competitors should communicate with Mr. D. A. Mortimer, 31 Murraygate, Dundee, who will be pleased to supply entry forms and give all the necessary particulars. It is hoped there will be a large entry to encourage this Society in their good work.

## COMUNN BADGES.

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

## CUAIRT DO LEODHAS.

Aig deireadh na bliadhna chaidh seachad fhuir mi cuireadh falaidh bho Chomhairle Mèir a' Chomuinn an Steornabhagh mi a ghabhail sgriob do'n eilean agus seul a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich a chur an cèill dhoibh anns an eilean sin. Chaidh gach ullachadh a dheanamh airson an turais sin agus thog mi orm moch Di-luain, an 11mh la de'n Fhaoil-teach. Bha turas socair, sìtheil agam, ach chan ann mar sin a fhuair mi an còrr de'n aimsir am feadh agus a bha mi air mo chuairt an Eilean an Fhraoich. Cha chuimhne leam a leithid de dhroch shìd fhaotainn air cuairt air an robh mi fhathast.

Thachair seann chairdean rium air an laimrig an Steornabhagh agus chuir iad fàilte 's furan orm is dh'fhalbh mi a dh'aona sgriob gu Lacasdal le deadh charaid na Gaidhlig is a' chiùil, Mgr. Iain MacIomhair, leis an robh mi air aoidheachd re na h-uine bha mi anns an eilean. Is mise fhuir an comhfhurtachd is an di-beatha anns an tigh sin.

Air feasgar an la-na-mhaireach (Di-mairt) dh'fhalbh mi an cuideachd Cinnuidhe a' Chomuinn Leodhasaich, Mgr. Iain MacSuain, gu Bail-ailean agus Liurbost. Bha anns a' chuideachd na h-igheanan uasal Myra NicIomhair agus Anna NicLeoid agus Aonghas MacLeoid. Bha a' cheud choinneamh am Bail-ailean agus ged a bha an oidhche frasach, gailionnach bha còrr agus ceithir fichead a' feitheamh oirnn anns an tigh-sgoil. Bha Mgr. MacArtair, ceanna-mhaighstir na sgoile, anns a' chathair. Labhair mi riu mu fhichead mionaid agus an sin bha òrain againn. Thug Mgr. MacSuain taing do gach neach a chuidich aig a' choinneimh agus 'na dheidh sin thog sinn oirnn gu Liurbost. Bha fras an troma sneachda ann an uair sin ach ged a bha, bha an tigh-sgoil loma-làn de inbhich is de oigridh, mu cheud pearsa uile gu leir. Bha am maighstir-sgoil, Mgr. MacMhathainn, anns a' chathair an so agus thug sinn dhoibh òraidean is òrain. Cha robh iad idir sgìth de ar cuideachd an uair a thug sinn a' choinneamh gu crìch. Fhuair sinn di-beatha anns an tigh-sgoil agus mu mheadhon oidhche fhuair sinn dhachaidh.

Ghabh sinn suas ri taobh a' chladaich sear feasgar Diciadaoin agus bha anns a' chuideachd Donnchadh MacDhomhnaill, Sanndabhaig; Iain MacIomhair, Lacasdal; Seumas MacThomais, Pabail, agus ceathrar òranaichean òga á Lacasdal. B'e Tolastadh ar ceud taghal agus cha robh sinn fada an sin an uair a bhàdadh an tigh-sgoil le gillean òga, smeairil. As

an deich agus ceithir fichead de na bha cruinn bha, co-dhiubh, trì fichead de ghillean eadar ochd bliadhna deug agus coig bliadhna fichead. Bha Mgr. Donnchadh MacDhomhnaill anns a' chathair an uair so agus chuir e sunnd math air a' chuideachd mu'n d'fhainig ormsa bruidheann. Thug Mgr. MacThomais òraid ghoirid air na "Seanfhaicail" agus sheinn an oigridh á Lacasdal cuid de na h-òrain leis an do choisinn iad duaisean aig Mòd Inbhirpheotharain. Thugadh a' choinneamh gu crìch ro luath airson an luchd-eisdeachd ach bha cruinneachadh eile a' feitheamh oirnn an sgoil a' Bhac. An uair a rainig sinn an t-ionad sin bha mu dha cheud cruinn, eadar bheag agus mhór. Bha Mgr. Seumas MacThomais anns a' chathair aig a' choinneimh so agus dh'fhosgail e i le òraid ghoirid ann an rogha Gaidhlig. Labhair mise mu dheidhinn trì a' Chomuinn agus an obair a rinneadh leis a thogail na Gaidhlig agus an inbhe anns am bheil i air an latha an diugh. Chaidh òrain a sheinn leo-san a chuidich an Tolastadh, agus dh'aithris Mgr. Donnchadh MacDhomhnaill sgeulachdan beaga a thaitinn gu fìor mhaith ris an luchd-eisdeachd. Cha mhór a dh'inneas seul Gaidhlig cho math ri maighstir sgoil Shannabhaig. Thug am maighstir sgoil, Mgr. MacLeoid, taing do na h-òraideachan agus do na h-òranaichean. Chaidh ainmeachadh aig a' choinneimh, agus is fhiach e aithris an so, gu'n do choisinn gach ann a ghabh pàirt anns a' choinneimh duais, no duaisean, aig a' Mhòd mhór uair no uaireigin, an dara cuid an litreachas no an ceol. Cha tric, ma thachair e riamh roimhe, a bha aig coinneimh air an dùthaich ochnar a dhleas an t-urram sin, a' seasamh guala ri guala a' tagairt còirichean na Gaidhlig.

Bha sinn ri bhi aig coinneamhan am Briascailt is an Carlabhagh feasgar Diardaoin ach bha an latha cho fliuch, gailionnach agus nach b'urrainn do neach gluasad a mach air dorus ach gann. Bhan dil uisge ann fad an latha agus an robh mu dheireadh gach àit air snàmh. Bha an t-uisge a stigh an tighean Steornabhagh gu ruige na ghluinean aig cuid agus bha droch seul mu chuid de na rathaidhean. Chaidh na coinneamhan a chur dheth ach air a shon sin chuala sinn gu'n do chruinnich mòran de'n oigridh an sgoil Charlabhagh.

Ghabh mi sgriob a sios gu ruig tigh-sgoil na h-Airde an deidh mheadhon la Dihaoine agus thaghal mi air na maighstirean-sgoile an Sanndabhaig, 'sa Chnoc, 'san Aird agus am Pabail. Bha na ceathrar uaislean sin, fear an deidh fir, 'na cheann-suidhe air a' Chomunn an Leodhas. Thainig Mgr. MacThomais air ais leam gu Steornabhagh a

dh'ionnsuidh na ceilidh, agus b'è sin a' cheilidh. Cha bu cheilidh ach a leithid! Bha uibhlir sluaigh taobh muigh na comhla 'sa bha stigh. Bha Mgr. MacSuain, Ceann-suidhe na blaidhna so, air ceann na cuideachd a fhuair a steach do'n talla. An deidh *tea* a riarachadh bha òraidean, sgeulachdan, òrain agus ceol-inneil againn a dh'fhògradh gach bruailean. Tha cruinneachaidhean mòra aig na ceilidhean air a' bhliadhna so, ach air an oidhche shonraichte so chan fhacas a leithid a' tighinn gu ceilidh riamh. Bha iad ann as an duthaich agus as na bailtean beaga laimh ri Steornabhagh. Bu mhór an beud nach do ghabhadh talla bu mhotha ach cha robh fiughar ri aireamh cho mòr. Bha Mgr. Stiubhart MacAonghais á Inbhirnis aig a' cheilidh so agus sheinn e da òran 'na dhoigh shnasail fhéin.

Bha ceilidh bheag aig a' Chomhairle anns a' bhaile air feasgar Disathuirne air mo shon fhéin agus gu dearbh bha i coibhneil, caidreach, fialaidh. An deidh greim bidh bha òraidean agus òrain againn. Cha dichuimhnich mise a' cheilidh ud ri mo mhaireann. Cha ghabh e cuir air clàr an coibhneas a nochd muinntir Leodhais riumsa.

Air la na Sàbaid thainig mi steach do'n bhaile le fear an tighe, Mgr. MacIomhair. Chaidh mi do'n t-seirbhis Ghaidhlig an eaglais Mhgr. Mhic 'IlleMhoire, agus an deidh sin rinn mi dìreach air Eaglais Chaluim Chille agus fhuair mi searmon Gaidhlig eile an sin. Anns an fheasgar chaidh sinn le cheile gu ruig an t-seirbhis Bheurla 's an eaglais cheudna.

Chaidh cuideachd mhór comhla rium gu Nis air feasgar Di-luain. Bha coinneamh againn an sgoil Airigh an Tuim an toiseach, agus Mgr. MacIllemaoil, am maighstir sgoil anns a' chathair. Bha mu trì fichead cruinn an sin agus thug sinn dhoibh sgeul a' Chomuinn agus fhuair iad òrain bho na h-ighneanan òga NicLaomainn agus NicDhombnail, agus bho Aonghas MacLeod, agus Alasdair L. Urchardan. Bha Mgr. Seumas MacThomais, Mgr. Iain MacIomhair agus Mgr. Alasdair Urchardan comhla rium. Aig sgoil Lional bha mu cheud cruinn agus ghabh Mgr. Domhnall MacAoidh, am maighstir sgoile, a' chathair. Labhair mi mu obair a' Chomuinn, a' deanamh iomradh air obair nam brat-urair. Thug e misneach mhor do mhuinntir Nis gu bheil e coltach gu'm faigh na h-ighneanan cosnadh maith a' deanamh bhrat-urair air an Earrach so. Chuir mi a' cheist ris na bha cruinn am bu mhathe leò meur de'n Chomunn a bhi aca an Nis agus thog iad uile an làmh ag aontachadh. Cha robh mòran de inbhich an lathair ach ghabh Mgr. MacAoidh agus Mgr. Moraidh os laimh

comhairle a ghairm agus na'n gabhadh e idir deanadh gu'n rachadh meur a steidheachadh. Chan fhaod mi dearmad a dheanamh air iomradh a thoirt air an obair shonraichte a rinn an nighean usal, Mairead NicIomhair, as leth nan nigheanan a tha ri obair nam brat-urair. Chaidh i 'na carbad fhéin, le cuid de a luchd comhairle, a dh'aona ghnòthach gu Nis air an oidhche so a dh'fheuch am b'urrainn dhoibh aireamh cho mòr a dheanamh agus a tha iomradh air air taobh duilleig eile de'n mhiosachan so. Tha a' mhaighdean usal so, agus buill a Comhairle, a' deanamh obair iomholta airson Comhairle a' Ghnìomhachais 's nan Ealdhain ann a bhi a' giùlan air aghaidh obair nam brat-urair a tha toirt a leithid de chosnadh feumail do na h-ighneanan òga.

Thug Mgr. Aonghas MacLeod mi, air feasgar Di-mairt, gu ruig Airnis far am bheil oidheip tuathanachais 'ga chur air aghaidh le Mgr. T. B. MacAmhlaidh air a' mhòintich mhóir sin. Cho fad is a chaidh iad air aghaidh leis a so tha e soirbheachail gu leoir, ach air mòran coslais. Tha raointean a nis fo fheur uaine a bha roimhe 'nem mointich fhliuch, fhracach. Tha so a' dearbhadh gu'n gabh a' mhòinteach toirt gu rian àitich, le mòran giollachd, ach cha mhór aig am bheil an stòras gu sin a dheanamh.

Chaidh sinn 's an fheasgar a mach gu Bragar far an robh coinneamh bheag ghasda againn. Bha mu leth-cheud cruinn agus am maighstir-sgoile, Mgr. MacComraid, air an ceann. An deidh na h-òraid sheinn na h-ighneanan usal Myra NicIomhair agus Anna NicLeod òrain agus an deidh ceilidh ghoirid chum sinn oirnn gu Siabost. Bha mu cheithir fichead cruinn an sin agus fhuair iad an òraidean agus òrain mar a fhuair muinntir Bhragar, agus òran bho Aonghas MacLeod a bharrachd. Bha am maighstir-sgoile, Mgr. MacIllemaoil, anns a' chathair, agus aig deireadh na coinneimh labhair Mgr. MacSuain a' toirt taing na cuideachd do gach neach a chuidich a' choinneamh a dheanamh soirbheachail. Sheinn sinn "Oidheche Mhath Leibh" agus tharruing sinn as gu Carlabhagh. Bha an tigh-sgoil cho làn 'sa chumadh e, agus grunnan mu na dorsan. Bha am maighstir-sgoile, Mgr. MacLeod, anns a' chathair, agus an deidh na bruidhean abhaistich thug mi dhoibh mo theachdaireachd. An deidh sin chuireadh meur de'n Chomunn air bhonn agus thaghadh luchd-dreuchd agus luchd-comhairle. Sheinn na h-ighneanan usal a dh'ainmich mi cheana, Mgr. Aonghas MacLeod agus mi fhéin. Labhair Mgr. MacSuain agus Mgr. Domhnall MacLeod,

An Cnoc, agus an sin b'eigin fagail a ghabhail na h-ìubhraich air ais gu Mallaig.

Thug e misneach agus ùrachadh spioraid dhomh uibhir de shluagh fhàicinn aig gach coinneamh. Bha iad uile cho fuireachail, bheachdail an uair a bha mi a strìth ri sgeul a' Chomuinn a thoirt dhoibh, agus cha chreid mi gu'm bheil mi cearr ann am bharail an uair a their mi gu'n do rinn an teachdairachd dhrìdhadh orra. Chual iad an sgeul 'nan càinain fein agus tha dochas agam gu'n dean an eachdraidh agus an cunntas a fhuair iad am misneachadh agus am brosnachadh. Tha 'a chàinain beo, reachdail an Eilean an Fhraoich fhathast, agus bithidh re ioma ginealach, ach tha feum, anns gach aite, air a' chunnart a tha 'ga bagradh bho'n taobh am muigh, a chur ta chomhar an t-sluaigh agus eàil a thoirt orra an oigridh eileanachadh anns a' Ghaidhlig aig an dachaidh.

A thaobh na Comhairle am baile Steornabhagh is airidh iad air gach moladh agus cliù. Chan e mhàin gu'm bheil iad a iarachadh a' bhaile le ceilidhean suilbhre ach tha iad ag cumail sùl fhaicilich air muinntir na dùthcha mar an cènd. Cha b'urrainn dhoibh ullachadh a b'fhearr agus a bu fhreagarraiche a dheanamh airson mo thurais-sa na rinn iad. Cha robh agam ri dheanamh ach suidhe 'na mo charbad agus falbh leo an taobh a bu mhiann leo agus bha teine mòr, mòna a' feitheamh orm g'a mo gharadh anns gach tigh-coinneamh.

Tha mi an dèil nach 'eil sgoil anns an eilean nach 'eil a' toirt aire shonraichte do theagasg na Gaidhlig. Tha fhios agam, an cuid de na sgoilean co dhiubh, gur i a labhrar ris an fhoir fheadhainn oga an uair a thig iad do'n sgoil an toiseach. Aidichidh foghlamaiche tuigseach sam bith gur e sin an doigh cheart agus chothromach. Tha mi de'n bheachd gur ann de mhuinntir Leodhais a tha gach ceannamhaighstir sgoile 's an eilean. Is mòr agus cliùiteach sin gu dearbh. Chan 'eil eagal do'n Ghaidhlig agus fir agus mnathan, a tha cho eudmhor, dealasach riusan a tha air ceann a' Chomuinn an drasda, a' teagasg na càine gach la ann an sgoilean an Eilein.

Thug Mgr. Calum MacAmhlaidh agus Mgr. Aonghas MacLeòid cuideachadh mòr dhuinn le bhì ag giùlan luchd seinn agus labhairt a dh' ionnsuidh cuid de ne coinneamhan.

Tha mo mhòr thàing aca uile airson an coibheis agus an fhuairn a nochd iad dhomh fhéin gu pearsanta, ach gu h-araidh airson agus mar a ghabh iad ri teachdairachd a' Chomuinn agus na bheil iad a' deanamh airson na Gaidhlig. Gu ma fada beo iad a chumail suas na brataich sin.

NIALL.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Friday, 22nd January. The President, Rev. Neil Ross, D.Litt., presided. The following members were present:—W. D. Barclay, Esq., Glasgow; Miss Campbell of Inverneill, M.B.E., Capt. A. R. Campbell, O.B.E., Glasgow; Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth; Mrs. Christison, Glasgow; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Neil C. Colquhoun, Esq., Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Esq., Bishopton; John MacDonald, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; T. D. MacDonald, Esq., Glasgow; Hector MacDougall, Esq., Glasgow; Gilbert MacIntyre, Esq., Killin; John MacKay, Esq., Lintilthgow; Mrs. J. A. MacKintosh, Inverness; Alastair C. MacLaren, Esq., Dalmally; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Esq., Glasgow; Mrs. M. B. MacNaughton of Ardachearanbeg; James Macrae, Esq., Glasgow; George E. Marjoribanks, Esq., Sonachan; Lord James Stewart Murray, Ballinluig; John A. Nicolson, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; John Stewart, Esq., Dunblane; George Thomson, Esq., M.A., Glasgow, and Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria. In attendance, Mr. Robert MacFarlane, C.A., Treasurer; Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary, and Mr. Hugh Macphee, Assistant.

The President in his opening remarks wished the members a prosperous year, and he expressed the hope that the year just begun would be a successful one for An Comunn.

The minute of the previous meeting was read and approved.

Minute of Finance Committee was submitted and approved.

Minute of Education Committee was read.

Dissatisfaction was expressed regarding the nature of the replies received from the Director of Education for Argyll in reply to a request by An Comunn that provision be made in Dunoon Grammar School for the teaching of Gaelic.

Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, convener, said they expected at least courtesy when they approached officials. There was not a county in Scotland where Celtic culture could be seen to better advantage than in Argyll, and it was a great pity if any official on the Education Committee or any other committee should seek to place obstacles in the way of the young people having Gaelic as one of their subjects.

The secretary reported that in the letter which he had sent to the Argyll Education



Committee it was pointed out that Dunoon Grammar School was now almost the only school of its standing in Gaelic-speaking counties in which provision was not made for the teaching of Gaelic, and the opinion was expressed that the omission should be made good. In reply Dr. McDonald asked to be informed what information the Education Committee of An Comunn had before them in regard to the subject. Mr. Shaw wrote to explain that the Committee came to their conclusion on the information they had with regard to the curriculum in Dunoon Grammar School, and that they would be extremely glad to know if it was a fact now that Gaelic-speaking students had an opportunity of continuing their Gaelic studies at Dunoon so as to include it as a subject for the Leaving Certificate examination. Dr. McDonald's reply to this was that he did not think the Committee had adequately answered his communication.

The Education Committee instructed the secretary to write to the Director, inquiring whether An Comunn's letter had been submitted to the Argyll Education Committee, and with what result.

Mrs. Macnaughton, Glendaruel, said that, as a representative of the Education Committee of Argyllshire, she was indignant at the tone which their Executive Officer chose to adopt in replying to the Education Committee of An Comunn. She could assure them that the correspondence would come up at their next meeting, and she would endeavour to see that the omission of Gaelic from the curriculum was remedied as soon as possible.

A letter from the Scottish Education Department stated that the questions with regard to the Leaving Certificate raised by An Comunn had been very carefully investigated, and that after full and sympathetic consideration of all the available evidence the Department had found no reason to make any material alteration in the nature and scope of the Leaving Certificate examination papers in Gaelic. The Council agreed to take no further action in the matter meantime.

The Committee considered arrangements for this year's Summer School of Gaelic to be held at Newtonmore. The School will be in session from 19th July to 12th August. Last year's teachers were recommended for reappointment. Mr. Charles Macdonald, "Dunruadh," Newtonmore, was appointed local secretary.

The minute was approved.

Minute of publication Committee was read and approved. It was reported that a copy

of the new publication *Idioms and Expressions* was submitted.

The Secretary intimated that there was no quorum at the meeting of the Propaganda Committee, and consequently there was no report to submit.

Minute of Art and Industry Committee was read. It was reported that a firm in London, through Messrs. Newall, proposed to have 100 rugs, similar to those of An Comunn, but with simple non-Celtic patterns, made in Lewis. The Committee recommended that the Executive Council welcome Messrs. Newall's proposal, and that every facility be granted by them for the carrying out of this order. It was also reported that there was a sufficient number of workers to carry out this large order. The Committee recorded their grateful thanks to Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds) for her splendid work in connection with the rug-making industry.

The Committee also recorded their appreciation of the facilities granted by the Glasgow Corporation Education Committee for promoting a Celtic Art Class. It was resolved that a letter of thanks be sent to the Committee.

The minute was approved.

Minute of meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read. It was reported that judges for the 1932 Mod had been nominated, and that the revision of the syllabus for the 1933 Mod had been practically completed. Mrs. Wilson, Dunblane, had offered a prize of £5 for the best Gaelic Essay on a given subject, confined to students at Universities, and Training Centres. The subject this year is "Wireless." The Committee gratefully accepted Mrs. Wilson's kind offer of providing this prize annually.

The minute was approved.

Mr. George E. Marjoribanks reported in Gaelic on the activities of Clann an Fhraoich. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, also speaking in Gaelic, thanked Mr. Marjoribanks for his splendid work in connection with this form of Gaelic propaganda.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.

## JUNIOR ESSAY COMPETITION.

A prize of Ten Shillings will be awarded to the writer of the best Gaelic Essay of three hundred words, on the subject, *An Gaimhradh*. Competition is open to pupils of all elementary schools, and the essays should be certified by teacher or parent as being the unaided work of the pupil. The essays should be sent to the Editor.



## IAIN LOM—A BHEATHA IS A BHARDACHD.

LE IAIN MAC CORMAIG.

*A' Cheud Duais, Mod, 1924.*

### II.

Anns a' bhliadhna 1639 thog Caimbeulaich Bhraighid-Alba creach mhór an Lochabar, agus a chum paigheadh mu chlár a dheanamh air na Caimbeulaich, chaidh Aonghas Odhar na Ceapaich lé sia fichead Abrach a thogail creiche do Bhraighid Alba. A réir na sgeòil thug na h-Abrach sgrìos lom air dùthaich nan Caimbeulach.

Air an t-slighe dhachaidh, agus aig Cillfhinn thachair na Domhnullaich agus na Caimbeulaich air a chéile, agus thugadh blàr fuilteach. Chaill na Caimbeulaich gu goirt, agus thuit ochd oghachan de'n fhine anns a' chath. Air taobh nan Abrach thuit an tòiseach Aonghas Odhar, agus Domhnall Mór mac Iain, athair Iain Luim. Bha Iain Lom fhéin air cuideachd nan Abrach, agus bha cuid aige anns a' bhàr. Chunnaic e gach ni mar a thachair, agus leis a' chràdh a bha 'na chridhe chaidh aige air cumha a chur ri chéile anns an robh tuireadh cho dhruidteach is gu bheil gach rann a' sìleadh dhairs. Chì sinn anns a' chumha so gu soilleir an daimh a bha eadar ceann-cinnidh agus a thuath. Bha caoidh a' bhàird na bu ghoirte an déidh Fear na Ceapaich na bha i eadhon as leth 'athar féin. Chan iongnadh ged leanadh na Gaidheil, mar a dheanadh iad aig am air bith, an cinn-fheadhna gu uchd bàis, agus sin gun eagal gun sgàth. Thuit Iain Lom mun chath so :—

“Ruag sin cheann Locha-Tatha  
'S i chuir mise o aighear,  
Dh'fhàg mi Aonghas 'na laighe s an àraich.

“Ged dh'fhàg mi ann m' athair  
Chan ann air tha mi 'labhairt,  
Ach an lot rinn an claidheamh mu d' àirnean.”

Tha eachdraidh ag ràdh gun do thog an cath so naimhdeas guineach eadar na Domhnullaich agus na Caimbeulaich riamh tuilleadh. Tha fhios againn codhiu nach robh an dara cinneadh a' toirt mòran foise do'n chinneadh eile fad iomadh linn. Agus dh'éirich nithean eile a dh'aobhraidh an naimhdeas sin a dhaigneachadh. Dh'éirich ceist a' chreideimh, agus an riaslachd a chuir na Stiùbhardaich mu dheireadh bhar a chrùn. Bha Domhnullaich Lochabar air taobh nan Stiùbhardach. Bha

na Caimbeulaich, agus Marcus Earraghaidheal air an ceann, air taobh nam Pròstanach, agus dh'fhag sin a' chuis air chor is nach robh ach creach an déidh creiche thall is a bhos.

Bha Montròs 'na cheud dol a mach air taobh an Athleasachaidh; ach a chionn gu robh barrachd fabhair 'ga nochdadh do Mharcus Earraghaidheal na bha dhàsan, rinn e tionndadh car mu chrìos, agus dh'fhàs e 'na dhearg namhaid do na Caimbeulaich. Anns a' bhliadhna 1665 thug e le armailt mhór de Dhomhnullaich léir sgrìos air na Caimbeulaich. Ach b'e prìomh-aobhar na cuairt so a thug e aramach comasach a dheanamh as leth nan Stiùbhardach. Ràinig feachd làidir de dh'Earraghaidhealaich Inbhir Lochaidh. Thug so cothrom do Iain Lom a nochdadh gu follaiseach cìod an taobh air an robh e. Chan eil teagamh nach do chuir nithean mar so ri a ainm mar bhàrd. Chaidh e le luaths coise as déidh Mhontròis, agus thàinig e suas ris 'na champa aig àite ris an abrar Leitir-nan-lùb, faisg air Cìlchuimein. Dh'innis e gu robh na Caimbeulaich aig Inbhir Lochaidh; agus thairg e do Mhontròs a threòrachadh air slighe bheireadh an da fheachd aghaidh ri aghaidh, agus gu suidheachadh blàir a bhiodh fabharach do Mhontròs.

Bha Montròs an teagamh an toiseach, ach ghabh Sir Alasdair MacColla, fear a laimhe deise, ris an tairgse gun obadh. Threòraich Iain Lom feachd Mhontròis, is Alasdair Mac Colla air an ceann, troimh rathaidean is bhealaichean, gus an tug e gu sgìobalt iad ions gu uchd nan Caimbeulach air maduinn na Sàbaid air an t-Samhain 1645.

Mun do thoisich an cath thuit Alasdair Mac Colla gu feumadh Iain Lom féin dol ri òrugh bualaidh cuideachd. “Agus ma mharbhar mise” arsa Iain, “co an sin a sheinneas do chliu-sa.” Fhuair e as an chunnart leis an so, agus ghabh e sealladh de 'n chath o mhullach caisteil Inbhir Lochaidh :—

“Dh'riach mi moch maduinn Domhnaich  
Gu braigh caisteil Inbhir Lochaidh  
Chunna mi 'n t-arm a' dol an òrdugh  
'S bha buaidh a' bhàir le Clann Domhnaill.”

Chunnaic e feachd a' tighinn an coinneamh feachd mar thunn na fairge a' tighinn le beucaich gu cladach. Fhuair am bàrd a dhùrachd is a mhiann; agus mhol e euchdan nan sonn anns an dàn ainmeil ris an abrar *Latha Inbhir Lochaidh*. Dh'fhag Iain Lom bàrdachd eirachdail air a' bhatal iomraideach so. Chì sinn innte cho deas is a bha facail do'n bhàrd, oir tha facail sgaiteach na h-aoire, agus briathran snasail a' mholaidh le cheile furasda dhasan. Ach a réir beachd cuid,

cha b'ann o mhullach a' chaisteil idir a chunnaic Iain Lom an cath, ach o mhullach cnuic os cionn a' chaisteil. Tha an treas rann a' cur soilleireachd air an sin. Tha e a' dol mar so :—

“A' dìreadh a mach glùn Chuil Eachaidh  
Dh'aithnich mi oirbh sìrd 'ur tapaidh;  
Ged bha mo dhùthaich 'na lasair  
'S éirig air a' chùis mar thachair.”

O thoiseach gu deireadh tha am bard a' seinn cliù Alasdair Mhic Colla is nan Domhnallach; agus a' toirt smàig do na Caimbeulaich le teangaidh gheur sgaitich. Tha breine an duine ri fhaicinn anns a' ghaideachas a bha air an uair a bha na Caimbeulaich 'gam bàthadh a' dol thar aibhne anns a' ruaig. Anns an droch nàdur 's an robh an sluagh da cheile aig an am, chan eil dad againn ri thilgeil air Iain Lom, mar chumhnicheas sinn air an rùn anns a robh sinn féin do na Gearmailtich ri linn a' chogaidh mhóir.

Tha e iongantach nach eil Iain Lom a' toirt iomraidh idir air Montròs an *Latha Inbhir Lochaidh*. Is e na thigheas sinn leis a sin nach robh Montròs a làthair aig a' bhàrlach. Ach ged fhuair na Caimbeulaich an deagh stràcadh aig Inbhir Lochaidh le airm nan Domhnallach, cha do sguir Iain Lom de an sgùrsadh le a theangaidh; agus anns na laithean ud bha cumhachd mhór aig na bàird air an t-sluagh a chum an aomadh an taobh bu mhiann leotha. Dh'fhairich Marcus Earraghaidheal cumhachd Iain Luim cho ghoir is gun do chuir e airgid cinn a mach air. A nis tha mòran am beachd gum bu ghealtachd a thug air Iain Lom diùltadh dol ri aghaidh bualaidd aig Inbhir Lochaidh; agus nach robh aige ach lethsgèul ann a bhi ag iarraidh àite bàird air mullach cnuic fad air falbh o'n chaonnaig. Ach an uair a chì sinn gun deachaidh e gun eagal gu caisteal Inniraora, agus gun d'agair e an t-airgid cinn a bha air fhéin, feumaidh sinn aideachadh, chan e a mhàin nach robh e 'na ghealtair, ach gur e a bha ann saighdear smearail. A bharr air sin is ann a dh'fheumas sinn aideachadh gur ann a bha e làn àbhachdais is faladhà, an uair a chaidh e 'ga dheoin do gharaidh an leoghain, agus a cheann is amhach air am muigheadh air. Ach cha lugha moladh Marcus Earraghaidheal an uair a ghabh e roimhe cho suilbhir. Thug an duine feadh a chaisteil e. Mar chaidh iad a steach do sheomar sonruichte, far a robh mòran de chinn choileach-dhubha air an stobadh ris na balachan, thuit am Marcus ri Iain, “Am faca tu riamh roimhe uimhir sin de choilich-dhubha comhla?”

“Chunnaic,” arsa Iain.

“C'aite?” Thuit am Marcus.

“Aig Inbhir Lochaidh,” arsa Iain.

“Falbh falbh,” arsa am Marcus, “cha sguir thu gu bràth de chagnadh nan Caimbeulach.”

“Cha sguir,” arsa Iain, “is e is duiliche leam nach urrainn mi an slugadh.” Cho beag is ga bheil so, is e tha ann ni a tha gu soilleir a' nochdadh mòralachd nan Gaideal, agus an earbsa dh'fhaodadh iad a chur 'na chéile mar threubh anns an do chuir nàdur uaisle.

Thachair ni cianail an coimhearsnachd Iain Luim, a chuir ri 'ainm gu mòr, an dà chuid mar bhàrd a ghlèusadh a chlàrsach ris gach gluasad coitichionn air am biodh an sluagh a' cnuasachd, agus mar dhuine anns am biodh dleas, agus aig am biodh rùn urram a thoirt do rian is do riaghailt. B'e sin *Mort na Ceapaich*.

Mar chunnaic sinn a cheana chaidh Aonghas Odhar na Ceapaich a mharbhadh an cath creiche ri muinntir Braighid-Alba, agus ghabh Alasdair Buidhe bràthair 'athar, seilbh anns an oighreachd. B'e a bhràthair, Domhnall, an ceann-feadhna dlìgheach, ach bha e aig an am sin air choimheach, a chionn tighinn gearr air rian an Ardriaghlaidh. Bha dà mhac òg aige, a bha aig an am so fo aois, agus a bha 'gan ionnsachadh thairis. Bha bràthair an athar Alasdair Buidhe agus a chuid mac a sealltainn as déidh an codach mar cheileadair. Ach dhearbhadh iad nach robh anna ach ceileadair feallsa. An uair thill na h-òganaich dhachaidh a chur seilbh na h-oighreachd a réir na dlìghe rinn an càirden dàimheil feasd mhór. Mun tainig crìoch air an fhleadhachas chaidh an dà ghille òg a mhort! Dh'fhàg so an ceumnan saora aig bràthair an athar agus aig a chuid mac a chum dol an ceann oighreachd na Ceapaich is a cuid sluagh. Ach anns na h-amannan borbha so cha b'urrainn neach a bhi 'na cheann-feadhna gun an sluagh fharraid; agus rud a tha gle iongantach bha an sluagh air taobh nam mortairean, codhii a mach o aon no dha anns an robh dilseachd do na h-oighreachan dlìgheach.

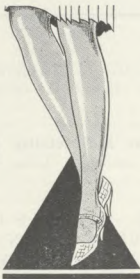
(*Ri Leantainn.*)

#### ROTHESAY PRESIDENT HONOURED.

In recognition of his long and valued service to the work of the Bute branch, Captain James Kennedy was presented with a walking stick on his retirement from the Presidency. During the many years Captain Kennedy has been associated with the work of An Comunn in Rothesay, he always devoted himself wholeheartedly to the cause, and the live interest in Gaelic which this branch has maintained is in a large measure due to his enthusiasm. The presentation was made by Mr. Archibald Campbell, President, and Mr. John C. MacLean, Secretary, who have been associated with the branch since its inception.

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## HOUSING IN THE HIGHLANDS.

By LACHLAN GRANT.

The problem in the Highlands, like the housing problem in the towns and cities, resolves itself into three branches—health, cost, and efficiency.

Health naturally takes precedence and demands a certain minimum of air space, a minimum of sleeping accommodation, and a minimum of conveniences for cleanliness, decency and comfort. Sunlight is also most important. In the past many houses have been erected as if purposely to exclude both light and air, with consequent encouragement of many forms of disease as well as the mental depression that comes from bad air, dark rooms, cribbed spaces and stuffy surroundings. Nowadays, architects and builders are more considerate of the people, and there is a striving to provide houses with a maximum of air, light and space for the poorest as well as for the citizens of villadom and the west-end.

People with means can now insure having a house built whose first desideration is good health, if not, it is their own fault. But householders who cannot build or buy must take what is offered them for rental, and have their choice among the stereotyped varieties of house and cottage. The denizens of the city slums are at the mercy of the slumlords, the workers and their families in the rural districts are at the mercy of the landlord and his factor. In both town and country there is often some go-between that links the rent payer to the owner. The proprietor may be one remove or even two removes or more from the tenant whom he never sees, and of whose actual conditions of life and surroundings he is totally oblivious. The chief duty of the factor or middleman being to collect rent it is natural that only under great pressure will the necessary improvements be carried out. As in the cities, up till recently, the country authorities have been remiss in their duties in these matters, and they have dealt much too leniently with the owners of unhealthy, ramshackle apologies for human dwellings. Public Health Officers have usually done their part of the work well, and have often persevered, under great difficulties and opposition, in a campaign for better housing. But they are not supported as they ought by public authorities, and an awakened public opinion is necessary to bring home the importance and utility of EVERY CITIZEN having a healthy house to live in.

Privacy and adequate washing and SANITARY conveniences are wholly absent from tens of

thousands of houses in country districts. Drainage and the first principles of sanitation are entirely neglected. The consequent ill-health, depression, and demoralisation is incalculable. Many diseases and minor ailments may be traced to unhygienic houses; even laziness, ill-temper, malingering, and melancholia are often due to such.

A cottage sitting on a cesspool, or with a dung-hill close by is just a trap for conveying disease to its occupants. In time the purest soil becomes sodden and rotten with slops and excreta, and bad smells and ugly sights are good for nobody. There must be more scientific methods of disposing of excreta, and this can be largely effected by better plans of architecture and drainage. People must further waken up as to the importance of fresh air. Windows, doors, fire-places, and general construction must be so designed as much as possible so as to give a constant supply of pure air without draughts or discomfort. Formerly, windows were usually fixed in as if never to be opened from the top, and only with difficulty from the bottom. More attention must be given to the regulation of heat and cold in the houses of our cold and damp climate, and prevent the kitchen and living-room from becoming a hot-house or incubator for germs and insects. War should be made on flies, rats, and beetles, not only when they invade the house, but by preventive measures such as good scavenging and attention to structural details.

## NOT FOR SHOW.

To make the most of a well-designed house the occupants must learn more about hygiene. For instance, that it is foolish to stuff rooms with over much furniture, heavy carpets, curtains and ornaments, and to reserve the best and largest room for show purposes or as a sort of private museum, thereby depriving the family of valuable accommodation. To prevent dust, germs and odours, there should be no useless accumulations of odds and ends in our sleeping or living rooms: and no dark corners anywhere that are left over for attention once or twice a year. Backyard rubbish should be promptly dealt with. What is unseen in our dwellings and bodies should be kept as conscientiously sweet and clean as what is exposed to public view. Keeping ourselves and our houses clean only through fear of what our neighbours will say is a poor enough motive or reason for doing what ought to be a duty and a pleasure, but it is better than no motive at all: and public opinion is often a force that acts as a "counteractant" to individual

delinquency. Let us hope, however, the time is coming when people's houses will be clean and beautiful outside and inside, not through fear, but out of respect for their friends and neighbours, and from a realisation of the dignity of man and his wonderful physical body.

A scientific scheme of housing will immensely raise the average health of the nation, and have great influence in advancing the mental and physical welfare of the individual with increased national efficiency. And art would come in to embellish and beautify on rational principles, making every man feel his house was his castle in reality, and for him the most attractive spot on earth.

We cannot all have three acres and a cow, but we can have garden plots, flower beds, or even only flower pots and boxes, and we can enjoy nature under our own metaphorical fig tree, and also enjoy the sight of others enjoying like advantages.

#### COST.

The first objection many will make is the great cost of any ideal housing scheme. That is always an easy objection to make about any new proposal. But in this case it loses its validity at once for, taking it at the lowest point of view, it is a scheme calculated to bring in to the individual and the nation an infinite series of profitable returns in the form of health, wealth, and material prosperity. But to attain this the building and letting of houses should be done by the elected public authorities.

No jerry-building or hastily run-up erections can be tolerated. Every county council now has its architect and staff (and perhaps its own house building department) which receives guidance from and also is supervised by the central staff at the Scottish Department of Health. Built with an eye to the tenant's health, comfort, and convenience, with capital at lowest rate of interest, and profits eliminated, the housing authority could afford to let its houses at a minimum rental. A great building organisation like this, under the control of the local authority, could erect dwellings of guaranteed quality at a cost no private effort could hope to attempt.

But the saving in all directions would be incalculable. Better houses would mean less ill-health and absence from work and school: less tuberculosis, skin and children's diseases: less insanity and melancholia, and less crime. Less accommodation in our infirmaries, hospitals, workhouses, asylums, and jails would be required.

In the Highlands the advantage of such a scheme cannot be overvalued. I believe the low cost of building on the plan sketched out, whether in town, village or country, would be a great surprise to everybody. Things cannot go on as in the past, and as private enterprise in house building stands condemned, we must look to collective effort as the most effective means to enable the people to supply themselves at a minimum cost with that basic essential of a civilised, refined life—a well-built house. The moral advantages of a comprehensive national housing scheme far outweigh any cash consideration, and the nation would be much more justified in adding a huge amount to the national debt for this purpose than for carrying on a great war (or engaged in a further competition in armaments). We want the people back on the land in the Highlands—we want them to stay on the land, and we want them to have good houses. We want our towns and villages to be converted into model communities and garden cities. We want to see a free and contented people, and the rising generations having best advantages for health and happiness. Is any possible cost too great for those objects?

The cost of country houses would be much reduced if houses were built in groups as far as possible for purposes of water and light supply, drainage, common WASH-HOUSES and laundry, kitchen, and children's playground.

A rural housing scheme to fully meet present-day conditions would be one effective means of attracting and keeping people on the land, and the social and economic contributions of the increased population would not only be a valuable credit item on the balance sheet, but would be a solid national gain.

#### EFFICIENCY.

A public authority (L.A.) building houses for the people would have one eye for efficiency and comfort; and the temptation to turn out scamped, cribbed and jerry-built boxes of brick, stone, and wood, from considerations of private gain, would be absent. Hence, quality of materials, carefulness in construction, and scientific planning would be assured. How to make the most of a given space, to secure ample light and ventilation, to provide all kinds of useful fixtures, presses, and other adjuncts would be the aim of architect and builder. Sanitary, washing and kitchen conveniences of an adequate up-to-date model would be compulsory. Houses would be made not only healthy and comfortable, but easy to get about in and supplied with all the little

fittings that the housewife can appreciate. In this respect I think that any building committee or authority that may be formed should have a contingent of women on it; and I hope architecture and house decoration will become a popular profession with the ladies. There are some things about a house no mere man is capable of thoroughly appreciating or properly planning. It will be economy to have built-in presses, book-cases, wardrobes, couches, and cosy corners requiring much less moveable furniture with less dusting and cleaning to do.

Efficiency as the dominating motive of such an authority would mean a new era in house planning and building, and every new device would be used to reduce the labour of the housewife and the helpers. Many labour-saving appliances now in use by the well-to-do will come into universal use for the benefit of cook and housekeeper, and aid in taking away the reproach that so many wives are household drudges and the general servant a "slavey."

Efficiency in the house and home will enable thousands of women to enlarge their sphere and take their rightful place in affairs outside, and have their say not only in the planning of a house, but in the building of a nation.

### PROPAGANDA.

Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Northern Organiser, was present at a largely attended meeting of the Nairn Branch, on 16th December, at which Dr. D. J. MacLeod, H.M.I.S., gave a most interesting and informative lecture on the Bards. Mr. Carmichael assisted with the programme. At Tain, on the 18th, there was an audience of 250 at the Ceilidh of this Branch. The Gaelic class in the Church Hall has been very popular throughout the session, and a large attendance of pupils has been regularly maintained. Mr. Murdo MacRae, Logie Easter, is the teacher. After the New Year holidays, the next visit was to Sutherland, where the Provincial Mod arrangements were discussed with the local Committee at Lairg. The following day some propaganda work was accomplished at a meeting at Tomatin, and it is hoped that very shortly a branch of An Comunn will be formed in this village where there is still a large Gaelic population. Despite the severity of the weather and the serious flooding that occurred, there was a large attendance at Kinloch Laggan, where a

most enjoyable evening was spent in Ceilidh fashion. A meeting of delegates from the branches in the Badenoch district was held at Kingussie, and preliminary arrangements were discussed for the Badenoch-Strathspey Mod, to be held in Grantown this year. Committees were formed to make the necessary preparations. During the following week, Mr. Carmichael was engaged in the Gairloch district, where he hoped to organise a Provincial Mod. Mr. John MacDonald, music teacher, is at present engaged in conducting classes in this area. Meetings were held at Gairloch, Aultbea, Laide, and Melvaig, and finally a meeting was convened at Gairloch, which was attended by representatives from the other branches, and it was decided to hold a Mod at Gairloch, in the Drill Hall, on 11th March. Various means were suggested to raise the requisite funds, and the Committee is already active in this connection. Before returning to Inverness, Mr. Carmichael went to Ailligin, Torridon, and was successful in establishing a branch there with the following office-bearers:—President, Mr. Duncan MacDonald, Culdaroch; Vice-President, Mr. Murdo MacDonald, Riverside; Secretary, Mr. Kenneth MacDonald, Post Office, Culdaroch.

### SEALLADH AIR CRUACHAN BEANN BHÒ THAOBH DEAS LOCH ODHA.

Le SEORAS E. MARJORIBANKS.

(*A' Cheud Duais, Mod 1931.*)

So mis' am fagadh sgàirnich  
'N Cuil-Riabaich fada shuas,  
Is taibhsean fhilidh'n Lathurnach  
'Cur buaireadh ciùil am' chluais;  
Is molaidh mise Cruachan,  
Beinn ard nam binnean geur,  
An aigseir 's corraich' stadhan  
Tha'n Earraghaidheal gu léir.

B'e 'n sòlas buan, 's mi fuireach  
Taobh earra-dheas Loch Odha,  
Do lantair lèghmhor, lurach  
Bhi sgaoilt' a mach fa m' chomhair;  
Gur h-àluinn thu 'nad mhòrachd  
Fo thuar gach raidh' 'na cuairt  
Flor-ghlan, fad às 'nad ònrachd  
'Nad chaithris bheò 's 'nad shuain,

Do chinn fo chaochladh sìantan  
 Cìo lionmhor dreach is snuadh !  
 Seachd bàrran fliuch-gheal, drilseach  
 Mar lòchrainn àrd' thar cuain ;  
 Seachd stùcan dubh-bhreac, reòdhta  
 Ais-thilgeil fuachd ro-gheur,  
 Seachd lannan greannach, rùisgte  
 'Bior-tholadh uchd nan speur !

'Sam meadhon-marbh na h-oidhche  
 'Nuair theannas reultan dlùth,  
 'S nach léir aon bhad 'nad choille,  
 'S do leitir fann, gun chruth—  
 Feuch ! freiceadan nan Garbhach  
 Cìùin, diomhair, tosdach, trom,  
 Seachd daingnich speur-ard, starbhanach  
 Dhuhb-cheannach, dhubharach, lom.

Cho geur ri obair-ghrabhalaidh  
 Gach cùil air uchd do shléibh  
 Air maduinn reòdhta Gheamhraidh  
 'S na speuran cìùin-ghorm, séimh ;  
 Gach sgaradh beag, is filladh  
 Mìn-sgoilt' an dubh nam bèarn,  
 Gach feadan, sgor is faradh  
 Geur-shnaidht 'an clàr nan càrn.

'Nuair dh'fhuasglas beul nan sìantan  
 Bidh nuallan shruthan clis,  
 'Nan caoiribh geal' 's 'nan steallan  
 'Nam ficheadaibh 'nad shlios ;  
 Gach allt air at thar 'bhruachan,  
 Grad-leumnaich sìos 'na dheann  
 Gu lìonadh sgor Eas Chruachain  
 Bodhar-fhuaimneach, 's plumbach drannd'.

Gur tapaidh, cruaidh, neo-thuisealach  
 Na caoraich odhar, le'n àl,  
 'Gheibh teachd-an-tìr cho taosgach  
 Air bearradh sléibh cho àrd ;  
 'Bheir dùbhlán do na sìantan,  
 Na sgarrthaichean 's na neòil,  
 'S 'na dhéidhinn sin 's 'na dh'aindeoin,  
 As àirde miadh mar fheòil !

Bu léir an dé na fraoidhean  
 De'n choill' as isl' air t'fhonn,  
 Ach gualainn àrd is ilbhinn  
 Is stùc, cha robh iad ann !  
 Oir tharruing sìantan fuaraidh  
 Ceò-bhrat thar Leitir-Odha  
 Bho Stràigh gu Caol a' Bhrannraidh—  
 Aon bhraithlin chleitheach, reamh'r.

Nis thàinig sguaibh na h-iarmailt,  
 Sgairt-ghaath o'n àirde tuath,  
 A' fàgail aoibhneach, grianach  
 Na bha fo sprochd 's fo ghruaim ;

'Toirt daithean ùrail nèamhaidh  
 Air liath-ghlas chreig 's air càrn,  
 Gach ruigh 'na bhreacan riomhach,  
 Gach leacann lom 'na sgàthan.

Gur h-allaidh, allmharach, aibhseach,  
 Mac-tallach, cianal srann,  
 Bagarrach, uaigneach, taibhseach,  
 Ruadh-bhoglach, mealltach fonn,  
 Bras-bhuinneach, Coire Cruachan  
 'Nuair dh'éireas gart air speur,  
 'S bragh-torrainn Beinn a' Bhuiridh  
 'Cur crith air Sgòrr a' Bheithir !

Ach cò as déine togradh  
 Na mis', air maduinn Chéit,  
 'Bhi mànnan feadh do ghallach  
 Le slat, ri mealladh t' éisg ?  
 Do bhùrn gu cama-lubach,  
 Binn-chrònanach ri 'm thaobh,  
 Gal tiamhaidh cam-ghob guilbnich,  
 'S fann-sgiùcan circe-fraoich.

B'e sid an cearcall iongantach  
 De bheanntan suidh'chte cruinn,  
 An coslas crudh' eich iargallaich  
 Seach mìltean fad m'a dhruim ;  
 'S gur tric mi gabhail ionghnaidh  
 Carson, 's na làithean a dh'aom  
 A fhuaradh Beinn a' Bhuiridh  
 A stigh 'nad chròidhlean naomh.

Air leam gur e Beinn Dorain  
 'Ghabh eud ri Cruachan Bann,  
 'S Beinn Buidhe gabhail daonnan  
 Làn-shul d'a sheachdnar bhan ;  
 'N sin spion e cnagap eilein  
 Bho ghrunnd a' Chuain Shiar,  
 'Ga sparradh air do mheadhon  
 'Na dall-bhrat buan, g'a riar.

B'e sid an coimhthional taitneach  
 'Nan trusgan nèamhaidh Foghair,  
 Na coilltean ciar, 's iad laiste  
 Le stiallan dearg-bhuidh' òir ;  
 An raìneach 's crò-dhearg breacan,  
 An aisirith 's liath-ghorm sgòrr,  
 'S air roinn gach binnein shneachd-ghil  
 Lì ruiteach fann nan ròs.

Mo luaidh ban-rìgh nan Garbhach,  
 Àrd-bhuadhach, Cruachan Bann  
 An dé, fo sgàil do neòil-bhrat,  
 An duigh, 'nad mhòrachd làin !

Gur sona mi 'nad làthaireachd,  
 A Bheinn as bòidheche th'ann,  
 As luaineach, mealltach chàleachd  
 'S as carach, curaideach fonn !

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

'Fhir-mò chridhe,—Iomadh bliadhna roimhe so, b'abhaist do dhuine araidh nach maireann tachairt orm, uair is uair, ann an siorramachd Earraghaidheal—duine de 'n t-sean seorsa aig an robh sgeulachdan agus sean-fhacail gun aireamh. Tha cuid d'a chomradh 'nam chuimhne fhathast, agus bu mhaith leam gun robh e sin air fad. Ach bha aon sgeulachd aige, mu thimchioll duine a bha gu bhi air a 'chrochadh mur am b'urrainn da òran a thoirt seachad anns an robh gach rann gun toinise. Theagamh gun teid aig fear d'ur luchd-leughaidh an t-òran sin a thoirt seachad. Cha n'eil agam deth ach rann a tha 'toiseachadh,

"Chunnaic mi na faochagan  
is iad a'togail bhataichean."

Is mise,

le dùrachd,

SEMAS PARLANACH.

Onich, Bun Lochabar.

Sir,—With reference to the circular letter, which you were so kind as to print in your January issue, sent by Mr. Seumas MacNeil in connection with his desire to recommence the publication of *Teachdaire nan Gaidheal*, I beg to inform you that I have now heard from Mr. MacNeil to the effect that he is hoping to produce the first number in the late Spring. Those of your readers who would like to subscribe or submit contributions in Gaelic are therefore requested to write direct to Mr. MacNeil at 16 Dolbin Street, Sydney, Cape Breton Island, Canada.

Mr. MacNeil hopes to aid the propagation of An Comunn's aims in his new publication which, as we sincerely hope, will also serve as a link between the Gaels of the New World and those of the Old World.

Scottish Gaels who wish to subscribe to the capital of the *Teachdaire* should communicate with the undersigned, who will be pleased to form a financial committee on this side, if required, under control of an authorised body.—I am, Sir, etc.,

ALEXANDER McKECHNIE.

7 Southwell Gardens, London, S.W.7.,  
18th January, 1932.

## JUNIOR MODS.

The Annual Junior Mod promoted by the Glasgow High School Ceilidh took place on the 9th January. There was quite a large entry, and these youthful candidates gave most excellent performances in the vocal and oral classes that were promoted.

The Junior Mod of the Gairloch and Lochbroom Association on the 16th January was also most successful, and the children in the various classes showed evidences of careful preparation, and acquitted themselves with credit.

Both these associations are doing a valuable service to the cause of Gaelic by holding these Mods, and for this service are due the most grateful thanks of An Comunn.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

APPIN.—Two combined meetings of more than ordinary interest were held in the Appin Hall. Both were in aid of the funds of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach. The first was a recital of song with Clarsach accompaniment by Miss Heloise Russell-Fergusson of Ardtur. From an ever developing repertoire she judiciously selected seven items, five of which were in Gaelic. It was a model of graphic description. To Mr Macpherson as chairman fell the pleasant duty of proposing a vote of thanks to Miss Fergusson. This he did in no uncertain manner.—The monthly Ceilidh—the third of this session—took the form of a concert entirely sustained by Appin and Glencoran talent. The President, Mr. D. Macpherson, spoke first in Gaelic and afterwards in English. He dealt chiefly with the remarkable progress made by the Gaelic movement from very small beginnings forty years ago, and quoted striking facts and figures from the annual report of An Comunn. Despite the inclemency of the weather the large Hall was filled almost to capacity. After the singing of the National Anthem the young people indulged in dancing for an hour or two.

ARDGOUR.—A Ceilidh of the branch was held in the School, when the Hon. Mrs Maclean of Ardgour, presided. She emphasised the need for raising funds to help the National and Provincial Mods. Miss Christina MacPherson, winner of the medal for oral delivery at this year's National Mod, gave a recitation. Gaelic addresses were delivered by Rev. A. D. MacLean and by Mr Donald MacColl, and Miss Adam gave a character-sketch. The vocalists at the Ceilidh included prize-winners at the Ardnamurchan Mod. Thanks were given to the Hon. Mrs Maclean and Miss C. MacColl.

ARDNAMURCHAN.—The Rev. Neil MacDonald presided over the meeting of the Kilchoan branch and in his address to the members he referred at some length to the aims and purposes of An Comunn, which he strongly commended to those present. A programme of Gaelic songs and sgeulachdan followed.

BENECULA.—At a meeting of the Balivanich branch the proceedings largely concerned the discussion of a debate. After the question at issue had been satisfactorily settled the company were entertained to a Ceilidh programme. Mr K. MacLeod presided.

BONAWE.—The Beinn Duirinnis branch promoted a very successful Ceilidh in the Workmen's Hall. Mr D. Douglas, the newly elected President, occupied the chair and in addition to a stirring address related some very interesting sgeulachdan. A very interesting musical programme followed.



**BUTE.**—A novel feature of the meeting of the Bute branch was that the proceedings were entirely arranged and conducted by the ladies. Mrs Cameron presided. This branch sustained a severe loss in the death of Mr Murdoch MacKenzie. A native of Ploctin, Ross-shire, Mr MacKenzie came to Rothesay as a lad and his life was devoted to newspaper work and latterly he became editor and proprietor of the "Rothesay Express." He was an enthusiastic Celt, loving the Gaelic, the kilt, and the bagpipes. It was largely due to his efforts that the Bute branch was formed and also that the mod was held in Rothesay in 1908.

**DUMBARTON.**—The first annual gathering promoted by the Dumbarton branch attracted a full house to the Borough Hall. Sir Iain Colquhoun, as Hon. President, welcomed the company.

**DUMFRIES.**—The Gaelic class continues to be one of the principal activities of the Dumfries branch. It meets weekly in Dumfries Academy. All the pupils attending last session have rejoined and there is now an average weekly attendance of nineteen students and satisfactory progress is being made under the guidance of Mr Archibald MacDonald and Mr Donald Urquhart.

**FORT AUGUSTUS.**—The second Ceilidh of the session was held in the Public Hall, Mr John MacDonald presiding. Those who contributed included the Aberchalder School Choir, and Puirt-a-Beul by the Fort Augustus Gaelic Choir. On the call of the President, the artistes and Mrs D. MacGregor, Caledonian Hotel, and the ladies who assisted her, were cordially thanked.

**GLENGARRY.**—A large audience filled the Coronation Hall, Invergarry, recently, when the second ceilidh of the session was held under the auspices of the Glengarry branch of An Comunn. Mr Angus MacPhee, Bridge of Oich, referred to the generous support their branch had always received from their President, Major Ellice of Glengarry. Mr John MacGillivray, who presided, also addressed the gathering.

**INVERARAY.**—There was a large attendance at the meeting of the Inveraray branch presided over by Mr Robert Bain, Vice-President. Tea was served by the Ladies' Committee, and a popular programme of songs and readings was submitted.

**INVERNESS.**—The branch have had two very successful meetings since the beginning of the winter session. The opening ceilidh was held in the Columba Hotel. There was a record attendance of members and friends and a most enjoyable evening was spent in story, song and dance. Captain William Mackay, the genial president of the branch, occupied the chair and in the course of the evening delighted the company with an account, in Gaelic, of his War reminiscences. The evident enjoyment of all present augured well for the success of future such gatherings. The second meeting was held in the Unionist Rooms, kindly lent by Colonel Gunn, when Mr. Angus Macdonald, Shipping Agent, Inverness, gave a demonstration of the direct method of teaching Gaelic. There was a large attendance of members and Mr. Macdonald's demonstration was followed with much interest. Captain Mackay, who presided, thanked Mr Macdonald for his instructive lecture. Among those who spoke in appreciation of Mr. Macdonald's demonstration were, Dr. D. J. Macleod, H.M. Inspector of Schools, Mr. Mackay, and Col. Gunn. A committee of ladies provided tea for the company and songs were sung by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Mrs. Stewart, Miss J. E.

Mackenzie, Miss Macfarlane, Messrs. Rod. Macleod, Walter Ross and Donald Mackenzie.

**LAGGAN.**—The Branch at Laggan held a very successful Ceilidh on Tuesday, 5th January, in the Old School-house, Balgown. According to the suggestion of the Committee, Dr. Neil Ross, who presided, gave a short talk on the general situation of the Gaelic cause. Several songs were sung in Gaelic and Scots, and some recitations were rendered. Tea was given out during the interval. The next talk will be given by Mr Finlayson, headmaster, on the 5th of February.

**LOCHDONHEAD.**—The Torosay branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held a ceilidh in the School-room, about eighty people being present. Mr N. C. MacKinnon, President of the branch, speaking in Gaelic, urged the necessity of Gaelic being spoken in the home. A humorous Gaelic song, composed by Mr T. S. Campbell, a native of Lochdon, who emigrated to Canada forty-one years ago, was sung by Mr N. C. MacKinnon. Tea was served by a Ladies' Committee.

**STIRLING.**—The first annual gathering of the Stirling branch in the Albert Hall was an outstanding success. His Grace the Duke of Montrose presided. There was a full house, and the audience greatly appreciated the bi-lingual programme. The concert was one of the most enjoyable held in the town for a long time.

**TOBERMORY.**—There was a large audience in the Aros Hall when the annual Christmas ceilidh of the local branch was held. The chair was occupied by Mr John Cameron, vice-President, who extended on behalf of the branch a hearty welcome to Miss Irene MacCowan, Oban, who appeared several times in the programme, and whose singing evoked the enthusiastic applause of the audience. Special mention deserves to be made of an original dialogue, "Domhnall is Eilidh air staid na rioghachd an ceart uair," composed specially for the ceilidh by a local Gaelic enthusiast, Mr Alasdair MacLachlainn, of Bad-daraich. The dialogue was most capably rendered by Mrs J. Simpson and Mr J. Cameron, Linnedhu, and was very well received. Votes of thanks to the performers, the accompanist (Mrs MacGillp), and to the Chairman, were accorded on the call of Mr J. Cameron and Mr A. A. MacGillp, and the singing of "Oidhche Mhath Leibh" brought a very successful concert to a close.

**WICK.**—There was a good attendance at the first ceilidh for the new year held in the Academy on Friday evening, 18th January. Rev. D. S. Sutherland of the Congregational Church, vice-president, presided, and congratulated the branch on its success and the good work that was being done. Mr Millar, president, gave an address on "Old Smuggling Days." He first told, in substance, the story of how Markie Bruce outwitted M'Mahon, the gauger, as so humorously related in Pastor Horne's "Canny Countryside" and thereafter gave the story of a notorious Highland smuggler, nicknamed "Jeeckin," whose career included stirring adventure, romance, strange coincidence and general human interest. Several other members also related incidents of old-time smuggling. The musical programme included solos by Miss K. McKenzie and Mr. J. Young, violin selections by Miss M. S. Henderson, and gramophone selections by Mr. Ramsay Turner. Mrs. Gilbertson was accompanist. The usual happy ceilidh spirit pervaded the meeting, which concluded with the customary votes of thanks and the singing of "Oidhche math leibh."



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TELEGRAMS.—Runaire, Glasgow.

TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXVII.]

*Am Màrt, 1932.*

[Earrann 6

### NA H-ORAIN MHARA.

Tha a' mhuir luaineach caochlaideach. Tha i cho neo-fhoiseil ri neòil nan speur, no ri gaoth nam beann. Tha fios againn gu bheil gaol na mara làidir an cridhe nan Eileanach, agus na feadhach a rugadh ri oir a' chuain air còrsa an iar na Gaidhealtachd. An ni a tha daingean anns a' chridhe thig e a mach anns a' cheòl. Is ann mar sin a dh'éirich do na h-òrain mhara a tha ri sheachnadh anns a' Ghaidhlig. Mar tha seòl na mara eadar-dhealichte o dhòigh an fhearainn, tha nàdur a' chiùil-mhara air leth o gach ceòl eile. Tha móran saothrach ri dheanamh fhathast gus na h-òrain Ghaidhlig a chur an òrdugh a réir an gnè. Tha muinntir 'g an seinn an diugh nach fhaca riamh agus nach do thuig an cor anns an d'fhàs na h-òrain air tùs. Air a' mhodh sin cia mar is urrainn iad am blas ceart a chur air na fuinn, no idir an seinn leis an dùrachd is an dealas a tha iomchuidh. Mar theid obair A' Chomuinn air a h-aghart anns na bliadhnaichean ri teachd, feumar so a chumail anns an amharc, gun tuig an luchd seinn brìgh nam briathran, agus gum bi breithnachadh 'ga nochdadh a thaobh tùs is nàdur a' chiùil.

Tha cuid de na h-òrain mhara a' dearbhadh gur deagh sheòladair an Gaidheal. Mar chaidh a shinnsir a mach an tòir air cruadal, theid

an Gaidheal fathast gu muir a dh'aindeoin cunnairt. Chan e a mhàin gu bheil na h-òrain a' dearbhadh gu bheil tlachd an òganaich anns a' chuan, ach mar fhìor bhàrd tha e a' dol air ais gu laithean na h-òige, agus a' sealltainn na buaidh a bha aig a' mhuir thairis air a smuaintean o thùs:—

*"Mun tainig an ath Dhi-luain  
Bha sinn ciadan mìl' o Chluaidh;  
Fhuair na gillean na bha uath'—  
Farsuingeachd a' chuain fo 'sròin.*

*"Cuimhne leam 'n uair bha mi maoth,  
'Buachailleachd mun chreagan chaol,  
Long nan crannag ri mo thaobh,  
Bioran fraoich 'n an slatan se'U."*

Tha e duilich do luchd àitich nam bailtean a thuinginn ciamar is urrainn an seòladair taitneas fhaotainn air an fhaige, buailteach do strì nan dùl, gaoth is doimionn is gàbhadh nan tonn. Ach tha àrdachadh spioraid is misnich ri fhaicinn an uair a shéideas an soir-bheas agus a shuidheas an stiùramaiche aig an ailm, a' stiùradh na h-ìubhraich gu h-ealanta. Chl sinn an òran na *Dubh Ghleannaich* cia cho sunndach is a theid na seòladairean ri uchd cunnairt ri an-uair.

Anns an t-seann aimsir bha mórchuis nan triath ri fhaicinn 'n an suidheachadh; cò am fear aig am mò a bhiodh de luchd lean-mhuinn; cò am fear aig am biodh a' bhirliinn a b'airde cruinn agus a bu lìonmhoire raimh. Bha strì eadar triathan nan eilean a thaobh

greadhachais de'n ghnè so. Bha togal nam birlinn a toirt cosnaidh do shaoir, do ghaibhnean is luchd ceàird eile. Tha *Sgiobaireachd Clann Raghnaill* le Mac Mhaighsteir Alasdair ag innse àireamh is dreuchd nam fear-mara a b'abhaist a bhi air a' bhirinn chogaidh. Tuigear cor na dùthcha o'n bhàrdachd a tha ag iomradh air creach is spùinneadh. Bha gach triath a' deanamh an ni a bha freagarrach 'na shùilean fhéin. Cha robh spéis 'g a nochdadh do lagh an rìgh. Cha robh cumhachd os cionn nan ceann cinnidh a bheireadh orra géilleadh do reachd na rìoghachd. Is iomadh turus millteach a ghabh na cinn fheadhna gu bhi deanamh dìoghaltais air a chéile. Is tric a bha an fhainge daithe mun cuairt air birlinn, le fuil na dream a thuit. Thachair sin uair is uair. Is ann ri am cruadail is gàbhaidh de'n t-seòrsa so a chaidh na h-òrain mhara a sheinn an toiseach. Chan ann idir o smuaintean dhìomhain fhaoin, ach o chunnart is o dheuchainn a thàinig an cèol a bhuineas do'n fhainge. Agus mar sin is ceart gum biodh tomhas eòlais aig an luchd seinn air na nithean sin a chum is gu seinneadh iad na h-òrain gu dlìgheach.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tha fios againn gu robh na Lochlannaich a' fuireach fad cheithir cheud bliadhna air taobh an iar na Gaidhealtachd, agus anns na h-Eileanan. Bha iadsan ainmeil mar mharàichean. Tha e air innse gun d'ràinig iad ceann a tuath America ceudan bliadhna roimh latha Cholumbuis. Mar thoradh air an teomachd mar sheòladairean, agus am misnich mar shaighdearan, thug iad a mach buaidh an Alba, an Eirinn, an Sasuinn, anns an Fhraing, agus eadhon anns an Eadailt. Ghabh iad seilbh gu tur air Normandy, agus is e fear dhiu a bha 'na rìgh air Sardinia. Tha iomadh ainm an diugh air duine is air àite ann ar dùthaich, a dh'fhàg na reubairean cruadalach as an déidh. The earrann de am fuil anns an fhear a tha a' sgrìobhadh so, agus faodaidh gu bheil sin fìor cuideachd a thaobh an leughadair. Am b'iongnadh mata ged bhiodh Gaidheil na h-àird an iar 'n deagh sheòladairean? Am b'iongnadh ged bhiodh iad toigheach air a' mhuir agus ged bhiodh "duatharachd na mara" ri fhaotainn anns na h-òrain mhara a tha fathast air sgeulthaobh? Cò aige tha fios nach eil misneach nan Lochlunnach o shean beò fathast an cridhe nan Eileanach sin a bha o chionn beagan bhliadhnaichean air ais cho cruadalach treun anns na batail-mhara an aghaidh naimhdean na rìoghachd?

## SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC, 1932.

The Summer School of Gaelic will be held this year at Newtonmore from Tuesday, 19th July, to Friday, 12th August, inclusive. The Classes will be held in the Village Hall from 19th July till 22nd July; and from 25th July until 12th August in the Public School by kind permission of the Inverness County Education Committee. All prospective students are requested to make arrangements for rooms well in advance.

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## THE CLAN CHATTAN.

After the overthrow of the Lordship of the Isles and the consequent decline of the MacDonalds, the Clan Campbell became a force in the national life. In other parts of the country the larger clans, around whom were grouped several of the smaller septs, were all-powerful. The Mackenzie and their followers were supreme in Ross-shire; the MacKays in Sutherland; the Clan Gunn in Caithness; the MacLeods in Glenelg, Harris, and Lewis; the Clan MacNeil in Barra; the MacDougalls in Lorn; the MacLeans in Mull, and the confederacy of septs known as the Clan Chattan in the Central Highlands.

The origin and development of all these clans is a matter of common knowledge, with the exception of the Clan Chattan, whose early history is so shrouded in the mists of obscurity that various origins have been ascribed to it by different writers. The Clan reached the acme of its power in the fifteenth century, when its possessions stretched across Inverness-shire almost from sea to sea, with its principal seat in Badenoch.

According to tradition the Clan entered that region from Lochaber, probably about the time the Picts were being driven eastward and the Pictish kingdoms and language were overthrown.

One of the theories put forward is that the Clan Chattan is descended from a German people known as the Chatti. This race is said to have settled in Sutherlandshire, which in Gaelic is *Cataibh*, a name supposed to be derived from Chatti. *Cataibh* is the plural of "cat," and we know that Sutherlandshire was inhabited at one time by the Cat men, so called because they held the cat as the symbol or totem of the tribe. There may be no connection, however, between the names Chatti and Chattan although somewhat similar.

Other authorities, among them Skene, think the Clan takes its name from Gillchattan Mor, who lived about the year 1000 A.D. This would give the Clan an ecclesiastical origin, for this name signifies "Servant of Catan," a saint who flourished in the West of Scotland in the sixth century. The name is still preserved in Kilchattan Bay, in Bute, and in Ardochattan in Argyllshire. Dr. MacBain, the eminent Gaelic philologist, considers this the most likely explanation of the origin of the name, and states "the possibility of the Clan being

named after some powerful chief called Catan must not be overlooked."

The Clan Chattan figure as one of the Clans which took part in the famous fight on the North Inch of Perth, in the year 1396. In the succeeding years the Clan increased its possession and the sphere of its influence, and in consequence became more powerful. At this period of its history it consisted of a confederation of some sixteen septs, the most important of these being MacIntosh (including Crerar), MacPherson (including Gillies), Davidson, Cattanaach, MacPhail, MacBean, Farquharson, Shaw, MacGillivray, MacLean of Dochgarroch, Gillespie, Gillanders, Smith (or Gow), and Clark. The MacQueens, although a branch of the Clan Donald, usually ranged themselves alongside the Clan Chattan, and in 1609 Donald MacQueen of Corrybrough, as Chief of the sept, signed a document, along with the other chiefs of the confederation, acknowledging Angus MacIntosh of that ilk as Captain and Chief of Clan Chattan.

As early as 1466, however, MacIntosh had been regarded as chief, for in a charter from the Lord of the Isles he is designated "capitanus de Clan Chattan." Other charters and documents testify to the position held by MacIntosh, and it was not until the middle of the seventeenth century that MacPherson of Cluny seriously claimed chieftainship. Previous to that time he had disputed with the Davidsons for second place in the confederation. The part taken by the MacPhersons in the Battle of Glenlivet in 1594, and in the Montrose wars, brought them to the forefront in the seventeenth century, and they were eager to be regarded as one of the leading Highland Clans.

In 1665, when MacIntosh was raising his followers against Cameron of Lochiel, MacPherson of Cluny promised his assistance on three conditions. Firstly, that the chiefs of the MacPhersons hold the next place in the Clan to MacIntosh; secondly, that lands now possessed by MacIntoshes and once possessed by MacPhersons be restored to the latter; and thirdly, that the assistance now given was not in the nature of a service which MacIntosh had a right to demand, but simply a piece of goodwill.

Notwithstanding this agreement, MacPherson, in the year 1672, applied for and obtained from the Lord Lyon the matriculation of his arms as "Laird of Cluny MacPherson, and only true repre-



sentative of the ancient and honourable family of Clan Chattan." MacIntosh objected to this, and the result was that Cluny was only given "a coat of arms as cadets of Clan Chattan." In the year 1724 a final agreement was reached between MacPherson and MacIntosh by which the former renounced all claim to the chieftainship and received Aberardair from MacIntosh.

The remaining history of the Clan Chattan is similar to that of its neighbours. The adherence of the Clans to the Stuart Cause, and their defeat on Culloden Moor in 1746 completely shattered the whole Clan System. Laws were enacted which made the continuance of the old order well-nigh impossible, and although it lingered on in remote parts for a time before the end of the eighteenth century, its last upholders died out.

DAVID LAIDLAW.

### NA REULTAN.

*(We have pleasure in publishing the following thoughtful poem by Mr Donald MacMillan, Kinlochel. The piece was awarded first-equal in the oral section at the Dingwall Mod.)*

Na reultan àluinn is àille dreach,  
Ri Faoilteach Geamhraidh 's an speur gun smal;  
Is boidhche soillseadh gu dearsach, boillsgeach,  
Fo bhrat na h-oidhche 's iad priobach geal.

'Nuair chi thu *Venus* ag eirigh shuas  
'Cur soillseadh ceutach 's an speur le 'buaidh;  
Gu dearsach, dealrach am beul an anmoich,  
'S e neoil 's droch aimsir ni a falach bhuainn.

An Rionnag Thuathach as boidhche dreach,  
'S e miann gach seòladair oirre deare';  
A' togail cùrsa do'n chairt-iuil dhi  
Gu ailm na stiurach a chumail ceart.

'Nuair thig an crann anns an aird an ear,  
Is slabhraidh cham ann a té mu seach,  
'Toirt rabhaidh cinnteach gu'm bris na siantan,  
Is nach bi dìon as a' chalachd mach.

Ma chi thu Grioglachan anns an deas,  
Na Fir-chlis 's iad ag iadhadh air,  
Ma chaill e chùrsa mu'n tig an dùdlachd  
Bidh doirionn cinnteach 'g ad chur air gheilt.

Ma chi thu'n t-slat is i tomhas réidh,  
Fionnach Chat a' tighinn dlùth 'na déidh;  
Thig frasan greannach le cruaidh chlach-  
mheallain  
'S a' bheithir lasrach thig grad 's an speur.

Thig Rionnag-smùid anns an aird an iar,  
Ma chi do shùil i am Màrt na bliadhn',  
Ni blàths deadh aimsir gach achadh tarbhach,  
'S bheir cluaintean arbhair gu torach siol.

Thig Rionnag-leum ann o dheas gu tuath  
A' fagail stiall as a deidh le guairn;  
Gu stiomach, earblach, co chumas falbh rith',  
No bheir seanachas dhuinn air a cuairt.

Tha iad cho dùmhail am measg a cheil',  
Diubhar meudachd 's a h-uile té;  
Diubhar soillseadh is diubhar boillsgeadh,  
A' lasadh aoibhneis an àird nan speur.

An deicheamh trian dhiubh cha dean mi luaidh,  
Le beachdan m'inntinn a chur an duan;  
Cha ghabh iad àireamh do'n t-sùil gu nadurr',  
'S gach aon diubh dearsadh cho fada bhuainn.

O linn gu linn is o neart gu neart,  
Thig cur is buain oirnn aon mu seach;  
Thig Ceitein Samhraidh, thig dùbhlachd Geamh-  
raidh,  
'S e reothadh crainntidh ni 'n rionnag pailt.

Chan 'eil speuradair, deas no tuath,  
'S a chruinne-ché ged is mór a' chuairt,  
A bheir dhuinn dearbhadh le cinnt an seanachas,  
Air àireamh dearbhata nan reultan shuas.

Mar dhìleab dh'fhagadh aig clann nan daoin',  
Gun luach, gun phaigheadh 's iad uile saor,  
An speur air àiteach le reultan àluinn,  
Nach crìon gu bràth is nach searg le aois.

### CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Chum Clann an Fhraoich Céildh uile-  
Ghaidhlig an Gleann-dà-ruadhthuil air an  
25mh de'n Fhaoilteach ann am foir-sheomar  
mór thigh Bhaintighearna Ormadail. Chruin-  
nich luchd na Gaidhlig air fad, cuid de na  
seann mhathanan ag coiseachd miltean thar a'  
mhonaidh. Chunnatadh mu cheithir fichead  
ann eadar shean is òg, agus bha Seòras  
Marjoribanks, Fear-Gairme na Cloinne, anns  
a' chathair. Chuir a' Bhaintighearna fhéin  
rian air clàr-eagair a bha air leth grinn, air  
chor agus eadar pìobaireachd, òrain, sgeulachdan  
agus Còisir a' Ghlinne fhéin gun do chuireadh  
feasgar cridheil, sunndach seachad. Agus mar  
nach foghnadh sin bha seomar eile air a  
reiteachadh chum agus gun d'fhuair na gillean  
's na caileagan an casan a chrathadh gu meadhon  
oidhche. Bha dà phund Shasunnach 'sa deich  
air a thionail airson ionmhas na Cloinne.  
Bha e 'na thoileachadh mór do na h-uile a'  
Bhaintighearna fhéin fhaicinn an ceann a'  
ghnothuch uile.

# IAIN LOM—A BHEATHA IS A BHARDACHD.

LE IAIN MAC CORMAIG.

*A' Cheud Duais, Mod, 1924.*

## III.

Dh'fheuch Iain Lom a h-uile h-alt is innleachd a chum na mortairean a thoirt gu ceartas. Chitear cho mì-rianail 's a bha an dùthaich anns an am, an uair nach robh maor no siorram no earraid fo'n Chrùn gu feum sam bith airson ceannairceach a thoirt air beulaobh ceartais. Bha sin an urra ris a' cheann cinnidh a' mhain—Leis an sin cha robh doigh air ceartas fhaotainn ach le airm. Dh'oidheirpich Iain Lom Clann Domhnuill a dhùsgadh anns a h-uile cearn anns an robh iad. Ghlac e a chlàrsach. Ghleus e a teudan. Chaidh e ri cumha, gus an tug briathran tiamhaidh *Mort na Ceapaich* deoir air shùilean fhionnlach. Thainig smal air cridhe athar is mathar anns gach aite anns an cuais an ealain bhròin. Gun bhi a' meorachadh ach air aon rann de'n chumha so chl sinn am bròn a laigh air cridhe a' bhàird—

“Ach a Mhorair Chlann Domhnuill  
'S fad do chomhnuidh measg Ghall;  
Dh'fhàg thu sinne 'n ar breislich  
Nach do fhearsdail chun t'am;  
Nach do ghleidh thu na h-itean  
Chaidh gun fhios duit air chall,  
Tha sinn corrach as t-aonais  
Mar choluinn sgaoilte gun cheann.”

A nis cho robh dad aig a' bhàrd na bhuidhinn le bhi dol cho danarra anns an eadargin. Sheas e 'n a aonar am measg sluagh na dùthcha a chum na reubairean a thoirt gu ceartas. Chuir e ceann feadhna na Ceapaich 'n a aghaidh. Bha fhios aig Domhnallach na Ceapaich cho furasda 's a bha e do bhàrd sluagh aomadh. Bha fhios aige gu robh na bàird air am meas le sluagh saobh-chreideach mar dhaoine aig an robh comas milleadh a dheanamh le sgaiteachd an teangan. Chaidh Iain Lom uime sin fhuaich a' fhearann athraichean.

Fhuair e fasgadh o Iarla Shiphort, agus o 'n daingnich sin lùb e a bhogha, agus thilg e saighdean puiseanta gu uchd nan ceannairceach.

Dhùigh e gu mòr air a' bhàrd e bhi air a chartadh o a dhùthaich is o a dhaoine, a chionn gun do sheas e air taobh ceartais. Is ann an sin a rinn e *Oran Shìol Dhughail*. Tuigear o an

dà rann a leanas mar bha a chridhe air fhàsgadh—

“Mi 'g am fhògradh a Clachaig,  
'S mi gun mhànus gun aitribh,  
'S nach e 'm màl a tha fairtleachadh orm;

Mi 'g am fhògradh a'm dhùthaich  
'S m' fhearann pòst aig Shìol Dhughail,  
'S iad am barail gun àraich iad coir.”

Tha an t-sreath mun dheireadh a' leigeil fhaicinn nach do leig am bàrd dheth ceartas a bhi air a ghiùlan a mach. Bha e a' faireachadh gu robh a' gheur-leanamhuinn a bhatar a' deanamh air fhéin cho ana-cuinneasach ris a' ghiollachd a fhuair òganaich na Ceapaich. Chuir Iain Lom roimhe gun fois a ghabhail. Chaidh e gu ceann feadhna Ghlinne Garadh, ach dhiult am flath so arm a thogail an aghaidh Shìol Dhughail na Ceapaich. Is e *Shìol Dhughail* a theirt ris a' ghluin sin de na Domhnallaich a bha anns a' Cheapaich. Bha Iain Lom eòlach air gach meanglan de'n chraoibh ghineil o'n tàinig e. Anns an treas rann de *Latha Tom a' Phubail* tha am bàrd a' toirt iomradh air “Sliochd nan trì Cholla” o'n do shìolach na Domhnallaich cho maith ri cinneadh no dhà eile. B'iad na trì Collachan, Colla Uais, Colla da Chrich, agus Colla Meann, clann bràthar rìgh na h-Eireann. B'ann o Cholla Uais a shìolaich Clann Domhnuill, Clann Mhic Alasdair, is Clann Dughail. Is ann mar sin a theirt Shìol Dhughail ri Domhnallaich na Ceapaich.

An uair a dhiult Gleann Garadh smuainich Iain Lom gun toiradh e deuchainn do Shir Alasdair Mac Domhnuill Shléibhte. A chum an rathad a réiteachadh roimhe rinn am bàrd an t-òran molaidd snasmhor ris an canair “*A Bhean Leasaich an Stop Dhùinn*.” Mhol e Sir Alasdair Shléibhte agus a mhac Sir Seumas, agus an uair a smuainich e gu robh an rathad réidh roimhe, rainig e na flathan sin agus chuir e an chuis fo an comhair. Fhuair e éisdeachd cho maith is gun do chuir Sir Seumas mu reir air ball a chum dòghaltas a dheanamh air ceannairich na Ceapaich. Chl sinn uaidh so féin a' bhuaidh a bha aig brosnuchadh a' bhàird. Thug Sir Seumas eòis na Ceapaich air beulaobh an Ard Riaghlaidh. Fhuair e ughdarras “teine agus stailinn” fo laimh Dhiuc Hamilton, an Mhareucis Montrós agus seachdnar eile de bhuill an Ard Riaghlaidh, a chum na reubail a ghlacadh beò no marbh. B'e an ath cheum ughdarras a thoirt do'n Chìaran Mhabach, an Uidhist a Tuath, leth bhràthair do Shir Seumas, dol an ceann feachd, a chum na ceannairich a chur an rìbe, Bha

e feumail gach ceum a thoirt gu maith faiceallach; oir nam biodh an rabhadh bu lugha aig fear na Ceapaich, cha bhiodh e furasda cur ris, oir rachadh aige air tìrl cheud fear a chur 'n an armachd an tiota. Bha an Ciaran Mabach gu feachd aiseag gu àite sonruichte air Tìr-Mór. Bha Iain Lom ra chomhlachadh an sin, agus ra threòrachadh gu garaidh nan leoghann fo sgàil na h-oidheche. Chaidh Tigh na Ceapaich a chuartaichadh, agus breith air na ceannairich, seachdnar dhiu, 'n an leaban. Chaidh an toirt gus an bhlàr a muigh, agus chaidh na cinn a sgudadh de'n t-seachdnar, mun tàinig glòmanaich na maidne air beanntan Loch Abar.

A nis ged tha an obair so a' sealltainn borb bha i a réir an lagha. Cha robh doigh eile air ceartas a nochdadh. Bha e mar fhiachaibh air Iain Lom agus air A'Chiaran Mhabach na cinn a thoirt gu Inbhirnis, a chum an gnìomh a bhi air a dhaingneachadh gu laghail le breitheamh fo'n Chrùn. Chaidh na seachd cinn a chur an clabh, agus air an rathad chaidh an glanadh aig *Tobar nan Ceann*. Thug an t-Ard Rìaghlach mór bhuidheachas do Shìr Seumas Shléibhte air son a sheirbheis as leth lagh na rìoghachd. Ach cha robh duine eile anns an rìoghachd a ghabh urad de dhragh ri Iain Lom; no idir duine a dh'fhuiling mar dh'fhuiling e, an uair a chaill e eadhon a dhachaidh, agus a b'eigin da dol air faontradh le a theaghlach, as leth rian is ceartas a bhi air am moladh anns an dùthaich.

Agus *Tobar nan Ceann*! Thainig latha eile air an do chuir fear de theaghlach Ghlinne Garadh carragh cuimhne air an làraich. Tha an sgrìobhadh Gaidhlig a tha air a' chlàr, o laimh Eoghainn Mhic Lachuinn:—

*“ Fhàr astair thig agus leugh  
Seul air ceartas an De bhuain.  
Eisd ri dìol na ceilg a dh'fhag  
A' Cheapach 'na larach fhuair.  
Sgaoil na mìltich lion an Eig  
Mu bhàrd òibhin nan fleadh fial,  
'S mheasgaich iad na sean 's na h-oig  
'S an aon tor 'nam fuil gun ghìomh.  
Mhosguil corruich an t-Ard Thriath  
Ursann dhian nan comhlan cruaidh,  
M'fhear Chlann Domhnuill an fhuair,  
Leoghann nan euchd, Craobh nam buadh.  
Dh'iarr e, 's chaidh Dioghailt 'na leum  
Mar bheithir bheumnach nan neul,  
Ghlac i dream a dhealbh na foill  
'S thug làn duais mar thoill an gnìomh.  
Lamh riutsa 'ghorm fhuarain ghrinn  
Dh'ionnlaideadh seachd cinn nan lùb,  
'S aig casan a' Ghaigich àigh  
Thilgeadh iad air làr a dh'uin.*

*Coig fichead bliadh'n le'n còrr 's an deug  
Thriall mu'n speur o dheas gu tuath,  
Bho'n ghairmeadh Tobar nan Ceann  
Air an t-sruth so an cainnt an t-sluaigh.  
Mis' an t-seachdamh thar fichead glen  
De fhreumh uasal an laoiach threun,  
Mac Mhic Alasdair m'ainm gnàths,  
Flath Chlann Domhnuill nan sàr euchd.  
Thog mi 'n leac so air lom an raoin  
Faisg air caochan a' chliis bhuain,  
Mar mheas do cheann stuic nan Triath,  
'S gu'n cuimhnicht' an gnìomh ri luaths.”*

Annas a' bhliadhna 1689 an uair a chaidh Clabhars an ceann feachd as leth na Stiùbhar-dach bha Iain Lom, eadhon ged bha e suas am bliadhnaichean, air an aireamh a chaidh fo armachd air a thaobh. Chan e gun do thog e féin a chlaidheamh, ach bhrosnuich e a choimhearsnaich le a bhàrdachd. Bha e an lathair aig cath Raon Ruaraidh, agus dh'fhag e cuimhneachan air a' bhatal sin ann an dàn. Chaidh Clabhars a mharbhadh annas a' chath ghluineach so. Fhuair Iain Lom a dhùrachd mar Chatliogach an uair a dh'aisigeadh Tearlach II gus a' chrùn. Ghleus e a chlàrsach a rithist, agus dhealb e duan air cuspair a bha dluth do a chridhe.

(Ri Leantuinn.)

## THE ISLE OF SOUTH UIST.

Grey isle of lochs, peat-bogs and machair-land,  
Of windswept moors, drenched slopes and corries drear;  
Haunts of the gull, wild swan and shell-drake blear,  
Lone tangle reefs, dulse-rocks and sheen-white sand.  
Ghostly thy peaks like frowning ogres stand,  
Wreathed in mist, bleak, awesome, scarred and sear;  
Where silence reigns amid the spurts we hear  
Of mad white-horses on thy grassy strand.  
Famed were thy sea-kings, seanachies and bards,  
When the rival clans in mighty combat strove;  
When Michael's feast was held 'mong thy green swards,  
And druidic rites performed in every grove.  
Still, though thou'rt barren, Uist, mid wastes apart,  
There love burns pure, there heart draws close to heart.

SOMERLED MACMILLAN.

## PROPAGANDA TOURS.

The General Secretary presided at the Singing Class closing Concert at Lochdonhead, Mull, on Friday, 29th January. There was a splendid attendance, and the local choir gave creditable renderings of four part songs under the leadership of Mr. John MacDiarmid, An Comunn teacher. Colonel and Mrs. Greenhill Gardyne of Glenforsa were present.

On Monday, 1st February, Colonel Greenhill Gardyne of Glenforsa took Mr. Shaw in his car to Torloisk where a meeting had been arranged, but unfortunately the use of the school for that evening was refused. A number of local enthusiasts gathered in the house of Mr. Hugh MacInnes, and a Branch was formed. It is hoped, however, that the school will be available for future meetings. Colonel Gardyne and Mr. Shaw thanked Mr. MacInnes for his splendid services in connection with this meeting.

A ceilidh in the Salen (Aros) School on 2nd February was attended by fully 90 people. The president, Colonel Gardyne, introduced Mr. Shaw, who conducted the meeting in Gaelic. A splendid programme of Gaelic songs and instrumental music was carried through. Ulva Ferry was visited on the 3rd, and the little school there was taxed to its uttermost, about 60 people being present. After Mr. Shaw's Gaelic address there was a fine programme of songs and pipe music.

Bunessan arranged a special ceilidh on 4th February to suit the General Secretary's convenience. There were about 150 people present, and in addition to his customary address Mr. Shaw read his essay on "Am Bothan Tughaidh." A number of Gaelic songs were rendered by members of the Branch.

On 5th February Mr. Shaw visited Iona, and interviewed several people with a view to forming a music class. On account of the recent death of Mr. Angus Macphail, president of the Iona Branch, no evening meeting was asked for, but a strong effort will be made to form the class. In the evening a meeting of the Creich Branch was held in the school. This turned out to be the largest meeting of the series in Creich, there being fully 80 people present. Mr. Shaw read an essay on "Na Sithichean," and a number of members contributed songs. At the close 20 people gave in their names for the proposed Music Class.

On Monday, 8th February, Mr. Shaw travelled to Tiree, and addressed a meeting in Scarinish in the evening. About 90 people attended, and after addressing the company on the work

of An Comunn Mr. Shaw read "Am Bothan Tughaidh." Songs and recitations were given by members, and the Rev. Mr. MacKinnon gave a short address. The following evening Mr. Shaw attended a meeting of the Balemartine Branch in the local school. There was no accommodation in the school for all the people who turned out, with the result that about 50 people failed to get inside the doors. There were 150 people inside. Mr. Wm. MacDiarmid, hon.-president, presided, and conducted the meeting in Gaelic. The General Secretary followed his address by reading his essay on "Na Sithichean." A long programme of Gaelic songs, mostly local productions, was gone through. Wednesday, 10th, was devoted to visiting people interested in the movement locally.

Mr. Shaw travelled to Kilchoan on the 11th, and in the afternoon visited Kilmory, and interviewed the president and secretary of the newly formed Branch in that district. In the evening a company of 100 people gathered in the Kilchoan Hall, and were addressed by Mr. Shaw in Gaelic, after which "An Bothan Tughaidh" was read. Songs and sgeulachdan, were rendered by members. An Comunn is indebted to Mr. Peter MacLellan of the Kilchoan Hotel for the free use of his car for visiting.

On Friday, 12th, a meeting of the Acharacle Branch was held in the Shielbridge Hall. There were about 160 people present, many of whom came long distances to attend. Mr. Shaw spoke at some length on the work accomplished by An Comunn, and later in the evening read from "Am Bothan Tughaidh." A splendid programme of Gaelic songs, puirt à beul, sgeulachdan, bagpipe and violin music was gone through. Miss MacGregor, M.A., has been appointed Secretary but owing to bereavement was unable to be present.

The large attendance at all the meetings is an indication of the keener interest taken by local people in the work of An Comunn, and is a sure testimony of the excellent fare provided at the regular meetings of the Branches. Nineteen of the twenty meetings addressed by Mr. Shaw since 12th January have been conducted entirely in Gaelic.

## Northern Area.

After his visit to Ross-shire, Mr. Carmichael, Northern Organiser, proceeded to Sutherland, and commenced his itinerary at Strath Halladale. One of the particular purposes of this tour was to organise a Provincial Mod for the

Northern area of this County. At Strath Halladale he attended a meeting of the Branch Committee, and found the members very much in favour of the Mod. After calling at Reay he continued his journey to Melvich, where a branch was formed with the following office-bearers; President, Mr. MacIntosh; Secretary, and Treasurer, Miss MacKay, Ivy Cottage. At Strathly it was decided to unite their interests with Melvich, and meetings will be held at each of these places alternately. Gaelic classes are being held at Strathly through the kind offices of Mr. MacAskill, Missionary. Much enthusiasm was displayed at Armadale where a branch was also formed, with Mr. MacKay, President, and Miss Matheson, The Schoolhouse, Secretary and Treasurer. Following a visit to Skerry, Mr. Carmichael went on to Tongue where he interviewed the Rev. Mr. Lundie and other prominent residents regarding the holding of a Mod in the village. A decision on this matter was deferred until a meeting a few evenings later. He next went to Melvich where a large attendance awaited him, and a branch was formed. Mr. Angus MacKay is president, and Mr. Hugh Gunn, Secretary and Treasurer. The branch at Durness, which was established some years ago has always maintained a live interest in the work of the movement, and this year the membership has been increased by the enrolment of several new supporters of the cause. From here Mr. Carmichael returned to Tongue to learn of the decision made regarding the Mod, and he was advised that the Committee agreed to proceed with the suggestion. The Rev. Mr. Lundie has already commenced with a choir, while Mr. MacRae, Strath Tongue, is teaching Gaelic. The Mod has been fixed to take place during the last fortnight of June. At Bettyhill another branch was formed with the following office-bearers: President, Miss MacKay, The Manse; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Anderson, Schenley. Before returning to Inverness a call was made at Lairg, where the local branch were holding a concert. Mr. Carmichael assisted with several Gaelic items.

As a result of this tour it is anticipated that this area will be stimulated to greater effort on behalf of the movement. A distinct difficulty imposed upon the people is the inadequate travelling facilities which make it difficult for representatives to attend the Mod at Lairg. With the establishment of the Tongue Mod it is felt that the cause in the North will be very materially strengthened, and the encouragement already received indicates that this Mod will be most successful.

## CLAN DONALD IN HISTORY AND ROMANCE.

To a capacity audience of the Celtic Historical Society, Toronto, recently, Dr. Edmondston-Scott, president, spoke on the "Records of Clan Donald in Hebridean Folk-lore and Pagan Irish History." Tracing their affinities with the prehistoric Domnann of Connaught and the Hebrides, he showed how their claims to be a ruling tribe among Gaelic clans were founded on an historical tradition of at least 2,000 years. Disregard of this tradition culminated at Culloden in a disaster to the cause of Gaelic independence which the Macdonalds, as Pictish leaders, had always championed against the Southrons—Campbells and other immigrant clans.

Subsequent events proved that if the clan was beaten, and for ever scattered the "curse of Scotland" had pursued its conquerors relentlessly, and what its fulfilment would be none could foretell. "The fact remained," declared the speaker, "that England's policy toward the Gael after Culloden had precipitated the revolt of the American colonies." Many Gaels, who had been banished to the plantations after the Forty Five still remembered the treatment they had received.

The softer side of the Macdonald character that had shaped the destinies of many lands was illustrated from the adventures of Flora Macdonald in Scotland and America, in a lantern lecture by the Rev. Dr. Ronald MacLeod. "Few people realise," he said, "that she became an American heroine, and that she was later to fight for the very Hanoverian kings whom once she had hated."

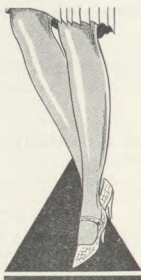
Pipe music of Clan Donald was played by Piper Kenneth Macdonald, and piano and vocal selections from Scottish and Jacobite songs were rendered by Mrs. Daisy McLean, L.R.A.M., John Sweeney, and Alex. Fleming. The Gaelic address on Clan Donald's achievements in history, poetry, and music, was delivered by the Society's Orator, Rev. Dr. Hugh Matheson.

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



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## “CHA ROBH INNEAL CIUIL A FHUARADH RIAMH.”

Tha fhios aig a chuid mhór againne a tha leughadh *An Gaidheil*, agus a tha 'n ar buill anns a Chomunn Ghaidhealach gur e ar suaicheantas “Litreachas, Càinain, Ceòl.” Their cuid a tha gabhail spéis do'n Ghaidhlig a bhi air a meudachadh, agus a' craobh sgaoileadh, gur e'n ceòl is còir dhuinn a thoirt seachad an toiseach, do bhrìgh gu bheil e bunntainn ri cridheachan, agus aignidhean an t-sluaigh, agus ma ghluaisear an cridhe, gum bi an toil air a gluasad air son an Càinain, agus a Litreachas. Their cuid eile gu bheil cus ciuil air a thoirt seachad, agus ro bheag de'n Càinain. Chan eil teagamh nach eil da thaobh air a' ghnòthuch, ach be mo mhiann beagan a ràdh air “Ceol.”

Bha mi Di-sathuirne a chaidh ag éisdeach ris an Orchestra Albanach ann an Talla Naomh Aindreis ann Glascho, agus bha na smaointean so a' tighinn a steach orm. A bheil ceòl Gaidhlig comasach air a bhi air a chluich air an aon doigh le innealan ciuil mar a tha ceòl Sasunnach, Gearmailteach, Frangach, Eadailteach? Thubhairt breitheamh araid aig Mòd, nach eil òran Gaidhlig ag iarraidh cuideachadh bho inneal sam bith ach clàrsach: Gun teagamh tha eadar dhealachadh eadar ceòl Gaidhlig agus òran Gaidhlig. Tha bunait a' chiùil air a' steidheachadh air an aon doigh air feadh an t-saoghail. Tha'n ceòl a tha toirt dhuit sealladh air mor-bheannaibh le 'm mullach còmhdaichte le sneachd, glinn dhubha le'n sgàilean duibhre, latha briseadh air muir mar ghloinne, eòin a' cèileireadh air maduinn Chèitein, agus am buachaille le phìob chaol airgid ag gleusadh le port ciùin tiamaidh, agus mu dheireadh thall air gualainn a' chnuic chluinnear caismeachd na Finneachan Gaidhealach a' cruinneachadh gu'n ionad-còmhlaidh, bheir an ceòl dhuinn na seallaidhean sin, bitheadh e Sasunnach, Albanach, na Gearmailteach: ach tha mi de'n bheachd nach eil sinn a' cluich ar Ceol Gaidhlig air innealan ciuil cho math agus bu chòir dhuinn co dhiu coltach ris a' Ghearmailt, agus Sasuinn. Tha Ceol Gaidhealach againn o'n Chomunn Albanach Ruidhle agus Strathspèidh, ach tha na puirt a tha iad a' cluich car gann agus air an cluinntean ro thrìc. Tha Gaidheil fad air ais ann a bhi breathnachadh ciuil. Chan eil sinn ealanta ann a bhi cluich inneal ciuil, oir bha sinn air ar cumail fodha le ministeir, eaglais, agus foirich; cha robh ann ach ealaidhean an diabhail inneal sam bith a chluich; gun teagamh tha an cronachadh a bha sin air bha fhaotainn

an diugh, ged tha a thoradh ri fhaicinn fhathast an iomadh àite. Is mòr a' bhuaidh a tha aig ceòl air spiorad, cridhe, agus gluasad-intinn an duine; bheir e mach thu a saoghal na h-àmhgair agus na trioblaid do shaghal briagha, grianach, tìr a' bhruadair, Tìr-nan Og. An uair a tha thu air do shàruchadh le faoinneis an t-saoghail so, éisd ri ceòl air a chluich no air a sheinn, agus ma bheir thu cothrom do'n cheòl greim a ghabhail air do mhacmeamna, bithidh tu air do thogail suas seachad air glagadaich charabadan, breisleach, agus gleadhraich shràidean a' bhaile mhoir.

MURCHADH MAC RATH.

## GAELIC MUSIC.

By THE EDITOR.

The Gaelic movement has popularised the ancient Gaelic songs. The annual Mod for forty years has been the model of the musical festival of our time. The communal chorus of our Gaelic *cèilidh* has been the pioneer of that community singing about which so much has been heard of late. It was, however, by outsiders of eminence in the world of music, acting as judges at Mods, that the beauty of our traditional airs was particularly emphasised. Men of the type of Professor Granville Bantock, Plunket Greene, and the late Hamish McCunn, were unanimous in their praise of the charm of Gaelic melodies. Considering the neglect with which our music was treated until quite recently, the wonder is that even so much of it should have survived. But “a thing of beauty is a joy for ever.” A lovely melody is indeed a thing of beauty, which haunts the ear of successive generations. It is a thing which men will not willingly let die. Only this can explain the tenacious hold on life which those compositions possess. We once listened to a lecture by Sir Walford Davies on a theme which he called “The soul-satisfying phrase in music.” Sometimes one hears a measure which unexpectedly falls with a soothing touch, a message of peace or cheer, and all through the medium of sounds. The speaker gave several instances; and it is very remarkable that the instances were culled from old Celtic melodies. The music of the Gael, like his language, has thousands of years behind it. How many aspects of human experience, of love or hate, of joy or sorrow, have been wrung from suffering hearts, and expressed in songs that endure throughout the years! The music pulsates with the passion of life.



It is not enough merely to appreciate the charm of Gaelic music and to leave it at that. Our regard for the rare survival should incite all Gaels to adopt the proper means for its preservation. This article is intended to be both informative and propagandist. The fact remains that unless due measures are followed to save and cherish the melodies, they must lose their peculiar charm in the proximity of jazz and bathos. Their dignified simplicity should be guarded with jealous care. Of Gaelic popular airs, only a few are conventional. It is in the older folk-music that one discovers the distinctive beauty. Folk songs include various types, the love lyrics, the lament, and the war songs. There are also the pastoral and the patriotic, the songs of nature, and the labour lilt. In many instances the air is set to words which bear the mark of age. It is much to be regretted that sometimes the character of a simple air is marred by adaptation to part singing and choral interpretation.

Musical judges at Mods of late years have banned the piano as an accompaniment to Gaelic songs. The reason is a technical one, due to certain limitations in the instrument. But the proper instrument to accompany a Gaelic song is the old Highland harp. It has all the lure and softness required for the rendering of native airs. The harp is as ancient as the oldest chant or recitative. The literature of early and mediæval Gaeldom is full of it. The oak harp of the Dagda, the good god of the De Dannan race is a living harp which plays of itself, and as it plays, the seasons of the year succeed each other. The harp of Angus Og, the god of love, is made of pure gold. So entrancing are its notes that all who hear must follow it. Surely not in vain do our thoughts fly back to a happier age when the world was young. Even if the dream be only a creation of our own fancy, are we not on the wing of imagination all the time? And this is what we need in the twentieth century — a touch from the glamour of a golden age when music was real to our fathers. In the battle of life there is much that the native music can do for us. It is perhaps the key to the stores of our sub-conscious racial qualities. In addition to the present enjoyment of the ancestral melodies, they have still a destiny to fulfil—to lend their inspiration to the creators of music in the future, handing on the best that is in them, that nothing of real value or beauty may be ultimately or for ever lost.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Fhir Ullachaidh *A' Ghaidheil*,—Chì mi anns an aireamh mu dheireadh de 'n *Ghaidheal* gu bheil Seumas Parlanach a Bun Lochabar a' fiosrachadh mu dhéidhinn òran, *Rannan gun Toinisg*.

So agaibh mata cuid de na rannan mar a chuala mise iad am òige. Tha fhios agam gu bheil mòran tuilleadh ann, ach is leòir so an dràs.

Tha an t-séid air a sheinn ann an guth mall tiamhaidh, agus an rann a' falbh 'na dheann ruith gus an ruigear am focal mu dheireadh de'n rann a tha air a tharrainn a mach ro fhada.

### “RANNAN GUN TOINISG.”

#### I.

Latha dhomh 's mi sraidimeachd  
Ann an gleannan fàsail,  
Chunnaic mi am buntàta  
A' gabhail fàs a mbsan;

Tha cumha an déidh do ghaoil orm,  
Tha mulad mór as t-aogais,  
Tha cumha an déidh do ghaoil orm.

#### II.

Chunnaic mi na riabhagan  
Is ceithir an cleithchlata dhiu,  
An dreathan donn gan riarachadh  
'Se ag iarraidh orra slaodadh.  
Tha cumha, etc.

#### III.

Chunnaic mi na cearcan  
Is iad a' cur ri clachaireachd;  
Na tunnagan ri farabais,  
A' giùlan chlach is aoil dhaibh.  
Tha cumha, etc.

#### IV.

Chunnaic mi na tàrmachain  
Trang a' togail bhàtaichean,  
Am madadh-ruadh is tàl aige  
A' snaidheadh ràmh is thaoman.  
Tha cumha, etc.

#### V.

Chunnaic mi 's gun d'fhiosraich mi  
Na ròin bhi falbh le litrichean,  
An àite nam *policemen*  
Is iad cho glie ri daoine.  
Tha cumha, etc.

Is mise bhuir caraid dileas,

G. MAC ILLE MHUNA.

A' Choillebheag, An t-Oban,  
Latha Fhéill Bhrìde, 1932.

## A' GHRUAGACH MHARA.

Ann an aon de bhailtean an Taobh Siar, a réir sgéil an t-seanachaidh, bha a' comhnuidh anns an t-sean aimsir tuathanach a bha na dhùine doigheil, stuama, curamach, cosanta. Bha e dìchiollach, cùiseach a thaobh a ghairme, agus rianal, riaghailteach an ceann a theaghlach. Mar tha e fìor gu minic mu dhaoine de'n t-seòrsa so, bha e ann an suidheachadh cothromach crannachuir. Bha e gu maith air a dhòigh mar a chanas sinn.

Bha a bhean—coltach ri mòran am measg na h-earrainn de'n t-sluagh do 'm buinneadh i, a' mhuinntir sin a tha toirt an teachd-an-tìr as an talamh no as an fhaire—na bean-tighe chiallaich, bhanaid, a' fantuinn dlùth air a cagailt fhéin agus air a dleasdanas mar mhathair chloinne agus mar bhan-chompanach.

Ged a bha teaghlach mór mhac is nigheanan aca bha Freasdal fabharrach dhoibh ré bhliadhnachan. Cha robh dìth sam bith 's an fhàrdaich. Bha cùlann air éiridh suas gu slàn-fallan, agus na parantan a' faotainn mór-aoibhneis ann an companachas “nam fùrain oga a' fàs ri'n taobh.”

Bha an tigh làn crannachuir, buair, meanbh-chur, maoin is pailteis. Bha an suidheachadh ullamh air uamhar a dhùsgadh, agus faodaidh e bhì gur ann mar sin a thachair. Ach cò dhù, bliadhna de na bliadhnachan fhòisich cùisean air a dhol tuathal. Thainig an t-earachal am measg na spréidh. A bhó nach deachaidh ann an slochd, bhàsaich i le galair. Dh'fhalbh ialadh a' bhlaire de chaoraich mar a dh'fhàs iad. An lorg so, an àite fortan nam bliadhnachan a chaidh seachad, bha gann-fhortan a nis. Agus tha gannntur nas duiliche ghiùlan do mhuinntir a shealbhaich soirbheachas. Gidheadh, ged a bha an dòigheas mór, cha do chaill an duine a dhòchas. Bha teis meadhon na gainne dòruinneach, ach gheidh e a spèiseantachd mar dhùine uasal air tuiteam às a chuid. Fadheoidh, thainig a' bhochdainn gu inbhe cho mór 's gu'm b'fheudar do fhear-an-tighe teanntuinn air dol do'n tràigh a thaghadh maorach gus a' chlann a bheathachadh. Moch is an-moch bha e a' taghal a' chladaich aig àm na traghaidh.

A' mhaduinn so mu ghairm choileach thog e air a dh'ionnsuidh na mara mar b'abhaist. Chrom e sìos cluas a' mhuil le a sgeap air a ghualainn. Thoisich e air tional am measg nan clach 's na feamann. Ann an gòrmachadh nan nial, chual 'e odhail agus fonagradh, agus ann an togail a chinn da, lionadh a chluasan le fonn òrain bu bhinne a chual 'e riamh. Sheas e dìreach. Chaidh an ceòl air adhart.

Chaidh a' bhochdainn às a chuimhne ag éisdeachd grinneas agus ceòlmhorachd a' ghutha. Bha e ann an tiom-tàisdean. Stad an t-seinn agus an uair a dh'amhairc e mun cuairt, bha buaile de chrodh reamhar, maiseach ag ineilt air a' mhol fa chomhair. Bha an latha a nis a' briseadh, agus air dha gluasad gu sealladh na bu dlùithe fhaighinn air na brùidean, 's ann a chunnaic e a' ghruagach cheanalta, bheadarrach, sgoineil sin a' tarruinn da ionnsaidh. Cò bha so ach a' “Ghruagach Mhara.” Cha b'i so an creutar ceudna ris a' “Mhaighdinn Mhara” idir.

Thann i nall am fagus da, agus dh'fhaighnich i dheth ciod a bha e deanamh an sud mun tide ud de'n latha. Mhìnich sealladh ciùin, coibhneil na gruagaich e gu innse gu saor sgeul na dùbh-bhochdainn a thainig air. Dh'innis e dhi gum b'e toradh a' chladaich an cùl-taice a b'fhearr a bh'aige a nis, agus gum biodh a phàisdean caomh a' feitheamh a theachd-dhachaidh air son cobhair oirre. Dh'eisid i le comh-fhaireachdainn agus ann am briathran truais is dùrachd fhreagair i e, “Chan fhaod a' chlann bheaga fulang. Falbh thusa dhachaidh. Na innis do neach air bith ciod a chunnaic na chual' thu. An nochd mu mheadhon oidhche cuir lòchan air starsach do thighe agus fàg an dorus fosgailt. Iomanaidh mise mo chrodh-bainne dh'ionnsaidh do thighe agus bithidh an solus na reult iùil dhomh. Cuiridh tu mo chuibhrionn fhéin de'n bhainne thugamsa aig àm a' bhleodhain mhaidne gach la.” “Ach ciamar a ghabhas sin deanamh, a ghruagach chòir?” arsa an duine. “Tha clach àrd eadar so 's am baile, mar a tha fhios agad. Tha i nas àirde na clach eile 's an nàbachd. Doirtidh tu mach mo phàirt-sa de'n bhainne aig a' chloich sin gach moch-thràth.” Shìolaidh i 'n sin as a shealladh, 's cha robh lorg air a' chrodh.

A' cnuasachadh ciod e bha an dàn da, dh'fhalbh an duine bochd dhachaidh. Rinn e mar a dh'iarr a' ghruagach, agus shuidh e ri taobh gealbhan beag teine a' feitheamh. Air mionaid an da-uair-dheug chual 'e trom-cheum mairt anns an dorus. Rinn i dìreach air buall. Thainig te eile agus te eile agus te eile agus gun stiùradh, gun treòrachadh; chaidh gach aon diùbh agus sheas iad—te anns gach buall.

Bha an teaghlach air an dòigh a nis. Bha bainne, im, gruth is càis gu leòr 's ri sheachnadh aca air son mòran bhliadhnachan. Bha ciubhrionn de'n bhainne gach latha air a ghiùlan ann an cuman agus air a dhortadh taice ris a' chloich mhóir eadar am baile 's an cladach. Lean so agus an robh a' chlann air fàs suas, agus a' deanamh air an son féin.

Ach latha de na laithean chaidh bean-an-tighe air turus moch 's a' mhaduinn. Dh'fhàg i gnothuichean an tighe 's an teaglaich an urra ris na h-ingheanan. Gu ro leibideach, dhl-chuimhnich iad baine na "Grugaich Mhara" a chur am mach anns an àit' àbhaisteach. An latha sin fhéin ann an comh-thrà an fheasgair chualas anns a' bhaile àrd-éighe chaol, cheòlmhor o mhullach an droma os ceann a' chladaich. Chlisg gach neach, beag is mór, o cheann gu ceann de'n bhaile. Tri uairean a chruas da cheile dh'aithriseadh an guth.

Dh'fhuasgail smiagan nan ceithir bà leo fhéin, thuit na dòrnain ris na stiallan, agus aon an deidh aoin shiubhail iad mar a thainig iad am mach as an tigh a dh'ionnsuidh na mara. Chan fhacas an duibh no 'n dath air muir no tir o'n latha sin. "Ma chreideas sinn na chluinneas sinn faodaidh sinn na chl sinn itheadh."

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## A GAELIC THEATRE.

BY THE EDITOR.

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We propose to discuss what persons ought to be the pioneers, and what agencies ought to take a leading part in the realization of a Gaelic theatre. In starting a movement with a view to such an institution a great deal depends on the forming and the directing of an enthusiastic public opinion. The formation of a public opinion is quite within the power of a few leading, intelligent Gaels, who duly appreciate the needs and merits of the case, and who are able to keep an open mind, in order to test by experiment what benefits an institution of the kind would confer upon their countrymen. Greater movements even than this have been successfully inaugurated by a few men. An earnest of success may be discerned in the fact that a Gaelic theatre could combine healthy entertainment with the fulfilment of a noble patriotic object. To encourage the histrionic art in Gaeldom would not only mean the training of popular taste, but it would also possess a collateral value, in helping to preserve the ancient language. We think that the idea of providing entertainment should be only one of the reasons for the attempt to realize a Gaelic theatre. Another reason, and that perhaps the reason which should hold a primary place, is the preservation of the language, music, and

traditions of the race. The institution that could, at one and the same time, fulfil these two purposes, the artistic and the patriotic, ought certainly to be encouraged with earnestness. The latter aim is undoubtedly a serious one; but we do not think that it should be regarded as utilitarian. There are several patriotic societies that have professed this aim in view. Let us take the instance of An Comunn Gaidhealach, as being the society with whose aims and work we are more intimately acquainted. The Comunn has had the co-operation of distinguished Scottish Gaels, irrespective of political parties, for the work of the Comunn is conducted on strictly non-political lines. The intelligent Gaels to whom we have just referred as the legitimate pioneers in favour of a Gaelic theatre are the very men who most zealously associate themselves with the objects of An Comunn, and are, as a rule, the moving spirits in the cause of the language. These individual thinkers have an immediate circle of possible disciples in those societies which exist for the purpose of fostering Gaelic letters and music. The first step towards the creation of a favourable public opinion is to lead these societies to see that the project of a Gaelic theatre is no alien or visionary project, but a very practicable one that is completely consonant with the ends that the societies themselves have in view. If the arguments in behalf of a national Gaelic drama are well founded in fact, then it is clearly incumbent on the societies of which we speak to recognise as powerful auxiliaries both a national drama and the Gaelic theatre that would popularise it. Having been in close touch with An Comunn Gaidhealach ever since its inception, we are convinced that there could be no more effective agency for furthering An Comunn's objects than a theatre of the type under consideration.

We desire to make two suggestions which are quite simple and practical, but which nevertheless would have very far-reaching effects in favour of a Gaelic theatre. Our first suggestion is: Ever since the year of its inauguration An Comunn has been offering prizes for literary compositions in prose and verse. Either from the considerable funds at its own disposal, or out of the generosity of occasional donors, the society might also offer a substantial prize or prizes, in order to encourage the composition of Gaelic plays. The aims for which the literary competitions have been arranged

would be as well realised in the construction of a play as in the production of fragments in prose or metre, which from the lack of a definite purpose are too often fated to rest unpublished in the archives of the society. And our second suggestion is as follows: For the past twenty years An Comunn at its larger gatherings has been offering prizes and holding competitions in elocution, with the object of encouraging the graces of oral delivery in Gaelic. Why should not the authorities of An Comunn organise the department of oral recitation so that the competitors would acquire skill in dramatic dialogue? Here we should possess at once the means for developing the histrionic art. The competitions might be so arranged that the candidates would be required to take their several parts in a scene or portion of a play. As far at least as elocutionary accomplishments are concerned, one could hardly hit on a more likely plan to bring the Gaelic traditional style of oral delivery to bear upon dramatic form. Seeing therefore that An Comunn Gaidhealach has already done so much to foster literary composition and elocution, there appears no valid reason why it should not go a step further towards the realization of a Gaelic theatre. An organisation like An Comunn is a positive and collective force to carry on a movement of the kind. Having its ramifications in every part of Gaelic Scotland, it has the opportunity of influencing public opinion, and of moulding the tendencies of the young. It has the means of inciting the emulation of competitors, and of discovering and encouraging what talent is available. It would be fortunate indeed if the attempt to realize a Gaelic theatre were made by an association that is itself well known and well organised.

(To be continued.)

## NEW MEMBERS.

### ORDINARY.

Donald Jackson, Esq., M.A., Lochgilphead.  
T. M. Logan, Esq., Gallovie.  
Keith Henderson, Esq., Burleigh.  
Rev. Donald Thomson, B.D., Glasgow.  
D. P. MacKenzie, Esq., Glasgow.  
Mrs. D. P. MacKenzie, Glasgow.  
Miss G. L. MacDonald, Tobermory.  
Miss Margaret I. Murray, Kinloch Laggan.  
Rev. D. Gunn Sutherland, Cambuslang.

### LIFE.

Miss Anne Nicolson, Dunblane.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

CARLOWAY.—The local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held their first ceilidh in the School-house. Mr. Angus Macleod, headmaster, occupied the chair, and the room was crowded. "Happiness and Contentment" was the subject introduced and discussed, and, in order to get at the subject, comparisons were drawn between the conditions of living obtaining in Lewis a hundred years ago and those of the present day. After several of those present had expressed their views, some supporting the present and others favouring the old conditions, it was held that the old conditions were better. Thereafter an exhibition of waulking was given by some of the local ladies, followed by selections on the bagpipes and Gaelic songs, which brought an enjoyable and interesting evening to a close. Other meetings of a like nature are to follow.

CLADDACH KIRKBOST.—A very enjoyable concert was promoted by the Claddach Branch, the programme of which was of a most interesting, enjoyable, and varied character. Mr. Ferguson, J.P., occupied the chair, and in a most pleasing manner performed the duties of Fear an Tighe.

DALBORG AGUS LOCHBAGHSDAIL.—Chaidh a' mheur so de'n Chomunn a chur air chois bho chionn ghoidid le Mgr. MacIllehmicheil agus bha a' cheud chéilidh anns an sgoil an Dalborg air an ochdamh la fhead de'n Fhaoilteach. Bha an ceann suidhe Mgr. Niall Mac 'Illhinein 'na fhear cathrach agus bha cruinneachadh gasda ann, suas ri coig fhead eadar shean is òg. Bu ghasda cuideachd na h-brain Ghaidhlig a chaidh a sheinn. Chan eil sinn a' dol a dheanadh laisid air neach seach a cheile or bha iad ro-thlachdmhor air fad. Bha e glé choltach ris mar bhiodh na seann chéilidhean agus a' chuideachd air fad a' togail an fhufn. An uair a thainig an céilidh gu crìch ghabh suas ri trì fhead 'n am buill de'n mheur. Bha céilidh eile aig a' mheur so anns an talla an Lochbagnsdaile air an aona la deug de'n Ghearran, agus bha i fior-thaitneach. Bha buidheann de mhnanthan a' luadhachd agus a'seinn nan oran-luaidh, agus chan eil mórán ann as taitneach na "seisn nan oran air a' chleith." Thug caraid dhuinn Duan no Rann na Muileartich Bhuidhe agus seann rann eile, agus bha gach neach uamhasach fada 'na chomain. Dh'aithris neach eile an sgeulachd tha comh-cheangailte ris an fhacal "Da Fhear dheug is ploibaire." A thuilleadh air sin bha orain is pioibaireachd ann a chòrd ris gach neach a chuala gu ro-mhath. Tha a' mheur de'n chomunn a' soirbheachadh agus bithidh céilidhean uair 's a' cheithir-la-deug mu seach an Dalborg agus an Lochbagnsdaile.

HALLADALE.—The second Ceilidh of the session was held in the Public School on Monday, 1st February, when Mr A. M. Carmichael, Northern Organiser, was present. The President (Mr. remarks, said how pleased they all were to have Mr. Carmichael among them once more. Thereafter all were entertained to a delightful "tea" by Mrs. Murray and a competent staff of ladies. A very enjoyable programme, consisting of songs, an "Comhradh dà ghùtha," addresses, duets and violin selections, was then gone through. The

following contributed:—Songs—Misses Barbara J. Mackay, Christina Mackenzie and Margaret M. K. Finnie, M.A., Messrs A. M. Carmichael, John Mackay and H. Macbeath; addresses—Messrs R. B. Langlands and A. M. Carmichael; violin selections, Messrs G. MacIntosh, Angus Fraser and James D. MacKenzie. Mr. Carmichael rendered the song specially composed on "Lipton's 15 cwt. cheese brought over to Glasgow from America, for advertisement" and, in response to the vociferous applause, gave several rousing encores. His address (in both tongues) was much appreciated. In it, Mr. Carmichael congratulated the branch on its activities and said he was pleased to know that they had already begun to practice the choral songs prescribed for 1932, under the tutorship of Miss M. Finnie, M.A. He also desired the feeling of the meeting as regards the most suitable time for holding the proposed Provincial Mod at Tongue. The meeting was unanimous regarding the suitability of the first week in July, for such a purpose. The usual votes of thanks were then proposed, Mr. D. Fraser to the artistes; Mr R. B. Langlands to Mrs Murray and staff; and Mr. Thomas Munro to the Chairman. "Oidhe Mhath Leibh" again brought a very happy gathering to a close.

**EASDALE.**—The first season's meeting of Cillebhrèinein Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Easdale School. The chair was taken by Mr Alex. MacIntyre, President. After the Ceilidh a short business meeting was held. The Secretary submitted correspondence from the National Mod Committee soliciting financial assistance from the branch, and it was agreed to make a contribution towards the funds.

**FORT AUGUSTUS.**—The third ceilidh of the series organised by the local An Comunn Gaidhealach drew a large audience to the Public Hall. The President, Mr. John Macdonald, Malvern, presided. The feature of the evening was the singing of the three choirs, namely, the ladies' choir, a choir of mixed voices, and a male voice choir, in the course of which every member gave eloquent proof of good progress and careful training.

**INVERARAY.**—The fortnightly meeting of An Comunn was held in the St. Malieu Hall on Thursday, 4th February. A programme of Gaelic and English songs and a Gaelic reading was sustained by well-known artistes. Tea was served by the ladies' Committee, and a pleasant evening was spent.

**INVERGARRY.**—Mr. John Macgillivray, President of the local An Comunn, presided over a large and appreciative audience in the Coronation Hall, where there was held a successful concert, arranged by Miss Margaret Macdonald, Inverness. The concert marked the winding up of the Gaelic singing classes which Miss Macdonald has been carrying on in the glen under the auspices of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and she was complimented on the excellent programme, which was ably sustained from beginning to end, every item being warmly applauded and encored.

**KILMORY.**—At an enjoyable meeting held in the Kilmory School it was resolved to form a branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach to be called the Kilmory district branch. The following office-bearers were appointed:—Chairman, Mr J. Campbell; Secretary, Mr Alex. Cameron; Treasurer, Mr Kenneth

Cameron. The initial meeting of the branch was very encouraging to the promoters, and augurs well for its growth and development.

**KILNINVER.**—Despite the stormy weather there was a large attendance at the meeting of the Kilniver branch. Mr. D. C. Cowan, Dumfries, who presided, made a stirring appeal for the maintenance and furtherance of the Gaelic language, and Mr. Donald MacCowan, delivered an address on "Sean Fhacail." A programme of songs followed.

**KINLOCHLEVEN.**—The monthly Ceilidh of the local branch attracted a large attendance to the village hall. Mr. A. MacLaren, President, occupied the chair, and Mr. N. B. MacKenzie, Fort William, who was also present, addressed the members, making an appeal for support to the forthcoming National Mod. A most enjoyable concert programme followed.

**STORNOWAY.**—The local branch of An Comunn held the fourth ceilidh of the session in the Masonic Hall, Mr. John Macsewen presiding. The hall was filled to its utmost capacity, and many failed to gain admission. Mr. Neil Shaw, Organising Secretary of An Comunn, addressed the meeting and made an inspiring appeal on behalf of the objects of his Association, as well as rendering in pleasing manner several Gaelic songs. The programme was of a very high order.

**TOBERMORY.**—The fortnightly Ceilidh was presided over by Mr. John Cameron. Pipe music was supplied by Mr. Neil Morrison, Kingharair, who also gave vivid descriptions of old time customs that prevailed at New Year time. A particularly interesting feature was the reciting of New Year rhymes by the Rev. J. M. Menzies, who also related a number of very much enjoyed anecdotes illustrative of these old customs.

**WICK.**—A very successful and enjoyable ceilidh was held in the Old Parish Church Hall on Friday evening, 12th February, by Wick Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach. Mr. Millar, President, conducted the proceedings, and an excellent musical and dramatic programme was carried through. The vocalists included such popular and talented artistes as Mr. Bruce Mackie, Mr. J. M. Miller, Mrs. Sutherland, and Miss I. Bremner, and trios were rendered by Mrs. Sutherland, Miss Henderson, and Miss Macleod. Miss M. S. Henderson played delightful violin selections, and Mr. James Roloff contributed a couple of excellent recitations. A number of ladies of the Branch gave an exhibition of cloth "waulking" in Highland character, with singing choruses in Gaelic—a feature of the programme which was greatly appreciated. Messrs. Alex. Matheson and William More provided music for the reel. Two sketches by Staxigoe players formed the "star" turns of the evening, the acting in both being quite remarkable in realistic effect, while the speaking of the doric could hardly have been improved upon. The humour of the pieces was delightfully interpreted and vastly appreciated by the audience. At the end of the performance of each piece the players had quite an ovation. Tea was served during an interval, and a happy social "ceilidh" spirit prevailed. Mr. Wilfred Weir was caterer, and the accompaniments in the musical part were played by Mrs. Gilbertson. Votes of thanks and the singing of a verse of "Oidhe Mhath Leibh" concluded one of the most entertaining ceilidhs ever held under the auspices of the Branch.



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Leabhar XXVII.]

*An Giblein, 1932.*

[Earrann 7

### DEALBH-CHLUICH GAIDHLIG.

Chan eil maduinn a dh'fhosglas tu am paipear naidheachd nach leugh thu mu chomhfharpaisean dealbh-chluich o cheann gu ceann de'n rioghachd. Is gann gu bheil baile beag anns an taobh tuath aig nach eil sgìoba ri dealbh-chluich an diugh. Chum iad deuchainn ri chèile uair is uair o chionn ghoirid an Inbhirpheotharain is an Inbhirneis. Tha cuid de na sgiobachan sin comasach air Gaidhlig a labhairt. An uair a tha ni mar so cho cumanta agus cho fasanta, is bochd an gnothuch nach gabhadh Gaidheil an cothrom air a bhi a' cleachdadh na Gaidhlig, agus a strì ri chèile feuch cò is fhearr a chuireas cluich an cèill air urlar talla. Is gann gu robh cothrom cho freagarrach ri ar linn ris an am a ta làthair, oir tha an luchd éisdeachd deònach, agus tha na paipearan naidheachd deas agus fàbharach gus oidheirp de an t-seòrsa sin a mholadh.

\* \* \*

Air duilleig eile de 'n àireamh so tha mi a' leudachadh air ceist na dealbh-chluich anns a' Ghaidhlig. An so bheir mi iomradh air nàdur nan cuspair a dh'fhaodte a laimhseachadh. Tha muinntir a' fas sgith de na seann rudan air an luaidh anns an t-seann dòigh. Tha luchd sgrìobhaidh Gaidhlig buailteach air gluasad air a' cheart cheum anns an do shiubhail an sinnsir. Ach

tha làithean ùra air tighinn. Tha mòran de na nòsan aosmhor a' dol air chùl. Feumaidh muinntir iad féin a cheartachadh ris na coran nuadha a tha ag éiridh suas. Is iad na gnothuichean ùra sin a bhiodh cubhaidh mar chuspair airson dealbh-chluich. Bu chòir gum biodh e comasach do neach còmhraidh a chur ri chèile anns am biodh cùisean a tha a' tachairt o là gu là air an laimhseachadh gu so-thuigsinneach. Agus tha an ni ceudna fìor mu àbhachd is nithean a dhùisgeas fearas chuideachda.

\* \* \*

Gu fortanach tha e mar ghnàths aig A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach duais a thairgsinn airson comhraidh eadar dithis. Tha sin feumail air dà dhòigh. That e a' toirt ealantais do luchd sgrìobhaidh a bhi a' cur còmhraidhean ri chèile; agus that e a' toirt misnich agus cleachdaidh do'n fheadhainn a tha a' gabhail pàirt anns a' chòmhraidh. Tha e glé choltach gu bheil duais 'n buaidh tharuinn gu bhi a' brosnachadh nan comhfharpaiseach. A chionn gu bheil sin mar sin, is còir do 'n dream a tha a' gabhail cùis na Gaidhlig as laimh, duaisean tomadach luchdmhor a thairgsinn. Nam biodh ceud pundo Sasunnach air an cur suas mar dhuais do 'n buidhinn a b'fhearr ri dealbh-chluich, tha sinn a' làn chreidsinn gum biodh strì dhion eadar buidhnean tuath is deas. Ach is e an gnothuch truagh nach

fhàicear a leithid ri ar làtha-ne. Is e dìth misnich is coireach rinn. Chan eil de dhànadas agus de chreideamh againn na ghlacas na meadhonan freagarrach air dealbh chluich Ghaidhlig a mhisneachadh le duais luachmhor a thairginn coltach ri cinnich eile a thaobh an càinain féin.

\* \* \*

Tha e soilleir gu bheil buaidh shonruichte air ceòl na Gaidhlig a thaobh an tlachd agus an toil inntinn a tha e a' toirt do 'n luchd éisdeachd. Cha ruigear a leas ainmeachadh as ùr an so gu bheil òrain is fuinn nan Gaidheal a' sìor fhaotainn àite urramach. Tha cùram air leth an diugh 'g a nochdadh a thaobh teagasg is cleachdadh a' chiùil. A nis gabhamaid beachd gu bheil àite anns an dealbh-chluich airson nan òran. Tha opera cho taitneach an Gaidhlig is a tha i am Beurla. Agus tha mòran fhonn anns a' Ghaidhlig nach deachaidh riamh a chur gu feum air an dòigh sin. Tha na fuinn Ghaidhealach mar is trice air an seinn air leth leo fhéin, co dhiu is ann le aon neach no le còisir. Ach nan robh iad air an cur an òrdugh ceart mar earrann ann an opera, chan eil teagamh againn nach biodh am maise 'g a nochadh air mhodh ùr a bhiodh fear thaitneach. A chum na eòrlas so tha fear ciùil a dhith oirn, fear ciùil nach biodh 'n a choigreach. Dh'fheumadh làn thuigse a bhì aige air càinain, ceòl, is spiorad nan Gaidheal. Tha oidheirp air chois aig an am gu bursari chiùil a shuidheachadh anns an Athenæum, a chum is gu ruig òigridh Ghaidhealach air ard-cheum ciùil. An uair a thachras so gheibh sinn luchd deilbh opera, aig am bi tuigse is ceannsal an ceòl, agus tuigse is breithneachadh mar an ceudna air maise is freagarrachd nan òran Ghaidhealach, gu bhì air an càradh an opera mar chlachan snaidhte ann an luchairt.

## NATIONAL MOD CHORAL SONGS.

RURAL CHOIR COMPETITION.—At the recent meeting of the Mod and Music Committee, held at Stirling, it was decided, on representations made on behalf of several Rural Choirs, to lower the key of the prescribed song, "Mo shuil a'd dheigh" from "B" flat to "A." Conductors, please note.

JUNIOR CHORAL COMPETITION.—The song, "Cronan" is substituted for "Till an cròdh Dhonnchaidh," erroneously prescribed for Competitions 24 and 29. "Cronan" is published in "Coisir na Cloinne," page 16.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Friday, 11th March. The president, Rev. Neil Ross, D.Litt., presided. The following members were present:—

John Cameron, Esq., LL.B., Glasgow; Charles Campbell, Esq., M.B.E., Glasgow; Mrs. Christison, Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Esq., Bishopston; Colonel Greenhill Gardyne of Glenforsa; Colonel Gilbert Gunn, Inverness; Donald MacDonald, Esq., Inverness; John MacDonald, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; John MacIntyre, Esq., Glasgow; John MacRae, Esq., Linlithgow; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Esq., Glasgow; George E. Marjoribanks, Esq., Sonachan; John A. Nicolson, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; H. S. Shield, Esq., Edinburgh; Colin Sinclair, Esq., Ph.D., Glasgow, and Miss Harriet Stewart, Levenhall. In attendance—Robert Macfarlane, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, General Secretary, and Hugh Macphee, Assistant.

The minute of previous meeting was read and approved.

The president made feeling reference to the death of Mr. Tearlach Campbell, a nephew of Miss Campbell of Inverneill, one of the vice-presidents of An Comunn and convener of the Art and Industry Committee. The chairman said that, while he did not know Mr. Tearlach Campbell, he knew the stock to which he belonged. He moved that they minute their deepest sympathy with Miss Campbell of Inverneill and Colonel Campbell of Inverneill.

The president said he had also to refer to a distinction achieved by Mr. Colin Sinclair, M.A., F.R.I.B.A. The degree of Ph.D. had been conferred upon him by the University of Glasgow for a thesis on "Celtic Art and Architecture." They all knew that Celtic Art was a long story, and was at the root of most forms of art. Celtic architecture was likewise a long story, and, as Dr. Sinclair would agree, it found its origin in the Far East, like many other forms of architecture. He wished to point out that this was the first occasion on which the study of Celtic Art had been recognised by a Scottish University, or even a British University. It was a rare distinction. To have achieved the level of the Doctorate was an outstanding feat, not only for the prestige it was bound to give Dr. Sinclair, but for the honour it had brought to the Celtic Arts. They hoped that Dr. Sinclair would long live to enjoy the honour he had received.

Minute of Finance Committee was read. Mr. Alexander Fraser, convener, moved its

adoption, and Mr. Charles Campbell seconded. Arising out of the minute, Mr. John A. Nicolson asked on what grounds an increase of salary had been granted to Miss Margaret Macdonald, one of the music teachers. Mr. Charles Campbell, in reply, said that An Comunn at the moment had six teachers—three in the north and three in the south. For many years Mr. Hugh MacLean, the senior teacher in the Southern Area, had been paid ten shillings more per week than the others. It was recommended that Miss MacDonald, the senior teacher in the Northern Area, be put on the same level. Mr. Nicolson asked what extra duties devolved on these two teachers. Was it responsibility or supervision? He did not doubt the work of the teachers. He wanted to know on what principle they gave the added remuneration. He moved that the matter be remitted back to the Committee, but the motion failed to find a seconder.

Mr. Fraser said that teachers in some of the districts would only be able to have two or three evenings per week. They should be careful how they used the money that was available.

Mr. Campbell said that Mr. Fraser was in error when he stated that teachers in some districts were employed only on two or three days per week. They were employed at least five days per week, and possibly six.

The Chairman, in reply to Mr. Nicolson, stated that the secretary would furnish him with information regarding the teachers.

The minute was adopted.

Minute of Education Committee was read. The Summer School of Gaelic will open in the Village Hall, Newtonmore, on 19th July, and will continue from 25th July till 12th August in the Public School.

Mr. Charles Campbell asked if provision was to be made to have pupils and teachers at the Summer School met by someone from headquarters. It was agreed, on the motion of Colonel Gunn, that the President and the Northern Organiser should be present.

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

Minute of meeting of Publication Committee was read, and, on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Dr. Colin Sinclair, was adopted.

Minute of meeting of Propaganda Committee, with synopses of minutes of Northern and Southern Sub-Committees, was read. Mr. Charles Campbell, convener, in moving adoption, said that there were now 151

branches of An Comunn. The General Secretary had addressed 64 meetings since the beginning of the session, and that at 22 meetings out of 24 addressed since New Year, the proceedings were entirely in Gaelic. Mr. Campbell thought this would not be possible twenty years ago. In reply to a question by Mr. John A. Nicolson, the Secretary said there was a keener demand for an all-Gaelic meeting now than there was when he recommended propaganda shortly after the War.

Mr. Fraser said he wished to refer to the question of supporting Gaelic classes. He wished to impress upon the Propaganda Committee the necessity for greater consideration being given to the teaching of Gaelic than had been done in the past. He was convinced that Gaelic was getting second place to singing. A gentleman prominent in Wester Ross had written their secretary pointing out that he had two persons who were willing to conduct Gaelic classes, and asked if a small grant could be given. He was informed that no funds were available. Mr. Shaw said the letter referred to was received by him and passed on to the Northern Sub-Committee for their attention.

Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness, said that Ullapool was a district that could get Gaelic classes if the appropriate steps were taken. The proper course was to approach the Education Committee for the County.

Mr. Fraser moved that when they received *bona-fide* applications for assistance to teach a Gaelic class, they should consider them with a view to giving a grant. Mr. Nicolson seconded.

Mr. Campbell said he did not think the money spent on these singing teachers was lost. The teachers were instructed that, when practicable, they were to give lessons in Gaelic reading.

On the suggestion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Mr. Fraser, with the consent of his seconder, withdrew his motion, on the understanding that the Propaganda Committee give sympathetic consideration to any claim submitted. The minute was adopted.

Minute of meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read. The syllabus for 1933 Mod was now complete. Adjudicators for the 1932 Mod were recommended as follows: — Music — Professor W. Gillies Whittaker, Mus.Doc., and Sir Hugh S. Robertson, Glasgow; language—Dr. D. J. MacLeod, H.M.I.S., Inverness; D. Mac-



pherson, M.A., Appin; Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow, and John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow.

Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria, had offered a Gold Medal for the Mod competitions. It was recommended that this Medal be awarded to the most distinguished prize-winner in the Senior Literary Section. Miss Millar Weir was thanked for her gift.

On the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, convener, the minute was approved.

Mr. MacLeod said the Mod for 1932 promised well. The local Committee were very energetic in setting about their preparations. A recent meeting was attended not only by people from Fort William, but also from the districts of Fort Augustus, Invergarry, and Arisaig. So far as the Local Committee was concerned, he was convinced that nothing would be left undone to make the 1932 Mod a notable success.

Mr. George E. Marjoribanks, reporting in Gaelic on Clann an Fhraoich, said that so far they had secured 20 new members. He announced that Miss Catriona Campbell, Lochawe, was arranging a ceilidh and dance to collect funds.

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

### COMHRADH

eadar Ceit Bhàn agus Anna Dhonn, bean Iain Bhig, ann an tigh Ceit.

Le DUNNACHADH MACDHOMHNAILL.

CEIT BHAN (*'na suidhe air cathair a' fìgheadh stocain, agus ag còmhradh-beag ri ihe féin*)—Ged a tha mi a' dèanamh tàire air Màiri bhig is ann is math dh'òrn ann i. Na'm biodh i a stigh an dràda dhèanadh i copan tea dhomh. Ach có a tha so?

ANNA DHONN, bean Iain Bhig (*a' tighinn a steach a chèilidh air Ceit*)—Fàilté stigh. Is tu a tha a' coimhead sgiamhach an nochd féin, a cheit. Có a chuireadh às do leth gu bheil thu ag obair 'na do leth-chiad bliadhna? Cha chreid mi féin nach ann a thog thu ort o bha thu aig iasgach Shasuinn. Tha mi an dòchas nach gabh mo shùil ort.

CEIT—Is beag orm-sa na daoine bialach. Ach taing do Shealbh gu bheil mi fhathast cho dreachmhòr ri té 's an t-sreath. Tha an inntinn agam cho òg ri nighean chòig bliadhna fichead. Ach Anna, ma tha thusa

ag iarraidh a bhi réidh riumsa, seachainn a bhi ag ainmeachadh na h-òis agam-sa.

ANNA—Cha b' ann a' bialachas riut a bha mise idir, cha b' ann, cha b' ann. Is mór a ghabhainn. Ach is iomadh caileag, nach fhaca eadhon fichead bliadhna féin, aig nach 'eil gruidhean cho breagha riutsa, a Cheit.

CEIT—Gruidhean chailleagan an latha an diugh, tha iad mar a tha iad, odhar lachdann. Nach 'eil iad air iad féin a chur á riochd nam boireannach le bearradh an fhuil, le cion an aodaich, agus leis na stuthan granda ud a tha iad á suathadh riutha féin a Shàbaid 's a sheachdain.

ANNA—An uair a bha mise 'nèam phàisde, is ann a bhiodh Dòmhnall Ruadh a' leigeadh na fala às a' chloinn-nighean leis na bha annta dhith, ach chan 'eil an diugh a dh'fhuil anns an té is fhearr dhiùbh na chàireadh cas na ploba-creadha aig Seòras Dubh.

CEIT—Nach e sin Anna! Maghabhas roinn chùisean, chan fhada gus am bi na cailleagan òga cho caol seang ri bioran stocain air an cuireadh tu deise. Ach nach mise a tha gòrach a' bruidhinn air aodach, agus nach 'eil air an té is fhearr air a còmhachadh na chuireadh tu eadar thu is prais-bhunnta a bhiodh tu a' taomadh Chunnac sinne latha, an uair a bha na cailleagan air an éideadh ann an aodach ris an canadh tu aodach. Ach an uair a fhuair fasanan na Gàldachd làmh an uachdar, dh'fhalbh an sgéimh 's an grinneas a b'abhaist a bhi air cloinn-nighean ar n-eilein. Dh'fhalbh, dh'fhalbh, agus is mór m' eagal nach till air luathair!

ANNA—Chan 'eil facal agad ach an fhlirinn an sin, a Cheit. Ach ma ghabhas tu a dh'anam ort guth a thoirt air na nithean glòrmhòr a bha ann an uair a bha sinne òg, is ann a chuireas gothagan an latha an diugh car nam peirceall a' fanoid ort.

CEIT—Nach ann agam a tha fios agus faireachdainn. Chan 'eil fù nach 'eil am pàisde beag a tha a' fuireach còmhla rium a' sealltuinn sìos air cleachdaidhean nan làithean a dh'fhalbh. Is ann a chuireas iad greann orra an diugh ma thairgeas tu dhaibh aran corra no aran eòrna. Agus air son lite dheth chan 'eil e uasal gu leòir air an son-san. Ach nach eil a' bhuil air na leigean glasa aca.

ANNA—Cuin a thàinig Màiri bheag, nighean Iain do bhràthair, a dh'fhuireach còmhla riut? Bha thu ag cur feuma air cuid-eigin a thighinn thugad. Cuimhnich gu bheil thu a nis air a thighinn gu latha.

CEIT—Nach dubhairt mi riut a cheana gun a bhi a' cur 'nam chuimhne na h-aois agam. Chan 'eil agam-sa fhathast ach an òige, a bhrònag. Thàining, ma ta, Màiri còmhla rium an uair a thill mi o iasgach Shasuinn. Agus saoil thusa, Anna, nach 'eil cur seachad tìde innte dhomh. Tha mi a cheart cho ceangailte rithe, is ged a b' ann leam féin a bhiodh i.

ANNA—Na 'm biodh tusa air "Duagan" a phòsadh, mar a dh' iarr mise ort bho chionn fichead bliadhna, có aige a tha fios nach biodh teaghlach mòr brèagha mu'n teine agad féin an diugh.

CEIT—Nach ann agad a tha am beachd bochd orm, Anna, ma thàinig e aon uair a steach ort gu'm posainn-sa "Duagan" bochd. Cha bu lugha leam-sa na a thàimailt gu'n chuinnleadh daoine gu'n tàinig a leithid sin de ghriochraiche an taobh a bha mi. Cha do leig an Tì beannaichte mise cho mòr bhar a làmhban, is gu'n leigeadh e leam "Duagan" a ghabhail. B' fhearr leam a bhi le mo shaorsa ann an geodha a' chladaich, ged nach biodh slon saoghalta agam ach maorach is duileasg, na a bhi ceangailte ri silliche anns nach biodh cur-leis 'sam bith.

ANNA—A Cheit, a Cheit, nach tu a tha tarcuiseach! Cha b' urrainn "Duagan" bochd urram na bu mhotha a chur ort na a làmh agus a chridhe a thairgsinn dhuit. Is iomadh té a cheart cho òg riut-sa eadar dà cheann na sgìre a bha air a ghabhail. Cha bu ruith ach leum leotha, is e a bhi 'nan tairgse.

CEIT—Tha thusa mar a tha thu. Chan ann a' sealltuinn slos air an truaghan a tha mise idir. Chan ann, chan ann; tha e mar a chruthaich an Tì-math e. Ach an cuala tusa a riamh gur "e biadh an dara duine pùinsein an duine eile?" Leig seachad do ghòraich an dràsda, agus thoir dhomh do naidheachd air Orduighean Nis. Tha e, a bhrònag, 'na làn thìde dhuit-sa aig a bheil na h-oghachean sgar a bhruidhinn air pòsadh 's air gillean.

ANNA—A nis, a Cheit, eadar mi féin is tu féin, innis do dhomh, a bheil e 'na fhlirinn gu robh Fionnlagh Mór 'na do thairgse. Siuthad, innis domh féin e, agus cha chluinn duine geal e. Nach fhaod thu a nis, a Cheit, an uiread ud innseadh dhomh féin do sheana bhana-charaid.

CEIT—Thubhairt mi riut mar tha, gu'm b' fhearr dhuit gu mòr do ghòraich a leigeadh seachad. Ach ma gheallas tusa dhomh-sa gu'n cuir thu fo'n talamh e, innsidh mise dhuit-sa mar a bha. Bha Fionnlagh 'gam

iarraidh-sa ceart gu leòir, ach chuir mi dhachaidh e. Chan è idir nach robh e glé dhuilich dhomh a dhiùltadh, ach cha robh dòigh eile agam air. Bhuail an t-àrdan am bàrr na sròine mi, an uair a thuig mi mar a bha chisean a' seasamh.

ANNA—Cìod e a thug ort féin Fionnlagh a chur dhachaidh. Is e a tha ann deth duine cho duineil, snasail, agus a ni an sgìre againn, agus duine a tha coltach is fhiach an t-saothair, agus a tha àrd ann an riaghladh an eilein, agus fada stigh ann an cùirtan na h-eaglais.

CEIT—Ard ann no ás, ach cha b'e a leithid a thigeadh orm. Eadar e féin agus am fear do 'n tug mi mo chridhe ann an làithean m' òige. Obh, Obh!

ANNA—Cha téid iaradh orm gus am faic mi thu pòsda ri bodach suigeartach air chor-eigin. C'arson, a Cheit, a bha thu féin cho beag céille is gu'n do chuir thu dhachaidh an duine grinn ud? Feumaidh e a bhi gu robh rud-eigin àraidh agad 'na aghaidh. Siuthad, a nis, thoir dhomh an fhlirinn, facal air an fhacal.

CEIT—C'arson nach do ghabh mi e, an è? A'robh thu a' smaoineachadh gu robh mise a' dol a ghabhail an fhir a bha air a dhiùltadh le Sine Sheòrais. Na'n robh ise air a ghabhail cha robh mise air an tairgse fhaotainn. Cha b' ann ri còrr tè eile a thogainn mo dhosan. Bhiodh Sine a rithist a' tilgeadh orm gur h-e a còrr fhéin a fhuair mise. Nach ann agam-sa a bhiodh a' chùirt sg éisdeachd ri fanoid Sine chòir. Is fheàrr leam a bhi mar a tha mi na a bhi ann am bial a' bhaile.

ANNA—Tha e a cheart cho math dhomh do leigeadh seachad an dràsda. Ma 's math mo chuimhne bha thu ag iarraidh mo naidheachd á Nis.

CEIT—Chuala mi gu robh thu aig na h-òrduighean ann am bliadhna. Ciamar a chòrd do thurus riut

ANNA—Chòrd, dìreach ciatach fhéin. Agus tha na Nisich mar a bha iad a riamh, còir agus fialaidh ri coigrich.

CEIT—Is fhada bho a chuala sinn, "An Niseach brùideil, agus an t-Uigeach aineolach."

ANNA (a' coimhead air Ceit le uamhas)—Chan ann mar sin a tha idir. Chan 'eil dad de choltas brùidealachd air Nis an diugh. Tha sraidean ann de thighean geala a chuireadh iongantais ort. An uair a thig thu am fianuis an àite ud, is e a shaoileas tu a tha ann baile mòr anns an Taobh-deas.



Gu dearbh fhéin, thàinig dà latha air Nis bho is cuimhne leinne. Cha mhór gu bheil tigh dubh an diugh ri a fhaicinn ann.

CEIT—Seadh, seadh, tha iad cho tearc ann, mar a chanadh daoine ri mo chiad chuimhne, “Ri bàs céird, no ri banais ann am Mealabost.”

ANNA—Chan 'eil dà dhèanamh air a' chuirs nach 'eil an t-airgid mar na sligean aca an Nis an diugh, leis mar a tha iad air a thighinn air adhart ann. Mur a biodh gu'm faca mi féin an t-àite le mo dhà shùil, cha mhór gu'n creidinn-sa bho dhuine geal gu bheil leithid Nis air tìr tioram ann an Leòdhas.

CEIT—Nach math, Anna, gur h-ann mar sin a tha cùisean, ach cuimhnich thusa mar a tha na tighean geala a' fàs ann an lionmhorachd, agus mar a tha na fasanan ùra a' togail an cinn, gur h-ann is motha a tha sluagh, agus gu h-araidh òigridh ar n-eilein, a' call an sgéimhe agus an neirt. Càite a bheil am biadh math a b' àbhaist a bhì againn—an t-iasg, an ceann-grobaig, na maragan, Ìm saillte an Dubhair, an t-aran eòrna, agus an t-aran corca? C'àite a bheil iad? Innis sin dòmhsa, Anna.

ANNA—Cha tainig facal as do cheann an dràsda ach an fhìrinn. Tha sinne air ar leigeadh féin ro mhór an taice ri biadh bùthan, airson gu'm biodh sinn cho calma ri ar n-atraichean. Agus thòisich na carbadan a' siubhal cho tric eadar bailtean na tuatha agus am baile mòr, tha na seachd truaighean air a dhol air cùisean.

CEIT—Nach e sin, Anna, a tha mise a liathadh! Tha am pàisde nighinn a tha còmhla rium, ged nach 'eil i dusan bliadhna, cho miannach air tea agus air faoiseanan a bhaile mhóir, is nach 'eil fhios agam ciod è a ni mi rithe.

ANNA—Tha iad ag innseadh dhomh gu bheil i a' toirt leatha na sgoile glé mhath. Is cinnteach mise gur h-ann ri cuideachd a màthar a chaidh i. Tha mi a' creidsinn gu'n cuir thu do sgoil mhór Steòrnabhagh i.

CEIT—Is e sin dùil a bha agam. Chan 'eil i làidir gu leòir airson a' chléibh, no cruaidh gu leòir airson an iasgaich, agus mar sin tha mi a' dol a dhèanamh bana-mhaighstir sgoile dhith. Tha i cho beag measta is nach dean i an còrr de dh'fheum co-dhiùbh.

ANNA—Seadh, seadh, tha mi a' tighinn thugad a nis. Cha b'iongnadh ged a bhiodh na sgoiltean mar a tha iad, mur h-eil bana-mhaighstir sgoile idir anna ach feadhainn nach dèanadh an còrr a dh'fheum. Obh, obh, nach ann oirne a rug an latha bochd!

CEIT—Agus ciod a tha thu féin a' dol a dhèanamh ris a' ghille a tha agad a' toirt a mach an fhoghlum? Tha mi cinnteach gu'n dèan thu ministear no lighiche dheth.

ANNA—Cha dèan mi fhéin. Chosgadh sin cus uirgid domh, agus gun sin ach gann agam am bliadhna fhéin.

CEIT—Ciod è, a rithist, a ni thu ris? Thig air rud-eigin a dhèanamh ri a chuid foghlum.

ANNA—Is dòcha gu'n dèan e an rud a bha Dàbhaidh Iain Mhic Alasdair, a bha air an Locha Ghanmhaich, a' dèanamh.

CEIT—Agus ciod è a bha Dàbhaidh còir a' dèanamh? Tha cuimhne agam fhéin air an duine thruagh sin.

ANNA—Bha e fhéin ag ràdh gu robh e a h-uile Sàmhradh a' toirt sgoile do na *professoran* an uair a bhiodh na Colaisdean dùinte aca.

CEIT—Tha thu cho math air do theangaidh agus a bha thu an uair a bha thu òg. Ach mo chuimhne, an do thachair thu air Iain mo bhràthair aig na h-brùighean.

ANNA—Chunnaic mi e aig dorus na h-eaglais a' bruidhinn ri dithis bhoireannach.

CEIT—Sin agad-sa Iain againne. B'fheàrr leis a riamh aona bhoireannach na dusan fireannach.

ANNA—Agus, a Cheit, nach iongantach leat-sa mise. B'fheàrr leam-sa aon fireannach na fichead boireannach.

CEIT—Cha tu féin is fhearr de na buic. Bo mhaol odhar agus bo odhar mhaol. Cha b'iongnadh ged a bhiodh Iain ag iadach riut.

ANNA—(ag èirigh 'na seasamh)—Is e mo chuid a bhì a' falbh an dràsda. Tha Iain air an eathar, agus feumaidh mi blasad bidh a dhèanamh dha. Cuin a théid thu null a chèilidh oirn?

CEIT—Is dòcha gu'n téid an ath-oidhche, ma cheadaicheas slàinte agus aimsir e. Ach nach mise a tha air mo nàrachadh nach do rinn mi copan tea dhuit. Chuir thu féin an ceann agam 'na bheislich cho mòr, a' bruidhinn air “Duagan” agus air Fionnlagh Mór, is nach robh fhios agam ciod è an saoghal air a robh mi.

ANNA—Cha robh slon a dh'fheum agam-sa air tea. Bha mi dìreach air dà chupan òl goirid mu'n d'fhàg mi mo thigh féin. Greas thusa ort a null a chèilidh. Bidh Iain glé thoilichte ort, ma théid thu a null. Chan iarr e a shùgradh ach a bhì a' tarruing conais asad mu phòsadh agus mu ghillean.

CEIT—Tha mi féin agus Iain glé mhór aig a chéile. B'e féin an duine còir gasda. Tha mise ag ràdh riutsa gu'n d'fhuair thusa tìlgeadh a' chait do'n t-sabhal an latha a fhuair thu e.

ANNA—Tha eagal orm-sa ma dh'èireas dad domh féin gu'm bi thu féin agus Iain pòsda aig a chéile. Ach a chinn mhóir gun bhuaidh, bheir mise ort-sa ma phòsas tu Iain an deidh mo bhàis-sa, nach toir mo spiorad-sa fois duit a Shàbaid no a sheachdain. Cuimhnich thusa air an sin, a Cheit.

CEIT (*a dèanamh gàire*)—Is fheàrr dhuit-sa an aire a thoirt ort féin gun fhios ciod è a dh'fhoadadh tachairt. Dheanainn féin agus Iain cupall, aosda agus mar a tha sinn, cho snasail agus gu'n seasadh daoine cruaidh ag coimhead ruinn. Thoir thusa an aire ort féin!

ANNA—Chan 'eil ort-sa ach do leigeadh seachad. Tha thu dìreach air a dhol uaithe orm buileach glan. Oidhe mhath leat, ach fiach nach bi thu a' priobadh air Iain an oidhe a thèid thu a null.

CEIT—Cha chan mi dad. Oidhe mhath leat, Anna.

ANNA—Mar sin leat-sa, ach cuimhnich gun tig thu.

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## A GAELIC THEATRE.

BY THE EDITOR.

### II.

It may be at once admitted that there are certain negative forces which would act as an obstructive influence against the inauguration of a Gaelic theatre. One of these forces would be the indifference, and probably the active opposition, of many Gaels who have never taken a thoughtful, patriotic view of the question. Undoubtedly there are several Gaels who, having adapted themselves however inadequately to another form of culture, wider in some respects, but not more truly refined than that of their own fathers, would always be ready to urge objections like the following: that there is no demand for a Gaelic theatre; that any attempt to provide a thing for which there is no demand would, arguing from a commercial analogy, be doomed to disappointment; that the mental well-being of the Gaelic people is fully secured through English; and that English drama is quite sufficient to supply what entertainment is necessary. Now, in a word, the weakness of all these objections is that they display an unmanly readiness to renounce the birth-right of the race. What should we think of an Anglo-Saxon for example, who would

show a similar willingness to abandon the speech and ideals of his own people? We would certainly despise him. And no less surely is that Gael an object of contempt who would prove a renegade in regard to the language and literature of his fathers. While every Gael cannot but feel grateful for all the benefits he may have derived from other forms of culture, yet it is surely a matter to be deplored that any Gael would contend that the Gaelic race should make no effort against the tendency by which its language and traditions are being forgotten, and its distinctive character is disappearing through absorption into other races.

The other principal negative force is of an ecclesiastical character. It is well known that a certain type of religious teacher in the Scottish Highlands has, during the past two or three generations, done his best to put a ban upon "secular tales and songs." The ecclesiastical condition of Scottish Gaeldom at the present moment is due in large measure to this ascetic stringency. The effect on literature and music, however, is the point that we are here concerned with. Early in the nineteenth century the works of certain Puritan authors were translated into Scottish Gaelic, and the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge was the means of distributing these Gaelic translations among the Highland people. The opposition of the Puritans to the theatre and to secular music is proverbial. The expressive rancour with which the average Puritan regarded the license of the drama at the time of the Restoration of Monarchy in England was duly reproduced in a Gaelic garb, and was readily entertained by readers of the Gaelic translations. Unfortunately these readers did not possess the sense of historical perspective which would enable them to discern the great improvement that had meantime taken place in the ethical tone of drama as a whole. The result was that earnest readers who appreciated the devotional quality of Puritan authors, absorbed at the same time the Puritanic hatred of the stage; and they did not hesitate to display towards nineteenth century drama the bitter opposition which the Puritans had shown towards that of an earlier date. While it is quite hopeless to argue with the remnant who still maintain that point of view, it may be remarked that the obstructive power of this negative force is gradually becoming smaller and smaller. The liberating influence of education, and

of the public press in the Highlands, has introduced a far more tolerant spirit. It is evident to any close observer that the young in the North of Scotland are not nearly so much under the domination of bigotry as was the case even a few years ago. The inauguration of local branches of An Comunn, and the careful training of junior choirs in Gaelic music, are doing much to enlist the sympathy and kindle the enthusiasm of children and younger parents in favour of the very songs and tales which used to be an offence to an older generation.

The question may be appropriately asked: Where are we to locate our Gaelic theatre, so that it may be likely to reach those for whom it is intended? As a rule, the youth of Gaelic Scotland flock to the great cities. In the City of Glasgow there are normally many thousands of young men and women from the Highlands. It may be laid down as an axiom that the main hope of success as regards a Gaelic theatre lies with the younger generation. Those who have already reached or passed the prime of life without appreciating the value of drama, are not likely to be persuaded in its favour either by argument or by example. Where the Gaelic youth congregate in their thousands is surely the very spot in which to locate our Gaelic theatre. Let us take for instance a flourishing institution in Glasgow known as "Ceilidh nan Gaidheal," the foregathering of the Gaels. For the past thirty years, and every week throughout seven months of the year, a crowded meeting of Gaelic-speaking young men and women assembles, and the programme is invariably of a literary and musical nature. Order and discipline are on a high level. Gaelic alone is spoken and sung. Older members have acquired a great proficiency in Gaelic debate; and the vocal music is probably as cultured as is to be found in any Gaelic circle. Our purpose in describing this institution is to suggest what an excellent opportunity there is here for the inauguration of a Gaelic theatre. The enthusiasm, the love of the language, the social instinct, and the sense of decorous attentiveness are all there. Nor is there any evident lack of ability and general culture. University students of both sexes are among the most regular attenders. There is also a large number of other intelligent young persons who are prospering in business, as well as a numerous throng of well-behaved youth who follow humble callings in life. There is probably no more

genuinely Gaelic gathering in Scotland than this, whose vitality is always fresh and vigorous, and whose financial responsibilities are cheerfully borne by the members. There is every reason to think that drama which would include some Gaelic music, and which would set forth the old traditions in the native speech, would be fully as interesting for this audience as any programme usually submitted to them could be. And an important point is that the financial needs of such a movement in connection with Ceilidh nan Gaidheal would be well supplied by the large audience which faithfully attends these meetings from year to year.

As far as Gaelic Scotland is concerned we have observed from the conditions at present prevailing, as well as from tendencies which have become manifest in recent times, that it is in the smaller towns and larger villages that the decadence of the native speech and traditions goes on at the quickest pace. In the more rural districts where the peasantry speak little else than Gaelic, there does not seem to be the same necessity meantime to plead for the life of the language. But certainly in the larger villages, where the business of neighbouring rural areas is transacted, there is an evident neglect of the claims of the mother tongue. In view of the general interest which is now taken in community drama in the smaller towns and larger villages of Gaelic Scotland, the services of a travelling company of Gaelic dramatic artistes, under the auspices of An Comunn for example, would be warmly welcomed. The offer of healthy entertainment would surely be rather a help than a hindrance to the furthering of a patriotic purpose. The present writer can testify to the enthusiasm with which, even in these places, any effort to keep the language alive is heartily supported. In one week, on a tour undertaken at the request of An Comunn, he has had the unique experience of organising and opening six different local branches of An Comunn. The appeal was made to the people on entirely non-political lines, and the response was such as to justify one in concluding that a small travelling company of dramatic artistes, under the auspices of An Comunn, would be a most valuable agent for helping the very work on which the society is expending considerable sums every year from its central fund.

*(To be concluded.)*



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## PROPAGANDA TOURS.

The General Secretary continued his tour in Ardnamurchan and on 15th February addressed a gathering of 120 people in the School at Mingarry (Moidart). Father Pat. MacDonald presided and pipe music, songs and sgeulachdan were contributed by members of the Branch. It is hoped that the Junior Choir will compete at the National Mod.

The following evening Mr Shaw attended a meeting of the Kinlochail Branch. There was a crowded attendance and a splendid programme was gone through. Mr. Shaw addressed the meeting in Gaelic. Ninety people were present.

On Wednesday evening, 17th February, Mr. Shaw, accompanied by Major N. B. Mackenzie, Convener Mod Local Committee at Fort William, and Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Joint Local Secretary, attended a meeting in the Hall, Onich. Major Mackenzie presided and after the usual addresses, the Branch was re-organised and office-bearers appointed. Mr. John MacNeill is President and Miss Polson, The Schoolhouse, is Secretary. About 70 people were present.

On the 18th the Secretary visited Strontian and interviewed several people interested in the movement. It is fully intended to form a Branch here early next session. Returning to Ardgour on the 19th, Mr. Shaw called on the Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour, and discussed the prospects of the Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod. Mrs. Hector MacDonald is doing good work as music teacher in this area.

A meeting of the Mod Local Committee was held in Fort William on 3rd March, and was attended by Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Convener, Mod and Music Committee, Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, and the General Secretary. A special appeal is being made to Branches to support the Mod by money contribution and by sending competitors.

The Kilmodan Branch held its annual concert on 4th March. Mr. Charles Campbell, Convener of the Propaganda Committee, the General Secretary, and Miss Neilina MacLennan, Glasgow, attended. Mr. Campbell presided over a large attendance and addressed the gathering in Gaelic and English.

On 9th March Mr. Shaw addressed the Dunoon Branch on "Orain Bheaga." He was

assisted by Mr. James C. Macphee, Glasgow, and Miss Jean Gallagher, Dunoon. There was a very large attendance over which Mr. James Livingstone presided.

Kenmore was visited on 14th March and a very successful meeting was held in the Holder Hall. The Rev. William Gillies, B.D., presided. A splendid musical programme, arranged by Mr. Coull, was gone through and interesting addresses in Gaelic and English, by the Chairman and Mr. Shaw, were given. While in the district Mr. Shaw visited several members in Aberfeldy and ascertained the progress of the singing classes, both at Aberfeldy and Kinloch Rannoch. It was the Secretary's intention to visit other Branches in Perthshire, but owing to an epidemic of measles, the meetings had to be postponed.

Mr. Shaw attended the annual closing concert of the Beinn Duirinish Branch, Bonawe, on Friday, 18th March. Rev. Alex. MacDonald, Ardochattan, Hon. President, presided. There were addresses in Gaelic and English, piping, Highland dancing, violin and piano selections, Gaelic dialogue and solos in Gaelic and English. A party of young men from the Taynuilt Gaelic Choir contributed sea shanty songs. This Branch has had a very successful session and has 54 members enrolled.

Mr. Shaw attended the Gaelic section ceilidh of the P.E.N. Club, in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on 19th March, and contributed Gaelic songs.

Mr. Carmichael, Organiser for Northern Area, visited Drummadrochit on 17th February, and Fort Augustus on the 18th. Arrangements were made for the holding of the Glenmore Provincial in Fort Augustus on 14th May.

The Northern Organiser presided at a ceilidh in Laide on 24th February. The ceilidh was in aid of Gairloch Mod funds, and there was an attendance of 150 people. Mr. Carmichael went to Bualnaluib School the following day and took Junior entries for the Mod. He proceeded to Gairloch and attended a Mod Committee meeting.

Mr. Carmichael attended a ceilidh in aid of music class funds in Rogart on 4th March. There was a gratifying attendance and parents present were impressed by Mr. Carmichael's address.

A visit was paid to Skye on week commencing 7th March, and Mr. Carmichael called on local officials at Broadford. He attended a meeting of the Provincial Mod



Committee at Portree on 8th March. It was arranged to hold the Skye Provincial Mod as usual and 28th and 29th June were provisionally fixed for the gathering. Mr Carmichael went to Gairloch on 9th March and remained there until the Mod took place on 11th March. The Mod was an outstanding success, but owing to epidemics, many of the Junior entrants were unable to participate. There were 350 people present at the concert following the Mod.

Teachers are employed as follows:—

Northern Area:—

Miss Margaret MacDonald, Badenoch.

Mr. John MacDonald, Strath Halladale.

Miss Jessie MacKenzie, Glenurquhart.

Southern Area:—

Mrs. Hector MacDonald, Ardnamurchan.

Mr John MacDiarmid, Mull and Morvern.

Mr. Hugh MacLean, Upper Lorn.

Provincial Mods have been arranged as follows:—Badenoch (Grantown on Spey), 13th April; Kintyre (Campbeltown), 5th and 6th May; Glenmore (Fort Augustus), 14th May; Islay (Bowmore), 10th June; Lorn, Mull and Morvern (Oban), 10th June; Mid-Argyll (Lochgilphead), 14th and 15th June; Lewis (Stornoway), 16th and 17th June; Perthshire (Pitlochry), 17th June; Ardnamurchan (Strontian), 28th June; North and West Sutherland (Tongue), 29th June.

## AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH

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Le K. W. G.

Tha am bàta againn, an *Ronald*, a' cumail a null ri taobh chòrsa Chinntire a tha 'ruith fada mach, agus a bha mar an ceudna 'n a chuid do'n t-shean dùthaich Lochlannaich. Bha e air a chur fo thighearnas Lochlann, mar a tha cheana air innseadh le Rìgh Mánus Casrùisgte, agus air a ghairm 's ann Sàga, Satri, no Sathire, facal Gàidhlig, *Sàil*-tìre an aon rud ri *Ceann* na tìre. An Sàga Rìgh Mhànuis Chasrùisgte tha e ri leughadh: "An sin chaidh muinntir eadar e féin agus Rìgh Calum na h-Alba agus rinneadh sìth eatorra. Bha Rìgh Mánus ris na h-uile eilean fhaotainn a bha ri iar na h-Alba, 's e sin gach eilean a bha cho fad o thìr-mór agus gu'm faodadh long seòladh leis an stìthir air ghleus eadar e agus tìr-mór. Ach an uair a thàinig Mánus tuath gu Satri thug e air a dhaoine an long aige a

shlaodadh thairis air an tairbeart, leis fhéin air toiseach na luinge le a làimh air an stìthir, agus mar so fhuair e 'n dùthaich ris an taobh chli dhi. Is mór tìr Satri, agus is fearr i na'n t-eilean is fearr an Innse-Gall, ach a mhàin an t-Eilean Manannach." Is i 'n tairbeart sin Tairbeart Loch Fine. Tha e air aithris gu 'n d'rinn Rìgh Raibeart am Brusach an déigh eismpleir Rìgh Mhànuis, air dha dol do na h-Eileanan an 1315, mar so a' seòladh, mar gu'm b'eadh, mu'n cuairt air Ceanntìre, a nochdadh do na Gàidhlig cho iomlan agus a fhuair e sealb air uachdranachd na rìoghachd.

Tha Ceanntìre 'n a fhearann torrach, sòlmhor, le mòran bhailte móra fearainn. Do na h-ait-ainmean cha toir mi ach beagan. Borgadale, Borgadalr = Gleannan Dùin; Catterdale = Gleann nan cat fiadhaich; Carradale, Kjarr-dale = Gleann-nam-Preas; Torrisdale, Thorir-ainm duine; Smerby, smjörbaer no byr = Baile-fearainn-an-ime; Ulgadale, Ugga-dalr = Gleann-nan-Comhachag, Sunadale, Sunna-dalr = An Gleann Deas; Ormsary, Fardoch-Orm (ainm duine); Knappdale, Knappr = Cnap; Amot = Comhshruthadh aithnichean; Skipness, Skipa-nes = Sròn-nan-Long. Tha aig an là-diugh féin àitean an Lochlann d'an ainm Torrisdale, agus Amot. Aig ceann deas Chinntìre chaidh sinn seach eilean beag Shanda, Sand-ey = Eilean-na-Gàinmh, a tha air ainmeachadh an Sàga Rìgh Haakon mar aon de na h-eileana seachad air an do sheòl an cabhlach.

Tha o chionn car ùine taobh tuath Eirinn ri fhaicinn mar stiall iosal de cheò air oir na mara. An so tha mar an ceudna sean fhearann Lochlannach, agus tha sgeul beag am meadhon Sàga Rìgh Haakoin a toirt air ais 'n ar cuimhne gu robh a Cheisd Eirionnach — a tha nis, thatar an dòchas, gu bràth air a socrachadh — o na linntean o shean. Am feadh a bha cabhlach Rìgh Haakon 'n a luidhe air muir na h-Alba, "thàinig teachd-àireachd g'a ionnsuidh," a deir an Sàga, "a Eirinn gu robh na h-Eirionnaich a' tairgse tighinn foigh a thighearnas; gu robh feum mhór aca gu'n saoradh e iad o'n daorsa a leag na Sasannaich orra, a chionn gu'n do ghléidh iad na bailtean uile a b'fhearr air an oir-thìr." Mar sin chuir an Rìgh Sighrd le roinn de bhàtaichean eutrom gu rannsachadh a stigh 's a chùis. Thill Sighrd an déigh blàr na Learga ag ràdh gu robh na h-Eirionnaich deas gu an t-Arm Lochlannach gu h-iomlan a chumail suas na 'n còrdadh Rìgh Haakon gu an saoradh

o uachdranachd nan Sasunnach. Bha'n Rìgh toileach so a thoirt gu buil, ach chaidh an rùn a chur air leth-taobh a chionn gu'n robh Ceannardan a chabhlaich neo-thoileach an oidheipr fheuchainn, leis a gheamhradh dìreach orra agus an cabhlach deas gu seòladh dhachaidh.

Bha'n *Ronald* a' deanamh air dol mu'n cuairt Maol Chinntire, anns an Sàga: Satlris Mula—air bhì do'n ainm "Mull," no "Maol 's a Ghàidhlig, a bha air a tharruing o'n Lochlannach "Muli," rudha, no ceanttire àrd. Air taobh an iar Chinntire tha'n t-eilean beag Giodhaidh, *Gudey*=Godisle, far an do luidh cabhlach Rìgh Haakon car fine. Tha'n so mar an ceudna àit-ainmean Lochlannach, a crìochnachadh leis na faacail; Nis=sròn, no rudha; sgeir=sker; bàgh Vagr=bàgh; lum, Holm=holm no innis beag, etc.

Tha sinn a nis a' tarruing dlùth ri dà eilean mhòr, Ìle is Diùra, a tha'm fagus d'a chèile, le caol ainnheathan 'g an dealachadh. Is iad an ainmean anns an Sàga II, is Dyrey; tha "Il" na's fhaid' air ais na àm nan Lochlannach, ach tha'n "aidh" — an Beurla "a," ach na's bheithane "ey," no "ay" aig deireadh ainm eilean, "ey" (*island*) anns a chainnt Lochlaunaich — a combharrachadh Diùraidh mar an Lochlannach Dyrey=Eilean an Fhéidh. An dèigh an Eilean Mhanannaich, b'e Ìle an t-àite bu docha leis na tighearnan Lochlannach gu fuireach ann; d'an aithne dhuinn Arailt Dubh, athair Ghudrod Cròbhan a chuir an t-Eilean Manannach fo cheannsal, agus a stéidhich teaghlach tigh rioghail nan Innse-Gail agus an Eilein Mhanannaich. Ghabh Gudrod comhnaidh tric an Ìle, agus tha'n t-ainm Conisby a toirt air muinntir a bharail a ghabhail gu bheil an t-ainm a' nochdadh so, "Konungsbyr, no baer" = Aros an Rìgh; shiubhail Gudrod an Ìle 's a bliadhna 1095, glé choltach an Conisby. Am measg nan àit-ainmean an Ìle's an Diùra tha Port Askaig, *Askvik*=Bàgh nan Long; Loch Gruinnart, *Grunnfjord*=Caol-tana, Proaig, *Breidvik*=Bàgh-leathan, Aros, *dr-oss*=Inbhir, Steinsay, *Steins-å*=Abhainn-chlachach, Smalaig, *Smal-vik*=Camus an fheadail, Lanadail, *Langadal*=Glèann-fada, Bhearnasaig, *Bjarnavik*=Bàgh-Bhjorn (ainm duine), Greineal, *Graenroller*=Dailghorm, Grianaig, *Graenvik*; Camus-gorm; cha'n 'eil an sin ach àireamh bheag dhiubh; tha móran tuilleadh leis na faacail Lochlannach aig an deireadh; "*dalr*," mar *dale*, no dail, "*vikr*" mar "aig" no "uig," "*nes*" mar "nish,"

"*setr*" is "*ster*," etc. Tha'm facal Lochlannach "*Bolstadr*" (àite-comhnaidh) an Ìle mar dheireadh ainm mar "bus"; Torrabus, fardoch no dachaidh "*Thorir*" (ainm duine), Lurabus — sean dòigh sgriobhaidh Learabolsay — "*Leir*" = criadh, Asabus, "Ass" = Druim, Risabus, "Hris" = preasach, Eorabus "*Eyrrar*" = Cladach, Carrabus, "*Kjarr*" = Coille, no preasarnach, Nerabus, *Knorr*=long, agus móran eile; tha'm facal "*Haugr*," dùn beag, ri fhaotainn mar "Howe," agus "Oa" mar àit-ainmean; "*borg*" = Dùn, gheibh sinn an "Nomhasburgh," sean dòigh "*Nauisburgh*" "*Hnausborg*" = Dùntota, Bhoraraic, "*Borgarvik*" = Bàgh an Dùin. Tha Caol Ìle tric air ainmeachadh 's an Sàga mar Ilarsund; luidh cabhlach Rìgh Haakon an sin air a thurus dhachaidh.

Ri tuath Dhiùra tha Scarba, "*Skarfey*" = Innis nan Sgarbh, Seil—glé choltach "sel" = ròn, Shùna, "*Sjön*"-ey = Eilean a Choinmid, Lunga "ey" as an Lochlannach. Ri tuath Eirinn tha na h-eileana Collasa agus Eilean Orfhasa no Eilean Diarmain, Eilean Iarmainn; tha a cheud aon air a chur sìos mar Ghàidhlig, leis an "ey" Lochlannach air a chur ris, ach tha'n t-Ollamh McBheathain ag ràdh gu bheil e gu soilleir o'n Lochlannach, gur e Kolbeins-ey a th'ann (b'e "Kolbein" ainm duine); tha so air a dhaingneachadh trid an t-sean dòigh air a sgriobhadh: — Colbhansay, Colnansay Coluynsay, mar an ceudna trid ainm Ghàidhlig an Eilean:—Colbhasa: a réir an Ollaimh Mhic Fhionghain tha'n sluagh na's Lochlannaiche na eadhoin muinntir Ìle; bha na Lochlannaich an Colbhasa dlùth air 500 bliadhna, agus riaghal Ketil Flatneb na h-Eileana as a so, a réir Symington Friere ann a leabhar mu Cholbhasa is Oransay. Is iad àit-ainmean Lochlannach an Colbhasa, Sgiobanish, "Skipa-nes" = Sròn nan Long, Scalasaig, "*Skalhusvik*" Camus nan tigh a muigh, Staosnaig, Alanis, Ardskenish, Urugaig, na h-uile h-aon diubh leis na faacail Lochlannach air an chur riù "*vikr*" agus "*nes*" mar "aig" is "nish." Ann am Bàgh Chillorain fhuaradh a mach uaigh Viking anns a bliadhna 1882; innte fhuaradh aog duine, airm-chogaidh, rudan grinne air son sgeadachaidh, tàirngnean, coire, iaruin, cùinnean, etc., glé choltach ris na nithe a th'air am faotainn ann an uaighean de'n t-seòrsa so an Lochlann.

Tha'n t-eilean beag Orfhasa, làimh ri Colbhasa, mar an ceudna Lochlannach, oir is e'n t-ainm anns a chainnt Lochlannaich. "*Or-firis-ey*" = Eilean a tha tioram aig àm

na tràigheadh. Beagan na's fhaide ri tuath tha sinn a dol seachad air cròithleinn beag de chreagan an Sgeirmhóir, d'am bheil an t-ainm a taisbeanadh gu'n d'thàinig e as an Lochlannach "sker" = creag no sgeir. Dìreach a stigh ri cliathaich tìr-mór tha eilean mór Mhuile, ainm a fhuair e mun d'thàinig na Lochlaunnaich; b'e 'n t-ainm a bh'aca-san air "Myl"; tha beanntan àrda air an eilean agus àireamh mhór de chaoil-mhara, de chamuis is bhàghan ann. An so mar air a h-uile taobh tha àit-ainmean Lochlannach gun àireamh. Cuiridh mi sios beagan diubh:—Ulba "Ulf-ey" = Eilean Ulbh (Ulbb, ainm duine); Tealla, hjalli" = bile creige, leis an "t" Ghàidhlig aig a thoiseach; Liodail, Leidil, "hlid-dalr" = Gleann an Leathaid; Beinn Thungairidh, "Tanga-gerdi" = teanga de thìr air iomdhrùicheadh; Tongue, "tunga" = teanga de thalamh; Rossal, "hross-vøller" = dail-nan-each; Loch Sgrìodain agus Sgrìdhinn, bho "Skrida" = Spéil-monaigh; Gleann Forsa, "Forsá" = Steallaire, Abhainn an Steallaire; Dùn Bhuirg, "Borg" = Dùn; agus móran eile leis an deireadh mar an Lochlannach "bol" (goirid air son "bolstadr") mar "boll," "poll," "virk" mar "aig," "dalr" mar "dale," "dil," "dail," "ey," etc. Tha cuid de na seana chaistealan am Muile air an ainm a tharruing o'n Lochlannach, mar Ardtòrnish "Thors-nes," Aros, "Ar-oss" = Inbhir, Mingarry—réir barail dhaoine foghlumte — "Minkinn-gardr" = Gart, no Lios-mór. Sheòl cabhlach Rìgh Haakon troimh Chaol Mhuile — anns an Sàga, "Mylarsund"—air a rathad gu Cearara air a thurus gu deas. Dlùth do Mhuile tha'n t-eilean beag Staffa; "Staf-ey" = Eilean nam bata, le Uainn ainmeil Fhinn, agus eilean beannaichte Chaluim Chille—anns an Sàga, "Eyin helga" no an t-Eilean Naomh, far am bheil iomadh ceannard nan Innse-Gall taisgte 's an ùir, 'n am measg tha ochd rìghrean Lochlannach, tha e air a ràdh. Tha'n Sàga ag aithris, an uair a chaidh Rìgh Manus Casruisgte air tìr air I Chaluim Chille air a cheud turas mór "Siar-thàr-Sàile," gu'n d'thug e trècàir agus sìth do gach neach agus d'an cuid. Thug e orra mar an ceudna an caibéal beag fhosgladh agus chaidh an Rìgh e fhéin a stigh, ach thàinig e mach gu h-ealamh; ghlaic e 'n doras agus thuit e nach robh neach ri bhi cho dàna 's gu'n rachadh e stigh; agus o'n àm sin cha d'fhosgladh an doras. B'e an caibéal sin Caibéal Orain.

(Ri Leantainn.)

## JUNIOR ESSAY COMPETITION.

The prize of Ten Shillings has been awarded for the following essay to Katie Macinnes, Dunan Public School, Skye:—

### An Geamhradh.

Anns a' gheamhradh bi a' ghaoth a' séideadh gu làidir, agus bi frasan garbh de chlachan meallain ann. An uair a bhios a' ghaoth a' séideadh gu làidir cha bhi duilleag air craoibh.

Anns a' gheamhradh bi an oidhche a' tuiteam tràth, agus feumar an solas a lasadh mu cheithir uairean. Bi a h-uile duine mu thimcheall an teine ag innseadh sgeulachdan.

Anns an Dunan bi luchd ceilidh a' cruinneachadh mar a bha iad o shean, agus a' bruidhinn air iasgach agus iomadh rud eile. Is toil leam na geamhradh. Tha e na am cho sunndach ri aimsir eadar da cheann na bliadhna. Bi am na Nollag agus a' Bhliadhna ùr ann.

Bi sinn saor as an sgoil, agus dùil againn ri cuirm na Nollag, mar is abhaist. Is e am fallain a tha anns a' gheamhradh, agus le cruach mhath mhònadh aig ceann an tighe cha chuir teine curam oirnn gu Earrach.

An uair a thig sneachd agus reodhadh chan iarr mi fhein a' dhol a stigh. Bi na gillean àg iomain aig an sgoil, agus na nigheanan a' ruith agus a' leum gus iad fhein a' chumail blàth.

Tha mnathan a' bhaile sò trang anns an tràigh fhaochaig an uair a tha an tràigh freagarrach, agus cha chreid mi nach eil a' phris nas fhearr anns a' gheamhradh. Chan eil fad o'n thog mi fhein air Di-Sathuirne na cheannach deagh fhaidhir bhàg dhomh. Tha an geamhradh a nis gu bhi seachad, agus faodaidh sinn a ràdh gur e fìor gheamhradh math a bha ann.

## THE NEXT SUBJECT.

The next subject for the Junior Gaelic Essay Competition will be "Na h-Uain Oga" (The Young Lambs). It is to be hoped that pupils in elementary schools where Gaelic is taught may be encouraged by their teachers to take part in the competition. The prize is ten shillings. Competitors, both boys and girls, must be under fourteen years of age. The essays should be certified by the teacher.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

**GNATHASAN CAINNTE.** Gaelic Idioms and Expressions with Free Translation. Compiled by Duncan Macdonald, headmaster, Sandwickhill Public School, Stornoway. Published by An Comunn Gaidhealach, 1932. 124 pp. Price, 1/6.

Mr. Macdonald has put all learners of Gaelic under a debt of gratitude by giving them this helpful book on Gaelic idioms. One of the proofs of the antiquity of Gaelic is the great difference between its idioms and those of modern languages. This new collection is a veritable storehouse of sound old-fashioned expressions. The author takes key-words such as *cuir* and *to*, on which so many idioms turn. He gives an exhaustive list of usages under each of sixty or seventy key-words. The method seems very clear and simple. This is a well got up book, a marvel of cheapness, with good paper and type, and well bound. It should be in the hands of all learners; and even those who know the language would be none the worse of refreshing their memories. Here they would meet with many phrases that were on the lips of the old Gaelic folk, real Gaelic idioms. The English renderings are very well done. Every school and class and ceilidh should use the volume. —N. R.

**MACLAREN'S COLLECTION OF GAELIC SONGS.**

No. 19, *Caoil Muille* (The Sound of Mull); No. 20, *O Hì-rìrì tha e tighinn* (Welcome to Prince Charlie), and No. 24, *Cabar Fèidh* (The Clan Song of the Mackenzies). Large sheets, each song eight pages, price 2/- each.

This is a very suitable series for popularising the Gaelic songs. It brings Gaelic vocal music into line with an up-to-date standard, the standard that one sees on the regular concert platform. Messrs. MacLaren should be encouraged by our Gaelic vocalists to publish more of our Gaelic music in this large legible type and strong paper. The pianoforte accompaniment for No. 19 is by Chas. R. Baptie. There is a very fine translation by David R. Fletcher. The accompaniment of No. 20 is by Ethel M. Baptie and the English rendering by Rev. W. M. Whyte. Accompaniment for No. 24 is by Chas. R. Baptie. There is no English rendering given of this lively and meritorious piece. It is a genuine pleasure to look at and to handle Gaelic music printed and published in this ample and sumptuous manner. —N. R.

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**BRANCH REPORTS.**


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**ABERFELDY.**—Under the auspices of An Comunn Gaidhealach, a successful Gaelic and English concert was held in the Town Hall on 4th March. The Rev. Coll A. MacDonald, Logierait, presided over a large audience. The proceedings were opened by the playing of bagpipe selections. A pleasing feature of the programme was a tableau representing the parting of Prince Charlie with Flora MacDonald. A successful part of the entertainment was the performance of the Gaelic sketch, "Am Fear a Chaill a Ghaidhlig," by a party of young people, under the direction of the Rev. Ian MacLellan, Weem.

**BENBECULA.**—The final meeting of the Ballyvanich Branch was held when Mr. D. J. Macmillan, the secretary, presided over a large attendance. The Chairman reported that the branch had 103 members and was in a flourishing condition financially. The office-bearers for the new session were nominated. A debate, entitled "Is Love Folly?" between Miss R. Macmillan, M.A., and Donald Macaulay, affirmative, and Mr. Donald Lamont and Mr. Kenneth Macleod, negative, when put to the vote ended in a victory for the negative side. Folk-lore and mcleodan selections ended what was a very enjoyable evening.

**BENDERLOCH.**—An enjoyable ceilidh was held under the auspices of the Benderloch Branch. In the absence of the Rev. A. MacDonald, President, the chair was occupied by Mr. P. MacDonald. The proceedings commenced with bagpipe selections, and thereafter a concert programme was sustained by popular artists. The Gaelic stories by the Chairman helped to introduce and maintain the real ceilidh atmosphere.

**BETTHILL.**—The first ceilidh of the newly-formed branch provided a very pleasant evening for a large company. A nicely varied programme of Gaelic and English songs, with instrumental music at intervals, was much enjoyed. The Committee seem confident of much local support in their efforts on behalf of the cause.

**CAIRNDOW.**—A ceilidh promoted by the St. Catherine's Branch in aid of the National Mod funds was most successful. Mrs. Nicol MacIntyre presided over a large attendance, and a company of artistes, several of whom travelled from a distance, were present and sustained a most enjoyable programme of solo, duet, and instrumental items.

**GLENELG.**—Under the auspices of the Glenelg Branch, a successful concert was held in the school. The duties of Chairman were most pleasingly performed by Miss C. Cameron, secretary. A lengthy and interesting programme, mostly Gaelic, was provided and much enjoyed by the large and appreciative audience.

**INVERARAY.**—The fortnightly meeting of the Inveraray Branch in the St. Malieu Hall continued the series of social meetings which have been so enjoyable a feature of this branch's activities this session. Mr. Robert Bain, Vice-President, occupied the chair, and the programme of Gaelic and English songs, with Gaelic recitations and *seugachdan*, was entirely sustained by local artistes.

**INVERGARRY.**—The Coronation Hall held a crowded audience when a successful ceilidh organised by the Glangarry Branch of An Comunn was held. Mr. John Macgillivray, President, presided, and the guest of the evening was Mr. A. M. Carmichael, organiser for the northern area. Mr. Carmichael was given a cordial welcome, and his Gaelic address and Gaelic songs were warmly received and heartily applauded. A lengthy and varied programme was submitted, and at the close the artistes and Mr. Carmichael were thanked on the call of the President. A special meeting of the Glangarry committee was afterwards held, and among those present were Mr. Carmichael and several delegates from the Fort-Augustus Branch. The business of the meeting was to decide whether the Provincial Mod should be held at Fort-Augustus this year, and after discussion it was decided that the Mod be held as usual in the Fort-Augustus Public Hall early in May. Spean-bridge and Roy-bridge are to be invited to take part, but regret is felt at the Glen-Urquhart Branch's decision to withdraw through lack of funds.

**KILCHOAN.**—A special meeting of the Kilchoan Branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach was held in the Public Hall to hear an address by Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary of An Comunn. The Rev. Neil G. MacDonald presided over a large attendance, and in introducing Mr. Shaw he paid tribute to his zeal and success in promoting the Gaelic cause. Mr. Shaw gave a lucid synopsis of the aims and attainments of An Comunn, and he also sang several songs. Songs were contributed by several ladies and gentlemen present. Miss Flora MacLachlan contributed a Sgeulachd, while Mr. John MacDonald, Kilchoan, moved votes of thanks.

**KINLOCHHEIL.**—A lengthy and varied concert programme was submitted at the meeting of the Kinlochheil Branch. Mr. Weir, estate manager, presided, and the members expressed their pleasure at the presence of Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary of An Comunn, who, in addition to delivering a stirring address, gave much appreciated assistance to the programme.

**KINLOCHLEVEN.**—A feature of the work of the Kinlochleven Branch is the large number of friends of the movement that are always present at these enjoyable meetings. At the last ceilidh there was an attendance of close on 250 people, when a delightful programme consisting of Gaelic and English songs, instrumental and dance items, was submitted. Mr. Malcolm Smith fulfilled the duties of Chairman with much acceptance.

**KILMALLIE.**—An enjoyable ceilidh in aid of the National Mod funds was held under the auspices of the Kilmallie Branch in the Gordon-Smith Cameron Hall. Mr. James Weir presided. An enjoyable and lengthy programme of vocal and instrumental items was submitted. A feature of the evening was the appearance of the newly-formed Lochaber Reel and Strathspey Society Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Lachlan Wynne. There was a large and appreciative audience present.

**KILMORY.**—The Kilmory Branch of An Comunn held their second ceilidh in the Kilmory School, when Mr. J. Campbell presided over a large gathering. A varied programme of music, songs, and readings was submitted. Mrs. MacDonald, Ardgorr, music teacher of An Comunn, is presently holding classes at Kilchoan, and during March will give tuition in Gaelic singing in the Kilmory district.

**LOCHBUIE.**—In order to assist in defraying the cost of music classes, the Lochbuie and Croggan Branch promoted an entertainment in the Sir Richard Garton Hall. There was a large company present, and a splendid programme was gone through.

**PAIBLE.**—Members of the Paible Branch spent a very happy evening at the last meeting. The proceedings took the form of a dance and were very largely attended. Since its institution this branch has been very active.

**SALEN.**—Throughout the session regular ceilidhs have been held by An Comunn in the Salen Schoolroom, and now an adult Gaelic Singing Class meets twice weekly. The class is ably conducted by Mr. John MacDiarmid, An Comunn's teacher. At a ceilidh organised on the occasion of Mr. Shaw's visit to the district, Colonel A. D. G. Gardyne of Glenforsa, presided, and spoke in pleasing and appreciative terms of Mr. Shaw's activities and influence throughout the wide areas he had travelled. Mr. Shaw dealt with the remarkable progress made by the Gaelic movement, and quoted facts and figures which showed the great increase in the number of competitors for both the National and Provincial

Mòds compared to the entries of former years. A musical programme followed.

**TAIN.**—The monthly ceilidh of the local branch of An Comunn was held in Queen Street Church Hall on Friday evening. Mr. Murdo Mackenzie, Vice-President, presided. Over a hundred members were present, and the programme, a song recital by Messrs. J. Mackenzie, Achterned, and D. Mackenzie, Inverness, was thoroughly enjoyed from start to finish. Both singers ranged the gamut of Gaelic song in fine interpretative manner, and English duets and songs were pleasingly rendered by Miss Ella Munro and Mr. David Munro, Viewfield. Tea was dispensed by the ladies' committee, and at the close the Rev. R. Mackinnon, Chapelhill, Nigg, moved heartily-acclaimed votes of thanks to the artistes, to the ladies' committee, and to the genial chairman.

**TOROSAY.**—Mr. John MacDiarmid, An Comunn Gaelic music teacher, has been conducting classes in Torosay. On the termination of these classes a concert was held in the Schoolroom, Lochdonhead, and was presided over by Mr. Neil Shaw, F.S.A. (Scot.), who was supported by Colonel Gardyne of Glenforsa and Mrs. Gardyne. The President of the Branch, Mr. N. C. MacKinnon, extended to them a hearty welcome, and congratulated the branch on having Mr. Shaw as their chairman that evening. He referred also to the great pleasure it gave them all to have Colonel Gardyne and Mrs. Gardyne with them. Colonel Gardyne took a keen interest in the Gaelic movement, and there was none more ardent in Gaelic and Highland affairs than the late Colonel Gardyne of Glenforsa. Mr. MacKinnon expressed appreciation of Mr. MacDiarmid's teaching. The Chairman then addressed the audience in Gaelic and English.

**TREE.**—People from the furthestmost part of the island travelled to attend the meeting of the Balemartine Branch in Hyllipol School. Mr. A. Currie presided, and a paper kindly sent by Mr. Neil S. Campbell, Glasgow, on Gaelic humour was read by Miss S. F. MacDonald. Many examples of witty repartee and "gearradh cainte" were submitted, and the subsequent speakers added quite considerably to the enjoyment of the evening by recounting numerous sgeulachdan of a humorous nature. The proceedings were completed by a short programme of song.

**TOBAR-MHOIRE.**—Air an deicheamh latha dè'n Ghearran chaidh ceilidh anabarrach chridheil a chumail ann an Tobar-Mhoire. Mar is àbhaist ghabh Mgr Iain Camshron a' chathair agus chuir e fàilte air Mgr S. E. Marjoribanks a thàinig a thoirt seachad oraid do'n chuideachadh. Bha aig Mgr Marjoribanks mar chuspair "Litreachas Gaidhlig," agus ann am briathran fileanta leig e fhaicinn cia mar a' b'urrainn fcaill ùra a bhi air an deamh a fheagairt air ar linn fein. Sheinn cuid de na bha an lathair an "A'chuingro" is chuala a' chuideachadh 'na dheidh sin "Taobh Loch Odha" an dè leis an d'fhuair Mgr Marjoribanks a cheud duais aig a' Mhòd. Labhair as dèidh sin a' bhean usal Nio 'Illeathain, agus Mgr C. Mao 'Illeathain. Chaidh sgeulachdan innseadh le Mgr A. MacLachlainn, Capitein MacArtair agus Mgr MacAoidh. Bha orain bhlada, ghrinn air an seinn agus air an son bha a' cheilidh ann an comain nam maighdeanan F. Medlicott, agus S. Camshron, Mgr A. MacIlle Dhuinn, Mgr Iain MacEanraig, Mgr Padruig MacDhomhnuill agus Mgr Iain Camshron. Cluich a' bhean usal Nio Coinnich agus Mgr Lowe còbl agus thug Mgr Niall Moircesdan cuairt no dha air a' phìob mhòir. Chaidh tigh a thoirt do fhear na cathrach agus do gach neach a rinn cuideachadh.



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Leabhar XXVII.]

*An Cèitein, 1932.*

[Earrann 8

## MOD SRATHSPE IS BHAIDEANACH.

Mar chuireas luchd àitich na dùthcha fàilte air gu-gùg na cuthaig air latha buidhe Bealtainn, sin mar is còir dhuinn furan a thoirt do dhàrna mòd dùthchail na bliadhna. Thachair sin am Baile nan Granndach air an treas latha deug de 'n Ghiblein. Is e sin a' cheud mhòd a chumadh riamh an Srathspé. Cha robh muinntir gle chinnteach ciamar a dh'éireadh; oir an uair a tha oidheirp de 'n ghnè so 'ga deanamh chan urrainn fios a bhi aig an luchd stiùiridh ciod e tha dol a thachairt gus an tig an uair. Is e an t-aobhar àraidh mu bheilear a' gabhail na coinneimh so mar chuspair airson prìomh earrann a' mhìosachain, gu bheil e 'na ghnòthuch anabarrach ciatach gu faicte cruinneachadh cho mòr agus cho dùrachdach an àite anns nach robh mòd riamh roimhe. Bha e fada ni bu mhotha na a' cheud mhòd chinneachail a chumadh anns an Oban air tùs.

\* \* \*

A' r dhomh a bhi làthair fad an latha bheachdaich mi gu dian air na farpuisich agus air an luchd éisdeachd. Bha na fìcheadan anns a' chuideachda nach cualaidh òran Gaidhlig riamh. Agus bha feadhain a' seinn agus a' labhairt na cànan air ard ùrlar nach d'rinn oidheirp riamh roimhe de 'n t-seòrsa. Ghabh mi so gu léir mar earlas

agus mar dhearbhadh gu bheil ùidh is annas na Gaidhlig a' sìor fhàs agus a' sìor sgaoileadh. Sheas dà cheud pearsa agus corr, eadar shean is òg, air an ùrlar feadh an latha; agus is misneachail an comharradh sin airson a' cheud turuis. Bha e soilleir ri fhaicinn gu robh deidh a' chiùil dualach dhaibh agus gu bheil spiorad an sinnsear beò fathast an uchd na ginealaich òig. Ma thachair so an Srathspé carson nach tachradh e an iomadh cearn eile far nach deachadh an teine fhadadh fathast a chum gu sgaoileadh am blàths mun cuairt?

\* \* \*

Bha e 'n a chulaidh ghàirdeachais gun tainig sia còisirean chloinne air an aghaidh gu bhi gabhail pàirt anns a' mhòd am Baile nan Granndach. Tha oidheirp na cloinne prìseil air dòigh no dhà. Tha i luachmhor a chionn gu bheil beatha na cànan fo chùram na h-òigridh. Agus mar an ceudna tha cuid de na pàrantan a' toirt aire do 'n chànan is do 'n cheòl a chionn gu bheil an cuid chloinne cho dian 'gan ionnsuchadh. Bu ghasda bhi faicinn àireamh de mhaighstearan sgoile air ceann na cloinne. An uair a tha clann a' seinn no ag aithris aig mòd tha e air orduchadh a nis gu faigh iad creideas airson an latha mar gum biodh iad a' frithealadh na sgoile. Tha so a' nochdadh gu bheil luchd riaghlaidh an fhoghlum ag amharc air mòd

mar mheadhon foghlaim ann féin. Is mór an cothrom gum biodh obair a' mhòid 'ga cur mar so an dlùth cheangal ris na chluinneas a' chlann de Ghaidhlig anns a' sgoil feadh na seachdain. Bha cuid de na còisirean òga air an teagasg anns a' sgoil le bean-theagaisg ciùil A' Chomuinn.

\* \* \*

Cha bu lugha na seachd còisirean inbheach a thainig air aghart; agus rinn sin saod sonruichte a chur air na bha 's an éisdeachd. Is beag a bha de choltas curaim no iomaguin air gnùis nan seinneadair ged bha am paipear na'dheachd làn de iomradh air cion cosnaidh is cor an t-saoghail. Sheinn na còisirean gu sona sunndach. Tha ni sonruichte ri mhothuchadh mu fhuaim nam foghairean an Srathspé is am Bàideanach. Is e blas na Gaidhlig a tha fathast air na foghairean, eadhon ged a thachair gun tainig tilleadh air labhairt na cànan anns na cearnaibh sia feadh an dà ghinealach mu dheireadh. Agus a thuilleadh air sin is e fìor spiorad na Gaidhlig a bha ri mhothachadh 'n an cuid seinn. Bheachdaich na brithemhan air an ni sin le tlachd. Agus tha so gu léir a' cur f'ar comhair ciod e cho furasda is a tha e do luchd seinn aig a robh parantan Gaidhealach spiorad is blas na Gaidhlig a ghluacadh.

\* \* \*

Ach is i a' chuirm-chiùil air an fheasgar a chuir crìoch shoirbheachail air saothair an latha. Is ann an sin a thaisbean gach seinneadair is còisir an deagh dhùrachd. Bha an clàr-iomairt air a lìonadh le farpuisich a choisin duais. Tha a' chuirm chiùil 'n a tlachd do na h-inbhich agus 'n a brosnuchadh do 'n òigridh. Is ann aig a leithid sin de chruinneachadh a chluinneas coigrich, cuid dhiubh airson a cheud uair, binneas nan òran Gaidhlig. Tha iad air an tarrainn agus air a tàladh le maise nan seann fhonn. Agus an fheadhainn dhiubh anns a bheil idir fuil a' Ghaidheil, tha iad sin gu tric a' gabhail suim as ùr de cheòl is de chainnt an athraichean. Aig a' chuirm so bha corr is ceithir cheud a' làthair; agus chaidh mu dhà cheud pearsa a thionndadh air falbh, a chionn nach robh àite dhaibh an talla na cuirme.

## THE REV. KENNETH MACLEOD.

The name of the Reverend Kenneth Macleod of Gigha has been well known for many years to Gaels both at home and abroad. A few days ago the Gaelic world learned with much satisfaction and interest that Mr. Macleod is about to receive the Degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of St. Andrews. We all join in offering our most hearty congratulations to the new Doctor, expressing the wish that he may live for long years to bear this distinction. The conferring of such an academic honour on Mr. Macleod is only the fulfilment of a deep desire in the minds of many educated Gaels for some years. They felt that such an event would be the fitting thing to happen. And the Degree is not only an appropriate recognition of Mr. Macleod's personal worth and ministerial service, but it is also a suitable acknowledgment of the great work that the recipient has done in the Gaelic cause.

It is now many years since we first had the privilege of Mr. Macleod's acquaintance. Even in those early days he was acknowledged as an authority in the field of ancient runes and rhymes, and old forgotten far off things. The mantle of the seanachie had fallen upon him. He could make the old times live again. To the foray or the war galley he could impart the interest of true romance, that literary merit which is so hard to acquire, and which is so rich when it is spontaneous, as in this case. The *Songs of the Hebrides*, by Mrs. Kennedy Fraser and Mr. Macleod, are a happy work of collaboration, the one bringing to the task her genius for music, and the other his rare gift of imagination and expression. Mr. Macleod's name will live as a collector and preserver of ancient poetry, for he appeared just in time to rescue many traditional survivals that were in danger of being lost beyond recall.

In view of the fact that the honour is a Doctorate of Divinity, it is proper to emphasise the qualities of Mr. Macleod as a preacher. His utterance is marked by loyalty to the great object for which the pulpit exists. A strong grasp of the realities is combined with clearness of expression and beauty of language as we might expect; while all these are accompanied by dignity and earnest reverence. The literary grace and imagination with which the public have now become familiar are no less evident in his lofty yet simple handling of the themes of the pulpit.—N. R.

## A GAELIC THEATRE.

BY THE EDITOR.

## III.

The revival of traditional Gaelic music by means of a Gaelic theatre would be a practical realization of the aims of several musical societies in Gaeldom. The project ought therefore to receive every possible encouragement from these quarters. The wealth of Gaelic song affords material for musical drama. In conjunction with the quickening of interest in many an ancient air there would also be provided a proper opportunity for the revival of the Gaelic harp, the ancient national instrument of our fathers. The same reasons which caused the neglect of the songs of the Gael have also discouraged the use of the harp. But musicians inform us that the qualities of this instrument, which can be soothing or stirring as occasion requires, are peculiarly fitted to be an accompaniment to Gaelic melodies. The art of the harper was a specialised one, and although it demanded a long course of training, yet the learner was inspired by the great traditions of the art. In recent years the competitions on the Gaelic harp in Scotland and in Ireland have shown that the art is not by any means lost. These competitions have also demonstrated to the present generation that the music of the harp is eminently adapted to the rendering of Gaelic airs. The purpose of this allusion is to suggest that in the orchestra which is to be an accessory of our Gaelic theatre, the ancient Gaelic harp must obtain a place of honour.

Another important aspect of the matter is the *maintenance* of a Gaelic theatre. How is an institution of the kind to be supplied with funds during those stages of its growth, when its own financial proceeds might not be sufficient for its support? Unfortunately there is a scarcity of wealthy patrons who might favour the enterprise, but at the same time it is impossible to say how much the interest of rich persons of Gaelic blood might be aroused in behalf of the movement, if only it were once set on foot. Provided the project were once taken up with enthusiasm by a few pioneers the scheme would undoubtedly draw the attention of the wealthy as well as of the poor. The first requirement is not a large sum of money, but zeal, insight, and the love of the Gaelic cause. Let the movement be but skilfully organised to begin with, and there is no

evident reason why it should not eventually become self-supporting. In the absence of rich patrons or sufficient profits, however, we suggest two main arguments why a Gaelic theatre ought to be subsidised by the British Government. In briefly stating these two points we leave out sentiment entirely, and only submit the simple facts of the case. The two arguments are, the educational and the civic.

Ever since the passing of the Education Act for Scotland, the Government has been subsidising elementary education within the Gaelic area. This wise policy was no doubt based upon an enlightened recognition of the educational needs of the people. So far the Government realizes the duty of educating the youth of the country. Our appeal to the Government for some aid in behalf of a Gaelic theatre is only an appeal for a continuation of the educational process. It is no undue claim to urge that an ancient language and a distinct type of culture should possess, as such, an intellectual interest for broad-minded statesmen. A language and its literature are surely too precious an educational asset to be allowed to sink into oblivion. Especially when that language and literature are still a living force capable of benefiting the mental life of those who use them, it is all the more incumbent on the authorities to conserve these agencies as educational factors. Apart from sentiment on the one hand, or prejudice on the other, these are statements which probably no scholar will deny. Educationists agree that the mental equipment of the Gaelic race is none the poorer by their being as they are, a bilingual people. We have endeavoured to show at various points throughout this article that a Gaelic theatre would go far to help in keeping the Gaelic language alive, and in emphasising some of the best things in its literature. And a Gaelic theatre subsidised by Government would be a strong educational agency to continue the mental development of those very persons in Gaeldom whose early training in the elementary schools has been already subsidised by Government. To enlarge the mental outlook of the Gaelic people, to elevate the public taste by healthy entertainment, and by the encouragement of the histrionic art; to increase the power of appreciating the graces of elocution, and of the motives which regulate the manifestations of human passion, cannot but contribute in no small degree to the growth of insight and refinement.



What we have just stated with reference to the educational process leads up to our final point, namely, the civic argument. The British Empire is a genus of which every constituent race is a species. It is the duty of the Imperial Government to use the means for producing the best types of citizen of which the peoples under its dominion are capable. The development of the higher qualities of each constituent race is becoming more and more a maxim of imperial policy. Must the language and traditions of the Gael be the only racial heritage to be treated with indifference or neglect? Does not the Imperial Government rightly subsidise the preservation of the ancient culture of the Hindoo? Does it not even take steps to guard the racial interests of the aborigines of Australasia? Will it do all this and yet refuse to help in preserving the language and literature of the Gaelic race? The blood of the Gaelic race poured out in sacrifice for the Empire should be a supreme proof of loyalty; and it ought also to be a sufficient reason why the Imperial Government should help to conserve the ancestral heritage that contributes to make the Gael more efficient as a man, and therefore as a citizen.

### GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH.

The Society brought a very successful session to a close at the end of March. Thirty-nine new members joined during the session, and the membership now stands at 555. Chief A. K. Beaton presided at the annual business meeting. The secretary, ex-Bailie Baxter, gave an interesting resumé of the proceedings throughout the winter, and voiced the thanks of the Society to lecturers, singers, and all helpers. The language class has been continued as in former years by the Rev. Mr. Macleod. Two Gaelic services were held, which were well attended. Mr. Gilbert Walker, treasurer, gave in the financial report. There was a substantial balance to the Society's credit, and the auditors reported that the financial state was highly satisfactory.

Office-bearers were elected: Chieftainess, Lady Helen Tod; Chief, and representative to An Comunn, Mr. A. K. Beaton; Chieftains—Messrs D. Scott, R. Bain, and J. F. Stewart; Secretary, Ex-Bailie Baxter; Treasurer, Mr. Gilbert Walker. There is a strong committee.

### COMUNN NA CLARSAICH.

The establishment of Comunn na Clarsaich received a decided impetus as the result of the personal endeavours of Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds). As may be recalled, this Society was formed at the close of the Mod proceedings at Dingwall, and since then the first public performance was given with much success at a Ceilidh promoted by the Gaelic Society of London. Mrs. Campbell arranged a meeting in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Wednesday, 6th April, which she addressed, with the result that it was definitely agreed to form a branch of the Clarsaich Society in Glasgow. On the following evening a similar meeting was held in Edinburgh. The six harpists who form the nucleus of the Society in Edinburgh gave renderings of Gaelic and Scots songs, both solo and in chorus, with an orchestra of harps. The occasion was as delightful as it was unusual, and, as a result, some of those present signified their intention of adopting the instrument. The originators of the movement are Mrs. MacLeod of Skeabost and Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds). The Chieftainess is Lady Elspeth Campbell, and the Secretary Miss Edith Taylor, Glencairn, Dunblane. Membership is open to all who are interested in the aims of the Society, which include the preserving of the instrument in the musical history of our race, and reinstating it in our national life. Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun (Miss Phemie Marquis) is convener of the Glasgow Centre, and Mr. James C. Macphie, 53 Bentinck Street, Kelvingrove, is secretary.

### A GUINEA PRIZE.

Mr. Alexander Mackechnie, of Southwell Court, London, has presented a guinea to be awarded as a prize for a Gaelic essay, in Castlebay School, Barra. Owing to school examinations, the competition has not yet been held, but it will take place in a few weeks' time. We hope to publish the prize essay in *An Gaidheal*. All efforts such as this to encourage Gaelic composition among the young ought to be greatly appreciated by those who have the welfare of Gaelic at heart.

## AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH

(SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Le K. W. G.

## II.

Na's dlùithe do thír-mór tha Cearthara "*Kjarr-ar-ey*" = Eilean nam Preas, dìreach mu choinneamh an Obain, ainm Lochlannach eile, "*hop*" = Bàgh cuairtiche le tìr. B'e Cearthara an t-àite-cruinneachaidh aig rìghrean nan Innse-Gall a thàinig le'n daoine gu comhnadh a thoirt do Rìgh Haakon. Tha'n Sàga ag ràdh:—"Air an latha air an do sheòl Rìgh Haakon as a Chuan Sgithe thàinig Rìgh Dùghall an luath-long eutrom agus ghuidh e air Rìgh Haakon greasad 'n a dhéidh cho luath 's a b'urrainn da. Sheòl an Rìgh as a sin gu Mylarsund (Caol Mhuile) agus a null gu Klarabarey (do Chearrara) agus thrus am feachd gu léir an sin comhladh, an dà chuid rìgh Dùghall agus iadsan as na h-Innse-Gall. Am feadh a bha Rìgh Haakon 'n a luidhe aig Kjarabarey, roinn e'm feachd, is chuir e leth-cheud long gu deas gu Satiris-Mùla gu lom-sgrìos an sin. B'iad sin a b'haig an ceann:—rìgh Dùghall, rìgh Manus an Eilean Mhanannaich, Brynjolf John's Son, Rognvaldr Orka, Andres Potter, Ogmundr Krakidanz, Vigleikr Prestszon. Coig-deug long chuir e air falbh gu Bótar (Bót); b'iad na ceannardan: Erlend Raudr, Andres Nicholas' Son, Simon Stutter, Ivar Ungi, is Eyfari Guttorm, a Innse-Gall, gach fear air a luing féin." Am measg nan ceannardan an roinn Chinntire tha sinn a faotainn ainm Vigleikr Prestszon, no Stallare, a ghearr ainm, mar a chunnaic sinn, 's an Uaimh anns an Eilean Naomh.

An dèigh dhuinn tighinn seachad air an Sgeirmhòir tha sinn a faighinn plathadh de Thiriodh agus de Cholla. Is Gàidhlig na h-ainmean sin; anns an Sàga 's e Tyrvist ainm Thiriodh; tha cuid de'n bheachd gu'm bheil "Colla" air a tharruing as an Lochlannach "*Kollr*," no am Mullach, ach tha cuid eile 'g ràdh gur Gàidhlig a tha 'san ainm. Anns an dà eilean tha mòran àit-ainmean Lochlannach ri'm faotainn; an Thiriodh tha 'n darra leth de na h-ainmean air an cunntas mar Lochlannach; am bitheantas tha na h-ainmean Lochlannach air am faotainn dlùth do'n chladach, ach an Thiriodh tha iad air feadh a h-uile càirn do'n eilean; tha e mar sin a réir reusan ri chreidsinn gu'n robh e gu h-iomlan

foidh na Lochlannaich, agus gur iadsan a thug na h-ainmean do na h-àitean ann, mar a tha an Dr. Gillies ag ràdh 'n a leabhar "The Place-names of Argyll," gu'm bheil e ri shonruchadh mar a tha na h-ainmean Gàidhlig an Thiriodh a tighinn uidh air n-uidh bho'n chladach gu taobh stigh an eilean an àite mar is trice a tighinn o'n taobh a stigh an oir a chladach; tha a Ghàidhlig air a toirt air a h-ais às ùr o'n taobh a muigh, agus na h-ainmean an cridhe an eilean air fuireach Lochlannach. Tha e air a bhreithneachadh gur Gàidhlig a tha anns an ainm "Thiriodh"—Thiriodh, tìr a choice, agus bheireadh an àireamh mhór ainmean Lochlannach anns am bheil am facal, "coire" ri fhàotainn am beachd sin a bhi air a dhaigneachadh. Tha 'n so beagan eisimpleirean do na sean ainmean Lochlannach:—Acarsaid (Akkarsæti=no Acar-pholl (Aite ruide acair); Cirenis (Kirkju-nes = Rudha-na-h-Eaglais); An fhaodhail (Vadill = Faothail, Ath); Salum (Salt-holmr = Eilean-an-t-salainn); Vaul (Hvall=Cnoc); Cnap (Knapp=Cnap); Cornabus (Korna-bolstadr=Bail'-a-choice); Cornaig (Korn-vikr = Camus-a-choice); Lìbrig (Hlìdrebekka = Leathad-an-t-sleibh); Crossapol (Krossa-bol=Làrach, no Baile-na-choire); Kirkapol (Kirkju-bol=Làrach, no Baile-na-h-Eaglais); Scairinish (Rudha-nam-faoileag); Gott (Gat=toll, no Caolas); etc. Ann an Colla tha: Loch Anlainmh (Olaf = Anlamh); Feshim (Fjos-holmr = Eilean-a-bhàthaich); Frisland (Frjó=fras, slol, bàrr); Torastain (Thorstein, ainm duine); Totoronald (Rognvald's topt, topt = Dail-an-dachaidh, le callaid, no gàradh m'a thimchioll le Raognhall); Urbhaig (Urr-vikr = Camus=an daimh-fhiadhaich); Grimsary (Grims-aerg = Airigh-Ghrim); Gunna (Gunnar, ainms duine), agus mòran eile.

O Mhaol Chinntire gu astar ri tuath Cholla tha 'n cuan mòr a' ruith a stigh 'n a làn neart, ach an dèidh faighinn seachad air Colla tha 'n "*Ronald*" a dlùthachadh ris a chuid sin de'n mhuir d'an d'thug na Lochlannaich an t-ainm "Skotlands-fjord," 's e sin, an Cuan Sgithe, Cuan Uibhist agus Cuan nan Orc, far am bheil sreath de eileanan móra 's beaga a seasamh mar dhòn nàdurra an aghaidh a Chuain Shìair gus an ruigear oisinn iar-thuath Albainn far am bheil an fhaireg fhosgailte a rithis a briseadh a stigh a dh'ionnsuidh a Chaoil Areach. Anns na h-Innse Gall 's e 'm facal Lochlannach "half," an "T-abbh" a th'aca air son a Chuain Shìair (the Atlantic) gus an latha-diugh. An Aoirisea,

mar eisimpleir, their iad “a mach 's an Tabh,” an àite “a mach air a chuan” an eadar-dhealachadh ris a “chuan Sgithe.”

Air taobh deas na luinge tha nis innse beaga Mingulay (glé choltach air a tharruing o'n t-sean Lochlannach “mikinn” = mór agus “ey” = eilean); Pabbáe (sean Lochh. Pap-ey = Eilean an t-sagairt); Sandrey (Sand-ey); Bhatersa (Vatsey = Eilean-an-uisge); Barraidh (leis an “ey” no “ay” Lochlannach aig a cheann); Aoirisca (S. Lochh. Eirik's-ey = Eilean Eanraic); Hellisay (Hellis-ey = Eilean na h-uaimh). Air Mingulay tha monadh d'an ainm Hecla, agus chan eil e neo-choltach nach d'fhuair beinn ainmeil Hekla an Iceland a h-ainm o na Lochlannaich a chaidh do'n eilean sin ás na h-Innse Gall. Anns na h-uile gin de na h-eileanan a chaidh ainmeachadh tha àireamh do-innseadh de ainmean Lochlannach. Tha “holmr” ri fhaotainn ann an “lum” “mul” an Sodhulum (Saudar-holmr = Eilean nan caorach), Liannamul (Lina-holmr = Eilean an lín), Arnimul (Aruar-holmr = Eilean na N-ìolaire); “dair” an Scipisdal (Skipa-dair = Gleann na Luinge); Sheoudal (Skog-dair = Gleann na Coille); “gja” = geodha mar “geo” an Lamarigeo (Hlad-hamarr-gja = Geodha na Laimhrig); agus ann am móran ainmean eile mar Hiraigeo, Ciasigeo, Haisigeo, Setigeo, Tremnisgeo, Laicigeo, iad sin uile am Mingulay; “Kvi” = crò, an Lianacui (Lina-kói = crò, no Mainnir an lín), “baeli” no “byli” = tighean am muigh timchioll air tigh tuathanaich, mar “lip” ann an Analip, Brabdailip, Soalip, etc. Ann am Barraidh tha àite de'n ainm “Brevig,” a tha, iongantach gu leòir, air a sgrìobhadh le “g” dìreach mar a tha'n sean litreachadh an ainm a bhaile Lochlannaich de'n ainm sin, a tha nis air a sgrìobhadh Brevik; bha fear-lagha 'n Glascho a ghabh iongantas an uair a bha e turas an Lochlann, an uair a thàinig e air àite d'an cheart ainm a bh'air paiper mu'n robh gnothuch aige ri dheanamh timchioll air fearann a bha'm Barraidh.

Air taobh deas na luinge tha sinn a fàotainn plathadh an dràs 's a rithis de Rum is Eige. Thatar a' creidsinn gu' bheil an t-ainm Eige o'n fhacal Lochlannach “Egg” — a tha ciallachadh faobhar claidheamh—agus faodaidh e bhith gu'n do chuir cumadh oir gheur nam monaidhean àrda air an ear-thruadh de'n eilean an smuain so an ceann muinntir. Fhuaradh a mach aig aon àm uaigh Viking an Eige anns an robh airm-chogaidh eadardhealaichte agus

usgràichean; 'nam measg bha làmh claidheamh maiseach le mìr de'n lann air fhàgail ann; tha e nis ann am Museum Dhunéideann. Tha e teagmhach co às a thàinig ainm Rùm. Anns an dà eilean tha móran de dh'ainmean Lochlannach; tha'n so beagan diubh; Caradai (Kjarr-dair = Gleann nam preas), Talm, Thailm “Holmr” (holm) leis an litir “t” air a chur ris anns a Ghàidhlig—mar an “half,” an euan, tabh —mar a chunnaic sin cheana. Tancaird (Tangi-gardr = teanga fearainn le gàradh mu'n cuairt da), Flod-sgeir (Flód-sker = Sgeir na tuil), Thalassgair (Hall-sker = Claon sgeir, an “t” air a chur ris anns a chur ris anns a Ghàidhlig), Stac (Stakkr = Cruach), Dibidil (Djupi-dair = Gleann-domhain), Papadil (Papa-dair = Gleann an t-Sagairt), agus àireamh de ainmean a tha 'criochnachadh leis an deireadh Lochlannach “hvall” = enoc mar “val” no “hall” mar eisimpleir: Askival (askr = uinnseann), Trallóal (troll = bith neo-shoghailta), Barkeral, Orval (orri = frith-ainm, mar an ceudna “cearc fhraoich”). Ruinsval (gle choltach o Reynis = caorann), agus móran eile leis an fhacal Lochlannach ‘gan crìochnachadh “dair” mar “díl,” “vikr” mar “aig,” “bol” mar “pol,” “fjodr” mar “ort,” etc.

Dìreach tuath o Rùm tha Cannaidh; sgrìobhadh is sine, Kannay (Kanna-ey = Eilean de chumadh canna). An so gheibhear mar an ceudna móran ainmean Lochlannach, mar Carrisdale (dair = dale), Lananish (Langanes = Rudha fada), Sanday (Sand-ey = Eilean na gaineamhaich), Haslam (Haslholm = Innis a chaltuinn), etc.

“Tha'n “Ronald” a nis a dlùthachadh ris an t-sreath fhada de Eileanan ris an abrar an Gàidhlig An t-Eilean-fada, 's iad sin Uibhist deas agus tuath le Beinn nam Faoghla a eatorra, air an taobh deas dhinn, am feadh a tha air an taobh chlì dhinn an t-Eilean mór Sgitheanach, a stigh teann ris a mhór-thir. Tha 'n t-eilean so a seasamh a mach an eadar-dhealachadh làidir làimh ri a coimhearsnaich losal trid a beanntan àrda le'n stéan 3000 troimh as cionn a chuain, comhdaichte le ceò, tre'n d'fhuair an t-Eilean an t-ainm Eilean a' Cheò.

Is e Uibhist an sean fhacal Lochlannach “Ivst,” no Aite-comhnuidh, agus tha na h-eileana so a cur thairis le ainmean Lochlannach, mar eisimpleir: Rarnish (Rár-nes-Rudha nan earb), Hushnish (Húsa-nes = Rudha an tighe), Skipport (Skipa-fjodr = Caolas na linge), Bhiarain (Björn = ainm duine), Houghuary (Haug-gardr = Lag a

ghairt), Trumsgarry (Trumh no Trymr = ainm duine), Mingarry (Mikil-gardr = An Gart Mór), Obisary (Hóp-gardr = Gart a chamuis), Risary (Hris-gardr = Gart nam preas), Aulasary (Olaf's, etc. = Gart Anlainih), Ronay (Hraun-ey = Eilean cragach), Grimsey (Grim, ainm duine), Seudavaig (Skoda (*scout*) vikr = Camus an thir-fhaire), Hermetray (Hermundr-ey = Hermund, ainm duine), Berneray (Bjarnar-ey = Bjorn, ainm duine), Boreray (Borgar-ey = Eilean an Dhin), Griminish (Grima-nes = Grim, ainm duine), Huskeir (Há-sker = Sgeir-árd), Scalpa (Skalp-ey = Eilean nan creachann), Heisker, sean sgrìobhadh Hellisker (Helli-sker = Sgeir chreagach), agus móran tuilleadh na ghabhas aithris.

(Ri Leantainn.)

### CANADA'S FIRST DISCOVERERS.

Addressing the Celtic Historical Society, Toronto, on the anthropology and prehistory of the Aedui, or Clan Mackay of France and Scotland, Dr. Edmondston Scott, President, chose for his subject the "Geography of Caithness and the Orkneys, 500 B.C. to 200 A.D." From the evidence of place names throughout the Clan's territories from Buchan to Strathnaver, the speaker argued that the "Gaelic" of this area had been Pictavian or "Pictish," while North Atlantic topography recorded by Pytheas, Hecateus, Ptolemy, and Strabo, revealed the fact that between 500 B.C. and 200 A.D. the languages spoken between Aberdeen and the Faroes were Basque and Pictish.

The "Ice" sea that Pytheas knew as *Cronium*, this being apparently the Shetlanders' name for the Arctic Ocean, bore a name of undoubted Basque origin that was easily identified with Basque *kharroin* (ice). The "sea of whirlpools" located in the Faroes, which Hecateus called *Amalcium*, might also be recognized in Basque *amillaga* (whirlpool). Aboriginal names of islands in the Orkneys and Hebrides confirmed the testimony of old Gaelic traditions regarding their occupation in pre-Celtic times; and among them was Thule, the "northernmost of Britannic isles," bearing a "Gaelic" name, *Tuil* (flood, without cognates in other Celtic languages, but familiar to Finnish whalers as *Tulva* (flood). The presence of this pre-Celtic element in North Atlantic topography, concluded, Dr. Scott suggested, the theory that

ancient mariners had found their way to Canada via the Faroes, Iceland, and the Arctic Ocean, and that the "Lost Atlantis" or Tir Fo Thuinn of prehistoric tale and legend was first discovered by Pictish ancestors of the Acadian Basques, whose speech and traditions are deep written in the early colonization of Labrador, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia.

The address was followed by an illustrated lecture on the modern history of "Clan Mackay of Strathnaver," by Colonel J. Keiller MacKay, LL.B., who reviewed all the known documentary evidence relating to the Clan since 1000 A.D. "In 1914, the testing time of this nation," concluded the Colonel, "the Mackay Clan had covered itself with glory. In this one family alone, the Clan Mackay War Memorial recorded 1075 who laid down their lives. The ghastly toll was one to teach men to strive and work for a better day."

Piano selections from Dett's works by Miss Margaret Leslie, L.T.C.M., and pipe music of the Clan by Colin and Douglas Mackay from the Orkneys, were rendered during the evening; and many members took part in the discussion that followed the addresses.

### TRADITIONAL GAELIC SINGING.

There has been a considerable amount of comment lately that the traditional manner of singing the old Gaelic songs is not getting the encouragement it ought to get. Just as the playing of the pipes and harp was developed without *written* music, so also was vocal music. There is a style which is distinctively Gaelic and truly artistic; and yet it finds little favour in competitions. The result is that such singers are frequently discouraged. They feel that they have little chance of success when pitted against trained voices. Perhaps after all the best training is what gives the greater pleasure. If this is so, there are many people who find the traditional vocal style very pleasing indeed. We would be glad for any suggestion as to how the traditional manner can be recognised and encouraged at our gatherings and competitions.

### COMMUN BADGES.

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

## PROPAGANDA TOURS.

On Thursday, 24th March, the General Secretary visited the Largieside Branch and addressed a meeting in the Hall, Tayinloan. The members have been meeting regularly throughout the session, and the attendances have been highly satisfactory. Mr. Hugh MacLean conducted a singing class here for three weeks. Mr. Shaw landed at Gigha on 29th March, and addressed a large gathering in the School that evening. Mr. Peter Smith presided in the absence of Rev. Kenneth MacLeod. The Branch was reorganised and office-bearers appointed. Rev. Kenneth MacLeod was appointed president, and Mr. Peter Smith secretary. On the motion of Mr. Shaw, it was unanimously agreed to send a letter to the President congratulating him on the honour about to be conferred upon him by the University of St. Andrews.

Benderloch was visited on 8th April. The Branch held its closing concert, over which the President, Rev. Alexander MacDonald, presided. A splendid programme of Gaelic songs was sustained by a party from Ballachulish, Miss Irene MacCowan, and others. The General Secretary addressed the gathering in Gaelic.

Mr. Shaw proceeded to the island of Luing on Monday, 11th April, and addressed a large gathering in Luing Public School, Achafolla. Ex-Provost Hugh MacCowan, Oban, presided. A branch, to be known as the Luing Branch, was formed. Mr. John Brown is president; Miss Jean Campbell, Luing Public School, secretary, and Miss Flora Kennedy, Luing Public School, treasurer. Following the formation of the branch a programme of songs was gone through, among those contributing being Miss Nan MacInnes, Mod gold medallist.

A ceilidh of the Kilbrandon Branch was held in the Public School, Easdale, on Tuesday, 12th April. Mr. Alexander MacIntyre, president, presided over an audience of fully eighty people. Mr. Shaw addressed the meeting in Gaelic, and thereafter tea was served, followed by a programme of Gaelic songs, to which the local Gaelic Choir contributed a number of well-rendered items.

On 13th April, a meeting of the Kilniver Branch was held in the local School. Mr. John J. Currie, president, was in the chair.

There was a gratifying attendance considering the inclemency of the weather. Mr. Shaw spoke in Gaelic and gave a resumé of the work of An Comunn. A splendid programme of pipe music, violin and piano, Sgeulachdan and Gaelic songs, was gone through. This branch, although its members are widely scattered, is in a very healthy state.

The General Secretary, accompanied by Mr. James C. Macphee, Mod gold medallist, travelled to Manchester, on Friday, 15th, and attended the closing ceilidh of the local branch. The business meeting was held prior to the ceilidh when encouraging reports were submitted by the treasurer and secretary. The office-bearers and committee were re-appointed. Dr. Ronald MacKinnon is president, Mr. M. Maxwell Reekie, O.B.E., J.P., treasurer, and Dr. Malcolm Stewart, secretary. Throughout the session a Gaelic Reading Circle has been conducted by Dr. Neil MacInnes, Oldham. A class for Highland and Country Dancing has been conducted by Piper David Ross (Rosehall), and altogether the members, of whom there are about fifty-four, have been kept in close touch with one another throughout the session, and good work is being done.

Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Organiser for Northern Area, attended a ceilidh at Kincaig on 18th March, when there was an attendance of 150 people. On his way south, Mr. Carmichael called on officials of the Carr Bridge Branch.

Mr. Carmichael travelled to Plockton on Monday, 21st March, and attended a ceilidh there on the following evening. There were about fifty people present, and arrangements were made for a music class.

On 23rd March, Mr. Carmichael presided over the closing ceilidh at Auchtertyre. This branch had been meeting weekly during the session. A ceilidh arranged to be held at Dornie on 24th March had to be cancelled on account of a sudden death in the district.

Teachers are employed as follows:—

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## NA H-UAIN OGA.

Is iomadh bliadhna o nach robh sid cho math againn an fhìor thoiseach na bliadhna 'sa bha againn am bliadhna.

Air an aobhar sin tha na h-uain gu math tràth. Anns a' bhaile so bha seachd uain aig aon tuathanach ann am meadhon a' Ghearrain.

An uair an t-uain òg tha e glé mheanbh agus chan eil e làidir gu leòr airson e fhéin a dhìon, agus leis an sin feumaidh a mhàthair sealltainn as a dheidh. Chithear mar as bitheanta an t-uain am fasgadh cùl gàraidh agus aghaidh r'is a' ghréin.

Tha màthair an uain daonnan a' faire thairis air agus an uair a thig cùl a' chiobair g'an coir tha i stampadh a casan agus cuiridh i le fead a sròine eagal air cùl sam bith. Ann an cuid de bhailtean feumaidh na caoraich a bhì treun, o tha sionnaich a' tighinn a ghoid nan uan aca. Agus tha so ag ionnsuchadh do na h-uain eagal a bhì orra o na cunnartan sin.

Ann an ceann trì seachdainean tha na h-uain ann am prìomh am bòidheach. Tha iad a' cumail ri cheile agus a' ruith 'sa leum. Air fèasgar ciùin samhraidh chan eil sealladh nas taitneach na bhì a' faicinn nan uan bhoidheach gheala a' mire air lìanaig no a' leum air a's agus air aghart thar srutha. Is ann a bheir iad sòlas do 'n inntinn.

Is e creutair a tha gu math furasda ionnsuchadh gus peata dheanadh dheth a tha anns an uan. Chaidh m' iarraidh an latha roimhe a dhol a choimhead air uain a bha aig croitear. Bha iad so a steach air tàilleimh fuachd na gaoithe an ear. Cho luath 'sa chuala iad an croitear leum iad suas ris a' gheata, far an robh iad, feuch an robh deur bainne aige air an son.

Is minic a chunnaic mi uain a chaill am màthair an uair nach robh iad ach seachdain a dh' aois agus 'se rinn an ciobair an toirt dhachaidh gus an robh iad mòr gu leòr airson teadhar a chuir orra, ach is iomadh fear nach leig a leas sin oir fasaigh e cho calta is gun teid e dh' itheadh do 'n bhataich comhla ris na gamhna. An sin thig latha tiamhaidh airson gach uain agus caora. Tha iad air an toirt do 'n fhang agus air an sgaradh le ùpraid mhòir bho 'm màthraichean. Is ann an sin a bhitheas an othail. Cuiridh an

tuathanach an sin an fheadhain as fhèarr air falbh gus a' mhargadh far an ceannaich feoladair air choireig'n iad airson marbhaidh, feadhain eile tha air an gleidheadh airson a bhì nan caoraich.

UILLEAM MACDHONNACHAIDH,

Tobarnmoire

(Aois trì deug).

## IONMHAS CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Air an ochdamh là de 'n Ghiblein chaidh a leigil ris dhuinn na ghabhas deanamh ann an àite beag le aon bhoireannach a tha a cridhe an geall air adhartas (Clann an Fhraoich. Is e an t-àite, Ceann Lochodha, agus ise a' Mghn. Catriona Chaimbeul, Bangsoilear Lochodha. Ged nach eil de 'n Chloinn 's an àite ach i fhéin, chaidh i 'n greim, agus le fìor bheagan othail ach mòran cuir-leis, rinn i ceilidh agus dannsadh a chur air am bonn, air am bi cuimhne mu 'n cuairt gu ceann iomadh latha, agus a bha buannachdail anns gach seadh do obair na Cloinne. Agus mar gum biodh cleireach na h-aimsir a' tuigsinn toilteanas na h-oidhirp a rinneadh, is ann a bhuilich e air a' cheann-dùthcha sin an t-aon fhasgar àluinn a bh' aige ann an ceithir là-deug de sgarrthaichean 's de ghlibheid nach robh an leithdean ann bho thoiseach a' Gheamhraidh. Chaidh innseadh do 'n chuideachd an toiseach gach nì a bha 's an fhradharc aig Clann an Fhraoich, agus an déidh sin leigeadh ris leis na seinneadairean gu 'n robh spiorad Dhonnachaidh Bhàin nan Oran fathast a' snàmh thar uisgeachan àluinn an Locha. A thuilleadh air sin, thug an luchd-ealaídh le pìobaireachd is fìdhleireachd, sgeulachd is comhradh-càraid neo-ar-thaing ceòl is fearas-chuideachd gu leòir do 'n luchd-éisdeachd. Thòisich an dannsadh mu mheadhon oidhche, agus ma thòisich, thaitinn e cho math ris a' chuideachd agus nach do sgaoil iad gu briseadh na faire. Agus a dheanamh sgeula ghoirid dheth, thional a' bhan-sgoilear deich puinnidh Shasunnach air tàilleamh a saothrach. Tha rud beag r'a thoirt as airson cosguis na cèilidh ach tha e coltach nach deachaidh suim cho mòr aig aon àm a chur ann an sporan Clann an Fhraoich, riamh o rugadh iad. Is e is brìgh do 'n naidheachd, an rud a rinn ar bana-charaid, faodaidh Clann eile a dheanamh, ann an tomhas beag co-dhiu, agus nan deanamaid uile e, chuireadh sin an comas na Cloinne dol air adhart le uile neart am buadhan,



## THE CLARSACH.

BY THE EDITOR.

The Clarsach or Highland Harp was, for many centuries, the favourite musical instrument of the Gaels of Scotland. It was the instrument used in time of peace to accompany Gaelic songs. The use of the Clarsach was common to both Scotland and Ireland. Two different shapes, however, were developed. The Irish harp assumed a long neck, familiar to everyone in the heraldic symbols of Ireland. But the Highland Clarsach developed a shape of its own, a fact which suggests that the instrument was extensively used in this country at one time. The old Gaelic literature of Scotland frequently refers to the Clarsach and its music. Many of the Gaelic melodies, in which a fresh interest is now taken, were originally sung to the accompaniment of the Clarsach. It is just possible that we shall never get the real atmosphere of these old Highland airs until we hear them sung to the soft mellow tones of that instrument. It is proper to mention, in passing, that non-Gaelic judges of music, adjudicating at Mòds, have unanimously banned the pianoforte as an accompaniment to the old Gaelic airs. This remarkable circumstance might well give the Clarsach an opportunity of regaining its original position at our musical gatherings and in our homes.

The notes of the Clarsach are sweet and gentle. Its music is pathetic to a degree. It seems to suit the tinge of melancholy that marks a great many of the native tunes. As an instrument of music the ancient Clarsach is enshrined in Gaelic mythology. The antiquity of the harp is indicated by the fact that it is associated with the ancient gods of the heathen Gael. The oak harp of the Dagda, the good god of the De Dannan race, is a living harp, and as it plays, the seasons of the year succeed each other. The harp of Angus Og, the god of love, is made of pure gold. It is not in vain that our thoughts fly back to a happier age when the world was young. More truly than we know, do these old beliefs affect our sub-conscious racial qualities. But apart from myth or legend, there is actual evidence to the antiquity of the harp among the Celts. Diodorus Siculus, a contemporary of Julius Cæsar, mentions that "the bards of Gaul sing to instruments not unlike the lyre." Ammianus, in the fourth century A.D., states that "the bards of the Celts celebrated the deeds of their illustrious men in heroic poems

which they sing to the sweet sounds of the lyre." When a claim is made for the antiquity of the harp in Celtic Scotland, it is well to bring forward some reliable evidence for the claim.

In the latter part of the twelfth century, when William the Lion was King of Scotland, there flourished a notable Welshman, Geraldus Cambrensis, who was born in the Castle of Manorbier, in Pembroke, in the year 1146. He travelled in Ireland and wrote a volume on its people and customs. In Book III., Chapter 11, he writes (in Latin): "In the opinion of many, however, Scotland has not only attained to the excellence of Ireland, but has even in musical science and ability far surpassed it, inasmuch that it is to that country they now resort as to the genuine source of their art." Referring to James I. of Scotland, John Major, writing in 1521, declares that "on the harp he was another Orpheus—he excelled the Irish or the Highland Scots, who are esteemed the best performers on that instrument." The Latin may be found in Major's work, Book VI., Chapter 14. Here also the Scots are put on a level with the Irish as performers. George Buchanan published his *History of Scotland* in 1565. He says of the Highlanders: "They delight very much in music, especially in harps of their own sort, of which some are strung with brass wires, others with intestines of animals. They play on them either with their nails grown long, or with a plectrum. Their only ambition seems to be to ornament their harps with silver and precious stones. The lower ranks, instead of gems, deck theirs with crystal. They sing poetical compositions, celebrating the exploits of their valiant men; nor do their bards for the most part treat of another subject." It may be gathered from this quotation that the harp was not confined to the upper classes. It was also a favourite instrument with the lower ranks of the people. On this matter also, John Major, 1521 A.D., writes in Book I., Chapter 8: "For instrumental music and the accompaniment of the voice, the Highlanders make use of the harp, which, instead of strings made of the intestines of animals, they string with brass wires, on which they perform most sweetly." A volume on the Isles of Scotland was published anonymously in 1597. The author says the Islesmen delight much in music, but chiefly in harps or clarsachs of their own fashion. The strings of the clarsachs are made of brass wire, and of the harps of sinews; which strings they strike

either with the nails grown long, or else with an instrument appointed for that use."

The Book of the Dean of Lismore contains a Gaelic poem by a Scottish bard, who pays a visit to Ireland and seeks a harp as the reward of his spirited eulogy of Macdiarmid of Moy Lurg in Ireland. Presumably the bard himself is quite able to play on the harp. In another piece in the Dean of Lismore's MS., there is a humorous reference to an indifferent performance on the harp. It speaks of the man "who cannot put aside his harp yet cannot sing as he could wish." In the background to these allusions we can discern the harp as a familiar accompaniment to song.

Two old Clarsachs have been preserved in the house of Lude in Perthshire, once in the possession of Robertson of Struan. In 1805 General Robertson sent the two Clarsachs to Edinburgh to be examined by experts for the Highland Society. The oldest was brought from Argyllshire in 1464 by a lady of the house of Lamont, who married into the Struan family. The clarsach is 38½ inches in height; the arm is 16 inches where it projects from the top of sounding board. The arm curves to the left at the top, so as not to obstruct the performer's voice. The wood is plane tree stained red. The arm is joined to the sounding board by brass plates. There are thirty strings. All the string holes were originally ornamented with escutcheons of brass, but only five now remain. The clarsach must have been in long use before it came to Perthshire in 1464. The tradition is that the Lamont lady who brought it with her was a skilful performer. The circumstances imply training and practice, and point to the playing of the clarsach as a refined accomplishment in that age.

*(To be continued.)*

#### DR. COLIN SINCLAIR.

The friends of Dr. Colin Sinclair met in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on the 13th April, and presented him with the hood appropriate to the Ph.D. degree, and also a gold watch. Mrs. Sinclair received a handsome handbag. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod presided, and the presentations were made by Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale. Testimony was borne to the fine personal qualities of Dr. Sinclair, to his valuable services in all worthy Highland causes, and particularly to his contributions towards the development of Celtic Art.

#### BI-LINGUALISM.

Dr. D. J. Macleod, speaking at the annual dinner of the Inverness Gaelic Society, showed the value of Gaelic from a practical utilitarian point of view, particularly where the study of foreign languages was concerned. They often heard, he said, that Gaelic was of little practical value. It was only common-sense to realise that when a person possessed two languages from his youth upwards, his vocal organs in their plastic state had learned to produce naturally a greater variety of sounds than the vocal organs of the monoglot. When it was a question of a language like Gaelic, with its unusually rich phonetic background—a phonetic background which was not inferior at anyrate to that of any West European language—it was easily understood that the youth whose vocal organs were so conditioned was able to produce the sounds of a foreign language with a much more truer colour and with a much more natural accent than the monoglot. For example, he noticed in classes of foreign students in France that the Welshman, the Irishman, and the German who spoke several languages always satisfied the French Professors with their accent much more easily than a person who only spoke natural Saxon. In their Scottish Gaelic they had all the vowel sounds of the French language except one or two, but to make up for the absence of that one or two they had at least seven or eight vowel sounds which the French had not got. The sonority of the French tongue was a great deal due to the presence of nasal vowel sounds. English and German had none, but Gaelic had. Gaelic, on the other hand, had got the German consonantal sounds. So the Scottish bi-lingualist from the purely utilitarian point of view should be able to speak a foreign language with a much more pleasing and much truer accent than the speaker of English only. In addition, the colour of the English consonants was quite different from the colour of the French and German consonants, especially the dentals, but in Gaelic they had the true Continental colour. It was, briefly, easier for the person who spoke a couple of languages naturally to add the next three or four. Further, it is clear, the youthful bi-lingual ear, long accustomed to the greater variety of sounds, is more sharply sensitive to and readier to assimilate fresh foreign sounds than have to

be learned. This is specially true of the Gaelic musical ear on account of the large musical sound element in the language. A musical ear is of the utmost help in learning a modern foreign language, and business and literary men are not unaware nowadays of the value of a good speaking and writing knowledge of, say, French, German or Spanish. This is only one of the many ways in which a bi-lingual equipment, wisely used, may be helpful in developing and rounding off real essentials in education. In addition to the position which Gaelic has now attained as a subject at the leaving certificate and University preliminary and degree examinations, candidates can now profess it for all the Civil Service clerical tests, and for that of the Pharmaceutical Society. For the Highland Gaelic-speaking boy or girl who receives the necessary secondary training in the language it is, therefore, not only a subject for valuable academic purposes, but may be a great practical help in providing him or her with a very desirable career.

### ◆ BADENOCH PROVINCIAL MOD.

The fourth Provincial Mod for the districts of Badenoch and Strathspey was held in the Institute, Grantown on Spey on 13th April. The Mod was a conspicuous success. This, however, was the first Mod to be held at Grantown. At the competitions and at the evening concert, the organisers could not make provision for nearly half of the people from town and country who wished to attend. The enthusiasm, the crowds, the processions of children from the remotest parts of Badenoch, from Abernethy and Cromdale—it was all so unexpected. Yet the arrangements worked with tolerable smoothness, and the time-table was observed. Congratulations to the Mod secretary, Mr. A. Macdougall, Craggan, and to his helpers from the Inverness branch of An Comunn, and the willing workers in Grantown. There were 200 entries in all, including 7 senior choirs and 6 junior choirs. The adjudicators were:—Messrs Neil Orr, Edinburgh; T. Davies, Inverness; Angus MacDonald, Nairn; Iain Mackenzie, Nairn; and John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill. Miss Farquharson of Invercauld presided at the concert held at the close of the day's proceedings. The programme was sustained by the prize-winners and during an interval the prizes were presented by Mrs. Hastilow, wife of the Provost of Grantown-on-Spey.

The following is the prize-list:—

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

##### VOCAL MUSIC.

Choral Singing—1, Cromdale School Choir; 2, Dalwhinnie School Choir; 3, Alvie.

Unison Singing for Junior Choirs—1, Dalwhinnie; 2, Tulloch; 3, Laggan.

Solos—girls under 11 years.—1, Muriel Cattanaich, Newtonmore; 2, Helen Johnstone, Tulloch; 3, Marie Smith, Kincardine; Girls (11-16)—1, Evie Cameron, Newtonmore; 2, Chrissie Scott, Carr Bridge; 3, Elsie Ross, Nethybridge. Boys (under 16)—1, Arthur Sims, Lagganlia; 2, Wm. Macdonald, Aviemore; 3, John Macbean, Dalwhinnie.

##### ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading of Poetry—1, Emily Fraser, Kincaig; 2, Alex. H. Macaulay, Kingussie; 3, Donald Morrison, Kingussie.

Reading at Sight—1, Donald Morrison; 2, Alex. H. Macaulay.

Recitation—1, Emily Fraser, Kincaig; 2, Roderick Ross, Manse, Laggan; 3, Alex. H. Macaulay. Gaelic Conversation—1, Donald Morrison; 2, Sheila Grant, Rothiemurchus and A. H. Macaulay (equal).

##### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Violin Playing—1, Donald M'Beath, Grantown; 2, Ian Mackintosh, Aviemore; 3, Angus Mackintosh, Dulnain Bridge.

Pianoforte Playing—1, Mabel M'William, Grantown; 2, Mary Stewart, Boat of Garten; 3, Dorothy P. M'Gilvray, Boat of Garten.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

##### VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo (Female Voices)—19 entries—1, Mary Macdonald, Aviemore; 2, Mona M'Gregor, Kinloch-Laggan; 3, Margaret H. Robertson, Kingussie.

Male Voices—13 entries—1, Peter M'Kerrol, Nethybridge; 2, Alistair Macdonald, Newtonmore; 3, Ewen Mackintosh, Kinloch-Laggan.

Competition for Former Prize-winners—1, Margot Campbell, Kilaig; 2, Mrs. Stewart, Newtonmore.

Duet—1, Mrs. Stewart and Mary Macdonald, Newtonmore; 2, Lizzie Macdonald and John Anderson, Newtonmore; 3, Misses J. S. Munro and Robertson, Kingussie.

Choirs—1, Kincaig; 2, Grantown; 3, Newtonmore; 4, Nethybridge.

Unison Singing—1, Kincaig; 2, Laggan; 3, Kinloch-Laggan.

Songs by Local Bards—1, Mary Macdonald, Aviemore; 2, Alistair Macdonald, Newtonmore.

##### ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading at Sight—1, M. Fletcher, Carr Bridge; 2, Isobel Graham, Laggan; 3, Donald Davidson, Grantown.

Reading Passage for Learners—1, Lizzie Macdonald, Newtonmore; 2, Miss L. E. Farquharson of Invercauld; 3, Wm. Boa, Carr Bridge.

Recitation—1, J. J. Davidson, Grantown; 2, Malcolm Macdonald, Newtonmore; 3, John A. Macdonald, Kingussie.

Narration of Old Gaelic Tale—1, Donald Macleod, Kingussie; 2, John A. Macdonald, Kingussie; 3, Hugh Sutherland, Cromdale.

Acted Dialogue—1, Mrs. M'Kerrol and John Bain, Nethybridge; 2, Mrs. Calder and Jessie Fraser, Kinloch-Laggan; Mrs. M'Intyre and Katie M'Eachen, Carr Bridge, equal.

##### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Violin Playing of a Gaelic Song Air, Strathspey and Reel—1, Joseph Sutherland, Grantown; 2, Alex. Grant, Carr Bridge; 3, Arch. Macgregor, Cromdale.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**ARDGOUR.**—A very successful Ceilidh was held under the auspices of the local branch, in the school. The Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour presided and extended a very cordial welcome to the friends who travelled from Strontian, Polloch, Kingairloch and Conaglen. The programme, which was much appreciated, included vocal and instrumental music. A feature of the entertainment was the appearance of the Ardgour Ladies' Choir, conducted by Mrs. H. MacDonald.

**CARLOWAY.**—The Ceilidh of the Carloway branch presided over by Mr A. MacLeod, The Schoolhouse, was attended by a large and most enthusiastic audience. When the proceedings were due to commence all the available accommodation was taxed to the utmost with a happy and appreciative audience of young people. After an excellent tea had been served by the lady members of the Committee the entertainment was introduced by the singing of An Comunn's rallying song by the audience and thereafter a most enjoyable programme, comprising vocal music, instrumental music and items of a literary and dramatic character were sustained for a period of two and a half hours. This branch which was only formed last January has a membership of two hundred and fifty and because of lack of accommodation at the Ceilidh no more can be admitted this session.

**DALMALLY.**—The Glenorchy branch recently promoted a successful concert. Mr. N. V. Reid, Corries, presided and among the many items submitted were several nicely rendered choral items by the Gaelic Choir conducted by Mr. Hugh MacLean, music teacher. There was a large company present.

**DERVAIG.**—The annual concert of the Darvaig branch in the Schoolhouse was favoured by a large assembly of supporters of the movement from a wide area. Mr. Alasdair MacDonald presided and a lengthy and entertaining programme was submitted. A very pleasing item was a cleverly acted Gaelic sketch.

**DINGWALL.**—The Dingwall branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held its last Ceilidh of the season on Friday evening, when the members entertained the Rev. John Mackay, Dingwall, and wished him farewell on the occasion of his leaving for Edinburgh, where he is taking up residence. Captain Finlayson presided, and, after a delightful tea and a musical programme, Dr. Galbraith gave an interesting lecture on "Old Churches in Ross-shire." During the evening Captain Finlayson presented Mr. Mackay with a handsomely bound Gaelic book; Miss Mackay, a fountain pen; and Miss Lizzie Mackay with the "Morven Book of Scotland." Captain Finlayson thanked them for the interest they had taken in the branch since they came to Dingwall, and wished them every happiness in Edinburgh.

**DUMFRIES.**—The Dumfries and Galloway branch held a successful Ceilidh in the Y.M.C.A. Rooms recently, when there was a large attendance of members and friends. The President Mr. D. C. Cowan, presided and, speaking in Gaelic and English, extended a cordial welcome to the audience. Gaelic and English songs by local artistes and gramophone selections of popular Gaelic numbers constituted the programme. A noteworthy feature of the work of this branch is that all the business at

meetings of Committee is strictly confined to the use of Gaelic. A language class which is quite largely attended, is also promoted by the branch.

**HALLADALE.**—The last ceilidh of the session was held in the Public School on Thursday, 24th March, Mr. John Mackay, vice-president, presiding. The proceedings were opened with bagpipe selections by Mr. Hugh MacDonald, followed by the rallying song, "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig." Mr. R. B. Langlands, The Manse, gave a very impressive and most instructive lecture based on that sad period in the history of our beloved Gaidhealtachd, "The Highland Clearances." A delightful tea was served during the evening. The following contributed to the programme: Songs, The Misses M. Finnie, Barbara J. Mackay, and C. Mackenzie; Messrs. John MacDonald, Inverness; John Mackay and H. MacBeath. Recitation, Mr. D. Mackay. The choir also rendered the pieces prescribed for 1932, under the conductorship of Mr. J. MacDonald, Abriachan. Mr. MacDonald delighted his audience with a tasteful selection from his repertoire of variety; his fine rendering of "Puir a' Beul" brought forth vociferous applause. The usual votes of thanks were then proposed—the chairman to the lecturer; Mr. D. Mackay to Mrs. Murray and staff for an enjoyable tea; Mr. Thomas Munro to the artistes; and Mr. Roderick Mackay to the genial chairman. Mr. Mackay picked out the various qualities which, together, go to make an ideal chairman, and said that Mr. Mackay was fortunate enough to possess a goodly measure of them all. A voluntary collection was taken on behalf of the Lawson Memorial Hospital, Golspie. "Oidhche Mhath Leibh" dispersed a happy gathering.—The local branch were fortunate in having the services of Mr. John MacDonald, Abriachan, as music teacher for a fortnight. Immediately after the choral practice on Thursday, 31st March, members of the choir and branch met together, Mr. John Mackay occupying the chair. A delightful tea was handed round by the ladies of the choir. The chairman then called upon Miss Robina Grant to ask Mr. MacDonald to accept a small gift from the members of the choir as a token of their respect and in appreciation of his painstaking efforts in training them. Mr. MacDonald suitably replied. Mr. MacDonald favoured the assembled company with several songs in his usual characteristic manner. The chairman expressed the hope that Mr. MacDonald would be back among them soon again to carry on the tuition which he had so ably begun. All present joined in singing "Oidhche Mhath Leibh."

**INVERGARRY.**—A very successful Ceilidh brought the session of the Invergarry branch to an end the other evening. The Ceilidh was held in the Coronation Hall which was crowded to the door. Mr. John Macgillivray, the President, presided with usual efficiency and acceptance. A musical programme was well sustained by artistes from far and near.

**KILBRANDON.**—The monthly meeting of Meur Chillebhreannain which was held at Easdale constituted a unique incident in the life of the island, being the first Ceilidh ever held there. The Committee were specially invited to visit the island at the request of the older members of the community. An attendance which filled the hall to capacity was present when the President, Mr. Alex. MacIntyre, opened the proceedings in the real approved Ceilidh



fashion by recounting an old sgeulachd. The proceedings were of a widely varied character and were heartily enjoyed by the company.

**KILCHOAN.**—The closing meeting of the branch was held in the Public Hall, and took the form of a concert and dance. There was a large turn-out of members and friends. Rev. Neil G. MacDonald presided at the concert. Gaelic songs and old Highland tales and folk-lore, so long neglected and sometimes banned, were, he said, through the agency of the branch, being received into favour. He complimented all the artistes upon the success which attended their gatherings. A programme of songs and readings was well sustained by quite a number of local artistes.

**KINLOCHLEVEN.**—The concluding Ceilidh of the Kinlochleven branch was held in the Hall, when a splendid entertainment was enjoyed by members and friends. The programme consisting of instrumental music, Highland dancing, songs and recitations, was thoroughly appreciated. This branch has had a most successful session and there is shortly to be held a concert and dance in aid of the National Mod funds.

**LEWIS.**—The winter activities of the Lewis branch culminated in a largely attended Ceilidh in the Masonic Hall, Stornoway. Mr. John MacIver, Laxdale, was responsible for the programme which included pipe music, Gaelic songs, sketches, dialogues, and a stirring and excellent address by the President, Mr. John MacSween, Aird. Like all the previous meetings this Ceilidh was a most pleasing success.

**LISMORE.**—An enjoyable concert by the local branch at Lismore terminated the business for the session. The Rev. Dugald Bell, B.D., who has been a most ardent supporter of the movement since the establishment of the branch on the island, occupied the chair, and his remarks at the outset created the proper atmosphere for the entertaining fare that followed. After the concert the younger members engaged in dancing.

**LOCHBUIE.**—The closing concert of the Lochbuie branch was held in the Schoolroom, where there was a large attendance. Miss MacPhail presided, and a lengthy and varied programme was sustained by popular artistes.

**MELVICH.**—Under the auspices of the Portskerra-Melvich branch, a Gaelic singing class is being conducted by Mr. Walter Ross. Senior and Junior choirs have been formed. In the afternoon Mr. Ross conducts the Junior Class in the Public School, and the Seniors meet each night in the Hall.

**NAIRN.**—A most interesting lecture was given to this branch on the 23rd of March, by Mrs. Norman Mackenzie, Fochabers. The subject was "Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser and Her Songs," with vocal illustrations. The Rev. F. S. Gordon Fraser presided. The lecturer gave a graphic account of the work of Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser and Her Songs," with vocal illustrations. She acknowledged the part played by Rev. Kenneth Macleod in assisting with words, translations, and introductions to the songs. After the lecture a musical programme was gone through. Mr. Stewart MacInnes sang with great acceptance. Rev. Peter McIntosh proposed the votes of thanks.

**NEWTONMORE.**—At a concert under the auspices of this branch, on the 8th of April, a most inspiring address was delivered by Mr. Compton Mackenzie. Introducing Mr. Compton Mackenzie, Miss Farquharson of Invercauld, who presided, said he

would receive a hearty welcome, being well known as a great writer and as the Lord Rector of Glasgow University. In the course of his address, Mr. Mackenzie said that he had watched the progress of Gaelic in Badenoch, and that the movement had started at Newtonmore a few years ago. The whole of the North looked to Newtonmore for a lead, just as they had looked to Newtonmore to bring back the *Camanachd* Cup. Miss Farquharson had done a great deal for the movement, but the bulk of the work lay with the people themselves. Gaelic was still a living language, and they were thinking in Gaelic whether they spoke it or not. Hills, towns, villages, districts, all had a history in their names which were full of significance. If they lost their language they would soon lose their nationality. In conclusion, he hoped that, as they had gone to Glasgow and won at shinty, they would all go forward also and win at Gaelic.

**SALEN.**—Colonel A. D. Greenhill Gardyne, of Glenforsa, presided over the concert organised by the Salen branch to raise funds to defray the music teacher's expenses. A very pleasant feature of the evening was the performances by both the Junior and Senior choirs, duets and solos by members of the music class, and by Miss Nancy MacDonald and Miss Nellie Cameron, Oban, and Mr. Hugh MacInnes, Torloisk. On behalf of the branch Mrs. Gardyne, of Glenforsa, presented Mr. John MacDiarmid, music teacher, with an antique silver-mounted tobacco mull dated 1746, as a memento of his visit to Salen and in appreciation of his services. This concert was one of the most successful held in the village for some time.

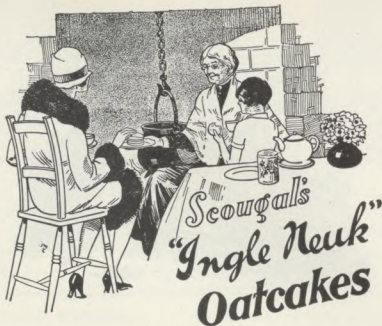
**TARBERT.**—The Ceilidh arranged by the branch at Tarbert, proved a great success. There was a good gathering of members and friends, among whom were Mr. Mal. McIntyre, and Mr. Donald McDonald, Presidents of the Mid-Argyll and Sutherlandshire Associations respectively. Mr. McIntyre occupied the Chair in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Cooper, the President. Solos, Gaelic and English, were nicely sung by members of the choir, while choral pieces by the choir, under Mr. James McDougall were rendered with pleasing effect, and it was quite evident that steady progress was being maintained. Humorous recitations by Mr. McDonald were heartily appreciated and proved a pleasant interlude in the evening's proceedings. At the close of the musical programme tea was served by the ladies.

**TIREE.**—The Scarinish branch held the last Ceilidh of the session in the Schoolhouse. Mr. Angus Morrison, presided over a crowded audience. A programme of Gaelic songs and sgeulachdan was submitted by a large company of artistes, who delighted with their contributions. This branch was only re-organised a year ago, and under the guidance of Mr. Malcolm MacKinnon as President, much progress has been made. The monthly Ceilidh held throughout the winter were a great attraction, as was evident by the good attendance at each.

**TOBERMORY.**—Following the custom of years the Tobermory branch brought the session's activities to a close with a grand concert in the Aros Hall. The Rev. J. M. Menzies, President, occupied the Chair. The artistes included Mr. Archd. Grant, Mod Medallist, and Miss May MacArthur, Glasgow. An original Gaelic play by Mr. Marjoribanks was well produced and created much amusement. The contributions by the Gaelic choir with Mr. John MacDiarmid, music teacher, as conductor, were very well received.



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Leabhar XXVII.]

An t-Og-mhìos, 1932.

[Earrann 9

### GNÌOMHACHAS AODAICH.

Mar tha fhios aig buill A' Chomuinn a cheana tha buidheann an Duncideann aig a bheil mar chrich àraidh a bhi toirt obair do mhnathan Gaidhealach, a' deanamh clò cloimhe is breacan aig an dachaidhean air tìr mòr agus air feadh nan eilean. Is e a leithid so a tha iomchuidh aig an am, a chum na teaghlachan a chuideachadh, agus a chum nach teid calanas air dearmad. Tha e mar aon de na nithean a tha aig A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach anns an amharc, a bhi a' misneachadh na h-oibreach so mar an ceudna. Tha sinn a' cur air leth suin airgid a h-uile bliadhna gu bhi a' paidheadh àireamh de mhnathan is de mhaigdeanan a chum is gun ullach iad brait-ur-lair a theid a reic air na margaidhean Gallda, no eadhon aig coinneamhan A' Chomuinn.

Tha an gearr chunntas bliadhnail aig Buidheann A' Ghnìomhachais Ghaidhealaich (*Highland Home Industries*), air tighinn a mach o chionn ghoirid. Is maith is airidh an t-iomradh ud a rannsachadh le aon sam bith a tha a' gabhail suim gu tùrail an cor nan Gaidheal a tha aig an dachaidhean anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. Tha sinn mar chinneadh an dèidh mòran de ar n-caladhain a dhearmad agus a chall. Bha uair ann agus bha luchd àiteichidh nan gleann comasach air biadh is aodach, lòn is trusgan, a sholar gu comhfhurtail 'n an dùthaich fhéin. Chaidh sin seachad aig an am; ach tha na h-uile coltas gu bheil obair is ealadhain a' bhaile mhóir a' tighinn gu erich i fhéin. Chan fhada gus am bi an sluagh air an comh-èigneachadh dol air an ais a dh'ionnsuidh

na dùthcha. A bheil fianh gaire fanoir air t-aodann an uair a their sinn riut gu bheil am baile mòr a' teannadh ri ceann a réis, agus gu bheil binn a mach 'n a aghaidh a thaobh dà ni; agus is iad sin, an obair 'g a deanamh le acain an àite làmhnan dhaoine; agus neart is fallainneachd a' seargadh a chionn nach eil slàinte choitehionn an t-sluaigh air a cumail làidir le muinntir a chaidh a thogail air an dùthaich.

\* \* \*

Mar sin is glic agus is sealbhach gum biodh innleachd is ealadhain na dùthcha 'g an cumail suas. Ged a bha a' bhliadhna so cruaidh is duilich a thaobh airgid, gideheadh tha an t-iomradh ag innse gun deachaidh luach sia mìle deug punnd Sasunnach a reic de aodach is obair chloimhe feadh na bliadhna. Tha bùth-gnothuich aig a' bhuidhinn so an iomadh cearn deas is tuath, gu bhi a' malairt an aodaich. Tha iad an Duncideann is an Glascho; anns an Eilean Sgitheanach, an Srathpheothair, an Gearloch, agus eadhon an Lunnainn fhéin. Tha misneach is dòchas ri ghlaceadh an uair a tha mòr shluagh na rìoghachd a' fàs a chuid 's a chuid nas eòlaiche agus nas mùirniche air clò is fighe na Gaidhealtachd. Anns na laithean doirbhe a tha làthair is taitneach gu bheil gnìomhachas Gaidhealach a' faotainn cuidichidh. Agus a nis a chionn is gu bheil cìs as ùr air aodaichean a tha a' tighinn a stigh do 'n rìoghachd o dhùthcheanan coigreach tha dùil againn gu faigh an clò Gaidhealach margadh maith

\* \* \*

Tha an clò Gaidhealach de chaochladh gnè is cudthrom. Tha an clò Hearrach iomaideach. Thainig àireamh de

mhuinntir na Hearradh a chomhnuidh do 'n Eilean Sgitheanach o chionn beagan bliadhnaichean. Tha am baile anns a bheil iad, Port nan Long, air fàs aithnichte airson saothair cloimhe is calanas. Bha mnathan an Eilein iad féin gle fhiosrach is gle dheadnach an calanas. Ach is ann is fheairde iad na Hearraich a thighinn nam measg. Tha cloimh an àite 'ga cur gu feum airson gach gnè aodaich, clò, breacan, is fighe air bhioran. Is luachmhor sin, gu bheil reic ri fhaotainn do chloimh nan caorach dhubh-cheannach, a tha air an cumail anns na h-eileanan, a chionn gu bheil iad tapaidh cruadalach. Agus tha na bana bhreabad-airean eòlach air sean suidheachadh an aodaich am beairt. Is aithne dhaibh gach urchair is sùileag a theid anns a chur, agus gach snàth is dath a theid anns an dlùth. Tha sgil na sinnsear 'g a cumail suas le luchd ealadhain an latha an diugh.

\* \* \*

Tha eòlas nan dathan gu cuideachadh mòr. Mar is bitheanta is e dathan nàdurra a tha 'g an cur am feum. Tha dathan nadurra nan luibhean fada nas maisiche agus nas taitneiche na dathan a gheibhear o stuthan a theid a chladhach as an talamh. Is e tha ann ach ni iongantach cia mar chumadh cuimhne riamh anns a' Ghaidhealtachd air eòlas nan dath. Tha dath air leth ri fhaotainn o gach luibhe. Tha sinn eòlach air dath na fearna, na copaig, a' bhuathghallain, agus na roid. Is maiseach dath a' fhraoich, agus is bòidheach lùth an t-seilseir. Tha fichead dath is corr an diugh 'g a faotainn o lusan na talmhain. Tha iad 'g am faotainn eadhon o shligean is o mhaorach a' chladaich. Tha portan meanbh fo chlachan na tràghad a bheir corcur oirdheire an uair a theid an t-slige a phronnadh is a ghoil. Tha cairt leamhna feumail gus na dathan a theannachadh, air chor is nach tilg an dath a dh'aindeoin aois no gaoh no uisge. Cò aige tha fhios nach bi ar muinntir fhathast anns na glinn, a' cur toradh an fhearainn gu feum, agus a' cur eòlas an sinnsear an cleachdadh, an déidha dhaibh fàs seachd searbh de 'n bhaile mhór is de 'n charbad ola?

### AN ROSARNACH.

The Publication Committee have had under consideration certain proposals submitted to them with reference to future issues of *An Ròsarnach*, the all-Gaelic Annual owned and edited by the Hon.

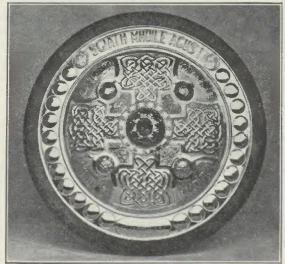
Ruairidh Erskine of Marr. Under these proposals An Comunn would become mainly responsible for the contents of the book year by year.

The Committee are desirous of knowing what support this publication would receive from their members, and they will be glad if those willing to become subscribers will kindly communicate with the Secretary.\* The cost will probably be 5/-, but will be dependent upon the circulation and therefore upon your support.

The Committee trust that there will be a good response, as they consider this publication might be made increasingly useful and valuable as an important contribution to current Gaelic literature.

\* By means of the enclosed Post Card.

### MULL AND IONA SHIELD.



[Photo. Maclure, Macdonald & Co., Glasgow.]

We have pleasure in reproducing photograph of the Shield presented to An Comunn by Mr. and Mrs. Neil Cameron, Sunderland, for male voice choral competition at the National Mod. The shield is of embossed silver, richly decorated with typical motifs of Celtic art, in interlacements, spirals, key-patterns, and zoomorphs, symmetrically grouped within bordered panels, around a central boss. Consonant with the canons of Celtic art, there is no repetition of pattern in similar panels; slight variations are effected which give added interest to the design.

From the photograph it will be seen that the lettering on the shield comprises the designation, SGIATH MUILE AGUS I, with the subsidiary expressions, explanatory of its purpose—AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH—AM MOD BLIADH-NAIL.

The inscription is as follows:—"Air a tabhairt le NIAL CAMSHRON, F.S.A.Scot., agus a Cheile airson co-fharpais Coisir Fhear."

## THE CLARSACH.

BY THE EDITOR.

## II.

In 1563 there was a great Hunt in Atholl, at which Mary Queen of Scots was present. Several ladies of rank entertained the Queen on the Clarsach. Queen Mary is said to have been so pleased by the charm and skill of one particular singer and player, Beatrix Gardyn of Banchory, in Aberdeenshire, that she presented the lady with a Clarsach. This lady married a Robertson of Struan, and, by a curious coincidence, brought the harp to Lude House. The Queen Mary Clarsach and the Lamont Clarsach were preserved for generations in the Struan family. The two instruments are now in the Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh. One of them is said to have been sold for £800.

In addition to these relics and the literary sources mentioned, there is further proof of the antiquity of the harp in the Highlands. The historian Skene, in his book, *The Highlanders of Scotland*, says, speaking of sculptured stones in the Highlands: "Upon two of these erect stones are found representations of the harp, exactly resembling the Highland harp in their design and appearance. On the first of these stones, the date of which is fixed from various circumstances to be of the ninth century, there is an armed figure seated and playing on the harp. The other is of still greater antiquity, and on it there appears a harp of exactly similar construction.

Right down to the end of the seventeenth century the harp was retained in the household of Highland chiefs and other important families. The Earl of Argyll retained two harpers in 1503; Ross of Balmagoun one harper in 1502; a harper at Dingwall in 1506; Maclean of Lochbui's harper in 1506; the Bishop of Ross' harper in 1506; in the same year the harper of the Bishop of Caithness; the Earl of Sutherland's harper in 1507. Ruari Morrison was harper to Macleod of Dunvegan as late as 1700; and a pupil of Morrison's, one Murdoch MacDonald, became harper to Maclean of Coll. This MacDonald died in Quinish, Mull, and his descendants were called *Clarsairean*, the Harpers. A payment made to this harper in 1734 is the latest record of this nature of which I am aware. The item is in the hand-writing of Hector Maclean of Coll.

Ruari Morrison, the blind harper of Macleod, was a bard as well as a musician. The tradition is that he went to Ireland

to complete his musical education. He composed the dignified lyric known as *Oran Mor Mhicleoid*, Macleod's great song. The theme is a dialogue between the harper and Echo (the son of the rock), about old times long gone. The song contains a beautiful verse describing the music of the harp.

In the ruins of Duntulm Castle in Skye, the ancient seat of the Lords of the Isles, there is a window known as the harper's window. In Castle Lachlan, Argyll, there is the harper's gallery. There are traces of the Clarsach to be found in several place names. Bail' a' Chlarsair, harper's town; Inneal a' Chlarsair, the harper's instrument, a peculiarly shaped hill in Waternish, Skye; Gualainn a' Chlarsair, the harper's shoulder, another hill, in the Parish of Snizort, Skye. There are also legends and tales about harpers and their skill, as the harper of Harlosh, who, when you closed your eyes, could give to your mind the splendour of the setting sun, or the brightness of the rising moon, or the glorious bow of the colours in the sky, according as he pleased. The tale reminds us of the effect of sonatas of certain other musicians. And there is the story of the harper of Mull, who burned his harp for the sake of a beautiful woman. In such legends the basis of fact can easily be distinguished in an imaginative setting.

These historical details are valuable as evidence to make out the case for the prevalence of the harp at one time in the Highlands. The fact suggests a degree of culture and refinement which does not correspond to the barbarism which certain historians ascribe to the Highlanders of three or four centuries ago. The use of the harp appears to have rapidly declined in the Highlands during the seventeenth century, in consequence of the civil wars which commenced at that period.

As evidence of reviving interest in the ancient Highland harp, it may be stated that a Society was formed in 1931, The Clarsach Society, whose object is to create appreciation of the music of the Clarsach, and to encourage its use at our social gatherings and in our homes. It is only by an organised endeavour of this nature that the claims of the old national instrument can be fully recognised in these days. I have already noted the fact that the pianoforte as accompaniment in the most important vocal competitions of An Comunn has been practically forbidden by musical judges of high standing. Here then is an open door



for the Clarsach to be put back in its due place, to accompany Gaelic songs at our concerts and musical festivals. There are two or three directions in which the new society could exert its energy and influence. And this is the very first thing to be done, to utilise every opportunity of urging the fact that the Clarsach was originally wedded as it were to our vocal melodies. Nothing short of this should satisfy the Society, to see the Clarsach on our platforms instead of the piano to accompany the singing of Gaelic songs. Several members of the new Society are skilled performers on the Clarsach, and their own example and enthusiasm will considerably help to bring the instrument into favour.

One of the oldest Highland Societies, the Highland Society of London, has been a patron of Gaelic music all along. For over a century it has been regularly giving a gold medal to encourage the performance of piobaireachd, or the classical music of the bagpipes. Perhaps our people hardly realize how much we owe in this respect to the Highland Society of London. What that Society had nobly done for the pipes it could also do for the Clarsach. The London gold medal is the blue-ribbon of aspirants; it is the hall-mark of the piping world; and to add one bar or more to this coveted distinction is to this day the secret ambition of every champion. The desire to excel is encouraged by generous recognition. The same love of excellence could, by similar means, be cherished in regard to the Clarsach. There are other patriotic associations who make it their aim to preserve and encourage the old Highland things. The Royal Celtic Society, founded by Sir Walter Scott and General Stewart of Garth, and recently resuscitated after a long abeyance, now offers prizes for the revival of native dances, as well as for pipe music. If the Royal Celtic should include the Clarsach among its purposes a very great help could thus be secured. The Committees of our Highland Gatherings, the social and athletic assemblies of the North, would not be going outside their scope in patronising the harp. Why should a competition for excellence on the harp be less attractive than the great piping festivals at Highland Gatherings. There is ample room for both. The Clarsach would provide a suitable field for female talent. The interest of the social assemblies would lose none of its charm if the romance of the Clarsach were added to all the other attractions.

## CUR FAS AGUS ATH-AITEACHADH EILEIN IOIRT.

Le RUAIRIDH CAIMBEUL.

*A' Cheud Duais, Mòd 1930.*

O chionn còrr agus ceithir cheud bliadhna air ais chaidh sluagh bochd an eilein iomallaich so a losgadh gu bàs le cuilbheartan gràineil dithis Ghall a bha chòmhnuidh air an eilean aig an àm. Chan eil eachdraidh a' toirt iomraidh ro chinnteach air an dòigh 's an do thachair do'n dithis dhaoine so a bhi air an eilean; ach tha e ro choltach gur e reubairean mara a bha anna, a chionn bha reubaireachd air muir cumanta aig an àm, agus is ann le eagal luchd-reubaidh a chuir na h-Iortich iad fhéin anns an t-suidheachadh dhosguinnich a chosd dhaibh am beatha aig an àm. Tha eachdraidh agus beul-aithris ag innseadh gu'n deachaidh mòran bhàtaichean marsantachd agus reubaireachd a dhìth air cladaichean agus creagan sgorach Iort, far am bheil geothachan iargalta air an cladhach le onfhadh na faire shìar sin, a tha gu daonnan a' sloistreadh is a' gnùsdaich umpa mar uamh-bhéistean borba, agus a' séideadh dùlan do gach beò chreutair a théid fagus orra. Tha eadhon air an latha an diugh fhéin, beagan beò de na h-Iortich aig am bheil cuimhne 'bhi cluinnintinn o'm pàrantan, an uair a bha iad òg, mu dheuchainnean a bha tachairt do luchd-mara anns na làithean a dh'fhalbh, agus a chionn 's gu bheil mòr eagal aig na h-Iortich agus an latha so roimh reubairean mara, no Goill mar their iad riutha, tha aobhar a bhi creidsinn gu'm b'ann de'n fhuil so a bha Dùgan agus Fearchar, an dithis sin a thug léir-sgrios anns an dòigh a leanas air Eilean Iort. B'e latha grianach samhraidh a bha ann agus bha fàbhan breagha gaoithe a' séideadh o'n àirde an earra-dheas, gu ciùin socrach a steach an loch. Bha na luinn a' dannelsadh leis an teas air gob an Dùin agus bha trì beanntan Iort ri togail an cinn suas do'n iarmailt ghuirn bhoillsgich anns nach robh fiù aon sgòth bheag ri fhaicinn o' àirde 's am bith de'n adhar. Bha na h-eòin dhubha a' gearradh shithidhean o chreig gu creig agus o uchdach gu uchdaich, a' nochdadh an sòlais agus an aibhneis ann a bhi air ais aon uair eile aig eilean agus stacannan an gaoil. Cha robh luchd àiteachaidh an eilein, cho tràth de an latha, air gluasad gu uisge no gu monadh agus bha samhchair agus mór-thosd 'na laidhe air a'

bhaile. Bha Dùgan agus Fearchar shuas anns na mullaich aig bearradh nan creag, eadar Oiseabhal agus Conachair far an robh Caolas Bhoraraigh agus an cuan-an-ear a dh' ionnsuidh nan Eileinean Flannach agus an Eilein Fhada fa chomhair an sùl; ach cha b'ann air an t-sealladh a bha mu'n coinneamh a bha iad idir a' smaoinèachadh agus bha fhios air so ro-mhaith an uair a chunnaic muinntir a' bhaile iad a' ruith slos o'n bhearradh, mar dhaoine air bhàinidh agus ag èigheach àird an cinn gu robh na Goill—b'è so na reubairean mara—ann an caolas an eilein agus a' deanamh cùrsa air beul an locha. Ghlac eagal oillteil na h-Iortich air ball agus chruinnich gach mac agus nighean màthar a bha air an eilean do'n teampull am meadhon a' bhaile, a chum aslachadh ri an Cruith-fhear an tearnadh o'n luchd-spuillidh anacneasda so, a bha tighinn a rithish a dheanamh sgrios orra.

A nis b'è iad a' dhol do'n eaglais a cheart rud a bha Dùgan agus Fearchar ag iarraidh. Cha robh bàta no coslas dragh san bith an Caolas Bhoraraigh ach bha fuil a' mhortaigh a nis a' ruith le dian chabhaig an cuislibh Dhùgan agus Fhearchair agus cho luath 's a chunnaic iad gu robh an sluagh uile air cruinneachadh do'n teampull rinn iad cabhag slos a dh'ionnsuidh a' bhaile agus air dhaibh dorus an teampull a dhùnadh 's a ghlasadh o'n taobh am mach, chuir iad aithne teine ri tubhadh na h-eaglais. Ann an cairteal na h-uarach bha an teampull, o cheann gu ceann, 'na smàl dheirg agus loisgeadh gu h-an-ìochdmhor gu bàs gach beò-chreutar a bha 'n taobh a stigh de' bhallaichean. Cha robh a nis fear no té, sean no òg, beò air an eilean ach Dùgan agus Fearchar agus mar mhiannaich iad bha an t-eilean aca dhaibh fhéin agus iad ann an làn sheilbh air. Thòisich iad a nis, gu h-innleachdach, air dealbh uirsgeulan a chuireadh iad, gu faiceallach agus gu dòlasach, mu choinneamh a' Bhàillidh an uair a thigeadh e air a thurus bhliadhnail a Dùnbheagan air an ath shamhradh. Faodar ainmeachadh an so gur h-e Macleòid Dhùnbheagain a bha 'na uachdaran air an eilean aig an àm sin mar an duagh fhéin. Mar so smaoinich iad gu'n innseadh iad sgeul a' chruaidail, agus naidheachd ro bhrònach do'n Bhàillidh mu chall anabarrach agus ro dhuilich a thàinig air an eilean, agus cho luath 'sa bhuail an sgoth an cladach leum Dùgan agus Fearchar an còdhail a' Bhàillidh le uirsgeulan agus bas-bhualadh a leig ris do'n duine sin agus d'a luchd sgiobaidh gu'n robh gnothuichean fada o bhi réidh air an eilean. Na doilgheas

agus am mulad cho mór 's nach b'urrainn dhaibh, car ùine, innseadh ceart mar thachair, ach an uair a fhuair iad mu dheireadh cothrom na teangan thubhairt iad ris a' Bhàillidh gu'n tàinig plàigh mharbhtach do'n eilean, goirid as déidh do'n sgoth tilleadh dhachaidh air an turus mu dheireadh, agus gu'n do chaochail gach beò-chreutar ach iad fhéin. Bha sgeul na dunaidh aca ri innseadh mu'n dòigh anns an do chaomhnadh am beatha fhéin, le teicheadh o'n bhaile a dh'ionnsuidh nan creag, agus mar thàinig iad, gu caol, troimh an bhliadhna le bhi 'g itheadh nan eun a bha iad a' tàruinn air uchdaichean nam bearradh agus an sgoran nan creag. Tha e ro choltach gu'n do chreid am Bàillidh gach smid dhe so mar fhìrinn agus dh'iarr e air an sgioba gabhail aig na daoine le biadh is deoch cho luath 's a b'urrainn iad. Bha 'nis am Bàillidh ag iarraidh an sgoth a chur ma sgaoil leis gach uile chabhaig a chum an naidheachd dheuchainneach so a ghiùlain air ais a dh'ionnsuidh an uachdarain. Cha robh màl ri thogail mar a b'àbhaist agus cha robh iasg, ola, no itean ri'n toirt gu tìrmór agus bha e dìreach an impis an sgoth a chur fo aodach an uair a chunnacas fear de'n sgioba 's a lām os cionn a' fhradhaire a' dùr-amharc suas air slios Chonachair agus a' feòrach cìod e an rud dubh a bha e' faicinn a' gluasad a nuas a dh'ionnsuidh a' chladaich o bhonn na beinne. Sheall an sin gach duine gu geur, le longnadh agus mì-chreideas, ach bha nì neo-àbhaisteach ri fhaicinn, gun teagamh, a' tearnadh a nuas Garadh-cul-a-Bhaile. "Am bheil mart air an eilean?" thubhairt fear, ach bha Dùgan agus Fearchar balbh agus bodhar agus iad gus an sùilean a sgeith am mach as an cinn ag amharc cumadh a nì so, nach tug iad fainear riamh roimhe so air an eilean. "Se duine tha ann," arsa fear eile. "Se boirionnach a th'ann," ghlaodh iad an sin le chéile, ach chunnacas gu'n do chaochail an dithis thruagh a bha mar riutha, an dreach gu h-obann, gu'n robh am faclan a' snagardaich agus an glùinean, ach gu beag, a' lùbadh fòdhpà.

Thàinig a nis an t-sean bhean do'n ionnsuidh agus dh'innis i dhaibh uile mar thachair agus mar thug ise i fhéin troimhe, le bhi 'ga falach anns na creagan air an latha agus a' tighinn a dh'iarraidh baidh, a dh'ionnsuidh a' bhaile air an oidheach. Cha b'urrainn, a nis, Dùgan agus Fearchar am beul fhosgladh air dhòigh sam bith, a chum iad féin fhìlreanachadh agus cha mhodha dh'fheuch iad ris. Chaidh an cur an gréim air ball agus an ceangal air bòrd agus sheòl an sgoth gu stac, ann an Caolas-

an-eilein a bha cuig cheud troigh air àirde agus mu shia mìle mara o eilean Ioir. Chuir iad Fearchar air tìr anns an stac sin gu e féin a thoirt beò mar a b'fhearr a dh'fhaodadh e. Bha fios aig Fearchar, gle mhaith, nach robh ann ach am bàs dha co-dhiù, agus thig se e féin thar na lice do'n mhuir air ball. Mar sin bhàthadh gu h-anoichdmhor 'nam fianuis duine anns nach robh iochd sam bith ri càch. 'Se Stac-an-Armuinn is ainm do'n stac so gus an latha 'n diugh. Thill an sin am Bàillidh air ais a dh'ionnsuidh Eilean Shòaidh, eilean cruinn àrd, mar chruaich no mar bheinn 'na sheasamh gu corrach, cnuachdach air cùl Ioir. Bha na caoraich Shòach air an eilean aig an àm sin, mar an diugh, a chionn chan eil cunntas cuin a chaidh na caoraich bheaga so a chur air eilean an toiseach, ach co-dhiù, chaidh Dùgan a thilgeadh air tìr ann a' Sòaidh agus dh'fhàgadh an sin e gu bhi beò no marbh mar a dh'fhaodadh e. Cha'n fhaodar dì-chuimhneachadh Inneadh gu'n tug am Bàillidh leis an t-sean bhean a Ioir, agus an uair a bha gach nì réidh aon uair eile shuidhich e a chùrsa air Caolas-na-Hearradh, agus le cuideachadh caitean gasda gaoithe o'n àirde 'n iar-thuath ràinig iad uile Dunbheagan gu tearuinte. Tha cunntas beul-aithris ag innseadh gu'n robh Dùgan fathasd beò air an eilean, air an ath shamhradh, an uair a thaghail sgoth a' Bhàillidh a chum beagan de na caoraich bheaga 'thoirt do Dhùn-bheagan gu feum an uachdarain, ach mar thig crìoch gach duine air aon dòigh na dòigh eile fhuaradh a chnàmhan air an treas samhradh ann am bothaig bhiag ann fasgadh nan creag air an taobh de'n eilein a bha 'g amharc ris an àird'-an-ear a dh'ionnsuidh an Eilein Fhada. Tha a' bhothag so, ris an abrar Both 'Dhùgairn ri faicinn fhathast ann an Eilean Shòaidh.

Bha nis Ioir fàs fad àireamh bhliadhnaichean agus thòisich na Hearraich agus na h-Uibhistich le chéile a' tagairt còrach air. Bha na Hearradh ag agairt seilbh air, a chionn 's gu'm bitheadh am bàta taghail a'gabhail a turuis d'a ionnsuidh gu daonnan troi' Chaol-na-Hearradh, agus bha Domhnallaich Uibhist ag iarraidh còir air a chionn gu robh Uibhist mu dheich mìle na bu dlùithe dha na cladaich na Hearradh. Thàinig an gnothuch gu connspaid agus connsachadh mì-eireachdail eadar na h-Uibhistich agus Clann-'ic-Leòid na Hearradh agus bha e ro choltach gu'n robh tuasaid gu bhi air a bonn a thaobh na cuspaireachd so a bha eatorra. Chaidh iomadh dòigh a chleachdadh, gun teagamh, gu aimhreit a sheachnadh ach bha gach

comhairle 'dol gu làr ach mu dheireadh, chuir na Domhnallaich bàirlinn gu muinntir na Hearradh, a' toirt dùlan dhaibh ann an réis iomaraimeh gu Eilean Ioir, an sgioba a bheireadh a mach an t-eilean an toiseach gu bhi air am fagail na nì luchd-àiteachaidh air an eilean. Dh'aontaich gach taobh gu toileach, leis an dòigh dearbhaidh so agus chaidh luchd-iomaraimeh, cho sgoinneil 's a bha anns an dà eilean, a thaghadh le mòr chùram. Bha na Hearraich anns an àm sin mar an diugh fhéin, 'nam maraichean foghainteach. Bha iad air an togail ri maraireachd agus móran dhiubh ag ionnsuchadh seòladaireachd agus sgoil-mhara le bhi daonnan 'nan làmhan air birlinnean nan daoine móra agus nan uachdaran. Feumar aideachadh ged a tha seòladaireachd agus maraireachd nan Uibhisteach an diugh air tuiteam air ais ann an tomhas, gu robh birlinnean Chlann-ic-Ailein, no Bhaile Raonuill, ainmeil air còrsaichean sìar Albe, Shasuinn agus Eirinn aig an àm mu bheil sinn a' sgriobhadh; agus cha chreid mi nach fhaod mi ràdh gur gann a bha 'n leithid idir ann. Chaidh mar sin, latha 'shuidheachadh air son an réis iomaraimeh so a dhearbhadh agus a chum aig a' cheart àm, luchd-còrach an eilein a shocrachadh air dhòigh 's nach b'urrainn neach, taobh seach taobh, a bhi teagmheach mu'n chùis. Air maduinn àraidh aig deireadh an earraich tharruing dà bhirleinn dhusan-ràmhach suas ri taobh a chéile aig Ob na Hearradh. 'Se latha ciatach grianach a bha ann. Bha an t-adhar saor o sgòthan agus o choltas gruaimein sam bith a thaobh aimsir. Bha a' ghrian a' dreachd gu math 'os cionn gualainn Ròineibheil agus a' tilgeadh a gathan teinntidh air aghaidh chiùin a' Chuain-sgìth. Bha uisge 'Chaoil cho sàmhach 's gu'n saoilteadh neach gu'n robh na h-eileanan agus na sgeirean a bha mu choinneamh a' chladaich, mar gu'm bitheadh iad crochta eadar muir 'us adhar. Chìte sgarbh no tunnag fhiadaich an sud 's an so a' deanamh buailleag-thimchioll ann a bhi tighinn an uachdar no 'dol fodha anns an lianaig ghloine a bha mu'n cuairt nan sgeirean 's nan eileinean a deas. Bha nis mòr chruinneachadh de shluagh cruinn air a' chladaich agus bha an t-àm a' tighinn dlùth gus na h-ìbhbraichean a chur gu astar. Chaidh an luchd-tìrreach a dheanamh réidh le Niall Domhnallach aig falmadair na sgoth Uibhistich agus Colla Macleòid 'na shuidhe gu colganta, misneachail air tobhta-deiridh na sgoth Hearraich, le ailm fo asgail. Chaidh òrdugh "ràimh a chur am bacan," a thoirt seachad bho thìr, le bratach a chrathadh air

binnan àrd creige. B'e fuirbidhean da rìreadh a bha anns na laoiach a bha nise 'sineadh an dromannan air an tobhta-bhràghaid anns gach bìrlinn agus ann a bhi gearradh asdaìr gu'n iar am measg sgeirean agus bheag-eileinean a' Chaoil, cha b'urrainn iadsan a bha 'g amharc agus ag àrd-iolach air tìr a radh cò bh'air thoiseach no air dheireadh. Bha beagan gaoithe o'n àird-an-iar thuath air taobh am muigh nan àrd, agus a chionn 's gu'n robh an sruth tràghaidh, mar an ceudna, ag èaladh gu deas dh'iarra gach stiùraiche còmhnaidh an t-srutha 's na gaoithe le cùrsa 'dheanamh air Eilean Héisgir, aig a cheart àm a' toirt an ceart aire nach tuiteadh iad na b'fhaide deas, a chionn dheanadh sin an t slighe 'chur gu mór am meudachd dhàibh. Aig tilleadh an t-srutha bha a' ghaoth 'san sruth an aghaidh a chéile agus a' deanamh beagan cladhach anns a' mhuir, nach robh idir ro thaitneach dhàibhsan a bha nis air cur thuige le spiorad na strithe agus le braisead an iomraimh.

Ach bha leth-cheud mìle 'na astar deuchainn, eadhon do ghàirdeanan lùthach an ama sin, agus thug Colla Macleòid faineas gu'm b'fheàrr d'a chuid fhear iad féin a chaomhnadh cho maith 's a dh' fhadadh iad, gun astar a chall, gu sònruichte gus an tigeadh iad fagus do'n eilean. Bha nis a' ghrian seach a h-àirde agus ag iarraidh a dh'ionnsuidh na h-àirde sin, far am faicte mullaich nam beanntan h-Ioirteach, mar gu'm b'ann 'gan stadhadh fhéin a mach a aiginn a' chuain gu fhaicinn cò iad so a bha tighinn a dh' amharc orra. Bha Cliseam na Hearradh, Mialaiséal Leódhais, Eubhal Uibhist agus Cuilinn an Eilein Sgitheanaich fhathasd ri'm faicinn gu glan soilleir 'sa'n àird-an-ear ach bha iad a' sìoladh as an t-sealladh uidh air n-uidh mar gu'm b'ann ri call suim de'n mhuinntir shanntach so, a bha' cur an cùlthaobh riutha fhéin agus an aghaidh, mar eilthirich, air Iort iomallach a' chuain. Cha robh, a nis, ach deich mìle mara eadar iad le cladach, bha ochd uairean a thìde o'n dh'fhàg iad Ob na Hearradh, bha Eilean Bhoraraigh Hoirteach mu dhà mhìle uapa, air an làimh dheis, agus thòisich gach sgioba a' cur na bha neart air fhàgail aca anns an obair throm a bha fhathasd air thoiseach. Thòisich treun-iomairt, da rìreadh, an àm dol seachad air Stac-an-Armuinn agus mu shìia mìle o'n eilean, bha fear an sud 's an so a' tilgeadh dheth mìr aodaich, gu e féin fhionn-aireachadh agus aotromachadh, bha brosnachadh agus misneachadh le àrd bhriathran air gach taobh, agus dùlan 'ga thilgeadh orrasan a bha toirt dùlan seachad.

Dh' altaich gach fuirbidh e fhéin, chaidh buinn an tacas, bha ràimh 'gan snlomh agus bacannan a' trom dhìosgan air gach làimh, lùb agus shìn gach sgioba iad féin an co-chleas le uspairneachd agus mór eud agus ged a bha an t-side fàbharach air chuan bha eilathan mara 'gan tilgeadh gun lasachadh leis na tulgaich agus na leum-shìnteagan fada 'bha gach té de na sgothan a' gearradh. Bha Niall Dòmhnallach beagan àlach ràmh air thoiseach aig àm bualadh gu bonn Oiseabhal, ach bha an uidhe so air a giorrachadh gu aon fhad bìrlinn mu'n do lùb iad do'n bhàgh. Aig tionndadh a' ghuib dh'eigh an t-Uibhisteach àird a chinn, le mór spaga-da-ghliog agus le spaglainn uabhrach gu'm bu leis-san an t-eilean agus gu'm faodadh na Hearraich tilleadh dhachaidh. Air cluinntinn so do Cholla Macleoid cha d'rinn e dàil no fadal, ach rug e air tuaidh ghéir a bha 'na luidhe air an t-sodhladh-dheiridh aig a chasan; chuir e a làmh chli air beul-mór na sgotha agus an déidh a' sgudadh dheth le aon bhuille de'n tuaidh thilg a thìr i chun na creige, ag éigheach aig a cheart àm, gun chus bruailean sam bith air aodann, "Is leams' an t-eilean." Mar tha iomadh sgeula neònach fuaighte ri mórán ainmean anns an eilean iongantach so 'se Gob Cholla theirear fhathasd ris an spuir creige so ann an Iort. Is iomadh budhaigir, scràibeir, làmhaidh, fulmair agus gearra-breac a ghabh sìtheadh air iteig seachad air o'n latha ud agus is iomadh borbhair, carbhanach, smalag, liù agus bodach-ruadh a bha muinntir Iort, le'n slatan goirid agus le'n driamlaichean fada ag iasgach ri taobh a'ghuib ainneil so.

### PROPAGANDA TOURS.

The General Secretary visited the Ayr Branch on Tuesday, 19th April. There was a splendid turnout of members, presided over by the President, Mr. John MacAskill. The annual business meeting was held prior to the ceilidh, and all office-bearers were re-elected, with the exception of one Vice-President. Mr. Ewen MacDonald, who has left the town on retiring from the post-mastership, was replaced by ex-Deputy Chief Constable Macphie, Kilmarnock. A Gaelic reading class has been conducted under the auspices of the Branch all winter, and also a Gaelic choir. The choir assisted at the ceilidh which followed the business meeting. The membership is well maintained, and good work is being done by the Branch.



Dumfries was visited on Thursday, 21st April, and here also good work is being done by the members. The Gaelic Class conducted by Mr. MacDonald has been well attended, and the members have made good progress. Members and friends were present from the outlying districts, some of them travelling over twenty miles. Mr. D. C. Cowan, President, was in the chair.

Mr. Shaw presided at the closing ceilidh of the Connel Branch on Wednesday, 27th April. There was an attendance of about 120 people, the largest of any of the session's ceilidhs. In addition to the usual vocal and instrumental items, the play, "Am Fear a chail a Ghaidhlig," was excellently performed by members. At the close, Mr. Shaw made feeling reference in Gaelic to the death of Mr. Hugh Macphail, an enthusiastic member of the Branch since its inception.

Mr. Shaw proceeded to Kinlochleven on the 29th April, and presided over a concert in aid of the National Mod Funds. Despite the prevailing trade depression in Kinlochleven, there was a splendid turnout. This Branch is being well served by its office-bearers, and there is an average attendance of 200 at the meetings.

Mr. Shaw adjudicated the Gaelic section at the Buté Festival in Rothesay on 2nd May, and on the 4th proceeded to Campbelltown, where he assisted at the Kintyre Mod.

Fortingall was visited on 10th May. There was a good attendance of members, presided over by the President, Mr. Campbell MacAulay, M.A. The annual business meeting was held before the interval, and all the office-bearers were re-appointed. In addition to the usual ceilidhs two lectures were given during the session by local clergymen. The membership is well maintained.

On Wednesday, 18th May, Mr. Shaw attended the business meeting and closing ceilidh of the Pitlochry Branch. The Secretary and Treasurer submitted encouraging reports, which showed that financially and otherwise the Branch is in a very healthy condition. There are 285 members on the roll. The ceilidh which followed was attended by over ninety members, and was thoroughly enjoyed. All the office-bearers were re-elected.

Mr. Shaw proceeded to Brae Rannoch on the 19th, and was the guest of the President, Mr. Robert Forbes, Camuserriicht. The night was exceptionally wet, and only a small number turned out. The meeting was conducted entirely in Gaelic, and after Mr.

Shaw's address, songs were sung by several members. It is hoped to have a large ceilidh in September.

The Kinloch Rannoch Branch held its closing Singing Class concert on Friday, 20th May. Mr. Shaw presided over a large attendance, who listened attentively to an excellent programme provided by the choir and individual members. A pleasing item was an exhibition of Scottish country dancing by pupils from Dall School, taught by Miss Brown, teacher. The Senior Choir was ably led by Mrs. Stewart, Aberfeldy, who had been specially engaged by the local Branch for the Session.

Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Organiser for the Northern Area, went to Grantown-on-Spey on 6th April, and assisted the local Secretary with Mod arrangements. He attended a concert of the Carr-bridge Branch on the 7th. Mr. Carmichael assisted at the Strathspey and Badenoch Mod in Grantown-on-Spey on 13th April. This Mod was an outstanding success. Spean Bridge and Roy Bridge were visited on 19th April, and efforts are being made there to send competitors to the Glenmore Mod.

Mr. Carmichael assisted at a largely attended ceilidh of the Kinlochell Branch on 20th April. The National Mod funds will benefit considerably. On 27th April, Mr. Carmichael was at Plockton arranging classes with Mr. John MacDonald, music teacher. He visited Auchtertyne, Dornie, and Glenshiel on the 28th, and arranged classes. He was at Letterfearn on the 29th, where there are hopes of joining up with Glenshiel and having a joint choir. Mr. Carmichael visited Lochcarron the same evening, and discussed arrangements in connection with forthcoming Continuation Classes.

Teachers are engaged as follows:—Northern Area—Miss Margaret McDonald, Skye; Miss Jessie MacKenzie, Glenurquhart; Mr. John MacDonald, Wester Ross; Mr. Walter W. M. Ross, North Sutherland. Southern Area—Mr. John MacDiarmid, Islay; Mrs. C. C. MacDonald, Ardnamurchan; Mr. Hugh MacLean, Mid-Argyll.

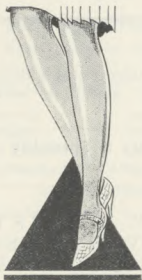
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# AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH

(SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Le K. W. G.

## III.

Is ann do'n Ghaidhlig a bhuineas ainm an Eilean Sgitheanaich; mar a bu chleachda leis na Lochlannaich an uair a fhuair iad àite air ainmeachadh cheana theireadh iad e 'nan dòigh-labhairt fhéin, Skid, no Skith, facal a tha 'ciallachadh clàr—An Clàr Sgithe—aon do ainmean an Eilean Sgitheanaich. B'e 'n t-Eilean Sgitheanaich aon de na prìomh aobhair a thug air Rìgh Haakon a thurus a ghabhail siar-thar-sàile anns a bliadhna 1263; thug Iarla Rois ionnsuidh ghailbheach air an eilean an 1262, agus air gearan tighinn m'a dhéidhinn gu Lochlann chomhfhéin an rìgh dol air an thurus mhór a chum a chumhachd a dhaigneachadh. Sheòl a chabhlach eadar an t-Eilean Sgitheanaich agus tìr-mór, agus chan eil a bheag de theagamh nach tug so an t-ainm do Chòal Acain, no "Kill Haakon"—mar a theirear e 's an t-sean chaint, no "Kil," "Caol" mar a theirear e le Lochlannaich an là-an-diugh.

Tha 'n t-Ollamh MacBheathain ag ràdh gu bheil na h-àit-ainmean 's an Eilean Sgitheanaich a dearbhadh cho iomlan agus a bha uachdranachd nan Lochlannach thairis air. Tha ainmean Lochlannach air na seachd mòrroinnean nàdurra: Trondairnis (Thróndarnes=Rudha Thronnd); sgrìobhadh is sine "Tronerneesse"; Bhatairnish (Vatnsnes=Rudha'n uisge no an locha); Druiniris (Dyra-nes=Rudha nan fiadh); Braccadale—na's fhaid air ais "Braikodell"—(Brekka-dalr=Gleann an Leathaid); Minginis, sean dòigh sgrìobhaidh: Myngnes (Mikin no Meginnes=An Rudha-mór); Strathordil (Svör-dalr=An Gleann-uachdrach); agus mu dheireadh Sleat (Sletta=Còmhnd no Màgh). Tha e air a mheas gu'm bheil mu 60 anns a cheud de ainmean Lochlannach 's an Eilean, laimh ri 40 's a cheud de ainmean Gàidhlig. Bheir mi beagan eisimpleir de na h-ainmean Lochlannach an so:—Snizort, sean sgrìobhadh: Snesfurd (Snae-fjord=Caol-an-t-sneachda); Loch Eynort (Einar-fjordr, ainm duine); Loch Harport (Hafra-fjordr=Caol an aghainn); Loch Eishort (Eids-fjördr=Caol an Tairbeart); Ostaig (Austr-vikr=An Camus-ear, or Camus an ear); Aularaig (Olaf-vikr=Camus Anlaimh); Tarskavaig (Thorska-vikr=Camus a bhodaich-ruaidh,

na Camus nan trosg); Seavaig, roimh so:—Seahvag (Skogar-vikr=Camus na Coille); Fiskavaig (Fiska-vikr=Camus an eisg); Ramasaig (Hrafn-vikr=Camus an Fhithich); Tòraig (Thori-vikr=Thori ainm duine); Tianavaig (Tindar-vikr=Camus an Sgeir, no Camus a' Bhinnein); Thurinish (Iver-nes=An Rudha tarsuinn); Ullinish (Ulli-nes=Ulli, ainm duine); Grisinis (Grisi-nes=Rudha na muice); Meanish (Mjo-nes=An Rudha beag); Tallasgar (T-hall-sker=Clàon Chreag no Sgeir); Bircisco (Birki-skog=Coille-Faidhbhile); Arnava (Arnar-fjall=Beinn-na-h-Iolaire); Roinebhal (Hraun-fjall=Beinngharbh); Beinn Storr (Stór=mór); Idrigil (Yttri-Kollr=Monadh an taobh-mach); Forse agus Forsan (Fors=Steallaire); Carbost (Kari-bolstadr=Dachaidh Chàr—ainm duine); Cealabost Kjalar-bolstadr=Fàrdoch Chell, ainm duine); Orrbost (Orri=cearcan fraoich, far-ainm mar an ceudna); Eilean Heast (Hest=each); Easdale (Hest-völlr=Dail an eich, no, nan each); Harrapool (Herra-bolstadr=Fàrdoch an Triath); Bigeary (Bygg-gardr=Gart an eòrna); agus mòran ainmean eile le "cleit" air son "Kleitr," "sgeir" air son "sker," "shader" air son "setr" (àirigh), "Burg" air son "borg," "tot" air son "topt," "sta" air son "stadr" (àite-tuinidh), etc.

Tha ainmean Lochlannach aig na h-eileana dlùth air an Eilean Sgitheanaich. Mar eisimpleir—Pabay (Pap-ey=Eilean an t-sagairt); Scalpa (Skalp-ey=Eilean na luinge); Raasay, sgrìobhadh is sine Raarsay (Rár-ass-ey=Eilean Dhrum-nan-earb); Rona (Hraun-ey=An t-Eilean garbh, "hraun" gu h-àraidh raon air a chomhdach le stuth a shruith a monadh teinntidh). Tha'n dà eilean, Raasay agus Rona air an gairm Raun-eyar anns an Sàga; sheòl cabhlach Rìgh Haakon seachad orra air a thurus dhachaidh, agus a thaobh gu robh a ghaoth 'n an aghaidh b'fheadar dhaibh cur a stigh gu "Vestrar-fjord" 's an Eilean Sgitheanaich, glé choltach a réir mar a tha e air a shuidheachadh, Loch Snizort an là-diugh. Fhusair Innis Staffin 'ainm bho a phuist chreagach; bho "Staffr"—bata, Am Bata; Trondaidh (Thróndar-ey=Eilean Thronnd); Isay (Is-ey=Eilean-na-h-Eighe); Wiew (Ve=ey=Eilean-an-Teampuill); Lampay (Lamb-ey=Eilean-nan-uan), agus mòran eile.

An déidh tighinn seachad air an Eilean Sgitheanaich tha sinn a dlùthachadh ris an eilean is fhaide tuath de na h-Innse Gall: Leòdhas no Ljodhus mar a dh'ainmicheadh e leis na sean Lochlannaich; tha fuaim an



“j” air a ghlèidheadh gu coimhionta anns an dòigh sgrìobhadh Ghàidhlig; a chionn gur ann & Leòdhas a dh'èirich cinneadh Chloinn Leòid agus gur ainm Lochlannach a th'ann an Leòd, faodaidh e 'bhith gu 'm bheil an t-ainm a ciallachadh dachaigh, no fardoch Leòid; air an taobh eile tha Ljódhús ri fhaotainn an Lochlann ri linn nan Sàga mar ainm, Aite-coinneamh, no “àite far a coinnich muinntir,” anns an t-seadh sin tha l'jód a ciallachadh “sluagh.” Is ainm do 'n t-seann Ljódhús an Lochlann aig an àm so Ljóðse; ach ciod air bith a chiallachadh is ainm Lochlannach e. Bha 'n ros aig a cheann deas a tha na's àirde na chuid eile de'n eilean air ainmeachadh air an aobhar sin 's a chaimnt Lochlannaich “Hinn Haerri,” no “Na h-Arda,” làimh ri Leòdhas isal; bha so air a thionndadh an Gàidhlig gu “Na Hearradh,” anns a Bheurla “Harris.”

B'e Leòdhas a bu Lochlannaiche de na h-Innse Gall gu léir, agus mar a dh'fhaodar fùthair a bhi againn, tha 'm pailteas de; ainmean Lochlannach ri 'm faotainn ann; cha'n urrainn domh ach beagan diùbhsan is comharraichte a thoirt seachad mar eisimpleirean.

Anns Na Hearradh:—Nisabost (Nesbolstadr=Baile (fearainn) an Rudha); Skelibost (Skeljar-bolstadr=Baile (fearainn)—sligeach); Claismeil (a réir coltais; Klas-mul; ainm duine le “mülfi”=Rudha, no Sròn-ard); Torgabost (Horga-bolstadr; “Horga”=àit-aoraidh pàganach); Searista (Skara-stadr=Rudha-nam-faoileag); Obbe (Hóp=Camus-beag); Rodel (Raudi-dalr=“raudi”=ruadh; frith ainm mar an ceudna); Læcasle (Lax-ár-dalr=Glenn-Uisg-a-bhradain); Loch Stocinis (Stokki-nes=“stokkr”=cùrsa aimhleathan aibhne eadar dà chreig); etc.

An Leòdhas:—Creed, no Greeta (Grjót-á=Uisge-garbh); Eirera (Eyrar-á=Abhainn a' chladaich); Rudha Eòrrabaidh (Eyrar-bær=Fearann a' chladaich); Tabac (Há-bakki=Tóm àrd); Siabost (Sja=bolstadr=Fearann-na-mara); Swanibost (Svein-bolstadr “Svein” ainm duine); Borainish (Borgar-nes=Rudha 'n Dùin); Putharol (Budar-hol=Monadh-a-bhùth); Bruadale (Brú-á-dalr=Glenn Uisge-na-Drochaid); Beàrnara (Bjarnar-ey=Eilean Bheàrn); Tannray (Hafnar-ey=Eilean a Chalaigh tha'n “t” air a cur ris anns a' Ghàidhlig); Feoriseadar (Fjörnsætr=Airigh-na-tràigh); Fidi-gearraidh (Fitja-gardr=Faiche, no Ailean le callaid m'a thimcheall); Cracabhal (Kraku-fjall=Beinn-na-ròcas); Loch Sith-phort (Sja-fjördr=Loch-sàile); Loch Hamasord (Hramms-fjördr=Loch-an-

Leathaid fheuraich); Sgiogarsta (Skeggi-stadr=Skeggi, ainm duine); Grimersta (Grim-stadr=Grim, ainm duine); Mangarsta (Munka-stadr=Aite-nam-Mànach); Tighearna (Tjorn=Lochan Monaidh, “tarn” in Scots); Totaichean Anlaimh (Olafs-topt=Cnuic, no Totta Anlaimh); Aignish, sgrìobhadh is sine Eggnes (Egg-nes=Rudha 'n Droma); Keose (Kjos=Lag domhain); Hundagro (Hunda-gro=Allt-a'-choin); Rosnabhat (Hross-na-vatn=Loch-nan-each); Neidalt (Neyti-holt=Ait-ionaltraidh sprèidh a' mhonaidh); Meathacleit (Mjo-Kletttr=Sgòr aimhleathan); Mircavat (Myrk-vatn=loch dorch); Stathanais (Stódrar-nes=Rudha a chalaigh); Bratanais (Bratt-nes=Rudha corrach); Cuidha-seadar (Kviatsetr=Ionad-a-chrùtha); Carloway (Karla-vagr=Camus Theàrlaich); Loch Thealas-bhaidh (Hellis-vagr=Bàgh na h-Uaimh, le “t” air a cur ris); Loch Thamnabhaidh (Hafnar-vagr=Bàgh an Longphuirt, le “t” air a cur ris mar an ceudna); Tarstarat (Hjarta-vat=Loch an fhéidh, le “t” air a cur ris); Islivig (Is-hlid-vik=Camus Leathad na h-eighe); Steòrnabhaidh (Stjórnar-vagr=Bàgh an stiùraidh), etc.; cha'n eil anna sin ach beagan eisimpleir de na h-àit-ainmean Lochlannach gun àireamh anns an Eilean.

(Ri Leantainn.)

## THE CLARSACH SOCIETY.

Edinburgh Branch.

The inaugural meeting of the Edinburgh Branch of The Clarsach Society took place in the Tartan Hotel, on Friday evening, 20th May, when about forty of those interested in the movement were present. It took the form of a ceilidh—six harpers taking part, and singing Highland folk songs to the accompaniment of the clarsach. After tea the business part of the meeting took place, when a committee was formed, with Mrs. Bessie I. B. MacArthur as convener, Miss Lamont of Knockdow, vice-convener, and Miss Alice Miles, hon. secretary and treasurer.

Everyone agreed that the small Celtic harp is an ideal instrument for the accompanying of folk music, and many of those present joined the Society as prospective playing members, or as associates. The aims and objects of the Society are the preservation of the clarsach, and its reinstatement in our national life.

Miss Edith Taylor of Dunblane informed the branch that Lady Elspeth Campbell, Chieftainess of the Society, had gifted £50 to purchase three clarsachs for the use of the Society.

A telegram was received from Mrs. Ian Campbell of Airds, conveying her wishes for the success of the evening. Mrs. MacLeod of Skeabost also sent greetings.

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

A CHLANNA MO GHAOL.—Fhuair mi an là roimhe litir bho Iain L. Caimbeul a tha air chuairt an Canada, 's e cur chugam am mìoseachan Gàidhlig *Fear na Céilidh*, a leugh mi le fìor thlachd air chor agus gu'm bu mhatl leam aire Clann an Fhraoich a tharruinn g'a ionnsuidh. Bheir mo chairaid cead dhomh, tha mi cinnteach, tarruinn bho'n litir aige, agus cha b' urrainn domhsa an rud a chur am briathran a bu fhreagarraiche:—

“Tha mi cur chugaibh mac-samhuil de mhiosachan beag a tha air a chur a mach ann an Sidni, Ceap Breatunn, le Mgr. T. G. MacFhionghain, a bha roimhe so 'na fhear-dheasachaidh a' phaipeir-naigheachd ainmeil Gàidhlig 'Mac-Talla.' Cuimhnichidh sibh nach robh paipeir Gàidhlig riamh ann, aig an robh beatha cho fada ri 'Mac-Talla.' Cha'n eil Fear na Céilidh a' tighinn a mach aig an dearbh am, o'n a bha am fear-deasachaidh gu tinn o chionn goirid, ach tòisichidh e a ris 's an t-Samhradh so. Tha mi creidsinn gum bu chòir do gach ball Clann an Fhraoich a ghabhail, or cha'n eil duine ann a rinn a h-uiread airson litreachas na Gàidhlig a chumail suas agus a rinn Mgr. Mac Fhionghain, agus sin an aghaidh gach call agus duilgheadais a thachras do luchd-deasachaidh nam paipeiran Gàidhlig. Air an aobhar sin, bhithinn fada 'nur comain nan sgoileadh sibh an naidheachd mu 'Fhear na Céilidh' feadh Clann an Fhraoich, oir tha mi am beachd gum faodadh sinn ar dìchioll a dhèanamh gus an oidhirp so a chuideachadh.”

Tha Iain Caimbeul ceart. A thuilleadh air gum bheil oidhirp Mhic Fhionghain airidh air cliù agus cuideachadh, is maith is fhiach “Fear na Céilidh” a cheannach air a shon fhéin. Tha e air a chur a mach le mòr chùram, tha a' Ghàidhlig glan, ceutach, an clòdh soilleir, agus an t-iomlan snasmhor r'a leughadh. Tha dòchas agam gu'n gabh a' Chlann ris a' mhiosachan so mar a tha mi fhéin a dèanamh. Bithidh e air a chur a mach air an t-Samhradh so le Iain G. Mac Fhionghain, 283 Sraid Tearlag, Sidni, Rudha Bhreatuinn, N.S., Canada, air phris aon dollar 's a' bhliadhna.—Mise le mòr mheas,

SEORAS.

## COMUNN BADGES.

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

## JUNIOR ESSAY COMPETITION.

The prize of ten shillings is awarded for the following essay to Alex. Macpherson, Dunan School, Skye. The subject for next competition will be, *Am Fiadh*.

### A' CHUTHAG.

Nl a h-uile neach toileachadh an uair a chluinneas iad a' chuthag oir is isc teachdaire an t-samhraidh. Tha an rann a leanas a' toirt cunntais air an fhran a chuir an sean bhàrd oirre.

“Ceud fàilte ort fhein a chuthag ghorm,  
Le d'oran ceòlmhor milis  
'Se seirm do bheòil 'sa chéitein òg  
A thogadh bròn o'm ehridhe.”

Bha bàrd cile san eatorras an abradh e eun rithe—oir is ann ainneamh a chunnaic e i—agus le sin bha e gu tric am beachd gur e guth siubhail a bha innte.

Tha i de ghnè naduir leisg agus tàireil, agus tha e na chleachdadh aice a bhi a' creachadh nead nan eun eile mu'n cuairt dith. An dath tha i liath-ghorm agus am meud beagan nas motha na'n smeòrach. Bha e riamh air a chur as leth nan Gaidheal a bhi trom air creidsinn gheasagan, agus theirte na'n cluinnte a' chuthag a' cheud uair gun ghreim bidh itheadh gun leanadh mi-fhortan e an corr de'n bhliadhna sin. Theirte cuideachd gu robh a h-uile “Gug-gug” a sheinneadh i a' toirt dhuit an uiread so de bhliadhnachan ri bhi beò.

Air uairean thig a' chuthag a chur an céill a teachdaireachd nas tràithe, ach cha tàinig i an so am bliadhna gus na laithean mu dheireadh de'n Ghiblein.

Anns an Oban am bliadhna chaidh a fàilteachadh le frasan fuara de chlachan meallain is gaoith.

Anns an Lunasdale tha i a' cur cùl ri Breatunn aon uair eile, agus a' dol thairis gu àitean blàtha.

## FORT WILLIAM MOD.

(4th, 5th, 6th and 7th October.)

### List of Accommodation for Mod Visitors.

#### FORT WILLIAM.

West End Hotel (Miss MacIntosh).—7 single rooms, 14 double-bedded rooms. 15/- per day.

Station Hotel (Mrs. Burgess).—First-class Hptel, near station and pier; 30 bedrooms. Terms on application.

Granite House (Miss M'Donald).—12 double-bedded rooms. High tea, bed, and breakfast, 9/-.

Palace Hotel (Mrs. Stewart).—Few bedrooms still available. Terms on application.

Alexandra Hotel (Mrs. Wenzell).—35 bedrooms, 15/- per day.

Lorne Villa (Miss Cameron).—4 bedrooms (double.) "Mayfield" (Mrs. Farrow).—2 double bedrooms, 10/6 per day.

"St. Ola" (Mrs. Cameron).—4 double bedrooms. Miss Young, "Taylochty."—4 double bedrooms, 1 single bedroom.

"Beoraid Beag" (Mrs. Michie).—1 double bedroom, 1 single bedroom. Bed and breakfast, 7/6.

"Nevis Bank" (Miss Cameron).—10/- per day.

3 Inverlochty Place (Mrs. N. Mackinnon).—6/- bed and breakfast.

4 Inverlochty Place (Mrs. MacQueen).—6/- b. and br.

11 Inverlochty Place (Mrs. W. Stirling).—b. and br., 5/-, or 10/- per day.

"Craignevis," Belford Road (Miss Black).—10/- per day.

"Ben View" (Mrs J. McGregor).—b. and br., 5/6, or 10/- per day.

Nevis Cottage (Miss Tait).—b. and br., 6/-.

Caberfeidh (Mrs. Macdonald).—Accommodation for 4 or 5 people, sitting room and 2 bedrooms. 10/- per day, or 6/- b. and br.

Mrs. George Kay, 81 High Street.—2 bedrooms.

Mrs. Johnston, 81 High Street.—2 bedrooms.

Miss Reid, 79 High Street.—2 bedrooms.

Mrs. Cameron, Glengarry Buildings.—2 bedrooms.

#### ONICH.

10 miles from Fort William. Excellent bus service.

Mrs. MacIntyre, Post Office.—Accommodation for 7 people. Bed and breakfast (bath, h. and c.), 6/6.

Mrs James Cameron, Woodlands.—Accommodation for 2 people. B. and br. (bath, h. and c.), 6/6.

Mrs Hay, Springbank.—Accommodation for 7. 5/6 b. and br. (bath, h. and c.).

Mrs. Lamont, U.F. Manse.—Accommodation for 7. 5/6 for b. and br. (bath, h. and c.).

Miss Maclean, Marine Hotel.—Accommodation for 14. 5/- b. and br. (bath, h. and c.).

#### CORPACH AND BANAVIE.

2-3½ miles from Fort William. Buses every hour.

Mrs. MacLaren, Craigard, Banavie.—7 bedrooms accommodation for 12 people. Bed and breakfast, 7/6.

Miss Kennedy, Chevalier Cottage, Banavie.—2 bedrooms. B. and br., 7/6.

Miss Cameron, The Neuk, Corpach.—7/6, b. and br.

Miss Carson, Corpach.—3 bedrooms. B. and br., 7/6.

Mrs. MacDougall, Montrose Mansions, Corpach.—2 bedrooms. 7/6, b. and br.

Mrs. Macdonald, Montrose Mansions, Corpach.—2 bedrooms, no attendance.

Miss MacTavish, Kilcheran, Corpach.—2 bedrooms. 7/6, b. and br.

Mrs. Macdonald, Golf Course Cottages, Corpach.—2 bedrooms. 7/6, b. and br.

Mrs. MacMillan, Golf Course Cottages, Corpach.—2 bedrooms. 7/6, b. and br.

Miss Cameron, Fassfern, Kinlochell.—10 bedrooms. 6 miles from Fort William.

### KINTYRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The ninth Kintyre Provincial Mod was held in Campbeltown on 5th and 6th May. The entries were up to the usual, but unfortunately, owing to an outbreak of measles on the west side of the peninsula a number of children were unable to attend, and the oral section was depleted.

Miss Hall of Tangy, President of the local Branch, presided over the Junior concert on the 5th. The Friday afternoon competitions had to be taken in the Victoria Hall on account of the large number of people who attended. Miss Campbell of Inverneill, M.B.E., presided over the closing concert the programme of which was sustained by the leading prize-winners and by Miss Anni Ballantyne and Mr. James C. Macphee, Glasgow. The adjudicators were:—Gaelic, Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock, and Mr. Neil Shaw, Glasgow; Music, Mr. Hugh Hunter, Mus.Bac., Innellan.

The following is the prize-list:—

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

(16 years and under.)

Writing from Dictation—Neil Smart, Tayinloan. Gaelic Solos (girls)—1, Sarah MacKinnon, Carradale; 2, Rona MacVicar, Southend; 3, Mollie Robertson, Tayinloan.

Gaelic Solos (boys)—1, Neil Smart; 2, John MacWhirter, Campbeltown; 3, John MacMillan, Campbeltown.

Gaelic Solos (girls and boys)—1, Sarah MacKinnon; 2, Rona MacVicar; 3, Neil Smart.

Gaelic Solos (girls and boys not over 12)—1, Mary MacKinnon, Carradale; 2, Agnes Brownie, Carradale; 3, Mary Armour, Campbeltown.

Gaelic Duets—1, Effie Fisher and Maire MacDougall, Carradale; 2, Sarah MacKinnon and Margaret Campbell, Carradale.

Choral Singing in Unison, Gaelic under 12)—1, Carradale; 2, Grammar School; 3, Campbeltown No. 2.

Choral Singing in Unison, Gaelic—1, Carradale; 2, Drumlemble; 3, Campbeltown.

Choral Singing in Two-Part Harmony, Gaelic—1, Campbeltown; 2, Carradale.

Celtic Solos (girls under 12)—1, Mary MacKinnon; 2, Peggy Smith, Campbeltown; 3, Mary Armour.

Celtic Solos (boys under 12)—1, John Mees, Campbeltown; 2, Dugald Paterson, Carradale; 3, Colin Galbraith, Carradale.

Celtic Solos (girls over 12)—1, Mary Paterson, Carradale; 2, Effie Fisher; 3, Rona MacVicar.

Celtic Solos (boys over 12)—1, John MacWhirter; 2, Mal. MacEachran; 3, James Girvan, Campbeltown.

Choral Singing in Unison (Gaelic)—1, Drumlemble; 2, Grammar School; 3, Carradale.

Highest Aggregate—Neil Smart, Tayinloan.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

Reading at Sight—1, Donald MacMillan; 2, Isa MacDonald, Tayinloan; 3, Ian Wotherspoon, Gigha.

Recitation—1, Isa MacDonald; 2, Colin Paterson, Campbeltown; 3, Ian Wotherspoon.

Gaelic Speech—Isa MacDonald.

Sgeulachd—1, Colin Paterson; 2, Isa MacDonald. Acted Dialogue—1, Isa MacDonald and Bettie Currie.

Bible Reading—1, Isa MacDonald; 2, Colin Paterson; 3, Donald MacMillan.

Gaelic Solos (female voices)—1, Jemima MacLean, Carradale; 2, Cissie Fisher, Carradale; 3, Chryssie MacIntyre, Carradale.

Gaelic Solos (male voices)—1, Wm. Galbraith, Carradale; 2, Donald MacSporran, Campbelltown; 3, Joe MacIlchere, Campbelltown.

Gaelic Solos (male and female voices)—1, Donald MacSporran; 2, Chryssie MacIntyre; 3, Joe MacIlchere.

Gaelic Solos (male or female), open to former first prize-winners—1, Wm. Galbraith; 2, Cissie Fisher; 3, Colin Paterson.

Presenting in Traditional Manner—Colin Paterson.

Puirt a Beul—1, Wm. Galbraith; 2, Mrs. Robert Black, Tarbert.

Duet Singing—1, M. MacKinnon and C. Thomson, Campbelltown; 2, M. Black and C. MacInnes, Campbelltown; 3, Mrs. B. MacKinnon and A. G. Smith, Campbelltown.

Quartette Singing (mixed voices)—1, Tarbert No. 1; 2, Tarbert No. 2; 3, Carradale.

Ladies' Choirs (Gaelic)—1, Carradale; 2, Tarbert.

Male Voice Choirs (Gaelic)—Tarbert.

Mixed Choirs (Gaelic)—1, Tayinloan; 2, Tarbert; 3, Carradale.

Choral Singing of a "Puirt a Beul"—1, Campbelltown; 2, Tarbert.

Celtic Solos (female voices)—1, Cissie Fisher; 2, Cissie MacInnes, Campbelltown; 3, Mrs. Peter MacSporran, Tarbert.

Celtic Solos (male voices)—1, Peter MacSporran, Tarbert; 2, Donald MacSporran; 3, Joe MacIlchere.

Choral Singing in Four-Part Harmony (Celtic)—1, Carradale; 2, Tarbert.

Highest Aggregate—Chryssie MacIntyre, Carradale.

## THE GLENMORE MOD.

The third Provincial Mod was held at Fort-Augustus on Saturday, 14th May. Notable absenteees were Glen-Urquhart, Speanbridge, and Roybridge. Glengarry was strongly represented. Results:—

### JUNIOR SECTION.

Oral, Prose Reading—1, Archie Maclean, Inshlaggan; 2, Cathie MacEachan, Fort-Augustus; 3, Mary Grant, Fort-Augustus.

Reciting—1, Mary M. Fraser, Invergarry; 2 (equal), Farquhar Macrae, Inshlaggan, and Flora Maclean, Inshlaggan; 3, Archie Maclean, Inshlaggan.

Girls' Solos—1 (equal), Flora Maclean and Margaret Clark, Cullochy.

Boys' Solos—1, Farquhar Macrae, Inshlaggan; 2, Donald McIntosh, Fort-Augustus; 3, James Wilson, Aberchalder.

Unison Singing—1, Fort-Augustus Junior Choir; 2, Aberchalder Junior Choir; 3, Glengarry Junior Choir.

### SENIOR SECTION.

Oral, Prose Reading—1, George Moss, Achnacarry; 2 (equal), John Macaskill, Invergarry, and Ewen Grant, Invergarry.

Reciting—Joyce Grant, Invergarry.

Female Solo—1, Mary M'Donnell, Invergarry; 2, Rachel Campbell, Fort-Augustus; 3, Peggy Macaskill, Invergarry.

Male Solos—1 (equal), John Macaskill and Ewen Grant; 2, William Macintosh, Fort-Augustus.

Mixed Solos—1, John Macaskill; 2, Mary M'Donnell; 3, Peggy Macaskill.

Duet—1, Rachel Campbell and William McIntosh, Fort-Augustus; 2, John Macaskill and Peggy Macaskill, Invergarry.

Choral Singing—Glengarry Gaelic Choir, Fort-Augustus.

Gaelic Choir, Unison Singing and Puirt a Beul—1, Fort-Augustus Choir; 2, Glengarry Gaelic Choir.

Violin Music—1, John M'Lean, Inshlaggan; 2, Archie Maclean, Inshlaggan; 3, D. Macdonald, Roybridge.

Pipe Music—1, J. Innes, Fort-Augustus; 2, George Moss, Achnacarry; 3, W. M'Lellan.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

ABERFELDY.—The closing Ceilidh for the season of this branch was held in the Library, Town Hall. Bailie MacLaren presided over an enthusiastic audience, who were entertained to an attractive programme of vocal and instrumental music. Tea was served by a Committee of ladies. The main feature of the evening's proceedings was an interesting address by Professor MacBeath, Queen's University, Belfast.

FORT AUGUSTUS.—Under the auspices of the local branch the popular bilingual play "Beitidh" (Betty) was performed by some of the members in the Abbey Theatre Hall. Rev. Fr. Cyril Deickoff, O.S.B., the well-known Russian scholar and authority on things Celtic, presided over a large audience. The remainder of the programme was sustained by popular artistes, who contributed Gaelic songs. The sum of £10 was realised and will be devoted to the National Mod Funds.

KILNINVER.—The local branch met in the School, when an address was given by Mr Neil Shaw, General Secretary. Mr J. J. Currie, Cullifall Hotel, President, was in the chair. A short Ceilidh was afterwards held. As a result of the dance held lately by the branch the sum of £3 has now been forwarded by the Secretary, Miss Lily B. MacLeod, to the Treasurer of the West Highland Cottage Hospital, Oban.

KINLOCHKEIL.—An enjoyable Ceilidh and dance was held in the Hall in aid of the funds of the National Mod. There was a large audience and Mr. MacKellaig, Glenfinnan, was in the chair. The Ceilidh was opened with selections on the bagpipes. The school children then sang the rallying song, "Suas leis a' Gaidhlig." Songs were given by a large company of artists, while sgulachdan and instrumental items were also included on the programme. Tea was served by Mrs. MacMillan and Mrs. Cumming, and the singing of "Oidhche Bhath Leibh" brought a successful Ceilidh to a close. A dance followed.

KINLOCH RANNOCH.—Miss Debenham of Leargau lately welcomed all interested in traditional stories of old Rannoch at an old-fashioned Ceilidh in the comfortable lounge of the Bunrannoch Hotel—quite possibly on the site of the small inn where Allan Breac spent the second night of his flight, according to tradition. In a congenial atmosphere a most delightful evening was spent with song and story intermingling. Mr J. D. Scott, President of the local Branch, sang a song composed by the late Calum Phadraig, a well-known Killechonan Bard, on the victory at Wimbledon in the seventies of Angus Cameron, who became twice Queen's prizeman. Mr John MacPherson also sang and told an interesting story written to him by a Rannoch Cameron who, long years ago, had emigrated to the United States, revealing the disastrous results

experienced through interference with Druidical stones on Drumm a' Chaisteil Farm. The Rev. Allan Muirhead greatly interested by his stories of the Robertsons of Struan, as did Mr Duncan Cameron, Dall, by his sgùlachd of "An Sergeant Mor." Others who contributed were Miss Debenham, Mrs. Burgess, Miss MacDonald, Miss Cameron and Mr. A. MacKintosh, while at intervals Pipe Major MacMaster discoursed pipe-music.

**LOCHGILFHEAD.**—Under the auspices of the local Branch the Oban Gaelic Choir gave a successful concert in the Drill Hall. Mrs. Macdonald of Dunach, who presided, paid a warm tribute to the branches of An Comunn for the work accomplished for Gaelic in the Highlands. This was specially noticeable in connection with Provincial Mods, which to the mind of many who were in a position to know, was of greater importance than even the National Mod. It had now developed into such a huge organisation as to make it almost unworkable for want of accommodation and time. The programme was sustained by the Choir, under the able leadership of their conductor, Mr John MacDonald. Solos were also submitted by choir members. The accompanist was Miss Nancy MacDonlad, assisted by Mr Rae, Lochgilfhead. The local Pipe Band, a very efficient company, played selections. A dance followed.

**NEWTONMORE.**—The Newtonmore Branch recently arranged a highly successful concert, and the chair was taken by Mr. Compton Mackenzie, LL.D., the well-known novelist, and Lord Rector of Glasgow University. The hall was tastefully decorated with daffodils and evergreens, gifted for the occasion by Mrs. Oswald of Mount Charles, Ayr, and Mrs. Clare, Dubs of Craigdarroch, Dumfriesshire. Miss Farquharson of Invercauld kindly lent mottoes, flags, deer heads, and plaids, while the Ladies' Committee also supplied a number of plaids. The Scottish Shinty Cup, won by the local team, was prominently displayed. The Chairman and Miss Farquharson were piped to the platform by Mr John MacPherson. Mr Mackenzie referred to the commendable efforts which were being made in Newtonmore to promote the Gaelic language, efforts which had given a lead to the movement in Badenoch and in the whole of the North. He was glad to see present Dr. Neil Ross and Miss Farquharson of Invercauld, both of whom had done much to foster the old tongue. The bulk of the work, however, lay with the people themselves. He did not believe Latin and Greek were as valuable as Gaelic, since it was only easier to speak other tongues by first learning the Gaelic. If it was worth his while to learn to speak it at forty-nine, he thought the people of Newtonmore could do the same. If they lost their language they would soon lose their nationality. He hoped that just as they had excelled in shinty they would win at Gaelic. A long and varied programme of Gaelic songs was contributed by members of the branch and the Senior Gaelic Choir, who took an opportunity to present their teacher from An Comunn, Miss Peigi MacDonald, with a small token of appreciation of her services. The gift took the form of an attache case and was handed over in felicitous terms by the bard, Mr MacDonald. The concert was followed by a dance.

**TAIN.**—Mr M. Macarthur, Pitcalnie, Nigg, presided at the annual general meeting of Tain branch of An Comunn, when favourable reports were submitted by the secretary, Mr. A. R. Mackenzie, Summertown, and the treasurer, Mr. James Macdonald, Tain. The secretary's report disclosed the past session as the most successful one in the

history of the branch since its formation in 1927. There was an average attendance of 130 members at the six ceilidhs held, and the total membership had risen to 172. Other activities of the branch, including Gaelic evening classes and Gaelic Church services, had also been well attended, and every indication pointed to the real success of the branch. It was decided to hold Gaelic services during the summer months, and also to hold a picnic on a date to be fixed by the committee. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman.

**WICK.**—"One of the most enjoyable evenings of the session" was the unanimous expression of those present at the annual general meeting and concluding ceilidh of Wick branch, held in the Academy on Friday evening, 9th May. Mr Millar, President, presided over a good attendance of members and friends. The financial report, submitted by Mr F. R. Cochran, hon. treasurer, showed a modest balance in favour of the branch on the session's work. It was agreed to send a contribution to the Fort William Mod Fund and also to the general funds of the northern section, Inverness. The secretary reported that Rev. George Sutherland had been carefully writing and preparing various historical and folklore manuscripts for the branch; and it was agreed to take up consideration of what steps could best be taken to have these published at a later date. Office-bearers and committee were elected for next session. A very enjoyable musical programme was gone through, the talent being all of front-rank excellence. The President thanked all who had done so much during the session to maintain interest in the work of the branch. The ceilidhs, both those public and those for the members and friends, were spoken of as among the most enjoyable functions held in the town during the winter months—the spirit of fellowship and kindly social friendliness being conspicuous at them all. They hoped to resume next session in good heart and go forward to even greater things than in the past.

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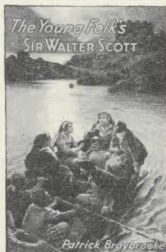
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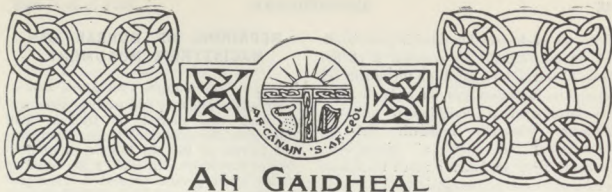
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TELEGRAMS.—*Runaire, Glasgow.*

TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXVII.]

An t-Iuchar, 1932.

[Earrann 10

### MARGADH LUIBHEAN.

Is tric a chluinneas sinn gu bheil feum sonuichte anns gach lus a tha 'fàs as an talamh. Tha cuid de na lusan eifeachdach mar chungaidh leigheis; agus tha àireamh a tha luachmhor mar bhiadh. Cha ruigear a leas ainmeachadh ach am buntàta, caraid nam bochd an àm éigin; ach tha luibhean eile air a bheil sinn uile eòlach, mar tha càl de gach gnè, is meud is blas; currain, beag is mòr, geal is dearg; am parsli no am fionnas a tha cho cùbhraidh ri fhaicinn air bòrd; an lettuca agus an cneamh; am meacan agus an t-snèap; spinach no am bloinigeon; gun ghuth air measan a' ghàraidh mar tha gròiseidean de gach dath, agus dearcagan dubh is dearg. Gun bhi a' leudachadh nas fhaide air breacadh nan lus fa leth faodar a ràdh gun tig gach aon diubh fo bhlàth gu h-ùrail air taobh an iar na Gaidhealtachd agus anns na h-eileanan. Tha an Gulf Stream le sruth de uisge fiodach a' cumail na mara nas blàithe ri am geamhraidh. Mar sin tha an aimsir tiorail. Fàsaidh am fiondhearc gun dion an Eilean Ràrsair.

\* \* \*

Tha na millean de luchd tadhail a' dol do 'n Ghaidhealtachd feadh an t-samhraidh so fhéin. Tha iad uile measail air luibhean mar earrann de am biadh. Na luibhean a tha iad sin ag ithe, is ann o'n taobh deas a tha iad a' tighinn. Is bochd an innse sin air

teomachd nan Gaidheal. Shaoileadh tu gun gabhadh muinntir a leithid sin de chothrom air beagan airgid fhaotainn. Ciod am feum a bhi a' giùlan lusan air an rathad iaruin fad corr is ceud mìle, an uair a dh'fhaodadh margadh luibhean an taoibh tuath lusan am pailteas a tharruinn o'n dùthaich mu'n cuairt. Tha tuilleadh is aon aobhar gum biodh croiteirean is feadhainn eile aig a' bheil criomag de ghàradh, a' tòiseachadh air lusan àiteach nas mo na tha iad a' deanamh an diugh. Os cionn gach ni tha fallaineachd mhór an luibhean brìghmhor na talmhainn. Tha an seòrsa bidh so nas riata naiche a nis na bha e; oir tha biadhan grinne Gallda an déidh smioralas nan Gaidheal a lagachadh. Tha ro bheag de thoradh air fearainn fein 'g a chur gu feum aig an àm. Ma tha àiteach fearainn airson coirce is cruithneachd air dol air ais gu dùilich, is coir co dhiubh na luibhean a shaothrachadh; oir chan eil iad cho daor ri 'n oibreachadh, agus tha iad iomchuidh is prìseil mar bhiadh.

\* \* \*

Tha duais is obair nas gainne a nis na bha iad riamh anns a' ghinealach so; agus is truagh a bhi an crochadh air biadh a duthchanan coigreach, gu h-àraidh an uair nach eil an t-airgid ann gus am biadh sin a cheannach. Bu chiatnach gu dearbh nam biodh beathachadh dualach ar duthcha 'g a chur gu buil, agus ar sluagh a' foghlum cia mar a dheanadh iad combnadh leo féin. A

chum na crìche sin bu mhaith gum biodh iad ag oibreachadh an comunn a chèile. Anns a' cheud dol a mach dh'fheumadh iad comhairle fhaotainn gus an stiùradh. Ma tha buannachd ri fhaighinn o reic nan luibhean feumaidh muinntir dol gu h-aontachail am bun a' ghnòthuich. Cuireadh Bòrd an Aitich a mach teachdaire a mhinicheas an ni gu soilleir do 'n t-sluagh. Ri àm èiginn an àird a' chogaidh thugadh ordugh gum biodh muinntir nam bailtean mòra ag oibreachadh bideag fhearainn ris an canadh iad *allotment*; agus tha cuid de na cròitean beaga sin 'g am faire fathast. Ma thachair sin anns a' bhaile carson nach tachradh e air an dùthaich. Is e bhiodh ann ach caithe-ùine do mhuinntir a bhi a' togail an aire, anns na feasgair fada samhraidh, le garadh no croit a bhiodh a chum tlachd is buannachd.

\* \* \*

O chionn beagan bhliadhnaichean tha mnathan na Gaidhealtachd air anoadh ri chèile gu h-iongantach ughdarras agus stiùradh an *W.R.I.* Is iomadh pong air am buail iad anns na coinneamhan. Is e so aon de na puingeana a bhiodh freagarrach, gum biodh cùram is aire nam ban air an tionndadh gu àiteach nan lus mar a thubhairt sinn a cheana. Is mór an cuideachadh a dh'fhaodadh luchd-riaghlaidh a' chomuinn sin a dheanamh gus na mnathan a theagasg mu'n chùis; agus mar an ceudna gus ullachadh a dheanamh a chum na lusan a ghèillan gu margadh, agus am margadh fein a réiteach an àitean freagarrach mar an t-Oban is Inbhirneis is bailtean eile. Dh'fhaodadh teaghlaichean a tha an nàbachd a chèile cuibhrionn de na lusan a chruinneachadh, agus an cur an clabh ceithir-cheamach air carbad-ola a dh'ionnsuidh na féile. Mar sin bhiodh muinntir ag obair an comhbhuinn ri chèile agus a' roinn na buannachd. Gheibheadh na marsantan na luibhean ùr as a' ghàradh goirid an dèidh an sponadh as an talamh. Bu mhór an taitneas sin an coimeas ri lusan seacte a rinn seargadh air turas fada o'n Ghalldachd. Ach tha eagail oinn gum bi a' chomhairle so coltach ri iomadh comhairle eile—tùrail gu leòir ri èisdeachd, is farusda gu leòir ri a tairgse—ach coma leat, leanaidh sinn an t-seann dòigh, a dh'aindeoin cho mì-fhreagarrach is gu'm bi sin air cor is càs an làtha n diugh!

## REPAIRING OF DUNCAN BAN MACINTYRE'S MONUMENT.

Edinburgh, 15th April, 1932.

Sir,—One hundred and twenty years ago, all that was mortal of Duncan Ban Macintyre, the celebrated Gaelic Bard, was laid to rest in the old Edinburgh Churchyard of Greyfriars. In 1857, a few admirers of his great genius erected a handsome monument to denote his last resting-place. The memorial, which was executed in freestone by Mr. Handyside Ritchie, and which exhibited beautiful examples of carving, is slowly disintegrating. To arrest further decay, and to preserve what remains of the stone, emergency measures must be at once taken. Experts have been consulted, and they advise that, while preservative treatment may slow down the process of disintegration, the monument is too far gone for this to be anything but a temporary expedient, and they suggest that the decayed blocks be replaced in a more durable stone, or that a new memorial be erected.

On a report of the state of the memorial being made to The Celtic Union, it was decided to take immediate action, and the Council authorised the undersigned to issue an appeal to Highlanders at home and abroad for funds to undertake the restoration. On the success of this appeal will depend the extent of the restorative work, but they feel confident that the Gaelic-speaking people of the world will welcome this opportunity of laying yet another stone on the cairn of their sweetest native singer, whose muse has delighted their fathers, and will continue to inspire their children.

Subscriptions will be gratefully acknowledged by Mr. Donald Shaw MacKinnon, Leob, Elliot Place, Colinton, Midlothian, who has consented to act as honorary treasurer of the Fund.

On behalf of The Celtic Union,

J. LORNE MACLEOD, Hon. President, 72 Great King Street, Edinburgh.

DAVID DUNCAN, President, North Esk Manse, Musselburgh.

DON. S. MACKINNON, Hon. Treasurer, Leob, Elliot Place, Colinton.

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

Ordinary Members are respectfully reminded that subscriptions for the current year, to May, 1933, are now due, and should be paid direct to the Treasurer, Mr. Robert Macfarlane, C.A., 212 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Fhir Dheasachaidh Chaoimh,—O'n tha mi an ceart-uair agus beagan ùine air mo lannhan bu mhiann leam iomradh a thoirt dhuibh air fìor eachdraidh seann tachartasan a ghabh aite ann an ceann àraidh de'n Ghàidhealtachd far am bheil mi gu maith eolach, a thug dhuinn an gnàth-fhacal sin a tha an diugh gu maith coitcheionn ann am beul na dùthcha, is e sin, "Bithidh tuillidh uime na bha mu'n chul-chàise."

Chaidh mòran a sgrìobhadh cheana mu'n chuspair so a leigil ris dhuinn ciod e is ciall do'n t-seann-fhacal so ach cha'n fhaca is cha chuala mi fìor eachdraidh a' ghnòthuich air a h-innsedh ann an clò, agus o'ite am bu fhreagarraiche mion-chunntas a thoirt seachad air na anns a' mhiosachan agaibh fhéin, gu a fhoillseachadh na daoine, an t-am an t-àite agus an t-aobhar a bu mhathair-chùis do'n ghnòthuch.

Bha e riamh 'na chleachdadh fìor ghasda am measg ar daoine, deagh ullachadh a dheanamh a chum uireasbhuidhean nam bochd a leasachadh. Cha robh airgead na sgìreachd ann 's an am sin no smuaintinn air. Am measg nam cleachdaidhean a bha na sean daoine a' gnàthachadh bha aon ris an abradh iad "An Fhaoidh Nollaig." B'e so cleachdadh a thaining a suas troimh iomadh linn, agus is e bu chiall dha gu'n rachadh an òigridh air chuairt beagan roimh àm na Nollaige am measg an càirdean saoi-bhir anns a' choimhearsneachd a chum is gu'n faigheadh iad nithean leis am bitheadh e comasach do na h-uireasbhuidhich an Nollaig a chumail mar bu ghnàth leo. Bha nuinntir Ghleann Comhann riamh a' dluth leantuinn ris an chleachdadh chliùiteach so.

Anns a' bhliadhna 1543 agus air 21mh la deug de'n Dudlachd choinnich oched fìr dheug de ghillean dga a' Ghlinne aig Cnocan na Comhairle, àrdan beag bòidheach a tha air taobh deas de Innean a' Ghlinne, dìreach beagan astair mu'n ruig sibh Tigh an Rìgh. B'e so an t-ionad far am bu dual do sheanaircan a' bhaile a bhi a' cur an cinn r'a cheile an àm a bhi a' socrachadh chuisen cudthromach a bhiodh a' cur dragha, no smuairin orra. B'ann an so, matà, a' stiùir an òigridh an casan air maduinn an la ud, agus b'iad na daoine foghainnteach treun, diulnaich chalma a bha gu togarrach dian a' gabhail os laimh sean chleachdadh an sinsre a chumail suas. An deidh dhoibh gach cùis a chur air dòigh mar bu mhiann leo dh'aontaich iad tachairt air a chéile air feasgar an treasa latha, aig a' cheart àite.

Chaidh trì buidheannan a dheanamh de'n mhòr chuideachd agus bha slighe gach aoin dhiubh sin mar a leanas. Ghabh a' cheud chomhlán a nunn rathad a' Chorra Bheinn, a mach seachad air Salachail ann am Bealach Chrearan, tarsuinn an rithig gu Gleann Eite gus an do ràinig iad an ceann-uidhe aig Lairig Dochairt, agus ré an siubhail bha iad a' tadhal air an càirdean is an luchd èolais. Bha an da bhuidheann eile an cuideachd a chéile sìos seachad air Dail an Fhiodha, is e sin an sean ainm a bha air a chleachdadh o thùs do'n bhaile sin ris an abair iad an diugh Bail' a' Chaolais. Bha Bail' a' Chaolais riamh, gus an d' thàinig obair na creige, an rathad iaruirn agus am *Post Office* dìreach far am bu chòir dha bhi — aig an aiseag. Lean na seoid còmhla troimh an Apuinn, mu'n cuairt beul Loch Crearan, seachad air Coire Churalain, far am bheil an cladh air mullach a' mhonaidh, aite tiodhlacaidh Chloinn Aonghais agus Cloinn 'Ic Colla, gus an do ràinig iad an Eilìrig, sin agaibh, Fhir Deasachaidh, far an robh a dhachaidh aig Cailean Caimbeul Ghlinn Iubhair. Chan eil ach beagan bhliadhnachan o thog iad an sean ùrlar anns an robh e gu soilleir r'a fhaicinn far an do thuit an fhuil as an lot mharbhtach a fhuair esan anns an Litir Mhóir, comharradh a dh'fhag seul r'a innsedh anns an Apuinn bhòidheich re iomadh linn. B'ann an so a dhealaich na gillean. Chaidh aon bhuidheann sìos air taobh thall Loch Crearan, seachad air Druim a' Bhuie, Dail a' Chaolais gu Barr a' Chaltuinn. An fheadhainn eile lean iad orra a mach Sloc Ghlinn Iubhair gus an do ràinig iad an ceann-uidhe aig Èancha. Chi sibh mar so gu roth dùthaich fharsuinn aig gach buidheann ri thadhal, ach ma bha, sgios cha do chuir maille orra, oir bha iad le fuil bhras na h-òige gu luath-chasach aotram a' dìreadh nan aonaichean, is a streap suas gach bac is glac gu h-ìollagach aoibhneach an ceann an turais. Cha robh duine eadar luchd gabhail an rathaid, an càirdean is an luchd-èolais nach do chuir iad fo chis, agus air an rathad dhachaidh gu Ruige na Coinneimh bha iad, le poca gach fear loma làn, riarachtaiche le soirbheachadh na Faoidhe.

Mar a shocrach iad, choinnich iad uile a chéile air feasgar an treasa latha air rèidhlean an Ruige. Air do gach duine fiosrachadh a chairdean fhaotainn chuir iad an sin an cuid uile comhla a chum a roinn gu cothromach mu choinneamh gach buidhne, agus an deidh sin bha gach buidheann a' roinn an cuid fhéin air gach duine fa-leth. Theann iad, matà, ris an



obair oir cha robh an oidhche fad as. Bha iad a' faighinn air adhart gu ciatach, bha a' cheud roinn cha mhòr ullamh, agus cha robh mu dheireadh air fhàgail ach aon chul-càise, rud a mhiannaich iad uile. C'àite an robh e ri dol? Thubhairt fear gu robh e a' saoilinn gu'm bu chòir e bhà air a chur ri chuid-san, oir nach b'e aon dhiubh fhéin a fhuair e. Thubhairt an dara fear gu'm b'e cothrom na Feinne do gach duine, is gu'n d'fhuair iadsan gu fàlaidh pailt mar a bha agus gur a h-ann air fhéin is a dhaoine a bu chòir do'n chul-chàise tighinn. Bha an treasa fear anns a' bheachd gur h-esan a bu chòir fhaotainn, bha an sgrìob a thug a bhuidheann-san na b'fhaide na'n sgrìob a thug càch, agus mar sin is iad a thug a' mhòr chuid air ais leo. Lean facal-air an fhacal gus mu dheireadh an dubhairt a' cheud fhear gu'm faicheadh e an dithis eile fada gu leoir mu'n leigeadh e leo a chòir fhéin a thoirt bhuaithe. Thubhairt an dara fear gu'n robh esan cinnteach gu'm bitheadh ceartas aig a dhaoine no gu'm biodh fhios aige car-son. Thubhairt an treas fear nach leigeadh e le duine sam bith teagamh a chur anns a' chòir a bha a' tighinn orra. Dh'éirich mar so an aimhreit. O chaint thainig dùbhlán, agus is e a bha ann mu dheireadh gu'n do lean marbh bhuillean garbh bhriathran. Le spiorad an anaceartais 'gam buaireadh agus fearg 'gan clao nadh leum iad air a chéile le lamhachas-làidir, agus an sin, uidhe bheag bho'n ionad comhnuidh a bha aig Oisean còir anns na laithean a dh'aois an d'thug e dhuinn a sgeul air am o aois, bhuail iad air a chéile, gus mu dheireadh cha robh air fhàgail 'nan seasamh aon mhac màthar a b'urrainn gluasad a sùd a thoirt fios do'n càirdean ciod e a thachair dhoibh.

B' i so an oidhche air am bu chòir dhoibh a bhith dhachaidh, agus ciod e idir a bha 'gan cumail cho anamoch? Bha an càirdean fo mhòr iomaguin do'n taobh, cha robh an Fhaoidh riamh cho fada so gun tighinn dhachaidh, ach cha robh fuasgladh do'n cheist gu maduinn. Aig soillearachadh an latha thug cuid de mhuinntir a' Ghlinne an aghaidh ris an Ruighe, agus anns an astar ar leotha gu'm faca iad na gillea òga sinnte sìos mar gu'm bitheadh iad 'nan cadal. An uair a dhlùthaich iad orra chunnaic iad gu'n robh rud-eiginn fada cearr, ach ciod e idir air thalamh an tubaist a thainig orra, cha b'urrainn iad a thuigsinn. Air dhoibh an t-àite a ruigheadh chunnaic iad an sin an càirdean 'nan sìneadh fuar marbh gun phlog 'nan cré, ach aon fhear a mhaoin nach d'thug fhathast suas an deo. Bha an

t-alitan a bha sruthadh gu sèimh a sìos gu Lochan an Ruighe dearg le fuil, agus an lochan sin fhéin air a dhathadh mar gu'm biodh e 'na aona lub mòr fola. O'n latha sin gus an diugh tha e aithnichte fo'n ainm "Lochan na Fola." Thog iad an t-aona ghille bha beò gu cùramach faicealach is ghiulain iad e gu Tigh Achadh Triochadain agus bha e gu soillear r'a fhaicinn gu'n robh a thurus anns a' bheatha so a' tarruing gu crìch, a dh'aindeoin gach innleachd leighis a dh'fheuch iad gu a chreuchdan a shlànachadh. Air an rathad dh'innis e dhoibh ann an guth fann, claidhte gach ni a thachair, agus is ann mar sin a fhuaradh an eachdraidh so, agus eachdraidh a thug toiseach do'n t-sean-fhacal so "Bithidh tuillidh uime na bha mu'n chul-chàise."

Agus a nis Fhìr Dheasachaidh chòir, na bhitheas sibh-se no aon air bith de 'ur luchd-leughaidh uair sam bith ann an Gleann Comhann agus sibh ag iarraidh barrachd eolais mu'n ghnòthuch mhluladach so, gabhaibh mo chomhairle-sa is na abraibh, air bhur beatha, facal mu'n chùis so ri aon de fhìor chloinn Domhnuill a' ghlinne, oir ma their, tha eagal orm gu'm faic sibh gu'm bi 'Tuillidh uime na bha mu'n chul-chàise.'

—Is mise, Gu dileas,

"LOCHAN DUBH."

## THE GAEL AND MODERN REQUIREMENTS.

BY A DRUID.

### I.

There are certain requirements demanded by modern life. The present time makes a special claim on the brain, the heart, and general capacity of the citizen. How far is the Gael qualified to meet these demands? Are there any circumstances of temperament, mentality, or physical characteristics, which are a hindrance to him in the struggle of modern life? Are there any faults in his training, or any disadvantage in his environment which are a drawback to him in fulfilling the functions of an efficient citizen? These are questions, the answer to which depends on the point of view, and on personal sympathy. There is no need for speculation. You have the facts of life on the one hand. You have the actual living Gael on the other. Both are realities. There is no call to theorise. But there is room for the exercise of observation, and for drawing some rational conclusions on the

matter. In any case you will admit that the subject is a legitimate one for discussion.

Notwithstanding all that we have read about the Scottish Gael, I wonder if we have got the right idea of his real character. Are we absolutely satisfied with the picture drawn of him by a pen which has not been always too friendly? Most of us have derived a good deal of our mental pabulum from English literature. There is, of course, the general tendency to take many things on trust. The critical faculty is exercised only occasionally. People nowadays accept without hesitation the impression of the Gael which one meets in the average English book. It is natural enough that an English writer, however honest of purpose, should show signs of the ancestral view as to the real character of his northern neighbour. The unfortunate thing is that the Gael himself concurs in the traditional estimate merely because it is given with a certain amount of literary power. We would need to study the Gael at first hand, and not from a distorted picture. We should look at him in his habit as he lives, and not from such prejudiced accounts as may have been given of him by writers who were ignorant of his real nature.

The first essential therefore is a protest, and even a revolt, against extreme statements on the part of strangers to the detriment of the Gaelic race. The Lowland or English writers of fiction, who have treated of Highland subjects, have succeeded only very seldom, if ever, in depicting the Gael in his true colours. Among these I include Sir Walter Scott and R. L. Stevenson. In Scott I think the Gaelic characters are lopsided, having a twisted perspective. Only those qualities are emphasised which serve the interest of romance; let the rest look after itself. Because we are absorbed in the romantic glow of the picture we often overlook the inadequate treatment. If a figure is picturesque we do not enquire whether it is a genuine likeness. By unduly emphasising some particular feature of a character you produce a picturesque figure which serves an artistic purpose, and there the matter ends. The characterisation is always graphic, pictorial, arresting; but—is it true? Is it just to take one feature and leave the rest out? As for Stevenson, his best Highlander is only a plucky, pawky Lowlander, dressed in a kilt, and often placed in a tight corner! It is another matter when we come to Neil Munro. The faults he fixes on are the Gael's real faults, which can be duly overcome by self-know-

ledge on the part of the Gael, and by an honest endeavour to guard against them. Travellers to the North, whose minds were not free from prejudice, have given accounts which leave the reader with no great opinion of Gaels and their ways. From all these different impressions, in so far as they are not correct, you can never get any help to enable you to arrive at the truth. In fact, a fresh study of the whole subject is necessary. If you are to judge how the Gael ought to comport himself in face of modern demands, you need first a true conception of his mentality and character.

But the misrepresentation to which I have referred is no new thing. The Gael has ever been unfortunate when his picture has to be drawn by a stranger. The Revival of Learning in Europe can trace its early dawn to the intellectual vigour and enterprise of such men as Dun Scotus Erigenus, himself a Gael. And Dun Scotus only handed on the unbroken tradition of culture which he had inherited from other Gaels from Columbanus downwards. When the night of barbarism set over Europe, the faint ray of the light of knowledge continued to spread from Iona in the West. And when at last the treasures of classical learning were opened anew, it appeared that certain pictures of the earlier Celt had also been drawn by writers of the ancient world.

When we speak of the Scottish Gael, we naturally imagine that he possesses the characteristics which have been made familiar to modern readers of the classical allusions to the Celts in the Greek and Latin classics. An author like Cæsar or Tacitus may give a graphic picture of some Celtic tribe of his own day. As far as the appearance and habits of such a tribe are concerned, the description may be accurate enough. But it is another matter when a writer sets himself to portray the mental disposition and passions, the strong points, and particularly the weak points, in the character of a hostile tribe, of a tribe who may have *hated*, and that with good reason, the very name of Roman. One has the feeling that there is sometimes a touch of prejudice, even though unconscious, in the account which a writer gives of the character of an enemy. Did ever any Roman do justice to the magnanimous courage and self-sacrifice of that noble Celtic chief, Vercingetorix? Never! That itself might well make you pause and ask whether the descriptions which unfriendly classical writers have written of their Celtic enemies must always

be received as the marrow of truth and fairness. Some Roman authors affect a scorn for the pertinacity of the Celt. But turn from what Romans have *written* to some things that Romans have *done*. The Romans built a wall between the Forth and Clyde. There were forests in the North of Scotland then, but there were also resolute warriors, it seems. The wall was made in order to check the inroads of that very race whose organised persistence the Romans affected to despise. And when the wall could no longer withstand the attacks of those impulsive barbarians, the Roman was obliged to retreat further south and build another of the same from the Solway to the Tyne. A Roman writer may say that the Celt lacked pertinacity and determination. But to read aright the lesson of the Roman walls is a far more valuable bit of evidence than any written word as to the real opinion of the Roman regarding the pertinacity and doggedness of the Celt. In this undoubted instance it was not the Celt who gave in first, but the Roman; and if a general inference as to character were drawn from the instance, it is the Roman who should suffer by comparison.

Modern life has developed in so many directions that the requirements which it demands are numerous and exacting. You may divide the province of modern life under two main divisions, namely, the arts of peace, and the section which pertains to war. At a time when the idea of peace is being made familiar to mankind, it is not well to lay too great stress on war, or to idealise in the old way the glamour of arms, or the glory of the warrior. For the sake of a balanced treatment of our topic, however, it may be remarked that the Gael has not been found wanting on the military side of his character. An old writer, Porcius Cato, who observed the Celts, has left on record that he was chiefly impressed with *two things* in their character—their sense of polished speech and their aptitude for war. The observation is undoubtedly true, for these very characteristics may be observed in the Gael to this day. It is hardly necessary at the moment to dilate on the record of the Gael in war, his courage, his power of endurance and persistence, his fighting qualities; his sense of discipline in the ranks; his resourcefulness, astuteness, and imagination as a commander. Let us trust that the day may be far distant when those military qualities may require to be exercised in the field again. If the thought of peace could only

be constantly kept before the minds of civilized communities, the laws of the mind lead us to conclude that ultimately this thought of peace will sink deep into the sub-conscious mind of the people; and it is the content of the sub-conscious that suggests and influences conduct. When that much-wished-for time may arrive, it will be possible for the Gael to direct to the walks of peace those aptitudes for war which have distinguished him for many generations.

(To be continued)

### FORT WILLIAM MOD.

(4th, 5th, 6th and 7th October.)

#### A Second List of Accommodation for Mod Visitors.

##### FORT WILLIAM.

Argyll Hotel.—Accommodation for fifteen people. 8/6 (bed and breakfast) or 14/- per day.

##### INVERLOCHY.

(Inverloch Village is about 1½ miles from Fort William.)

- Mrs. Fraser, 17 Wade's Road.—Accommodation for five. 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. M'Donnell, 39 Abrach Road.—Accommodation for two. 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. Fraser, 4 Abrach Road.—Accommodation for four (one party, four ladies or four gentlemen). 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. M'Gornan, 6 Wade's Road.—Accommodation for two. 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. Black, 7 Wade's Road.—Accommodation for three ladies or three gentlemen. 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. Beaton, Park-an-dubh.—Accommodation for four (two beds). 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. M'Kenzie, 6 Montrose Avenue.—Accommodation for two. 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. M'Leod, 5 Park-an-dubh.—Accommodation for three. 7/- (bed and breakfast).  
 Mrs. MacLean, 10 Montrose Square.—Accommodation for three. 7/- (bed and breakfast).

### SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC

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NEWTONMORE

FROM

19th JULY till 12th AUGUST, 1932.

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on

TUESDAY, 19th JULY.

# **AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH** (SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Le K. W. G.

## IV.

Eadar Leòdhas agus tìr-mór tha 'n Skotlandsfjord no Cuan nan Orc, An Cuan Sgithe (the Minch) a' fàs na 's leathra, agus tha'n corsa a' toirt an cuimhe-dùine Lochlann air Iar; beanntan àrda, sgòrach, agus lochan caola; cha b'iongnadh ged a dh'fhaigh na sean Lochlannaich iad fhéin aig an tigh anns an ionad so. Mar an ceudna an so tha àireamh 's am bith ri fhaotainn de ainmean Lochlannach, d'an toir mi beagan an dol mu'n chorsa:— Talladale sgrìobhadh is sine Alydyll (Hyllidair = A'n Gleann-oireach, leis an "t" Ghàidhlig aig an toiseach); Shìeldaig (Sildvikr=bàgh no loch an sgadain; tha'n loch so dol a réir 'ainm gus an là-diugh); Udrigle (Yttri-Kollr=Am Monadh a mach); Gruinard (Grunn-fjordr = Caolas tana); Smiùthaig (Smuga-vikr = Camus na h-uaimh); Calasaig (Kali-skiki = Stiall fearainn (le) Cali); Sgoraig (Skor-vikr = Bàgh an Sgoltaidh); Loch Enard (Ey-fjordr=Loch-an-Eilean):—air a sgrìobhadh Eynort mar an ceudna; Assynt (bho "Asynt"=ri fhaicinn o astar fad'as, thatar an dùil, o'n àireamh mhór de mhullaichean àrda bheann a tha ri fhaicinn mu'n Chuan Sgithe); Astir, air a sgrìobhadh mar an ceudna Oldshore, sean sgrìobhadh Ash-lair, Aslar; air a chaochladh o Asleifar-vikr =Camus no Bàgh Ashleif, duine), air a chur sìos mar aon de phuirt far an robh cabhlach Rìgh Haakon a cleachdadh tadhal. Stoor Point (stór = mór); Scourie (anns a Bheurla) Sgòbhairigh (skogar-erg=Airigh na Coille); Laxford Laxa-fjördr = Loch a bhradain; Loch Inehard (Engis-ey=Eilean a Chluain); Sandwood Gàidhlig — Sheana-bhat (Sandvatn=Uise na Gainneamhich); tha mòran de na beanntan le ainmean Lochlannach; mar, Beinn Stack = a Chruach; Beinn Suilbheinn, Beinn Bhuidhe (Sula=Colbh); agus cruaichean eile.

Tha sinn a nis o chionn ùine a faicinn, dìreach ri tuath dhinn, creag àrd chorrach air a chorsa, a' seasamh a mach gu glan an aghaidh an speur, ach car gruamach ann am fiamh. Is i so Am Parbh (an Leòdhas, An Carbh), an rudha no ceanntige de dh'Albainn is fhaide ris an iar-thuath. Chan eil dad aig an ainm Bheurla, Cape Wrath, ri dheanamh ri feirg, is e so mearachd eile a rinn luchd-tarruing cairtean na dùthcha; tha'n t-ainm Gàidhlig, mar is

àbhaist, a leigeadh ris gun tàinig e o'n fhacal Lochlannach "Hvarf," "hvarfa" = tionndadh mu'n cuairt, tha'n dà fhacal glé choltach ri chèile. Thug na Lochlannaich an t-ainm so do'n t-sròn bhioraich, neònaich so, far am bheil cuan an iar a' ruith a stigh 'n a làn neart "Hvarfness" = a cuibhleadh mu'n cuairt oir, 'n an dol's 'nan tighinn 'nan luingeis gu am fearann "Iar-thar-sàile" b'fheadar dhaibh cuibhleadh mu'n cuairt an rudha so.

Tha Hvarfness air ainmeachadh ann an Sàga Haakon Haakonsson, an comh-cheangal ri a thurus gu Albainn, agus Duirnis no Diùranais, àite beagan na 's fhaide ris an iar, seachad air an do sheòl ar cabhlach.

Tha cùrsa an "Ronald" a dol dìreach ris an ear, air dhi ruidhleadh mu'n cuairt air a' Pharbh; tha'n corsa fathast cosmhuil ri Lochlann an iar, ach air dhuinn dol nas fhaide thun an ear tha'm fearann nas ìsle, tha na beanntan air dol a' sealladh a chlad-aidh agus tha machraichean is dromannan gorma a' tighinn a nuas gus an loch agus bailtean fearainn an sud 's an so. Mar a dh'fhaodadh fiuthair a bhi againn, tha mòran àit'-ainmean Lochlannach ri'm faotainn an so, oir bha'n Taobh-tuath gu h-ìomlan fo làimh nan Iarlan Lochlannach fad cheudan bliadhna. Bheir mi beagan de na h-ainmean 's an dol seachad:— Duirnis (Dyr-nes=Rudha nam fadh); Smoo (Smuga no smoga=An Uaimh); Cearbhaig (Karfavikr=Camus na bìrlinn); Sango Bay (Geodha na gainneamh); Eiriboll (Eyrar-bol = Bail'-a-chladaich); Crossaphuil (Krossa-bol=Baile na Croise); Keòdale (Kjøl-dalr = Gleann druim na luinge); Måsal, Mosswell (Mosi-völlr=Dail a chòinnich); Tongue (Tunga=Teanga); Hysbackie (Hells-bakki = Bruach comhnard); Drønside (Thrond-setr = Airigh Thrond, ainm duine); Loch Hacoin (Haakon); Beinn Laoghail (Laga-völlr = Dail an Lagha); Grimacharry (Grim's garth = Baile Ghrim); Thorrisdale (Thori-dalr = Gleann Thór); Lamigo (Lamb-gja=Geodha nan Uan); Kirtomy, Gàidhlig; Guersto-maidh (Kjos-holmr = Innis an Lagain); Bowsett (Boda-setti = Aite-coinneamh a Cheartais); Throndail (Thrond-dalr = Gleann Thrond); Fallside (Fjall-setr = Airigh a Mhonaidh); Halladale sgrìobhadh is sine Helgadall (Helga-dalr = Gleann Helgi); beagan an deigh so tha sinn a' dol seachad air a bhaile Inbhir-Thiorsa (Thjors-á=Ald an taibh); an Gallaibh; an toiseach b'ainm abhainn a bh'ann; tha 'n acarsaid a nis a dol fo'n ainm Serabster (Skára-bolstadr = Aite nam faoileag); ás am bi bàtaichean luchd-

turuais a' ruith thairis gus na h-Arcaibh. Leis gu'n robh Gallaidh cho fada fòidh uachdranachd Lochlainn tha cuid mhaith de àit-ainmean ann de'n toir mi beagan eisimpleir:—Langwell (Lang-völlr = Dailfhada); Sandside (Sand-setr = Baile-fearainn na gaineamhaich); Loch Watten (Vatn = Uisge); Searff-skerry (Skarf-skerr = Sgeir nan sgarbh); Halkirk no Hakirk (Há-kyrk = An t-Ard Eaglais); Lybster, no Libister (Hlid-bólstadr = Fearann an Leathaid); Wick = Inbhir-Uig (Vikr = Bàgh); Keiss (Keisa = a seasamh a mach); Ulbster (Ulli-bólstadr = fearann Ulli, ainm duine).

O'n àm an do thionndaidh an "*Ronald*" mu'n cuairt air a Pharbh bha sealladh againn air na h-Arcaibh o' ear; is e Hoy an t-eilean is dlùthe dhuinn do'n chròilean, leis a chomharra-mhara ainmeil Bodach Hoy, creag, àrd dhìreach, leatha fhéin, de dhealbh iongantach a tharruing ar n-aire o chionn ghreis agus air an robh sinn a faighinn sealladh na b'fheàrr air dhuim a bhi na bu dlùthe dhi. An déidh tighinn seachad air Dunnet Head, ceap àrd cas, an gob is fhaide tuath de thir-mór, tha sinn air tighinn a stigh do'n Chaol Areach, Caol an droch cliù (air a ghairm 's an Sàgo Petlanzfjördr = Caol nan Cruithneach), an caolas cumhann eadar na h-Arcaibh agus tìr-mór na h-Alba, far am bheil sruth a Chuain mhóir Iartaich agus a' Mhuir Thuathach a' coimneachadh a chéile, agus far am bheil an loch daonnan fo bhuairesas a chionn nan sruthan làidir a bhi a' sìor ruith troimh 'n Chaol. Gu fortanach bha'n làn leis an "*Ronald*." Mar sin cha b'éiginn duinn spàirn mhór 'sam bith a chleachdadh gu dol air adhart air ar slighe an aghaidh an làin anns an àite bu chuinge, far am bheil e duilich do shoitheach 'sam bith a rathad a dheanamh; feumaidh gu'n robh e air leth duilich do shoitichean siùil faighinn troimh an t-sruth gharbh. Tha Sàgo Rìgh Haakon Haakonsson a' toirt fianais da so; ann a chunnatas mu'n turas a' dol dachaidh bho Chluaidh tha e 'g innse:—"Ann an dol troimh 'n Chaol Areach dh'éirich cuartag uamhasach, anns an deachaidh long a Rytgja-fylke (àite an iar-dheas Lochlainn) fodha leis na bh'innnte. Bha Iain a' Hestly air fhuaich a dh'aindeoin troimh 'n Chaol agus theab e bhi air a shlugadh suas anns an t-slugan, ach tèid throair Dhé bha a shoitheach air a sguabadh a mach do'n mhuir an ear agus rinn e air Lochlann."

Tha'n "*Ronald*" a nis dlùth air na h-Arcaibh agus tha sealladh briagh againn orra. Bha na comhnardan gorma le bailte

fearainn an sud 's an so fo dheàrrs na gréine mun deach' i fodha cho coitach ri ar dachaidh, bha e mar bhlas roimh lùmh de Lochlann, agus cha b'iongantach sin oir bha na h-eileanan sin leis na h-eileanan Sealtanach glan Lochlannach fad cheudan bliadhna, le'n luchd-àiteachaidh glan Lochlannach, agus eadhoin aig an àm so féin cha'n abair iad gun Albannaich iad. 'S an dol seachad tha sinn a' faotainn plathadh de stiùbull ard Ard-eaglais Mhànais am Baile na h-Eaglais (Kirkwall, Kirkju-vagr = Camus na h-Eaglais), a chaidh a thogail 's an dara-linn-deug le Iarl Ròghnvald mar chuimhneachan air brathair a mhàthar, Iarl Mánus, ogha Iarl Thorfin, cheana air ainmeachadh; faodar a thoirt fainear an so gu'm bheil eaglais eile am Breatunn a th'air a coisrigeadh do Iarl Mhànus, 's i sin Eaglais Naomh Mhànais am martarach, am Billingsgate, an Lunainn.

Tha sinn a' faighinn sealladh mar an ceudna air Scapa Flow a tha cho ainmeil (Lochlannach; Skalp-eid = Tairheart a Bhàta); far an robh cabhlach rìghail Bhreatunn air a shuidheachadh am feadh a bha an Cogadh Mór a' dol air adhart. Ghabh iomadh cabhlach cogaidh fasgadh anns an acaersaid anabarraich so a nuas air feadh nan linntean a chaidh seachad; that fios againn gu'n do laidh a chuid a bu mhò de chabhlach Rìgh Haakon ann air a thurus dhachaidh. An déidh dol seachad air Duncansbayhead (Dungalsbaer, no Aros Dhonnachaidh aig na Lochlannaich), an gob is fhaide ris an ear-thuath de dh'Albainn (air ainmeachadh an déidh Iarl Donnachadh a phòs Groa, nighean Thorstein Ruaidh, a cheud fhear a thug buaidh air Gallaidh), tha'n "*Ronald*" a mach air an Fhairge Thuathaich agus a' deanamh air corsa iar-dheas Lochlann.

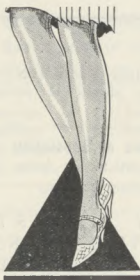
Tha a mhuir mar sgàthan, gun uibhir agus aon long an sealladh, agus an suidheachadh gu léir cho sìochail is gu'm bheil e duilich do'n inntinn a ghabhail a stigh ciod an iomairt gun stad a bh'air uachdar nan uisgeachan sin beagan bhliadhnachan roimh so, an uair a b'i a' mhuir so teis-meadhoin na malairt le bàtaichean a' ruith gun tàmh air ais 's air aghaidh eadar na dùthchanna tuathach am feadh a bha'n Cogadh Mór a' dol air adhart; bha e uile mar bhruadar.

An ath latha, an déidh mheadhon latha bha corsa Lochlann an seallaidh agus anns an fheasgar bha caogadh càrdeil nan tighean soluis 'g ar cuireadh le fàilte dhachaidh; an toiseach Lister, an sin An t-Sròn, Ryvingen, agus fir-faire aonranach eile an sud 's an so air corsa garbh Lochlann. (Ri Leantainn.)



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## LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 1932.

### GAELIC—LOWER GRADE.

Tuesday, 22nd March—10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

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

N.B.—Begin each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a reasonable space between the lines. Marks will be deducted for bad writing and spelling.

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

Chan 'eil aon duine 's a' bhaile againne cho acfhuinneach dealasach ri mo nàbuidh bun na h-ursainn, Calum Shebrais. Ged a shiubhladh sibh na seachd siorramachdan chan fhaigheadh sibh duine cho làmhchar ris. Nì e saoirsneachd is nì e clachaireachd, is nì e goibhneachd, ged nach d' ionnsaich e na cèar-dean sin riamh na 's motha na rinn mise. Phaiperich e gach seòmar beag is mòr an tigh Chaluim Ruaidh, agus chuir e stigh dà òsan an inneig na bùtha aige. Bha uaireadair Màiri Mhurchaidh 'na stad airson còrr agus leth bhliadhna, agus i feitheamh gus an tigeadh Jackson mòr, an t-Iudhach, timchioll; ach thachair do Chalum Shebrais a dhòl air chéilidh air Màiri aon oidheche, agus thòisich i air gearan air cion na h-uarach. Thug Calum leis an t-uaireadair aice: thug e gach cuibhle is snìomhaire a bha 'na bhroinn às, agus ghlan e iad uile, agus chuir e gach cuibhle agus tarag an eagaibh a chéile, agus tha uaireadair Màiri Mhurchaidh a nise dol a cheart cho shiubhlach ri uaireadair mòr Tigh na Parla-maid an Lunnainn.

J. N. MACLEOD. (20)

2. Translate into English:—

Tha an cuan dhomhsa mar fhear-eòlais Tighinn am chòmhdhail air an tràigh, Fìamh a ghàire air aodann preasach, 'S a thuinn bheaga ag cur orm fàilt'. 'S tric 's na laithean a chaidh seachad Bheachdaich mi air cruth nan stuadh, Tighinn chum teachdaireachd na mara Llobhairt air a' chladach chruaidh. A bhi beachdachadh orr' daonnan, Le 'n ceòl caochlaideach am chluais, Dh'fhàg air m' inntinn samhladh mòrachd. Nach dèan briathra beoil a luaidh. Is ged bha an teachdaireachd do-leughadh, Gheuraich i, ar leam, mo snuain, Gu bhi rannsachadh na duibhre Tha 'g ar cuibhreacadh mun cuairt.

DONALD MACKECHNIE. (20)

3. Translate into idiomatic Gaelic:—

Wednesday, 27th October.

When I went into Dr. Johnson's room this morning, I observed to him how wonderfully courteous he had been at Inveraray, and said, "You were quite a fine gentleman, when with the duchess." He answered, in good humour, "Sir, I look upon myself as a very polite man"; and he was right, in a proper manly sense of the word. As an immediate proof of it, let me observe, that he would not send back the Duke of Argyle's horse without a letter of thanks, which I copied.

BOSWELL. (20)

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

A Lewis crofter appears before the Land Court seeking a reduction of rent. Chairman questions him through an interpreter—crofter states his present rent, arable ground, stock, and hill pasture. Chairman replies he thinks present rent reasonable in view of size of croft and stock carried. Crofter quietly suggests his stock is very poor and lean. Chairman curtly asks how lean—crofter asserts his cattle are as lean as the kine of Egypt. Chairman still more curtly asks how lean these were—crofter remarks there was good authority that they were so lean they could only be seen in a dream. (20)

(Complete the story in your own way.)

### GAELIC—HIGHER GRADE (First Paper).

Tuesday, 22nd March—10 a.m. to 12 noon.

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

N.B.—Begin each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a reasonable space between the lines. Marks will be deducted for bad writing.

1. Translate into idiomatic English:—

Là is Bliadhna leis na h-Eoin.

"A Chlacharain nì sinn dùdaire dhìot," ars' an Dreathan; "cluinnem, a ghràidheim, mar a dh'iarraas tu air an Iolair tighinn." "Iarraidh mi oirre mar so—

"Air feasgar àluinn earraich bha a' ghrian a' cromadh thun an àird-an-iar, agus bha a' glealach is na reultan a' dol 'nan culaidh-



oidheche lasraich sheudagaich, chum an dleasdanaidh àbhaistich a dhèanamh ann am gorm-bhrat nan speur. Bha na h-uillt bhòidheach bhinne crònanaich thun an tràigh, agus bha calltuinn an fhàile chùbhraidh a' toirt phòg dhaibh 'san dòl seachad. Bha ceò nam beann air an leitir ud thall a' sgaoileadh, le làmhnan min-ghéal, sròil-shithe de sheachda-bruadair air tulaich nan sliabh; agus bha eoin bhuchallach, bhachallach nan geug, mar ris an neoinein dhìblidh is mar ris an t-sobhralch fhinealta, air an lìonadh le gairdeachas mòr fa chomhair àilleachd an t-saoghail ta ann

Ach O! astraiche nan speur, eadhon mar thaomas beum-sléibhe o na sgàirnichean gruamach ard, no mar bheucas a' bheithir 'nuair théid teine agus uisge gu strì, eadhon mar sin thàinig t'fhios thun an ealtainn, gu robh thusa tighinn le làmhachas làidir nan daoibh, a thoirt uainne ar fonn, ar fearann is ar fàsach fein."

K. MACLEOD. (25)

## 2. Translate into English:—

Fìor mhasgull chionn pàidhidh,  
No stad gealtach le gàbhadh,  
Bhrìgh mo bheachd-s' ann an dànaibh  
'S mì nach dèanadh 's nach d'rinn;  
Ach nam biodh comain no stà dhuit  
Ann a t'alladh chur os àird dhuit,  
Cò na mis' do'm bu chàra,  
'S cò a b'fhearr na thu thoill!  
A' bhuidhean mholtach-s' a dh'fhàg sinn,  
Ged nach urr iad a chlàistinn,  
Is còir bhi 'g aithris am pàirtean  
Gun fhàbhar 's gun fhoill;  
Oir 's buaine a' chuimhne bheir bàrda  
Air deagh bhuadhannaibh nàduir,  
Na an stoc cruinn sin a dh'fhàg iad,  
Is còmhstri chàirdean 'g a roinn.

Bha do ghibhtean-sa làidir,  
Air am measgadh le gràsaibh,  
Anns a' phearsa bha àluinn,  
Lom-làn de na chèill;  
An tuigs' bu luchdmhoir' gu gleidheadh,  
An toil a b' éasgaidh' gu maitheadh,  
'S a h-uile aigheadh cho fathail

Fad do bheatha gu léir.  
Bhiodh do chomhairle an còmhnuidh,  
Le do chobhair 's do chòmhnadh,  
Do luchd gabhail na còrach,  
Réir 's mar sheòladh tu féin;  
Dhèanadh tu an t-aindeonach deònach,  
Is an t-aineolach eòlach,  
'S b'e fìor shonas do bheòshlaint  
Bhi toirt a chèrr dhòibh de léirs'.

ROB DONN. (30)

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

Is ann sin do chuir Donnchadh mac Briain trian an t-sluaigh do choimhead a n-othar<sup>(1)</sup> agus an dà dtrian oile do fhreastal an chatha. O do chualadar na hothair sin, do éirgheadar go hobann, ionnas gur briseadh ar a geréachtaibh agus gur lìonsad do chaonnach iad, is do ghabhsad a sleagha is a geloidhmhe, is tângadar i mease cháich amhlaidh sin; agus adubhradar ré mac Briain daoine do chur fá choill is cuailleadha láidre do thabhairt leo agus a sáthadh san talmhain; "agus ceangailtear sinn ris na cuailleadhaibh sin," ar siad, "agus tughtar ar n-airm i n-àir lánhaibh is cuirtear ar mic is ar mbràithre mar aon rinn .i. dis d'fhearaibh slána timcheall an fhir ghonta againn. Oir ní léigte an náire don fhior shlán gluasacht nó go<sup>(2)</sup> ngluaise an fear gonta ceangailte againn." Do rónadh amhlaidh leo, agus ba hiongantais romhór an t-ordughadh sin do chuireadar Dál gCais orra féin.

GEOFFREY KEATING. (20)

<sup>(1)</sup> othar, fear tinn no gointe.

<sup>(2)</sup> nó go, gus an.

## GAELIC—HIGHER GRADE (Second Paper).

Tuesday, 22nd March—2.15 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.

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

N.B.—Begin each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a reasonable space between the lines. Marks will be deducted for bad writing and spelling.

### Section I.

All the questions in this Section should be attempted.

#### 1. Write an essay, in Gaelic, on one of the following subjects:—

- (a) An Geamhradh anns a' Ghàidheal-tachd.
- (b) Is math an sgàthan sùil caraid. (30)

#### 2. Turn into idiomatic Gaelic:—

- (a) Had I done what you did, I should have been ashamed of myself.
- (b) My father, who was a carpenter, used to work always in his shirt-sleeves.
- (c) Misfortune take the man who first invented tight coats!
- (d) Everyone, both old and young, rich and poor, ought to help their country so far as they can. (10)

3. Translate carefully into English:—

- (a) Dubhan lom dhomhsa mur e an fhlirinn ghlan a th' agam!
- (b) Air t'athais a nis, a Mhurchaidh; is math gheibhear thu. Leig t'anail.
- (c) An uair thèid thu gu buillean, Is do nàimhdean a dh'fhuireach, Gu cinnteach bidh fuil air am bian.
- (d) Cha b'e fuath mhie a' mhàil Fear do ghnàth no do choltais. (10)

Section II.

THREE questions should be attempted from this Section. The answers may be either in Gaelic or in English, except when otherwise indicated.

4. Give *three* examples of Clan slogans and explain briefly their significance. (5)
5. Locate and give modern English equivalents for any *five* of the following:—  
Innse Gall, A' Chomraich, Hiort, Dùn Chailleann, Cataibh, Airer Gàidhel, Ail Cluade. (5)
6. Explain any *five* of the following terms: dòirlinn, eilean tioram, teammunn, eileirig, Gall, deiseil, calanas. (5)
7. Suggest suitable Gaelic equivalents for: bachelor, pier, fence, matchbox, carpet, driver, cigarette, fountain-pen. (5)
8. Name at least one famous Gaelic poet connected with each of the following districts: Sutherland, West Ross, North Uist, Skye, Lochaber, North Argyle, South Argyle. (5)

Gaelic—HIGHER GRADE (Second Paper).

Tuesday, 22nd March—1.30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

This paper must not be seen by any Candidate.

To be read out by the Teacher at 1.30 p.m. in the presence of the Supervising Officer.

To be written by the Candidates on the separate sheets provided, which must be collected before the Second Gaelic Paper is distributed.

DIRECTIONS FOR TEACHER.

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

DICTIONARY.

Bha I Chaluim-chille fuar fàs, | gun tùis gun chlag, | is cha robh cladaich an Innse-gall | air nach faicte falaig | an ciaradh na h-oidheche, | is cha b'fhalaig fhraoich no ashbuain, | ach falaig cheall is theach. | Bha na manaich 'nam fògraich | thall 's a bhos; | cuid dhiubh, mar neochléirich, | 'gan cosnadh fhéin | aig na coimhich ré an latha, | is ag èaladh mu mheadhon-oidheche | go fròig beinne | no gu uaimh cladaich | a dhèanamh na h-Aifrinn | is a dhaingeachadh nan creidmheach; | cuid eile dhiubh air Tìr-mór, | a' searmonachadh an t-Soisgeil | far nach cualas, | is a' togail cheall | far nach fhacas. | Is uair no uair-eigin | cha robh manach 'nam measg | nach abradh ris fhéin | am beul na h-oidheche; | "Am màireach, | mus blais an t-eun an t-uisge, | togaidh mi orm, | is a dheoin Dia | ruigidh mi Dùn Chailleann | mus till mi."

K. MACLEOD. (10)

BOOK REVIEW.

**The Life of Flora Macdonald.** By Alexander Macgregor, M.A. With an appendix giving descendants of the famous heroine, by Alexander Mackenzie, F.S.A.(Scot.) Published by Eneas Mackay, Stirling. 249 pp. Price, 3/6.

The heroic episode of the Forty-five may fitly be compared to a living spring whose waters never fail. The Forty-five is an enduring fountain of song and story, of drama and romance. The brave men who followed the Prince are the examples of enterprise and ardour; but the ideal of female courage and devotion is embodied in Flora Macdonald. The present volume is the fifth edition of the "Life of Flora Macdonald" which was written by the late Rev. Alex. Macgregor, minister of the West Church, Inverness. The author was a fine Gaelic scholar, and a good writer of English. Macgregor was born as far back as 1806, so that he had an opportunity of gathering information from people who actually knew the heroine. The great value of Macgregor's biography lies in the fact that it is based on first-hand information gained by him from Flora Macdonald's daughter, Anne, who married Major-General Alexander Macleod, who died at Stein in Skye, in 1834. There is also an additional chapter which is of a most interesting character. It is on Flora Macdonald in Uist, and was written by William Jolly, F.R.S.E. It is a study of the heroine in her native surroundings. It is not necessary here to recapitulate the narrative. Suffice it to say that the story is excellently told, with several incidents which are not to be found in the works of authors who had not Macgregor's opportunities of doing full justice to his theme. All Gaels should be familiar with the story of our heroine; and nowhere could they find a better account than in this book. Few Highland books reach a fifth edition as this has now done. Printing and paper are superior, and there are six good illustrations.

## ISLAY PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Islay Mod was held at Bowmore, on Friday, 10th June. The adjudicators were Mr. A. C. MacLaren, Mr. Neil MacLean, Mr. Neil Orr, and Rev. Dr. Kenneth MacLeod, Gigha. The results were:—

Bagpipes—1, Neil MacLean, Blackrock; 2, Calum Campbell, Bowmore; 3, A. Woodrow, Cruach.

## JUNIOR SECTION.

Recitation—1, Neil MacGill, Gartloch.

Solo (Girls)—1, Mary Ferguson, Portnahaven.

Solo (Boys)—1, Finlay MacIntyre, Portnahaven.

Choral Singing (Two-Part Harmony)—1, Portnahaven; 2, Bowmore; 3, Ardbeg.

Unison Singing—1, Portnahaven; 2, Bowmore; 3, Newton.

Pianoforte—1, Betty Weir, Finlaggan.

## SENIOR SECTION.

Reading—1, John Carmichael, Port Charlotte; 2, Betty MacGilvray, Port Ellen; 3, Peter Gillies, Bowmore.

Recitation—1, Patricia Cameron, Bowmore; 2, Malcolm Dunne, Bowmore.

Original Poetry—1, John Carmichael; 2, C. MacNiven, Rockside.

Sgeulachd—1, D. MacNiven, Rockside; 2, Calum MacIntyre, Colonsay.

Unpublished Local Story for Celtic Society—1, John Forrest, Bowmore; 2, John MacNicol, Conesby.

Solo (Ladies)—1, Patricia Cameron; 2, Isabella Johnson, Ardbeg; 3, Mary Johnson, Ardbeg.

Solo (Men)—1, Gilbert MacPhail, Ballygrant; 2, R. W. MacArthur, Port Charlotte; 3, John Carmichael, Port Charlotte.

Song by Duncan Ban MacIntyre—1, Neil MacNaughton, Cruach; 2, Gilbert MacPhail; 3, Calum MacIntyre.

Canntaireachd—1, Hugh Duncan, Bridgend; 2, Calum MacIntyre.

Duet—1, P. Cameron and M. MacFarlane, Bowmore; 2, K. MacEachern and Mrs Carmichael, Port Ellen.

Quartette—1, Port Ellen No. 1 Q.; 2, Imperial Q., Bowmore; 3, Gillies Q., Bowmore.

Male Trio—1, Cruach Trio, Bowmore; 2, Gillies Trio, Bowmore.

Chanting Gaelic Psalm—1, Calum MacIntyre; 2, John Carmichael.

Choral Singing (Four-Part Harmony)—1, Port Ellen; 2, Bowmore; 3, Keills.

Ladies' Chairs—1, Port Ellen; 2, Bowmore; 3, Keills.

◆

## LORN, MULL, AND MORVERN PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Lorn, Mull, and Morvern Provincial Mod was held at Oban on 10th June. There was a large entry in each class, and the proceedings were attended by large and enthusiastic audiences.

The Gaelic adjudicators included Rev. A. E. Anderson, Dalmally; Rev. Alex. MacDonald, Ardehatten; Mr. Neil Shaw, Glasgow; Mr. P. Fletcher, Oban; Miss Nellie Cameron, Oban; Rev. John MacPherson, Taynuilt; Miss M. D. MacQueen, Oban; Rev. W. MacPhail, Ardrishaig, and Mr. John MacDonald, Oban. The music adjudicators were Mr. Hugh Hunter, Mus. Bac., Innellan, and Mr. Malcolm G. MacCallum, A.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., Greenock.

The following is the prize-list:—

## JUNIOR SECTION.

## LITERATURE.

Short Composition in Gaelic (subject chosen by Competitor)—1, Peggy Lowe, Oban High School; 2, Angus MacTavish, Tobermory H.G. School; 3, Effie Campbell, Oban High School; 4, Joan Campbell, Tobermory H.G. School.

Translation of Gaelic Prose into English and English Prose into Gaelic—1, Angus MacTavish; 2, Peggy Lowe; 3, Sadie Kennedy, Oban High School; 4, Duncan Cameron, Oban High School.

## ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading with Expression a Piece of Poetry—1, Isobel Stewart, Oban High School; 2, Sadie Kennedy, Oban High School; 3, Peter MacKay, Luining Public School.

Reading a Piece of Prose—1, Joan Kennedy, Tobermory H.G. School; 2, Iona MacPhail, Oban School; 3, Ena MacCormick, Oban School.

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose—1, Peggy Lowe; 2, Sadie Kennedy; 3, Joan Campbell.

Reciting from Memory, "Maduinn Shamhraidh"—1, Sadie Kennedy; 2, Isobel Stewart; 3, Peggy Lowe.

Reciting from Memory a Short Gaelic Story—1, Sadie Kennedy; 2, Peggy Lowe; 3, Wm. Robertson, Tobermory H.G. School; 4, Ian Brown, Oban High School.

## VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing (Girls' Songs of Own Choosing)—1, Liza MacPhail, North Luining Public School; 2, Joyce MacDougall, Oban High School; 3, Rachel MacDougall, Oban High School.

Solo Singing (Boys)—1, Tom Black, Shian, Appin; 2, Colin MacInnes, Luining Public School; 3, Hugh MacIntyre, Oban High School.

Solo Singing (Boys and Girls)—Songs prescribed, "Gur trom trom a ta mi" (Oraim a' Mhoid 1x) and "Mo Roghainn's mo rùn"—1, Mary MacNeill, Salen Public School; 2, Margaret MacQueen, Easdale; 3, Arthur MacInnes, Luining Public School.

Solo Singing for Boys and Girls (12 years of age and under)—1, Margaret K. S. MacQueen, Easdale; 2, Peter MacKay; 3 (equal), Dolly Paterson and Arthur MacInnes, North Luining Public School.

Duet Singing—1 (equal), Agnes Chisholm and Margaret MacDougall, Oban High School, and Margaret Black and Joyce MacDougall, Oban High School.

Choral Singing in Two-Part Harmony: Songs prescribed, "Crònan" (Coisir na Cloinne) and "Tìr nam beann ard" (Coisir na Cloinne)—1, Luining Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Oban High School Junior Choir.

Unison Singing: Songs prescribed, "Iorram Cuain" (Coisir na Cloinne) and "Puir a beul" (1932 Mod)—1, Oban High School Junior Choir; 2, Luig Junior Choir.

# SENIOR SECTION.

## ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose chosen by the Judges—1, John Campbell, Easdale; 2, Mary MacKechnie, Oban High School; 3, Jessie MacLean, Oban High School.

Recitation of "An t-eun sibhail"—1, Jeanie Campbell, Oban High School; 2, John Campbell; 3, Alex. Kennedy, Barcaldine.

## VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing of Song chosen by Competitor (Female Voices)—1, Miss J. A. R. MacKay, Taynuilt; 2, Miss Susan Brown, Luig; 3, Miss Eua A. MacCowan, Luig.

Solo Singing (Male Voices)—1, D. S. Kennedy, Ballachulish; 2 (equal), Donald Dunn, Oban High School, and Duncan MacInnes, Fasnacloich.

Solo Singing (Male or Female Voices)—1, Miss Susan Brown, Luig; 2, Mrs. MacDougall, Benderloch; 3 (equal), Hugh Lamont, Bunessan, and Angus MacDonell, Ballachulish.

Duet Singing—1, Duncan MacPherson and Donald Ritchie, Bunessan; 2, Miss MacKinnon and Mrs. MacDougall, Benderloch; 3, Paul MacColl and Angus MacDonell, Ballachulish.

Choral Singing in Harmony: Songs prescribed, "Mo shàil ad dhèidh" and "Si luaidh mo chagair Mòrag" (Coisir a' Mhoid I.)—1, Easdale Gaelic Choir (conductor, Mr. A. Dewar); 2, Appin Gaelic Choir (conductor, Mr. MacLean); 3, Taynuilt Gaelic Choir (conductor, Mr. MacLean).

Choral Singing in Harmony of Prescribed Songs, "Màil Bheag Og" and "Hugaibh air nighean donn nam meall shùil" (Coisir a' Mhoid I.). Winning Choir have retention for one year of the Lorn, Mull, and Morvern Provincial Mod Trophy, presented by Mr. D. MacDougall, Dungorm, Oban—1, Easdale Gaelic Choir; 2 and 3 (equal), Taynuilt Gaelic Choir and Benderloch Choir (conducted by Miss Irene MacCowan).

Sir Alexander MacDonald of the Isles, who was accompanied by Lady MacDonald, presided over the concert in the evening, and delivered a stirring address.

# MID ARGYLL PROVINCIAL MOD.

The annual Mod for the Mid Argyll district was held in the Drill Hall, Lochgilphead, on 14th and 15th June. The proceedings attracted a crowded attendance on each day. The adjudicators were:—Mr. H. M. MacDougall, Glasgow; Mr. Neil Shaw, Glasgow; Rev. Dr. A. MacKinnon, Kilmonivaig; Mr. D. T. Yacamin, Perth; and Pipe-Major Macdonald, Glasgow. Celtic Art, Dr. Colin Sinclair.

The principal prize-winners were:—

## JUNIOR SECTION.

Letter Writing—1, John Grant, Lochgilphead; 2, Lydia Wilkinson, Lochgilphead.

Dictation—1, Archie MacIntyre, Lochgilphead; 2, Roderick MacLeod, Lochgilphead.

Translation into English—1, Chrissie M'Lullich, Tayvallich; 2, Archie MacIntyre, Lochgilphead.

Translation into Gaelic—1, John Grant, Lochgilphead; 2, Roderick MacLeod, Lochgilphead.

Collection of Wild Flowers—1, Cathie Martin, Lochgilphead; 2, Nan Campbell, Ormsary.

Oral Delivery (under 14)—Read Poetry—1, Alasdair MacLachlan, Tayvallich; 2, Donald MacDonald, Lochgilphead. Reading Prose—1, Alasdair MacLachlan; 2, Donald MacDonald.

Reading Unfamiliar Prose (under 16)—1, Roderick MacLeod; 2, Mary Lindsay; 3, Archie MacIntyre, Lochgilphead.

Reciting Poetry from Memory—1, Alasdair MacLachlan; 2, Willie Stewart, Inveraray.

Acted Dialogue—1, Willie Stewart and Hughie Stewart, Inveraray.

Vocal Music (under 16)—Solo Singing, Girls—1, Jessie Y. R. Cameron, Kilmichael; 2, Nellie M'Lullich, Lochgilphead.

Solo Singing, Boys—1, Willie Stewart, Inveraray; 2, Donald MacLellan, Lochgilphead. Boys and Girls—1, Peter Burgess, Tayvallich; 2, Lydia Wilkinson, Lochgilphead.

Solo Singing (Boys and Girls under 12)—1, Alasdair MacLachlan; 2, Nellie M'Lullich.

Puir a' Beul (Boys and Girls under 16)—1, Archie Campbell, Kilmichael; 2, Jessie Y. R. Cameron.

Duet Singing—1, Willie and Hugh Stewart.

Choral Singing (Harmony)—1, Tayvallich Choir; 2, Ormsary Choir; 3, Lochgilphead Choir.

Choral Unison Singing—1, Ormsary; 2, Tayvallich; 3, Lochgilphead.

March on Bagpipes (under 16)—1, Ian Ferguson, Kilmichael; 2, Owen Revie, Lochgilphead.

Strathspeys and Reel—1, Angus Greenshields, Lochgilphead; 2, Ian Ferguson.

March (under 14)—1, Donald Macalpine, Lochgilphead; 2, David Macallister, Ardrishaig.

March on Chanter (under 16)—1, Duncan Campbell, Lochgilphead; 2, Donald MacLachlan, Lochgilphead.

Pianoforte Playing (Juniors)—1, Catherine MacPherson, Cairnban; 2, Constance Campbell, Furnace.

Pianoforte (Seniors)—1, Miss A. Downie, Lochgilphead; 2, Miss Nan Scott, Lochgilphead.

Dancing Highland Fling—1, Susan Law, Cairnban; 2, Margaret Cameron, Cairnban.

Sword Dance—1, Susan Law.

Reel of Four—1, Mollie MacLellan, Lochgilphead; 2, Susan Law.

Highland Fling (former first prize-winners)—1, Robert MacIntyre, Lochgilphead; 2, Billie Greenshields, Lochgilphead.

## SENIOR SECTION.

Gaelic Letter Writing—1, Dugald Campbell, Ormsary.

List of Place Names in Gaelic—1, Dugald Campbell; 2, C. R. S. Malcolm, Lochgilphead.

- Original Essay—1, Dugald Campbell.  
 Translation—1, Colin Campbell, Ormsary.  
 Oral Delivery—Reading Unfamiliar Prose—1, Archie Macdonald, Lochgilthead; 2, Miss M'Lulich, Kilmartin.  
 Recitation of Poetry—1, Mrs. D. Stewart, Inveraray; 2, Miss M'Lulich.  
 Sgeulachd—1, Archie Macdonald; 2, Miss M'Lulich.  
 Dialogue—1, Miss M. Robertson and D. Campbell, Ormsary; 2, Mrs. D. Stewart and Miss I. Urquhart, Inveraray.  
 Solo Singing (Female)—1, M. Macallister, Lochgilthead; 2, Ina Urquhart, Inveraray.  
 Solo Singing (Male)—1, D. Martiu, Lochgilthead; 2, D. Macdougall, Tarbert.  
 Solo Singing (Male and Female)—1, Miss S. Macallister, Lochgilthead; 2, Miss M. Macallister, Lochgilthead.  
 Puirt à Beul (Male and Female)—1, Mr. D. Macallister, Lochgilthead.  
 Cran Mor (Male and Female)—1, Miss M. Macallister; 2, D. Macallister.  
 Duets—1, Miss S. Macallister and A. Barraskill, Lochgilthead.  
 Trios—1, Tarbert Trio Party.  
 Quartettes—1, Tarbert Quartette Party.  
 Choirs in Harmony—1 and cup, Tarbert; 2, Lochgilthead; 3, Kilmartin.  
 Choirs in Unison—1, Lochgilthead; 2, Tarbert and Kilmartin (equal); 3, A. and B. Mental Hospital Choir.  
 Celtic Air Cushion Cover Design—1, Miss C. Ferguson, Kilmichael, Glassary; 2, Mr. C. R. S. Malcolm, Lochgilthead.  
 The Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow, presided over the Junior concert on Tuesday evening, while Lady Elspeth Campbell performed a similar compliment at the Senior concert on Wednesday evening.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**ARDENDREAN AND LECKMELM.**—The Gaelic Classes so ably conducted at Ardendreen and Leckmelm, Lochbroom, during the past winter by the Rev. Duncan MacArthur, The Manse of Lochbroom, have just terminated for the season, and all interested are most grateful to Mr. MacArthur for the very valuable services he has rendered the Gaelic movement in this way in the past few months. The classes, which have been held once a week at each place, have been well attended by native speakers and learners, and much progress has been made, some parents and elderly people desirous of gaining a better knowledge of the language even attending and profiting considerably as a result. It is hoped that Mr. MacArthur, than whom few are better qualified for the task and whose services, given gratis, are much appreciated in these parts, will continue the good work in the future.

**BALNAIN.**—An enjoyable and most successful concert was held in Balnain School under the auspices of the local branch, over which Mrs. Tinker of Kilmartin presided. A most enjoyable and lengthy programme consisted of solo and concerted vocal items, with instrumental selections and exhibition dances at

intervals. The hall was packed to capacity and several intending patrons were unable to gain admission.

**LISMORE.**—A business meeting of the members of the local branch of "An Comunn Gaidhealach" was held in the Public Hall on Friday evening, 20th May. The Rev. Dugald Bell, B.D., The Manse, the local President, presided, and there was a fair attendance of members. The same President and Vice-President were re-elected for another term, also a Managing Committee consisting of ten members was elected. Miss Annie B. Macquodale, the newly-appointed teacher of Balgrundle Public School, was appointed local secretary and treasurer of An Comunn, as successor to Miss Jean R. Colthart, M.A., teacher, who left the district on account of her marriage to the Rev. Alexander Berrie, Broompark Church, Denny. Various items of business were transacted.

**TONGUE.**—A grand concert organised by Mr. Walter W. M. Ross, singing teacher, in aid of An Comunn funds, was held in the Public Hall. The Rev. Alex. Macrae, The Manse, Strathgongue, presided over a large and appreciative audience. During the interval in the programme Mr. Ross was presented with a handsome pocket book. A dance followed.

## SUMMER SCHOOL.

Arrangements for the Summer School at Newtonmore are now complete, and students are assured of a real Highland welcome to a district rich in historic incident, tradition, romance, and natural beauty. It would facilitate matters if all who intend to be present, and who have not yet made their arrangements, would do so immediately. Mr. Charles MacDonald, Dunruadh, Newtonmore, will be very pleased to render any assistance possible.

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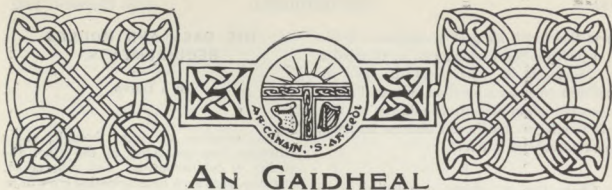
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TELEGRAMS.—*Runaire, Glasgow.*

TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXVII.]

*An Lùnasdal, 1932.*

[Earrann 11

### NA MEANGLAIN IS AM MOD.

Tha an ùine a' ruith gu luath; agus chan fhada gus am bi muinntir a' cruinneachadh gu na coinneamh mhóir bhiadhnail an Gearasdan Lochabar. O thàinig cuimhne is aithne dhuinn a tha beo anns a' ghinealach so cha robh cùisean cho cruaidh 's a tha iad aig an am. Chan eil feum a bhi a' cur sìos misnich le meòrachadh air cor an t-saoghail. Ach a chionn gu bheil am Mòd air thoiseach oirnn, agus gu bheil ceist na cosguis fuaighte ris, bithidh e cho maith facal a chur an so mu thimchioll na cùise.

\* \* \*

Is airidh muinntir a' Ghearasdain air fìor mholadh airson an deagh rùn ann a bhi toileach an t-uallach trom so a ghabhail air an guilleann, eadhon am Mòd leis gach saothair is iomaguin a thig 'n a chois. Ciod e an rian air an fhearr is urrainn do na meanglain feadh na dùthcha an rùn agus a' mhisneach aig muinntir a' Ghearasdain a mholadh? Is e so an rian. Deanadh gach meanglan oidheirp gus an Gearasdan a chuideachadh. Faodar a ràdh an so nach do dh'iarr sgioba Lochabar oirnn so a sgrìobhadh. Tha sinn a sgrìobhadh na h-earrann so gun chuireadh gun iarraidh, air dhuinn a bhi cinnteach gun dean na meanglain an dèidh an uir a theid an aire a tharruinn a chum a' ghnòthuich.

Aig coinneamh Coimhairle A' Chomuinn o chionn ghoirid thugadh fainear gu bheil roinn thoirteil de ionmhas A' Chomuinn a' tighinn o bhuannachd Mhòd bhliadhnail. Is fhada o bhiodh sporan A' Chomuinn aotrom is falamh, mur b'e gu robh cabhair a' tighinn gu cunbhalach o 'n chearn sin. An uair a tha buill a' tairgse comhnaidh do 'n Mhòd is ann a tha iad aig an am cheudna a' cumail cothrom ris A' Chomunn fhéin. Ach tha da nì ann a tha fàgail uallach a' Ghearasdain car doirbh aig an am. Is e a' cheud nì a' bhliadhna chruaidh a rug oirnn. Le gainne an airgid tha nithean eile a' fulang, mar dh'ainmich sinn anns a bhreacadh bhliadhnail a tha air ùr thighinn am follais. Tha an eaglais a' faireachadh éis an ionmhais. Tha comhairlean an fhoghlaim a' caomhnadh cosguis. Tha na rathaidean móra an impis a bhi dh'easbhuidh càraidh; agus mar sin chan eil iongnadh oirnn ged bhiodh bacadh air a' Mhòd.

\* \* \*

Is e an dara nì gu bheilear a' coimeas Mod na bliadhna so ri Mòd na bliadhna an uiridh an Inbhirpheotharain. Chan fhaodar idir misneach a leigeil sìos ged nach cruinnichte suim cho mór 's a fhuaradh an uiridh. Thug am Mòd sin mar tha fhios againn uile, barr air gach Mòd a bha ann riamh. Mar sin is e eisimpleir ard a tha fa chomhair na bliadhna so, agus air an aobhar sin tha e

mar fhiachaibh air gach meanglan a h-uile h-oidheirp a chleachdadh gus an Gearasdan a chuideachadh. Na Gaidheil anns na bailtean móra far a bheil na mìltean dhiubh, deanadh iadsan oidheirp cho dlèas 's a rinn iad rianh gus buidheann dhleas Lochabar a chuideachadh le taic.

\* \* \*

Chan ann a mhàin ri Gaidheil nam bailtean móra a dh'fhaodar anharc, ach mar an ceudna ris na meanglain feadh na dùthcha air fad. Ged a b'abhaist àireamh de na còisirean tighinn as na bailtean móra, gidheadh tha earrann mhaith dhiubh an diugh 'g an tarruinn o'n dùthaich, eadar na còisirean inbheach agus an òigridh. Tha sinn uile an dòchas gum bi àireamh nan coisir o na bailtean móra cho pailt am bliadhna 's a b'abhaist dhaibh a bhi. Is e sin a inheudaicheadh buaidh-tharruinn a' Mhòid agus a dheanadh an cruinneachadh sona sunndach. Ach tha dòigh eile air an còir am Mòd a chuideachadh. Feumaidh sinn a thoirt faineas gu bheil muinntir a' Ghearasdain a' deanamh obair am meanglain féin a thuilleadh air an ionnsaidh mhór a tha iad a' deanamh am bliadhna as leth a' Mhòid.

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Ged is e Lochabar an t-ionad gus an tionail Clann nan Gaidheal, chan ann do 'n ionad sin a mhàin a bhuineas an cùram is an iomaguin a thaobh na cosguis. Bu chòir gum biodh an dleasdanas sin 'g a roinn eadar gach meanglan air an dùthaich, agus air comunn bheaga nam bailtean móra, oir is iadsan meanglain an da rìribh ged nach meanglain iad an ainm. Tha an cudthrom cunntasach orrasan cho maith 's a tha e air meanglain bheaga laga na dùthcha. A bheil ball, no iomadh ball feadh mheanglan tuath is deas, a chleachdas féin-aicheadh beag air sgàth a' Mhòid is na cànan. A bheil dòigh air an urrainn thu luach tasdain de thoil intinn aicheadh dhuit féin, air chor is gun cuir thu tasdan gu luchd ionmhais a' Mhòid anns a' Ghearasdain. Feuch thusa ris, agus ma tha thu dian deonach, theid leat.

## THE GAEL AND MODERN REQUIREMENTS.

By A DRUID.

### II.

The practise of war through many centuries has generated in the Gael the quality of determination. Let it be noted, however, that such determination grew in an atmosphere of hostility. It would seem as if the military pertinacity of our race demanded a certain "cue for passion," a certain spur, such as a keen feeling of indignation, the resentment which is peculiar to a time of war. The problem is to maintain the habit of pertinacity and determination in time of peace, and in the arts, industries, and professions which belong to peace. No man can be more resolute and persevering than a good Gael, if once his energies have been roused by some strong grievance or some dominating passion. If he is fired by a noble ambition, such as a genuine love of learning or a generous desire to achieve some worthy feat, the Gael can burn the midnight oil, and "scorn delights and live laborious days" as well as any other man. The doggedness, pertinacity, and staying power which the Gael has so frequently displayed in war, will some day be applied to the interests and pursuits of his civic life. This will happen when the ideals of life will have become lofty and luring enough to appeal to his enthusiasm and imagination.

We can hardly imagine the spirit of dash and enterprise disappearing from the mentality of the Gael, even if a day of permanent general peace should come. This equipment of enterprise is surely a valuable one to enable the Gael to meet the call of modern conditions. Of late, there have been speeches made in which the Gael was spoken of as being dominated by an "inferiority complex." This phrase was used by Lloyd George in a speech in Inverness, when he learned that some Highlanders were ashamed of the Gaelic language and its traditions. There is no doubt but he used the term in order to rouse the pride of the Gael in his ancestral heritage. He said this not behind our backs, but in presence of a Gaelic audience. Lloyd George would be the last to suggest that the Gael had any shadow of an "inferiority complex" where sheer courage, physical or moral, was concerned. And the gift of courage should prove of immense value

when directed to pacific ends. "Peace has its victories no less renowned than war." What scope is afforded for the exercise of *courage* in the assertion of just claims, in the vindication of civic rights, in the manifold relations of society, in the conduct of industry and commerce. The citizen is all the better furnished for the discharge of his duty if he has always the courage of his convictions.

There exists a persistent impression that the modern Gael is inclined to be discouraged if his first attempt is not crowned with victory. The statement is frequently met with in the writings of English historians. We have no wish to apologise for the Gael's lack of pluck, for we do not think that he is lacking at all in that respect. But has it ever been pointed out that if a first attack did not succeed, the discomfiture which followed is likely to have been due rather to immature tactics, than to lack of courage? In war, when you are opposed by an astute antagonist, unless you have some inkling of military science, and unless you have a second plan of action thought out upon which to act in the event of your first plan failing, then the result is sure to be a debacle. The best general is he who has several alternative lines of action in his scheme. We may be sure that Cæsar had duly drawn out his plan of campaign, and that he brought all that his own native genius, combined with the best military training of his great nation could give him, against the Gauls in their struggle for life and liberty; and if he outwitted them on the second or third move, we must find the explanation rather in their lack of skill than in their lack of determination.

The Scottish Gaels used to be experts in guerrilla warfare. They knew how to harass and exhaust an enemy. That is an important side of the art of war. They did not study the principles of war on the larger scale. But there was a definite tradition of the principles of guerrilla warfare handed down even to the eighteenth century. Let me give an instance. The night before Culloden, there were some Highland veterans who still understood the principles of the ancient art. They advised accordingly. Their plan was—Fall back and collect the reinforcements from Badenoch, cross the Ness immediately; prevent Cumberland from crossing in pursuit; get food and rest for your troops; the enemy will soon be exhausted for want of supplies, and will be forced either to march southward or

take to ships. In either case, harass him from behind and reduce him gradually but surely. But the old tactics were not listened to; foreign stupidity prevailed, and the result was the tragedy of Culloden.

My point is the assertion that the Gael is said to lose heart if his first effort fails. I have suggested that in warfare, the discomfiture following a first reverse may have been due to faulty tactics, to plans which were not cunningly and cleverly thought out. What also of the Gael's enthusiasm? How often does he take a fit of enthusiasm, which, however, soon dies down. Well, that is the way with enthusiasm, whether with Gael or Saxon, or any other people. This quality never remains long at the boiling point continuously. The Gael is capable of intense enthusiasm. It is in regard to this noble though volatile gift that he has still to study his own temperament, and bring the calm force of reason to bear, not indeed to quench enthusiasm when it is strong, but rather to step in and supply the necessary impetus when a wise enthusiasm tends to wane. The Gael in the battle of life, meaning by that merely our work and how we do it, is still apt to be hindered by immature tactics. There are tactics for good citizenship as well as for good soldiering. Just as the Gael has plenty of pluck, courage, and endurance for the old game of war, but has suffered sometimes for lack of the deeper tactics and a mature plan, so too in the arena of life he has strength, ability, character, but not always the most mature method. Much now depends on method, and the amount of intelligence and common sense that are brought to bear on the way of *doing* things.

(To be continued)

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### JUNIOR GAELIC ESSAY COMPETITION.

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The subject for next competition is *Am Fiadh*. Competitors must be under *sixteen* years of age. Two prizes are now offered, the first being Ten Shillings, and the second Five Shillings. Essays should be about 250 words in length, and should be certified by the teacher as being the composition of pupil. The competition is open to pupils from Schools — elementary, sub-intermediate, or secondary.



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING.

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gàidhealach was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Friday, 15th July. The president, Rev. Neil Ross, D.Litt., Laggan, was in the chair. The following members were present:—Mrs. Barron, Glasgow; Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale; Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds); Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Rev. David Duncan, Musselburgh; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Esq., Bishopton; Donald Graham, Esq., M.A., Inverness; Col. Gilbert Gunn, Inverness; Miss Augusta Lamont of Knockdown; Neil R. MacDiarmid, Esq., Greenock; Donald MacDonald, Esq., Inverness; John MacDonald, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; Mrs. M. MacDonald, Pitlochry; T. D. MacDonald, Esq., Glasgow; Hector MacDougall, Esq., Glasgow; Gilbert MacIntyre, Esq., Killin; Malcolm MacLeod, Esq., Glasgow; George E. Marjoribanks, Esq., Sonachan; Lord James Stewart Murray, Ballinluig; Neil Orr, Esq., F.E.I.S., Edinburgh; Miss Harriet Stewart, L.L.A., Levenhall; Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, Dunblane; Rev. Donald Thomson, B.D., Killin; Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria; Mrs. M. Wilson, Dunblane. In attendance—Mr. Robert MacFarlane, C.A., Treasurer, and Neil Shaw, General Secretary.

The Chairman said it was since their last meeting that Rev. Kenneth MacLeod had been made a Doctor of Divinity by the University of St. Andrews, and he thought it fitting that an expression of their appreciation should be conveyed to Dr. MacLeod. An old writer had said that their people had two outstanding features of character—the faculty for fighting and the faculty for graceful speech, coupled with music. If that held good in the old days, it still did so, and they were all aware of Dr. MacLeod's qualities with regard to music and speech. He moved that the Executive Council express their congratulations to Dr. Kenneth MacLeod.

Two minutes of the Finance Committee were read. The Committee were gratified to report that there is a surplus on the year's working of £349, as against last year's loss of £139. This satisfactory result has been brought about by the splendid success of the National Mod at Dingwall, which resulted in a record surplus of over £1200. The treasurer's accounts and balance-sheet,

together with reports of the Standing Committees, were unanimously adopted.

The Education Committee minute showed that the committee had approached the Scottish Education Department with reference to the examination of Gaelic in schools in the Gaelic speaking area. The Department replied that the provisions which applied to the subjects were also applicable to Gaelic in schools where it was taught. The minute was approved.

Two minutes of the Publication Committee were read. It was reported that estimates for the printing and binding of the new annotated Poetry Book, prepared by Mr. Angus MacLeod, B.Sc., Rector, Oban High School, were considered, and that the contract for the printing and binding of 2000 copies was recommended to be given to Messrs. A. Learmonth & Son, Stirling. The book will be sold at 3/- per copy. The Committee agreed to recommend that a joint Sub-Committee of the Mod and Music Committee and the Publication Committee be formed to consider and report as to the steps which should be taken to secure that An Comunn shall be paid such royalties as it may be entitled to in the singing of those songs in which it has proprietary rights. The minutes were approved.

A minute of the Propaganda Committee, with synopses of minutes of Northern and Southern Sub-Committees, were read. It was reported that Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Northern Organiser, had resigned, and that Mr. John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill, was acting as interim secretary until such time as a successor to Mr. Carmichael was appointed.

Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness, pressed for the appointment of an organiser to take up duty at the commencement of the coming session. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod pointed out that Mr. Carmichael's appointment was purely experimental. When they got a report on the work of the organiser they could then consider whether the appointment should be continued. After some discussion the Council agreed to accept the reports which had been received from time to time as constituting a report on the organiser's work in the Northern Area.

Lord James Stewart Murray moved that a special committee be appointed to consider, and with full powers to appoint an organiser for the Northern Area, to be subject to review at the end of one year from 1st October next.

Mr. Neil Orr seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The Special Committee which made the first appointment was re-constituted, with Col. Gilbert Gunn as an additional member. Mr. Charles Campbell was appointed convener. The minute and reports were adopted.

Miss Lamont of Knockdow, in moving the adoption of a minute of the Art and Industry Committee, said that with regard to the rug-making industry there were certain firms who might be prepared to take over the organisation of the rug-making industry. If this was possible, it would be most satisfactory, as it would help to provide employment for Highland girls. The Committee were making an endeavour to encourage the production of Celtic art designs by promoting competitions at the Mod. The minute was adopted.

A minute of the Mod and Music Committee was read. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod (convener) said they were perfectly satisfied with the progress made in connection with the forthcoming Mod at Fort William. The financial reports submitted that evening strikingly illustrated the extent to which An Comunn was financially dependent upon the surpluses from the National Mods. In a very short time they would exhaust their reserve funds were it not for the handsome contributions made to the revenue by the Mods. The minute was adopted.

Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormisdale suggested that more prominence should be given to Gaelic dialogue at the forthcoming Mod. Personally, she would like to see a short Gaelic play as part of the programme. It was agreed to pass this suggestion on to the Local Committee.

Mr. G. E. Marjoribanks of Sonachan, speaking in Gaelic, mentioned various plans which were before Clann An Fhraoich for drawing the attention of those attending the Mod to the work and objects of this branch of An Comunn, and for increasing its membership.

#### MUSICAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

It was reported that in connection with the musical scholarship fund, the draft of a scheme by the Commissioners under the Educational Endowments (Scotland) Act, 1928, for the future management and government of the estate of the late Miss Catherine MacCaig, Oban, had been considered. The Sub-Committee resolved to represent to the Commissioners that as the promotion of the cause of Gaelic was the impulse underlying the disposition of the late

Miss MacCaig, the musical scholarship, in addition to the educational bursary and scholarship provided for in the draft scheme, open to any person with a knowledge of Gaelic, was calculated to promote the intentions of the testatrix; or, alternatively, that the Governors should be empowered to aid in the institution and maintenance of such a scholarship.

Mrs. Campbell (Airds), president of the Clarsach Society, said they desired to be affiliated to An Comunn. Mr. Shaw pointed out that the affiliation had been accepted.

Mrs. Campbell added that they desired the support of An Comunn to foster the playing of one of their own national instruments, the Clarsach. She wished to mention that they had been able to find one firm in Glasgow who made these instruments, and the tone was much better than it was in those formerly produced.

Nominations were received for the offices of president, one vice-president, and ten members of Executive Council.

The following motions were received for consideration at Annual Meeting:—

By Mr. Alexander MacKechnie, London—“That An Comunn take immediate steps to initiate a movement amongst the Gaelic speaking children on lines similar to the Welsh League of Youth.”

By Mr. George E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan—“That, beginning from the first meeting after the Mod of 1935, all meetings of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach shall be conducted in Gaelic, and in Gaelic only.”

By Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow—“That Rule 25 of the Constitution and Rules (1911) of the Association be altered to read as follows: ‘All meetings of the Executive Council, other than the Preliminary Meeting, shall be held in Glasgow.’”

By Mr. Angus Robertson, London—“That Gaelic be recognised as the official language of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and that the finding of the General Meeting of An Comunn Gaidhealach at Dunoon be given effect to.”

By Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness—“That the expenses of the President of An Comunn, at the National Mod, be a charge on the Mod expenses.”

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

A mhuinntir mo ghaoil,—Is tric a bhios mi a' meòrachadh air cho fad-sgapte agus a tha a' Chlann air feadh na Gaidhealtachd, gun ach fear agus té no dithis, ann an cuid de dh'àiteachan, a' cumail bratach na Cloinne a' snàmh, agus cha'n eil fhios cia lion am Meuran dùthchail a' Chomuinn a bhios a' faicinn *A' Ghaidheil* idir. Co-dhiu tha dòchas agam gu'm bi cuid a' feòrach "Cìod a tha aig a' bhodach air an trobh so?" agus a' leughadh am beagan a th'agam ri ràdh an dràsda 's a rithist. Chan eil e furasda do'n Chloinn aig am sam bith faotainn cruinn an aon àite, agus feumaidh sinn dèanamh suas airson na h-uireasbhuidh sin, cho fad' agus is urrainn duinn, le bhì sgrìobhadh gu càch a chèile agus a' cur ar smuaintean is ar beachdan fa chomhair a chèile.

Tha smuain àraidh agam, ma-ta, air bhur son aig an am so, ach innsidh mi an toiseach sgeul beag a chuala mi an Uidhist-a-deas an uair a bha mi ann air a' mhòs so chaidh a dh'fhaotainn Gaidhlig agus iasgaich aig an aon am agus fhuair mi sgàile mhaith dhe'n dà chuid. Dh'fhalbh duine òg as an eilean bheannaichte sin a dh'farraidh cosnaidh air a' Ghalldachd. Fhuair e sud, ach cha robh e fada mu'n do thill e. Dh'fheòrach a chairdean dheth ciamar a chaidh leis an dùthaich nan Gall. "An da," ars esan, "cha deachaidh gu ro-mhaith idir, 's ann a dh'fhaireach an caint orrm. 'S e 'cù' a bh'aca air son mairt, agus cha chuimhne leam an e 'slos' no 'nuas' a their iad ri càise, agus 's e *silly-ass* a bh'aca ormsa, 's mar sin dh'fhàg mi iad fhéin 's an càin mhallaichte an sud!'"

Nis, so an rud a tha air m' aire. Tha fhios againn uile gu'm bheil Gall agus Sasanach maraon a' cur iomchoire oirnn an comhnuidh an am a' Mhòid a thaobh cho beag Gaidhlig 's a tha ri cluinntinn aig a' chruinneachadh mhòr Ghaidhealach sin. Their iad—'nan dòigh fhéin agus is sgaiteach gu leòir sin—nam biodh fuighair aca ri aon ni gu'm b'e sin a bhì cluinntinn muinntir na Gaidhealtachd a' bruidhinn 'nan càin fhéin, ach gu'm faodadh am Mòd a bhì 'na fhéill Ghallda airson na chluinnear dhith. Agus tha iad ceart. Cha'n eil mi dol a ràdh nach eil Gaidhlig ann; tha fhios gu bheil mòran 'ga bruidhinn fad na h-ùine. Ach is gann a ni iad sin os cionn an analach; saoilleadh tu gu robh eagal orra gu'n cluinneadh daoine eile iad. An aon fhacal, chan eil a' Ghaidhlig farumach gu leòir,

chan eil i gabhail an àite is dlùgheach dhith ghabhail aig a leithid de chruinneachadh. 'Chan abair mi nach ann againn féin—luchd-comhairle a' Chomuinn agus a' Mhòid, a tha tomhas de'n choire, le bhì riaghladh chùisean tuilleadh 's a chòir 's a' chanain eile, a' toirt binn is breithneachaidh oraidean is sanasan am Beurla nan Gall 's nan Sasanach. Cha bhùin e dhomh-sa leudachadh air a' chéist so an so, ged a dh'fhaodainn-sa cagair a chur ann an cluais na Cloinne iad fhéin a chur atharrachaidh air an dòigh-riaghlaidh sin. Ach tha aon ni soilleir. 'S iomadh uair a bhios neach de ar buidheann a' feòrach dhomh cìod is urrainn da no dhi-se dhèanamh as leth ar n-aobhair. So agaibh cothrom Clann an Fhraoich. Ge ar bith cìod a chì luchd-riaghlaidh a' Mhòid iomchuidh a dhèanamh, cuireamaid-ne romhainn, air sgàth na càin is mùirneach leinn, gu'n dean sinn, cho fhada 's a bhios e 'nar comas, am Mòd a tha air thoiseach oirnn 's a' Ghearsdan 'na Mhòd is Gaidhealaiche bh'againn riamh o bha Mòd ann. Beireamaid fainear gu'm bi a' Ghaidhlig chòir 'ga spreigeadh thall 's a bhos air feadh nan tallachan 's nan sràidean, gun sgàth gun ghò; cuireamaid air chùl, ri linn a' Mhòid co-dhiu, an riaghailt shocharach dhlblidh sin nach còir a' Ghaidhlig a bhruidhinn an lathair feadhnaich aig nach eil i; togamaid ar bratach ri crann agus cumamaid an àird i. Obair na Cloinne—cleachdadh na Gaidhlig; agus nach simplidh an dleasdanas sin?—Mise le mùirn,

SEORAS.

HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATE  
ON GAELIC.

"Gaelic is a dead language, and money ought not to be spent on it in Scottish schools," was the declaration made in the House of Commons to-day by Sir William Wayland, an English M.P.

It was indignantly repudiated by Mr. Skelton (the Under-Secretary for Scotland) and all the Scots M.P.'s in the House.

Sir William brought the wrath of the Scots on his head when he bluntly asked Mr. Skelton why should money be spent on the propagation of dead languages like Gaelic and "Celtic"?

Mr. Skelton sprang to his feet, and, speaking with warmth, declared, amid cheers: "May I say that each part of your proposition is incorrect? In the first place, Gaelic is not dead. In the second place, its teaching does not involve extra expenditure,

It only involves the selection in the schools of bi-lingual teachers."

This explanation effectively quashed Sir William's opposition, but Mr. Macquisten added another reason, which was also cheered.

He declared that there were two professors of Gaelic in Paris. "One of them," said Mr. Macquisten triumphantly, "is a Greek scholar, and he says that Gaelic is the finer language of the two."

This discussion on the merits of Gaelic arose out of a question by Lord Scone asking what steps were being taken to increase the number of schools in Scotland where Gaelic was taught.

Mr. Skelton explained that, in the year 1930-31, Gaelic was taught in 293 schools.

The Education (Scotland) Act of 1918 required education authorities to make adequate provision for teaching Gaelic in Gaelic-speaking areas, and it was provided that, in such areas, the schemes of work should make reasonable provision for the instruction of Gaelic-speaking children in their native tongue.

The Department received regular reports from inspectors of schools upon the steps taken by education authorities to comply with these requirements, and papers in Gaelic were set in the annual leaving certificate examination.

There were renewed cheers when he added: "The number of schools in which Gaelic is taught has risen steadily during recent years."

Mr. E. G. Hicks (Lab., Woolwich) asked the reason.

Mr. Skelton—Because, I think, generally speaking, that education authorities are more acquainted with the desirability of keeping alive this language. ("Hear, hear.")

Lord Scone also asked for the names of those responsible for drawing up the Scottish education curriculum, and how often they met to consider whether that curriculum was in need of alteration.

Mr. Skelton—The general instructions as to the curriculum, which are contained in the codes and circulars issued from time to time as occasion requires, are based upon recommendations from the official advisers of the Department. The Secretary for Scotland, in his capacity as vice-president of the committee of council on education in Scotland, is responsible for these instructions. The second part of the question does not, therefore, arise. — *"Daily Record,"* 1/7/32.

## AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH (SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Le K. W. G.

### V.

Chì sinn mar riaghailt gu bheil a chuid is mò de na h-ainmean Lochlannach an iar agus tuath Albainn a' toirt dealbh do'n t-sùil air coslas an àite no air comharradh èiginn ann a bhuailas an t-sùil gu soilleir, faodaidh e bhith ann cunadh no an suidheachadh; mar eisimpleir:—Langa-vatn (Uisge no Loch fada); Flat-ey (Eilean comhnard); Há-ey = Eilean àrd, etc. No creutairean beotha; Lamb-ey = (Eilean nan uan); Fugl-ey (Eilean nan eun), etc. No fàs na talmhainn:—Eng-ey (Eilean an Ailean); Melness (Gob a mhurain); ainmean eile; Fiski-vikr (Camus an éisg); Smirisary no Smjors-erg (Airigh an ime); Sjo-bolstadr (Tigh, no baile fearainn na mara); agus móran eile nach gabh seòrsachadh. Tha móran ainmean eile a tha comh-cheangailte ri ainmean nan daoine d'am buineadh na h-àitean, mar; Ranigdale (Gleann Ranveig); Swainbost (Baile fearainn Sveir); Tolsta (Baile Thol); Ullabhaig (Camus Uill); Àrd Thormaidh (Ceap Thormoid); Raounill (eilean) ainm mnatha, Ragnhildr (Raodhailt), etc.

A thaobh an atharrachaidh a tha air tighinn thairis air na h-ainmean Lochlannach a nuas an cùrsa nan linn, tha 'n t-Ollamh MacBheathain ag ràdh 'n a leabhran "Norse Elements" gun tàinig sin gu crìch trid dol a réir an dòigh-labhairt Ghàidhlig, agus tric gus a leithid de dh'èire "nach aithnicheadh am màthair fhéin iad." Tha e mar an ceudna a' toirt air adhart beachd an Ollaimh P. A. Munch (Seanachaidh ainmeil Lochlannach am meadhoin na linn mu dheireadh) nach d'fhàg na Lochlannaich a bheag de lorg mhaireannaich air àit-ainmean nan eilean, a chionn, anns a cheud àite, cha robh fhios aig an Ollamh gu robh iad air an atharrachadh a réir dòigh-labhairt na Gàidhlig, agus anns an dara àite, cha robh fhios aige gu robh iad air an caochladh air cairtean na dùthcha a' fhreagairt litreachadh na Cànan Ghàidhealaich.

Ann am paipeir a sgrìobh Mgr. R. L. Bremner, M.A., B.L., air "Àit-ainmean Leòdhais" tha e 'g ràdh, "Cha'n eil móran a dh'aithnicheadh "Eyrar-bær" ann an "Eorabaidh" no "Eiriks-fjorðr" an "Erisort," no "Hollu-stadr" an "Tollastadh"; agus tha iad na's téirce a dheanadh a mach "Bjarnar-ey" mar "Bhearnaraidh," agus "Kvi-setr" mar "Cuidhseadair," no

"Thamanbaidh" agus "Thealasbaidh" mar a seasamh air son "Hafnavagr agus Hellisvagr." Tha "ars" esan, a' dol air adhart, an lorg a stiùras sinn gu iad sin a thuigsinn ri fhaotainn anns an dòigh anns an abair muinntir an àite na h-ainmean, agus ann an dòigh-sgrìobhadh na Gàidhlig. Mar eisimpleir:—Ma thòisicheas ainm anns a Ghàidhlig le "t," tha e 'tionndadh 's a char *Gen.* gu "th," a tha air a labhairt mar "h"; mar sin ma bha ainm Lochlannach a tòiseachadh le "h" shaoileadh an Gàidheal gu'n robh e anns a' char *Gen.* agus gu'n robh e 'tòiseachadh anns a char *Nom.* le "t," mar "Haf" an Cuan mòr siar, 'n a ainmeachadh their e 'n "Tabh." Mar sin tha "Håbost—a tha e fhéin giorraichte—a tionndadh gu "Tåbost," ach anns an *Gen.* "Thåboist," "Holmr" gu "Tolm," *Gen.* "Thuilm"; cha'n aithnìchear "Tanera" mar "Hafnar-ey," no "Taghadal" mar "Hagadalar," etc. A rithis a Mhgr. Bremner" "feumar a ghleidheadh an cuimhne gu 'n tionndaidh "t" a thòisicheas facal Gàidhlig gu "fh" ann am facal coimeasgta, agus tha e air fhuaim a chall gu buileach, mar so that "Fjördr" air fhaotainn aig deireadh ainmean mar "fhurt," no "fhort," air a labhairt mar ort—ord—art—agus eadhoin—ard; a thuilleadh air sin, cha robh muinntir-deanaidh nan cairtean-dùthcha daonnan seasmach an dol a réir riaghailt; mar a bu trice bheireadh iad an t-ainm a réir litreachaidh na Gàidhlig, ach aig àmaibh eile a réir na Beurla. Mar eisimpleir, Seaforth (Sae-fjördr), Stornoway (Stjornavagr), Carloway (Karla-vagr). Cor uair tha facal Gàidhlig a tha 'ciallachadh a cheart rud air a chur ris an fhacal Lochlannach a tha air dol á cuimhne o chionn fhada, mar Loch Langabhat, Sean Lochlannach—Langa-vatn = Loch lochfada; Eilean Bhearnaraidh (Bjarnar-ey) = Eilean eilean Bhjarn no Bhearn; Dùnbuirgh (Borgr) Caisteal caisteal; Dunvorerick (Borgr-vikr) Camus a Chaisteil chaisteil—(no, Caisteal caisteal a Chamuis).

Thug an Caipitein Tòmas, R.N.—beannachd leis—mineachadh inleachdach, a réir an Ollainmh Mhic Bheathain, air mar a thàinig atharrachadh nan ainmean Lochlannach mu'n euairt; mar a thàinig, mar eisimpleir, "Karlavagr" gu "bhi air a sgrìobhadh "Carloway," "Anns a Bheurla," ars' an Caipitein, bhiodh "v" air a sgrìobhadh "w"; mar sin thionndaidh "vagr" gu "way"; gun teagamh an uair a chaidh a sgrìobhadh mar sin an toiseach bhiodh "way" aon-fhuaimneach ri "far," ach a nis, anns a Bheurla tha "way"

a' dol le "day"; ach anns a Ghàidhlig cha'n urrainn facal 's an bith tòiseachadh le "v" anns a' char *Nom.* no ma tha dà ainm air an cur ri chèile mar aon fhacal. Anns an fhacal "Karla-vagr" tha 'n "r" mu dheireadh a nochdadh gu'm buin e do'n char *Nom.* An uair a ghabh an Gàidheal coir air an fhacal Karla-vagr dheanadh e mar a rinn na h-eileanaich thuathach, leigheil leis an "g" ruith, agus bhiodh e 's a bheachd gu'n robh an "v" anns a char *Gen.* agus mhaothaicheadh e an "a" gu "ai" mar sin 'g a labhairt mar "vai" a bhiodh, a réir sgrìobhadh na Gàidhlig, "bhàidh" no bhàigh" d'am biodh an *Nom.* "bàgh," "bàdh." Karla-vagr, air a labhairt Karla-vai, bhiodh air a sgrìobhadh "Carlabhaidh," agus fo bhuaidh na Beurla a tionndadh "v" no "bh" gu "w" tha sinn air ruigheachd mu dheireadh gu "Carlo-way." Air sean chairtean tha e air a sgrìobhadh "Carley-wagh" am feadh a bha dòigh-labhairt nan Lochlannach fathast ùr an cuimhne dhaoine.

Ann an cuid de àitean tha na h-ainmean Gàidhlig cho ùr agus gu bheil cuimhne fathast air an àm an uair a b' iad na sean ainmean Lochlannach a bha air an gnathachadh, mar an Uibhist, far an robh am monadh a tha nis a' dol fo'n ainm Beinn Mhór aig an àm sin a dol fo'n ainm Ceitbhal—'s an t-sean Lochlannaich Geita-fjall, 's e sin Beinn nan Gobhar.

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

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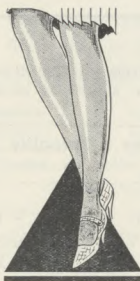
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## LOCH NA FALA.

97 Kent Road,

Glasgow, C.3, 15th July, 1932.

Fhir-deasachaidh Ionmhainn,—Leugh mi le mór aire is le toileachas an iomradh ghasda a thug “Lochan Dubh” dhuinn anns “A’ Ghàidheal” air a’ mhios so ‘mu eachdraidh an t-sean-fhocail ud, no a’ ghnàth-fhocail, theagamh, mar a bu chòir dhomh a ràdh ris—“Bidh barrachd uime so fathast,” etc.

Fhuair mise naidheachd air an ràdh so cuideachd, agus is ann mar a leanas a sgrìobh mi uime anns an àm. B’ ann o Ghàidheal a mhuinntir Mhòrair a fhuair mi an seul. Cha bheo e an diugh. Bu Dòmhnallach e féin cuideachd, agus cha robh ni aige an aghaidh an naidheachd a chur anns a’ phàipear; ach bha caraid dha, agus caraid dhomh féin cuideachd, Dòmhnallach eile a mhuinntir Lochabar, nach robh air mhiann a cur anns a’ phàipear idir, oir cha robh e air son gu’m biodh “tàmait” air a toirt do’n fhine do’m buineadh e féin. Bha an seul aige, ged thà, agus dh’aideich e gur e an fhirinn a bha innte, is mar a bha i aig a’ Mhòraireach.—Mise le mùirn,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

## Loch Na Fala.

Faodar a ràdh gu bheil earrann mhór de eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd air a sgrìobhadh ann ar sean-fhocail, ann an òrain agus ann an ainmean àitean ar dùthcha.

Tha an ràdh,—“Bidh barrachd uime so na bha mu’n chul-chàise,” ‘na shean-fhocail a chluinnear glé thrice anns a’ Ghàidhealtachd gus an là an diugh, ged is annamh iad, theagamh, aig a bheil fhios ciod e an “cul-chàise” a bha an so a thug bunait do’n ràdh an toiseach. Is e, matà, ceud aobhar an t-sean-fhocail so, agus mar an ceudna mar a fhuair an loch beag ud a tha am bràighe Ghlinne-Comhann an t-ainm “Loch na Fala,” a tha bhuam-sa aithris an ceartair.

Tha an loch beag so tuaiream air trì mìle am mach a Gleann-Comhann, agus ri taobh an rathaid a bu bhitheanta le daoine a ghabhail an àm tighinn a’ steach thar nam monaidhean rathad a’ ghlinne. Chan ‘eil ann ach loch beag cuile, cho beag is, le bliadhna ear thioram, gur gann a tha boinne uisge idir air a ghrund. Ach beag ‘ga bheil e, thà e ainmeil, oir anns na h-amannan borba a dh’fhalbh chaidh gnìomh cho fuileachdach ‘s a tha co-cheangailte ri

eachdraidh Chlann Dòmhnuille a chur an gnìomh mu a bhruaichibh

Mar a tha fhios againn uile, is e daoine treuna, dàna, agus air uairean glé bhorb a bha ann am muinntir Ghlinne-Comhann. Ré ùine fhada roimh bhliadhna a’ Mhuirt, cha mhór nach faodar a ràdh gur ann air a’ chreich a bha iad a’ tighinn beo uile gu léir.

An àm Mhontròis tha e air ràdh gu’m biodh iad a’ dol cho fada air falbh ri Siorramachd Abair-dheathain a thogail na creiche; ach mar bu bhitheanta, b’e fearann nan Caimbeulach air am bu sgriosail iad, agus is iomadh buaille mhór a dh’fhàg iad glé fhalamh an Athall, am Braid-Albann agus an ceann Deas Earra-Ghàidheal aig an àm so.

Bha so ‘na aobhar air Iarla Bhruid-Albann a bhi cho fada an aghaidh Chloinn Iain, agus e ag ghabhail a leithid de ghnòthuch ris a’ mhòrt ghràineil ud a tha ‘na neul dorch a an crochadh os cionn eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd.

Ach thigean gu mo naidheachd. Bha, matà, Clann Iain aon uair air an rathad dhachaidh do’n ghleann, agus pailteas de gach seorsa aca, a thog iad mar bu nòs air fearann nan Caimbeulach. An uair a ràinig iad an loch beag so, ris an abrar o’n latha sin “Loch na Fala” (ciod air bith ainm a bha air roimhe sin), rinn iad stad. Is ann aig an loch so a bha muinntir bràighe a’ ghlinne a’ dealachadh bho’n chorr gu tarraunn air an dachaidhean féin, agus an so theann iad ri roinn na creiche.

Is ann glé annamh a tha eachdraidh air fuil a bhi air a dòrtadh ri eu-còrdaidh an àm roinn na creiche. Is ann a bu bhitheanta leo a bhi ri lan-aighear is ri sìgradh, ach cha b’ann mar so a bha chisean an là ud.

An uair a chuir iad crìoch air gach bó, gach speir is gach ni eile a bha aca a roinn, bha cul-chàise air fhàgail, is cha robh fhios co aige a bhitheadh e. Cha b’e na b’fhiach e uile gu léir, ach bha gach aon an geall air a chuid féin a dheanamh dheth, agus b’e ceann-erich a’ ghnòthuch gu’n do thabaidh iad gu doirbh is gu fuileachdach mu bhruaichibh an locha, cho doirbh is gu bheil e air aithris gu’n deach an trian a bu mhotha dhiubh a mharbhadh, agus gu’n robh uisge an locha dearg leis an fhuil a bha a’ ruith a stigh ann sìos leis an aonach.

Chan ‘eil cumntas air co aca aig an robh an cul-chàise air a’ cheann mu dheireadh, ach co air bith a fhuair e choisinn e, gu daor e, an uair a bha bàs glé dlùth air leth na treubh ris.



Mar a thubhairt mi, theirear "Loch na Fala" ris an uisge so gus an là an diugh; agus an uair a dh'éireas eas-aontachd sam bith eadar daoine, no ceist nach bi furasda a réiteach, theirear a' rithist agus a' rithist — "Bithidh barrachd uime so fathast na bha mu'n chul-chàise!"

## SIR WALTER SCOTT.

By LACHLAN GRANT.

He was by nature of great and noble mind, supremely gifted with the genius of analysis, penetration, and expression. He was a great artist in delineation and word-painting, a keen observer of nature, and a deep and sympathetic student of human life. His talent, temperament, and training well-fitted him to depict the varied characters, simple and complex, he met on the world's stage. He cast the glamour of romance over all he touched, and the commonest folk were made to reveal those touches that make the whole world kin. By his magic wand history was made to live its exciting movements and episodes over again, and Scotland's pride and patriotism were enhanced and stimulated by his brilliant and romantic setting of the national heroes.

His life was one of constant activity, and to the last his pen was busy recording the inexhaustible riches of his literary power. His success as a writer was very great, yet he had great misfortune which he faced bravely and honourably. But although he suffered financial losses, which helped to cut his life short, his industry never flagged, and it may be truly said of him that he left the world immensely richer than he found it. As time goes on his work is appreciated more than ever, and few authors are so widely read—this is the great criterion of an author's power, for time inevitably sifts the wheat from the chaff. Scott's popularity is as great amongst the old as with the young, and he is much read in all other countries besides our own. As a poet he is not one of the greatest, but what he produced will never die, as it is interwoven with Scotland's romantic history and its natural beauty of mountain, glen, and pass.

Scott's place as an author is among the giants of literature, and although he will continue to have many imitators, he will probably always remain a king among the writers of historical romances.

## LEWIS PROVINCIAL MOD.

The ninth Lewis Provincial Mod, which was held on 16th and 17th June, was an unqualified success. The entries in several of the competitions might have been greater, and we hope in future years will be greater, but over the whole range the number of entries was a record one.

The competitions fully occupied the mornings and afternoons of the two days, and on Friday evening there was a grand concert sustained by the prize-winners. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow, ex-president of An Comunn, presided.

Mr. James Murray, Kingussie, acted as adjudicator for the musical items, with Mr. A. M. Carmichael, Inverness, Northern Organiser of An Comunn, and Mr. R. MacKenzie, M.A., Back, as Gaelic assessors. The piping was judged by Messrs. D. B. MacLeod, Shawbost, and M. MacLeod, Leurbost; and the oral work by Messrs. Angus MacDonald, Tarbert, and Duncan MacDonald, Sandwick. The literary work was judged by Mr. A. L. MacDonald, H.M.I.S.; Mr. George Thomson, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. James Thomson, M.A., Bayble; Miss Jean MacKenzie, M.A., Stornoway; and Mr. Alex. Urquhart, M.A., Stornoway.

The prize-list is as follows:—

### LITERATURE.

#### RURAL SCHOOLS.

Competitions were held in twelve schools in various grades. The following are the individual results. There was no inter-school competition.

Aird—Qualifying Class—1, Willie Dan Macaulay; 2, Kate Ann Campbell. 1st Year Advanced Division—1, Jessie Ann MacKenzie; 2, Margaret MacKenzie. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, A. J. MacGregor; 2, John MacMillan.

Bayble—Qualifying Class—1, Mary MacDonald; 2, Donald MacIver. 1st Year Advanced Division—1, Jessie MacDonald and Joanna MacKenzie (equal). 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Angus MacDonald; 2, Donald MacKay. 4th Year—1, James Thomson. Breasclete—1st Year Advanced Division—1, Mary MacKenzie; 2, Murdo MacLean. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Effie MacIver; 2, Angus MacLeod.

Carloway—1st Year Advanced Division—1, Malina MacLeod; 2, Murdo MacGregor. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Chrissie MacDonald; 2, Murdo MacDonald.

Cross—Qualifying Class—1, John Murray; 2, Agnes Morrison. 1st Year Advanced Division—1, Elizabeth A. Morrison; 2, Dolina Morrison (b). 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Katie Ann MacLeod; 2, Annie Murray.

Knock—1st Year Advanced Division—1, Mary MacIver; 2, Murdo D. MacLeod. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Mary MacDonald; 2, Donald MacIver.

Laxdale—Qualifying Class—1, John D. MacIntosh; 2, Johanna MacKenzie. 1st Year

Advanced Division—1, Jane A. MacRae; 2, James MacRae. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Henrietta MacRae; 2, Mary A. MacDonald.

Leurbost—Qualifying Class—1, Angusina MacLeod; 2, Dannie Nicolson. 1st Year Advanced Division—1, Donald Kennedy; 2, Nora MacLeod. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Isabella MacLean; 2, Hector Smith.

Lionel—Qualifying Class—1, Kenneth A. MacLeod; 2, Christina MacKay. 1st Year Advanced Division—1, Annie Gillies; 2, Mary Ferguson. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Annie Murray; 2, Mary Ann Morrison. 3rd Year Advanced Division—1, John Murray; 2, Malcolm MacLean.

Sandwick—Qualifying Class—1, John Finlay Morrison; 2, Murlina MacIver. 1st Year Advanced Division—1, Chrissie Flora Macaulay; 2, Annie MacKenzie (2).

Tong—1st Year Advanced Division—1, Christina Finlayson; 2, Murlina MacLeod. 2nd Year Advanced Division—1, Murdo Gunn; 2, George MacKenzie.

#### NICOLSON INSTITUTE.

Class I.—1, Katie Ann MacLeod; 2, Chrissie Murray.

Class II.—1, John Smith; 2, Donald MacLeod.

Class III.—1, Maggie MacDonald; 2, Dolina MacLeod.

Class IV.—1, Marion Smith; 2, Christina MacLeod.

#### ORAL DELIVERY.

##### RURAL SCHOOLS.

(Age, 14-16.)

Reading of Unseen Gaelic Prose—1, James Thomson; 2, John MacArthur, Bayble; 3, Dolina MacAulay, Aird, and Murdo MacSween, Bayble (equal).

Reading from Bible, selected by Adjudicator—1, James Thomson, Bayble; 2, John MacArthur, Bayble, and Alena MacIver, Bayble (equal); 4, Murdo MacSween, Bayble.

Recitation of Gaelic Poetry—1, Jane MacRae, Laxdale, and Alex. J. MacGregor, Aird (equal); 3, Margaret MacKenzie, Aird, and Isabella MacLean, Leurbost (equal); 5, John MacArthur, Bayble, and Alena MacIver, Bayble (equal).

(Age, under 14.)

Reading with Expression from Acts—1, Johanna MacKenzie, Bayble; 2, Dolina MacLeod, Knock, and Mary MacIver, Knock (equal); 4, Mary A. Campbell, Bayble; Catherine MacRae, Bayble; and Jessie A. MacKenzie, Aird (equal).

Reading with Expression from Luke—1, Jessie A. MacKenzie, Aird; 2, Helen MacDonald, Knock, and Nora MacLeod, Leurbost (equal); 4, Dolina MacLeod, Bayble, and Mary MacDonald, Knock (equal); 6, Murdo D. MacLeod, Knock, and Mary MacIver, Knock (equal).

Reciting from Memory—1, Murlina MacAulay, Aird; 2, Jessie A. MacKenzie, Aird; 3, Nora MacAulay, Aird, and Mary MacDonald, Knock (equal); 5, Dolina MacLeod, Bayble, and Mary MacIver, Knock (equal).

(Age, under 16.)

Telling a Traditional Story—1, Chrissie F. MacAulay, Sandwick; 2, Georgina Allan, Sandwick, and Annie MacKenzie, Sandwick (equal); 4, James Thomson, Bayble, and John MacArthur.

Acted Dialogue—1, A. D. MacMillan and J. MacMillan, Aird; 2, James Thomson and Angus MacDonald, Bayble; 3, Jane A. MacRae and Morag Watt, Laxdale, and Murlina MacAulay and A. D. MacDonald (equal).

Unpublished Traditional Story (Royal Celtic Society's Prizes)—1, Mary MacKenzie, Aird; 2, Normina MacLeod, Sandwick; 3, Christina MacKinnon, Sandwick; 4, Nora Macaulay, Aird.

Place Names (Royal Celtic Society's Prize)—John MacKay, Nicolson Institute.

#### LEARNERS.

Reading from John—1, Marie MacLeod, Knock; 2, Maria Morrison, Knock, and Lizzie Watson, Sandwick (equal); 4, Mary MacKay, Aird.

#### NICOLSON INSTITUTE.

(Age, 14-16.)

Reading of Unseen Gaelic—1, Murlina MacLean; 2, Dolina MacLeod, Dolina Smith, and Maggie MacDonald; 5, Catherine MacLeod.

Reading from Bible—Selected by Adjudicator—1, Murlina MacLean; 2, Maggie MacDonald, Catherine MacLeod, and Dolina MacLeod; 5, Donald MacLeod and Neil MacLeod.

Recitation of Gaelic Poetry—1, Sheila MacDonald; 2, Murlina MacLean and Dolina Smith; 4, Maggie MacDonald and Neil MacLeod.

(Age, under 14.)

Reading with Expression from Acts—1, Kenny M. MacLeod; 2, Chrissie Murray; 3, Katie M. Kennedy and Chrissie Murray.

Reading with Expression from Luke—1, Dolina MacNeil; 2, Katie M. Kennedy and Sophia Kennedy.

Reciting from Memory—1, Annie J. MacKenzie; 2, John MacMillan and Angus MacLeod.

(Age, under 16.)

Telling a Traditional Story—1, Maggie MacDonald; 2, Murlina MacLean; 3, Catherine MacLeod; 4, Agnes MacDonald.

#### VOCAL MUSIC.

##### JUNIORS.

Choral Singing (Two-part Song)—Laxdale Junior Choir.

Choral Singing (Unison)—Knock School Choir. Waulking Song—1, Laxdale School Choir; 2, Knock School Choir.

Solo Singing—Boys—1, W. R. Matheson, Laxdale; 2, Kenneth MacPhail, Laxdale.

Solo Singing—Girls—1, Marie MacLeod, Knock; 2, Sheila MacDonald, Nicolson Institute; 3, Mary A. MacDonald, Laxdale; 4, Phyllis MacLennan, Laxdale; 5, Christy A. Morrison, Nicolson Institute; 6, Margaret J. MacIver, Knock.

Solo Singing (Own Choice)—Boys—W. R. Matheson, Laxdale.

Solo Singing (Own Choice)—Girls—1, Ciona MacLeod, Knock; 2, Phyllis MacLennan, Laxdale, and Mary A. MacDonald, Laxdale (equal); 4, Jessie M. MacLean, Knock; 5, Annie Ross, Nicolson Institute; 6, Christina Reid, Laxdale.

Local Traditional Song—Boys—1, W. R. Matheson, Laxdale; 2, Kenneth MacLeod, Laxdale; 3, Kenneth MacPhail, Laxdale.

Local Traditional Song—Girls—1, Morag Watt, Laxdale, and Mary A. MacDonald, Laxdale (equal); 3, Isabel MacLeod, Knock, and Phyllis MacLennan, Laxdale; 5, Marie MacLeod, Knock; 6, Johanna Gunn, Skigersta.

Duets—1, Margaret Stewart and Mary A. MacDonald, Laxdale; 2, Annie Ross and Margaret MacLeod, Nicolson Institute; 3, Margaret MacGregor and Christina MacGregor, Laxdale; 4, W. R. Matheson and Donald MacRitchie, Laxdale; 5, Sheila MacDonald and Dolina MacLeod, Nicolson Institute, and Margaret MacLeod and Rhoda MacLeod, Nicolson Institute (equal).

## PIPING.

Piping—1, Donald MacLeod, winner of Aird-a-Bhaigh Cup; 2, James MacLeod; 3, Ian MacLennan; 4, Angus MacDonald.

## VOCAL MUSIC.

## SENIORS.

Solo Singing—Female Voices (Own Choice)—1, Catherine MacLeod and Annie MacLeod (equal).

Solo Singing—Male Voices (Own Choice)—1, Angus MacLeod; 2, Donald MacLeod.

Duet Singing—1, Catherine I. MacLean and Nancy MacKenzie, Nicolson Institute; 2, Annie MacLeod and Mary A. MacDonald, Laxdale; 3, Margaret MacGregor and Dolina R. Morrison, Nicolson Institute; 4, Jane Mitchell and Maggie Smith, Nicolson Institute.

Quartette Singing—Nicolson Institute, Class IV.  
Folk Song—Catherine I. MacLean.

## SPECIAL PRIZES.

MacKenzie Shield for Part Singing—Laxdale Junior Choir.

Cup for Union Singing—Knock Junior Choir.  
Aird-a-Bhaigh Cup for Piping—Donald MacLeod.

MacAulay Trophy for Excellence in Literary Competitions—Maggie MacDonald, Nicolson Institute.

Special Prize, presented by the Adjudicators to the youngest competitor, who was also the competitor coming the longest distance to the Mod—Mary E. MacLeod, Skigersta.

## PERTHSHIRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The tenth Perthshire Provincial Mod was held at Pitlochry, on 17th June. The interest in this Mod is well maintained, and the number of entries compared favourably with previous years. Lord James Stewart Murray presided over the closing concert, and Lady Helen Tod presented the prizes. The Mod Prize Play, "Am Fear a Chaill a Ghaidhlig," was excellently reproduced by members of the Aberfeldy Gaelic Continuation Class.

The results were:—

## JUNIOR ORAL DELIVERY.

Mr. Hector M. MacDougall, Glasgow, was adjudicator in the oral delivery sections.

Prose Reading (confined to learners)—A—1, John Gow, Dalnainin Lodge, Glengarry. B—1, Barbara MacPhail, Killin; 2, Janet Seaton, Drumcroy, Glenelichy; 3, MacDonald, Drumcroy, Glenelichy.

Reading (open to native speakers under 16)—1, Cathie Shaw, Killin; 2, Catherine M. Robertson, Fincastle.

Reciting from Memory (under 16)—A—1, Chrissie MacInnes, Finnart, Rannoch; 2, Cora Stewart, Dalnacardoch, Glengarry; 3, Willie Gow, Dalnainin Lodge, Glengarry. B—1, Catherine M. Robertson; 2, Cathie Shaw; 3, Marion Cameron, Pitlochry.

Narrative (open to all under 18 years)—1, Catherine M. Robertson; 2, Hamish Robertson, Fincastle.

Gaelic Conversation (open to all under 10 years)—1, Jemima Robertson, Fincastle; 2, Margaret Mac-

Master, Kinloch Rannoch. Over 10 and under 18 years—1, Catherine M. Robertson; 2, Hamish Robertson; 3, Cathie Shaw.

Repetition (open to all under 16)—A—1, Murray MacBeath, Aberfeldy; 2, John Gow; 3, Marian Cameron, Dall, Rannoch. B—1, Cathie Shaw; 2, Jean Blair, Blair Atholl; 3, Eliza MacPherson, Camusericht, Rannoch.

## SENIOR ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading at Sight—1, Miss M. Morrison, Aberfeldy; 2, Mrs. J. MacDougall, Aberfeldy; 3, Hugh MacPhee, Rannoch.

Reading (confined to native speakers)—1, Miss M. Morrison; 2, Mrs. J. MacDougall, Aberfeldy; 3, John MacArthur.

Recitation—1, Hugh MacPhee, Rannoch; 2, Miss M. Morrison; 3, Mrs. J. MacDougall.

## JUNIOR VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic, Mr. John R. Bannerman, Meikle Rahane; music, Mr. Kenneth MacRae, Edinburgh.

The letter "A" denotes under 10, and "B" over 10 and under 16.

Girls—A—1, Isla MacLauchlan, Struan School, Calvine; 2, Morag MacDonald, Auchleeks, Glenelichy; 3, Sheila Stewart, Aberfeldy. B—1, May Smollet, Aberfeldy; 2, Catherine MacPherson, Aberfeldy; 3, Chrissie MacNee, Killin.

Boys—A—1, John Gow, Dalnainin Lodge, Glengarry; 2, Roderick MacPherson, Kinloch Rannoch; 3, Stewart, Aberfeldy. B—1, Donald Seaton, Drumcroy, Glenelichy; 2, Iain M. R. Stewart, Aberfeldy; 3, Hamish MacRae, Kenmore.

Girls or Boys—1, Alasdair Morrison, Killin; 2, Chrissie MacNee; 3, Hamish MacRae.

Duets—1, Betty Balmer and Isla MacLauchlan, Struan; 2, Elspeth Henderson and Catherine MacPherson, Aberfeldy; 3, Helen Gordon and Joey Stewart, Dalguise.

Girls or Boys (over 16 but not over 18 years)—1, Flora MacInnes, Kinloch Rannoch; 2, Isabel Robertson, Aberfeldy; 3, Agnes MacKinnon, Killin.

Duets (over 16 but not over 18 years)—1, Amy Campbell and Isabel Robertson, Aberfeldy.

Junior Choral in two-part harmony—Pitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir.

## SENIOR VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic, the Rev. Hector Cameron, Moy; music, Mr. Hugh Hunter, Mus. Bac., Innellan.

Female Voices—1, Miss Menzies, Aberfeldy; 2, Miss Margaret MacEwan, Fearnan; 3, Miss Nettie Seaton, Pitlochry.

Male Voices—1, James Hamilton, Aberfeldy; 2, Eric Fergusson, Pitlochry; 3, Peter Brydone, Fearnan.

Male or Female Voices—1, Miss Menzies; 2, John MacArthur, Ballinluig; 3, Margaret MacEwan.

Solos (open to former first prize winners)—1, John MacPherson, Kinloch Rannoch; 2, Mrs. A. Carmichael, Fortingall; 3, John MacArthur.

Duets—1, Misses A. MacKay and Mary Stewart, Dull; 2, Misses J. Dempster and C. Stewart, Kinloch Rannoch.

## CHORAL AND ORAL CLASSES.

Adjudicators—Gaelic, the Rev. Hector Cameron and Mr. John R. Bannerman; music, Messrs. Hugh Hunter and Kenneth MacRae, Edinburgh.

Junior Union Singing—1, Pitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Aberfeldy Junior Gaelic Choir; 3, Dalguise Junior Gaelic Choir.

Senior Choral Singing in Harmony—1, Pitlochry Gaelic Choir; 2, Aberfeldy Gaelic Choir; 3, Kinloch Rannoch Gaelic Choir.

Narrating of an Unpublished Historical or Traditional Gaelic Story—1, Miss M. Morrison; 2, Mrs. Mary I. MacDonald, Logierait.

Original Gaelic Speech—John Ford, Glenlyon.

Acted Dialogue—1, Miss Helen MacGregor, Pitlochry, and Miss Christian MacDonald, Kinloch Rannoch; 2, Misses M. and N. Robertson, Pitlochry.

#### LITERARY SECTION.

Junior—Place Names—1, Iain Fraser Robertson, Killin; 2, Alexander Jamieson, Blair Atholl; 3, Catherine M. Robertson, Fincastle.

Essay or Story—Hamish Robertson.

Best Collection of Pressed Flowers (giving Gaelic and English names)—1, John Gow; 2, Jemima Robertson, Fincastle; 3, Margaret Dow, Croftnagowan, Glenelg.

Senior—Story—Mrs. J. MacDougall. Poem—Iain Leodhasach, Peairt. Place Names—Miss Grace Haggart, Aberfeldy.

#### INSTRUMENTAL SECTION.

Adjudicators—Violin and pianoforte, Mr Iain C. Menzies, Edinburgh; bagpipes, Mr. Robert Irvine, Cuil-an-Duin, Ballinluig.

Violin—A—1, Arthur Cook, Bridge of Earn; 2, Willie Burns, Stanley; William James Brennan, Bridge of Earn. B—1, James Smith, Blair Atholl; 2, Frank Stobie, Glenlyon.

Pianoforte—A—1, Margo Goodall, Pitlochry; 2, William F. Stewart, Bankfoot; 3, Donald MacDonald, Aberfeldy. B—1, Miss Anna Cameron, Aberfeldy; 2, Mrs. Ella Drummond, Bridge of Cally; 3, Miss Annie C. Gow, Dunkeld.

Bagpipes—1, Magnus Grieve, Gleneagles; 2, Flora MacInnes, Kinloch Rannoch; 3, Angus MacKillop, Perth.

### FORT WILLIAM MOD DONATIONS.

#### Received at Head Office—

Gaelic Society of London	£10	0	0
Duncan MacInnes, Royal Chief, Order of Scottish Clans of America	10	0	0
Ardgour Branch	5	5	0
Mrs. M. Wilson, Dunblane	5	0	0
Gaelic Society of Glasgow	5	0	0
Paisley Highlanders' Association	4	4	0
Edinburgh Gaelic Choir	4	0	0
Oban and Lorne Association	3	0	0
Mull and Iona Association	3	0	0
Sir Norman Lamont, Bt., of Knockdow	2	2	0
Rothsay (Bute) Branch	3	0	0
Glasgow Inverness-shire Association	2	2	0
James R. Thomson, Esq.	1	1	0
Mrs. Flora Rhodes, Nova Scotia	1	1	0
Glasgow Atholl and Breadalbane Association	2	1	0
Neil MacDougall, Esq., Carradale	1	0	0
Mrs. Christison, Glasgow	1	0	0
A. MacFadyen, Esq.	0	5	0
Rev. John Connor, D.S.O., Portsmouth	0	5	0

#### Received at Fort William—

Mrs. Cameron-Head, Inverailort Castle	£5	0	0
H. F. Rankin, Esq., 38 The Drive, Golder's Green, London	1	1	0

Miss Cameron Miller, Fort William and London	5	5	0
Miss Allan, Invergloyle, Inverness-shire	10	0	0
Lord Inverclyde, Wemyss Castle	1	1	0
Mrs. Ryan—Proceeds of Dance at Roy Bridge	2	0	0
Rev. M. Galbraith, Fort William	0	10	0
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His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, per Alfred N. MacAulay, Esq.	3	3	0
Wm. MacKay, Esq., Solicitor, Inverness	1	1	0
Peter Blackburn, Esq., Roshver, Lochailort	2	2	0
Archibald Chisholm, Esq., Glenelg	0	10	0
Miss MacLachlan, Tulloch—Proceeds of School Concert	2	0	0
Misses C. & D. Blyth, Glenfuman—Proceeds of Dance	3	5	0
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Mrs. Croll, 9 Westbourne St., Hyde Park, London	3	3	0
A. Ross, Esq., Glasgow	1	1	0
Samuel Dow, Ltd., Glasgow	1	1	0
John H. Dow, Glasgow	1	1	0
John Dewar & Sons, Ltd., Perth	2	2	0
Charles Ian Fraser, Esq., of Reelig	2	2	0
The Rt. Hon. Lord Howard de Walden, per Jas. Middleton, Esq.	3	3	0
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Shiskine Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, per Angus Smith, Esq.	1	0	0
Glasgow Lochaber Society, per J. Cameron, LL.B., Hon. Secretary	5	5	0
Fort Augustus Branch, An Comunn Gaidhealach, per D. MacGregor, Hon. Secretary	5	5	0
Miss J. M. Calder, Aberfeldy Branch	2	0	0
Mrs. Pearson, Motherwell	1	1	0
London Inverness-shire Association, per F. S. Wilson, C.A., Hon. Treasurer	2	2	0

Mrs. MacLeod of Skeabost ... ..	1 1 0	Cruachan Branch, An Comunn	
Miss MacMillan, Trislaig—Proceeds of		Gaidhealach, per A. Murray, Tay-	
Dance ... ..	2 1 6	nuit ... ..	1 0 0
Invergarry Branch of An Comunn		Beinn Dhuirinis Branch of An Comunn	
Gaidhealach, per Miss Tait, Treas-		Gaidhealach, per Miss C. Nicholson,	
urer ... ..	6 18 6	Bonawe ... ..	1 0 0
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Proceeds of Dance ... ..	9 10 0	Glasgow ... ..	1 1 0
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Duncan Cameron, Tulloch and Merthyr		Duisky, per Miss Cameron ... ..	2 0 0
Tydfil ... ..	2 2 0	Dunoon Branch, An Comunn	
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MacLeod of MacLeod ... ..	10 0 0	Miss Cameron, Achendaul, for Dance	8 0 6
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William ... ..	1 1 0	Leverhall, Musselburgh ... ..	0 10 0
George Carruthers & Sons, Ltd.,		Fort William Gaelic Choir (2nd	
Glasgow, per McDonald Bros., Fort		contribution) ... ..	2 19 6
William ... ..	1 0 0	John Laird & Co., Glasgow ... ..	1 0 0
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TELEGRAMS.—Runaire, Glasgow.

TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXVII.]

*An t-Sultuin, 1932.*

[Earrann 12

### CUAIRT SHAMHRAIDH.

An diugh tha e comasach astar mór a chur seachad an aon latha le carbad-ola. Cha saoil neach a' bheag de cheud mìle de dh'astar a nis. Le sin is urrainn muinntir dol air turus troimh na glinn, mar nach b'urrainn dhaibh a dhol o chionn fichead bliadhna air ais. Chaidh sinn o chionn ghoirid seachad ri taobh Loch Lagain. Fhuair an loch sin an t-ainm o'n lagan a tha aig ceann an locha, far an robh a' chill aig Cainneach, aon de na naoimh a thàinig a Eirinn comhla ri Calum Cille. Tha seann eaglais aig an àite sin, ach tha i a nis air tuiteam, gun a bheag ri fhaicinn ach beagan de na ballachan. Thàinig sinn an sin gu Abhainn Spean a tha a' ruith a mach a Loch Lagain. An ùine ghoirid bidh an amhainn so air a stiùireadh a stigh gu Loch Tréig, agus bidh Loch Tréig air a dheanamh ceithir troighean deug na's doimhne na tha e an diugh. Theid uisge Loch Lagain a dhòrtadh do Loch Tréig, agus theid an tromad uisge sin a ghiùlan troimh air a dhèanamh troimh an bheinn, gu gleann Neibheis. Cuirear an t-uisge sin gu feum gu bhi a' deanamh *electricity* gu rothan is muillean iomairt anns a' bhaile ùr a tha ri thogail aig taobh tuath Gearasdan Lochabair. Bheir sin obair do mhltean de luchd oibreach an uair a bhios an acfhuinn fo làn uidheim. Dh'iarr luchd

riaghlaidh na h-oibreach orm-sa facail fhreagarrach gus an gearradh anns a' Ghaidhlig air bonn suaicheantais. Is iad na facail a thug mi dhaibh, "*Rath le Rian is Neart nan Dùl.*"

\* \* \*

Cha b'fhada gus an d'ràinig sinn Loch Lòchaidh, far a bheil rathad ùr comhnard ri oir an uisge. Tha am pailteas de chraobhan a' fàs ri taobh an locha sin cuideachd. Chaidh sinn seachad air a' chladhan mhór, aig na glasan eadar Loch Lòchaidh agus Loch Oimhich. Thainig an carbad-ola gun dàil gu Inbhirgaradh, far a' faca sinn na turraidean aig an t-seann Chaisteal a bhuineas do Mhac 'Ic Alasdair, triath Gleanna Garadh. Tha an cearn sin anabarrach maiseach fàsach, làn de choille, de chaoitich is rainich laimh ris an t-seann rathad air gach taobh. Is iomadh triath treun a bha de'n teaghlach ud an Gleann Garadh. Thug sealladh air na làraichean aosmhor iomadh ni ann ar cuimhne, agus thug sinn fainear gu bheil an caisteal a nis anns a' mhargadh, gu bhi air a reic. Is ann an sud a bha am bard Ailean Dall, a rinn an t-òran grinn do Mhac 'Ic Alasdair. An uair a thog mi mo shùil ris na monaidhean arda, agus a chuala mi fuaim nan gunnathan aig na sealgairean a bha ag eunach nan cearca-fraoich, thàinig na briathran gum inntinn a sheinn Ailean Dall

mu Mhac 'Ic Alasdair—

'S maith thig miosar is adhare,  
Ort 's tagha nan arm;  
Bhiodh do mhìol-choin air lodhainn  
'S iad romhad a' falbh—  
Cas a shiubhal an fhìrigh,  
Leat a chinneadh an t-sealg,  
'S 'nuair shineadh tu d'ùileann  
Bhiodh fuil air damh dearg.

\* \* \*

Chaidh sinn an déidh sin seachad air Loch Garadh agus Loch Laighne, troimh bheanntan arda gruamach. Bha am fraoch bheanach gorm fo bhlàth, agus a' measgachadh leis a chaoinich uaine, agus na seann chreagan liatha. Shaoileadh neach gur e dathan a' bhreacain a bha air an càradh mar sud gu bòidheach am fagus da cheile. Is iomadh allt is eas a chunnaic mi a' leum thairis air na sgeilpeanan, agus duilleach na craoibhe beithe ri an iomall air a h-uisgeachadh leis na boinnean a bha air an sràdadh o'n eas; agus an sin dheanadh an t-allt cabhag le bruthach gus an cruinnicheadh an t-uisge a ris ann an glumaig chruinn chuartaigaich. Is iongantach an éifeachd a tha aig sruthan a' srùladh le torman gu bhi a' tàladh na cluaise an déidh gleadh na sràide. Tha loeshlaint an sud do'n chluais, do'n t-shùil agus do'n intinn.

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Chum sinn air ar n-aghaidh troimh Ghleann Cluainidh agus Gleann Seile. Chunnaic sinn sealgairean nam fiadh air a' Bheinn Fhada, agus thachair gille is each ruinn air a' rathad, a' giùlan féidh air ùr-mharbhadh. Bha fuil an fhéidh gu dearg air clachan an rathaid mhóir. Is bochd an nì gur e coigrich a tha nis 'g an cluich féin ann ar dùthaich, agus gur e Gàidheil an luchd frithealaidh. Chan urrainn dhuinn ach a bhi duilich ri faicinn nan coachlaidhean a tha a' breith air Tìr nam Beann, an dùthaich cho àillidh 's a bha i riamh—ach a' sluagh 'g a tréigsinn 's 'ga fàgail falamh. Air an laimh eile tha cùisean air atharrachadh gu mór a thaobh tuarasdail, agus oibreachadh an fhearainn; agus faodaidh gur e dol air inrich far am faigh iad an aran làitheil a chosnadh, an dòigh is glìce de mhóran de 'n oigridh, do nach eil cosnadh ri sheachnadh anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. Ged is cruaidh a bhi ag aideachadh sin gidheadh feumar géilleadh do na coran ùra a tha ag éiridh anns na bliadhnaichean so.

Ràinig sinn aiseag na Dòirnidh agus chaidh sinn seachad air Caisteal Eilein Donnain a chaidh fhosgladh o chionn ghoirid an déidh a thogail as ùr. Tha iomadh naidheachd ri innseadh mun chaisteal ainmeil sin. Tha coltas an ùine ghoirid gun deanar drochaid thairis air aiseag na Dòirnidh. Tha tomhas de chunnart anns na h-aisig ud airson carbadan-ola 'gan giùlan air bata-aisig an uair a tha an aimsir fiadhaich agus a' mhuir coirbte le sruth is le gaoith. Mu dheireadh thainig sinn gu aiseag a' Chaoil, agus chaidh sinn a null do'n Eilean Sgitheanach. Tha an t-Eilean sin aithnichte aig an am do luchd turuis a tha ag iarraidh cuairt a ghabhail air feadh chearnan eile creagach beanntach. Thug sinn fainear na faicil a sgrìobh Niall Macleoid mu'n Eilean—

“Do chreagan gu h-uabhrach  
Mar challaid mu'n cuairt duit,  
'S na neoil air an iomain  
Ag iomairt mu 'm barr;  
'S am bonn air a sguabadh  
Le srùlaichean gruamach,  
O bhàrcadh a' chuain  
A' toirt nuallan air tràigh.”

\* \* \*

Bha an aimsir ciùin agus taitneach, ni nach robh cumanta o chionn greis; agus bha neoil an fheasgair mar bhaidealan air mullach a' Chuilinn. Tha fhios gu bheil an Cuilinn gruamach gu leòr ri droch aimsir; ach tha e òirdheir ri fhaicinn an am dol fodha na gréine air feasgar Samhraidh. Thug sinn cuairt gu Cuiraing an taobh tuath an Eilein; agus tha an sealladh cho breagha ri aon sealladh is urrainn duit fhaicinn an àite sam bith—na creagan a' seasamh a mach 'nam binneinan mar stìopail eaglaisean móra. Chunnaic sinn caisteal Dhuntuilm far am b'abhaist do thrìath nan Eilean comhnaidh. Chunnaic sinn mar an ceudna an uaigh aig Fionghuala NicDhomhnaill, a thug cuideachadh do Phrionnsa Tearlach, an uair a bha e fo'n choill. Cha robh taobh air an tionndadh duine nach faicteadh sealladh maiseach—Cuan Sgith o dheas gu tuath agus an t-Eilean Fada gu léir air uchd na fairge—bu bhòidheach an sealladh da rìribh o'n chnoc an seann chladh Chillmhuire.

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## THE GAEL AND MODERN REQUIREMENTS.

BY A DRUID.

### III.

Let us take only one illustration of the way some things are done. In the Highlands we have had for years a considerable number of Education Committees, whose task is to provide for the training and preparing of so many young Gaels to take their place as citizens of the Empire. Take a hurried glance at all the apparatus of learning. In regard to elementary education it fortunately is the case that at the moment due stress is wisely laid on the main essentials. But in the more advanced or secondary department, I have noticed that education is chiefly confined to theory. There is much book-learning, and too little of practical training. Of late years, for some reason or other, a great many young people of both sexes have chosen the teaching profession, a noble profession. There has, however, been a surplus of candidates. There has been, on the other hand, a woeful scarcity of apprentices for those trades which are necessary for us if our country is to be kept going by our own people. In a day's journey in the North of Scotland to-day, you will scarcely see an apprentice of the trades of mason, smith, carpenter, tailor; and in the course of a few years Gaelic Scotland, where the Gael is supposed to be educated and fitted for citizenship, will be obliged to depend on artisans from the Lowlands for the purposes of civil life. Does that look like common sense, to encourage a system of education which leaves the country helpless, and in which people cannot live unless they get the necessary requirements and comforts of life arranged and carried through by outsiders? The tactics are wrong—Education is bound and fettered by red-tape. The definition of education must be enlarged. It must include the training of the *hand* as well as of the *head*. We must teach the new generation the dignity of the trades, the arts of civilized life, the dignity of toil. We look for the best results from education and from the ratepayers' money that is spent on it. Take the amount of public money put on the training of that host of surplus teachers for whom there is no employment. Suppose that money were devoted to encouraging

apprentices to learn such vital trades as I have mentioned—how much better would it be for the country—and how much better balanced, and how much more sensible our system of modern education would appear! I have no faith in that type of woodwork or other art or craft which is dabbled in at *school*, and as a *school subject*. I prefer the actual apprenticeship and the full day's work, the only way of learning a trade. In the event of young men so trained not being able to find employment in their own country, how much better equipped would they be to earn their livelihood abroad, if they had been taught a definite occupation, rather than a smattering of some branch of study which they never grasped sufficiently to be of any use to them, intellectually or otherwise.

The Gael of Scotland is by physical descent a happy blend of strong races. He inherits, of course, a rich strain from the Celt, but he is also influenced by the Scandinavian. Let us not forget that for a period of 400 years the Vikings occupied the Western Highlands of Scotland. But older than the Norse, or even the Celt, we have a decided touch of the fine old Mediterranean stock. We still have words and beliefs which are derived from that remote ancestry. It is because his mental and physical constitution is so composite that the Scottish Gael is well fitted to face the demands of modern life. He has staying power and vision. All he needs is some improvement in his methods, his tactics, his way of doing things. By bringing his observation and intellect to bear on his environment, by cultivating his *practical* reason, and letting it inform and regulate emotion—that is the path by which the Gael is to come to his own. You remember how Matthew Arnold, in his *Essay on Celtic Literature*, stresses the need for that quality in the work of the Celt, the sustained power of applied thought, the "architectonic" as he calls it, of important undertakings. The mixed racial descent of the Scottish Gael redeems him from being altogether a creature of mere emotion. You get as many level-headed business men among Gaels as among Saxons, man for man. There is no sphere at all, where common sense and business capacity are required, but the Scottish Gael is found doing his work as efficiently at least as any other.

In attempting to discuss a topic of this



kind one requires to take note of certain historical facts, not indeed in the spirit of boasting, but in order to do justice to the subject. One has sometimes read in English books that the Gael is not a good worker; that he is by disposition lazy, lethargic, indolent, etc. The only reply to that charge is by an appeal to the facts as they are at this very hour. Ask the Canadian or the American employer of labour who is the best worker, the most conscientious and indefatigable toiler. He will probably say it is the Scotsman, and among Scotsmen in that sense the Scottish Gael is not the worst. In every industrial field in this country itself, the Gael has borne his share for energy and hard work. And in the Dominions overseas he has done his full share in clearing the forest, in reclaiming land for the plough, in developing the resources of new countries. This world does not contain a more successful colonist than the Scottish Gael. He has succeeded where others have failed. Gaels were the pioneers who crossed Canada first, and gave their names to those great rivers, the Fraser River and the MacKenzie River; and if you look at the map of any British Dominion you will soon discover that the Gaelic place names are there, indicating the presence of settlers from the old country. On land and on the sea, as tradesman or sailor, in industry or commerce, I merely point to the evident fact that the Gael is duly qualified to hold his own.

There are other walks of life than these, however, in which the Gael is expected to acquit himself with credit. Take what are called the learned professions—there, too, I need hardly point out how so many of our people have achieved distinction. The Gael in the Church of to-day has a long and honourable record behind him. The contribution of the Gael as preacher and theologian has been no mean contribution. His nature, touched by emotion, endowed with imagination, has brought him within the shrine. His gift of speech, his gift of expressive utterance, has made him an eloquent messenger to declare the things he saw "in the mind's eye." In these endowments of the mind and of the spirit, the power of the Gael is not less than it was of old. In this department it is still in his power to make a valuable contribution and response to the demands of the present hour and also of days to come. In the other professions he has abundantly shown his aptitude. The lists of our judges and

pleaders contain illustrious names of Gaelic origin; while in medicine and surgery men of Gaelic stock can always be found in the front rank. In literature, the modern Celtic aspirant has the benefit of great antecedents. His traditions are full of noble literary work. If he wishes to bring freshness to the portrayal of human character, he need only consult his own ancient records; and he will find there a mature skill in letters, in poetry, and in prose, which will equip him to respond successfully to the need for a fresh note in literary form and utterance.

On the artistic side again, in music and the fine arts, the modern world is only now becoming alive to the treasures that have long been there unused and unsuspected. The Gaelic mind has always delighted in music, and probably expressed itself more thoroughly and completely in music than in any other way. There is no saying how much even the folk-song of the Gael may have yet to bestow on the modern mind, of things of beauty, which for ever haunt the human memory. And the resources of Celtic art have not by any means been exhausted. Flourishing as it did about five centuries before the Christian era, it has still a subtle power to interfuse itself with the latest phases of art, and to convey always its own mystical charm.

It is in this department of his mentality that the Gael still possesses a rich heritage; and if he only use it skilfully he will be in a position to impart his influence to modern life in its future development. In connection with their literary and artistic work, our fathers cultivated to a wonderful extent the power of mental *concentration*. This is no mere theory or opinion. It is an actual fact. Modern psychology teaches us to lay great stress and value on the power of concentration, on the art of summoning attention and meditation to one special focus. Only on this condition can any important mental work be done. Now in the old days the *Ollamh* or Doctor of Literature was also a *Druid*. It was a rule with the Druids that, whenever an important mental task had to be performed, they abstain from food for days until the task was done. They evidently discovered that a fast has a tendency to clear the brain; and at such a time mental vision becomes keener. The cerebral function is not hindered by the process of digestion. The physicians of our own day might have something to say in favour of this plan on

occasion. In any case the Druidic fast was associated with some mental feat. The poets of the ancient Gaelic world took over the idea, so that the rule was gradually established in the bardic schools. The same rule was adopted by artists and musical composers. And what concentration and wealth of detail, on the artistic side, we find in the old illuminated MSS. of the Gael. Here was a power of patience and minute concentration that can defy the most capable of modern craftsmen. These faculties of care and thoroughness in realising artistic ideals were directed mainly to artistic ends. But what is to hinder the Gael from reviving this hereditary gift, and applying it to other ends, to the ends required by modern life. It is in his power to bring a wealth of thoroughness to the pursuit of the artistic crafts, to the fulfilment of purposes for which meticulous care is required.

(To be continued)

## AM FEAR A CHAILL A GHÀIDHLIG.

Tha *An Gaidheal* a chaidh a chlo-bhualadh aig Lùnasdal, 1932, ag innseadh dhuinn gu'n deach a' Chluich sin do'n ainm "Am Fear a Chaill a Ghaidhlig" ath-thoir-a-mach gu h-oidhearc aig deicheamh Mòd Dùthchail Siorrachd Pheairt o chionn ghoidrid. Chan eil e air aithris ciod an tubaist a thachair do'n fhear, a dh'aobhraich dha a Ghaidhlig a chall. Maith dh'fhaodte nach do thachair tubaist sam bith na's mo no na tubaistean a thachair agus a tha a' tachairt do iomadh neach a bhàrr air, na h-uile latha.

Thachair fear a chaill a Ghaidhlig, no, co-dhiubh, cuid mhaith dhi, ri "Bodachan a' Ghàraidh" aon latha o chionn fada, agus dh'innis am Bodachan dhuinn anns a' phaipair sin do'n goirte *Mac-Talla* gach ni mu dhéidhinn. Tha an cunntas a thug *Mac-Talla* seachad air a' chùis mar a leanas:

"Thachair fear dhiubh rium an latha roimhe, agus thuir mi, 'Tha latha briagha ann an diugh a Sheumais.' 'Tha latha splendid ann gun doubt. Nach 'eil na h-*April showers* air an talamh fhàgail cho moist 's gu bheil gach flower a' togail an cinn ri teas na greine', arsa Seumas. 'Am bheil iad air ghluasad aigabh?' arsa mise. 'Ma ta, chan eil. Tha lain gle *slack* o'n ghabh e'n inflammation anns na lungs toiseach Mharch. Tha e fuireach fiadhaich

*delicate*, agus chan 'eil appetite idir aige. Tha e toirt concern mòr do m' mhàthair, 's tha mi fhein car *anxious* mu dhéidhinn cuideachd.' "

Agus arsa Bodachan a' Ghàraidh, "An uair a chuala mi na briathran so cha mhòr nach do leum mo nàdur orm. Nis, 'illean, an cuala sibh riann a leithid so de Ghaidhlig aig ar n-athraichean no aig ar seanairean? Sibh nach cuala.' "

Le mòr urram do Bhodachan a' Ghàraidh chan eil mi idir cho cinnteach nach cuala.

Chan eil an t-aobhar gearain so co-cheangailte ri sluagh sonraichte no ri àiteachan sonraichte sam bith. Tha e craobh-sgaolte feadh na dùthcha gu léir. Tha e maille ruinn fad iomadh bliadhna, agus an àite a bhi dol na's fearr is ann a tha e a' dol a sheachd miosad. Is i cheist, ciod ghabhas deanamh gu rian na's fearr a chur air bruidhinn na Gaidhlig? Chan eil fear no té a bhruidhneas a' Ghaidhlig aig nach 'eil làn fhios gur iomadh uair, ann an conaltradh, a bhios e glé dhoirbh faicail fhreagarrach fhaotainn aig an am fheumail. Anns an t-seadh sin tha sinn uile a' comhuidh ann an tighean glainne, agus is ole a thig e dhuinn tòiseachadh air tilgeadh chlachan. Ach na faicil Bheurla a chaidh a chur gu feum mar a tha air aithris an so, chan aithne dhomh ciamar is urrainn neach sam bith aon leisgeul a chur air adhart air an son. Gu bhi onarach mu'n chùis, chan eil ann ach mi-chùram o thùs gu deireadh; agus tha am mi-chùram sin a' leudachadh agus a' meudachadh ann ar measg an diugh ann a tomhas nach gabh àicheadh, agus a' deanamh dolaidh mhóir do aobhar na Gaidhlig.

Nis, mar a thuir mi cheana, ciod a ghabhas deanamh? Chan aithne dhomhsa ni is freagarraiche, anns a' cheud àite, na so —gach eun a ghlanaidh a nid féin. Cuireadh gach aon a bhruidhneas a' Ghaidhlig, e féin fo bhòid nach cuir e, ann am bruidhinn na Gaidhlig, ann fhaicil Beurla an sàs mur a toir an tul-éiginn air. Nan cuireadh daoine so rompa a cheart da-rìribh, ciod e an togail a bheireadh e do'n chàinain an ùine ghoidrid. Saoilidh mi sin co-dhiubh. Mar a tha, tha sinn 'nar eus fhanaid do'n dream nach toireadh bonn-a-h-oched airson ar eanain.

Fàgamaid an gnothuch mar sin an drasda. "Bidh sinn beò an dòchas ro mhaith. Oidheche mhaith leibh, beannachd leibh."

EILEANACH.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES.

### National Mod, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th October.

The arrangements for the National Mod, which takes place this year at Fort William, are now well advanced. The progress of recent years is well maintained, and once more a record number of entries has to be announced. The figures received total 1598 which constitutes an advance of 165 over last year's total, and 530 over the number of entries received on the last occasion the Mod was in Fort William five years ago. A most gratifying feature of this year's entries is that the greatest increase has been experienced in the literary and oral sections, and it is interesting to mention that the entries in the Junior literary and oral classes eclipse the numbers in the solo and choral classes by no less than 295. This is most heartening, as it must be recognised that these young folk are the future custodiers of the language. Among the Seniors the literary classes particularly show the greatest increase, and the poem competition for the bardic crown heads the list with 17 names. The oral, choral, and instrumental sections have all set up new records, and the solo section, while showing an advance over last year is only 11 short of the highest yet, at Dunoon in 1930. The entries in the various sections are as follows:—

JUNIOR—Literary, 380; Oral, 237; Solo and Duet, 191; Choral, 31.

SENIOR—Literary, 59; Oral, 121; Solo and Duet, 461; Choral, 73; Instrumental, 27. Celtic Art—18.

The Mod proceedings will be conducted on similar lines to previous years. The Junior will occupy all the attention on Tuesday, and the various prize-winners will sustain the programme of the Junior concert in the Town Hall in the evening. The Senior competitions commence on Wednesday, and will continue until Friday, when the choral events bring the Mod competitions to a close. The official opening takes place on Wednesday at 12 noon. Following the competitions on Thursday, the Rural Choir concert will be held, while the Mod Grand Concert on Friday evening will be held in two houses, commencing at 6.30 p.m. and 8.45 p.m., respectively. The programme at each of these will be the same.

To assist all those who desire to attend these functions, the following list of

admission charges will be helpful:—Junior Concert, Tuesday evening, 2/4 and 1/2; Rural Choir Concert, Thursday evening, 3/6 and 2/6; Mod Grand Concerts, Friday evening (both houses), 5/6, 3/6, and 2/6. The booking arrangements for all Mod concerts will be undertaken by Mr. J. C. Reid, 43 High Street, Fort William, to whom all applications for tickets should be directed. In the case of the Friday evening concerts, patrons should clearly state for which house accommodation is desired.

The Railway Companies will again provide cheap travelling facilities during the Mod period. This year the concession granted provides for the usual single fare day return ticket, valid on day of issue only, from stations within a radius of sixty miles of Fort William, and the return journey from all stations in Scotland, including Carlisle and Berwick, to Fort William, at single fare and third, fractions of 3d reckoned as 3d. This latter concession, for which tickets will be available from 3rd to 10th October, has been extended to include Clyde coast places and Loch Lomond piers. Mod period return tickets will also be issued by Messrs. MacBrayne (1921), Ltd., while Messrs. MacCallum, Orme & Co., Ltd., have kindly agreed to provide return tickets on their steamers at single fare rates. We highly appreciate the granting of these concessions, and take this opportunity of publicly expressing our thanks. In connection with these facilities it should be noted that vouchers for cheap rate tickets can only be had from this office. All applications for these vouchers must reach the office not later than Saturday, 1st October, and requests should in all cases be accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes for return postage.

With the increased patronage that the Mod now receives, there is again before us the problem of overtaking all the work in the limited time at our disposal. It is only by securing the co-operation of competitors that this can be accomplished, and we earnestly solicit their assistance. If competitors would carefully note the order of competitions and endeavour to be in attendance at each hall in answer to their names, much needless waste of time would be saved. It is hoped that this matter will receive attention. Full particulars of the Mod time-table and order of competitions, along with particulars regarding the Gaelic tests, will be given in the Official Programme, a copy of which is supplied to all competitors, and by carefully noting the various competitions in which they

are taking part, and arranging to be present when and where required, a considerable service would be rendered.

The local Committee at Fort William still continue their efforts on behalf of the Mod funds. A concert is arranged to take place on 12th September, at which Miss Heloise Russell-Ferguson has kindly consented to assist with a recital of songs to Clarsach accompaniment. The Fort William Gaelic Choir will also contribute towards the programme. Visitors and others residing in the district should make a note of the date and endeavour to attend this interesting entertainment. Miss Russell-Ferguson will shortly afterwards proceed to Denmark, where she will give a concert at Copenhagen, and her numbers, which will again be accompanied by the Clarsach, will include several well-known and popular Gaelic songs.

## AN TURACH.

Le DAIBHIDH URCHADAN, A.M.

Anns an linn a chaidh seachad bha òg agus sean a' deanamh aoraidh, mar tha sinne an diugh, do Nicotin, ach leis an dealachadh so, gu bheil àireamh an luchd-aoraidh an diugh mòran na's lionmhoire na bha iad o chionn leth-cheud bliadhna. Bha cuid cho dealasach agus gum biodh iad air uairean a' dol car fada leis a' chleachdadh. Is e a' bhuil a bha air cus toiteireachd gum biodh tuainealaich anns a' cheann agus troimh-chéile anns a' ghoile, agus an uair a b'e làn cutaig chriadh de "Bhógaidh Ròl" am meadhan àraidh a bha bitheanta aig an am ud chan eil e idir iongantach gu robh an seanfhacal gu tric air a bhreugnachadh a tha a' sparradh air òigridh gur e "an t-ionnsachadh òg an t-ionnsachadh boidheach." Is ann glé shearbh a bha an t-ionnsachadh a gheibheadh sinn an uair a stadamaid an sabhal coimhearsnaich agus a chuireamaid seachad leth-uair de ùine ann an comunn caidreach a' deoghal toit a' cutaig dhuibh a bha aig do sheanair. Bha an ùine gearr agus mar sin air son sgeula fada dheanamh goirid bhiodh fear le sràbh am beul an fhìr aig an robh a' phìob agus mar so bha an aon toit a' riarachadh an dìthis. Co theireadh nach robh na Gaidheil caomhantach? Bhiodh mùilleanan mòra toirteil ag eirigh suas gu neamh, mullach an t-sabhaill agus o'n is e "crìoch gach comuinn sgaoleadh,"

dh'fhoghlum sinn am muigh 'san àile ghlan a thàinig "dheth mullach nam beann arda," gun robh ar casan rud-eiginn crìtheanach, ar goileachan car an-shocrach agus ar cinn 'nam breislich. Mur robh an t-ionnsachadh so ro thaitneach bha e a thaobh iomadh fear eifeachdadh, oir is minig dh'fhoghainn an aon fhiosrachadh ud air sòlas an tombaca fad iomadh bliadhna. Cha b'e feala-dhà bha ann an daorach an tombaca idir, agus bithidh sinn uairean fhathast a' gearan gun deach a' chutag agus am "bògaidh" a fasan an uair chì sinn clann na sgoile a' deoghal bun chochlan a thogas iad de an t-sràid. Nach b'fhearr gu mòr aon làdach de'n chutag a chuireadh fuadach air lèta tombaca gu ceann nam bliadhnachan.

Air uairean eile bhiodh luchd na h-ìodhal-aoraidh so a' deanamh dearmaid, ach cha b'ann de an deoin, air losgadh na tùis fhreagarraich agus bhiodh antlachd nach bu bheag orra aig na h-amannan sin. A dh'aon fhacal is ann a bhiodh an turach air na bodaich, agus ma chunnaic thu riamh fear anns an dòigh so cha ruig mise leas innseadh dhuit nach robh am bodach ceudna idir cho fonnmhor, fosgarra agus a b' àbhaist. An aite bhi greannmhor, subhach, briathrach, nach ann a bha e cho greannach ri mogulan-tràghad, cho gruamach ri feasgar faoilich agus cho gnùtha ri tarbh stùiceach? De nach deanadh e gu greim de'n stuth shòlasach fhaotainn gu casg achur air an ionndrainn chnàmhanaich a bha buntainn cho neo-bhàigheil ri uile aignidhean. Ri am gorta de'n t-seorsa so bhiodh na bodaich chòire a' sgrìobadh an sgròth a bha am broinn nam pìob, 'gan lìonadh le mòine no duilleag an tea agus a' càradh air uachdar sin an sgròth a ghleidh iad gu prìseil air son an aobhair sin, agus thoiteadh iad sin cho sona sòlasach agus ged bu rogha is taghadh luibhean Bhìrginia no nan Innseachan bhiodh aca.

Bha cuid de na ceatharnaich ud aig an robh e mar fhasan a bhi 'cumail bileag thombaca daonnan air cùl an carbaid ach a mhàin an uair bhiodh iad ag itheadh. Cha bhiodh còrdadh far am biodh tombaca am measg bidh anns a' ghoile. Tha cùmhne fhathast air facal a thuit fear a bha ris a' chagnadh, "Dh'fhag a bhileag sìos mi is thionndaidh i an aird mo ghòile." Cha bhiodh feum cho mòr aig fear mar sud air pìob. Ach de dheanadh luchdtoit nan cochlan an diugh nam biodh gorta tombaca 's an àite? Cha robh plaighean na h-Eiphid na bu shàrachail, fhad agus a mhaireadh iad,

na bha cion tombaca an uair nach fhaigheadh toiteach mhór-na-ceannachd gu caladh ann an dùhlachd gharbh a' Gheamhraidh, ach an uair a shaoileadh tu gun robh a h-uile bealach air an rannsachadh gu buileach bha aon saighead eile an gath-bholg a' Ghaidheil. "Nach be'n Cruithfhear a bha fàbharach," arsa fear de na bodaich roimhe, "an uair a dh'ionnsaich E do dhaoine pioban a dheanamh de'n chriadhaidh!" Na'n robh mi cho beur, rud nach 'eil, agus gum b'urrainn dhomh seorsa de thoinhseachan a dheanamh de na faicil ud, tha mi a' creidsinn gur e beagan a fhreagrachd a' cheist ceart. So ma ta am freagairt: An uair bhiodh an turach aig àrde sgailceadh tu do sheann chutag ri cloich, ged bu chruaidh ort do sheann bhean-chomuinn a phronnadh 'na mìrean? Am fagadh tu an sud fo na siantan a' chlosach dhonn-ruadh a thug uiread de thoil-inntinn duit ann an làithean a' phailteis? Cha b'ann mar sin idir a dheanadh na bodaich. Thionailleadh iad gu cùramach na crìomagan agus chàradh iad gu spèiseil iad am fròig anns a' bhalla, ach ghleidheadh iad gràilleag no dhà mar chuimhneachan am pòcaid am peitein, agus *chuireadh iad crìoman eile air cùl a' charbaid*, agus theireadh iad, "A thurach gun iochd, thug mi an car asad a rithist!" Feuch thusa cho crìonna, glic agus a bha na seann daoine. Cha robh dad de nach deanadh iad feum. Cha robh cunnart no gabhadh as nach toireadh iad iad fhéin gu foghainteach duineil, agus ged bhiodh Nicotin aig uairean a' toirt dùbhlain daibh, chan aidich mi idir nach maith bheireadh iad buaidh air na diathan bréige cuideachd, agus ma dh'fhairtlich orm a' chùis a dhearbhadh is ann ormsa, is chan ann air na seanairean, a bhios a' choire.

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### BAIDEANACH.

Air dhomh a bhi cur seachad m' aimsir-taigh ann an Srathpheothair thadhail mi air mo thurus dhachaidh do'n taobh deas, ann am Bail 'Ur an t-Sléibhe, far am bheil Sgoil Shamhraidh na Gaidhlig air a cumail am bliadhna. An uair theann mi ri coimhead mu'n cuairt air son àite anns an cuirinn suas, fhuair mi mach gun robh am baile cho làn de luchd-turuis as gach cearn, is gur gann a bha tigh ri fhaotainn ann a bheireadh do neach aoibheadh aon oidhe. Dh'fheadraich mi an sin c'àite an robh Mr. Niall Orra a' fuireach, agus an uair a fhuair mi e dh'fhuasgail e mi bho'n imcheist anns an robh mi, le seomar beag fhaotainn dhomh anns an tigh anns an robh e fhéin 's a bhean a' gabhail comhnuidh. An latha 'r na mhaireach thug e mi do'n tigh-sgoile far an robh a' Ghaidhlig air a teagasg; is ged nach gabh mi orm a bhi 'nam bhreitheamh air luchd-teagaisg tha cho foghlumte 's a tha gach aon aca so fa leth, dh'fhalbh mi an deidh an cluinntinn fo'n bharail nach b' urrainn do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach buidheann eile fhaotainn a bha cho comhlionta gus an obair a ghabh iad os laimh a dheanamh. Is e ni cho taitneach 's a thachair rium air mo. Chuairt a bhi cluinntinn na cloinne a' seinn anns a' chaint bu dual dhoibh, le leithid de thogarrachd is de thoil-inntinn. Is cha b'urrainn dhomh gun bhi smaoineachadh gur mór am beud cho gearr-sheallach's a tha mórán de phàrantan na Gaidhealtachd ann a bhi toirmeasg do'n cloinn a bhi bruidhinn an caint dhùthchasaich, nì a tha aca's h-uile dùthaich eile mar an còir-bheith. Chan fhaod mi gun iomradh a thoirt air an t-seirm chiatnach a fhuair mi bho 'n phìobaire ainmeil sin, Mr. Iain Mac a' Phearsain. Is ann dha fhéin a thigeadh meoir a chur air sionnsar. Is i dùthaich anabarrach ciatach tha'n so. Is tha mi smaoineachadh nach eil cearn eile de'n Ghaidhealtachd a tha dìomhaireachd nam beann a' toirt a leithid de bhuaidh air mac-meannmna gach aon tha gabhail tlachd ann an obair naduir, ris na crìochan so. Is i bhrosnuich Seumas Mac a' Phearsain gu briathran a chur am beul Oisein a choisinn dha bhi air àireamh nam prìomh bhàrd. Dh'fhosgail e uinneag ann an talla nam bard leis an d'fhoillsich e maise Naduir ann an èideadh ùr. Is dh'fhag e dilleab 'na dhéidh a leasaich bardachd na h-Eorpa gu leir.

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## VI.

Tha 'n t-Ollamh MacBhatair ag ràdh 'n a obair "Ait-ainmean Rois is Chronba":—

Annas na h-ainmean Lochlannach a tha air tighinn g' ar n-ionnsuidh trid na Gàidhlig faodar fad a' cheud lide—a chuid is feumaile — fhaighinn dhòigh-labhairt Ghàidhlig muinntir na dùthcha. Tha fad nan lididhean a leanas, a tha gun chomharra, air chall, tha foghairean fada air an giorrachadh, e.g., tha vik (bàgh) a tionndadh gu "aig" aig deireadh an fhacail. A thuilleadh air sin, far a bheil ainmean iomadh-lideach, no far a bheil trì facail coimheasgta, tha, ann an suidh-eachaidhean àraidh, aomadh gu leigeil leis a mheadhon ruith, no fhàgail às uile gu léir. Air an dòigh so tha aithne againn 's an eachdraidh gu 'n do sheas Askary an Gallaobh air son Asgrims-ergin (Airighean Asgrim); b'e a cheud dhòigh-sgrìobhaidh de Inbhir-àsdal Inbhir-aspedell. Chan 'eil so a' buntainn ach ri àireamh bheag de ainmean, ach far a bheil e' gabhail aite tha cuid mhaith de neo-chinnteachd ann an toirt air ais a chuid sin a tha air a chumail as. Air an taobh eile, an taobh a mach dheth so, tha Gàidhlig an la-diugh teann an aghaidh mùthaidh. Tha deagh eisimpleir againn air so 's an ainm Siborscaig an Cataobh; Beurla: Skiberscross; an A.D. 1360 bha e air a sgrìobhadh Sibys (K) oc; an 1562 Syborskeg, Schiberskekl.

Tha na h-ainmean a tha air an deanamh suas as an dà chànan furasda a thuigsinn. Mar eisimpleirean tha againn Inbhir-Kirkaig, Gleann-dibidail, Srath-rusdal, Aird-sildaig, Eilean Thannara. Tha 'n so na Gàidhlig air an dleab a dh'fhàg na Lochlannaich a ghabhail thairis, agus air faotainn a leithid de ainmean ri Kirkaig, Dibidail, etc., tha iad air facal Gàidhlig a thuilleadh a chur ris an ainm, mar gu'm b'eadh g'a mhlèachadh. 'S e a th'air tighinn as a so gu'm bheil gu 'trid dà ainm de 'n aon-seadh air an cur comhladh, agus thatar, gun fhios, ag ath-aithris an aon ainm as an dà chànan; mar ann an "Gleann-dibidail" = Gleann-gleann-domhain; "Srath-rusdail" = Srath-srath nan reitheachan; "Aird-sillidinis" Rudha-rudha-an-sgadain, agus mar sin air adhart. Is e nì nach 'eil ri faotainn àit-ainmean air an cur ri chèile 'g an deòin as an dà chànan, mar eisimpleir, tha e tur neo-chomasach am facal Lochlannach à (abhainn), bólstadr (fearann), dalr (gleann),

ey (eilean), vfk (bàgh), faotainn air aonadh ri buaidh-fhacal no ri ainm Gàidhlig. 'S e an rud a tha sinn an da-rìribh a' faotainn, gu bheil ainm Gàidhlig de 'n aon chiall air a chur ris an ainm Lochlannach a bha cheana coimhlionta, agus aig nach robh feum air. Tha so co-ionnan ris a ghnàthadh Bheurla a thaobh na Gàidhlig, e.g., "The River Avon, the Strathpeffer Valley." Tha, air a shon sin àireamh bheag de ainmean anns am bheil am facal Lochlannach "fjall" = monadh, air eadartheangachadh gu "beinn"; is iad sin Goatfell, Gaota-bheinn, Blaven, Blabheinn = a Bheinn-ghorm; Sulven, Sùilbheinn (Beinn a chuilbh, no an Stiùic); agus Badhais-bheinn an Gearloch. Tha iad sin air leth bho chàch agus a' dearbhadh na riaghailt choitcheinn. Tha fios gu bheil mòran fhacal Lochlannach anns a' Ghàidhlig a tha air an gabhail an coingheall, agus is e an aon chomharra a th'againn air a chòir a' tha sinn air a ghabhail orra gu'm bheil "an" "a" (def. art.) air a chur air thoiseach orra. Air tìr-mór 's e aon de na h-ainmean a tha mar so air a ghabhail thairis a réir coltais "tada" (dail daonnan fo phòr, no fo bhàrr) dailtean beaga=Na Tathagan; Fear nan Tathag. An Leòdhas tha e cumanta ainmean Lochlannach faotainn leis an "a" 'no "an" air thoiseach orra, e.g., Cnoc a' Mhiasaid; faodar a thuigsinn uath so gu'n robh ciall nan ainmean sin air chluimhe gus o chionn ùine glé ghoirid. Is ann a mhàin trid eòlas air fuaim-labhairt nan litrichean Lochlannach agus Gàidhlig a gheibhear eadar-theangachadh earbsach air na h-ainmean Lochlannach a tha air an tasgadh anns a' Ghàidhlig."

Faodar na prìomh ainmean Lochlannach anns na h-ainmean coimheasgta an Albainn a chur sìos mar a leanas:—

d (abhainn), a tighinn a stigh aig deireadh nan ainm, air an dòigh so:—a, ay, aigh; mar eisimpleir, Bròra (brú=drochaid); Greeta, a Ghriòta (grjot=clachach, garbhach); Steinsay (Steinn, no Clach); Scalpaidh (kalpr=soitheach, long).

bakki (bruach), mar:—bac, backie; mar eis. Hàbac (hár=àrd); Coldbackie (kald= fuar). Tha 'm facal leis fhéin, mar ainm ann an Bakka (Taransay), Bachd (Barra); Back (Steornabhagh); agus Backies (dlùth air Goillspidh), Gàidhlig: Na Bacannan.

Bacli, Byli (fàrdach, baile fearainn):—mar baill, ble, lip:—Pabaill, Bayble, Pyble (uile o'n Lochlannach air son Papi=sagart); Soalip (saudr=caoirich).

baer, byr (baile fearainn, àite-comhnuigh):



mar:—pie, by, bie, ba: Eoropie, Rudha Eorabaidh (eyrr = cladach); Gailspie, Gailspidh (gil = gleann cumhann); Sorbie, Sòroba (saur = clàbar); Smerby (smjör = lm); Konisby (Konungr = righ).

**ból** (baile tuathnaich, àite-comhnuidh); mar: bol, boll, bo, ble, pool, pol, poll, phuill:—Torbol (Thordr = ainm pearsa); Borrboll (borgr = dùn, daingneach); Skibo, sgrìobhadh is sine Scithebol (Skidi = ainm duine); Duible, sgrìobhadh is sine Duiboll (dy = làthaich); Harrapool (harri = triath, maighistir); Heylipol (helgi = coisrigte, ainm duine mar an ceudna); Barrapoll (Barr = eòrna); Crossphuill (Kross = crois).

**bólstadr, bústadr** (fardoch, fearann); mar: bols, bolls, bost, bus, buster, bster:—Nerabolls (knörr = soitheach, long); Nisabost (nes = rudha, sròn); Cornabus, sgrìobhadh is sine Cornabolsay (Korn = coirce); Rosbuster (hross = each); Scrabster (skari = faoileann òg). Tha 'm facal so ri fhaotainn leis fhéin mar àit-ainm: (Volsay), Bhostaidh, Bolsay, Bolstadr, Bosta.

**brekka** (bruach, bile, Leathad-monaidh), mar, brig; Librig (Hlíd = raon, faiche); Dùn Chroisbrig (Kross = crois).

**dalr** (gleann, srath) mar dal, dale dail, del, dell, dil, tile, dle:—Capadal (Kappigaisgeach); Ormidale (ormr, nathair); Raonadail reyny = caorann); Sletadel (sletr = comhnard, àite-réidh); Sadell, sgrìobhadh is sine Sagadull (saga = tuireasg); Astle, sean dòigh, Askadail (askr = uinnseann); Lacasdle (lax-ár = abhainn a bhraidin); mar an ceudna mar "tol": Ristol (hryss = capul); ach tha'n dòigh so ainneamh.

**eid** (tairbeart) mar ie; (Beurla) Branahue, Braigh na h-Uidhe, far am bheil "uidh" = eid, a ciallachadh an fhearainn aig ceann shuas na tairbeirt. Tha 'm facal so fo iomadh dealbh iongantach anns na h-Innse Gall:—Ie, Ey, Y, Ay, Huy, Ui, Vye, Uiy, Eye, air a sgrìobhadh an Ghàidhlig Uidh.

**endi** (ceann), Mossend = Ceann a Mhonaidh (mosi = coinneach); tha e ri fhaotainn mar an ceudna fo'n dealbh iongantach "Tobson" (hóps-endi = ceann sàilean, leis an litir Ghàidhlig "t" air thoiseach air an fhacal).

**ey** (eilean (mar, ey, ay, aidh, an Ramsey (hrafn = fitheach); Drolsey (troll = fámhair); Berisay (berg = carraig); Poula (fugh = eun), Stangraidh (Stóng = cabar).

**erg**, aerg (facal a thug na Lochlannaich o'n Ghàidhlig "àirigh"), mar, ary, ery, agus

cor-uair "rie"; Aulasary (Olafr = ainm duine); Brunery (brunnr = tobar); Scourie = Sgobhairigh (skogr = coille, doire); Halmadairigh (Hallmund = ainm duine).

**eyrr** (gen.) eyrar (cladach) mar is trice ri fhaotainn aig toiseach ainmean; mar eora, eara, erra, eira, ear, eirer, err, erri: Eòradal, Eàrrabhig (vikr = camus bàgh); Erradale, Earshader (setr = àite-fuirich); Eirera (á = abhainn); Eribol, Eirasta (stadr = dachaidh). Tha 'm facal mar an ceudna air fhaotainn leis fhéin mar àit-ainm; Ayre, Eyre.

**Fjall** (monadh, monadh fàs) mar val, bhal, al, all, ill, mheal, mheall:—Hestaval (hestr = each); Cràcabbal (kráka = feannag); Cleitbhal (Klettr = creag, sgòrr); Stacashall (stakkr = cruch); Aoismheal, air a sgrìobhadh mar an ceudna Ostrivall (aust = an airde-n-ear); Sgrithill (skrida = sgrìbhinn); Farmheall (faer = caoirich); Tha "fjall" mar ainm leis fhéin an Vaull (Triedh); Foill (an Colla).

**fjorðr** (caolas-mara, bàgh) mar, ard, art, ort, àird, ford, furth, port; Gruinard (grunnr = tana); Cnùidart (Knut = ainm duine); Loch Kanaird (Kann = de chumadh canna); Loch Eishort (eid = tairbeart); Loch Meileart (melr = muran); Loch Siphort (sae = muir).

**gardr**, gerdi (gàradh) mar gary, garry, geary, gheary; Flodigary (fljot = uisge); Asmigary (Asmund = ainm duine); Shageary (sjar = muir, loch); Hougheary (haugr = meall, dùn).

**gil** (gleann cumhann, le allt ann) mar, gill: Trálgill (thrall = tràill); Vikisgill (vikr = bàgh, camus); agus mar "col" ann an Catacol (Kótt = cat).

**gja** (geodh, beàrn, sgoltadh creige) tha 'm facal air a ghabhail a stigh do'n Ghàidhlig mar "geòdha"; geibhar e mar:—geò, go, geòdha; Lamarigeo (hlad-hamarr = creag gu tighinn air tìr air; Braé-go (breidr = leathann); Sgioba-geòdha (skip = long).

**grof** (slochd, allt) mar, gro: Allagro (all = easgann); Hallagro (hallr = creag a tha 'g aomadh).

**holmr** (innis beag; air tìr mar ghleannan, no àite-tàimh air son feudail) mar am, um, mul, mol, mail, lum:—Sildam (sildr = sgadan); Geirum (geir = gearbhull); Airmemul (örn = iolair); Tocalmol (hankr = speireag-leis an "t" Ghàidhlig aig an toiseach); Gleann Osamail (óss = inbhir); Sodhulum (saudr = caoirich); mar an ceudna mar àit-ainm, Tolm, agus Dùntuinn (an "t" mar is àbhaist).

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

## THE SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

The Badenoch district, in which the Summer School was held this year, has many associations with Gaelic life, language, and literature. It was appropriate, therefore, in view of the purpose for which the School meets, that the first words spoken by Mr. Neil Orr, the head teacher, at the formal opening in Newtonmore Public Hall, on 19th July, were in Gaelic. The Rev. Dr. Neil Ross gave a cordial greeting to the students on behalf of An Comunn Gaidhealach, of which he is the honoured president. His eloquent and stirring speech was felicitously expressed in Gaelic and English. Miss Farquharson of Invercauld welcomed the School in the name of the local branch of An Comunn, and Mrs. MacPherson, Inverness, joined in her good wishes, as representative of the Northern Propaganda Committee. There were 70 students in attendance for the full term of four weeks or shorter periods, from Newtonmore (45), Edinburgh (5), London (3), Lewis (2), Stirling (2), Aberfeldy, Dunblane, Glasgow, Gloucestershire, Inverness, Islay, Kent, Kirkealdy, Laggan, Lancashire, Loch Awe, Morar, Surrey. In the various classes the numbers were—Senior Gaelic, 13; Junior Gaelic, 13; Celtic Art, 5; Senior Choir, 30; Junior Choir, 20. A special class for Theory and Practice of Staff and Tonic Sol-fa was attended by two students. Very satisfactory work was done in all the classes, and it was a pleasure to note the increased use of Gaelic as the medium of conversation by students and teachers alike. The Gaels in the district were extremely helpful and hospitable, and joined the School in their numerous Ceilidhs and outings. At Loch Laggan, Dr. Ross acted as guide, and gave an exceedingly interesting account of persons and places of historical interest. At the close of the day Highland hospitality was extended to the large company at the Manse by Dr. and Mrs. Ross. When at Roy Hall the students had the honour and pleasure of being warmly welcomed by The Mack-Kintosh and Mrs. MacKintosh, who accompanied them, pointing out and explaining many objects of interest in and near their historic home. Loch an Eilean was also visited. The session was brought to a close by a concert given by teachers and students. The weather conditions at the time were most unfavourable, and fears were expressed that there might be a poor attendance. The audience, however, was surprisingly large and most enthusiastic. Afterwards a dance

was held, and the whole entertainment yielded the extremely gratifying balance of £25 for the School Fund.

H. M. P.

This year the Gaelic Summer School was held in Newtonmore, far inland from the sea. Some students, especially those from the coast and islands, were delighted with the change, while others missed the element which has so deeply coloured Celtic song and story. However, I do not think the class work suffered on this account, and everybody made rapid strides in either recovering the heritage of their fathers or acquiring new intellectual treasures. As a member of the "baby" class, I can testify to the splendid quality of Miss Johnstone's teaching. Immediately after going into school we tackled "Reid's Grammar" with all the stamina our porridge had given us. Under the careful guidance of Miss Johnstone long lists of rules and their exceptions became almost child's play, and the easy *leughadh* was very reassuring to poor beginners. After this we usually corrected a home exercise of translation from English into Gaelic. Here one or two of us often experienced that feeling which "every schoolboy knows"—a guilty conscience, but one always could blame the extremely jolly and late ceilidh the night before for one's shortcomings. Then came the interval, when remorse was drowned in tea and chocolate biscuits. Thus refreshed we plunged again into work. This time we studied charts depicting bulls chasing men, etc., and many an amusing though stumbling *comhradh* we had over them. Finally the class gave vent to its feelings in song, our repertoire consisting of nursery rhymes, sea-shanties, and fairy lullabies. Work proceeded in the other classes with the same goodwill, and a great advance was made. Further delightful features of the Summer School were the afternoon picnics and long evening ceilidhs.

NEIL ROSS, JR.

## SOUTH WEST ROSS AND GLENELG PROVINCIAL MOD.

The fourth Mod was held in the new hall at Kyle, on 24th June. Interest continues to be well maintained in both the senior and junior sections, and the hall was well filled with the public during the day. In the

evening a concert was held, the programme being sustained by the leading prize-winners. During an interval in the programme, the prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Lady Hamilton, Balmacarra.

The chief results were:—

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

Reading with Expression—1, Annie MacRae, Glenelg; 2, Eliza Garde, Glenelg; 3, Alick MacKenzie, Lochcarron. Reciting "An Sruthan"—1, Calum MacKay, Lochcarron; 2 (equal), Murdo MacKay, Lochcarron, and Annie MacRae; 3, Margaret MacKenzie, Glenelg. Reciting from Memory (beginners) Psalm xxiii.—1, Margaret MacMillan, Dornie; 2 (equal), Eileen Simpson and Mairi Finlay, Dornie. Gaelic Conversation—1, Murdo MacKay; 2, Calum MacKay; 3, Jack MacRae, Lochcarron.

Solo Singing (Medal Competition)—Girls—1, Margaret MacLennan, Plockton; 2, Barbara Barclay, Kyle; 3, Rosie MacKenzie, Plockton. Solo Singing (Medal Competition)—Boys—1, Alick MacKenzie, Lochcarron; 2, Jack MacRae, Lochcarron; 3, Christopher Gillies, Plockton. Traditional Singing of a Song connected with the County of Ross—Boys and Girls—1, Christopher Gillies; 2, Alick MacKenzie; 3 (equal), Isabella MacRae, Lochcarron; Rosie MacKenzie, and Jack MacRae.

Unison Singing for Junior Choirs—1, Plockton; 2, Dornie; 3, Kyle. Choral Singing of a Song in Two-part Harmony—1, Dornie; 2 (equal), Kyle and Auchtertyre.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

Solo Singing (Ladies), own choice—1, Effie MacKenzie, Plockton; 2, Elma Sharpe, Glenelg; 3 (equal), Bella Finlayson, Erbusaig, and Katie T. MacRae, Kintail. Solo Singing (Men), own choice—1, Donald Gillies, Plockton; 2, John W. MacKenzie, Plockton; 3, William MacLeod, Glenelg. Solo Singing (Medal Competition), Male and Female Voices—1, Donald Gillies; 2, Donald Beaton, Lochcarron; 3 (equal), Alastair Beaton and Donald MacRae. Former Prize-winners—1, Mary K. MacKay, Lochcarron; 2, Bella Finlayson. Duet—Daisy Matheson and Angus Gillies, Kyle.

Unison Singing—1, Plockton; 2, Auchtertyre; 3, Dornie. Choral Singing in Four-part Harmony—1, Plockton; 2, Dornie; 3, Auchtertyre.

The adjudicators were Miss Gordon, Inverness; Mr. MacPherson, Broadford; Mr. John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill; and Mr. E. Watson, Edinburgh.

#### ARDNAMURCHAN MOD.

Modern conveyances made it possible to attend Strontian from a radius of twenty-five miles on the 28th June. The youngest competitor was a child of six years, and she gave a delightful rendering of a song.

It was interesting to note that three of the adjudicators were present at the first Mod held at Oban forty years ago, while a fourth had some thirty-eight years' faithful service to his credit.

A very successful concert was held in the evening, presided over by the Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour, under whose convener-

ship the whole arrangements were carried through by a committee in a most efficient manner. Miss MacIntyre, Ardgour, secretary, also deserves special mention for her share in the onerous duties.

Judges—Gaelic, Rev. Neil Ross, B.D., D.Litt.; J. R. Bannerman, Glasgow; Miss Lucy Cameron, Glasgow; Donald MacPherson, M.A., Appin; Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William. Music—Neil Orr, Edinburgh; John MacDonald, Oban; Miss Mary C. MacColl, M.A., Ardgour. Mr. Hugh MacPhee, assistant secretary, represented headquarters.

#### PRIZE-LIST.

Literary Essay—1, Mary MacNeill, Achacrae; 2, Effie Cameron, Achacrae.

Reading a Piece of Unfamiliar Prose—1, Morag Cameron, Glenborrodale; 2, Mary MacNeill, Achacrae; 3, Mary MacKay, Achacrae; 4 (equal), Effie Cameron, Achacrae, and John Campbell, Kilmeny.

Reciting the Piece, "Am Badan Fraoich"—1, Jack Cameron, Ardgour; 2, William MacPherson, Strontian; 3, Mary MacPhail, Kilchoan; 4, Jessie MacPherson, Strontian.

Reciting the Piece, "Cronan Cadail"—1, Ann MacLean of Ardgour; 2, Janet Millar, Morvern; 3, Mary MacDiarmid, Kilchoan; 4 (equal), Flora Campbell, Achacrae; Duncan MacDiarmid, Kilchoan, and Maggie Cameron, Morvern.

Excellence in Gaelic Conversation—1, Mairi MacNeill, Ariveigaig; 2, Morag Cameron, Glenborrodale; 3 and 4 (equal), Mary MacKay, Achacrae, and Donald Boyd, Ardgour.

Acted Dialogue—Jessie Cameron and Morag Cameron, Glenborrodale.

Solo Singing (Girls)—1, Margaret Simpson, Strontian; 2, Lily Stewart, Strontian; 3, Ena Cameron, Achacrae.

Solo Singing (Boys)—1, William Lawrie, Morvern; 2, John Campbell, Kilmeny; 3, William MacPherson, Strontian.

Unpublished Song—1, John Campbell, Kilmeny; 2, Mary MacKay, Achacrae.

Solo Singing (Learners)—1, Ann MacLean of Ardgour; 2, Barbara MacGilvray, Morvern; 3, Flora MacCallan; 4, Nan Pirie, Ardgour.

Unison Singing—1, Strontian Junior Choir; 2, Ardgour Junior Choir; 3, Kilchoan Junior Choir.

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Prose Passage—1, Alasdair Cameron, Strontian; 2, Don. Cameron, Conaglen; 3, Chrissie MacPherson, Strontian.

Recitation—1 and 2 (equal), Flora Cameron, Glenborrodale, and Alastair Cameron, Strontian; 3, Alexandrina MacColl, Ardgour.

Sgeulachd—1, Donald Cameron, Conaglen; 2, Alastair Cameron, Strontian; 3, Chrissie MacPherson, Strontian.

Solo Singing (female voices)—1, Ina MacDonald, Morvern; 2, Johan Boyd, Ardgour; 3, Margaret MacLennan, Kilchoan.

Solo Singing (male voices)—1, Donnie MacCallum, Kilchoan; 2, John MacMaster, Strontian; 3, Neil Cameron, Achacrae.

Unpublished District Song—1, Johan Boyd, Ardgour; 2, Neil Cameron, Achacrae; 3, Peggy MacLachlan, Drimmin.

Ladies' Medal Competition—1, Mairi MacDonald, Kilchoan; 2, Ina MacDonald, Morvern; 3, Margaret MacCallum, Kilchoan.

Gent.'s Medal Competition—1, Archie Beaton, Morvern; 2, John MacMaster, Strontian; 3, Neil Cameron, Acharacle.

Solo (male and female voices)—1, George MacKay, Pollock; 2, Miss N. S. Adam, Ardour.

Duet—1, Nan MacCallum and Donald MacCallum, Kilchoan; 2, Johan Boyd and N. S. Adam, Ardour.

Quartette—Strontian Quartette.

Former Prize-winners—1, Neil Cameron, Acharacle; 2, Johan Boyd, Ardour; 3, John MacDiarmid, Strontian.

Unison Singing—1, Ardour Senior Choir; 2, Morvern Senior Choir; 3, Acharacle Senior Choir.

Singing in Harmony—1, Ardour Senior Choir; 2, Strontian Senior Choir; 3, Acharacle Senior Choir.

Bagpipe Playing (March)—1, Neil Smart, Moidart; 2, John Robertson, Morvern; 3, Donald Cameron, Morvern.

Bagpipe Playing (March, Strathspey, and Reel)—1, Neil Smart; 2, Donald Cameron; 3, John Robertson.

Violin Playing—1, Dugald MacPherson, Ardour; 2, Jack MacIntosh, Pollock; 3, Iain MacKenzie, Drimnau.

Piano Playing—1, Johan Boyd, Ardour; 2, Isabel MacLean.

## SKYE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Skye Provincial Mod was held at Portree, on 28th and 29th June, and proved very successful in every respect. The following is a list of the prizes and awards:—

### JUNIOR SECTION.

Reproduction of a Short Story for Elementary Schools—1, Effie MacAskill, Borrodale; 2, James MacDonald.

Essay of about 200 words on "Muintir a' Bhaile Againn," confined to Portree Secondary School pupils—1, Ina MacKinnon; 2, Donald Stewart; 3, Murdo Ferguson.

Translation of an English Prose Passage into Gaelic—1, Alex. P. MacLeod, Portree; 2, Ina MacKinnon, Portree; 3 (equal), John A. Robertson, Broadford, and John Nicolson, Portree.

Translation of a Gaelic Prose Passage into English—1, Mary D. Macpherson, Dunvegan; 2, John A. Robertson, Broadford; 3, Effie MacAskill, Borrodale.

Writing from Dictation of a Gaelic Prose Passage—1, Morag MacRaid, Dunvegan; 2, Archie Matheson, Portree Secondary School; 3 (equal), Donald Fletcher, Broadford, and Alex J. MacLeod, Portree Secondary School.

Reading, with expression, a Piece of Poetry chosen by Competitor (under 14)—1, Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan; 2, Morag MacRaid, Dunvegan; 3, Katie A. MacLean, Uig.

Reading at Sight an unfamiliar Prose Piece to be chosen by the Judges—1, Alexina MacDonald, Portree; 2, Christina L. MacAskill, Portree; 3, Peggy MacLean, Broadford.

Reciting from Memory "Badan Fraoich"—1, Peggy MacLean, Broadford; 2, Calum MacLean, Portree; 3, Donald Stewart, Portree.

Reciting a Sgeulachd—1, Alastair Fraser, Broadford; 2, Chrissie MacAskill, Portree; 3, Lexie Campbell, Portree.

Solo Singing of a Song (girls under 14)—1, Bessie Steele, Dunvegan; 2, Felina MacDonald; 3, Rena MacLeod, Portree. Boys under 14—1, Robert Hope, Dunvegan; 2, Duncan MacLeod, Breakish; 3,

Andrew MacColl, Broadford. Girls under 16—1, Rena MacLeod; 2, Bessie Steele; 3, Mary G. MacPherson. Boys under 16—1, Robert Hope, Dunvegan; 2, Kenneth Grant, Kensaleyre; 3, Norman MacDonald, Dunvegan.

Duet Singing of a Song (own choice)—1, Betty Steele and Bessie Steele, Dunvegan; 2, Mary D. MacPherson and Mary G. MacPherson, Dunvegan; 3, Alexina Campbell and Katie A. MacLean, Uig.

Choral Singing of a Song (two-part harmony)—1, Broadford Junior Choir; 2, Uig Junior Choir; 3, Portree Junior Choir.

Unison Singing—1, Portree Junior Girls' Choir; 2, Portree Junior Boys' Choir; 3 (equal), Broadford Junior Choir and Uig Junior Choir.

Action Sing—1, Dunvegan Junior Choir; 2, Portree Junior Girls' Choir; 3, Uig Junior Choir.

### SENIOR SECTION.

Gaelic Poem on any subject—1, William Campbell, Uig; 2 (equal), Marjorie MacCuish and Rachel MacDonald, Portree S.S.

Essay of about 500 words on any Historical Local Incident—1, Norman MacKay, Portree S. School; 2, John MacKinnon, Breakish; 3, John R. Aitken, Uig.

Collection of Unpublished Skye Songs, with or without music—1, William Campbell, Uig; 2, Jack Nicolson, Uig.

Essay of about 300 words on "Na Cothroman agus na h-Anacothroman a Tha Comh-cheaigalte ri bhi Fuireach Anns an Eilean Sgitheanach"—1, Janet M. Robertson, Portree School; 2 (equal), Ronald Robertson and Norman MacKay, Portree School; 4, Catherine Ferguson, Portree School.

Best List of Old Place Names in Skye—1, William MacKinnon, Portree; 2, John MacDonald, Portree; 3, Hugh MacKenzie, Portree.

Reading at Sight of an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose—1 (equal), Katie A. Nicolson, Uig, and Ann MacLeod, Portree; 3, Janet M. Robertson; 4, Katie MacDonald, Portree.

Solo Singing of a Song, male voice—1, Duncan Corbett, Uig; 2, Walter Ross, Portree; 3, John A. Graham, Uig. Test Song—1, John A. Graham, Uig; 2, Archibald MacMillan, Broadford; 3, William Campbell, Uig.

Solo Singing of a Song, female voice—Test Song—1, Miss M. Nicolson, Portree; 2, Miss Margaret Steele, Portree; 3, Miss Isabel Shaw, Portree.

Solo Singing of a Song—male voices (own choice)—1, Walter Ross, Portree; 2, Hector MacKinnon, Broadford; 3, Duncan Corbett, Uig. Female voices (own choice), competitors under 18—1, Margaret Steele, Portree; 2, Isabel Shaw, Portree; 3 (equal), Katie MacPherson and Flora Reid, Portree.

Solo Singing of a Skye Song (air and words unpublished)—1, Katie A. Nicolson, Uig; 2, John A. Graham, Uig; 3, William Campbell, Uig.

Duet Singing of a Song (own choice)—1, Ina MacPhie and Flora Montgomery, Dunvegan; 2, M. A. Tulloch and Katie A. Nicolson, Uig; 3, Margaret Steele and Flora Reid, Portree.

Unison Singing—1, Strath Senior Choir; 2, Portree Senior Choir; 3, Dunvegan Senior Choir.

Choral Singing—1, Portree Senior Choir; 2, Uig Senior Choir; 3, Strath Senior Choir.

Puirt-a-beul Solo Singing, male or female voices—1, John A. Graham, Uig; 2, William Campbell, Uig; 3, Walter Ross, Portree.

Piano-forte—M. Mackay.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

**The Gaelic Phono-Grammar.** A conversation grammar for the use of beginners, by the Rev. Alistair MacLean, B.D., to be used with a set of gramophone records spoken by Neil MacLean, M.A., B.Sc., and published for the proprietors by the Parlophone Company, Ltd. Price, 3/6 net, or with five illustrative records, 18/-. Printed by Northern Counties Publishing Co. 1932. 136+xvi. pp.

We are pleased to have an opportunity of commending this welcome tutorial grammar of Gaelic to students of the language. The book is a marvel of clearness and simplicity. Much common sense is evident in the arrangement. Each chapter undertakes a special bit of grammar, with short vocabularies of vital words, and clear, simple exercises appropriate to the subject matter. This method should really mean Gaelic "without tears." The gramophone has been much used for teaching other languages. You can get French, German, or Italian records; and why not Gaelic? The five illustrative records have been spoken by Mr. Neil MacLean, with the native accent of Argyll, and where is there a better? The records gain much by the speaker's rich voice and musical intonation.

There is a short introduction by Lady Elspeth Campbell, in the course of which she says: "If the thousands of Highlanders who have no Gaelic, or only a little Gaelic, will buy this book, and these records, and study them in their spare time, the issue of this course will be really worth while, and may be the precursor of further gramophone discs."

**The Thistle and the Rose.** Scotland's Problem To-day. By Sir Alexander Malcolm MacEwen. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh. 244+xii. pp. 6/- net.

In addition to the wider questions dealt with in Sir Alexander's book, there is an excellent chapter on the Highland Problem. For several years the author has devoted much thought and observation to this matter. His opinions are marked by mature wisdom. Full of patriotic sentiment, he also brings to the study of the problem the results of a full experience and knowledge of affairs. The chapter occupies about forty pages of the new volume, but the amount of material put in that short space is extraordinary. The chapter is in two part: I., The Education Question, and II., The Economic Problem. As chairman of the Education Committee of the largest Highland county, Sir Alexander speaks with intimate knowledge; and as a keen and successful student of Gaelic, his views on the language are also at first hand. In spite of depopulation and other adverse conditions, the author is full of hope. "The re-Gaelicising of the English-speaking Highlands will be no easy task. Under the most favourable conditions it may take two or three generations. That is all the more reason for undertaking the work at once. To those who are inclined to be pessimistic on this subject, it may be mentioned that the Highlands are not the only country which has to meet this problem. Ireland, Wales, and Brittany are facing the same difficulties, and it must be admitted, are solving them more successfully. The same problem has arisen in Provence, in Denmark, and elsewhere. Where the spirit of the people has been awakened, both language and economic troubles have been overcome. Surely the spirit of our people in the

Highlands cannot be so absolutely dead that, given the opportunity, their language and economic interest in their own countryside cannot become again the living forces they well deserve to be."

"The Thistle and the Rose" is altogether an important volume, and deserves a wide circulation.

N. R.

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