

An Gaidheal.



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An Gaidheal:

(Formerly AN DEO GRÉINE)

The Monthly Magazine of An Comunn Gaidhealach

Volume XXVIII.

Oct., 1932, to Sept., 1933, inclusive.



AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH,

212 WEST GEORGE STREET, GLASGOW.

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VOLUMES

**II., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX.,
X. to XXVIII.**

MAY BE HAD
FROM THE
SECRETARY OF AN COMUNN,
212 WEST GEORGE STREET,
GLASGOW.



Vols. up to 11, - 3/-.

„ 12 to 28, - 4/-.

Postage Extra.





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TELEGRAMS.—*Runaire, Glasgow.*

TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXVIII.]

An Dàmhar, 1932.

[Earrann 1

COIN RIOGHAIL NA SEILGE.

“*Bran agus Sgeolaing le sgèimh—*

A choin féin an laimh an Rìogh;
Do b'ionmhainn le Fionn na coin;
Bu mhór an goil is an gnìomh.”

Is iomadh uair a thàinig e ann ar n-inntinn earrann bheag a chur slos air na gadhair, no na coin sheilge a tha air an ainmeachadh le meas is mhuin cho tric an seann litreachas na Gaidhlig. An diugh tha e air a chunntas mar chomharradh air deagh oilean agus air cridhe blàth gum biodh cùram 'g a nochdadh do na h-ainmhidhean. Tha comunn anns an tìr aig a bheil so mar chrìch àraidh a bhi a' sparradh air an t-sluagh coimheas a chleachdadh a thaobh nan creutairean gun reusan gun chàinain. Air feadh na seann bhàrdachd a chaidh a chur ri chèile o chionn iomadh ceud bliadhna, mar chì sinn anns an leabhar lamh-sgrìobhte aig Deachan Liosmór, tha iomradh uair is uair air na coin sheilge a bha cho measail aig an t-sealgair.

* * * * *

Chruinnich Caimbeulach Ile ann a *Leabhar na Feinne*, àireamh de sheann rainn a bha air an aithris o shean mu dhéidhinn a' choin ainmeal do'm b'ainm Bran, a bhuineadh do 'n rìgh Fionn. Biodh so mar eachdraidh fhìor no na biodh, tha e a' dearbhadh, co dhìù, ciod e bha na bàird a' saolsinn de na gadhair, an uair a theireadh iad gum biodh cu-seilge

cho luachmhor an sùilean a' ghaigich. Tha na bàird a' toirt cunntas eagnaigh air dealbh is coltas a' choin,—

“Casán buidhe bha air Bran,
Dà shlios dhubha 's tarra gheal,
Druim uaine air cuilean na seilge,
Dà chluais chorrach cro-dhearga.”

Bha am madadh rioghail so luath air a' bheinn, agus bha e cruaidh a thabhunn an dóbhrain agus a mharbhadh a' bhrùic. Tha e air innse cuid-eachd gun do chuir e cath ris a' chu aig Goll Mac Morna—Is e so bu aobhar gun do bhuail Oisean buille de 'n éill air ceann Bhraon, ni a thug am bàs do 'n chù ainmeil.

* * * * *

Is minic a chluinneas sinn gu bheil an cù measail agus feumail; feumail mar dheagh sheirbheiseach, agus measail mar chompanach do mhac an duine. Tha eachdraidh a' choin a' dol air ais fad iomadh ginealach. Tuigear sin gu soilleir o àireamh nan seòrsachan a chithear am measg nan con, beag is mòr, de gach dath is dealbh is gnè, an tìrean teth is fuar. Is ann troimh chàirdeas is chomunn dhaoine a chaidh an cù a thàdadh air tùs. Fada mun do thaobh an duine is an cù ri chèile bha an cù an staid fhiadhaich, oir buinidh e do theaghlach a' mhadaidh-alluidh, a tha fathast anns an t-suidheachadh bhorb a tha dualach dha.

* * * * *

Tha sinn am beachd gu robh an cù anabarrach measail aig na sean Ghaidheil. Mar bha an cat a' faotainn urram sonraichte am measg nan

Eiphiteach o shean, tha coltas gu robh am madadh mùrneach aig prìomh athraichean na treubh de 'n chinne daonnda o 'n tainig na Gaidheil. Mochaich gu bheil cuid de na gaisgich as ainmeile aig na Gaidheil o shean, air an ainmeachadh air a' chreutair so, mar a ta *Curoi* agus *Cuchulainn*. An diugh is e facal tàireil a tha ann gun canadh tu cù ri duine sam bith. Ach am measg ar sinnsir o chionn mìle bliadhna air ais, cha robh am facal so 'n a oibheum. Is ni iongantach gun abair sean mhathair ghràdhach Ghaidhealach, "*a chuirein*" ri a h-ogha gus an latha an diugh. Tha sin a' dearbhadh nach eil sinn fada am mearachd an uair a their sinn gu robh meas mòr aig ar n-athraichean air an ainmhidh so. An uair a dh'éisdeas tu ri dithis bhodach a' comhradh anns an t-sean nòs, is dualach gun cluin thu am facal caomh càirdeil so—*a chuirein chridhe*.

* * * * *

Bha am madadh 'n a dheagh charaid do 'n duine riamh troimh na linntean, mar a bha crannchur is oilean a' sìor dhol am feabhas. Anns na ceud linntean is i an t-sealg bu theachd-an-tìr do mhac an duine. Bha e an crochadh air beathaichean fiadhaich na machrach airson a bheo-shlainte. Bu mhór an comhnadh do 'n t-sealgair gum biodh fear cuideachaidh aige cho treun, cho toileach agus cho glic ri deagh ghadhar. Is aobhinn an obair an t-sealg, ach faodar bhi cinnteach gur e guth a' ghadhair an ceòl bu bhinne an cluais an t-sealgair, an uair chruinnicheadh na laoiach air maduinn, agus a chluinnteadh meadhail nan con. Bha siubhal nan beann 'n a chleachdadh aig na Gaidheil riamh o chumadh cunntas air an dòigh beatha le beul aithris. Is ann le saothair na seilge a bha iad air tùs a' cothachadh an lòin; agus anns na linntean mu dheireadh chaidh an gnàths ceudna a chumail suas le na islean is cinnheadhna. Is i Mairi Nighean Alasdair Ruaidh a sheinn mu aon de Chloinn Leòid :

"Se bu mhiannach le m' leabh
Bhi am beannaibh na seilge,
A' leigeadh nan cuilean
'S a' furan nan seana-chon"

The next instalment of the series of Gaelic articles on Norwegian Place Names has meantime been held over, but will appear later on.—Ed.

THE CELTIC CONGRESS.

Great Gathering in Cornwall.

(By HECTOR MACDOUGALL, in
Stornoway Gazette).

The Congress, which has, through its good work, thoroughly justified its existence, after meeting in the Isle of Man last year, was held recently in Cornwall. The cathedral city of Truro, the county town of the Duchy, was the headquarters of the Congress, and Celts gathered from far and near. All the Celtic nations, with the exception of Brittany, were represented at the opening on Tuesday. Scotland was represented by the Rev. John MacKechie and Mr Hector MacDougall, Glasgow, while a larger contingent was present from Ireland and Wales.

The opening ceremony was held in the Royal Institute of Cornwall, Truro, the venerable president of the Congress, Dr Henry Jenner, M.A., presiding. Dr Jenner welcomed the delegates, first in Cornish, Welsh, Irish, and Scots Gaelic, then in English, and declared the Congress of 1932 open.

The Congress, he said, had met several times in all the other Celtic countries, but this was the first time they had met in Cornwall. Cornwall, in fact, had not been admitted into the sisterhood of the Celtic nations till 1904, and he was glad that this year they in Cornwall were able to show their sister Celtic people that their land knew her Celtic origin and was able to extend her Celtic hospitality to those who had on previous years extended it to themselves whenever they were able to send delegates to the meetings.

Dr. Jenner afterwards gave his presidential address on "The Awakening of Celtic Cornwall." He dated the real progress of the Cornish awakening from 1904, when the Duchy was admitted into the Union of the Celtic Nations for the first time, and thus formed the sixth of that great sisterhood. Prior to that, probably owing to the fact that Cornish as a spoken language had ceased to exist, Cornwall was, in spite of all the arguments to the contrary, denied admission and membership, but like the daughter of Jairus, Cornish "is not dead, but sleeping"; and, in fact, the awakening has already come.

As evidence of the manner in which Cornwall retained for long the idea of nationhood, Dr. Jenner recounted how at the Jacobite Rising of the '15 James was declared "James III," at the Cross of Launceston, the then capital, and this was the only instance in

which such a declaration took place south of the Scottish Border. It was interesting, he said, to relate that the Mayor of the town was, as a result, tried for high treason, but such was the feeling in his favour that a Cornish jury acquitted him!

All this time the Cornish tongue remained the spoken language of a great part of Cornwall, but while it was spoken as far east as the town of Exeter when the Saxons extended their stay to Land's End, it had been gradually forced back till in the time of Edward Llyud, the great Welsh philologist, it was spoken only about the extreme points of Land's End and the Lizard headlands, and it ceased as a spoken language over a hundred years ago.

But while it is true that it is no longer their everyday speech, at no time has Cornwall been without many who knew the language, and to-day there are those who can read and write it, and can carry on a conversation in it. It was said that the Cornish died with Dolly Pentriath, but that was only half the truth. Even as late as 1852 a man lived in Cornwall who spoke the language, and he himself could have seen him, for he lived in his time, and he himself could speak it, so that the continuity of Cornish as a spoken language has not yet ceased.

Dr. Jenner then detailed the literary work which has been done of recent years, very creditable work indeed—glossaries, a grammar, a dictionary, religious works, a collection of proverbs, and much in the way of other prose and poetic writings. A recent competition in connection with the work of the Cornish Language Society produced five very fine poems, all worthy of their authors being declared bards of the Gorsedd; and they would have been so declared, too, only that they had already won the honour!

A LIVE SOCIETY.

Referring to this Society, he mentioned the fact that though only formed about the close of the War there are already 20 branches in the Duchy, with a membership of over 1500. Cornish songs are now taught and sung in their schools and for several years an annual Gorsedd (somewhat similar to our Gaelic Mods) is held. The Celtic Congress now being held in their midst for the first time showed conclusively that their sister Celtic nations realise that the people of Cornwall are indeed a component part of the great Celtic race, and thus Cornwall looks forward in the warmest hopes to a great future, as she already has had a great past.

Delegates from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and the Isle of Man replied to Dr. Jenner's address and welcome, the Rev. John MacKeehnie, Glasgow, replying for the Scottish section.

In the course of the day interesting papers were read on "The Trade of Ireland in the Bronze Age with Cornwall and the East," and "The Introduction of Christianity into Celtic Britain." Miss M. E. Dobbs (Ireland) who read the first paper, showed that much traffic in tin and gold existed between Cornwall and Ireland. Gold was then found in considerable quantities in Ireland, and, of course, tin was mined in Cornwall from the dawn of history till the present day. Proof of this trade was to be found in Irish gold ornaments which existed in Cornwall and as far East as Gaza, in Palestine, while Cornish tin ware was found in Ireland.

A VOICE FROM WALES.

The Rev. Dr. Hartwell Jones (Wales) in the second paper showed that Christianity had arrived in Great Britain at two distinct periods; first, during the Roman occupation, and again, after the coming of the Saxons had overwhelmed the first converts, in the time of St. Augustine. The second coming was quite definite, but beyond the fact that the Britons had been Christianised during the Roman occupation, there was very little known as to how, when, or by whom the faith was originally brought. There was a legend that it was brought by no less a person than Joseph of Arimathea, who was a tin merchant, and traded with Cornwall in that commodity for which their land was at all periods of its history so famous! There was also a difference of opinion as to how this early Celtic Church differed from the Roman Church. The discussion which followed tended to become controversial, but the Lord Bishop of Truro, who presided, thought that the answer given by the proverbial schoolgirl, that "the only difference lay in the manner in which they held Easter and cut their tonsils" was as good as any that could be given to smooth matters over.

In the afternoon the delegates and those taking part in the Congress were received and welcomed in the Council Chambers by the Mayor of Truro, Mr F. R. Pascoe, B.A., J.P., and members of the City Council.

Wednesday, the second day of the Congress, was happily occupied with a long tour of sight-seeing per charabanc, with brief addresses at appropriate points and stops. The tour embraced a visit to Castle Dore

inscribed stone and the earthworks adjoining, the history of both being detailed in an interesting manner by Dr. Jenner, the venerable octogenarian president of the Congress.

NEW ARRIVALS.

The company on Wednesday was augmented by a contingent of Bretons who had braved the English Channel the previous night to be present. Their enthusiasm was unbounded, and an interesting part of the proceedings was the singing of the Breton national anthem with which the leader of the party concluded his reply to Dr. Jenner's words of welcome. The Welsh, and afterwards the Cornish version, were also sung.

An interesting Gaelic and Scots atmosphere was lent to the gathering at Tintagel. The party had lunch in the King Arthur Hotel, and one of the Scottish contingent present, Commander Charles Carey, R.I.N. (retired), a native of Inveraray, a piper, and a schoolmate of the late Neil Munro, marched the company in to dinner to the strains of "Highland Laddie." Commander Carey, whose mother was a MacIntyre, was in full Highland dress, in the tartan of his mother's clan. Since his retiral from the Indian service he resides in Devon. He was accompanied by another devoted son of Scotia who had made his home in Devon, Dr. James Forbes, a native of Inverness district. On the return journey the famous earth works of Castle-andinas were visited and their history as far as is known detailed by Dr. Jenner.

Proceedings were opened on Thursday with a new and interesting departure. With Miss Agnes O'Farrelly, M.A., (Ireland) and Dr. Jenner (Cornwall) presiding in turn, a discussion on the best means for reviving the various Celtic languages, and carried on by the speakers in their own respective tongues, was included in the programme for the first time since the Congress was instituted. The inter-Gaelic discussion which was entered on first was taken part in by Irish, Scots, and Manx delegates, and an interesting feature was the manner in which the speakers were mutually understood by the representatives of these three branches of the Gaelic part of the Celtic races. The Scottish side of the discussion was sustained by the Rev. John MacKechnie and Mr Hector MacDougall.

It was quite a revelation to the visiting delegates to find no less than eight Cornish representatives able to speak with considerable fluency a language which is supposed to have died with Dolly Pentriath over a hundred years ago!

A CORNISH CONCERT.

A Celtic concert, the main part of which was wholly Cornish, was held in the evening. Cornish songs were sung by a school choir and senior soloists including Francis Gourvil, one of the Breton delegates. An original Cornish play was acted, as was announced by Dr. Jenner, who presided, for the first time since the dawn of the 17th century. It was very creditably performed. A Scottish Gaelic touch was lent to the programme in bagpipe selections given by Commander Carey, and Highland Dancing performed by Miss Virginia Gaskell.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The business meeting of the Congress was held on the Friday. It was decided that in accordance with the recognised routine the Congress should meet next year in Brittany, possibly in Brest. Office-bearers were appointed for the various nations, and a local committee to make full arrangements for the Congress will be duly formed in Brittany.

The Scottish representatives are—Mr John Cameron, LL.B., Rev. John MacKechnie, B.D., Mr Malcolm MacLeod, and Mr Hector MacDougall, a Scottish secretary to be appointed by this quartette from amongst their number.

It was decided that the time had arrived for an intense campaign being instituted to secure a larger membership so that the Congress could be in a position to publish its transactions—membership to be 5s. annually. Mr. MacDougall (Scotland) suggested that this proposed volume should contain, along with the Congress papers to be published, a foreword in the six Celtic languages. This was approved with enthusiasm.

A motor tour from Truro to St Michael's Mount in the afternoon brought to a close one of the most successful congresses on record.

THE MOD NUMBER.

In view of the fact that the National Mod this year does not begin till the 4th October, it is felt that it would not be advisable to hold over the October issue of "An Gaidheal" till after the Mod. The magazine for October is accordingly sent out to readers early in the month as usual; and the issue for November will be the Mod Number, and will be devoted to the prize lists, addresses, and descriptive articles bearing on the great Gaelic Festival, the National Mod of 1932.

UILLEAM ROS.

Le IAIN N. MACLEOD.

A' cheud duais, Mod 1931.

Is caomh leinne, mar Ghàidheil, a bhi deanamh luaidh air gach cuspair treun na h-intinn thabhachdaich a rugadh agus a thogadh anns an aon chlachan no anns an aon eilean ruinn fhein, agus is maith leinn an uair a bhios an cothrom air a thoirt dhuinn a bhi ag àrdachadh buadhan an neach sin air chor agus gu faic ar co-Ghàidheil gu bheil ar còir-bhreith ann an ionad a chuir barr mór dheth, anns na laithean a dh' fhalbh, mar a thuirmt am bodach còir eile. Ann an raon litreachais agus bàrdachd ar canain dhùthchasaich, tha an smuain cheudna fìor—is caomh leinn uile a bhi togail suas ri aghaidh an t-saoghail cuimhne agus buadhan nam fìuran sin a chuir maise nach searg air bàrdachd na Gàidhlig, agus a dh'fhàg dìleab mhaireannach 'n an deidh na 's luachmoire gu mór na òr a theid am mugha. Cò an Catach air nach eil uail airson Rob Dhuinn? A bheil Abrach sam bith nach fhairich dàimh bhlàth 'n a chuislean do bhàrdachd Eoghain Mhic-Lachlainn? Nach eillich gach Earra-Ghàidhealach ri òrain Dhonnchaidh Bhàin, agus gu dearbha fhéin, nach dòbhaidh truagh an Sgitheanach nach seinn, nach leugh, agus nach aithris, bàrdachd Uilleim Ros.

Rugadh Uilleam Ros 's an t-Sithean faisg air an Ath-leathann, an Srath-Mhic-Fhionghuin anns a' bhliadhna 1762. Bha a athair Iain Ros, 'n a dhuine dìchiollach, achfhuinneach, dòigheil a bha cosnadh a lòn le fallus a ghruadhach, mar a ghealladh dhuinn uile, ach bha fìrinn agus onair an còmhnuidh air am faicinn 'n a chaithe-beatha, agus cìod e an teiste air an talamh a b' fhearr air duine na sin—'s e an cliù sin a dh'fhàg cùbhraidheachd ann an cois a chuimhne. Chan eil cumntas againn air cìod e an tighinn beo a bha aige. Cìod e an deifir? Chan e idir cìod e tha sinn a' deanamh ann an turas an fhàsaidh is motha feart dhuinn aig a' cheann, ach cìod i an dòigh anns a bheil sinn a' deanamh an ri nas a bheil sinn a' cur ar laimhe airson solar dhuinn fhein, agus do ar teaghlach, ar n-aran làthail; agus mar sin co dhù 's e croitear no iasgair a bha ann an Iain Ros, cha robh triuthair-eachd air an talamh fuaighte ri a iomairt làthail ann an cois a ghairme. Is ann a Gearloch a bha màthair Uilleim, nighean Iain Mhic-Aoidh, am piobaire agus am bàrd

ainmeil — am Piobaire Dall, mar is fhearr a thuigeas na Gàidheil air fad. Chan eil teagamh sam bith nach eil bàrdachd a' dol ri dualachas ged a dh' fhaodas air uairibh bearnan móra a bhi anns an t-slàbhruidh dhaimheil sin. Is aithne dhuinn mic agus nigheanan cuid de na bàird a bha beo 'n ar latha fhein, agus tha iad cho falamh de spiorad bàrdachd an athar agus a tha mise; ach is dòcha nach tainig fhathast a' mhionaid sin a tha gu bhi 'n a meadhon air an clàrsach a ghleusadh. Mar sin ge b'e air bith na cumhachdan bho 'n taobh am muigh a dhùisg suas clàrsach Uilleim Rois an déidh laimhe, chan eil teagamh nach robh freumh an dualachais a' toirt binneis agus loinn do a bhàrdachd.

Is e boillsgidhean beaga a tha againn air Uilleam còir fhad 's a bha e 'n a bhalach òg, a' ruith agus a' ruagail timchioll air an t-Sithean. Is iomadh eachdraidh agus sgiala a chluinneadh e aig clach an teinntin air na sìthichean grinne, guanach, aig an robh an còmhnuidh talmhaidh 's an t-sìth-bhruth air cùl a tighie. Bhiodh e mu dheireadh cho eòlach orra 's gu' m biodh e iomadh uair a' toirt a chreidsinn air fhéin gu robh e 'g am faicinn agus gu tric 'g an cluinntinn a' ceòl agus a' dannsadh na bu lughmhora na creutair sam bith de shliochd Adhaimh, oir cha b' ann de 'n ghineal sin iad. Bha gach sgial agus gach eachdraidh a bha so a' deanamh an làraich fhein air intinn mhaoth Uilleim, agus ann an lanachd na h-aimsir thug iad am mach an toradh iomchuidh fhein. Tho 'n deagh theist a thug mi air a athair 'g a dearbhadh fhein gu soilleir an uair a tha sinn a' faicinn gu'n do chuireadh Uilleam gu h-òg do 'n sgoil. Faodaidh nach robh mòran sgoile aig Iain Ros. Chan eil fhios againn an sgrìobhadh e ainm fhein, ach a dh' aindeoin sin uile thuig e nach biodh mòran rath air oidhirpean Uilleim òig mur biodh a' bheag no mhór de sgoil air a h-ionnsachadh dha fhad 's a bha e òg. Cha bhitheadh sgoil an Ath-leathann ach sgòdach, bochd, anns an latha ud, ach tha eachdraidh ag innse gu robh an ceum-toisich aig Uilleam Ros anns gach leasan a bha air a theagasg 's an sgoil ud. Bha a phàrantan a' faicinn nach rachadh mòran àirde air fòghlum Uilleim mur am faigheadh e barrachd ionnsachaidh na bha sgoil an Ath-leathann a' toirt seachd aig an am ud, agus mar sin le meud an déidh air ionnsachadh cubhaidh a thoirt do 'n balach òg, turail, thog iad an imrich a Eilean a' Cheò, agus fhuair iad tigh is teine ann am Farrais, far an robh Ard-Sgoil ainmeil aig an àm sin anns am biodh taghadh an

fhòghluim air a thoirt do Uilleam òg. Ma bha Uilleam air thoiseach ann an sgòil bheag an Ath-leathann, chum e a shuidheachan gu daingean teann ann an Ard-Sgoil Farraiss. Is iomadh balach agus nighean anns an sgòil sin aig an robh gach ùis agus greadhnachas a cheannaicheadh airgid agus òr, ach cha robh mac màthar aca chumadh a' choinneil ris an Sgitheanach bheag, thapaiddh, acfhuinneach a bha air ùr thighinn 'n am measg; is cha robh am maighstir-sgoile fada gus an do mhothaich e gu robh aige anns a' choigreach òg so balach aig an robh eanchuinn iongantach agus tùr sonraichte — sgoilear a b' fhiach dha gach cùram agus spéis a ghabhail dheth. Is e ni fìor chàilmhor a tha ann do mhaighstir-sgoile ionnsachadh a thoirt do bhalach a tha inntinneach air a shon, agus creididh sinn nach robh mòran cruaidh-chàis aig maighstir-sgoile Ard-Sgoil Farraiss oilean maith a thoirt do Uilleam Ros, agus fad a chuairt ghoirid 's an sgòil sin bha 'n ceum-toisich aige ann am Beurla Shasunnaich agus an Laidinn; agus bha'n deagh Ghàidhlig Sgitheanach aige mar tha—agus b' fheaird a' chùis sin. An uair a dh'fhag e an sgòil thuit am maighstir-sgoile nach deachaidh a leithid riamh air a bheulthaobh 'n a latha, agus gu'm faicadh an duine bhiodh beo gu'm biodh aithne agus iomradh air a thalanntan móra.

Bha Uilleam a nis ullaichte airson dol am mach a chogadh ris an t-saoghal bhuaireasach so—faodaidh mi a ràdh moran na bu deiseile le sgòil agus foghlum na bha mòran de bhalaich an eilein a dh'fhag e 'n a latha; ach ged a b' fhiar so, bha camadh 's a' chranncur aig Uilleam bochd nach do dhealaich ris re a chuairt anns an fhasach. Bhris air a shlàinte 'n uair nach robh e ach glé òg, agus mar a dh'fhàs esan suas, thug aiceid sìos e, agus gabhaidh e creidsinn nach robh mòran dòchais ri leigheas bho 'n bhàs an uair sin aig neach air an robh a' chuing agus tinneas-caitheamh ceart còmhla. Dh' fhag a phàrantan Farraiss, agus chaidh iad a dh' fhuireach do Ghearroch, agus bha a mhàthair mar sin a ris air a seann eòlas. Theann Iain Ros ri falbh troimh 'n Ghàidhealtachd 'n a cheannaiche-suibhail—beairt a bha a' pàigheadh gle mhaith anns na laithean a bha sud. Cha robh bùth ann an oisean gach tighe anns na h-amaibh a bha sud, agus mar sin 's e latha mòr a bhiodh ann an uair a thigheadh an ceannaiche-suibhail le a mhàileid do'n chlachan. Bha gach òg agus sean a' toirt laimh air iallan an sporain, agus bhitheadh féill nach bu ghann air cìrean

agus sgàthanach beaga cruinne, is bhiodh iomadh guanag ann an eaglais a' chlachain an ath Shàbaid le guailleachan ùr agus neapacinn bregda de phàtaran craobhan nan ubhall. Is e dacine grinne, guanach, gasda, a bha ann am mòran de na ceannaichean-coise so. Bha gach tigh gus an rachadh iad uile dhèanach air cuid na h-oidhche thoirt dhàibh. Cha robh eachdraidh nuadh no shean air nach robh iad min-eolach, agus cha robh duine no bean eadar Tigh Iain Ghròt an Gallaibh agus Maol Chintire air nach biodh sgiala maith no dona aca; agus nach bu mhòr sin anns an latha ud an uair nach robh litir no paipear-naidheachd a tighinn ach 's dòcha uair 's an ràidhe do 'n chlachan Ghàidhealach. Bha Uilleam mar bu thrice ann an cois 'athar air na cuairtean sin, a chionn gu robh e ro-dheidheil air eòlas mionaideach fhaighinn air gach cùil agus cial ann an dùthaich a shìnnis, agus bha fhios aige gu'm b'e sud an doigh a b' fhearr air an talamh air fios eagnaidh fhaighinn air gach seorsa Gàidhlig a bha air a labhairt anns na sgìrean troimh an robh e dol. Is ann mar so a dh' ionnsaich Uilleam Ros an fhileantachd agus am beairteas cainnte a bha aige, agus a thiomnadh dhuinne 'n a chuid òran; agus tha fhios againn ann am fein-fhiosrachadh nach robh ceann de'n Ghàidhealtachd anns an robh sinn a' tionndadh ar leth-taobh a dh' fhuireach car oidhche nach do dh' fhoghlum sinn faclan ùra an Gàidhlig an àite sin, agus bu bheairtiche ar foclaire gu mòr an deidh an sgrìob sin a thoirt. Is iomadh gille òg a bha seachd uairean na bu laidire na Uilleam nach toireadh a leithid sin de pheanas as a chorp airson fiosrachadh cubhaidh fhaighinn air cànan a thir; ach tha sud a' nochdadh dhuinn a eud agus a dhìlseachd a thaobh a chànan mhàthaireil agus cho treibhdhireach dùrachdach agus a bha e anns an rùn shuidhichte a bha aige gach latha—a bhi meudachadh a eòlais air a thir agus a theang. Shiubhail e fein agus a athair siorramachd Pheairt, Braid-Albann, Earra-Ghàidheal, agus a' chuid bu mhotha de sgìrean Rois, ach chan eil cunntas againn gu'm d' rinn a chèilidh eachdraidh mhòr anns na h-àiteachan sin. Tha fhios nach robh e 'n a tàmh. Cha bhiodh e coltach gu'm biodh clàrsach bhinn mar a bha aige-san 'n a tàmh, ach ro-ainneamh, agus is deimhin leinn gur h-e sin an tul-fhirinn; ach chaidh a' chuid mhòr de na h-òran a rinn e aig an am sin air di-chuimhne. Bhiodh iad iomadh latha air beul an dream a dh' ionnsaich iad, ach an uair a dhùin an

ùir air an cnàmhan, ghlasadh suas na h-òrain aig Uilleam Ros gu bith-bhuan comhla ri 'n duslach. Is duilich agus is truagh gu bheil so fìor a thaobh mòran de fhìor smior bàrdachd ar cànan.

(Ri Leantainn.)

AN SGOIL SHAMBRAIDH.

B'i so a' cheud uair a ghabh mise cuid no pàirt ann an Sgoil Shambraidh de'n t-seorsa so agus an uair a thuig mi gu'n robh an luchd-foghlum air trusadh as gach ceann agus, mar an ceudna, as gach dreuchd bha sgàth nach bu bheag orm seasamh mu'n coinneamh mar bhean-theagaisg. Gidheadh cha robh mi fada 'faicinn gu'n robh iad maraon 'nan eud airson cur ris an eòlas a bha aca cheana air a' Ghaidhlig—agus cha bu bheag sin. Is gann a ghabhadh iad sàsachadh. Chan fhaca mise riamh ach ainneamh luchd-foghlum air an robh a leithid de dhealas airson a' Ghaidhlig ionnsachadh a leughadh, a sgrìobhadh, ag eadar-theangachadh rosg is bàrdachd, a' sgrìobhadh ri deachdadh, a' seinn nan òran, a' comhradh—mar sin chaidh an ùine seachad gu ro-luath.

Bu mhaith gu'n robh céilidhean gu tric anns na feasgair a thoirt togail-intinn do fhògh-lumaichean cho dìchiollach agus a mheudachadh ar n-eòlais air a chéile, agus air muinntir Bhail'-ùr-an-t-Slèibhe a nochd dhuinn aoidheachd cho mór. B'i a' Ghaidhlig cànan na Céilidh agus mar so bha na sgoilearan a' faotainn cothruim air a bhi labhairt gu fileanta.

Mar sgoilean eile bha Di-sathuirne saor, agus air an là sin thog sinn oirn ann an carbadan a dh'fhaotainn seallaidh air dùthaich bhreagha Bhàideanach, agus a mheudachadh ar n-eòlais air a b-eachdraidh is air a seanachas. Cha dì-chuimhnich sinn am feasd ar turuis gus a' Mhoighe, gu Loch Lagain agus gu Loch an Eilein, no an aoidheachd a nochdadh dhuinn le Tighearna na Moighe agus a Bhean-uasail chòir; leis an Ollamh Niall Ros agus a chéile mhàlda, an Lagan (Lagan Choinnich). Chuir iad fo chomhain mhóir sinn.

Is dùth dhuinn, mar an ceudna, mòran buidheachais a thoirt do na mnathan-uaisle a réitich an rathad romhainn anns a' Bhail'-ùr agus a bha cho càirdeil, cuideachail fad an t-siubhail—a' Mhaighdean NicFhearchair (Inbhir Challaigh) Ceann-suidhe a' Chomuinn 'sa Bhail'-ùr; a' Mhaighdean Sinton agus a' Bhean-uasal Nic a' Phearsain. Theid mise an urras nach do chaomhain iadsan an saothair as ar leth. Ged nach urrainn dhuinn, an so, gach

duine a nochd coibhneas ainmeachadh cha dean sinn dearmad air Mgr Tearlach MacDomhnuill, air Iain Mac a' Phearsain, am piobaire urramach, no air a' Bhàrd. Ann an orduchadh gach cuise cha ghabh tuilleadh 'sa chòir a ràdh mu'n dragh a ghabh ceann na sgoile, Mgr Niall Orra. B'esan da-rìreadh cridhe gach gnothuich.

Is e mo bheachd-sa gu'n do rinn an sgoil ùrachadh a thoirt do'n Ghaidhlig ann am Bail'-ùr-an-t-Slèibhe, agus is cinnteach mi gu'n robh càirdeas air a chur air bonn anns an sgoil a mhaireas fad iomadh là.

M. N. C.

SUMMER SCHOOL IMPRESSIONS.

As a student attending the "Beginners' Class" for the second time, I should say that the Gaelic Summer School this year at Newtonmore has been successful. Many admittedly arrived in a pessimistic frame of mind, feeling that the district was not altogether suitable for the School, and the first few days were not reassuring. A mere handful of students, scattered throughout a village where only English was to be heard, felt that here was but a poor shadow of the Schools of former years. Gradually, however, the numbers grew, and with them the enthusiasm of all concerned, so that before long all had settled down to what proved to be a really enjoyable "three weeks."

A surprising amount of work was overtaken considering the short time available. That the classes were attractive and popular was proved by the fact that one became jealous of every moment lost from working hours. In the Beginners' Class those making their first acquaintance with the language seemed to make rapid progress, as is usual with those who are fortunate enough to have Miss Johnstone for an instructress; while personally, although in this class for the second year, I felt that not a moment was wasted. The "Advanced Class" assured us they were working as hard as ourselves, and I have no doubt they "advanced" considerably under the guidance of Miss McQueen. Miss MacBride's most interesting Art Class was carried on despite the small numbers, much to the enjoyment and benefit of her pupils, and Mr Orr's Singing Classes were as popular as ever, although the ranks did not contain so many local people as formerly.

The social side of life at the Gaelic Summer School forms a very important part of the programme. Picnics and excursions are arranged at frequent intervals, and one has

ample opportunity of meeting and getting to know everyone. Each evening the question is "Where is the ceilidh to-night?" For without these little informal gatherings at the end of the day, life at the Summer School would lose much of its charm. Round the fire tales are told, songs are sung, and here more than anywhere else, I imagine, is to be found the real spirit of that for which An Comunn Gaidhealach exists. The stranger learns at the ceilidh something of our great Highland tradition, realises why it is yet worth while to learn the Gaelic language, and meets everyone on terms of friendship. While all, for a brief space, recapture much of the comradeship, simple pleasure, and romance which modern life is so apt at times to crowd out.

In mentioning our hours of leisure at Newtonmore, one cannot but record our gratitude to all those who so generously entertained and befriended all the members of the Summer School; and it is good to realise that if Gaelic is no longer a vital force in this part of Badenoch, at least the old Highland spirit of hospitality has triumphantly survived!

A few of the suggestions made by the students here might be considered in future years. It was generally agreed that a district where Gaelic is still alive and predominant is greatly desirable for our Summer School, as very few at Newtonmore had the opportunity of practising Gaelic conversation with native speakers outside the school, and progress suffered accordingly. It is also a pity that so many potential pupils should have stayed away this year on account of the district which was chosen (I personally know of over a dozen to whom this applies). Although it is desirable to stir up enthusiasm for Gaelic over as wide an area as possible, a large and flourishing school is necessary to make much impression in the more Anglicised districts, and it must be remembered that for some students, the only holiday of the year is the time spent at the Summer School.

A want which has been felt for some time is that of a Middle Class for the language, which would greatly lighten the teachers' tasks, and avoid the possibility of students being retarded or "forced on" through the presence of those of varying knowledge in the same division. This, of course, would mean additional expense, and for a School of the size of this year's would not be justified, but I feel there is no reason why the attendance should not be greatly increased. A little more extensive advertising seems to be necessary,

for a growing interest in Gaelic is met with on all hands, but comparatively few appear to know of the existence of our Summer School.

The best recommendation of the School which one can pass on to strangers is that once having attended, one wishes to return. For there is something about those few weeks which is quite unforgettable,—apart from the realisation that "mnaoi" is the Dative of "bean," that the irregular floral design denotes the Norse influence, and that it is advisable for one singing in a choir to start off "on the beat," all of which useful knowledge is acquired (in my own case, at least) by the way. It is a feeling of friendship, and of learning to know all that was best in the past without retreating from the realities of to-day—but it is more than that. It is, at any rate, the reason for which I went to Newtonmore this year, and for which I hope next year to go again to the Gaelic Summer School.

OILEANACH.

As a member of the Summer School of Gaelic of 1932 I wish to add my word of deep appreciation and praise to what has already been said about it in this paper; but at the same time I wish to say that it is a great pity that there were only five "Scholars" who took advantage of the Celtic Art Class. This may be because more was not known about it beforehand. It was not merely a drawing class, but it was a class where besides being made acquainted with Celtic design in its many forms, one could learn to apply these designs as decorations to all sorts of things. This was demonstrated by the five faithful ones, who made their own designs in accordance with the laws of Celtic design and then applied them to such widely different articles as posters, leatherwork, book covers, chair seats, a bedspread and even raiment (a blouse). There are endless other things to which Celtic design can be applied, and in the capable hands of Miss MacBride this class was an intensely interesting part of the Summer School and deserved to be much better attended. The whole School was a delightful experience and one for which I feel deeply grateful to An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Sgrìobh mi so ann am Beurla air son aobhair shonraichte, a chum agus gu'n nochdainn do mhóran tuilleadh sluaigh an cothrom prìseil a tha iad a' leigeil seachad nach eil iad a' tighinn a dh' ionnsaidh na Sgoil Shamhraidh Ghaidhlig.

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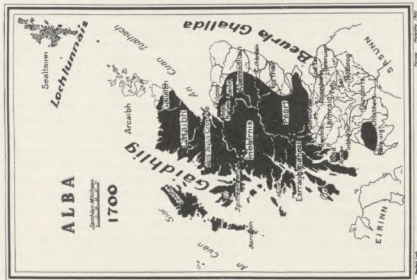
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LANGUAGE MAPS OF SCOTLAND.

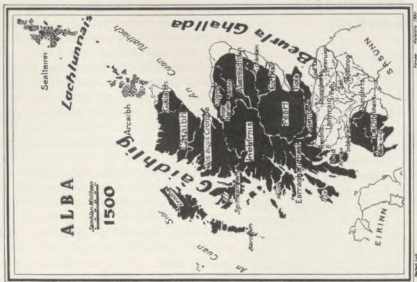
By CHARLES LOCH, Esq.



1930.—This map shows the area over which the Gaelic language is spoken at the present day in Scotland.



1700.—It will be seen that Gaelic had not yet died out in a corner of Galloway. In Glenapp, Ballantrae, and elsewhere, it survived until after 1750. Gaelic was spoken in the greater part of Fife, in the Ochil Hills, and in the mountains of Forfarshire. Norwegian was still to be heard in parts of Shetland, where it lingered until about 1800, but had completely died out in Orkney.



1500.—At this period Gaelic was spoken over the greater part of Galloway and Carrick in Ayrshire, and throughout Dumbarton, Strirling, and Fife. Along the each coast and in the big towns English was gaining ground. Norwegian was the language of the Shetlanders, and was still to be heard in parts of Orkney as late as 1550.

THE GAEL AND MODERN REQUIREMENTS.

By A DRUID.

IV.

I have referred to the personality of the Gael, and how that is influenced by his mixed descent. Much also of the racial character has been affected by environment. The mountains, the glens, the sea, have had a distinct share in imparting their own dignity and grandeur to his moods and his general outlook on life. It was in that rugged environment that his language was formed; his words and his idiom were moulded in the shadow of the hills; his poetry and music drew their colour and quality from the heart of Nature. These things, the language, the traditions, the proverbs, the songs and tales, the haunting melodies, the dress—these things are all his own. They are, as it were, *his luggage of life*. Is he now going to leave these things behind and cast them off, as he tries to adapt himself to new conditions, conditions which are not always congenial, and which were mainly forced upon him? Is the spirit of the Gael to be impoverished if he is to snap the link that binds him to the old heroic times? The Gael is going to be a much poorer, and a much less effective citizen in modern life if he is to despise and neglect those things which gave strength and charm to the character of his ancestors. These are the elements that enter very largely into his subconscious heredity. And if he renounces that it will take him a good few generations to get his subconscious mind steeped in, and imbued with, the ideals of the stranger. The impoverishing and starving of this deeper section of our racial character would be a vast calamity. I think that is one good reason why we should try to keep our old language, and also retain a living acquaintance with the best things that our own Gaelic race have created. It is their gift to modern civilization. It can be their gift to us individually.

Apart, however, from the patriotic, or from what some might call the sentimental point of view, I would mention another aspect, and one that has the power of appeal in these days, and that is the utilitarian. Although that is not indeed the highest motive, yet I feel that a definite statement should be made as to the *utility* of the Gaelic for the man whose mother

tongue it is. Let him regard the language not merely as an object of sentiment, but as an intellectual possession which is to him a great advantage mentally. It will be admitted that the grasp and capacity of the human brain is increased in proportion to the number of impressions or definite ideas it contains. Just as your arm gets stronger by exercise, so too the brain grows more powerful and alert by an increase in the stock of coherent organised impressions. Say that the ordinary citizen in business knows 10,000 English words. He has a distinct conception corresponding to every one of these 10,000 terms. His mental efficiency, generally speaking, will depend on the exercise it cost him to master so many ideas. But supposing you also take the case of a bilingual Gael, who is equally familiar with all these English words, and in addition has absolute control of another 10,000 words of his native Gaelic. The man has a far larger range of mental impressions. As a result, it often happens that his mental grasp and capacity are stronger accordingly. A knowledge of Gaelic gives you such a control of vowel sounds and the use of the organs of speech that you can pronounce any language, eastern or western. Highlanders who go to the Indian Civil Service, or indeed to any responsible service in the east, assure us that their knowledge of the Gaelic language is an incalculable help to them in acquiring other tongues. The young Gael who goes out to Brazil to fill a post in some business firm, soon discovers the utility of being master of 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.

But there is another argument in favour of the retention of our native speech, namely, the value and beauty of its literature. If Gaelic dies, its literature will speedily perish. The range of that literature may not be prolific, but the quality is rare, and a thing by itself. There is so much in it that is original, true to Nature, drawn from the very life. To a University man who has the entree into other literatures, what a mental pleasure it is to contrast each type of literature he may know with the corresponding section of Gaelic letters. You may not have much drama in Gaelic, but you have any amount of dialogue, wherein several phases of life and experience are handled with ability. You may not meet with much prose; but

there is a marvellous profusion of romantic tales, of adventure and of wonder, covering an extensive field. And as for the poetry you have in your own native speech a wealth of poetry not easily eclipsed for quality and artistic merit. The whole of Gaelic literature is actually *alive*! Why? Because it came straight from the heart. There is so little in it that is conventional or ephemeral. And because it has the truly human ring, it retains a truly human interest. To permit such a heritage to perish would be an irreparable loss to the Gael. Recognising then the value of the old language, as well as the worth of the literature it contains, what steps ought we to take in order to conserve these? There are already organised bodies in Scotland, having the preservation of these in view. Every earnest Gael should extend to such a cultural movement his hearty support. Not only ought the ancient language to be kept alive among the people, but the study of it should be further extended in the Universities of Scotland. During the past generation the leaders of Celtic learning have been French and German scholars. But there is no reason at all why our own students of Gaeldom should not be abreast of the highest learning in that subject. The Gaelic language ought to be fostered on both sides, the popular use of the language among native speakers; and also the more erudite side in our Schools and Colleges. Surely the Gael can rise a little higher than a mercenary standard in judging the worth of a living speech, and his own native speech at that. Is it too much to expect that he could be intellectual enough to keep his own speech as an ornament, or mental accomplishment with all the accompanying benefits to which I have just referred? Judging from the case of some Gaels who have held faithfully by their mother tongue as an ornament, in addition to English, and who, notwithstanding, have been very successful from the material standpoint, we argue that his ancestral culture is no hindrance, but rather a help to the Gael in modern life.

(To be concluded.)

AM FAIGH A' GHÀIDHLIG BAS?

Tha a' cheist so air a' faighneachd as ùr, air do aon de bhuill Shasunnach na Pàrlamaid cur an aghaidh a bhi cosg airgid air cànan a tha (a reir a' bheachd-san) a' faighinn a' bhàis, sin ri ràdh, a' Ghaidhlig. Thachair so anns a' Phàrlamaid o chionn ghoirid. Chan eil mi

saòilsinn gu 'n ruig sin a leas mùiseag sam bith a chur oirnn. An àite sin is ann bu choir gu'n cuireadh e spionnadh nuadh annainn, ceart is mar a chuireadh anns na buill Albannach a labhair gu sgairteil 'na aghaidh. Tha sinn glé phròiseil asda gu dearbh, agus gle fhada 'n an comain.

Ach chan eil feum air a' dhol gu Sasunn airson tachair ri argumaid de'n t-seòrsa so. Chi sinn gu robh an dearbh cheist so a' cur dragh air a' bhàrd ainmeil sin, Niall MacLeòid, 'na latha fhein. Ars esan:

“Tha mòran sluagh am beachd an diugh
Nach eil ar cànan slàn;
Nach fhad a chluinnear fuaim a guth,
Nach teid i chaoidh na's fèarr;
Gu bheil an aont' a' bh'air air ruith,
Nach tog i ceann gu bràth;
'S a dh'aindeoin buaidh Mhic-'Ille-Dhuibh,
Gu'm faigh a' Ghaidhlig bàs.”

Cha robh Niall MacLeòid fhein de'n bheachd sin idir, is e nach robh. Rinn e sin soilleir gu leòir anns an t-sèathamh rann de 'n òran, òran a mholainn do neach sam bith a dh'fhaodas a bhi aineolach air. Gheibhear e an 'Coisir a' Mhòid.”

Agus ciod a their sinn mu dhéidhinu an òrain oirdheirc sin, òran-brosnachaidh A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, “Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig”? Cha bhi mi cho ladarna 's gu'n ainmich mi aon fhacal dhe do mhuinntir Ghaidhlig an latha an diugh: ach ni mi beagan faisneachd d'a thaobh, agus is i sin—gu'm bi a' chuid sin de luchd na Ghaidhlig a bhios aig a' Mhòd anns a' Ghearasdan, air an togail suas leis, 'nuair a sheinnear e leis na Coisirean, air dhòigh 's gu'n geall iad anna fein—“Air mo shon-sa 's air son mo thighe chan fhaigh a' Ghaidhlig bàs.” Tha so ceart.

Bidh mòran de rùintean maith e air an gintinn aig a' Mhòd. Tha so ceart cuideachd: ach 's i cheist—cia lìon dhuibh sin a thig gu ire? Is e nithean bàsmhor a th'anns na rùintean: feumaidh sinn an altrum gu faiceallach.

Nis, air barantas an dà òrain chiatiaich a chaidh ainmeachadh, chan fhaigh a' Ghaidhlig bàs: ach cuimhniceamaid so, tha cumhnant co-cheanghailte ris a' bharantas, agus is iad cuid dhuibh sin—seasmhachd air a sgàth, agus a bhi ag àrd-sheinn a cliù ann am bardachd 's an ceòl. Gu nàdurra, is ann ri clanna nan Gaidheal a tha sin air earbsa, 's cha chlann sam bith eile. Theirinn so, mur a cumar suas a' bàrdachd 's a ceòl, theid a' Ghaidhlig air chùl. Gu fortanach, chan 'eil aig an àm de chomharra gu'n tachair sin, eadhon uiread is neul beag cosmhul ri bois duine.

Bu mhiann leam an cothrom so a ghabhail air facal no dhà a ràdh as leth, chan e mhàin luchd seinn na Gaidhlig an latha an diugh, ach

a luchd seinn anns na làithean a dh'aom. Seadh, cuideachd, agus an dream sin a rinn nithean mòra airson ar cànan air dhòighean eile. Le chèile chum iad suas a bratach gu ruige so. Cuid dhiubh tha 'nan suain, 's cuid eile tha maille ruinn fhathast ann an treun an neart: ach co-dhiubh is beo no marbh iad cumamaid air dheagh chuimhne iad, le rùn a bhi 'leantainn 'n an cois-cheumannan.

Tha eagal orm gu bheil mi air leantainn ro fhada, ach, gu h-aithghearr, feumaidh co-oibreachadh a bhi anns a' chùis, is e sin, gum bi gach aon a' deanamh na's urrainn dha a réir a chomais, oir :

"Ged robh sinn 'san luìg,
Pailt an lùim 's an acfhuinn,
Ged b'eòl dhuinn le cinnt,
Feum gach buill is beairte ;
Ciod an stàth bhios dhuinn
Eòlas 'bhi 'nar cinn
Air gach ball bhios innt',
Mur bi sinn 'g an cleachdadh ?
Feumar còrd 'san acair,
A cheann air bòrd 'bhi glaiste ;
'S ris gach sruth is gaoith,
An combaist cruinn a leantainn."

(Iain Gobha.)

EILEANACH.

ARGYLL CENSUS.

Fewer Gaelic Speakers.

The population of the county of Argyll, according to the 1931 Census report, which has just been issued, is 63,050. This is a decrease of 13,812, or one of 18 per cent. on the 1921 figure.

There are now fewer people in Argyllshire than there are in the town of York. A hundred years ago the population was 100,973. This was the maximum figure. Since then, with the exception of an insignificant increase at the Census of 1881 and the fictitious increase at the Census of 1921, when the count was taken at the holiday period, its record has been one of continuous decline. The present population is the lowest yet recorded, and for the first time has fallen below 70,000.

Of the total population 23,049 or 36.6 per cent. were enumerated in burghs, and 40,001 or 63.4 per cent. in the landward area.

Of the islands included in the county 40 were inhabited at the date of the Census, as compared with 39 at the Census of 1921—the Island of Cara, uninhabited at the date of the previous Census, returning a population of 3 persons on this occasion. The most

populous of the islands are Islay, with a population of 4970, Mull, with 2903, and Tyree, with 1448. The total population of the islands amounts to 11,998, as compared with 13,993 in 1921.

Agriculture, the leading industry of Argyll, employs 6754 persons. The total number engaged shows a small decrease of 296 on the 1921 figure.

Argyll, being one of the counties in which Gaelic is extensively spoken, information on the subject is fully tabulated in the return. Of the 63,050 persons enumerated in the entire county, 21,234 or 33.7 per cent. are returned as able to speak Gaelic. Of these, 20,912 or 33.2 per cent. of the total population, speak both Gaelic and English, and 322 or 0.5 per cent. Gaelic only. At the previous Census 24,624 persons were returned as speaking both Gaelic and English, and 564 as speaking Gaelic only, and there has thus been a decrease of 3712 or 15.1 per cent. in the number of the former, and of 242 or 42.9 per cent. in that of the latter.

The first Census at which Gaelic speakers were specially enumerated was that of 1881, and at that Census 60.7 per cent. of the population of the entire county were returned as able to speak Gaelic.

The Census report observes that the numbers are comparatively insignificant except in the case of young children under 10 years of age—among whom there are 130 speakers of Gaelic only out of a total population of 1162 enumerated at these ages, and in that of elderly people over the age of 65 years, of whom, out of a total of 1593 enumerated, 77 are returned as speaking Gaelic only. Between the ages of 10 years and 65 years 7611 persons were enumerated, 32 of whom are speakers of Gaelic only. Thus under school age the proportion of children speaking Gaelic only is as high as 30.5 per cent., but that it falls to 4.7 per cent. in age-group 5-9 years, and to insignificant proportions thereafter except at upper ages. Even in the case of children and elderly persons, the proportions speaking Gaelic only continue to be substantially decreasing quantities.

The number of persons per room in the occupied private houses in the county is 0.88. The corresponding rate was 1.81 at the census of 1861, but except in 1921 each census has shown a regular though progressively smaller reduction to the present figure.

The report may be obtained at H.M. Stationery Office, 120 George Street, Edinburgh, for 2s. 6d. net, or from any bookseller.
—*Scotsman*

CELTIC LAW IN HISTORY AND TRADITION.

At its closing meeting in the University of Toronto, Mr. Hugh Macdonald, LL.B., chief of the Gaelic Society of Canada, addressed the Celtic Historical Society on "Scots Law in History and Anecdote." In its forms, said the speaker, Scots Law owed much to the Roman law, but the Scottish people had stamped it with an individuality that was characteristic of a Celtic race boasting an independent political and legal tradition. The foundation and enforcement of law and its influence on Scotland's history showed how deeply ancient Scottish customs and ideals had permeated the structure of Scots Law, which, in many notable ways, was in advance of any State legislation that England had produced. The difference between Scots Law and the Law of Canada was that the latter was based on statutes framed by lawyer-politicians who usually left the courts to settle how far the public might observe them in practice or in the letter, while Scots Law had been originally established in the inviolable customs of the people before the Crown assumed custodianship of public morals and liberties.

The remoter background, said the president of the Society, Dr. Edmondston Scott, in his address on "The Spanish Tradition in the Brehon Law Schools," was the age-long history of the development of a legal tradition which was founded on the customs of the Gaelic peoples of Scotland and Ireland centuries before the law profession had segregated itself from the druidic and bardic orders. The earliest judges and advocates were druids belonging to the ranks of learning and the nobility, and their decrees were accepted with a reverence unknown to the statutory legislation of over-governed Christian countries. The Brehon-druid had created a great tradition which had silently but surely shaped British destinies; had made the centuries ring with a people's rivalries and struggles to secure the emancipation of legal and religious thought from the control of English-vested interests; and had proved a mainstay of the Gaelic national resistance to all attempts to impose the English tradition from Westminster and Oxford. Gaelic public opinion which stood for law enforcement was enormously strengthened by that clannish loyalty toward their leaders, which influenced lawyers and churchmen in their attitude to social and political problems. The gallant who was

raised as high as Haman for robbing tightwad Lowlanders or dirking an offensive Sassenach, did no wrong as long as he was "faithfu' to his clan" and all that customary law implied.

The Gaelic legal tradition was so ancient that it was believed to be as old as the age of Gadelus, eponymous ancestor of the race. In literature, its origins were traced back to the early Bronze Age, when Celtic was not the vernacular of Gaeldom. According to literary tradition, the oldest Brehon laws were credited to jurists and druids of Iberian race or else to Irishmen educated in Spanish schools of learning presided over by druid-Brehons like Fenius the Sage, Amergin, and Finnian. Amergin's name was associated with the early beginnings of the Senchas Mor, and as he had emigrated from Spain, where he had acquired his forensic training, he was certain to have been imbued with the Spanish tradition. Other legends definitely connected Ermon, the kings of the Firbolg, Finnian the Sage, King Eoghan Mor, and other fabled leaders of the "Sliochd Ghaidheil Ghlais a Scotia," with this scholastic zeal for law studies during a pre-historic era when friendly commercial and political intercourse subsisted between Spain and Ireland. This continued into the historic period when the Gael only remembered the Celts or Gaul as *Gall*, or "foreigners."

Similarly the *Belra Féne*, or professional jargon of the Brehon schools, was acclaimed as an invention of the times of Fenius, in whose educational system fosterage developed into an institution that survived into the Christian era. The school principal stood legally in the relation of a father to his pupils, and it was, perhaps, no coincidence that old Irish *aide*, foster-father (Gaelic *oide*), and Basque *aita*, father, had a common origin. This title of "father" belonged to a pre-Celtic age, when the heads of Brehon schools were churchmen of the druidic order. It was also no coincidence that the pagan Irish word for "law" (*ad*) traced its cognate in Basque *adu*, "custom," the latter preserving the primitive sense of the term. From this Basque derived its name for a man of law, or "pleader," which was borne by *Adna*, the most cultured Brehon of Connaught and Ulster in the first century, and who believed in having the pick of Ireland's youth sent to Scotland to finish their education in the schools of Skye and elsewhere, because of their superiority to any in Ireland.

All such evidence went to show that the Gaelic legal tradition had behind it a venerable antiquity with which the people were far from ignorant. It was cultivated by men learned in the customs and institutions of the Gael long before Brennus the Gaul weighed Roman justice in his scales and balanced its political expediency with the Celtic broadsword. And it was interpreted and expounded by sages and Brehon-druids, who inspired Gaeldom with deep respect for law and religion, with that "love of equal and indifferent justice" and the desire to enjoy "the protection and benefit of the law," which England's proscription of the Brehon laws could never uproot, and which the Elizabethan statesman, Sir John Davies, divined to be the animating force behind the national resistance to English usurpation. On such a legal tradition, dependent wholly on public respect rather than organised despotism, the social and political stability of all Gaeldom had been established, and the way it had endured a tremendous hammering from the enemies of peace and goodwill gave every promise that the Gael would come into their own again when the arm of force was removed from the levers of power.

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Leabhar XXVIII.]

An t-Samhuin, 1932.

[Earrann 2

ORAID A' CHINN-SUIDHE.

Rinn an Ceann-Suidhe an òraid so aig fosgladh Mòd a' Ghearasdain:—

A Mhnathan is a Dhaoine Uaisle,

Aon turas eile tha sinn a' cur fàilte oirbh gu Mòd a' Ghearasdain. Is cubhaidh gum biodh buill a' Chomuinn a' cruinneachadh gu bhi a' toirt misnich d'a chéile, agus a' gabhail beachd air adhartas an aobhair ann ar tìr. Is cùis ghàirdeachais gu bheil obair A' Chomuinn a' leantainn air an aon rian. Is fortanach nach tàinig roinn am measg ar luchd-oibreach timchioll air stàt no air creideamh. An fheadhainn a shuidhich An Comunn o chionn dà fhichead bliadhna ghabh iad an rùn so mar riaghailt, gum biodh obair A' Chomuinn 'g a cumail saor an comhnuidh o dheasbaireachd mu bheachd eaglais no mu chùis shìobhalta. Tha na ceistean sin iomchuidh gu leòr 'n an àite féin. Gidheadh chan iad sin crìoch àraidh A' Chomuinn. Is i crìoch àraidh A' Chomuinn a' chàinain, an ceòl, is an litreachas a chumail suas. Tha e riatanach gum biodh clann nan Gaidheal ri gaoillean a chéile anns an oidheip dhian so.

* * * * *

Mar is mo an aontachd is ann is treise an ionnsaidh. Air an aobhar sin is còir gach cuspair a sheachnadh ma dh'aobhraicheas sin

aimhreit no consachadh. Cho luath is a cheadaichear argumaid mu eaglaisean no mu ghnothuichean sìobhalta tha sinn gun dàil a' fosgladh doruis do mhi-chordadh am measg nam ball. Tha mi a' tarrainn air a' cheist so gu bhi toirt rabhaidh an àm iomchuidh, air eagal mu 'm biodh meanglan no ball sam bith a' gabhail cothruim air coinneimh meanglain no céilidh a thionndadh gu coinneimh chonsachaidh mu chùisean an stàta. Ma bheir na facail so oibheum do neach sam bith, chan eil àrach air. Is e mo dhleasnas mar cheann-suidhe an rabhadh a labhairt am mach. Agus is fearr dhuinn beagan bhall a bhi 'g ar tréigsinn, na gu 'n rachadh long mhór A' Chomuinn air na creagan le droch stiùradh.

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Tha mi an dùil nach eil feum an diugh a bhi a' caoidh na chaill sinn. Cha dean e feum no stàth dhuinn a bhi dubhach airson na dh'fhàg sinn as ar deidh. Is ann a tha ar gnothuch ris an àm ri teachd, agus ris an àl òg a tha ag éirigh suas. Is dualach gu'm fàg muinntir obair A' Chomuinn aig feadhainn eile ri a deanamh. Bha so riamh 'n a aobhar laigse, nach robh gach aon a' tarraing a chuid féin de'n uallach. Ma ni a h-uile duine a tha anns an éisdeachd rùn ùr an làrach nam bonn, gum bi esan dileas do 'n Ghaidhlig, theid

aobhar na cànan a sheasamh. Ach mur dean gach duine bòidean mar sin a thoirt, thig crìoch gun dàil air ar cainnt. Anns a' chùis ud is e eud is dùrachd a tha dhith oirnn. Their cuid nach cumar beò ar cainnt gun airgid is gun òr. Chan eil anns na briathran sin ach leisgeul. Is e gaol do 'n chànan is do 'n cheòl an aon ni iomchuidh. Ma tha meas agad air cainnt do shinnsir gheibh thu dòigh is cothrom air a labhairt.

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Tha na daoine a tha eòlach air oibreachadh na h-inntinn ag innseadh dhuinn gur còir na h-aignidhean agus an toil a bhi a' comhlachadh a chéile. Is e sin ri ràdh, ma bhitheas na faireachaidhean air an gluasad, gun gnìomh a bhi an lorg sin, gu bheil na faireachaidhean a' fàs nas cruaidhe a chuid 's a chuid. Tha dà fhichead bliadhna a nis o 'n thòisich muinntir air éisdeachd le tlachd ri òrain Ghàidhlig aig na Mòid. Is iomadh cridhe a chaidh a thaiseachadh le luinneig blinn chianail feadh na h-ùine sin. Ach is i a' cheist, an robh an toil air a brosnachadh gach uair a bha aignidhean air an dùsgadh le ceòl ? An robh an toil air a brosnachadh gu gnìomh, gu bhi ag ionnsachadh, a' leughadh is a' labhairt na Gàidhlig. Is e sin an seagh anns am bu chòir do 'n cheòl a bhi, chan ann a' mhàin a' tàladh an luchd-éisdeachd gu cadal, ach 'g an dùsgadh suas gu gnìomh agus gu dìchioll as leth na cànan.

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Tha seagh àraidh anns a bheil an obair so cadar-dhealaichte o iomadh ceist eile. Tha ath-nuadhachadh na cànan a' filleadh a stigh ar féin-mheas, ar meas oirnn féin; agus mur bi meas againn oirnn féin ciamar bhios speis aig càch dhuinn ? An uair a labhras tu facl Gàidhlig, no sheinneas tu aon de na seann òrain, tha d'intinn a' triall air ais cho clis ris an dealanach a dh'ionnsaidh an fhìor thobair dualchais air a bheil deagh chòir agad. Tha guth o na linntean còin ri chluinntinn anns gach sean fhacal. As eugmhais na cainnt is a' chuibil tha mi an dùil nach eil e comasach dhuit greim ccart a ghabhail de spiorad uasal is de loinnt do shinnsir. Dh'fhaodainn an ùine a chaitheamh ag innseadh dhuibh ciod a thachair fad na bliadhna anns gach cèarn, ni a tha sgrìobhte anns na cunntais. Ach is prìseile gu mòr gum biodh misneach is cruadal 'g am brosnachadh ri aghaidh gach cuir a tha dol air cuibhill an fhortain. Is iad sin a chumas ar cridhe làidir am meadhon gach caochlaidh a tha tachairt an diugh, agus a tha fathast ri teachd gu crìch.

PRESIDENT'S ENGLISH ADDRESS.

Dr Ross, speaking in English, said:— The annual Mod affords an opportunity of reviewing the position of An Comunn. As a business house may take stock once a year to ascertain the condition of its affairs, so An Comunn should observe from time to time the expansion of its influence and the growth of its work. That work and influence are greater now than ever they have been before. We have no cause for pessimism. Fifty years ago there were more speakers of Gaelic than there are to-day; but there never were so many students applying themselves of set purpose to acquire the language as there are at this moment. After much quiet thinking on this subject, I have come to the conclusion that what we need is the inspiration of some strong personality.

Two weeks ago the public mind of Scotland was thrilled by a wave of hero-worship. The nation have just commemorated the centenary of Sir Walter Scott. At the moment I am not going to recapitulate anything that has been already said, but it ought to be pointed out that even as Columbus discovered America, so Scott discovered the Highlands. He caught the glamour of our hills and cast his genius over them, until each crested rock and flinty spire was bathed in floods of living fire. But the land of brown heath and shaggy wood was also the nurse of heroes. It was Scott who revealed to the stranger the grandeur of Highland scenery, but he was no less effective in depicting the romantic and picturesque in our Gaelic people. I think it may be concluded that Scott was a Celt of Celts from the fact that in no delineation is he more happy and convincing than in his Rob Roy and Roderick Dhu.

The genius of Scott made the past to live again. He enabled his contemporaries to realise the treasures contained in the history and lore of the Scottish people. The Gaelic cause is waiting for the man to arrive who will rehabilitate the life of the race by kindling their imagination. Imagination, after all, is a sure basis on which to build. It is the secret of every great man, as well as of every great people. Meantime we are doing what we can. But a day is coming in which the race of the Gael will be roused to its very depths. In that day the "inferiority complex" will be discarded. It will be a day of self-realisation. The Gael will discover that he ought to stand on his own feet, and that he ought not to accept his speech and culture from another person.

I have often been impressed by the cordiality of journalists who are not of Highland extraction

yet who invariably have regarded this movement with broad-minded sympathy. This is a fitting occasion to acknowledge with gratitude the debt which An Comunn owes to editors and journalists through all these years. Among other auxiliary agencies are the B.B.C. who have been generous in their broadcasting of Gaelic songs and even of Gaelic speeches. And now that we have a Scottish Station we look for more Gaelic music, which will be warmly welcomed and appreciated throughout Scotland. The founders of An Comunn made a wise rule long ago. They made a rule that church and politics should be excluded from the transactions of An Comunn. It was owing to this wise provision that persons of all creeds and shades of political opinion have been able to pull together for one common end. The aim of An Comunn is to preserve the language and music. There are economic aims which are much to be desired; but these must be attained by suitable agencies combining for that purpose. One can be a good member of both a literary society and a golf club, the one for mental improvement, the other for bodily health. But surely you would not think of mixing up the two. So with An Comunn whose purpose is purely cultural. If you want politics join a political party; but don't wreck An Comunn by introducing controversy and the seeds of discord. Whenever you go to a Mod or ceilidh leave your politics at home.

In boyhood by the peat fire in Skye, I heard a legend which illustrates the present situation. The legend has lately become a theme with some of our Scottish artists. At one time there was a band of warriors called the Feinn, of whom Fionn Mac Cumhaill was the redoubtable chief. The whole company entered a large cave, where they were put under a spell. They were cast into a deep slumber. Nothing could rouse them except three blasts on a magic horn that hung at the mouth of the cave. After the warriors had been a long time asleep, a stray hunter comes to the entrance of the cavern. He blows one blast on the horn. The heroes open their eyes. The hunter sounds a second blast. The warriors rise on to their elbows and look at him. At their terrible appearance the hunter takes fright and runs away. The third blast on the horn has never yet been blown. The warriors are still recumbent, resting on their elbows, their faces set in a wistful gaze.

"Tha 'n Fheinn air a h-uillinn 's chan urrainn iad éirigh"—The Feinn are on their elbows and cannot arise.

But this tale, which has lived through the

ages, contains a truth that applies to ourselves. We, the Gaelic folk, are these enchanted warriors. We were foolish Galatians indeed, and bewitched when we permitted outsiders to arrange everything for us. We are fast forgetting our speech and our pride of race. We are in a slumber as to many vital interests which concern our destiny as a people. Our big sister and next-door neighbour has been kind to us in many ways. But that kindness has been our undoing as Gaels. It means that our speech is moribund, that our glens are desolate, and we ourselves are becoming a nondescript folk. We are becoming a remnant without importance, since we have lost our own story, and neither the grand Lowland heritage nor the great English tradition can ever by any means be ours. A strange docility which is nothing less than slumber has caused us for generations to neglect things that ought to be dear to every race—their language, their music, and their traditions.

The early stage of the Gaelic Renaissance was the first blast on the magic horn. There awoke a dim consciousness that there was something far wrong. But the impression was only faint, and we only got the length of opening our eyelids from sleep. The activity of An Comunn is the second blast. We are sufficiently conscious to see what is happening. We have have just enough vigour to rise to our elbows and look wistfully around. We seem to appreciate in some degree the tragic circumstances. But we still lack the fuller measure of zeal and strength. We are still waiting for the third blast, the clear call, the loud reveille, that shall mean the resurrection of the Gaelic energy, the awakening of the Gaelic mind and imagination.

The state of the economic world at this moment points to the fact that people have to go back to first principles. This simply means that if our country is going to survive in the future, we must use our natural resources and cultivate the land. There is still hope for the Gael in his own country. There is still hope for the Gaelic when the glens will be re-peopled. For some time past we have been living an artificial life. But many things are about to happen which are not generally expected. And this is one of them: that the straths of our beautiful Highlands will yet be occupied by an industrious peasantry. Desolation and death in the land of the Bens are absolutely unthinkable. And this task, at which some of my hearers may smile with sad pathos, is the very work that lies before the recumbent warriors, when once they have stood on their feet and shaken off their long slumber.

FORT WILLIAM MOD, 1932.

The annual Mod of An Comunn Gaidhealach commenced in Fort William on Tuesday, the 4th of October. This is the third occasion upon which the national gathering has been held in the capital of Lochaber. On each occasion one felt the fitness of the spot to be the venue of a Mod. But this year's festival has broken all records, both in the number of entries and in the extraordinary financial achievement of the Local Committee. In these critical days, when Gaelic was supposed to be waning, and when most people have not much money to spare, this double success is an undeniable testimony to the earnestness of the supporters of the cause, and to their resolve to back it up with practical proof. When other movements are hindered by the difficulties of the times, the Gaelic Mod seems to go on from strength to strength. Such facts are more convincing than words to indicate the determination of Gaels that their speech and music are not to be neglected. The Gael can lift his head all the more independently when he is not ashamed of the old speech and the lovely native melodies.

TUESDAY.

The whole of Tuesday, in accordance with precedent, was devoted to the junior competitions, oral and vocal. The oral side was very well maintained. For recitation alone there were sixty-three competitors. The vocal efforts by soloists and choirs revealed a growing interest and keenness on the part of the juveniles. It is also a good thing to see larger audiences than in former years listening to the children. The Shiant Shield went to the Carradale Junior Choir, as also the Mrs. Millar Trophy for two-part harmony. The "Oban Times" Shield and the Mrs. Campbell Blair Trophy were both won by the Junior Choir from Portree. In the evening the Junior Concert was presided over by the Lady Hermione Cameron of Lochiel, who presented the prizes. The programme was sustained by the various prize-winners throughout the day.

On the evening of Tuesday a Ceilidh was broadcast from the Highland Hotel. Lochiel acted as Fear an Tighe, and Mr. Compton Mackenzie, LL.D., Lord Rector of Glasgow University, explained the nature of the different types of song. The programme was arranged by Mr. J. M. Bannerman, and the singers included Miss Bessie Campbell, Miss Margaret Macinnes, Miss Madge C.

Brown, Mr. J. M. Bannerman, and Mr. Allan Hunter. Mr. Angus M. MacDonald recited. It was a pity that a broadcast was not made of one of the larger concerts, to give the outside world a more adequate idea of what the Gaelic Mod really is. The singing of the massed choirs was an item that should have appealed technically to the B.B.C. It was an opportunity lost.

WEDNESDAY.

The competitions on the Wednesday included the senior solo singing for the James Grant Memorial Prize, and the Oban and Lorn Commemoration Medal. The musical judges, Sir Hugh Robertson and Professor Whittaker, expressed great satisfaction at the quality of the performances. For the Oban and Lorn there were no less than 72 competitors. Some means must be found, as in Wales, of thinning out the number of competitors at the final. Winners at rural Mods should alone be admissible to these larger competitions at the national Mod.

The official opening took place in the Town Hall at noon. A prayer in Gaelic was offered by Rev. Alex. MacLean, Fort William. Provost Brander of Fort William extended the official welcome to the Mod in the name of the municipality. All who had experience of previous Mods in Lochaber must have felt how warm and real that welcome can be; and, indeed, on this occasion the cordiality of the reception was as hearty as of yore. The president delivered his addresses from the chair in Gaelic and in English. Major N. B. Mackenzie, the local convener, proposed votes of thanks to all those who had helped to achieve the financial success which enabled this Mod to eclipse all records. The platform party included several ex-presidents, as well as many of the leading workers in the cause.

In the evening a great ceilidh was held in the Highland Hotel. This event was notable on account of a visit from the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald. He received a most enthusiastic ovation. In a racy humorous speech he talked no politics, an example to all who attend a Mod. He congratulated An Comunn on the work they were doing. If there were more singing, there would be more peace.

THURSDAY.

Throughout Thursday forenoon there was a considerable number of competitions in elocution, including reciting, reading, speeches, tales, and dialogues. The growing interest in oral work must be regarded with

satisfaction. Also on this forenoon took place the competitions in Oran Mór and Puirt-a-Beul, as well as the Mrs. Quentin MacLennan prizes and the awards given by Duncan Macinnes, Chief of the Scottish Clans of America. The afternoon saw the great and friendly struggle of the rural choirs. Thirteen choirs entered. The growing strength and popularity of this class is most remarkable. One feels that the rural choir is a tower of strength for the cause, and so ought to be encouraged. It is there that the fruits of the labour of our music teachers are amply manifest. At this Mod the Lorn Shield presented by Col. and Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds) was won by the Badenoch Choir (also at Perth in 1929). There was good singing and a good sporting spirit, no trace of unkindly jealousy; and if there be any sense of rivalry at all, it is the helpful rivalry to do better next time. Long may the rural choirs and all choirs retain this fine spirit.

The Rural Concert in the evening was presided over by the President. The Prime Minister was present nearly all the time, and made an eloquent oration, in which he emphasised the truth that a fine ideal is the best basis for the solid facts of life. He praised the Celtic ideals as pointing the way in which the practical realities of our time should mould and shape themselves. The Shield and prizes were presented by the Honourable Mrs. Iona Maclean of Edinburgh.

FRIDAY.

Friday was devoted to instrumental music, piano and violin, vocal duets, quartettes, men's choirs, ladies' choirs, choral unison, and the full battle-royal of the advanced choirs. It was a great day in choral work. Nine choirs appeared. The judges were full of appreciation. A careful analysis of merits and faults was judiciously submitted, and this is most valuable. All wise conductors are thankful for a straightforward evaluation of work done, and suggestions for improvement where such is possible. The Greenock Choir won the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield as well as the Mull and Iona Shield for male voices, and the Esmé Smyth Shield for female voices—together a most remarkable achievement!

On Friday evening two concerts were held in the large hall extemporised from the huge garage. Over four thousand people were entertained. What was lacking in comfort was made up by a wonderful enthusiasm. Sir Alexander N. MacEwen of Inverness presided over the first house. He made a

striking speech in Gaelic, a unique feat, since it is only recently that he became a student of the language. He urged the use of Gaelic on every possible occasion. He pointed out the improvement in the economic conditions of the Highlands, at which members of An Comunn ought to aim. During an interval in the concert the bard of the year was crowned by the President. The shields and medals were presented by the Hon. Mrs. Maclean of Ardgour. The second house had as chairman the Most Rev. Andrew J. MacDonald, D.S.O., Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh. The Archbishop declared that a people who lose their language will ere long lose their individuality also. In the old days the capitals of Europe were open to the Scot, and Scots had done important work on the continent. The Scot should retain his personal identity, and the preservation of Gaelic speech and culture was one means towards this end.

After the second house dances on a large scale were held in the Highland Hotel and in the Town Hall.

The ceilidh and community singing in the various hotels and boarding-houses were also a feature which causes the Mod Week to linger as a fragrant memory in the recollection of all who have taken part in them.

N. R.

AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH (SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Le K. W. G.

VII.

haugr (dùn, dùn ùrach thairis air sean uigh) mar hoe, how:—Cop-na-hoe (koppr=toll air chumadh copain); mar àit-ainm ann an; How, Howmore, Hoe, Toe, Howe, agus eadhon mar Oa.

holl (enocan), mar, ol: Gidhur-ol (gjar, an gen. case de "gja" beàrn, no sgoltadh-creige); Mircol (myrk = dorch); tha 'in facal ri fhaighinn cuideachd mar "el" ann an Lionel (lín=lion).

holt (monadh garbh) mar; olt, alt: Erisolt (Eirik = ainm duine); Neidalt (neyti = feudail).

klettr (creag, sgòrr) mar; clete, cleit, cleite: Haclete (har=àrd); Rahacleit (raudr=dearg); Gàscleite (gás=geadh).

kvi (crò, mainnir), mar; cui:—Lianacui (lín=liòn); mar an ceudna aig toiseach ainmean mar: qui, koi: Quinish (nes=rudha); Koidale (dalr=gleann).

nes (rudha, sròn) mar; *nes*, *nish*, *nis*, *nais*:
Sleibhtenis (slethr = raon, comhnard);
Circenis (kyrkja = eaglais); Phenish (fé =
feudail); Unes (yr=iubhar); Griamanais
(Grim=aínm duine). An Leòdhas tha
ceàrn de'n aínm Nis.

seir (fearann, àirigh, àite-comhnuidh) mar;
seadar, shader, said, side, ster, set;
Feorishader (fjara = tràighe mara);
Cuidha-seadar (kvi=crò); Fallside (fjall=
cnoc); Eresaid (Ari=aínm duine);
Ellister (hellir (*gen. case*) = uamh);
Thrumster (Thrymr = aínm duine);
Bosset, Bowset (bu=comhnuidh a ghadh-
ail). Tha Siadir leis féin 'n a aínm.

sker (sgeir, creag) mar; *sker*, *sgeir*: Vatisker
(vatn=uisge, sàile); Hasker (half=muir,
cuan); Mår-sgeir (mår=faeilann); Cleibi-
sgeir (kleppr = creag a tha 'seasamh a
mach)

skog (coille, doire, preasarnach) mar; *seo*,
sgo; Birkisco (bjork, birki = beithe);
Grasgo (gras=feur); Scoval (fjall=cnoc).

stad (fàrdoch, fearann) mar; *stad*, *staidh*,
staigh, *sta*: Mugstad (munkr=mànach);
'Beinn (Rùnastaidh (reynir = caorann);
Tòrastaigh (Thori=aínm duine); Skegir-
sta (Skeggi=aínm duine).

skiki (stíall fearainn) mar; *scaig*, *sgeig*, *sgag*:
Overiscaig (ofarr = uachdrach); Calascaig
(kali=aínm duine); Polleiriscaig (eyrr=
cladach); Strathascaig (á=abhainn).

sund (Caol) mar; *said*: Miasaid (mjo=
cumhann).

vagr (geodha, camus) mar; bhàidh, aidh,
bhàigh; Beurla, "way," "vay":
Stornoway, Steornabhagh (stjórna =
stiùradh); Stimeravay (stendi=casgadh,
stopadh suas); Tarravay (Thara =
feamainn); Loch Thamnabhagh (hofn=
cala); Loch Thealasbhagh (hellir=uamh);
Sandabhagh (sandr=gaimhneach).

vatn (uisge, loch-uisge) mar; *bhat*, *vat*:
Grinnavat (graen = uaine); Lingavat
(lyng=fraoch); Breidhbat (breidr=
leathann). An Gallaobh tha 'n t-àit-
aínm Watten ri fhaotainn.

vikr (bàgh) mar; *vik*, *vaig*, *vig*, *vic*, *ic*, *uig*,
wick, *bhic*, *bhig*, *aig*, *ag*: Avik (á=abh-
aínm); Tarskavaig (thorst=trosk, bodach
ruadh); Islivig (is-hlid = leathad-eighe);
Scoravic (skor = sgoltadh, clais domhain
uisge); Beidie (beit=ionaltradh, feurach);
Kirriwick (kyrr = sàmhach); Smiuvig
(smuga = uamh); Earabbig (eyrr =
cladach); Seilibbig (selr=ròn); Aird

Heslaig (hesli=calltuinn); Urradhag (urd
= càrn chlach). Tha Uig, agus Wick ann
mar àit-aínmean. Anns na Sannagan (an
Arainn) gheibhear "vikr" mar "oc," no
b'àill leam a ràdh tuilleadh na aon, mar
"ocs"=Sandvikr, oir tha trì dhiubh ann.

vollr (dail, lòn) mar; well, wall, eal, all, ell;
Langwell (lang = fada); Dingwall (thing
=cùirt)—s e sin Inbhir-pheofharain, no
Bailechàil, a shean aínm; Greineal (graen
=uaine); Musal (mosi = coinneach);
Slettell (slétt = réidh); Carrol (kjarr =
doire); mar an ceudna "vall" Vally.

Tha 'm facal "borg" (dùn, daingneach)
ann àit-aínmean mar; Bhuirgh, Borgh,
Borg, Borgia, Borge, Borva, Barove, Bora,
agus Boraige. An aínmean co-mheasgte
gheibhear e mar "burgh," mar ann an
Nomhasburgh (hnaus = totaichean); mar
"brog" an Dalibrog; tha 'n car *genitive* an
aínmean mar, Borerary (ey=eilean);
Boranis, Borreraig (=nes, agus vikr);
Borga-dail, etc. Tha 'n Dr. MacBheathain
ag ràdh, "Tha ciallachadh an fhacail so air
dol cho tur á cuimhne muinntir nan eilean
gur àbhaist daibh "Dùn" a chur air thoiseach
air mar so; Dùn Borgh (Dùn Bhuirgh) =
Caisteal=caisteal." Ruig buaidh nan Loch-
lannach gus a leithid de àirde gu 'm
bheil aínm agus comhcheangal aig na Loch-
lannaich eadhon ris na tùir àrda a thog na
Cruithnich gu iad féin a dhìon uapa; de
bheil mòran laraichean an iomadh àite, agus
ris an abrar "brochs" le muinntir an taobh
tuath, facal a tha air a thionndadh bho
"borg," agus air a ghabhail a stigh do 'n
Ghàidhlig mar "borgh." Chaidh na dùin so
a thogail an toiseach leis na Cruithnich mar
àitean dìon, ach ghabh na Lochlannaich
còir orra agus chuir iad gus an tìs féin iad,
a' cur an comharraidh orra a nuas air feadh
nan linn. (Tha samhladh cumachd ann de
na tùir àrda so air a chur suas aig Na Learga
mar chuimhneachan orrasan a thuit air gach
taobh aig a' Bhlar an sin, an 1263.)

Tha fios gu bheil àireamh mhór eile de
fhacail Lochlannach ri fhaotainn an
àit-aínmean co-mheasgte an Albainn; is
iad a' phrìomh chuid a ghabhadh
seòrsachadh a tha air an toirt gu h-àrd. Ach
faodaidh e'm barrachd riarachaidh a thoirt
ma bheirear beagan a thuilleadh a tha tric
air an uisneachadh mar:—áss (bruach
druim); armr (loch sàile); brú (drochaid);
bud *gen.* búdar (bùth, pàillun); fors
(steallaire, leum-uisge); fit, *gen.* fidi (muir-
achadh, morach); gnípa (binnein), hóp
(camus), hlid (leathad), hamarr (caraig),
kalfr (innis beag an taice ri eilean is mò),

knapr (cnap); kjölr (druim bàta); leir (poll, làthaich); mauli (maol); óss (inbhir); strond (traigh, cladach); straumr (alld); stakkr (cruach); topt (gasan, badan, doire); skrlða (sleamhnachaidh talaimeh); skor (eag); tunga (teanga fearainn); chan eil an sin ach beagan eismpleir.

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of An Comunn was held in the Town Hall, Fort William, on Saturday, 8th October, at 10 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Neil Ross in the chair. The minute of last meeting was held as read and approved.

The Secretary reported that the following members had been elected to the Executive Council as the result of the recent ballot, viz.:—Mr. John Bannerman, Mrs. Burnley Campbell, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Mr. Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Captain George I. Campbell of Succoth, Mr. Hector MacDougall, Dr. Colin Sinclair, Rev. Hector Cameron, and Mr. Donald Graham, M.A. The Secretary intimated that Mr. James C. MacPhee, who was next in order of the ballot, would take the place of Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness, who had been appointed vice-president. His term would be for one year.

The annual reports and financial statements were submitted, and adopted. Sheriff MacMaster Campbell moved "That the money already subscribed to the Musical Scholarship Fund be, with the consent of the subscribers to be obtained, made immediately available towards the musical education of Mr. Duncan M. Morrison, Stornoway, who possesses competent knowledge of Gaelic; that it be remitted to the Executive Council to co-operate with the Lewis and Harris, and other Highland Societies in Glasgow, in the raising of the balance of the cost of Mr. Morrison's maintenance and education during his two years' course of training at the Scottish National Academy of Music, Glasgow, the Executive Council being hereby authorised to make such grant, in addition to the fund thus to be raised, as they may, in their discretion, consider suitable and proper." Lady Elspeth Campbell seconded, and the motion was unanimously adopted.

The auditors were re-appointed.

The President cordially thanked the Local Committee for their admirable and highly successful work in connection with the Mod.

It was unanimously agreed to hold next year's Mod in Glasgow.

Mr. Alex. MacKechnie moved "That An Comunn take immediate steps to initiate a movement amongst the Gaelic-speaking children on lines similar to the Welsh League of Youth." Mr. Malcolm MacLeod seconded, and suggested the motion should be sent to Clann an Fhraoich to consider as to the best means of giving effect to it. This was agreed to.

Mr. George E. Marjoribanks moved "That, beginning from the first meeting after the Mod of 1933, all meetings of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach shall be conducted in Gaelic, and in Gaelic only." Mr. Angus Robertson seconded. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod moved that one meeting in the year be conducted in Gaelic. Mrs. Iain Campbell seconded. On a vote being taken, 67 voted for Mr. Marjoribanks' motion, and 35 for Mr. MacLeod's. The motion, not having received the support of two-thirds of those present, fell.

Mrs. J. B. Colquhoun moved "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.'" Mr. Hugh MacLean seconded. Mr. Donald Graham moved the previous question, and Colonel Greenhill Gardyne seconded. On a vote being taken, 20 voted for the motion and 34 for the previous question.

Mr. Donald MacDonald moved "That the expenses of the President of An Comunn at the Annual National Mod be a charge on the Mod expenses." Mr. MacFarlane Barrow seconded. Mr. Angus Robertson moved the previous question, and Mr. John MacDonald, Oban, seconded. On a vote being taken, 30 voted for the motion and 20 for the previous question. It was agreed that the motion should apply to this year's Mod.

On the suggestion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, it was agreed to recommend to the Executive Council that one meeting in the year should be held in Gaelic.

A vote of thanks to the President terminated the meeting.

The preliminary meeting of the Executive Council followed, and Standing Committees were appointed.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE MOD.

The Mod of 1932 has come and gone. It was in many respects a memorable one. In the numbers attending as competitors and interested auditors, and in the high standard of attainment reached in the oral and musical competitions, all former records were surpassed. I may be permitted to refer briefly to some of the things that impressed me as being marked features of the Mod.

In the first place, one could not help being struck by the audiences which assembled at all the sessions. Every hall one visited was filled by appreciative listeners, while on Thursday and Friday the huge garage, capable of accommodating over 2000 persons, was crammed to its utmost capacity at the choral competitions and evening concerts. Tribute should be paid to the admirable patience and good temper of the audiences on Thursday and Friday, when the rain, drumming on the corrugated iron roof, made it at times difficult, if not impossible, for a large proportion of the audience to hear what was spoken or sung.

As everyone knows, Dr. Ross possesses exceptional oratorical gifts. All his utterances were happy and effective, but he excelled himself at the formal opening. The large audience on that occasion was deeply impressed as in felicitous diction, and with fine elocutionary effect, he poured forth his eloquent periods on the twin themes of *tir is teanga*. He spoke first in Gaelic and afterwards in English, and both speeches evoked unstinted praise.

This Mod will be noteworthy as the first to be honoured by the presence of a British Prime Minister. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's visit was an agreeable surprise, and gave unbounded delight to the thousands of fellow-Gaels, who welcomed him with enthusiastic pleasure and pride. He came to the Mod as a Mac, not as Prime Minister, as he said himself, and at the ceilidh on Wednesday and the rural choirs' concert on Thursday spoke words of appreciation and encouragement. Mr. MacDonald expressed himself as having enjoyed every minute of his visit, and he had certainly nothing to complain of in the warmth and sincerity of the welcome given him.

A feature of the Mod this year was the number of distinguished literary men who were interested and appreciative visitors. In addition to Mr. Compton MacKenzie and Mr. Seton Gordon, who are regular habitués, there were Mr. H. V. Morton, Mr. George

Blake, and Mr. Eric Linklater. These three were paying their first visit to the Mod. Mr. Morton declared that, after a long experience of public functions, he had never attended any event of the kind which gave him more genuine delight.

While all the choral performances were of a high order, the singing of the Greenock Choir was of outstanding merit. It was a positive revelation to many, and a sheer delight to all. Their successes were unprecedented; they practically swept the board. Sir Hugh Robertson declared that their wonderful singing was as great and thrilling as he had ever heard anywhere. Both adjudicators predicted a distinguished future in music for their brilliant conductor, Mr. Malcolm MacCallum.

One could not help admiring the fine sportsmanlike spirit shown by the competitors. Whether they won or lost made no visible difference in their demeanour. They were there to do their best and take their chance, and if luck went against them they accepted their fate cheerfully and without complaint. Long may this remain a characteristic of these happy warriors.

One must add a word of appreciation of the delightful ceilidhs held in the various hotels after the work of the day was over. These ceilidhs are a comparatively recent development, and they form now one of the most attractive adjuncts of the Mod. If there are still left in any mind vestiges of belief in the Celtic gloom, of which we heard and read so much a generation ago, a round of these ceilidhs should effectively destroy them. The spirit of infectious merriment and light-hearted gaiety pervaded them all. There was no stiffness, no formality, no pre-arranged programmes. Everyone was happy and ready to contribute to the happiness of the others, and when the company joined in such a gay and lively chorus as "*De ni mi ma sheideas a' ghaath*," the rafters resounded, and if any of the good folks of Fort William go to bed in Mod Week, their slumbers were in danger of serious disturbance.

It is sometimes complained that one does not hear so much Gaelic spoken at the Mod as one would expect. There was but little if any ground for such a complaint this year. One was cheered by hearing Gaelic being spoken on every hand wherever one went.

It was a great Mod, and will not be surpassed for many a day.

M.

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MOD PRIZE-LIST.

JUNIOR SECTION.

WRITTEN COMPETITIONS.

Adjudicators:—John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Archd. MacLean, M.A., Ballinluig; Miss Nancy MacLean, Glasgow; Murdo MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Angus MacMillan, Glasgow; Murdo Murray, H.M.I.S., St. Boswells; Rev. D. J. Robertson, Jura; Rev. Donald Thomson, B.D., Killin.

The following is a List of the Schools entered:—Broadford Public School, Fort William H.G. School, Inverness Royal Academy, Jordanhill Training College, Oban High School, Paible Public School (North Uist), Portree H.G. School, Sir E. Scott Public School (Harris), Tobermory H.G. School.

Group A.—Pupils in or below the Qualifying Class—Reproduction in Gaelic of a Short, Simple Gaelic Story.—1, Don J. Fletcher, Broadford Public School; 2, Donald J. MacPherson, do.; 3, Alastair Campbell; 4, Catherine MacLean, do.; 5, Malcolm MacLeod, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 6, Annie MacLeod, do.; 7, Malcolm Dan Morrison, do.; 8, John Angus MacLeod, do.; 9 and 10 (equal), Margaret MacPherson and Roderick MacKinnon, Broadford Public School.

Group B.—Pupils in the first and Second Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—Reproduction in Gaelic of a Short Gaelic Story.—1, Margaret R. MacLeod, Broadford Public School; 2 and 3 (equal), D. J. Robertson, Broadford Public School, and John MacLean, Tobermory H.G. School; 4 and 5 (equal), Archie MacLean, Paible Public School, and Rhoda MacAskill, Portree Secondary School; 6 and 7 (equal), Donald Morrison, Portree Secondary School, and Janet MacKinnon, Broadford Public School.

Group C.—Pupils in the Third and Fourth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses.—(a) Writing from Dictation of a Gaelic Prose passage.—1, Malcolm MacLean, Portree Secondary School; 2 to 7 (equal), Christina M. MacDougall, Peggy Lowe, Oban High School; Annie MacLellan, Paible Public School; Donald M. Fletcher, Broadford Public School; Joan Campbell and Angus MacTavish, Tobermory H.G. School. (b), Reproduction in Gaelic of a Short Story in English.—1, Christina M. MacDougall, Oban High School; 2, Catherine MacLean, Paible Public School; 3, Mary Campbell, Oban High School; 4, Malcolm MacLean, Portree Secondary School; 5, Ann MacLeod, do.; 6, Marion MacCuish, Paible Public School.

Group D.—Pupils in the Fifth and Sixth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses.—(a) Translation of an English Prose Passage into Gaelic.—1, Isa MacKenzie, Oban High School; 2, Christina MacPhee, Fort William H.G. School; 3, Hilda Miles, Oban High School; 4, Annie MacIntyre, Royal Academy, Inverness; 5, Cath. Ferguson, Portree Secondary School; 6, John MacDonald, do. (b) Translation of a Gaelic Prose Passage into English, followed by a rendering into English of ten Gaelic Idioms.—1, Donald MacDonald, Fort William H.G. School; 2, Christina MacPhee, do.; 3, Jessie MacLean, Oban High School; 4, Mary MacKeehie, do.; 5, John MacDonald, Portree Secondary School; 6, Janet M. Robertson, do. (c) Gaelic Essay. A choice of three subjects.—1, Isa MacKenzie, Oban High School; 2, Janet M. Robertson, Portree Secondary School; 3, Catherine Ferguson, do.; 4, James MacKenzie,

Royal Academy, Inverness; 5, Hilda Miles, Oban High School; 6, Donald MacDonald, Fort William H.G. School.

Group E.—University or Training College Students.—(a) Translation into English of a Gaelic Prose Passage or Poem.—1, Christina MacFadyen, Castlebay, Barra; 2, Mary MacLeod, Lower Bayble, Lewis; 3, Jessie MacLeod, Aignish, Lewis; 4 and 5 (equal), Mary Matheson, Lionel, Lewis, and Rachel MacDonald, Hosta, North Uist. (b) Gaelic Essay on a Literary or an Historical subject.—1, Catherine M. Robertson, Elgol, Skye; 2, Christina MacRitchie, Stornoway; 3, Peggy MacDonald, Leverburgh, Harris; 4, Christy MacLeod, Scalpay, Harris. (All of Jordanhill Training College.—Alex. Nicolson, M.A., Gaelic Teacher).

Group F.—Evening Continuation Classes or Special Classes.—Reproduction in Gaelic of a Short Gaelic Story.—1, Morag Cameron, Oban; 2, Catherine L. Rankine, do.; 3 and 4 (equal), Nancy MacDonald and Neil MacLeod, do.

Group G.—Special Competitions Conditions laid down by the donor of prizes.—(a) For Boys, Essay in Gaelic on the Life of Moses. Prizes presented by the late Mrs. Stewart, Simla, India.—1, Angus MacTavish, Tobermory H.G. School; 2, Donald Morrison, Portree Secondary School. (b) For Girls, Subject and conditions as in (a). Prizes by the late Mrs. Stewart.—1, Peggy Lowe, Oban High School; 2, Hughina N. M. MacKinnon, Portree Secondary School.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR TEACHERS.

1.—For the Highest Average Marks.—Group A.—1, Mr John MacPherson, M.A., Broadford Public School; 2, Mr Angus MacDonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 3, Miss G. L. MacDonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School.

Group B.—1, Miss G. L. MacDonald; 2, Mr John MacPherson; 3, Mr Alexander Robertson, Paible Public School, North Uist.

Group C.—Miss G. L. MacDonald; 2, Mr. Alexander Robertson; 3, Mr D. Thomson, M.A., Oban High School.

Group D.—1, Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William H.G. School; 2, Mr Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 3, Mr. D. Thomson.

2.—For the Highest Aggregate Marks (marks under 50 per cent. excluded). Prizes as in No. 1.

Group A.—1, Mr. Angus MacDonald; 2, Mr. John MacPherson; 3, Miss G. L. MacDonald.

Group B.—1, Mr. Alexander Robertson; 2, Mr. Ronald MacLeod; 3, Mr. John MacPherson.

Group C.—1, Mr. Ronald MacLeod; 2, Mr. D. Thomson; 3, Mr. John MacPherson.

Group D.—1, Mr. Ronald MacLeod; 2, Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Royal Academy, Inverness; 3, Mr. D. Thomson.

Tuesday.

JUNIOR SECTION.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Masonic (Lesser Hall).

Adjudicators:—Mr Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Mr. D. MacPherson, M.A., Appin.

Reading with expression a Piece of Prose or Poetry, by Native Speakers.—1, Jessie Cameron, Blarmacfoldach; 2, Ann Kennedy, Fort William

Secondary School; 3 (equal), Sadie Kennedy, Oban High School, and Chussie Campbell, Dunvegan.

Reading with Expression a Piece of Prose or Poetry, by Learners.—1, Margaret Black, Oban High School; 2, Mamie MacKenzie, Oban High School; 3, Cath MacSween, Oban High School; 4, Angus Sinclair, Fort William H.G. School; 5, (equal), Mary MacLeod, Oban High School, and Kathleen R. MacDonald, Kilmacolm.

Boys (under twelve years of age).—Repeating the 121st Prose Psalm, or verses 1 to 11 of Chapter 5 of St. Matthew's Gospel. Prizes from the late Mrs. Stewart, Simla.—1, Jack Cameron, Ardgour; 2, John Brown, Luig Public School; 3, Hugh N. Gibson, Greenock.

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Prose Piece chosen by the Judges.—1, Sadie Kennedy, Oban High School; 2 and 3 (equal), Helen O'Reilly and Morag MacIntosh, Fort William Secondary School; 4, Ena MacCormick, Oban High School; 5 (equal), Isobel Stewart, Oban High School, and Peter MacRae, Fort William H.G. School.

Narrative based on Some Local Incident, tradition, or Legend, followed by conversation on the subject of the narrative between the competitors and the adjudicators.—1, Jessie Cameron, Blarmacfoldach; 2 and 3 (equal), Sadie Kennedy and Mamie MacKenzie, Oban High School.

Conversation between Judges and Competitors.—1, Sadie Kennedy, Oban High School; 2, Morag MacIntosh, Fort William Secondary School; 3, Donald MacDonnell, do.

W.R.I. Room.

Adjudicators:—Mr. John R. Bannerman, Rahane; Rev. William MacDonald, M.A., Kilmallie.

Reciting from Memory, "Am Badan Fraoich" (Neil MacLeod).—1, Jack Cameron, Ardgour; 2, Sadie Kennedy, Oban High School; 3 (equal), Catriona L. MacLean of Ardgour, and Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan.

For Excellence in Gaelic Conversation (Boys and Girls).—1, Isobel Stewart, Oban High School; 2 (equal), Peter MacKay, Luig Public School, and Miss Morag MacKintosh, Fort William Secondary School.

Girls (under 12 years of age).—Repeating the 121st Prose Psalm, or verses 1 to 11 of Chapter 5 of St. Matthew's Gospel. Prizes from the late Mrs. Stewart, Simla.—1, Margaret MacMurchie, North Luig School; 2 Anne Maclean of Ardgour; 3, Jessie Cameron, Blarmacfoldach.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Masonic Hall.

Adjudicators.—Music—Professor W. Gillies Whitaker, Mus. Doc., Glasgow. Gaelic—Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song. Girls (Gaelic Learners). Songs prescribed were—"O 's toigh leam an Cìbear" and "Mo roghainn 's mo run."—1, Margaret MacMurchie, North Luig; 2, Sarah MacKinnon, Carradale; 3, Rachel MacPherson, Portree.

Traditional Singing of an Unpublished Gaelic Song (confined to Gaelic Speakers).—1, Peter MacKay, Luig Public School; 2, Nan Brown, do.; 3, Annie T. Campbell, Greenock.

Choral Singing of a Song with or without Chorus, in two-part Harmony (Gaelic Learners). Songs prescribed were—"Tir nam beann Ard" and "Cronan."—1, Carradale Junior Choir; 2, Fort William Secondary School Choir.

Solo Singing of a Song. Boys and Girls. Open only to former first-prize winners (Learners and Native Speakers). The Song prescribed was "Moladh na Lannaidh."—1, Isobel Stewart, Oban High School; 2, Caroline Owen, Balmuir.

Duet Singing of the song "Crodh Chailein" (Gaelic learners).—1, Effie Fisher and Mary MacDougall, Carradale; 2, Mary Paterson and Mary MacKinnon, Carradale.

Solo Singing of a Song. Boys (Confined to Gaelic speakers). Songs prescribed were—"Gael is Ceol" and "Lag nan Cruachan."—1, Colin Campbell, Greenock; 2, Peter Mackay, Luig Public School; 3, George Robertson, Kinlochleven.

Town Hall.

Adjudicators:—Music—Sir Hugh S. Robertson, Glasgow. Gaelic—Mr. Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song. Girls (Confined to Gaelic speakers). Songs prescribed were—"Cur trom, trom a ta mi" and "Mo Robairneach Gaolach."—1, Nan Brown, Luig Public School; 2, Margaret M. MacQueen, Easdale; 3, Mary D. MacPherson, Dunvegan.

Duet Singing of the Song "Seinn an duan so" (Confined to Gaelic Speakers).—1, Nan Brown and Peter Mackay, Luig Public School; 2, Mima Gillies and Helen O'Reilly, Fort William Secondary School.

Solo Singing of a Song. Boys (Gaelic learners). Songs prescribed were—"So mi 'm shineadh air an t-sliabh" and "'S toigh leam a' Ghaidhealtachd."—1, Donald M. Ramsay, Greenock; 2, Donald Stewart, Balmuir; 3, Iain M. Cameron, Greenock.

Solo Singing of a Gaelic Song (own choice). Open to Girls over 16 and under 18 years of age at date of Mid.—1, Jemima MacLean, Carradale; 2, Johan Boyd, Ardgour; 3, Mary MacDonald, Aviemore.

Action Song. Prize, £4 4/-, given by the Paisley Highlanders' Association, and retention for one year of the "Shiant Shield," presented by Mr. Compton MacKenzie.—1, Carradale Junior Choir.

Unison Singing Competition for Junior Choirs. Songs prescribed were, "Oran Chloinn Lachlainn" and "Puirt à Beul."—1, Portree Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Carradale Junior Choir.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in two-part harmony. Prescribed songs were, "Tir nam beann ard" and "Crònan." At least 50 per cent. of the members must be able to converse in the Gaelic language.—1, Portree Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Ballachulish Junior Choir.

SENIOR SECTION.

LITERATURE.

Adjudicators:—Rev. Hector Cameron, Moy; James Thomson, M.A., Bayble; Donald Graham, M.A., Royal Academy, Inverness; Angus Murray, Taynult; John MacPherson, M.A., Broadford; Rev. Neil Ross, B.D., Bowmore. Mrs. M. A. Campbell, Ibrox; Alex. Thomson, Oldhall; Rev. Alexander MacDonald, Ardchattan; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Rev. Geo. MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock; Rev. Colin MacPherson, M.A., Johnstone.

Poem on any subject.—1, Donald Gillies, Glasgow; 2, Donald MacDonald, Eriskay, S. Uist.

Essay on "The Gael as delineated by Neil Munro." Prize, £5, presented by Mr. Duncan MacInnes, Royal Chief of the Order of Scottish Clans of America—Won by Mrs. Catherine F. Urquhart, North Kessock.

One Short Story not exceeding 600 words.—Won by Mrs. D. S. Macrae, Whauphill, Wigtownshire.

Gaelic Story, extending to 2000 words or more. The tale may be based on actual historical incidents or local legends. Prize, £5, presented by the Gaelic Society of Glasgow.—Won by Mrs. Catherine F. Urquhart, North Kessock, and Donald MacMillan, Corrybeg (equal).

Gaelic Dialogue, not more than 15 minutes in delivery. Prize, £5. The "Archd. MacCulloch Memorial" Prize, presented by Ceilidh nan Gaidheal.—1, I. M. Moffat-Pender, Stornoway, 2, Angus M. MacDonald, Glasgow.

Action Songs for Children. Prize, £5, by Mr. Robert MacMillan.—Won by Donald MacMillan, Corrybeg.

Essay on any subject.—Won by Mrs. Catherine F. Urquhart, North Kessock.

CELTIC ART COMPETITIONS.

Adjudicators:—Miss Ann M. MacBride, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. Colin Sinclair, Ph.D., Glasgow.

Celtic Design for Poster to advertise the Summer School of Gaelic.—1, Mr. Stewart Cunningham, Kingairloch; 2, Mr. Andrew J. Orr, London; 3, Mr. Robert Edward Whiteford, Greenock.

Leather Work, Book Cover. The work to be embossed with characteristic Celtic Design of Competitor's own choosing.—1 and 2 (equal), Mrs. James Goodall, Dingwall.

Needlework. Reproduction in colour of design supplied by Secretary.—1, Miss Una Murchie, Ayr; 2 and 3 (equal), Miss F. Marian MacNeill, Edinburgh.

Wednesday.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Masonic Hall.

Adjudicators:—Music—Prof. W. Gillies Whittaker. Gaelic—Mr. D. MacPherson.

Solo Singing of a Song. Male Voices (Confined to Members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, its Branches and Affiliated Societies). Former gold medalists and first-prize winners for singing excluded.—1, John MacDonald, Abriachan; 2, Angus Whyte, Inchinnan.

Solo Singing of a Song. Female Voices. Conditions as in previous competition.—1, Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow; 2, Miss Annie Foster, Fort William.

Solo Singing of a Gaelic Song connected with the County of Inverness. The "James Grant Memorial" Prize (Open).—1, Donald D. MacIsaac, Jura; 2, Duncan MacLellan, Greenock.

Best rendering of two Songs from Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser's "Songs of the Hebrides" (Male and Female Voices). Prescribed Songs—(1) "An Long Reubaidh" (The Reiving Ship); (2) "Ailleachd Chalum Chille" (The Rune of Columcille). 1st and 2nd Prizes, "Songs of the Hebrides," Vol. III. In memory of the late Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser.—1, Miss Mairi Paton, Greenock; 2, Iain Smith, Stornoway.

Solo Singing of an unpublished Mull or Iona Song. Prizes, 1st, £2; 2nd, £1, presented by the Glasgow Mull and Iona Association.—1, H. Crawford MacAlpine, Ardriahg; 2 (equal), Miss Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead, and Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

Town Hall.

Adjudicators:—Music—Sir Hugh S. Robertson. Gaelic—Mr. Duncan MacCallum and Mr. John MacDonald, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Gaelic Song connected with the County of Inverness. The "James Grant Memorial" Prize (Open).—1 (equal), Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow, and Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

Best rendering of two unpublished Gaelic Folk-Song Airs (Words need not necessarily be unpublished).—1, Donald D. MacIsaac, Jura; 2, Miss Mary C. MacColl, Ardgour.

Oban and Lorn Association War Commemoration Medal (Open) for the best rendering of one of the following songs by Lorn Bards—"Cumha na h-ighe," "Mo shùil ad dheidh," and "Gleann Bhaile 'Chaoil."—1, Miss Kirsty F. MacLennan, London; 2, Miss Margaret MacDonald, Inverness.

Thursday.

ORAL DELIVERY.

W.R.I. Room.

Adjudicators:—Mr. Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow; Mr. D. MacPherson, M.A., Appin.

Recitation of the Poem "An t-eun siubhail." Open to all.—1, Angus M. MacDonald, Glasgow; 2, Miss Susan MacKenzie, Luing.

Recitation of a Piece of Original Poetry specially composed by the Competitor.—1, Donald MacMillan, Corrybeg; 2, Donald MacDonald, Eriskay.

Ancient Folk Tale, preferably unpublished, narrated in the traditional style.—1, Donald Cameron, Conaglen; 2 (equal), Allan MacLean, Greenock, and Angus M. MacDonald, Glasgow.

Masonic (Lesser Hall).

Adjudicators:—Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock, and Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow.

Recitation of a Prose Piece from "An Cat" (Am Fear Ciùil).—1, Angus M. MacDonald, Glasgow; 2, Allan MacLean, Greenock.

Reading of an unfamiliar Piece of Prose chosen by the Judges. Open to all.—1, Donald MacDonald, Eriskay; 2, John Cameron, Tobermory.

Best prepared Original Gaelic Speech on any subject.—1, Angus M. MacDonald, Glasgow; 2, John Campbell, Easdale.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Town Hall.

Adjudicators:—Music—Sir Hugh S. Robertson, Glasgow. Gaelic—Dr. D. J. MacLeod, H.M.I.S., and Mr. Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of the Oran-mór "Cathair a' Chul Chinn" (Male Voices). "The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial" Prize, £2 5/-.—1, Donald D. MacIsaac, Jura.

Competition for Seniors in Solo Singing of "Puirt & Beul."—1 (equal), Duncan MacLellan, Greenock, and Duncan MacCallum, Islay; 2 (equal), Miss Betsy MacLeod, Broadford, and Miss Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead.

Solo Singing of a Song, confined to Natives of Glenmoriston, Glenurquhart, and Stratherrick districts, and failing such candidates to Natives of the County of Inverness, excluding burghs of 2000 or more. The "Mrs. Quintin MacLennan" Prizes, 1st, £3; 2nd, £2.—1, Peter J. Grant, Drumnadrochit; 2, Duncan Fraser, Drumnadrochit.

Solo Singing (Female Voices) of the song "An Gille dubh, ciar dubh," and song of competitor's own choice. Prizes, 1st, £1 10/-; 2nd, £1; presented by Mr. Duncan MacInnes, Royal Chief of the Order of Scottish Clans of America.—1, Miss Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead; 2, Mrs. Catherine Grant, Ballachulish.

Best Acted Dialogue by two Performers. The words may be selected from any published Gaelic work, or may be specially composed.—1, Miss Aline MacKenzie, Glasgow, and Angus M. MacDonald, Glasgow; 2, Miss Catherine L. Rankin, Oban, and Miss Nellie Cameron, Oban; 3, Miss Mary A. MacPherson, Easdale, and John Campbell, Easdale.

Solo singing of a Song, to encourage the revival of the older or less known district songs. Prizes—1st, £2 5/-; two second prizes of 15/- each; and three third prizes of 10/- each. Prizes presented by Mrs. Ryan, Roy Bridge.—1, Miss Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead; 2 (equal), Angus Whyte, Inchinnan, and Miss Jean Cameron, Fort William; 3 (equal), Miss Mary C. MacColl, Ardgour, Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow, Duncan MacLellan, Greenock, Duncan MacCalman, Lochgilphead, and Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

Masonic Hall.

Adjudicators:—Music—Prof. W. Gillies Whittaker, Glasgow. Gaelic—Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow.

Solo Singing of the Oran-mór "Cumha Chailein Ghlinn Iubhair." Female Voices (Confined to those who can read and converse in the Gaelic language). The "Jessie N. MacLachlan" Memorial Prize, £2 5/-.—1, Miss Neillan MacLennan, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song with Clarsach accompaniment. Prizes, 1st, £3; 2nd, £1 10/-; presented by Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds).—1, Miss Lexie Matheson, Plockton; 2, Miss Flora Campbell, Edinburgh.

Solo Singing (Male Voices) of the Song "Cruinneag na buaille." Competitor must also sing a song of his own choice. (Confined to those who can read and converse in the Gaelic language). Prizes—1st, £1 10/-; 2nd, £1; presented by Mr. Duncan MacInnes, Royal Chief of the Order of Scottish Clans of America.—1, Donald D. MacIsaac, Jura; 2, Duncan M. MacKenzie, Inverness.

Grand Hall.

Choral Singing of the Songs "Mo shùil ad dheidh" and "Si luaidh mo chagair, Morag." (Confined to Choirs from Rural Districts, excluding towns of more than 2000 of a population). Prizes—1st, £8 and retention for one year of the "Lorn Shield," presented by Colonel and Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds); 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4; 4th, £2.—1, Badenoch Gaelic Choir; 2 and 3 (equal), Grantown-on-Spey Gaelic Choir and Brae Lochaber Gaelic Choir; 4, Glenorchy Gaelic Choir.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

Skye Association Gold Medal for Best Aggregate in Oral Competitions—Angus M. MacDonald, Glasgow.

Mod Gold Medal for Ladies—Miss Margaret MacDonald, Inverness.

Mod Gold Medal for Gentlemen—Donald D. MacIsaac, Jura.

Friday.

QUARTETTE AND CHORAL SINGING.

Grand Hall.

Adjudicators:—Music—Prof. W. Gillies Whittaker. Gaelic—Dr. D. J. MacLeod, H.M.I.S.

Quartette Singing of a Song. Mixed Voices (S.A.T.B.). Prescribed songs—"Mi 'm shuidhe 'n ònar" and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an fheidh."—1, Campbeltown G. M. A. Quartette "A"; 2, Govan Gaelic.

Quartette Singing of the Song "Gu ma slan do na fèaraihb" (Male Voices only). Prizes, £2 and £1, presented by the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir.—1, Inverness Gaelic Musical Association; 2, "G.G." Male Voice Quartette No. 2.

Choral Singing of the Songs "Chluinn mi na h-eoin" and "Thug mi gaol do'n fhear bhàn" (Female Voices only). Prizes—1st, £5 and retention for one year of the "Esmé Smyth" Trophy; 2nd, £3. First prize presented by Mr. Duncan MacInnes, Royal Chief of the Order of Scottish Clans of America.—1, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2, Campbeltown Gaelic Musical Association.

LOVAT AND TULLIBARDINE TROPHY

Adjudicators:—Music—Sir Hugh S. Robertson and Prof. W. Gillies Whittaker. Gaelic—Mr. John MacDonald and Dr. D. J. MacLeod, H.M.I.S.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in four-part harmony. Songs prescribed were, "Thug mi 'n oidhche raoir sunndach" and "He'n clo dubh." Prizes—1st, £15 and retention for one year of the Lovat and Tullibardine Trophy; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5. Choirs must consist to the extent of at least 50 per cent. of Gaelic speakers.—1, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2, Inverness Gaelic Musical Association; 3, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Town Hall.

Adjudicators:—Music—Sir Hugh S. Robertson. Gaelic—Mr. John MacDonald, M.A.

Duet Singing of a Song.—1, Duncan MacLellan, Greenock, and Miss Helen MacDiarmid, Greenock; 2, Miss Chrissie M. Nicholson, Glasgow, and Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in three or four part harmony (Male Voices only). Songs prescribed were, "Ho ro mo chuid chuideachd thu" and "Posadh Piuth'r Iain Bhain." Prizes, 1st, Retention for one year of the "Mull and Iona Shield" presented by Mr. and Mrs. Neil Cameron, and £5; 2nd, £3.—1, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2, Inverness Gaelic Musical Association.

Choral Singing of the Puirt-a-beul "Cairistiona Chaimbeul" and "A chur nan gobhar as a' chreig."—1, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2, Easdale Gaelic Choir.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Masonic Hall.

Adjudicators:—Miss Margt. Hill-Boyle, A.R.C.M.; Dr. R. R. MacNicol, Taynuilt.

Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey and Reel on the Pianoforte. Seniors (Confined strictly to amateurs).—1, Miss Anna Cameron, Aberfeldy; 2, Mrs Archibald Campbell, Aberdeen; 3, Miss Ivy M. Beaton, Dundee.

Playing of Gaelic Song, Air, Strathspey and Reel on the Violin (Confined to amateurs).—1, Miss Mary Cameron, Aberfeldy; 2, Donald Bannatyne, Taynuilt; 3, Calum MacIntyre, Glasgow.

Playing of a Strathspey and Reel on the Violin. All candidates must be natives of Glenmoriston, Glen Urquhart, and Stratherrick Districts, and failing such candidates, competition open to natives of the County of Inverness, excluding burghs of 2000 or more. "The Mrs Quintin MacLennan Prizes," 1st, £3; 2nd, £2.—1, Miss Mary Cameron, Aberfeldy; 2, Alastair Curley, Newtonmore.

UILLEAM ROS.

Le IAIN N. MACLEOID.

II.

Thug Uilleam agus a athair sgrìob a null air a' Chuan-Sgìth. Gheibheadh iad aiseag ann an sgoth-iasgairch bho Ullabul gu Steornabhagh mhòr a' Chaisteil, agus bhitheadh fuighar mhaith aca ri bathar gu leor a reic ann an Steornabhagh agus troimh 'n duthaich. Is ann iomallach a bhiodh badan de Leodhas anns an latha sin ged a bha Steornabhagh 'n a' bhaile cuireideach gu leor air tàilleabh na deagh acarsaid a bha ann: ach cha bu mhisid iad beagan de na grinneas an bha aig Iain Ros anns a' mhàileid. A' cheart oidhche rainig iad Steornabhagh bha cuirm agus ceòl ann an àite air chor-eigin 's a' bhaile agus cho luath agus a chaidh farum troimh chluais no dhà gu 'n tàinig am bàrd òg Sgitheanach air tìr chuireadh fios cabhagach air gu tighinn a dh' ionnsaidh na cuirme: Cha robh cuirm sam bith iomlan an uair ud gun bhàrd a bhli air ceann na cuideachd. Thainig Uilleam gu suundach, agus na bha 'n tinneas-mara 'g a léireadh air a' Chuan-Sgìth, cha robh lorg a nis air. Thug Uilleam shùil gu gear air gach caileig agus òganach anns an talla chridheil ud. Bha iad grinn uile, làn de shlàinte ruithich an fhraoich agus na mara, ach air dha dearcadh air maighdinn àraidh thall ann an oisinn, sheall e agus sheall e agus sheall e a ris, agus thuit e ris fhéin, "Ge b'e có thusa, cha do chruthaich Dia riamh do leithid, 's mur a faigh mise dhomh fein thu le ordugh daingean bho 'n chléir, cha bhi ann ach marbh-phaisg dhomh-sa." Mar a tha e fein ag ràdh:

"Ghlacadh mo chridhe 's mo shùil còmhla,

Is rinn an gaol mo leòn air ball."

B'e so Mòr Ros, caileag ghlan, eireachdail, le suilean mlogach, gorma, agus falt buidhe bòidheach—ainnir cho lurach innsiginneach 's a bhuail sàil bròige riamh air cabhsair baile Steornabhagh. Rugadh Mòr Ros ann am Bearnaraidh Bheag an sgrì Uige an Leodhas, agus b' aithne dhomh fein seana-bhean am Bearnaraidh a bha suas ris a' cheud mu 'n do chaochail i, agus bha beachd math aice air Mòr Ros fhàicinn 's i 'n a h-ighinn oig, eireachdail. Chuala mi cuideachd gur h-ann a' céilidh air a càirdean an Steornabhagh a bha i an uair a choinnich Uilleam Ros rithe aig a' chuirn ud, ach a

mach bho'n choinneamh ud fein ris a' bhàrd Sgitheanach, dh' fhairtlich orm-sa seanchas sam bith fhaighinn mu a déidhinn. Chuir am bàrd eòlas oirre co-dhiu, agus chuir ise eòlas air a' bhàrd, agus fhuair tàladh dìomhair a' ghaol buaidh air an cridhe le chéile. Rinn Uilleam Ros bòid dhith ann an làrach nam bonn gu' m pòsadh e i. Thug ise h-aidmheil fein gu' m biodh i dilleas dha-san, agus airson a taoibh fein de'n chumhnant a sheulachadh gu buan, mhionnaich agus bhòidich i gu'n iarradh i a bhi air a losgadh gu bàs mur biodh i dilleas do a gealladh. "An oidhche roimh do bhàs thoir do shàr-fhacal," ars' an seann ràdh, agus chi sinn cho fìor agus a tha e aig deireadh eachdraidh na caileig so—mar a their cailleachan Strath Mhic-Fhionghuin fhathast, "Chuala Dia a bòid agus 'n a àm maith fein thug e fainear e."

Dh' fhàg am bàrd agus a athair baile Steornabhagh as an déidh ann an latha no dhà; ach ged chuir Uilleam cùl gu corporra ri Eilean Leodhais, cha do charaich a chridhe ach ro-ainneamh as an talla-chiuil sin anns an do chòmhlaich e àilleagan nan ainm air toiseach. Chaidh esan air ais do Ghearloch agus fhuair e 'n a mhaighstir-sgoile an sin, agus tha eachdraidh ag aithris gu'm bu mhaith a ghnòthuch ris an obair chud-thromaich sin a ghabhail os laimh. Bha deagh fhoghlum aige, mòran os cionn fiosrachaidh a' mhaighstir-sgoile chumanta 's an latha ud. Bha carthannas agus bàigh agus truas 'n a chridhe maoth. Bha e 'n comhnuigh òg 'n a inntinn, mar a thuit bodach àraidh uime, agus bha na buadhan so 'n am meadhan eifeachdach air aire agus aigne na cloinne a bha 'm Bad a' Chro a tharruinn g'a ionnsaidh. Dh' fhosgail iad an cridhe dha, agus dh' fhoghlum iad uaithe le tlachd, air chor agus nach robh sgòil air an astar aig an latha sin aig an robh clùì agus rian sgòil Uilleim Rois, am Bad a' Chro. Thug a' Chleir dha dreuchd fear togail nan Salm an eaglais Ghearloch, agus na'm biodh sinn comasach air shùil a thoirt a stigh air Di-Domhnaich do'n eaglais sin anns a' bhliadhna 1788, chitheamaid Uilleam Ros air ceann na seinn, duine òg glas-neulach le cruthachd thoirtel agus falt donn cuailleanaich. Bha e annsanta dìreach 'n a phearsa agus chan fhacas riamh e ach sgiobalta, guanach.

Chi sinn mar sin nach b' ann 'n a thùmh a bha am bàrd a' cur seachad a ùine. Bha e 'n sàs a Shàbaid agus a sheachdainn, agus air do na feasgair ciaradh, bu tric e a' gleusadh a' chlarsaich agus a' cur an cainnt

na h-òrain sin a dh'fhàg e mar chuimhneachan buan 'n a dhéidh; oir 's ann aig an àm ud a rinn e a' chuid mhór de na h-òrain a tha fhathast againn, agus àireamh mhaith a tha a nis air dol do thìr na di-chuimhne.

Ach chan fheum sinn sealladh a chall air a bhean-chinnidh annsanta, Mór Ros, an cuspair sin a chuir saighead gaoil nach do dhèalaich ris 'n a chridhe, rianh bho 'n oidhche iongantach ud a fhuair e a' cheud shealladh dhith ann an talla na féile am baile Steornabhagh. A latha agus a dh'oidhche bha a smaointean faoine 'n a fochair; bha cuimhne air a h-àilleachd a' cur sùrd agus innsgin 'na uile oibribh, agus bha suil inntinn an comhnuidh a' sealltainn a null le togradh anma e dh'ionnsaidh an latha 's am biodh iad comhla gach mionaid agus uair gus an cuireadh am bàs dealachadh eatorra. B'e sud an cleachdadh inntinn a bhiodh aig Uilleam Ros aig an àm ud, agus is maith a fheargradh air a chàs-san briathran Mhic-an-Fhleisdeir an Dun-omhainn, ann an Clachan Glinn-da-ruadhail":—

“Cha suaimhneas oidhch' air leabaidh dhomh,
'G ad fhaicinn ann am bhradar;
Is am Biobull fein cha laimhsich mi,
Gun t'iomhaigh ghràidh gam bhuair-
eadh.”

Ach is mór m' eagal nach b'e sud an rùn-intinn a bha aig Mór Ros dha-san. Faodaidh e bhi gu'n do ghabh i gaol air aig a' chuirn ud, ach ma ghabh cha do lean e fada rithe. “Rud a theid fada bho'n t-sùil theid e fada bho'n chridhe,” ars' an sean-fhacal còir, agus eudail fhein, nach b'fhiar e do a taobh-se. Cho luath agus a fhuair i Uilleam a null air tonnan corrach a' Chuainn Sgith, rinn i suiridhe ri mòran leannan, agus 'n am measg bha fear do 'm b' ainm Clough, caiptean soithich, ris an do cheangail i i fhein ann am bannan pòsaidh, agus chaidh iad air thighheadas gu *Liverpool*. Cha d' rinn i fiù agus lideadh an leth-fhacail de so innse do a seann leannan, agus fios agus cinnt aice gu robh gaol a chridhe agus a chléibh aige oirre. Chuala Uilleam Ros an naidheachd dhuilich so greis mhaith an déidh do Mhóir a bhi pòsda. Cha ghabhadh meud a mhulaid innseadh, ach chaidh an gnothuch bho sholus—bha 'n snaim nach fuasgail sgian na faclan no na meoirean a nis gu cruaidh, daingeann air Móir, agus cha robh air an talamh a bhos na dh' fhuasgladh e ach an t-aog. Cha robh am bàrd ro shlan roimhe so, ach chuir an deuchainn do-

labhairt a bha sud guin agus gath a' bhàis 'na chom breòite, agus ged chuir ùine sgàile chaomh air beagan de a mhulad, b' e ciste chaol nam bàrd a thug a' cheud shuaimhneas do a ghalar.

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

DUMBARTON BRANCH.

The second Ceilidh of the session was held in the Masonic Hall on Thursday, 13th October. The President, Mr Peter MacKenzie, occupied the chair and in his opening remarks he gave an excellent description of his impressions of the Mod, the proceedings of which greatly delighted him. The programme, which was of a varied and most interesting character, was greatly enjoyed by a large audience. The members were delighted to have with them on this occasion Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary and Organiser, who gave a stirring and encouraging address on the progress of the movement.

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TELEPHONE—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXVIII.]

An Dùdlachd, 1932.

[Earrann 3

BARDACHD IS DREUCHDAN.

An uair a theid neach a sgrìobhadh sìos a chuid smuaintean is dualach gu'n cuir e feum air comhsamhlachd no a leithid sin gus na smuaintean a dheanamh na 's soilleire do'n leughadair. Tha gnàthsan cainnte de'n ghnè sin anabarrach cumanta an saothair nam bàrd. Abair gu bheil bàrd a' miannachadh dòigh chainnte mar sin a chleachdadh. Ciod e an seorsa comhsamhlachd as luaithe thig gu 'inntinn. Thig samhladh nan nithean air a bheil e glé eòlach. Ma ghabhas tu beachd air comhradh do chàirdean, agus iad a' feuchainn ri puing sam bith a mhìneachadh dhuit, chì thu mar is trice gu bheil an dòigh labhairt a' toirt comharradh air an obair laitheil, no air a' cheaird no an dreuchd a tha iad a' lean-tainn.

* * * * *

Is minig a chluinnear aig na cuirmean ciùil an t-òran binn ud *Seinn an Duan so*, a rinneadh leis a' bhàrd chiatach sin an Lìghiche MacIachuinn, Rathuaidh. Tha na facail agus am fonn le chèile taitneach. Tha aon de na rainn anabarrach grinn airson nan comhsamhlachdan tlachdmhor leis a bheil am bàrd ag innseadh mu mhaise na maighdinn.

Tha do chomhradh gu blasta binn leam,
Do phòg na 's mìle na mìl an fhraoich,
Is t-anail chùbhraidh tha mar na h-ùllhan
Tìghinn réidh gu tùchan o d'mhuineal caoin.

Ann an dà shreath mu dheireadh de 'n rann sin chì thu comharradh an lighiche. Tha e

mar gum b'eadh ag éisdeachd troimh an inneil bhig leis an cluinn e bualadh a' chridhe agus fuaim nan cuislean. Agus mar tha e a' rannsachadh gu cùramach tha e a' mothachadh gu bheil tarrainn na h-analach comharradh, ciùin. Tha an anail cùbhraidh mar bholadh ùrar nan ubhal. Agus tha an anail réidh; chan eil cnead no tùchan anns an uchd. Agus ged tha sin 'n a chùis thaitneis do'n bhàrd tha e mar an ceudna 'n a dhearbhadh air fallaineachd do 'n lighiche. Dh'fhaodainn rann a òran eile leis a' cheart ùghdair ainmeachadh, gus a bhi a' nochdadh na riaghailt cheudna; gus a bhi a' nochdadh gu bheil a' mhaise is fearr a' comhlachadh slainte. Is e so an rann:

Mìle beannachd leat an nochd,
Cadal dhuit gun sprochd gun ghruaig;
Slàn gun aiceid feadh do chùrth
Anns a' mhaduinn 'g éirigh suas.

* * * * *

Ann an h-òrain aig Donnachadh Bàn tha iomradh air an t-seilg ri fhaicinn gle bhitheanta. Bu shealgair esan; agus bha na facail agus na gnàthsan cainnte a bhuineadh do'n t-seilg nàdurach dha. Tha Moladh Beinn Dòrain iomraideach airson beairteas nam briathran a tha air an cleachdadh, a' luaidh air maise na beinne, air na lusan a tha 'fàs air a sìos, agus gach fuaran fìor-uisge a tha a' brùchdadh a mach air leud an aonaich. Ach ged tha sin gu léir iongantach, is e tha 'n a sobhar iognaidh mar thug am bàrd cunntas mionaideach air alt 's seòltachd an t-sealgair; air coltas is dòighean

na h-earba, agus gach creutair de'n ghnè sin an mang, a' mhaoisleach, an eilid bheag bhinneach, agus fear na cròice fein. Tha an gunna is an cù-eunaich a' faotainn àite freagarrach anns a' bhàrdachd cheudna.

* * * * *

Tha na h-òrain mhara gu maith pailt fathast, agus tha coltas gu'n robh mòran dhuibh air an deanamh le feadhainn a bha a' siubhal fairge mar obair. Cia lìon òran gaol a rinneadh le seòladair? Cia lìon luinneag anns a bheil iomradh air dìreadh chrann is pasgadh sheòl? Ged dh'fhaodas na tonnan èirigh suas agus na gaotnan seideadh cha bhi an sud ach comhsamhlachd air an iargainn a tha an cridhe an t-seòladair a' cuimhneachadh a leannain air tìr. Agus an nì tha fìor a thaobh luchd-mara tha a leithid fìor mar an ceudna a thaobh luchd-airm. Tha cuid de na h-òrain Ghaidhealach a' tighinn air gaisge agus treubhantas. Tha diarras is cruadal air an dùsgadh le cogadh; agus is minig a thug deuchainn nam batal spiorad na bàrdachd beò. Fosgail comb-chruinneachadh bàrdachd, gu h-araidh anns an t-seann aimsir, agus gheibh thu dearbhadh gu bheil e buailteach do 'n t-saighdear a chuid fhaireachaidhean a chur an cèill am bàrdachd ghaisgeanta.

* * * * *

Air dhomh a bhi a' leughadh seann bhàrdachd o chionn ghoirid thachair rann orm a tha glé luachmhor an coimhcheangal ris an oidheip a tha air chois aig an am a chum a' chlàrsach ath-bheothachadh. Gheibhear an rann anns a' chumha a rinneadh leis a' bhean uasal Silis Nì'n Mhic Raonail na Cèapaich do Lachlainn MacFhionghuin an clàrsair. Tha e coltach a reir fianuis nam facal gu'n robh a' bhean uasal so 'n a ban-seinneadair i féin, agus gu'n robh e mar chleachdadh aice a bhi a' seinn le ceòl na clàrsaich. Tha so a' dearbhadh dhuinn gu'n robh sin fasanta am measg uaislean na Gaidhealtachd bho chionn da cheud bliadhna. Tha an rann mar leanas:

'Nuair a ghlacadh tu do chlàrsach,
'S a bhiodh tu 'g a gleusadh làmh rium,
'Cha mhaith a thuigte le h-umaidh
Do chuir-chiùil, 's mo ghabhail dhàn-su.

Tha rann eireachdail eile mu chluich na clàrsaich an *Oran Mór Mhic Leòid*, leis a' Chlàrsair Dhall, far am faic sinn an clàrsair féin mar bhàrd.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Chumadh coinneamh de luchd-comhairle na h-Airde Tuath ann am baile Inbhirnis air Disathuirne, an coigeamh la deug de'n Dàmhar. Bha ocd deug de na buill an lathair agus bha am Fear Gairme, Mgr Domhnall MacDhomhnuill, anns a' chathair.

Chaidh gnòthaichean a chur an ordugh a chum agus gu'm biodh am Fear-deilbhe a' gabhail a chuairt do'n taobh tuath, agus gu sonraichte do Shiorramachd Chataobh a bhrosnachadh phàrantan iad a dh'fhaotainn na Gaidhlig air a teagasg do an cloinn anns na sgoilean. Chaidh frith-chomhairle a thaghadh gu bhi a' feitheamh air Mgr Uisdean A. Ros, Fear seolaidh an Fhoghlaim an Catabh, a chum an rùn so a thoirt gu buil, agus tha dochas aig buill na Comhairle gu'n tig an còmhraidh so gu deagh chrich.

Leughadh litir a' Abriachan ag iarraidh stiùraidh a chum meur de'n Chomunn a chur air bonn anns an aite sin. Chaidh earbsa ris an Fhear-dheilbhe gach cuideachadh a thoirt seachad agus meur a staidheachadh.

An Airde Deas.

Tha obair a' Chomuinn anns an Taobh Deas a' slor dhol air adhart. Aig toiseach an t-seisein bheachdaich Fo-chomhairle a' Chraobh-sgaolaidh air gach oidheip a bhiodh iomchuid a chum am barrachd soirbheachaidh a bhi a' leantainn saothair is obair a' Chomuinn anns a' chearn so de'n dùthaich. Tha luchd-teagaisg ciuil a nis gu dealasach an ceann an gnòthaich an Arainn agus an Dailriada far a bheil Mgr Iain MacDhiarmaid and Mgr Uisdean Mac Gill-Eathain a' saothrachadh.

Bithidh oidheip air a toirt a chum is gu'n bi teachdaire bho'n Chomunn a' tadhal air gach meur a chum a bhi 'gan brosnachadh agus 'gan neartachadh 'nan deasnas do'n chàinain.

Thugadh iomradh aig a' choinneamh mu dheireadh gu'n do chuireadh air bonn buidheannan Gaidhlig an sgoil Hamilton Crescent, Glaschu, a bharrachd air gach sgoil eile anns am bheil a' chàinain air a teagasg bho bhliadhna gu bliadhna mar tha Ard-sgoil Ghlaschu, Ceilidh Ard-sgoil Ghlaschu, Clydebank, Baile Phaisli, Dun-Breatann agus Aleksandria. Thugadh iomradh, mar an ceudna, air mar a tha mòran de na paipearan naidheachd a' tabhairt aite urramach do'n Gaidhlig. Tha so 'na chuideachadh mór do aobhar na càinain agus tha na paipearan ri am moladh air son na h-obair ionmholta tha iad a' deanamh.

THE GAEL AND MODERN REQUIREMENTS.

BY A DRUID.

V.

Something ought to be said as to the *adaptability* of the Scottish Highlander to conditions of life other than those in which he was born and nourished. For something like two generations at least, there is a tendency for the population of the North to become gradually smaller. There have been economic changes brought about through the effect of industrial development in the South on the agricultural conditions in the North. There has also been the constant tide of emigration to the Dominions beyond the sea. In either case, whether due to mere migration or to emigration, there has been a general exodus of the people from the glens and straths of the Scottish Highlands. To enter at any length into these matters, though they are vital enough to our country, is not my object at the moment. I should rather mark the adaptability of the Gael to new surroundings. To a lad or young girl brought up, say in a Hebridean home, among the conditions which prevail there, steeped in the legends and songs of their Gaelic forbears, you could hardly conceive a more striking change than to be transplanted to some great city, where the ways of life, housing, neighbourhood, speech, the society and conventional standards are entirely different from those to which the young people concerned were accustomed. And yet, strange to say, before six months are over these persons adapt themselves wonderfully. They have the faculty of learning the ways of the city. It does not take them long to brush off any rustic awkwardness they may have had. True, many of them retain their *accent* of speech, and certain old-fashioned points of view; but on the whole they manage to acquit themselves with no small credit, and they generally give satisfaction in their various walks of employment. I understand the same is the case with those young persons from the North who go abroad. They have the same practical faculty of adapting themselves to their new circumstances. I hold that this adaptive faculty is a valuable one; and it should be cultivated still further by the Gael, in view of the manifold calls that modern life makes upon him.

Scotsmen generally are noted for their interest in argument about theology. The history of Presbyterianism in the North of

Scotland has certainly been a troubled one throughout the nineteenth century. The Gael has had his full share of sectarian strife. We are all more or less familiar with the splits that have occurred over differences of opinion in ecclesiastical affairs. To say that such division means weakness is a very true saying, however often we may have heard it. As society develops one observes that there is a tendency to organise and co-ordinate forces. Take an illustration in secular matters. The new move by which certain municipal, charitable, educational, and financial concerns are to be centralised and governed by one administrative principle, is just an instance of the tendency referred to. The Union of the two great Presbyterian Churches in Scotland is, from the administrative and business side, another illustration. True there are the noble rules of Christian brotherhood and unity implied and illustrated also. But on the literal side we have an example here of the combined and consolidated arrangement and unity which should make for strength and efficiency. This too is an important equipment for the future. The healing process is at work. The rifts and divisions are being gradually overcome. The growth of friendliness in the Church should have a sweetening influence on every class in our community. The progress of education will, let us hope, have a broadening effect on the public mind, and a spirit of tolerance will follow, whereby men can distinguish between what is primary and what is only secondary.

While the ancient Greeks taught the world in political theory, they themselves, by reason of local rivalries and internal jealousies within their borders, were unable to illustrate in the eyes of the world the laws of government which they taught. There was once a Celtic empire in Europe, an empire which annihilated entire Roman armies, and sacked the city of Rome. But like the Greek, the Celt lacked cohesion and organisation. The Celt has a flash of insight even in politics; but he requires to mend his methods; to co-ordinate his tactics here also, as in so many other walks of activity. If therefore the Gael will only use introspection, and have sincerity to detect and overcome any weakness in method and organisation; if he will only do this, a great future lies before him. In addition to his gifts of head and heart, he must cultivate the skill to apply those gifts to the practical ends in which they will find their most congenial sphere.

[THE END.]

AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH (SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Le K. W. G.

VIII.

Tha mar an ceudna mòran àit-ainmean air an co-mheasgadh le buaidh-fhacal (adjectives) agus le ainmean bheathaichean, còin, éisg, craobhan, agus einneas na talmhainn; dhiubh sin feudar beagan eisimpleir a thoirt.

beathaichean, còin; agus éisg:—Hestr, hross (each); lafr (roithe); hjörtr (fiadh); kötr (cat-fiadhaich); lambr (uan); naut, neyt (feudail); alka (alc); haukr (speireag); kráka (cnaimhach, feannag); örn (iolaire); skarfr (sgarbh); skari (faoileag); lax (bradan); sild (sgadan); selr (ròn); all (easgann).

Craobhan, einneas:—askr (uinneann); hesli (calltuinn); birki (beithe); eikr (darach); yr (iubhar); reynar (caorann); melr (muran, seòrsa feòir); gras (feur); lyng (fraoch); hris (preasarnach); lin (lìon).

Chan eil an sin ach beagan as a' mhòran a tha ann dhiubh.

Gheibh sinn mar an ceudna ainmean dhaoine mar àit-ainmean; mar eisimpleir, Dùn Eistinn (Eysteinn); Loch Hacoin (Haakon); Thormaid — binnein no sgòr (Thornódr); Raonuill—eilean-Raghn-hildir; Groa—eilean beag; Beinn Ghriam (Grúmr); tha ainman mar sin mar an ceudna an àit-ainmean co-mheasgte: Aulavaig (Bàgh Amhlaidh); Egilsay (Eilean Egill); Helmsdale (Gleann Halmund); Skulamus (Mointeach Skúli); Olistadh (Aite Amhlaidh); Caryshader (Fardoch Chari); Suaineart (Loch Shuan); Ungshader (Fardach Ungi); Trottenish (Rudha Thrand); Timgarry (fearann Thumi); agus sgoath a thuilleadh.

Tha mòran de na h-àit-ainmean a tha air an cur sìos gu h-àrd fathast ann an Lochlainn, Iceland, na h-Arcailh agus anns na h-Eileana Sealtaineach, gun a bheag de mhùthadh orra o linn nan Viking, an feadh a tha na ceart ainmean ri fhaotainn mar an ceudna ann an sean àitean-tuinidh nan Lochlannach an Ìirinn, an Sasunn siar is deas, a' Chuimridh, An Corn, agus an Fhraing. Tha co-ionannachd nan ainmean anns gach cèarn dhiubh sin a' dearbhadh riaghailteachd nan Lochlannach ann an toirt ainmean do àitean.

A leigil ris so bheir mi na h-eisimpleirean a leanas de àit-ainmean a fhuaradh an Normandi agus an comh-chiallach dealbh an Albainn; mar a chunnaic sinn cheana an earrann na h-eachdraidh de 'n sgrìobhadh so, lhuilich rìgh na Frainge Normandi anns an naodhamh linn air "Ganger Rolf," "Rolf Coisiche." Mac Iar! Raonuill nan Réidh-mhonadh, o'n tàinig Uilleam Buadhair Shasunn.

<i>Normandi.</i>	<i>Albain.</i>
Colbost, Colbosc	Colbost
Scambosc,	Scambuster,
Stambosc	Stambuster
Grimbost	Grimbuster
Touraboisi	Torabus
Milleboise	Melbost
Robois	Robols
Argnebos	Arkebuster
Kergnebusc	Kirkabost,
	Kirkabuster
Orbois	Orbost, Orbestor
L'etacq	Stack.

Thug na Lochlannaich tomhaisean an fhearainn a stigh do na h-Innse Gall, agus gheibhear an lorg ann an àit-ainmean; mar a tha cunntas ionadh aite a leigil ris. B'e riaghailt-thomhais nan Lochlannach air an fhearann an "eyrland" = ùnnsa-fearainn, a phàigh unns de dh'aigod aon chuid an cùinneadh no an toradh, do'n Iar! Loch-luanach mar chis = "skattr"; tha so air a chumail an cuimhne anns an fhacal Ghàidhlig "tirunga" = tir-ùnnsa; bha 'n "eyrland" air ath-roinn gu 18 gu 20 "tir-pheighinn" agus gach "tir-pheighinn" gu "tir-feòrling"; b'e 'm facal Lochlannach air son an tomhais so "fjórungr" = an ceathramh cuid, no feòrling; o so thàinig an t-àit-ainm Feòrlig, agus Feòrlinn, a' ciallachadh "fearann-fàirdein," agus Garbh-cheathramh "garbh-fhearann fàirdein." Tha 'm facal Lochlannach "penigr" = peighinn ri fhaotainn an àit-ainmean mar: Peighinn (dlùth air an t-Seasgann); Peighinn Meadhonach 's a Bheurla Pininnnoch; Peighinn a' Chùirn = Pinwhinn; Peighinn a' Ghobhainn = Pennygown; Peinvaila = Peighinn a' bhaile (an Beinn nam faogha = Benbecula); Lethipeighinn = Lephin; Pennyghael = Peighinn a' Ghàidheil agus mòran eile.

Air a cheann so tha'n Dotair MacEanruig a' toirt air adhart 'n a leabhar *Norse Influence on Celtic Scotland* rud a thuir

an t-Ollamh MacFhionghain m'a thimchioll
 —“Seach a chòir air an fhearann shaor a
 chall, rinn an Lochlannach imrich an
 toiseach gu ar tìr-ne agus na dhéidh sin gu
 Ieoland. Tha e glé choltach gu bheil na
 beachdan a bha cho daingean an inntinn a
 shinnsear a bha cho gaolach air saorsa a
 faighinn àite fathast an cridhe Eileanaich an
 latha diugh, a' cumail beò na barail
 stéidhichte gu bheil coir nach gabh
 àicheadh aige air an fhearann a tha e
 feurachadh agus ag oibreachadh. B'e an
 t-ùnsa riaghailt — no stéidh-tomhais an
 fhearainn aig na Lochlannaich . . . B' iad
 ath-roinnean de'n ùnsa na fearainn-
 pheighinn agus na fearainn fheòrlinn. Tha
 cunntas air dealbh nan àiteachan fathast a'
 toirt dearbhadh air an dòigh mheas so. Cha
 robh na tirungan, no fearainn-ùnsa neo-
 chumanta 'n ar measg. Tha Unganab
 againn fhathast an Uibhist, agus
 Ungnacille 's an Eilean Sgitheanach. Tha
 fearainn-pheighinn cumanta am measg àit-
 ainmean ar n-Oir-thìr siar, agus na fearainn-
 fheòrlinn ach beag cho pailt. An Ile agus a'
 choimhearsnachd a bha an làmhnan teagh-
 laichean MhicDhomhnuill o làithean nan
 Lochlannach gu 1609 bha fearainn-dà-
 sgillinn, agus fearainn-cheithir-sgillinn air
 am meas cumanta o chionn dà-fhichead
 bliadhna” (An t-Ollamh MacFhionghain an
The Norseman in the Hebrides). Ann am
 màl Leòdhais tha aon àite de'n ainm Na
 Còig Peighinnean.

Ainmean Phearsa. Tha na h-ainmean
 Lochlannach a tha cho pailt 'n ar measg
 anns gach càrn de Albainn gus an la-diugh
 a' toirt dearbhadh sonraichte, na'n robh
 feum air gu'n robh na Lochlannaich 'n an
 luchd-àiteachaidh air taobh Siar Albainn
 agus anns na h-Eileana “sìar thàr sìle,”
 agus nach b'ann a mhàin mar Vikinger, a'
 dol 's a' tighinn. Thatar gach latha a'
 coimneachadh nan ainmean sin, agus tha iad
 ri fhaotainn an clàir Leabhraichean-
 seòlaidh nam bailtean mòra agus an ainm-
 chlàir seòmraichean-gnothaich nan sanas-
 dealanaich anns gach baile beag an Albainn;
 tha fios gu bheil mùthadh air tighinn
 thairis orra tre chùrsa nan linn, ach ma tha
 greim aig aon air an fhacal Lochlannach,
 chan eil e duilich a dheanamh a mach.

(Ri Leantainn.)

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IANGHURAG AN AONAICH.

O Ianghurag an aonaich
 Is caochlaideach sgeula,
 Ciod e cion-fath an dolais
 A dh'fhogair leat fhein thu,
 Gu caoidh 's an latha ghruamach
 Mar uan air a threigsinn
 Gun aon a bheireadh cluas dhuit
 No's truagh leis do dheuchainn.
 Ged tha do luinneag bronach
 Seach coisir nan geugan
 Gur roghainniche leams' i
 Ged dh'uraich i beud dhomh;
 Oir bidh i toirt fo m' smaointean
 Mu'n ghaol thug mi'n te sin
 A mheall mi'n tùs a h-eòlais
 'S gun choir oirr' bhi rèidh dhomh.
 Cha b'ann air son a stòrais;
 A sròil no na seudan,
 'Bha sgeadachadh a comhdaich
 Thug dhomhsa bhi 'n déidh oirr',
 Ach air son a boidhchead
 A comhraidh 's a beusan,
 'S a' bhuaidh a bha cho sonraicht'
 An eòlas 's an ceill oirr'.
 An coimeas ris an fhion-dheare
 'S an t-ian bh' air a tailleamh,
 A ghlacadh anns an lion
 Bha 'ga dìon anns a' gharadh;
 Gun d'mheall i gu ro luath mi
 Le buadhan a h-aillachd
 A chuir an lion mu'n cuairt dhomh
 Nach fuasgail ri m' là dhìom.
 Is i mo rùn-s' an nionag
 A riarach thar chàich mi,
 'S gach dòigh a dheanainn iarraidh
 An sgiamh is an nàdur;
 Na m'aigne-sa gu dìomhair
 Tha h'ionmhaigh mar sgàile
 Na creige ann am fìor-uisg'
 Nach triall as gu'n tràigh e.
 Ged ghleusaichte an ceò leam
 Chan fhogair e 'n ionndrainn
 Tha stigh 'nam chridhe comhnuidh
 An seomraichean dùinte;
 'S an aigne bha mar nòs dhomh
 Gun seòl air a dùsgadh,
 Mar chruit a dh'eusbhaidh theudan
 'Sa séis air a mhùchadh.
 'S e dh'fhàg mo chadal luaineach
 'S a ghluais mi gu tùirse
 An samhla dh'fhuair mi
 'S an bhrùadar o 'n dhuigs mi,
 Mu Lìli bu gheal tuar
 Bhi air uachdar a' bhuirn uam
 'S an ùidh chuir mi na buain
 Ged nach d'fhuair mi toirt leam as.

A. C. M.

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CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

An Luchd Comhairle.

Seoras E. Marjoribanks (Fear Gairme), Tearlach Caimbeul, Iain R. Mac Gille-na-Brataich, Iain Mac Dhomhnaill, Seumas Mac a Phi, An t-Urr Calum MacLeod, Calum MacLeod, Eachann MacDhughail.

MOD IMPRESSIONS.

That the National Mod at Fort William has been a signal success from all points of view is a matter of gratification not merely to An Comunn Gaidhealach, but to all those who cherish and revere the language, literature and music of the Gael.

The Mod arrangements were as efficiently carried out as local conditions would permit, and the officials responsible deserve to be congratulated.

Considering the many and varied competitions the task of the adjudicators must have been colossal. A fashion which is being imposed by "Authorities" is the dropping of the "R" sound in such words as "Cno" and "Cnoc" and one wonders how a word such as "gnothuch" sounds when served up after such cooking. Such departures from the spoken word opens up new difficulties for Gaelic learners whom An Comunn are anxious to encourage.

Properly qualified persons should be appointed to handle the Gaelic Test in connection with the Chief choral competition thus ensuring that questions would be asked at least grammatically and the words properly pronounced. Flippant questions to native speakers should be avoided thus keeping up the tone of the high standard of the Mod proceedings generally.

Learners who have acquired a good knowledge of the language should be encouraged rather than harassed. Some singers in duets, quartettes, and choirs are inclined to indulge

too much in gesture and the facial and physical contortions resorted to have long since departed from the realm of good taste and are now being consigned, if not to the vulgar, certainly to the ridiculous. If our Gaelic-speaking ancestors of not so long ago were to witness some of these "turns" they would readily conclude that the entire race had departed from its reason.

In many instances the prescribed waulking song "He'n clo Dubh" somewhat resembled the Flying Scotsman, and I was surprised to hear not a single comment in the adjudications as to time. To such pace I could picture a piece of tweed being handled, or rather mis-handled by an agile but inexperienced group of women, who mercilessly and savagely pounded the fabric on the "comhladh," or cliath—the tweed ultimately finishing up a few inches in width and as thick as a door mat.

After so many years of successful effort it seems a pity that An Comunn should content themselves with such halls for the National Mod as are available, often most unsuitable, and usually fabulously priced. Judging from the growing enthusiasm manifested, and the new and unprecedented records created, it is time that An Comunn Gaidhealach possessed their own collapsible buildings, ready to pitch where required, and stored when not in use.

This at least should be a question for the serious consideration of the executive, and the initial outlay would be money well spent.

ALASDAIR STEWART.

BOOK REVIEW.

LITRICHEAN ALASDAIR MHOIR. Le Iain N. Macleoid. 392 + xv. pp. *Stornoway Gazette*.

These letters reveal a wonderful ease and readiness in the use of idiomatic and expressive Gaelic. There is nothing like constant practice to ensure efficiency in any art or calling, and it is quite evident that the fluency and balance of these letters have not been acquired without a good deal of practice. The subject matter covers a fairly wide field. It refers to such themes as may have been the subject of conversation in any of the Hebrides, although the Island fixed upon is Bernera. From a first-hand knowledge of rustic life and conversation on our own part, we are confident that these compositions are no exaggeration, but a faithful record of such conversation as one hears in the Islands on various topics, religious, social, trade, market, politics, and all such questions. It might be urged by some critics that the letters are written in a style with which we are already very familiar, in Gaelic prose, dwelling too much on old things. But then the writer tried to portray life in the Islands just as he saw it. You have still to deal with the Gaelic mentality in the Hebrides. To depict faithfully and graphically what you actually see and hear from day to day, that is the secret of an interesting and living style as you find in this book. The printing and get up of the volume are very good.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Arrangements have now been commenced for the 1933 Glasgow Mod. At a well-attended meeting in the Highlanders' Institute a local committee was formed with Mr. Malcolm MacLeod as convener, and Mr. Robert MacFarlane C.A. as Treasurer. The duties of local secretary will be undertaken by Mrs. S. C. B. Edgar, 30 Woodlands Drive, Glasgow, a life member of An Comunn and a lady of enterprise, enthusiasm, and ability. Various committees have been formed to attend to the necessary details. The dates of the Mod are 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th September, 1933. and a special appeal is made to all friends of the movement, branches of An Comunn, and affiliated, and other Highland Societies to rally round and help to ensure the success of the Glasgow Mod.

* * * * *

A pleasing feature of recent wireless broadcast programmes has been the inclusion of a large number of Gaelic song items. This feature is greatly welcomed throughout the Highlands and this recognition from the broadcast authorities is much appreciated. It is interesting to mention that Gaelic items are to be included in the first programme from the new wireless station in Nova Scotia. One of our young Gaelic singers was engaged to make a series of Gaelic song records—which were made by special process—and immediately dispatched to their destination. These records are to be relayed to all Canadian stations.

* * * * *

We are glad to announce that the new issue of "Bàrdachd Ghàidhlig" is now ready. This book will shortly be on sale and all orders can be attended to. The price of the book is 3s. 6d. postage extra.

In view of the possibility of the play, "The Glen is Mine," being available in future in Gaelic form, it may be of interest to those who might think of producing the Gaelic version to be informed that it is to be presented by the Scottish National Players, in the Lyric Theatre, Glasgow, during the Christmas season.

PROPAGANDA TOURS.

The General Secretary has been busily engaged visiting Branches in the Southern area since the Mod. He addressed meetings at the following places:—Skelmorlie, Dumbarton, Motherwell, Shiskine, Pirmill, Lochranza, Carradale, Gigha, Tayinloan, Whitehouse, Tarbert, Strathlachlan, Inveraray, Furnace, Ormsary, Glencoe, Duror, Benderloch, Appin,

Kilfinan, Kilmartin, Lochgilphead, Tayvallich, Craignish, Crieff and Campbeltown. All the Branches in the Southern area which remained unvisited last session have now been visited by Mr. Shaw. Meetings have been exceptionally well attended and new Branches were formed at Strathlachlan and Craignish.

Mr. Donald Macphail, recently appointed Organiser for Northern area, has been busily engaged under the direction of the Northern Sub-Committee, in visiting districts in his area since 13th October. He has visited Invergarry, Mallaig, Morar, Arisaig, Abriachan, Carrbridge, Grantown-on-Spey, Nethy Bridge, Aviemore, Kincaig, Kingussie, Newtonmore, Broadford, Portree, Bernisdale, Dunvegan and Edinbane. A new Branch was formed at Abriachan.

Music Teachers are employed as follows:—

Northern Area—Miss Margaret MacDonald, Invergarry.

Southern Area—John MacDiarmid, Arran; Hugh MacLean, Mid-Argyll.

AN SIONNACH AGUS AN CAT.

Tha craobhan anabarrach mòr timchioll caisteal MhicCailein an baile Inbhir-Aora. Tha iad ainmeil fada is farsuinn airson am meudachd, an airde, agus gu sònraichte an gairbhead. Aig bun craoibhe diubh sin choinnich sionnach ruadh monaidh agus cat dubh tighe agus bha iad a' còmhradh. "Cia meud car a th' agad" ars' an sionnach ris a chat. "Chan eil agamsa" fhreagair an cat "ach an aon char." "Och och nach truagh lean thu a dheòirein bho chd" ars' an sionnach. "Fhaic thu 'ille diubh tha làn poca is làn builg de chuir agamsa." Anns an t-seanachas a bha ann co chuir a bhragais mu 'n cuairt oisinn a' chnuic ach gille-seilg an diùc, agus mial-chu caol, sleamhuinn glas, 'n a chois. Air ball chuir e an cù riuthasan a bha aig a chraoibh. Le aon sinteag bha an cat saor sabhailte gu h-ard air meanglan na craoibhe, ach bha an sionnach a' cuartachadh na craoibhe 's am mial-chu dian air a thòir, beir is cha bheir, beir is cha bheir aig a chù air. An cat gu seasgair air a mheur mbhallaich a' glaothaich a nuas "ma theirg am poca feuch am bolg, ma theirg am poca feuch am bolg." Ach mu dheireadh fhuair am mial-chu ann an sgornan an fhir ruaidh; agus dìreach an uair a bha an sionnach bochd a toirt a suas an deo chuir an cat cagar a nuas "fhir nan ioraltan nach feuch thu nis am bolg." Thatar ag radh gu bheil an leithidean sin de shionnaich, de chait, agus de choin air feadh an t-saoghail gu ruig an latha 'n diugh.

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Bu mhatht leam eisimpleir no dhà air an dòigh-aithris sin a tharruinn bho 'n sgeulachd "Canain nan Eun" a chuir an Gàidheal foghainnteach sin, J. G. MacAoidh, a mach bho laimh-sgrìobhainn "Iain Oig Ile," le eadar-theangachadh Beurla 'na cois, agus cuiridh mi sìos (1) A' Bheurla aig MacAoidh, (2) an seòrsa Gàidhlig a dh' fhaodainn a bhi cur oirre mi fhéin a 'm leth-eòlas, agus (3) a' Ghàidhlig 's an d'fhuairadh an sgeulachd air thùs; agus chi sibh an rud a tha air m' aire:—

- (1) So in order that he should learn bird-language, he was sent to the Isle, taking with him enough provision for a day and a year.

- (2) Mar sin, a chum agus gu'n ionnsaicheadh e cainnt nan eun, chuireadh do'n Eilean e, 's e toirt leis na chumadh biadh ris là is bliadhna.
- (3) Chuireadh do'n Eilean e, a 's lòn là 's bliadhna leis, chum gu'n ionnsaicheadh e cainnt nan eun.
- (1) What and how much have I profited for thy having spent a year in the Isle of Birds?
- (2) Ciod a th'agam mar bhuannachd airson gu'n tug thusa bliadhna an Eilean nan Eun?
- (3) Gu de a th'agam an ceann bliadhna airson thu bhi an Eilean nan Eun?
- (1) I will not be baffled by that evasion. Thou shalt have nothing for thy pains but just thy pains.
- (2) Chan fhairtlich thu orm leis an t-seansan sin. Cha bhi agad an ceann do shaothrach ach do shaothair fhéin.
- (3) Gun géilleachduinn da sin, chan eil dad agad ach na bheir thu dh' a chionn.

Nis, is e tha 's an t-sealladh agam le bhi tighinn thairis air na nithean sin, aire Clann an Fhraoich a tharruinn a dh'ionnsaidh nan sean sgeulachdan a tha Beurla air a cur orra, mar mheadhon-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig. Tha fhios gu'm faodar a ràdh mu'n chuid mhóir de'n Chloinn, "tha Gàidhlig aca." Ach cia lòn dhiubh a tha 'ga sgrìobhadh 's 'ga leughadh, agus dhiubh-san a tha, cia lòn nach fadadh cur ri an còlas, agus an Gàidhlig a dhèanamh na 's foirfe, le bhi cur a' mheadhois so tha againn gu feum? Tha àireamh nach beag de sgeulachdan de 'n t-seòrsa a tha fo'm bheachd, a thuilleadh air na gheibhear ann an leabhraichean an Ilich, mar a tha ann "Sgeulachd a' Choire," "Gille a' Bhuidseir agus Sgeulachdan eile," "Canain nan Eun" (a gheibhear ann an *Scottish Gaelic Studies*). Tha a' Bheurla aona chuid an cois na Gàidhlig no taobh ri taobh rithe. Dh' fhaodadh duine meall mór de na sgeulachdan sin a leughadh 's a' Ghàidhlig le tlachd is ùrachadh-inntinn, ach chan ionnsaich e mórán Gàidhlig air an dòigh sin. Is e a chomhairlichinn dha, a' Bheurla chur gu Gàidhlig air a shon féin, 's e 'ga cheartachadh fhéin a h-uile ceann tacaib bho 'n Ghàidhlig sgrìobhte. Is dòcha nach eil dòigh as fhèarr chum ruigheachd air fìleantachd agus glainead anns na gnàthsan-cainnte a tha mar smior-

chailleach na Gàidhlig. Is dòigh so a tha fada na 's nàdurra agus na 's tlachdmhoire na bhi gleacaireachd ri leabhraichean-còmhraidh agus "Grammar," ge feumail iad do'n fhear a tha 's a' cheud toiseachadh.

Is iomadh uair a bha mi ag earalachadh Clann an Fhraoich iad fhéin a dhéanamh fileanta ann an leughadh agus sgrìobhadh Gàidhlig. Tha feum mór air daoine bhios a' cur a mach leabhraichean ùra Gàidhlig, ach is dìomhain an saothair mur bi daoine' eile 'gan leughadh. Chuireadh a mach na sgeulachdan gasda a dh'ainmich mi le J. G. MacAoidh, sgoilear nach géill do dhuine beo ann an treibhdhíreas a thaobh ar càpain, agus tha h-uile coltas air gu'n cuir e tuilleadh a mach ma ni na Gàidheil an cuid fhéin de 'n obair le bhi 'gan ceannach is 'gan leughadh.—Mise le mùirn,

SEORSA GALLDA.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the County Hotel, Stirling, on Friday, 25th November. The Rev. Neil Ross, D.Litt., President, presided, and the following members were present: W. D. Barclay, Esq., Glasgow; A. K. Beaton, Esq., Perth; Miss Campbell of Inverneill; Charles Campbell, Esq., M.B.E., Glasgow; Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds); Captain George I. Campbell, yr., of Succoth; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Col. A. D. Greenhill Gardyne of Glenforsa; Mrs. S. C. B. Edgar, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Esq., Bishopton; Niall Kennedy, Esq., Glasgow; Donald MacDonald, Esq., Inverness; John MacDonald, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; John MacDonald, Esq., J.P., Glasgow; Miss Ann MacGillivray, Glasgow; Alastair C. MacLaren, Esq., Dalmally; Malcolm MacLeod, Esq., Glasgow; James C. MacPhie, Esq., Glasgow; George E. Marjoribanks, Esq., Sonachan; John A. Nicolson, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; Neil Orr, Esq., F.E.I.S., Edinburgh; A. M. Sweet, Esq., Skelmorlie; Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, Dunblane; George Thomson, Esq., M.A., Glasgow; Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria; Mrs M. Wilson, Dunblane. In attendance, Neil Shaw, Secretary, and Hugh MacPhee, Assistant to the Secretary.

The President made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. Archibald MacPhee, a splendid type of Highlander,

and expressed the Executive's condolence with his son, Mr. Hugh MacPhee, assistant secretary, and other members of the family.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Arising from the Minute of 15th July, the Secretary read a report from the Special Sub-Committee intimating the appointment of Mr. Donald MacPhail as Organiser for the Northern Area.

The President referred to the announcement that the Rev. Lauchlan MacLean Watt, D.D., had been nominated as Moderator-Elect of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. He expressed the pleasure and deep satisfaction with which his fellow-members learned of this well-merited distinction, and it was resolved to convey to Dr. MacLean Watt the cordial congratulations of the Council.

A minute of the Finance Committee was read. In connection with the music scholarship scheme of An Comunn, the Treasurer reported that a private trust, of which he was a member, were prepared to give a grant of £50 for each of two years towards paying the fees and maintenance of Mr. Duncan M. Morrison, Stornoway, at the Scottish Academy of Music, Glasgow. The Committee recommended that the Executive now give effect to the resolution adopted at the Annual Meeting at Fort-William to make a grant towards the cost of the tuition and maintenance of Mr. Morrison at the Academy of Music, and the Treasurer was authorised to make such payment as is necessary to supplement the sums otherwise provided.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mr. Alexander Fraser, convener.

A Minute of the Education Committee was read. A debit balance of £18 18s 8d was reported in connection with the Summer School of Gaelic held at Newtonmore. It was recommended that next year's Summer School of Gaelic be held at Portree.

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

A Minute of meeting of the Publication Committee was read. It was reported that the revised edition of *Bardachd Ghàidhlig* was now available. On the motion of the convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, the Minute was adopted.

A Minute of the Propaganda Committee and reports from the Sub-Committees were read. The Northern Sub-Committee reported that a Special Sub-Committee had been appointed to confer with the Director

of Education for the County of Sutherland with reference to the teaching of Gaelic in the day schools. The Special Committee had met with the Director, Mr. Hugh A. Ross, who assured them that the Education Committee of Sutherland were really sympathetic and very ready to fulfil their obligations under the 1918 Act. Mr. Ross submitted statistics which showed that out of a total of 347 Gaelic speaking children in the County, 198 are receiving instruction in Gaelic, distributed over 13 schools. The Director indicated that in so far as conserving the interests of existing teachers and other difficulties would permit, he would do his best to make some redistribution of the teaching staff so that Gaelic speaking districts might be served by Gaelic speaking teachers. Mr. Ross was cordially thanked for his sympathetic attitude.

Captain Campbell of Succoth reported on a meeting of the Joint Committee of Music and Drama, etc., held in Oban recently. A Committee for the County of Argyll was formed, and it is hoped that classes for instruction in conducting will be formed, and assistance given in producing plays. An Comunn will be represented on this newly formed Committee, and the Propaganda Committee recommended Captain Campbell of Succoth and Mr. John MacDonald, Oban, as representatives. On the motion of Mr. Charles Campbell, convener, the Minute and reports were adopted.

A Minute of the Art and Industry Committee was read. In moving the adoption of the Minute, Miss Campbell of Inverneil drew the attention of the members to the posters displayed on the walls at this meeting. These represented the entries at the recent Celtic Art competition, and satisfaction was expressed at the quality of the work and the number submitted. The Minute was adopted.

A Minute of the Mod and Music Committee was read. It was reported that a new Clarsach Playing Competition would be instituted, the prizes to be provided by the Clarsach Society.

The Committee accepted the gift of £100 from the Kennedy Fraser Memorial Fund for the purpose of instituting a prize in Gaelic singing at the National Mod in commemoration of the late Mrs. Kennedy Fraser.

It was reported that the winner of the competition for the best translation of the

play, "The Glen is Mine," was the Rev. T. S. McPherson, Campbeltown, a former member of the Executive Council. Mrs. Urquhart, North Kessock, was reported to be the winner of the gold medal presented by Miss Miller Weir, Alexandria, for the most distinguished competitor in the literary section of the recent Mod at Fort-William.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow, reported that a local committee had been formed and had already taken the preliminary steps for next year's Mod to be held in St. Andrew's Halls, Glasgow, from September 26 to September 29.

Mr. George Marjoribanks reported on the work of Clann an Fhraoich, and on the very successful ceilidh held in Glasgow on the previous evening.

Dates of future meetings were arranged as follows—27th January, 10th March, 7th July, 30th September, and 24th November.

Mr. Sweet reported that a Gaelic Class, with an attendance of 14, was being conducted in Skelmorlie. There was also a class for country dancing with an attendance of 28.

Mr. A. K. Beaton, Perth, said he felt ashamed to report that in Perthshire there was not a single continuation school giving Gaelic teaching. It was remitted to the Propaganda Committee, through its Southern Sub-Committee and in consultation with the Convener of the Education Committee, to look into the whole matter of Gaelic teaching in the County of Perth.

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

UILLEAM ROS.

Le IAIN N. MACLEOD.

III.

Ged a bha gach goireas agus àgh a cheannaicheadh òr aig Mòr Ros an Sasuinn cha robh i idir sona. Ciamar a bhiodh agus a droch clicean air a bhi 'n a mheadhon air corp agus anam Uilleim Rois ann am Bad a' Chrò an Gearloch a bhi dubhach, trom, deurach. Is ann ainneamh a bhiodh a fear-pòsda air tìr, agus tha mi creidsinn gu'n robh sin a' toirt oirre a bhi meorachadh na bu trice air leannan a h-òige. Nach ann a sgrìobh i gu Uilleam an Gearloch ag innseadh dha gu'n robh i aonaranach cràidhte 'n a

h-inntinn, agus dh' iarr i air tighinn agus a toirt leis do 'n Ghàidhealtachd còmhla ris. Cha d' fhuair e a leithid sud de litir riamh 'n a bheatha: dh' ùraich e dha gach sòlas agus sonas a thug am boirionnach ud a stigh do a anam anns na laithibh a dh' fhalbh. Leig e mu sgaol an sgoil, dhùin e an doras, agus thog e air ball gach a dìreach gu *Liverpool* airson ann sealladh eile fhaighinn ann air ribhinn a leon e. 'N uair a rainig e Sruibhle bhuail an t-aithreachas e, agus thill e dhachaidh gu Gearloch le cridhe trom tùrsach gun uiread agus aon ghathan sòlais ris am b' urrainn e a aigheadh a thogail. Chaidh e gu laighe na leapadh agus cha d' eirich e tuilleadh. Bha duil aig Mòir ris gach latha, agus cha tug i riamh suas a dochas nach cluinneadh i e a' gnogadh 's an doras an uair bu lugha a shaoileadh i. Oidhche de na h-oidhcheanan bha dannsa gu bhi anns a' bhaile, agus rinn Mòr deas airson a dhol ann feuch am bàthadh i a dòlas le sòlas. An uair a bha 'n t-searbhanta aice toirt laimh-chuideachaidh dhi leis an deise dhannta shaoil leatha gu'n cuala i gnogadh aig an doras. "Sud Uilleam a' tighinn 'g am iarraidh," arsa i, agus ruith i 'na deann sìos an staidhir le coinneal 'n a laimh airson fàilte chur air a seann leannan. Dh' fhosgail i an doras, ach cha robh duine ann, agus an àm dhi tionndadh a thaobh leis a' choinneil rinn an lasair greim air a h-aodach tana, agus loisgeadh gu bàs i. Beagan mhìonaidean de fhuilangas mòr agus dhùin a sùil anns a' bhàs, agus ghabh lion-aodach nan marbhpaisg aite rionnadh an dannsa, agus chaidh a' chù mu dheireadh troimh a ciabhagan òr-bhuidhe. Air a' cheart oidhche agus aig a' cheart uair 's an do thachair an nì bronach ud, bha cairdean gràdhach timchioll air leabaidh bàis Uilleim Rois ann an Gearloch, agus mar sin chaidh e fhein agus an ainneir a chuir aiceid a' bhàis ann, a stigh do'n t-siorruidheachd mhòir còmhla: fhuair ise a guidhe—ach fois Dhe do a h-anam.

So, mnta, deireadh beatha Uilleim Rois. Cha robh e ach ocd bliadhna fichead an uair a chaochail e, dìreach an uair a bha a ghrian ann an àirde nan speur agus a fheumalachd agus a bhuadhan 'n an làn neart; ach cha robh gach nì air a dheanamh am folach air freasdal caomh an Tì a tha riaghladh, agus nach eil an sean-fhacal Greugach bho shean ag radh, "Eson is ionmhuinn leis na diathan bàsaichidh e òg." Tha Mac-Coinnich ann an "Sar Obair nam Bàrd" a' toirt dhùinn cunntas eagnuidh air pearsa a' bhàird. Tha e 'g radh gu'n robh

e 'n a dhuine cuimhir annsanta anns an robh còrr agus sè troidhean a dh' àirde. Bha falt donn air, agus bha a aodann fosgorra agus a chruthachd dealbhach anns gach ball mar is gnath le clann nam bean; agus cha robh meang air a' ghrinneas leis an rachadh e 'n a aodach. Bha e 'n a sgoilear cho maith agus a rinn a' Ghàidhealtachd 'n a latha: bha e fileanta ann an Laidionn agus an Greugais agus ro-bhuadhmhor an laimhseachadh na Gaidhlig.

Chan eil mòran, ma tha aon idir eile ann, a rinn a leithid de ghreim daingean teann air intinnean nan Gàidheal agus a rinn bàrdachd Uilleim Rois. Tha a aigheadh agus a bhàigh agus a charthannas a' dearsadh troimh gach ceathramh a rinn e, agus saoilidh sinn gu bheil sinn a' faicinn a chruth grunn fhein a' stàrachd mu'r coinneamh air uachdar gach òrain. Tha ar co-fhaireachadh a' sìor dhol a mach do a ionnsaidh an uair a tha esan a' dòrtadh a mach 'n ar lathair gach cneadh agus leon a tha a chridhe bochd a' faireachadh; agus tha sinn mar sin a' gabhail ceum no dha ann an turas an fhasaich so còmhla ris, agus tha 'n comhlusad sin a' deanamh misnich dhùinn, an uair a chuimhnicheas sinn gu'n robh aigesan mòran de na cnapan-starra a dh' fhaodas a bhi againn an reis ar beatha. B'e Burns na Gàidhealtachd gun teagamh. Dh' fhag e, coltach ri treabhachiche mòr Aoir, cuimhne chubhradh as a dheidh do bhrìgh 's gu'n do ghluais e a chlàrsach dìreach a reir 's mar a bha a fhaireachaidhean aig an am. Ma bha a ghràdh mòr do chaileig araidh, dh' innis e sin dhùinn an òran gun lideadh a chleith: ma bha e faighinn sòlais ann an glaine de mhac-na-braiche, cha do chum e sin fo bùirich uainn, agus an uair a bha glòir obair nàduir mu'n cuairt da a' tarrainn suas a intinn a dh'ionnsuidh Dhe, ughdar na cruinne, nach do chuir e na faireachaidhean sin ann an dubh 's an geal dhùinn chum agus gu'n biodh sinn, gach uair a leughas sinn a chuid òran, le tlachd a' leantainn gu dluth 'n a chois-cheuman-san agus gathan sòlais a' ruigheachd air ar n-anam dìreach mar a thàrmaich iad timchioll air fhéin. Bha e fhéin agus Raibeart Burns a' faicinn sgeimh ann an uile chruthachadh Dhe, agus theagaisg an luaidh ghrinn a rinn iad air na nithean sin dhùinn gu bheil e iomcheuidh dhùinn a bhi sealltainn le spéis agus buidheachas air obair nàduir gu leir, a chionn nach do dhealbh Dia aon nì an diomhanas.

(Ri Leantainn.)

BRANCH REPORTS.

EASDALE.—The opening meeting of An Comunn Gàidhealach Cillebhrèanaich was held in the Easdale School, Ellenabeich, when the president Mr Alexander MacIntyre occupied the chair. The proceedings took the form of a ceilidh and a feature was the large number of children present.

FORT WILLIAM.—Following the retiral of Mr William Hunter the main business at the meeting of the Fort William branch was the appointment of a new secretary. Mr Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., was unanimously elected to the office. The new president is Mr J. MacLean and it was decided that a Gaelic and English concert be held early in the New Year to raise funds for the local Mod, which will be held in June.

GLENGARRY.—There was a crowded attendance at the first meeting of the session of the Glengarry branch, Major Ellice of Glengarry, Hon. President, occupied the chair and stirring Gaelic addresses were delivered by Mr Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, and by Mr Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William. A lengthy and pleasingly varied programme of choral and solo items with instrumental music was much enjoyed by the audience.

INVERARY.—The first of the "Frae a' the Airts" programmes heard over the wireless was the broadcast of the proceedings of the opening meeting of the Inverary branch. The ceilidh, for such it was, was held in the Old Court House and Lady Elspeth Campbell who took the part of Bean an Tighe, presided. The programme which was representative of the musical talent of the district included many well-known and popular exponents of Gaelic song. Among those present was His Grace the Duke of Argyll, and Captain George I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth.

KILMALLIE.—There was much enthusiasm at the first ceilidh of the session of the Kilmallie branch. The Corpach Hall, where the meeting was held, was well filled and the president, Mr James Weir, extended a very cordial welcome to all friends of the movement to rally round to ensure success in all their efforts. It is hoped to include among their endeavours this session a Junior Gaelic Choir which would represent the district at Mod competitions.

LEWIS.—The Masonic Hall, Stornoway, was full to capacity at the opening social of the Lewis branch. Mr John MacSween the president acted as host and in an appropriate speech extended a hearty welcome to all present. During an interval in the proceedings the Duncragan Cup donated by Captain Iain M. Moffat-Pender was presented to Mr Alex. Urquhart, Nicolson Institute, whose pupils gained the highest aggregate of marks in a special literary competition. At the close special reference was made to the retiral of Mr John M'Yer, Laxdale, who as conductor of Laxdale Choir brought honour and distinction to the island. Mr M'Yer is now resident at Invergordon.

NAIRN.—Amongst the various enterprises initiated by the Nairn branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach for the purpose of increasing interest in the Gaelic language and music none have been more successful or delightful than the ceilidhs held from time to time. The ceilidh which took place in

the Supper-Room of the Public Hall, Nairn, on Wednesday evening, 9th November, was no exception to the rule, being largely attended, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed, Piper Forsyth giving his services as he has done on other occasions. Mr Ian MacKenzie, Lodgehill, president of the branch presided, and, in a few words welcomed the company to what he truly predicted would be a feast of music.

An apology for absence was received from Mrs Mackintosh, Bruach, hon. president of the branch.

The programme was appropriately opened with a fine rendering of "Up With the Gaelic" by the Nairn Gaelic Choir, ably conducted by Mr Alexander Napier, A.T.S.C. A succeeding choral number also illustrated clearly the remarkable progress made by the choir, and the high standard of perfection which has been attained.

An interesting and pleasing feature of the proceedings took the form of a handsome presentation to Mr Alexander Napier, A.T.S.C., made by the Nairn branch of An Comunn, in recognition of what he has done in connection with the Nairn Gaelic Choir.

The Chairman then introduced Mr John N. McLeod, Kirkhill, who addressed the gathering. During the first portion of his address he spoke fluently in Gaelic, when he emphasised the importance of Highlanders keeping up their own language by all reading, writing, and speaking it. If older people did not take every opportunity of bringing Gaelic before their children the time was not far distant when the language would die out completely. He believed it was most important that a love for Gaelic should be inspired in the homes.

The ceilidh concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

NETHER LOCHABER.—A Gaelic play by the school children produced under the direction of Miss Polson was a prominent part of the programme at the opening meeting of the Nether Lochaber branch in the Onich Hall. Mr Macfarlane Barrow presided and the remainder of the programme was composed of Gaelic solos and instrumental items.

NEWTONMORE.—The first meeting of the Newtonmore branch conformed in all respects to the traditions of the old ceilidhs. Mr Peter Curley acted the part of Fear an Tighe most acceptably and in addition to the usual songs and sgùlaichs the members were entertained to a "Tattie and Herring" supper which was much enjoyed.

TAIN.—Miss Farquharson of Invercauld, attended the meeting of Tain branch and delivered a very instructive and informative lecture on Bishop MacIntosh's "Book of Proverbs." The Rev. R. MacKinnon presided. A preliminary meeting of those interested in the formation of a Gaelic evening class, under the auspices of a branch attracted an attendance of about twenty, which was considered very encouraging. The class will be taught by Mr Murdo MacKenzie, M.A., Edderton, a capable Gaelic scholar.

TARBET.—The members of Tarbet branch had the pleasure of a visit from Mr Neil Shaw, General Secretary and Organiser at the first meeting of the session. In the course of the evening Mr Shaw gave an interesting account of the recent National Mod at Fort William, commenting on the marked increase

shown in the junior oral competitions, a circumstance which augured well for the future of the Gaelic language. The President, Mr James Couper occupied the chair and an excellent programme was submitted by the choir and several soloists including Mr Shaw. A business meeting followed and officials were appointed for the session.

TOBERMORY.—In spite of inclement weather there was a large attendance at the meeting of the Tobermory branch. Mr J. Cameron who presided gave an interesting account of his visit to the Mod at Fort William and thereafter an interesting musical programme followed.

VALE OF LEVEN.—Mr Hector MacDougall, Glasgow, president of the branch occupied the chair at a largely attended meeting of the Vale of Leven branch at Alexandria, and he read a very interesting paper prepared by the Rev. John MacKechnie on "The Culture of the Isles." In connection with this branch a very successful Gaelic class is conducted by the President in one of the local schools.

FORT WILLIAM MOD DONATIONS.

Previously acknowledged £857 7 5

Received at Head Office—

Hugh MacLean, Esq., Troon	5 0 0
Mrs C. Bannatyne, Blackwaterfoot	0 10 6
Ceilidh nan Gàidheal, Glaschu	5 0 0
Kinloch Rannoch Branch	2 2 0
Duchess of Montrose	1 1 0
Port Ellen Branch	2 0 0
Greenock Highland Society	5 0 0
Glasgow Tiree Association	3 0 0
Anonymous	1 0 0
Major A. MacGregor, Bramley	1 1 0
Mrs Iain Campbell (Airds)	4 10 0
Miss MacMurchy, Campbeltown	1 0 0

Received at Fort-William—

K. J. Mackenzie, Esq., Frithard, Plockton	2 2 0
Salen Branch per John Cameron, Esq., Salen, Aros	1 0 0
Kingussie Branch per J. S. Munro, Esq., Kingussie	1 1 0
Alex. Urquhart, Esq., Boys' Hostel, Stornoway	1 0 0
Pitlochry Branch, per Mrs. C. Panton, Pitlochry	2 0 0
Glenurquhart Gaelic Choir per A. C. McKell, Esq.	2 2 0
Mrs. Fraser, Leckmelni, by Garve	1 8 0
Collected by Mrs Wenzel, Alexandra Hotel, Fort William	11 15 9
Miss Heloise Russell-Ferguson, for Concert at Fort William	11 19 3
Laggan Bridge Branch per Miss Isobel Graham, Laggan Bridge	3 0 0
R. L. Colquhoun, Esq., Joint Agent, The British Linen Bank, Fort William	1 1 0
Miss Polson, The School House, Onich for Ceilidh	5 10 0
Collected by Mrs Burgess, Station Hotel, Fort William	30 2 0
Kintail Branch per George W. Munro, Esq., Dornie	9 8 4

Donation per Miss M. A. Cameron, Arisaig	1 9 1
The Rev. Canon Macneil for Entertainment at Arisaig	6 10 0
Miss M'Laren, Spean Bridge for Dance at Spean Bridge	10 0 0
Arisaig Branch per Mrs A. McEachan, Secretary and Treasurer	8 5 0
Corpach Ceilidh per James Weir Esq., Annat, Corpach—2nd contribution	3 0 0
Collected by Mrs MacSwan, Corpach Ex-Provost D. S. Shaw, M.B.E., Fort William	1 0 0
Benderloch Branch per Miss F. Carmichael	1 0 0
J. S. Mackay, Esq., Glasgow	1 0 0
Miss Alexander, Red House, Bridge of Allan	1 1 0
Nairn Branch per A. Stewart, Esq., Hon. Secretary	2 2 0
Mrs Hodgson, Culchenna, Onich	2 2 0
Lachlan MacKinnon, Esq., Local Joint Secretary for Name Guessing Competition	9 0 6
Fort William Ladies' Committee—Final Contribution	6 2 6
Mrs George Mackintosh	0 10 6
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TELEGRAMS.—*Runaire, Glasgow.*

TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXVIII.]

Am Faoilleach, 1933.

[Earrann 4

FAILTE BLIADHNA UIRE.

Tha bliadhna ùr a nis a' tòiseachadh, agus tha mi a' guidhe sonais agus buaidh do ar luchd leughaidh anns gach cearn; le deagh dhùrachd gu'm bi iad gu léir soirbheachail an slàinte is an crannchur feadh na bliadhna a tha tighinn a stigh. B'abhaist dhomh bho chionn greise, gearr iomradh a chur sìos air saothair is aghartas A' Chomuinn re na bliadhna a tha an déidh crìochnachadh. Ach tha breacadh mionaideach air na nithean sin sgriobhte anns a' chunntas bliadhnaile; agus mar sin tha mi an dùil nach eil feum dol thairis air na chuir mi sìos a cheana anns a' chunntas. An àite an iomraidh sin is ann bu mhiann leam faicail a chur an eagaibh a chèile air na bheil a' tachairt anns an dùthaich, cho fada 's a tha a leithid sin a' beantainn ri gnothach A' Chomuinn, ri gleidheadh na cànan, ri dìon a' chuibil, no ri ni sam bith eile a tha aig A' Chomunn mar chrìch àraidh.

* * *

Is e a' cheud ni is còir dhuinn a mhothachadh, gu bheil àireamh ar sluaigh a' sìor fhàs ni's gainne. Ma theid an lughdachadh sin air aghart cha ruith fichead bliadhna gus am bi a' Ghàidhealtachd gle fhàsaichte da rìribh. Chan fhaod sinn ar sùilean a dhùnadh do'n chùis. Ma thig sin mu'n cuairt is dìomhain dhuinn a bhi caitheamh ar n-ùine agus ar saothrach ri bhi ag altran na cànan. Tha i gu cinnteach air leabaidh a bàis mur bi tuath anns na glinn gus a labhairt; oir is ni mi-choltach gu'n cumair suas ar caint ann measg ùpraid a' bhaile-mhóir. Chan eil cor a bhaile idir freagarrach air cleachdadh na cainte. Faodar a labhairt agus a seinn aig coinneamh no aig cuirm. Tha sin maith gu leòir mar annas ann ar measg féin; ach a

chionn gu bheil sinn fathast air ar n-aineoil an tìr chéin am measg choigreach is aimeadach a bhi an dùil gu'n cumair suas a' Ghàidhlig far nach tuigear i. Cho fada 's is eiginn dhuinn Beurla a bruidheann feadh an latha, aig margadh agus aig foghlum, anns na tìghean is air an t-sràid, is faoin a bhi de'n bheachd gu mair ar cànan beò. Is e cor eile, agus suidhichidhean eile a tha iomchuidh a chum neart is beatha a chumail anns a' chaint.

* * *

Tha fios gu maith nach urrainn An Comunn féin na suidhichidhean sin a thoirt mu'n cuairt. Chan urrainn An Comunn athchuinge a dheanadh ri Parlamaid ach as leth na cànan a mhàin. Ma thoisicheas sinn ri strì mu àiteachadh nan gleann tha sinn mar Chomunn a' dol thairis air na crìochan a chuir sinn romhainn. Ach ged tha sin fìor gu leor, tha e comasach aig a cheart ann do Ghàidheil iad féin aonadh ri chèile ann am buidhinn eile aig am biodh àiteachadh nan gleann mar rùn sonraichte. Faodar eisimpleir a chleachdadh. Is comasach do neach a bhi aig an aon am 'n a bhall de chroilein litreachais airson foghlum na h-inntinn, agus de bhuidheann camanachd airson faallaineachd is neart. Tha an dà chùis cùltaich ri chèile. Tha iad eadar dhealaichte 'n an gnè is 'n an feum. Ach an déidh sin faodaidh neach a bhi 'n a bhall dileas, dùrachdach anns an dà bhuidhinn. Sin mar thachair do'n Chomunn Ghàidhealtach airson gnothaichean oilein, a' chaint is an ceòl. Tha an cor corporra, àiteachadh nan gleann gu tur eadar dhealaichte, agus tha e ri bhi air a chosnadh le meadhan eile agus le buidhinn eile. Ach gideadh faodaidh an aon neach a bhi 'n a bhall dileas, dùrachdach anns an dà bhuidhinn.

Air a' laimh eile tha an dùthaich mu thuath cho torach 's a bha i riamh. Fhuair ar sinnsear biadh is eudach bharr an fhearainn. Abair gu robh sin cumanta, gun ghrinneas. Ach na bha e gun ghrinneas Gallda, bha e fallain—feòil is iasg, toradh tiorail na talmhain, baineis is mil nan cuach, im is caise, maille ri measan cùlbraidh. Bu taitneach breacan nan iomadh dath, agus lion-anart grinn lamh-dheanta. Faodaidh gu bheil latha ri tighinn fathast anns am bi am baile mòr ro làn, gun obair, gun bhiadh, gun tuarasdál do'n òigridh a rugadh anns na glinn. An uair a bhios iad a dh' easbhuidh cosnaidh is beo shlàinte bithidh iad riarachaidh gu leor leis a' bhiadh a gheibhear fathast a' fàs anns na glinn, am biadh a chuir snior is neart ann ar sinnsear. Chan eil sin a' ciallachadh gun teid sinn air ar n-ais a thaobh oilein is eòlais. Theid sinn air ar n-aghart an oilein is an eòlas, ach theid sinn air ais mar shluagh do na glinn.

ARE HIGHLANDERS ASHAMED OF THEIR LANGUAGE?

I am often present at Highland gatherings where I expect the Gaelic language to be spoken, but, alas! I hear very little of it. For this reason I often ask myself the question: "Are Highlanders really ashamed to speak their own native language?"

There are three outstanding things in Highland life: The cultivation and speaking of the Gaelic; the wearing of the kilt; and playing piobaireachd on the Highland bagpipes. These things are truly Highland. The Gaelic is the "watch-word" of the Highlander, the kilt is his "hall mark," and piobaireachd is his "war cry" or classical music.

The Gaelic — Gaelic is one of the most beautiful languages spoken. There is a natural charm about it that one cannot describe. It is music to the ear of the Highlander, and in Gaelic he expresses himself in a language peculiar to himself. In Gaelic song there is a wealth of music to be found which puts it into a class of its own, and lifts it above common, every-day jazz. In this class are such beautiful airs as "Crodh Chaillein," "Och! Och! mar tha mi," "Mo run geal dileas," "Cumha Mhic Crunnain," and many others equally full of musical charm. No Scots or English song can produce such soul-stirring effects on the genuine Highlander as his own native Gaelic airs.

An Comunn Gaidhealach does much to keep the Gaelic language alive, and it is our duty as Highlanders to see that this association gets the support that it deserves. An Comunn magazine is the ambassador, so to speak, of the association whose name it bears, and there is no doubt that Gaelic-speaking Highlanders do appreciate its appearance.

A great re-awakening is also looked for in the wearing of the Highland dress, which is akin to the speaking of Gaelic. In fact, the kilt is meantime in imminent danger of being lost and forgotten altogether. Nowadays one hardly sees the kilt being worn. In the Scottish Capital one could count on the finger tips of one hand the number of times on which the kilt is seen in Princes Street in a whole round of the calendar. It is not possible for us to wear our native dress every day at business, nor would it be wise to speak Gaelic to everyone, whether they understood it or not, but it is possible to don the kilt on Sundays as we go to church.

Highlanders should bestir themselves more, and endeavour to keep their language, dress, manners, and customs alive, and not leave the burden to a few who have indeed done well in their supreme efforts to revive the language.

When I go out to Highland Gatherings I have three things which I am proud of—I can entertain an audience with the music of the great Highland bagpipes, wear my native dress, the kilt, and give the toast, "Tir nam Beann, nan Gleann 's nan Gaisgeach; Tir nan Breacan riomlach; 'S i ruith o Thigh Iain Ghrota, Gu Maoil na h-Oth an Ile."

JOHN GRANT, F.S.A. (Scot.).

The Annual Mod of the Glasgow High School Ceilidh will be held in the Berkeley Hall, on Saturday, 11th February. A class for seniors has been introduced this year, and it is earnestly hoped that National Mod aspirants will go forward and give the ceilidh members their support. The Committee of the High School Ceilidh are to be heartily congratulated on the success of their previous Mods, and in view of the National Mod being held in Glasgow this year there is no reason why the Ceilidh Mod should not be an outstanding success. It deserves the support of every true-hearted Gael. The secretary is Mr. John MacVicar, 10 Kildonan Drive, Glasgow, W.1.

THE ROMANCE OF THE MOUNTAINS.

An Address Delivered to the Gaelic Society of London.

By Dr. LACHLAN GRANT.

I.

A CHEANNARD, A MHNATHAN, IS A DIAOINE UAISLE,—Tha mi glé thoilichte bhi làthair, agus gu bheil an t-urram air a thoirt dhomh a bhi faotainn cothrom air òraid a thoirt do bhuill Comunn Gàidhlig Lunnainn.

Is e so a' cheud uair a labhair mi 's a' Ghàidhlig an Lunnainn, agus gu dearbh cha do labhair mi ach uair no dha riamh anns a' chànan so aig cruinneachadh Gàidhealach.

Tha dòchas agam gu'n gabh sibh mo leisgeul ma labharas mi anns a' chànan eile. Ged tha cuid mhaith de'n Ghàidhlig agam, chan eil mi deas-labhrach anns an t-seann chànan; agus gu sonraichte an cuideachd mar so anns a bheil mòran tha fìor eòlach agus réidh an cainnt ar Tir.

Chi mi mòran chàirdean 'n ur measg, agus tha dòchas agam gu faigh sibh uile rud eigin anns na briathran a tha mi eir fo ar comhair an nochd.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I am now going to speak to you in the language of the Southerner. I have just been telling my Gaelic friends that I am not a very fluent Gaelic speaker—especially in public; I leave such to people like your able president, Mr. Angus Clark.

When asked to address you this evening, I accepted the invitation with the greatest pleasure, as I felt it was not so much my own particular personality that was honoured as the good folks of Lorne and Lochaber, with whom I have been in life-long association, and if I am to speak for them I can assure you that Highland patriotic feeling is as strong there as anywhere in the country. I think there is nothing more inspiring to a Highlander than to escape for a time from the hum-drum work-a-day world, and once more bathe himself in the poetic and romantic atmosphere of Celtic sentiment and song. By means of such an interval we are taken back in imagination to the mountains and the glens and the minstrels who, from time to time in the past, have sung of their beauties and the aspirations of the men and women who lived and worked amidst their inspiring associations.

Highlanders may forget many things, but they cannot forget the main constituent of

their own natures, that deep-rooted love of the land that gave them birth, and of all the sentiment, poetry, and song associated with it. I think above all nations the saying "Absence makes the heart grow fonder," applies with deep meaning to the Highlands. Now I submit this is a most valuable sentiment which should be encouraged in every possible way.

In going to the roots of true patriotism it is found not in hatred of neighbouring peoples, religions or customs, but an innate affection for country, its scenery, traditions, religions, epics, language, songs, and poetry. We here touch the very soul of the people, and happy is the nation that is enabled to expand and develop its real inner life without stint or hindrance.

Let us hope no well-meaning but stupid reformers will present emigration and migration as the only panacea for our national ills, more especially when we look around and find so much of our beloved country remains without its quota of human inhabitants. I understand one of the chief aims of this society is to preserve, and especially to further, the use of the Gaelic language. Now, the best way to preserve Gaelic from decay is surely to have the people on the straths and glens to speak it, and I would call on everyone interested in the old tongue to support all who favour the acquisition of land settlements and holdings for every one anxious and willing to remain on and to till the Scottish soil. Those who oppose or obstruct such a movement should be requested to stand aside, and I sense that sooner rather than later they will have to do so. Long have we been patient and considerate to the "powers that be," but there is a limit to the patient Scotsman's good nature. May I briefly quote in support of one's views the following:—

"The position as regards these things for which the Gael stands is exceedingly grave; the tendency of the Gaelic speaking population is downwards. If the cause is to succeed the rising generation must be imbued through their early training with a true Scottish spirit. Men with Scottish minds must apply themselves to solve Scottish problems; the opportunities for our people must be increased to the maximum on our own soil. Then, and not till then, can be established those things for which the supporters of the Gaelic movement profess to stand." So wrote your president in an article a few years ago, and I agree with him entirely; a national defect requires a national remedy—a national disease a national cure. So we look to all patriotic

Scottish leaders to get together and solve this burning question of land hunger. We wish to see as many people on our land as possible forming a strong self-supporting and self-respecting section of the Scottish nation, taking their due part in the work of advancing civilisation. I think there are unmistakable signs of a clarifying process in Scotland in our outlook on life and its duties. Newer ideas are thrusting upwards the crust of outworn conventions, and I, for one, look forward to a larger patriotism and a greater awakening of the social conscience. Any Government of a nation must be in the most intimate relationship with all the activities of its people. The Highlands and Islands form a political and social unit by reason of their social, traditional, and environmental characteristics, but they also form an agricultural and, to some extent, an industrial community. There are symptoms that Scotland is undergoing the travail of re-birth. One asset we have is water power which has already been largely developed by that far-seeing and enlightened Gael, Mr. W. Murray Morrison, one of your vice-presidents—as witness the large and successful aluminium works at Kinlochleven, Foyers, and now Lochaber. These are all progressive concerns, giving healthy employment to large numbers of workers. I will finish these few introductory remarks by saying it is true statesmanship to make laws and conditions that will give us “a bold peasantry” which history confirms can never be replaced.

When I was asked to read a paper to your Gaelic Society, I thought it might be an appropriate change of subject to talk for half-an-hour on “Mountains.” This may seem like taking coals to Newcastle, seeing that most of you have been at one time or another surrounded by mountains, thus providing you with them as part of “Nature’s daily food.” But I think that possibly some aspects of mountains and their lore, not generally touched upon, may prove of some interest. And if I should happen to present you with some literary dross, or the commonplace, you can just leave them aside and take away perhaps the solid, useful stuff, if any.

Nature is ever fresh and interesting, and while we may soon tire of streets and squares, bricks and mortar, and all the attractions of towns and cities, we never find the glories of our Highland scenery to pall on our senses or give us the feeling of staleness and sterility.

“I live not in myself, but I become portion of that around me; and to me High Mountains are a feeling, but the hum of the cities torture . . .” (*Byron*).

We are never loth to follow the poet’s injunction—

“Go forth under the open sky, and list
To Nature’s teachings.”—*Bryant*.

And are conscious that behind the appearances that give us pleasure and inspiration there are meanings and mysteries that words fall short in expressing, as Whittier says—

“Nature speaks in symbols and in signs,”
and

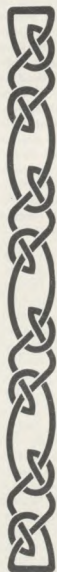
“The harp at Nature’s advent strung
Has never ceased to play.
The song the stars of morning sung
Has never died away.”

All this applies specially to mountains and mountain ranges, which exercise strong and subtle influences on our mood and temperament, and form national barriers, frontiers, and dividing lines among the people of the earth.

For the artist, poet, and romancer, they have always had a peculiar fascination; and, with the development of science and industry, they have yielded up their secrets and treasures, and have become reservoirs of wealth and power. So, as in other departments of Nature, mountains have both their practical and romantic aspects which appeal to the individual according to the bent of his mind. But whatever aspect interests us most, the subject is one of endless scope, and can never be exhausted, whether we are geologist, industrialist, poet, romancer, scene-painter, or mountain climber. Our planet has been described as “the many-voiced earth,” and, however diverse we may be in our natures, it has something to say to each of us if we care to listen with attention and sympathy. In our interviews with nature we should cultivate the listening mood, and if, under its influence, we should build castles in the air, the time will not be quite wasted if we gain a short respite from grim reality.

“Build on, and make thy castles high and
fair,
Rising and reaching upward to the
skies;
Listen to voices in the upper air,
Nor lose thy faith in simple mysteries.”
—*Longfellow*.

(To be continued)

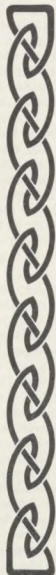


Un Comunn
 Gàidhealach
 (The Highland Association).

Sgoil Shamhnaidh
 Shàbhail
 (The Summer School of Gaelic).

Will be held at
 Aron
 Gill

CLASSES in
 GAELIC LANGUAGE
 MUSIC and ART.



NATIONAL MOD, 1932: CELTIC ART COMPETITIONS.

POSTER TO ADVERTISE THE SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

1st Prize Design, won by Mr. Stewart Cunningham, Kingairloch.

CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Chum Clann an Fhraoich an coinneamh bhliadhnail ann an Aitreachb nan Gaidheal, Glaschu, air an 24 mh là de 'n t-samhuin aig 7.30 feasgar. Cha b' e sin cruinneachadh as a' bhaile-mhór a mhàin, 's ann a thàinig iad a iomadh baile mu 'n cuairt, cho math agus a' cearnan na's fhaide mach, Bail 'fhearna agus Ionaraora agus Taobh Loch-odha. Agus neo-arthaing mur an robh seòl gasda aig an Luchd-comhairle air a' chloinn a ghluasad bho'n tigh air an là fhuar ghailbheach ud, 'se sin céilidh a bhi an cois na coinneimh 's i fosgailte do gach Gaidheal air an robh a mhiann dearbhadh fhaotainn gu'n robh spionnadh 's an t-seanna chànan fhathast. Eadar a' Chlann fein agus an cairdean bha aon trì fichead cruinn 's an talla mheadhonach, agus is e a bh' ann, nach robh fios ceart aig duine c'uin a sguir a' choinneamh 's a thòisich a' chuir, oir cha robh ann ach braithreachas, is comhludair caidreach bho thùs gu deireadh na h-oidheche.

Bha 'cheud sgeul air fear-an-tighe, mar bu dual, 'nuair a dh' eirich "Athar" na Cloinne, Seòras Marjoribanks, a chur fàilte air a' chuideachd. Cha do rinn e dearmad air a' chothrom a bh' aige air leigeil tuiteam le smuain is maith a dh' fhaodas Clann an Fhraoich agus an cairdean Gaidhealach a bhi cagnadh le chèile. "Cha robh uair ann riamh," thubhairt e, "ann an eachdraidh na Gaidhealtachd, anns an robh e cho feumail gu 'n cuireamaid uile ar guaillean ri chèile a' sheasamh cor na Gaidhlig, agus a tha e an dèigh. A dh' aindeoin gach à-h-bheothachaidh a tha tighinn air ar ceòl agus ar litreachas, seadh agus air dòighean-teagaisg na Gaidhlig do 'n òigridh, is i an fhirinn fhuar, chruaidh, gu bheil a' Gaidhlig a' dol á cleachdadh air bilean na cloinne, agus gu bheil iomadh cèarn an teis-meadhon na Gaidhealtachd far nach cluinn sibh aon bhalach no nighean 'ga bruidhinn, ged a tha mòran duibh 'g a tuigsinn fhathast a chionn gu'm bheil i aig na pàrantan. Nis, mur toir sinn an aire, tha e furasda fhaicinn ciod e tha' dol a thachairt an ceann fichead bliadhna eile: bithidh gineal ùr ann nach urrainn a' Gaidhlig a thiomnadh do an cloinn ged bu bhuidhe leo, o nach bi i aca fhéin. Cha'n fhaod Clann an Fhraoich strìochdadh do'n t-suidheachadh sin; 's fheudar dhuinn ionnsaidh a thoirt air na pàrantan cho math agus air a' chloinn agus sin le cabhaig cho maith ri foighidinn. Chan eil e furasda, ach chan eil e thar comais, agus mur dean gach aon againn oidhirp air a làimh fhéin, chan aithidh sinn gu'n goirteadh Clann an Fhraoich dhinn. Agus beag, fad-sgapte mar a tha ar buidheann, cha nìg sinn ceann-

crìche ar n-iomairt mur a faigh sinn cuideachadh bho ar cairdean Gaidhealach. Is ann mar sin a tha mi guidhe air gach Gaidheal treun a tha an so a nochd, cuideachadh le Clann an Fhraoich a thoirt air na pàrantan a' Gaidhlig a liùbhairt do an cloinn."

Bhruidhinn fear thall 's a bhos an sin mu iomadh ni eile, gu h-àraidh mu chruinneachaidhean a bhi aig Clann an Fhraoich ann an caochladh àite seach a bhi 'gan cumail an Glaschu a mhàin. Thug Tearlach Cairbeul iomradh air oidhche gasda, bhuannachdail a bha aig a' Chloinn mu dheireadh an Fhoghair am Baile Dhunodhainn, àite anns an bi tuilleadh oibre aca air a' Gheamhradh so fhéin. Dh' éirich an sin Eachann Dughallach, duine nach géill do Gaidheal beo ann an cumhachd a phinn 's a phearsantachd fhéin air chùl na Gaidhlig, agus mhol e do an luchd-comhairle comharra-suaicheantais a dhealbhadh a bhiodh freagarrach ri an toirt seachd do bhuill de'n Chloinn a dheanadh dìchioll comharraichte ann an ionnsachadh na Gaidhlig.

Chaidh an luchd-ealaidh an sin an gleus agus bha ragha 's taghadh againn de na h-brain Gaidhlig bho Mhóraig Nic Fhionghain, Mhairi NicArtair, Alasdair MacDhonnchaidh, Aonghas MacIlle Bhàin agus na balaich Iain agus Donnachadh Mac Iain. 'S ann a mhothaich mi cheana, far am bi Aonghas Domhnallach nach bi dìth fearaschuideachd air luchd-céilidh. Bha e ann, agus thug e dhuinn iomadh deagh sgeul agus dàn, gun dearmad a dheanamh air "Trom-lighe Chaluim Taillear."

Thug a' Bhean Uasal NicCullaich beul-aithris air duan a' Bhàird Sgitheanaich "Am faigh a' Gaidhlig bàs?" ceist a dh' fhuasgail i gu neo-chearbach le làn-aonta a luchd-éisdeachd. Air mo shon fhein dheth chan eil mi cinnteach nach tug Iain Camshron, Paislig, barr orr' uile an uair a dh' innis e dhuinn an brudair a chunnaic e an déidh dha a dhinneir a ghabhail de bhuntàta 's sgadan air an là sin fhéin. Bha mi gus a' so de'n bharail gur fada draghail gu leòir mo thurus fhéin do 'n bhaile mhór thar monaidhean sneachd-gheal Earraghaidheal; ach nam biodh fios aig cuid de ar luchd-comhairle air na driad-fhortain a bha an dàn daibh, a réir brudair Iain Paislig, eadar Mul-thuath na talmhainn agus talla meadhonach Aitreachb nan Gaidheal, bu ghaisgeil an àm dol sìos iad.

"Sud an seorsa oidhche bu chòir a bhi aig Clann an Fhraoich daonnan," arsa bana-charaid rium nuair a sgaoil a' chuideachd, agus is mi nach cuir 'na h-aghaidh.

Tha e 'na thòileachadh do na h-uile gu bheil Iain òg Mac Gille na Brataich a nis air Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich, còmhla ri a athair.

A' BHEART SGRIOBHAIDH.

Le DAIBHIDH URCHADAN, A.M.

"Is iomadh rud buidhe nach e'n t-òr," ars an sean-fhacal agus tha mi a' creidsinn mach mise a' cheud fhear a fhuair sin a mach. Bha mi uair de'n bharail gum biodh e uamhasach feumail dhomhsa na fàgadh neach-eigin mar dhileab agam beart-sgrìobhaidh. An uair a rachainn cuairt bho'n bhaile agus a thaghailinn air ceannaichean anns a' bhaile-mhòr agus a chithinn cho sgiobalta agus a sgrìobhadh iad litir no òraid leis an inneil ghreadhnaich ud, bhithinn an dùil nach iarainn de obair ach a bhi a' sgrìobhadh gu dòigheil gu caraid le uidheam cho iasgaidh. Dh' fheoraich mi de mo chàirdean a bu shealbhaiche na mi fhéin an robh a' bheart duilich a h-ionnsachadh agus am bitheadh cunnart gu'n rachadh i uairean troimh-chéile; nan tachradh sin an robh cunnart sam bith gu'n spreadhadh i air feadh an tighe agus gun cuireadh i an aitreabh 'na tòrr. Rachadh a h-uile fear diubbh an urras nach robh e idir duilich an t-inneal ionnsachadh, gun sinbhladh e leis fhéin fhad agus a leanadh neach air bualadh nan litir, nach deanadh e de spreadhadh ach glag beag a bhuail an uair a bhiodh an sgrìobhaiche coig no sia litrichean bho cheann na sreatha, nach goirticheadh e meanbh-chuileag ged rachadh i 'na bhroinn agus gun robh a' bhean 'sa' chlànn cho sabhaile anns an t-seomar anns am biodh e agus a bhiodh iad anns an tigh-choinneimh.

Sheall iad dhomh cuideachd an uair a bhiodh an t-sreath làn nach robh ri a dheanamh air son gun tilleadh an acfhuinn gu ceann eile na sgrìoba ach mo làmh a leigeil agus putadh a thoirt gu socrach air da adhaire bhlìg a bha aig mo laimh chli, agus an uair a thilleadh an rolaire air an robh am paiper air a ghiulan gu'n robh ciubheal fo na h-adhaircean a dhinneadh suas am paiper gun am biodh sreath bhàn a rithist anns an ionad air an robh an litir a' bualadh. Bha aon rud mu'n inneal so a chuir iongantais orm agus ise sin gu 'n robh a h-uile litir a' bualadh air an aon bhad agus an aite mar tha peann a' gluasad bho thaobh gu taobh de'n phaipeir gur e am paiper fhéin a tha a' siubhal agus nach e an rud a tha a' deanamh na litreach. A' cheud uair a chunnaic mi an uidheam air gheus le litrichean beaga is móra, dubha agus dearga agus leis gach comharradh a dh' fheumar an clò no an sgrìobhadh pinn, bha mi a' smuaineachadh gu robh bior an ceangal ris gach litir a bha a' bualadh air paiper dìreach fodha agus gun robh am paiper a' leum an null agus an nall gus am breabadh am bior e

anns an àite cheart. Ach an uair a chuir mi' fhear teagaisg a chorrach air té dhe na litrichean 's ann a leum rud fada coltach ri òrd agus bhuail an t-òrd, shaoil leam, air inneil beag a bha air taobh-cùil seòrsa de challaid a bha eadar na litrichean agus an rolaire a bha a' ghiulan a' phaipeir. Bho nach robh mi an toiseach deonach leigeil fhaicinn do'm charaide cho fad air ais agus a bha mi, cha do fhoighnich mi ris de am feum a bha anns an òrd bheag ach mar a lean e air sgrìobhadh agus a chum mi mo shùil air an òrd is e a thug mi gu robh an t-òrd a' tuiteam chan ann air an inneil mar a shaoil mise ach air a' phaipeir bhàn dìreach aig sròin an inneil agus gur e a bha air ceann an ùird litir comhart na té air an do bhuail mo charaid a chorrach air taobh bhos a bhalla. Ach fuirich ort! cha b'ann air a' bhàn idir a bha an t-òrd a' bualadh mar shaoil leam an toiseach. An uair a bha an t-òrd a' tuiteam gu sgiobalta gu sròin an inneil chunnaic mi gun robh stim ghorm a' leum an coinneimh an ùird agus a' dol eadar e agus am paiper cho riaghailteach rianail agus a theid sgiathan na circe-guir eadar na h-iseanan agus cunnart; no a bhuail na tuinn la samhraidh air an tràigh.

Thug mi fainear gu'n robh an litir air a' phaipeir gorm agus thug mi gur ann air an stim a bha an leann-sgrìobhaidh. Ach b'e a nis an tòimhseachan, "Ciamar tha an leann-sgrìobhaidh a' tighinn gus an dearbh bhall air a bheil an litir a' bualadh? Ged tha an leann air an stim feumaidh gun teirg e le bhi bualadh air." Dh'amhaire mi gu geur an so air an stim agus thug mi an aire gu 'n robh an stim a' gluasad mar an ceudna agus gu 'n robh criomag as ùr dhith a' tighinn fo'n òrd aig a h-uile buille. Bha mi a nis air mo thogail cho mór leis an ni annasach so agus gur ann a dh' fheumainn suidhe slos agus làmh a thoirt air an sgrìobhadh ùr. Nach anabarrach an rud gum bi a h-uile facal a sgrìobhas a' bheart cho briagh soilleir agus a tha iad ann an leabhar agus nach cluinn mi gearan tuilleadh gu bheil na sgròban a chuireas mi gu mo chàirdean do-leughta. Thug mi a' cheud oidhirp air m' ainm a sgrìobhadh. Cha robh e cho furasid is a shaoil mi na litrichean a lorg an uair a bha feum agam orra, oir ged a bha an duine a rinn an t-inneal sgiobalta bha e soilleir gu leor nach d-ionnsaich e an aibidil mar a bha i air a teasgag anns na sgoilean an uair a bha mise òg, agus is e bha ann nach robh gin diubbh far an robh mi a' coimhead air an son. Thuir mo charaid rium gur e an doigh anns an robh iad a bu fhreagarraiche dha an fhear a bhiodh a' sgrìobhadh, ach chan urrainn mi fhéin a thuigsinn idir ciamar a tha e ni's

fhasa litir a lorg aig toiseach na h-aibidil a
b' abhaist a bhi ann a meadhon. Is e thainig
a stigh orm nach biodh cléireach idir cho
sgioibalta a' sgrìobhadh litreach leis a' bheart-
sgrìobhaidh so agus a bhiodh e leis an t-sean
acfhuinne sgrìobhaidh air an robh mi eolach
bho m' òige. Ach gun teagamh bha a h-uile
litir glan, soilleir, air chor is nach b'urrainn
camadh no mearachd a bhi 's an leughadh.

Fhuair mi brath an uiridh air beart-sgrìobha-
aidh a bha ri reic saor agus a bharr mo ghuaile
's ann a thug mi tairgse stuama do'n fhear aig
an robh i agus gun an tuilleadh éise ghabh mi
seilbh air an uidheam agus thrus mi dhachaidh
i. Mu'n tug mi leam i chuir an reiceadair
stìm ùr oirre agus sheall e dhomh gu soilleir
ciamar a bu chòir sin a dheanamh. Tha an
stìm air da roth agus an uair a tha a' bheart
air ghluasad tha an dara roth a' draghadh na
stìme uidh-air-n-uidh dheth an té eile agus tha
e coltach an uair a shuaineas an roth an stìm
uile timchioll oirre nach bi ni agam ri dheanamh
ach adharc bheag eile a ghluasad agus tòisichidh
an té a tha a nis falamb air tarruing na stìme
gus an lom i an té eile gu buileach. Cha chreid
mi gu fada mi dad riamh cho innleachdach
ris a' bheirt so agus a dh' oibricheas cho
rianail air sgread gun ghearan. Ach bithidh
e tric a' cur iongantais orm ciamar a bhios
urrad de mhearachdan anns an sgrìobhadh a
ni mi air a' bheirt ged tha mi làn dheimhinne
gu'n litrich mi na faicil cho pongail agus a
dheanainn le peann-ite no le calic. Faodaidh
e bhi, ach chan eil mise ag radh gu bheil a'
bharail so ceart, nach bi a' taitinn ris an inneil
an sgrìobhaiche a bhi a' smuaineachadh gur
e e fhéin is maighstir. Co dhiubh tha an
caldhain cho innleachdach agus gum bi eagal
ormsa uairean gu bheil seorsa de ghliocas aige
nach eil buileach cneasda agus gum bu chòir
dhomh toigh a thoirt nach cuirinn frionas air.
Air an aobhar sin cha chan mi an còrr an drasda
oir mar is lugha fheirear 's an' is mo an t-sith.

THE HEBRIDES.

The Hebrides—two words, and yet
What those words mean to me—
The lonely moor and the windswept heath
And the haunting call of the sea.

They mean gaunt islands rising sheer
Out of an angry sea,
Guarded by cliffs as stern and grand
As only they can be.

Cold grey mountains, scarred and bleak,
With peaks that pierce the sky—
A wave-washed shore with the surf's great roar,
And the sea-gull's haunting cry.

And again—they mean blue isles of peace
At rest in a sun-lit sea,
With the whisp'ring tide and the sighing wind
Crooning a lullaby.

White-tipped waves with sweet caress
Come a-creaming round the bay,
And the silver sands a-gleam in the sun
Are kissed by the sparkling spray.

A shimmering haze hangs o'er the hills
Asleep in the noon-day heat,
And borne like incense on the breeze
Comes the smell of the smoking peat.

A little track winds o'er the moor
Bright with the purple heath,
And the cry of the sea-bird fills the air,
From the blue, blue sea beneath.

O Hebrides, your lure is strong,
And the call of the lonely sea—
And who that is fast within thy spell
Would ever wish him free?

What though my eyes grow blind with years?—
I shall not ask to see—
If I can keep my mem'ry clear
And still remember thee.

I still shall have that inmost eye
Age cannot take away—
And still I'll see the mountain peaks,
And the sunset on the bay.

What though my limbs grow weak and old,
And I shall walk no more?—
In dreams lightfoot I'll roam the moors,
And wander by the shore.

What matter though the years go past
And I can hear no more?—
I still shall hear the curlew's call
And the surge's angry roar.

O well may the exile long for home
In a strange and alien part,
For who can forget the Hebrides
When they are in his heart?

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PROPAGANDA TOURS.

The General Secretary commenced a tour of Mull, Coll, and Tiree, on Tuesday, 29th November. A meeting of the *Lochaline* branch was arranged for that evening, but owing to the stormy weather prevailing the steamer was unable to make her usual call. He addressed meetings at Tobermory, Torloisk, Lochbuie, Ulva Ferry, Salen, Bunessan, Iona, and Creich. Members of committees were met at Dervaig and Lochdonhead. Thereafter Mr. Shaw visited Tiree and addressed meetings of the branches at Scarinish and Balemartine. A visit was made to Coll, where a meeting was addressed in Arinagour School on the evening of Thursday, 15th December. There was an attendance of fifty people, and a branch was formed. Mr. A. L. Thomson, Estate Office, is president, and Mr. Sturgeon, postmaster, is secretary and treasurer. On the return journey Mr. Shaw attended a meeting of the Cruachan branch in Tainuile on 20th December. All the meetings were well attended, and with the exception of Iona and Coll, the proceedings were conducted entirely in Gaelic.

Owing to Mr. Shaw being held up at Tiree on account of the severe weather, Mr. Hugh MacPhee deputised for him at Lochranza, Pirmill, and Shiskine, where closing concerts in connection with the singing classes were held. These were well patronised, and the programmes were sustained by the Junior and Senior Choirs. This terminates Mr. MacDiarmid's classes in Arran meantime.

Mr. Donald MacPhail, Organiser for the Northern Area, has, since last report, visited the following branches — Bonar Bridge, Brora, Rogart, Golspie, Tain, Wick, Strath Halladale, Melvich, Durness, Tongue, Melness, Armadale, Bettyhill, and Grantown - on - Spey. He interviewed interested people at Invershin, Lairg, and Dornoch, and attended a meeting of the Badenoch Provincial Mod Committee at Kingussie. Provincial Mods have been arranged at Brora and Tongue. Mr. MacPhail is being well received at all the centres, and his meetings are well attended. The branch at Tongue has been reorganised. Rev. Mr. Lundie is president and Mr. Duncan Urquhart, The Bungalow, Tongue, is secretary. A hundred people attended his meeting at Durness. Mr. MacPhail completes his visits to the Sutherland branches on 24th December.

Music teachers are employed as follow:— Northern Area, Miss Margaret MacDonald, Arisaig District; Southern Area, Mr. Hugh MacLean, Mid Argyll District.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

A CHARAID,—I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating you on the excellence of your last number. I was particularly interested in Mr. Marjoribanks' article regarding J. F. Campbell's "Tales of the Western Isles." They are quite unique, and I spend an hour daily myself studying the wealth of beautiful colloquial and idiomatic Gaelic in them. An Comunn could well circulate cheap paper copies of one or two of these stories amongst our Gaelic school children.

I should like to suggest that branches of An Comunn should concentrate much more on the literary side of the movement than they do. We could do with Gaelic classes in every Highland parish for native speakers as well as learners. Illiteracy in Gaelic is still a national vice. I should also like to see steps being taken for each branch of An Comunn to build their own hall and reading-rooms, so that one day we may have a chain of permanent "Gaeltachts." These "Aitreachan nan Gàidheal" would serve a most useful purpose for bringing a real Gaelic atmosphere and influence to work on the children. At any rate every branch of An Comunn should at least have its own Gaelic reading-room.—Is mise le meas mòr,

ALEXANDER McKECHNIE.

7 Southwell Gardens, S.W.7,
7th December, 1932.

P.S.—May I suggest that Branch Reports should be in Gaelic. The reasons for this are really too numerous and obvious to enumerate.

Miss Heloise Russell-Fergusson is giving a recital of Hebridean songs in the Freemasons' Hall, George Street, Edinburgh, on 10th January. She will have the assistance of Miss Sheelah Field, harpist, and Chester Henderson, violoncellist. The recital is to resemble closely those given by Miss Russell-Fergusson in foreign countries. The continental press refer to these as unique and attractive, and giving an impression of real peasant art.

UILLEAM ROS.

Le IAIN N. MACLEOD.

IV.

Tha bàrdachd Uilleim Rois an comhnaidh ann an raga na cainnte. Tha gach facal 'n a àite fhéin: tha gach smuain anns a' chòmhach is rìomhaiche, air chor agus gu faic sinn dealbh ghriinn bhoideach air uachdar gach ceathreimh. Chuidich a chuirean troimh 'n Ghàidhealtachd e ann a bhi deanamh so. Fhuair e mion-eolas air Gàidhlig gach srath agus glinn, agus thagh e as gach clachan sùior nam briathran leis an robh e a' tarruinn a dheilbh thaitnich. Cha robh deifir cìod an seòrsa òrain a bha Uilleam Ros a' cur an eagaibh a cheile: chuir e 'n aon loinn orra uile, ach an deidh sin is 'n a dheidh tha mi a' smaoineachadh gu 'n toir a òrain gaol barr-urram air seòrsa bàrdachd sam bith eile ris an do chuir e a lamh. Ann a bhi tighinn a dh' ionnsaidh a' cho-dhunaidh sin tha mi a' steidheachadh mo bharail air a' chuibhrionn sin de a bhàrdachd a tha againn an diugh ann an clò. Is ceart cho dòcha gu 'n deachaidh na h-òrain a b' fhearr a rinn e riamh air chall ann an tìr na dì-chuimhne. Tha beachd maith agam fhéin air a bhi cluinntinn cuid de a òrain air an seinn an uair a bha mi òg, ach chan fhaca mi riamh ann an leabhar iad, agus nach bochd a' chuis sin. Tha "Feasgar Luan" a' seasamh a mach mar an neamhnaid is luachmhoire am measg a òrain gaol. B' e so feasgar Luan a dhùnach gun teagamh an uair a chòmhlaich e fhéin agus Mór Ros a chreiche ann an talla a chiuil an Steornabhagh. Tha gach sreath anns an òran iongantach ud lan de bhàigh agus àgh, agus bu bhreagha buannachdach an òraid a dh' fhaoidte chur ri a cheile eadhon air an òran so 'n a aonar, ach ged is fìor sin tha rann no dha ann air nach fheum sinn gabhail seachad a chionn 's gu bheil cainnt a tha iongantach tlàth-ghuthach, maiseach anna. 'N uair a chaidh e steach do 'n talla agus a chunnaic e an comhlan àgh, agus 'n am measg an te bhuidhe bhàn a bhuair e, tha e 'g ràdh:—

"Chaidh mi steach an ceann na coisir,

An robh òl is ceol is danns';

Ribhinnean is fleasgaich òga,

'S iad an ordugh grinn gun nheang;

Dhearcas fa leth air na h-bighean,

Le rosg fòil a null 's a nall,

'S ghilacadh mo chridhe 's mo shùil comhla,

'S rinn an gaol mo leon air ball,

"Dhiuchd mar aingeal mu mo choinneamh,
'N ainneir òg bu ghrinne snuadh;
Seang shlios fallain air bhlat cànais,
No mar an eala air a' chuan;
Sùil ghorm mheallach, fo chaoil mhala,
'S caoin a sheallas 'g amhare uath'
Beul tlàth tairis gun ghnè smalain,
Dha 'n gnàth earthannachd gun uail."

Anns an rann a leanas tha e suimeadh suas ann an cainnt iongantach, dhealbhadh, maise agus buadhan na h-ainneir do 'n tug e a chridhe:

"'S bachlach, dualach, cas-bhuidh
cuachach,
Càradh suaineas gruaig do chinn,
Gu h-aluinn boidheach, fainneach, òr-
bhuidh,
An caraibh seòighn 's an ordugh grinn,
Gun chron a' fàs riut a dh' fheudt'
àireamh,
O do bharr gu sàil do bhuinn;
Dhiuchd na buaidhean, oigh, mu 'n cuairt
duit,
Gu meudachdain t-uail 's gach puing."

An deidh a samhachadh ri Bhenus; agus air dha eolas a thoirt dhuinn air a' chinneadh as an deachaidh a buain, tha e 'g innseadh dhuinn anns an rann a leanas an staid bhrònach gus an tug an trom ghaol so e, agus gun choltas faireachaidh a reir sin a bhi air altrum dha-san leis a' mhaighdinn a bhuair e:

"'S trom leam m'osna 's cruaidh leam
m'fhortan,
Gun ghlèus socair 's mi gun sunnt,
'S mi ri smaintinn air an aon rùn,
A bhui mo ghaol gun ghaol d' a chionn,
Throm na Duilean peanas dubailt'
Gu mis' umhlachadh air ball,
Thàlaidh Cupid mi 's an dùsal,
As na dhùisg mi brùite fann."

Ann am "Moladh na h-Oighe Gàidhealaich," tha 'm bàrd a' cur f'ar comhair dealbh iongantach air mòrachd buadhan agus subhailean ainneir na Gàidhlig, agus chan e mhaoin gu bheil àilleachd speiseil fuaighte rithe fhéin, ach tha i cur snas agus grinneis air gach ni de chruthachadh Dhe a tha mu 'n cuairt dhith, air chur agus 'n uair a dhearcas am bàrd le tlachd air an ògh mhaisich so, chi e crodh agus caoraich agus na gobhair bailg-fhionn ann an sealladh na 's maisiche na chunnaic a riamh. Tha "Cuachag nan Craobh" air ainneachadh air Uilleam Ros anns an dara clò-bhualadh de "Shàr Obair nam Bàrd," agus 's e beachd mòrain gur h-e Ros a chuir an cumha

brònach sin ri cheile ach thug Eanruic Mac Illebhàin, "Fionn," dhuinn solus ùr air ughdar an òrain so. An uair a bha e a' rannsachadh Leabhar-sgrìobhte Mhic Lathagain (MacIaghar Gaelic MS.) a chuireadh cruinn bho chionn còrr agus cìod bliadhna, fhuair e "Cuachag nan Craobh" sgrìobhte an sin, agus aig deireadh an òrain, bha 1764 air a sgrìobhadh gu grunn dòigheil. Rugadh Ros anns a' bhliadhna 1762, agus cha robh e mar sin ach dà bhliadhna a dh'aois an uair a sgrìobhadh "Cuachag nan Craobh" an an co-chruinneachadh Mhic-Lathagain. An deidh sin 's gu leir, faodaidh gu' n d' rinn Uilleam Ros òran eile air steidh an fhìr so, agus le dian ruith nan linnntean còmhla ri iomraill aithris 's dòcha gu' n deachaidh an dara h-aon a chothlamadh am measg an fhìr eile. Bha e 'n a chleachdadh gle chumanta aig bàird Ghàidhealach a bhi steidheachadh an òrain air séisd agus fonn feadhainn air an robh iad eòlach, agus mar sin an uair a bhiodh an t-òrain ùr sin air aithris 's an tigh-cheilidh, bu thrìce a bhiodh ceathrannan de 'n òran air an robh e air a steidheadh am measg rainn an òrain ùir, agus mar a b' fhaide shiubhladh e, is ann bu truaillte bhithheadh e, gus mu dheireadh nach biodh e comasach eadar dhealachadh a dheanamh eatorra.

Bha Uilleam Ros ann an dluth chomunn ri obair nàduir. Tha sin faicsinn-each ann am "Moladh na h-Oighe (Gàidhealach)" air an do bheachdaich sinn cheana, ach is ann an "Oran an t-Samhraidh" a tha e toirt dhuinn boillsgeadh air an t-sùil mhìonaidich, mheasail agus ghloirmhór leis am bheil e dearcadh air uile obair nàduir. Canaidh iad gu' n cuir bàrd dreach breagha no granda air cuspair sam bith a reir is mar a dh'èireas e shuas air. Faodaidh sin a bhi fìor ann an tomas, ach cha b' urrainn do bhàrd sam bith na smuaintean aluinn a tha ann an "Oran an t-Samhraidh" a chur air blàr mur a biodh e ann an seallbha air inntinn ghrasamhor, chaomh, thruacanta a bha 'n còmhnuidh beò ann an spiorad a chomh-fhulangais agus na bàigh ri uile obair Dhe air thalamh agus os a chionn. Bu choltach e ri Burns anns an dòigh ud cuideachd. Cha robh an luchag bheag le a h-àl a dhùisg esan suas le soc a chroinn gun chuibrionn de a bhàigh fhaotainn, agus is ann le dubhachas inntinn a dheare e air an neòinean mhaoth a ghearradh sìos ann am meadhon a latha. Tha na h-aon fheartan air am faicinn gu soilleir anns na ceathrannan so de "Oran an t-Samhraidh";—

Tha Phœbus féin le lochran àigh,
Ag òradh ard nam beanntaichean,
'S a' taomadh suas a ghathain tlàth.
Cur dreach air blàth nan gleannntan:
Gach innseag is gach coirean fraoich,
A' tarrainn faoil na Bealltuinn air;
Gach fireach, gach tulach, 's gach tom,
Le fòrm cur fuinn an t-Samhraidh orr'.

Tha caoin' is ciuin' air muir is tir,
Air machair mhin 's air garbh-shleibhte,

Tha èirnean driuchd 'n a thùir air làr,
Ri àird 's ri àin na geala-ghreine,
Bi coill is pòr is fraoch is fear,
Gach iasg, gach eun 's na h-ainmhidhean,
Ri teachd gu' n gnàsalachd 's gu nòs,
'N an gnè 's 'n an dòigh 's an aimsir so.

Chan eil bàrd Gàidhealach a chuir rann riamh ri a cheile a ghlac aire an t-sluaigh thall agus a bhos cho mòr ri Uilleam Ros, maighstir-sgoile Bad a' Chrò. Chan iognadh leinn sin idir, agus mar is motha mheabhraicheas sinn air a bhàrdachd is ann as treise tha na ceanglaichean sin annain a' fàs leis a bheil ar n-anam air a shuaineachd gu dìomhair anns na smuaintean carthannach a dh'fhàg e againn mar dhileab. Labhair e bho a chridhe, sgrìobh e sìos ann am briathran blàth na h-aiguidhean iongantach sin a bha a chom a' tarmachadh, agus an uair a leughas sinn iad, chi sinn cuid diubh gu soilleir ann an sgàthan ar n-inntinnean féin, agus is cìnteach leinn na' m biodh sinn ann an seallbha air a fheartan agus a bhuidhan ann an tomas na bu mhotha, gu' m bitheamaid comasach air àird a chur air an luach, air an tìomnadh a dh'fhàg e againn. Bitheamaid gu tric a' dìoghlum 's an achadh so, agus ma nì sinn sin, is iomadh sguab throm a chruinnicheas sinn a nì sunnt a chur oirn ann an turas an fhàsaich.

[A' CHRIOCH.]

COMUNN NA CLARSAICH.

The Clarsach Society is prepared to arrange a class for instruction in harp playing at the Summer School of Gaelic if a sufficient number of pupils come forward. The Secretary, Miss E. L. O. Taylor, Glencairn, Dunblane, will be pleased to receive applications and give all necessary information. The Summer School will be held at Portree in July-August of this year. The actual dates will be intimated very shortly.

SIR WALTER SCOTT AND THE SCOTTISH TRADITION.

"Sir Walter Scott has been harshly criticized in recent years and his books have lost favour with modern readers, but he still remains one of the great names in world literature," declared Professor D. R. Keyes, of the University of Toronto, Canada, who spoke in defence of the 'Wizard of the North' at the opening meeting of the Celtic Historical Society, Toronto. "Sir Walter Scott's standing as a writer is weakening. I suppose the reason is his long-windedness is unbearable to the modern generation," he said. There were other and subtler reasons. The Scotland of glamour and romance as the novelist saw it, had now grown oversophisticated to be interesting, and in these materialist times the people's sense of human values had changed for the worse, and they lacked the right perspective. Also, in this age of jazz and machine-driven neurotics people only asked for short and peppy love-stuff, and could not settle down to lengthy historical fiction which subordinated this to Scottish character sketching, or understand an environment that produced a Rob Roy, Dugald Dalgetty, Edie Ochiltree, or Andrew Fairservice. Mr. Keyes further summarized Scott's life and described his place to-day as a world poet. "In fiction," he concluded, "Scott has had great influence on the literature of Europe. Nearly every country on the Continent has a writer who derived inspiration from his work and is called by his name. Dumas is called 'the French Scott.'"

The President of the Society, Dr. Edmondston Scott, introducing the speaker of the evening gave an address on the "Origins of the Scott clan in Gaelic Saga and Romance." So far as Gaelic traditions are evidence, he said, the *Scottice gentes*, or Scott families, boasted a history no less ancient than the Gael's. Both were styled the posterity of Gadelus, eponymous ancestor of the Gael; both spoke the *Cànain ar Duthcha*, which was Irish and not the former Pictish speech of the Highlands; and both claimed to have emigrated, or were more probably expelled, from the Iberian Peninsula either during the Roman Occupation or earlier under the pressure of Iberian resistance to Gaulish invasions. These were the Scots who landed in Munster, whence they moved north to Ulster, and thereafter to Argyll where they founded the kingdom of Gaelic Scotland, or Scotia Minor, sometime between 150-500 A.D.

Contrary to the speculations of ill-informed Scottish Lowlanders and English propagandists, Scotland had always been dominantly Celtic

in race from the Orkneys to the Cheviots, the difference between Highland Picts and the Scotie Gael of Argyll and the Lowlands being that between similar Celtic peoples of British and Irish extraction. Apart from their frequent divided councils in war, both Picts and Scots had agreed, for over 1500 years past, on a common policy of nationalization in Church and State that was reflected in the 1921 Census which figured the Scottish element at 91.4 per cent and the English element at 3.8 per cent. To-day Scotland was racially a homogeneous and unified nation to a degree unparalleled in Europe or any part of the British Empire, Ireland included.

Unable to overthrow the seven kingdoms of the Picts, who gradually renounced British speech in favour of Irish Gaelic, the Scots seized the territory of Roman Scotland where they imposed the use of Gaelic from Argyll to the Cheviots. After 1000 A.D. they began to adopt a form of Teutonic speech which still surpassed English comprehension; but Gaelic survived in the Lowlands till as late as 1750. To this day a host of Lowland families betrayed their Celtic origin by their Gaelic names; and Gaelic place-names everywhere told their own tale of ancient settlements by the Scot clans. Those who believed that the Lowlands were Teutonic by race, and the Highlands Gaelic, should swallow a few mouthfuls like Glasgow, Terregles, Tinkluskie, Corriefeachlach, Craigtinnny and Tilletindum, which needed a Cicero from Ecclefechan, Ballachulish, or Auchtermuchty to explain.

Discussing the legend of the Scott clan's descent from Scota, daughter of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, Dr. Scott argued from the analysis of collated Irish texts that it had started the "British-Israel" cult in the eighth century, which was founded on a spurious scholarship whose vanity grafted native Gaelic traditions on to Biblical genealogy. It was nothing more than a wilful perversion of the Munster legend of the clan's descent from Scota, daughter of Bheara, who became the symbolic figure of Southern Ireland as Britannia had been of Roman Britain.

Concluding his address, the president said that Sir Walter Scott was not an English writer, as he is claimed, but the father of the modern novel which had its first sources of inspiration in the world of Celtic saga and romance. He was a spokesman of the Scottish genius, a pillar of Scottish nationalism, and would never need an interpreter in Scotland, and least of all among his own tribe, be they the daring Scotts of Buccleuch, the wild Scots of Galloway, or knights of the pen, in the printing and publishing trades.

BRANCH REPORTS.

ACHARACLE.—A lengthy and excellently varied programme of vocal and instrumental music, readings, recitations, and seuglachdan was submitted at the ceilidh of the Acharacle branch in the Shielbridge. Mr. A. D. Henderson, Newton, presided, and there was a large company present.

BONAR BRIDGE.—A delightful evening was spent by a large company at the ceilidh of the Bonar Bridge branch. Mr. D. K. MacRae, B.Sc., presided. The programme submitted was contributed by a large company of artistes, several of whom travelled from Inverness.

BRIDGEND, ISLAY.—The Bridgend branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held a ceilidh in the Territorial Hall, Bridgend, when there was a large turnout. Miss MacIntyre, president, was unfortunately unable to be present owing to an attack of influenza. Mr. Cameron, secretary, and the other members of the committee carried out the proceedings. A striking feature of the evening was the very fine singing of many Gaelic songs by young men and women present. The audience could not get enough of this, and encores were insistent. Tea was served during an interval.

BUTE.—At the fortnightly meeting of the Bute branch in Rothesay, Mr. Finlay C. MacRae delivered a lecture on the prophecies of Coineach Odhar, "The Braham Seer." Mr. Archibald Campbell, president, occupied the chair.

CAMPBELTOWN.—In the days when there was no printing and very little education, the ceilidh was really the one centre of education in the parish, explained the Rev. T. S. MacPherson to members of An Comunn Gaidhealach Ceannloch, who had assembled in the Christian Institute under the chairmanship of Mr. Donald Galbraith. By its means, he said, ancient poetry—for example, Ossian's poetry—had been handed down from generation to generation. No doubt a great amount of valuable material had been lost, but they had to thank the ceilidh for what had been preserved.

CARRADALE.—The December ceilidh of the local branch was held in the Hotel Hall. There was a large gathering when the president, Rev. J. A. Argyle Baker, M.A., took the chair, and extended a hearty welcome to Mr. James MacTaggart, A.R.C.O., Helensburgh, who was the speaker of the evening. Mr. MacTaggart's very enjoyable song-recital, entitled "Scotland Yet," dealt with the position of affairs in present-day Scotland. The religious, legal, musical, and national aspects were treated in turn, and were most pleasingly illustrated by Mr. MacTaggart himself in song and recitation.

CONNEL.—At the ceilidh of the Connel branch Mr. T. E. Wilson of Achnacloich presided over a good attendance. Tea was served in the course of the evening, and an excellent musical programme was sustained by local artistes.

DUMFRIES.—The monthly ceilidh of the Dumfries and Galloway branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Y.M.C.A. There was the usual good attendance of members and friends, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Anderson, president of the branch, occupied the chair. He made a special appeal for more members to attend the Gaelic class held on Wednesday evenings in the Academy, and emphasised the importance of this part of An Comunn work. In referring to the singing and dancing class which meets weekly in Irving Street Hall, he mentioned that these Tuesday night gatherings were really very enjoyable ceilidhs, and he hoped more members would take advantage

of them. The musical programme was carried through. At an interval tea was served by a band of willing helpers under the supervision of Miss Fleming.

DUROR.—At the business meeting of the Duror branch, Mrs. MacLean occupied the chair, and the office-bearers for the ensuing years were elected—President, Rev. Angus MacFadyen; vice-presidents, Mrs. Stewart of Achara and Miss Cameron of Ardsheal; secretary, Miss I. J. MacInnes, M.A.; treasurer, Mrs. Hunter.

FORT AUGUSTUS.—Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, paid a visit to the Fort Augustus branch, and expressed his pleasure at the enthusiasm for the cause of Gaelic that prevailed in the district. A ceilidh programme followed.

INVERGARRY.—There was a crowded audience at the meeting of the Invergarry branch in the Coronation Hall. A lengthy and varied programme was submitted. Mr. John MacGillivray presided, and tea was served during the evening.

GOLSPIE.—The presence of Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, in Golspie, was responsible for a large attendance at a ceilidh in the West End Mission Hall. Col. A. N. MacAulay attended, and Mr. MacPhail made particular reference to the Provincial Mod to be held at Brora next summer, which it is hoped will be assisted by the members of the branch. A musical programme followed the address.

HALLADALE.—Members paid a visit to Wick branch on 16th November, 1932, when they sustained the programme at the opening ceilidh of that branch. The opening ceilidh for the new session was held on 5th December. After welcoming Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, the chairman challenged his audience to allow their priceless heirloom (the Gaelic language) to die a natural death; he said it was up to them to reinstate it in our Highland life. During the evening Mr. MacPhail gave a stirring address in the same vein, and spoke on the work of An Comunn, paying particular attention to the teaching of the language in day schools and night classes. The following contributed to the programme—Bagpipe selections, Piper John MacKay; recitations, Messrs. D. MacPhail, Donald MacKay, Robert MacKay, and Hector MacBeath; songs, Messrs. D. MacPhail, John MacKay, and Hector MacBeath. Miss Morag MacDonald and Hector MacBeath sang a duet.

INVERARAY.—The fortnightly meeting of the Inveraray branch in St. Matien Hall was presided over by Mr. Robert Bain, and a programme of instrumental and vocal music was much appreciated. A dialogue by Willie and Domhnall Stewart was greatly enjoyed.

KINGUSSIE.—The Rev. Dr. MacFarlane presided at a ceilidh organised by the members of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach. There was a good attendance of Gaelic enthusiasts from neighbouring district branches. A very enjoyable feature of the evening's entertainment was a lantern lecture given by the chairman, descriptive of a trip by steamer from Oban to the Isle of Skye.

LEWIS.—A feature of the concert of the Lewis branch, over which Mr. John MacSween presided, was the employment of the Clarsach as a medium of Gaelic song accompaniment. Mr. Duncan Morrison was the performer, and his playing of the instrument was greatly admired. As the chairman remarked, it was singularly appropriate that the art—one of the ablest exponents of which was An Clarsair Dall, a Morrison of Lewis—should be revived in Lewis by another member of this famous clan.

NEWTONMORE.—At Coignashech, Newtonmore, the residence of Miss Farquharson of Invercauld, the members of the Newtonmore branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach foregathered the other evening to hear an address from the Rev. Dr. MacFarlane, of St. Columba's, Kingussie, on former Gaelic poets of deep piety—"Benn Sirra Dhamp," of Badenoch, and the Rev. Peter Grant of Strathspey.

NIGG.—The Rev. R. MacKinnon, Chapelhill, Nigg, president, presided over the monthly ceilidh of the local branch of An Comunn, which was held in Queen Street Church Hall. There was a splendid attendance of members and friends, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was passed. An inspiring address was given by Mr. Donald MacPhail, the organising secretary for the Northern Area, who made a strong plea for the preservation and promotion of Gaelic. Songs were contributed by a number of Fearn school-girls. Tea was handed round during an interval, and the proceedings were closed with the usual votes of thanks.

PORTREE.—A successful ceilidh was held by the Portree branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach in the Drill Hall, and was largely attended. The joint conveners of the branch, Colonel K. L. MacDonald, D.S.O., and Rev. J. MacKay, M.A., ably shared their duties of presiding. A pleasant evening was spent in songs, dialogues, and Highland music. A delightful tea, served by the members of the ladies' committee, added to the sociability of the ceilidh. A new secretary, in the person of Mr. Angus MacDonald, has taken office this session, and being enthusiastic in Gaelic matters, will be of service to the branch. For a year or two Mr. MacDonald was prominent in Celtic circles in Glasgow.

ROGART.—The local branch of An Comunn held a ceilidh in Culdrain Library on the occasion of the visit of the Northern Organiser, Mr. D. MacPhail. The president, Mr. Wm. Gunn, introduced Mr. MacPhail to the audience. In his address the new organiser congratulated the branch on keeping together in the face of great local difficulties. He then placed before the meeting the aims and objects of An Comunn, especially with regard to the teaching of Gaelic in Sutherland, and appealed to the young to support the movement. Thereafter the company were entertained by songs.

TOBERMORY.—At a meeting of the local branch, Mr. Duncan Cameron, Glenlonan, gave an interesting lecture on "An Fhirinn mu'n Ghaidheal," wherein he proved that Highlanders past and present were desirous of peace and justice rather than power and self-aggrandisement. Mr. Neil Shaw, in happy and humorous manner, gave an account of his work and travels throughout Scotland. By special request Mr. Shaw sang some favourite Gaelic songs.

WICK.—Mr. Hugh MacColl, headmaster, Canisbay, gave an interesting address at the ceilidh of members and friends of Wick branch of An Comunn, on Friday evening, 2nd December, in Pulteneytown Academy. In a bright manner, suffused with a pleasant spirit of humour, Mr. MacColl described life, characteristics, and personalities in the Argyllshire parishes of Appin and Lismore, and generally gave much information on matters of Celtic interest. His references to the game of shinty, or "knotty," as it was known in Caithness, brought out expressions of regret that this fine old game was not now being played in Caithness and the north. Solos were rendered by Mrs. Sutherland and Miss Taylor; Miss M. S. Henderson gave violin selections; and Mr. John Budge a couple of humorous readings.

Despite rather inclement weather, there was a good attendance, and Mr. Millar, president, presided. Mr. MacColl and the artistes received very hearty votes of thanks. At the opening public ceilidh the programme was sustained entirely by members of the Halladale branch, with the exception of violin selections by Miss M. S. Henderson, Wick. The entertainment was much enjoyed by a large audience, and the Halladale friends greatly appreciated their reception and hospitable welcome to the county town of Caithness.

BOOK REVIEW.

Bàrdachd Ghàidhlig: SPECIMENS OF GAELIC POETRY, 1550-1900. By W. J. Watson, M.A., D.Litt. Celt., LL.D., Professor of Celtic in the University of Edinburgh. Published by An Comunn Gaidhealach. Printed by A. Learmonth & Son, Stirling; 402 + lxiii pp. Price, 3/6.

This is the second edition of a text book which has been extensively used in schools and colleges ever since its first appearance in 1918. The collection is representative of Gaelic poetry throughout the past three and a half centuries. Needless to say the selection is judiciously made to convey an adequate idea of the types of poetry that have flourished throughout that long period. There is probably no anthology of the Scottish Gael that approaches this book for the balanced judgment with which it evaluates the various authors and their works.

There is a very full introduction. It describes the bardic poetry with its technicalities. It delineates the gradual transition of modern Gaelic poetry from the severity of the old bardic verse to the freer form which came in with Iain Iom and Mary MacLeod. The introduction explains with great learning, and yet with great simplicity, the features of the classical poetry, the varieties, the structure, the metres, and scansion of the verse. This section is invaluable for academic work. It reveals the highly intellectual character of the bardic conception of poetry.

In a brief review there is no room for excerpts. Suffice it to say that if you secure this book for yourself it will become your *vade mecum*, and it will give an insight into the wonder and charm of Gaelic poetry, such as perhaps you did not possess before.

In this new edition the whole book has been revised and enlarged. Indices of Place Names, Personal Names, and Names of Authors have been added. The Notes and Vocabulary have been extended.

We cannot do better than quote Professor Watson's words in regard to the need for fresh editions of Gaelic poets: "At the present time, when so much of our excellent Gaelic poetry is out of print and inaccessible to students and to the Gaelic people, nothing is more urgently needed than a comprehensive scheme of re-publication. We want a Scottish Gaelic Text Society or its equivalent. No language can live without a literature, and what is essential for the preservation of Gaelic as a living tongue is that its speakers should become also its readers."

The volume is excellently printed, and is a marvel of cheapness at the price.—N. R.

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TELEGRAMS.—*Runaire, Glasgow.*

TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXVIII.]

An Gearran, 1933.

[Earrann 5

FRITH NAM FIADH.

Bho chionn coig ceud bliadhna air ais bha glinn is raontan na Gàidhealtachd fo choille, mar chithear bho na freumhan a tha fathast ri am faotainn anns a' mhòintich. Ach bha na monaidhean agus na frithean arda car mar tha iad an diugh féin. Bha na féidh pailt gu leòr air na h-aonaichean an uair sin. Tha seann bhàrdachd is seann sgeulachdan a' toirt cunntas mionaideach air sealg an fheidh, no faghaid, mar theireadh an t-seann mhuinntir. Ged a dh' fhaodas cuid de'n iomradh sin a bhi a réir mac-meannna a' bhàird, gidheadh feumaidh gu robh a leithid ann. Oir cia mar gheibheadh na laoch am biadh an uair nach robh iad ri obair sam bith ach an fhiadhach air tòir an fhéidh agus beathaichean fiadhaich eile na machrach.

* * *

Bha frithean rìoghail aig cuid de rìghrean na h-Alban. Bha Beinn Allair (*Ben Alder*) am Baideanach, ainmeil airson nam fiadh bho shean, dìreach mar tha i gus an diugh. Tha e air a chantuinn gu bheil féidh Bhàideanach ni's luaineiche agus ni's duiliche an tilgeadh na féidh Beinn Dòrain féin. Bha frith rìoghail aig Feargus, rìgh na h-Alban, am Beinn Allair, agus anns na coilltean fiadhaich air da thaobh Loch Lagain. Tha dà eilean bheag an Loch Lagain, anns an robh gadhair an rìgh air an cumail. Tha Airdheirigi, ri taobh an Locha, air ainmeachadh air an rìgh. Tha aon de mhaithéan an rìgh, a fhuair bàs aithghearr aig an t-seilg, air adhlacadh anns a' làrach sin. Tha e air aithris gu'n robh an còigeamh rìgh Seumas a' tighinn a

shealgaireachd gu Lochabar, agus gu'n robh e a' fuireach an seann Chaisteal Inbhir Lochaidh. Agus an uair a thigeadh rìghrean air a leithid sin de ghnòthach faodar a chreidsinn gum biodh maithean is uaislean am pailteas 'g an comhlachadh.

* * *

An déidh do na rìghrean na frithean rìoghail a leigil seachad ghabh na maithean Albanach còir orra, agus chum iad suas cleachdadh na faghaid. 'B e ain na seilg an t-am suidhichte gus na h-uaislean is na h-islean a thional, agus *tinchioll mór* a dheanamh air na féidh. Rachadh na sealgairean is na coin mar chearcal sgaoilte a mach mun cuairt air na féidh, gus am biodh iad air an iomain gu gabhail chumhaing ris an canadh daoine *eileirg*. Mar chruinnicheadh na féidh an aon lag bhiodh cothrom na b' fhearr air an leòn agus an glacadh. Bha na tionail mhóra sin coiticheon; agus bha so a' toirt gu aon àite muinntir nach coinnicheadh a chéile air dhòigh sam bith eile. Anns a' bhliadhna 1564 thainig Ban-rìghinn Màiri, Ban-rìgh nan Albanach, gu faghaid mhóir de'n ghné so, a chaidh a chumail an Adhall. Aon de na feasgair sheinn mnathan uaisle an làthair na Ban-rìghinn, 'g an comhlachadh féin leis a' chlàrsaich. Ghabh Màiri tlachd de'n t-seinn aig Beatrice Ghardync, maighdean uasal a Banchori. Thug a' Bhan-rìghinn clàrsach mar thabhartas agus mar chiumhneachan do'n mhaigdinn. Is i sin a' chlàrsach a tha an diugh ri faicinn an tigh mór nan ioghnaidhean an York Place an Duneideann.

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A nuas feadh na seachdamh linn deug tha na bàird Ghàidhealach a' toirt fianuis

shoillear le an cuid bàrdachd, gu'n robh an t-sealg 'n a cleachdadh anns a robh uaislean is islean na tìre le cheile a' cur suim is ùidh. Is e Domhnall Mac Fhionnlaigh nan Dàn, a bha an Lochabar mu dheireadh nasiathamh linn deug a thuirt "Is aoibhinn an obair an t-sealg." Tha bàrdachd na seilge pailt, bho latha Màiri Nì'n Alasdair Ruaidh, gu Donnachadh Bàn is a nuas gu Ailean Dall. Ach an déidh bliadhna Thearlaich thàinig tilleadh air an t-seilg, gus mu'n bhliadhna 1770 chaidh mòran de na frithean a chur fo chaoirich. Tha e coltach gu'n robh caoirich na bu bhuannachdaile do na h-uachdarain na na féidh. Ach mar thoisich cloimh ri tighinn a dùthchanan eile gu tràth anns an naodhamh linn deug chaidh na caoirich air ais am pris; agus aig an am cheudna thoisich coirich aig an robh beairteas air màl trom a thairgsinn airson frithean nam fiadh. Cha bu luaithe a thachair sin na thainig na féidh a rithist gu bhi measail air sgàth buannachd. Rinneadh fasachadh air cuid de na glinn. Dh'fhàs cuid de luchd seilbh an fhearainn saibhir mar thoradh air a chleachdadh ùr, an uair a thigeadh sealgairean cothromach airson beagan sheachdainean gus na frithean a shealg an féidh. Ach tha sin a nis a' sìor dhol as an t-sealladh. Tha féidh is caoirich a' call an luach anns a' Ghàidhealtachd. Agus is e an ath cheum gu faigh Gàidheil a tha déidheil air dol air an ais gus an fhearann, cothrom gu sin a dheanamh. Faodaidh nach fada an ùine gus am faicear a rithist tuath anns na glinn.

DR. D. J. MACLEOD, O.B.E.

We extend hearty congratulations to Dr. Macleod on the honour conferred upon him by His Majesty the King. The granting of the honour has given great satisfaction to Highlanders both at home and abroad. Dr. Macleod's work in the Gaelic field is well known. As Inspector of Schools he has done much to lead the youthful minds of the school population in the Highlands to think highly, and nobly, of the Gaelic language. All this personal and direct influence is in addition to his many scholarly contributions to Gaelic studies, and it is a very fitting thing that one who has rendered such services should have been honoured with the distinction of an Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

THE ROMANCE OF THE MOUNTAINS.

An Address Delivered to the Gaelic Society of London.

By Dr. LACHLAN GRANT.

II.

GEOLOGY.

The natural history of mountains — their aetiology or causation, phenomena, and various constituents—is bound up with the physical history of the whole earth. Their scientific elucidation is practically the result of less than a century's work, and forms one of the great triumphs of modern science and one of its youngest branches, *Geology*. It was just in its infancy when Hugh Miller, Sir Charles Lyell, Sir Roderick Murchison, and others, took it up, and by life-long investigation and study, set it on a firm basis as an exact science worthy of the dignity of a University Chair. One of the earliest students of the rocks was Richard Hutton, another Scotsman, who gave particular attention to mountains; and since his time there has been a long succession of Scottish geologists who have done great work in adding to our knowledge of the earth's crust and the formation of its *external qualities*.

Before geology laid bare the testimony of the rocks, many queer notions and far-fetched theories were in vogue as to the origin of the earth's contour and the nature of mountains. It was generally thought that the main lines of the earth's configuration were pretty much the same from the creation until the present time, and that the hills and mountains were "everlasting," a typical example of permanence and eternity. But now we know the processes of evolution, of building up and breaking down, of change and transformation, have been and still are constantly at work as much on the mountain tops as on the surge-swept shore or in the depths of the sea. Nature is full of compensations, and if the mountain tops and coast lines are being worn away slowly but surely, just as slowly and surely are new coast lines being built up and the foundations of great new continents are being firmly laid in the ocean's bottom. In the depths of the Atlantic ocean great deposits of a white ooze are in course of formation, and in course of ages the accumulations of these microscopic shells will be converted into chalk, limestone, or marble—like the cliffs of Dover,

the mountain limestones of Derbyshire, or the marbles of the Alps. Even the modern poet exaggerates when he speaks of

"The Hills,

Rock-ribbed and ancient as the sun"

(Whittier),

for science demonstrates that the most hoary peaks are far from being so ancient in geological history, and that our sun was a mature and vigorous body in the heavens long before our earth emerged from chaos. Moore's lines would more aptly apply to *the hills, mountains, and the earth's contour*, from the geologist's standpoint—

"This world is all a *fleeting* show,

For man's *illusion* given."

Marcus Aurelius said eighteen centuries ago — "The universe is change," and there are no exceptions we can perceive; Shakespeare summed up the whole problem long before the advent of modern science; for the poet's vision often precedes or anticipates the practical demonstration of a truth.

"Are melted into air, into thin air:

And like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous
palaces,

The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Yea all which it inherit, shall dissolve,
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind."

Evidences of change are seen in the action of water, air, frost, and pressure that gradually wear down the hardest rocks; and in the finding of fossils of marine plants, shells, and animals on the tops of hills and mountains, indicating they had *once* been under water. In water, for instance, fossil shells are found at high elevations, and even in the Himalayas and other mountains there is conclusive evidence of the same kind. Long ago it was thought these mountain fossils were simply part of the original rock architecture, and had been there since the creation; but the combined facts easily prove they are not there, because in process of time the soft strata were first submerged, then covered with newer formations, and finally elevated by subterranean forces. Scotland and the Highlands are specially of interest to the geologist, and the geological survey has mapped the country out in detail so that we can tell what hills, crags, and mountains are of the ancient primitive formations, and what are of later and more recent origin. The Grampians and granitic series

manifestly belong to the oldest rocks of igneous origin; and yet their composition indicates they were at first laid down as deposits of mud, clay, and debris of earlier rocks, and afterwards subjected to great heat, pressure, and electrical action, converting them into their present *highly crystalline* state. Such are the basic rock formations in Scotland out of which our highest mountains have been cut, carved, and chiselled by the forces of Nature extending over long periods of time. Yet these are not the oldest known rocks and mountain ranges in the world, for in some countries—Canada, for instance—a still older series that have passed through the crucible of subterranean heat and pressure are found, which also bear evidence of a sedimentary or water origin previous to their crystalline, igneous metamorphosis. And, crystallised fossils of some elementary organism are found in those mountains on the St. Lawrence, showing that low forms of life had already commenced to exist on the globe in that early stage of its existence. There are even traces of still earlier formations preserved in the older mountainous districts, like huge natural museums, full of curiosities, antiquities, scraps, and hints of a long hidden past preserved through the ages.

"In records that defy the tooth of time," as Young says, until man's intelligence was able to disinter and decipher them.

To the making of mountains all the forces of Nature have contributed. Their varied composition is of the *same* materials as makes up the other parts of mother earth, only disguised by the crystalline and other forms they have assumed as the result of differing ratios of atonic action brought about by chemical, mechanical, and electrical forces through long geological periods. Their materials originated either on the globe's surface, under the sea, or in the bowels of the earth; and the highest peaks are but the elevated protuberances of matter that was formed long before in the depths below. There are proofs and traces of high hills extending over great areas that have long since disappeared, and their materials used for the building up of new continents. As with animate nature, the same materials are used over and over again in the endless processes of building up and breaking down, and in the kingdom of matter it is true: "There is nothing new under the sun." Marcus Aurelius remarked: "Observe always that everything is the result of

a change, and get used to thinking that there is nothing Nature loves so well as to change existing forms and to make new ones like them."

Geological authorities think that at one time a great continent existed in what is now the Atlantic Ocean, that a great inland sea ran from it right down through Europe to what is now Turkey, and that Scotland was part of a great table land. As time went on this table land became partially submerged, cut up, and denuded by the elements until only the *Bens* and higher hills were above water forming an archipelago. The cohesion and toughness of these rock-elevations made them withstand the forces of destruction acting on them for ages, yielding only in their weaker points, causing ruts, fissures, lakes, and valleys around the peaks. Then followed *subterranean* disturbances, partial *retreat of the sea*, and elevation of the land. Similar processes evidently happened more than once until what was a continent became the sea bottom, and what was submerged became dry land, leaving our *bens* bare as great mountains instead of ocean-washed islands.

Then came the *ice ages* further changing the aspect of the land by the great ice flows and glaciers carving, grinding, and forcing their way southward to melt in warmer zones, leaving in their track, and at their termini, evidence of their journey in the form of rocks, boulders, and debris of various strata. Glacial and tropical conditions alternated, and in the intervals favourable for animal life and vegetation, the great beds of coal, shale, lime-stone, sand-stone, and other sedimentary rocks were deposited. These in turn were covered with later formations, submerged, and re-submerged until solidified and altered into rock-form such as we now see, and which form so important a part of the world's wealth. What has come down to us is, however, but a fraction of the original formations, much of which were destroyed and wasted to form strata. It is proved that strata, miles in thickness, at one time existed in various parts towering as hills or great table-lands, but were afterwards mostly denuded or submerged. The Clyde valley, for instance, is rich in minerals, but what is found there is a very small part of the whole that once existed from the great coal or Carboniferous period. The strata was several miles in thickness, towering over the present hills, and only the fact of a great series of faults, or letting down, of the rich formations

preserved them from the destruction that overtook the high-lying portions, leaving the Renfrewshire, Kilpatrick, and other hills standing up as shorn and bare monuments of the mere foundations.

In later periods came great and prolonged volcanic eruptions, often overflowing and altering the softer rocks, or bursting up through older strata, left great protuberances as monuments of their plutonic activity. Even much of these basaltic rocks have been worn away or denuded, leaving only the toughest parts to survive the effects of erosion by water, frost, and air. Examples of such survivals are seen in these interesting rocks on which the castles of Edinburgh, Stirling, Dumbarton, and others are built. These are simply the *vents* or necks of pre-historic volcanoes that at one time belched out their lava and ashes long before the advent of man on the scene. The necks of extinct volcanoes are of a much tougher composition than the lava and ash around them, and hence the surrounding materials have frequently disappeared, leaving the more durable conical or round shaped rocks or crags to stand out conspicuous like sentinels on guard. Some of our Highland *Bens* may have been as active as Vesuvius or Etna in the world's early geological history, and their fires, having burned themselves out, have given place to conditions more suitable for animal and vegetable life.

Yet the work of all the destructive and metamorphosing agencies was necessary as a preparation for man's coming: and to them and the constructive forces we owe the stability of this part of the earth's crust the mineral wealth that has given us pre-eminence in industry and the romantic scenery and the poetry that is the envy of the world.

To the geologist, the mountains are so many sign-posts or indices that guide him in his researches into the contents of the earth, and in his reading of its history in the many-leaved volume of its strata and rock formations. Douglas Jarrold said of some favoured parts of the globe: "Earth here is so kind that just tickle her with a hoe and she laughs with a harvest," and so with the student of geology in a country like ours—just let him tickle it with his hammer, and it yields up its harvest of history with its souvenirs and hoary antiquities. Here history has triumphed over time and made the revelations of geology the greatest of scientific romances.

(To be continued)

COMHRADH

eadar

Ceit Bheag agus Màiri Bhàn
a muigh air cùl a' bhaile 's iad a'
buachailleachd.

LE DONNACHADH MAC DHOMHNAILL.

CEIT BHEAG (a' seinn gu binn)—

Ged tha mise so 'nam ònar,
Aig a' chrodh 's a' séinn nan òran,
Cha bhì idir mi cho brònach,
'Nuair thig Niall is Dòmhnall dachaidh.
O, mar chuir mi 'n Samhradh seachad
'Smaoineachadh cò dhiùbh a leanainn
O, mar chuir mi 'n Samhradh seachad.

MAIRI BHAN (a' tighinn air Ceit bho a cùlaibh agus a' toirt bruideig dhi.)

CEIT BHEAG (an dèidh giorraig a ghabhail 's a' tionndadh ri Màiri).—O, mo chreach-sa a thàinig cha robh sion a dhùil agam nach e tarbh bualaigh a' Bhùird a bh' ann!

MAIRI—Chan e idir; is e a tha ann Màiri Bhàn. Ach nach ann ortsa a bha am fonn ag gabhail nan òran. Tha thu cho math air seinn nan luinneag 's a bha thu an làithean t'òige.

CEIT—Agus carson nach biodh? Tha thusa smaoineachadh bho'n tha fear agus teaghlach agamsa gur còir dhomh seinn nan òran fhàgail aig seana chlann-nighean coltach riut fhéin.

MAIRI (gu guineach)—Nach ann ort a tha an fhaochag an uair a ghabhadh tu a dh' anam ort seann nighean a ràdh riumsa. Na'm bithinn air an duine agadsa a ghabhail an uair a bha e 'nam thairgse cha robh e ceum air a dhol an rathad a bha thusa.

CEIT—Chan fhaca sinne seann nighean a riamh nach robh an t-aon duan aice agus a tha agadsa. A h-uile gin gaibh a' cumail a mach gur h-e a còir fhéin a bha ann nach d' fhuair i duine. Ach na'n robh an duine agamsa 'nad thairgse cha bu ruith ach leum leat thuige. Is caol a shealladh e riut: cha b' ann ri do leithid a thoghadh e a dhosan.

MAIRI—Bha uiread às ar dèidh-ne uaireigin agus nach robh fhios againn ciod e a dhèanamaid riutha—Aonghas Donn, Calum Iain, Tormod Ruadh, Iain Og, Niall a' Ghlinne, Dòmhnall Buidhe, an duine agad fhéin, agus cho math ri leth-dusan eile. Faire, faire! bha dùil againne an latha a bha sud gu'm maireadh greadhnachas na h-òige gu bràth.

CEIT—Chan eil thu air an spiris fhathast, a Mhàiri. Is tusa nach 'eil sin. Dé an aois a tha thu?

MAIRI—Falbh agus faigh a mach: chan e do ghnothach e. An rud nach buin duit na

buin da. Carson a tha thusa a' faighneachd?

CEIT—Is ann a bha mi fhéin agus Niall a' bruidhinn umad an dé fhéin, agus bha esan ag cumail a mach gu robh dà bhliadhna agad a bharrachd ormsa. Bha e ag radh gu'n do rugadh tu bliadhna an sgadain mhóir agus gur tu co-aois Chalum a' mhaide, agus tha sin 'gad fhàgail dà fhichead agus a còig aig àm nan òrduighean.

MAIRI—Tha mise an aois a tha mi, agus ged nach 'eil i a' laidhe orm cho trom agus a tha i ortsa, tha sinn le chèile a' fàs nì's sine a h-uile latha. Tha mi fhathast cho math air a' chutadh ri té 's an t-sreath agus cho aotrom air an làr dhanmsa ri caileag òg nach fhaca fichead bliadhna. Chan fhaicinn às an rathad orm an té is fheàrr dhiùbh. Chan eil sion saoghalta air aire gaothagan an latha an diugh ach leannan fhaotainn ged a bhiodh e cho beag feum agus nach earbadh tu ris na cearcan a chur às an lios-chàil agad.

CEIT—Nach e sin, a Mhàiri, a tha air mise a liathadh. An uair a bha sinne òg cha shealladh sinn ach ri gillean nam peiteanan móra agus nam boineidean bileach. Chan 'eil guth an diugh air clò-Bucach ach air deiseachan caola glasa a gheibh iad dèanta anns na bùthan. Agus nach eil a 'bhui!

MAIRI—Tha, gu dearbh. Chan fhada ma ghabhas chisean romhpa mar a tha iad a bhios gille òg ann an Leòdhas nach bi eagal air a dhol a dh' eathar ma bhios i air bhog. Obh, obh! nach ann air an eilean a rug an latha, agus b'e sin latha na bochdainn.

CEIT—Leigidh sinn cead an coise leotha an dràsda agus bheir sinn tarruing air rud eigin is fhiach an t-saothair.

MAIRI—Ma, a bhronag, chan ann roimh a' mhithich. Tha iad ag radh mu òigridh ar latha mòran a bharrachd air na's fhiach iad. Chan eil anna ach an t-ainm gun an tairbhe.

CEIT—A Mhàiri, a nis, a bheil e 'na fhirinn gu bheil Calum Iain às do dhéidh. Bhiodh e glé ghlic dhuit a ghabhail. Cha bhì mi riarichte am feasd gus am faic mi am fàinne-pòsda ort.

MAIRI (a' deanamh gàire)—Na bi thusa idir a' fanoid air Màiri Bhàn. Ach cùm thusa ort, agus chan eil fhios dé a dh' fhaodadh tachairt fhathast mu'n tig a' Bhliadhna Ur. Cha chanainn idir nach ann a gheibh cailleanach a' bhaile, an latha as lugha a shaoileas iad, rud-eigin a chumas an teanga aca a 'dol latha 's bliadhna.

CEIT—Glé mhath, A Mhàiri! Gu dearbh fhéin is mi fhéin a th' air mo dhòigh, agus chan e Niall is lugha a ghàireas an uair a chluinneas e an naidheachd.

MAIRI (*a' togail a lèimhe ri the*)—A chinn mhóir gun bhuaidh, na toir guth air ri duine geal air na chunnaic thu riamh. Ma gheibh Seònaid Chàm a mach e chuinnidh luchain an àrd-doruis e. Agus mur a tig dad às bhithinn-se air mo nàrachadh gu bràth. Tha mi nis duilich gu'n do leig mi ris duit an dòchas a tha mi ag altrum.

CEIT—Cha toir mi guth air ri duine beò ach Niall, agus tha esan mar na glasan.

MAIRI—Ceart gu leòr, ma ta. Tha mi ag earbsadh riut, a nis, a Cheit.

CEIT—A Mhàiri, a nis, eadar mi fhìn 's tu fhéin: a bheil thusa ag gabhail ris gu'n tug Seònaid Chàm fhéin suas dòchas nach fhaigh i duine fhathast.

MAIRI (*a' coimhead air an té eile le iongantas*)—An tug Seònaid Chàm dhùil thairis, an e a thubhairt thu? Ma, gu dearbh, is ise nach do rinn sin. Cuiridh mise mo chluas air a gheall riutsa nach tug eadon Anna piuthar mo mhàthar a tha ag obair 'na ceithir fichead bliadhna suas dòchas fhathast. Cha do thuig thu an clò!

CEIT—Chan eil agadsa air, a bhrònag. Ach gu dearbh fhéin b'aill leam gu'n tigeadh cuideigin a leigeadh dhachaidh bho'n chrodh mi. Tha mi air mo léirleadh aca bho thàinig mi mach an diugh aig àird a' mheadhoin latha.

MAIRI—Agus carson nach do chum thu Niall beag às an sgoil an dugh? Nach e mòran a b'fheàrr dha na bhi a' caitheamh a thìde air neoni, Mar a chanadh m'athair beannaichte "Is iomadh buachaille math a tha a' dol a dhith anns na sgoilean a th'ann." Nach 'eil e a mach aiseid?

CEIT—Tha, ach tha am ministear air toirt orm a chumail innte gun fhios nach ann a choisneas e bursary.

MAIRI—Cha choisinn fhad 's a bhios an saoghal air an stéidheadh air a bheil e. Chan fhiach an ceann a th'air: tha e ro mhór.

CEIT—"Ceann mòr air duine glic agus ceann circe air amadan."

MAIRI—Chan ann mar sin a tha an seann fhacal sin idir. Is e a th'ann: "Ceann mòr air duine glic is mar is tric' air amadan."

CEIT—Na bi thusa fanoid air obair a chruthachaidh air neo thig breitheanas ort. Beag no mòr 's gu bheil e nach e an Cruithear a rinn e.

MAIRI—Is e an Cruithear a rinn thu fhéin agus cha mhór thu. Agus is e a rinn Mùirneag ged is beag i ri taobh beanntan móra nan Innseachan.

CEIT—Ged a tha mi beag chan 'eil mi bog. Chan fhaicinn thusa anns an rathad orm an uair a thigeadh a' chùis gu h-aon 's gu dhà.

MAIRI—Cò a th'ann ach thu 'nad bheachd fhéin. Chan fhaca mi fear no té a bha beag a riamh nach saoiladh tu orra gur h-ann aca féin a bha gaisge, calmachd, is misneachd na tire gu léir. "Mise, mi fhìn," arsa Murchadh nan Con.

CEIT—Chan 'eil sion de mhath a bhi riutsa. Cha ghabh a' ghlas-ghuib cur ort ann. Tha do theagasaid' bleith gun abhsadh a Shàbaid 's a sheachdain.

MAIRI—Cha b' ioghnadh a ràdh mu do dheidhinn, a bhana-charaid, gur h-ann agad a tha an teanga an uair a leigeadh tu riuth leatha agus a thòisicheadh i ri sgileadh. Lìonadh na chuireadh i uaipe fichead poca ann an latha.

CEIT—Tha e glé fheumail dhuitse an éisdeachd fhoighidneach a tha agamsa iomadh latha. Ma théid sinn a mach air a chéile chan e mo choire-sa bhios ann. Ach, a Mhàiri, a ghràidh, am faic thusa cho luasganach agus a tha an crodh a' fàs. Tha mise an dòchas nach cuir na cuileagan a riuth iad agus tide na bà ruaidhe ann am màireach.

MAIRI—Agus nach e sin an dearbh rud a dh' iarradh do sheanair; an tide a bhi cho bruthainneach, blàth, latha Lùnasdail 's nach leigeadh a chuireag a mach thu no an deargann a steach thu. Sin agadsa an latha 's an tigeadh am biathadh 's an déis eòrna.

CEIT—B'fheàrr leinne gu mór a bhi am prìosan sàile na an leithid-sin a latha a thighinn oirnn le lamh anns gach ursainn 's gun chothrom a dhol a mach no a dhol a steach.

MAIRI—Chan 'eil na creutairean sin ann an dugh mar a chunnaic sinne iad uair-eigin air mòitich 's aig baile. Tha mise a' smaoineachadh, a Cheit, a ghràidh, gur h-ìad na pùdars ud a bhios aig na caileagan òga agus na bucais a chuir an ruaig orra leis an fhàile ghrànda a tha dheth.

CEIT—Chan 'eil mise ag radh nach i an fhirinn ghlhan a tha agadsa an dràda. Nach ann a bha Anna mo phiuthar-chéile ag innseadh dhomh bho thàinig Mòrag à Glaschu nach do dh' fhidir i fù luchaidh fhéin timchioll an tighe.

MAIRI—Seachainn oirne luchag agus deargann. Cùl nan còig riutha le chéile. Agus gu dearbh fhéin ged nach biodh a mhath air na pùdars ach gu'n cum iad air falbh na creutairean suarach ud cha bu bheag e.

CEIT (*a' coimhead sìos an gleann*)—Ach a bheil thusa a' faicinn a' pheasain ghrànda balaich ud aig Iain Dubh mar a tha e a' feuchainn nan leogan air a' bhoin bhàin againn. Nach éigh thusa ris dhòmh-sa, a Mhàiri, bho'n is e do ghuth is cruaidhe.

MAIRI—Bheir mise ort a pheasain gun nàire mur a leig thu cead an coise leis a' chrodh sin. Tha do chruaidh fhòrtan mu do chasan thugad ma théid mise às do dhéidh. Bheir mise ort gu'm faigh thu aon sgleog a chuireas bàs do sheana-mhar às do chuimhne (*A' buailadh a coise ris an talamh*). An ann a' gabhail ort mise a fhreagairt a tha thu, a shìliche shalaich a tha thu ann, agus b'e sin thusa. Ach có a chuireadh na b' fheàrr air do mhanadh!

CERT—Tha e a cheart cho math dhuit leigeadh leis. Chan'eil e aige fhéin, an truaghan.

MAIRI—Cha b'ann an diugh no an dé a dh' aithnich sinne sin. Nach ann a tháinig mi air an latha roimhe le ad chruaidh athar aige 'ga seòladh ann an allt, sin agadsa "Flonn" bochd duit.

CERT—Rinn Niall againne soitheach chuirtean da, agus cuiridh mi geall nach tomhais thu cia dheth an do rinn e seòl dith.

MAIRI—Rinn, tha mise a' creidsinn, de léine a mhàthar ged nach robh móran aice dhiùbh, brònag.

CERT—Bhuail thu dìreach an tarrang air a cheann an uair ud.

MAIRI—Bha e agam fhìn a' buain chrotail an latha roimhe agus thug mi dha truinnsair brota, ach an uair a dh' fheòraich mi dheth an gabhadh e fear eile is e a thubhairt e rium nach e am pathadh a bh' air ach an t-acras. Dé do bheachd fhéin air sin, a nis, a Cheit?

CERT—Tha gur h-ann glé thana a bha am brota agad, a Mhàiri.

MAIRI (*gu sgaiteach*) Ma's ann ag iarraidh gu tàthag a thoirt dòmhsa a tha thu, a Cheit, gheibh thu do dhà roghainn air do bhois. Ma bheir thu ormsa tionndadh ort bidh cuimhne agad air gu latha do bhàis.

CERT (*Gu séimh*)—Is ann a bha mise, a bhrònag, a' tarruing conais asad. Chan fhaod sinn a dhol a mach air a chèile agus latha do bhainnse cho faisg air làimh.

MAIRI—Latha-bainnse ann no as, ach bu chòir dhuitse beagan céille a bhì agad, is tu air a thighinn gu latha. Ach tha mi an dòchas oidhe mo réitich gu'm bi thu ann an uair a thig Iain Crosda 'gam iarraidh air mo mhàthair agus a bheir mi mo làmh do Chalum.

CERT—Bithidh, is mise a bhios sin. Có a bhiodh ann ach mi. Ach có a tha tighinn ach Niall beag 'gam leigeadh dhachaidh agus chan ann roimh a mhithich. Is e mo chuid a bhì falbh an dràsda ach am faigh mi blasad bidh is mi air mo tholladh aig an acras. Feasgar math leat, a Mhàiri. Fench nach bi thu fada gun tighinn a chèilidh.

MAIRI—Théid mi fhìn 's tu fhéin gu Comunn nam Ban feasgar Di-haoine.

CERT (*a' falbh dhachaidh*)—Ceart gu leoir, ma ta.

MAIRI (*a' bruidhinn ri the fhéin*)—Niall beag agadsa, a Cheit, a' dol a chosnadh bursary, cha choisoin gu latha a bhàis. Tha e ro choltach ri cuideachd a mhàthar airson gu'n dean e ministear. Ach nach eil e 'na thìde dhòmhsa a dhol a thilleadh a chruidh, (*a' falbh agus a' grudhan leatha fhéin*).

MIANN A' BHAIRD AOSDA. THE WISH OF THE AGED BARD.

(Translated by the late Rev. HUGH
MACMILLAN, D.D., LL.D.)

O! bear me where the streamlets stray,
With calm, slow footsteps o'er the lea;
My head beneath the oak-shade lay,
And thou, oh! sun, be kind to me.
My side stretch gently on the bank,
Which mild airs fan and flowers bestrew;
My feet cooled by the grasses rank,
That bend beneath the noontide dew.
Let primrose pale with beauty dress
My mossy couch of tenderest green,
My hand reclined the daisy press,
And *ealvie** at my ear be seen.
Let blossom-laden trees surround
My glen's high overhanging brow;
And let the aged crags resound
With songs of birds from every bough.
From rocks with ivy mantled o'er,
Let the bright fountain pour its flood,
And echo multiply the roar
Of waters through the solitude.
Let voice of hill to hill repeat
The thousand lowings of the herd.
That by the rural cadence sweet
My heart's deep pulses may be stirred.
Let the soft wing of every gale
The bleatings of the fold prolong,
The timid lambkin's lonely wail,
The ewe's quick answer to her young.
Let frisking calves around me stray
Along the stream, or upland high;
And let the kid, tired of its play,
Upon my bosom fearless lie.
Oh! let me hear the hunter's tread
And bay of dogs upon the heath;
Then youth shall crown my hoary head
And happy visions round me wreath.

The marrow of my bones shall thrill,
When the wild chase I hear again;
My feet leap swiftly up the hill
At the glad shout, "The stag is slain!"

Methinks I see the faithful hound
That followed me at eve and morn,
The moors o'er which I loved to bound,
The rocks that echoed back my horn.

The cave where we reposed, when night
O'ertook us in our wild employ;
Where by the wood-fire blazing bright,
The hunter's cup inspired our joy.

The smoking deer, Treig's sounding wave,
Gave food and music for the feast.
And in that cave, though storms should rave,
And mountains roar, deep was our rest.

I see Ben-Ard's sky-piercing rocks
Above a thousand mountains rise;
The dreams of stags are in his locks,
The dark cloud on his summit lies.

Seur-Eilt's broad shoulders loom in view,
And the green hill with fir trees crowned,
Where first is heard the lone cuckoo,
And elk and agile roe abound.

A pine-fringed farm lies in its cup,
O'er which the wild ducks swiftly swim;
Beyond, a dark strath[†] opens up,
With rowans dipping in its stream.

Oh! let the swan that left her home
In that cold realm where tempests rave,
Where never sail can mock the foam,
Or oaken prow divide the wave.

Slide graceful o'er the loch at rest,
Or soar the summer clouds among,
And pour forth from her wounded breast
The mournful music of her song!

I love to hear the plaintive wail
That tells the story of her woe,
Borne by the echoes of the gale,
In soothing sadness round me flow.

From what land do the breezes stray
On which thy sorrow's voice is borne,
Oh! youth who wandered far away,
And left my hoary locks forlorn.

Do tears bedim thy modest eyes,
Oh! maiden with the hand of snow?
Blest is the smooth young cheek that lies
Within its narrow bed laid low!

Say, since my aged vision fails,
Oh! wind, where is the reed's resort,
Through which an eerie music wails,
And by whose side the fishes sport?

Oh! raise me with a tender hand,
And place me 'neath the oak tree's shade,
That when the sun at noon shall stand,
Its green shield may be o'er my head.

Then shalt thou come, oh! starry dream,
That glidest through the realms of night,
And bring to me a soothing gleam
Of vanished days of joy and light!

My soul, the lovely maid behold,
Within the shady oaken grove,
Her white hand 'mid her locks of gold,
Her blue eye on her youthful love!

He sings most sweetly by her side,
And scarce her lips draw in the breath;
Her heart swims in the music's tide,
And deer stop listening on the heath.

'Tis hushed now, and her smooth white breast
Heaves to her love's in rapturous bliss;
Her rosy lips are closely pressed
To his in one long honied kiss.

Oh! be ye happy, lovely pair!
Who waken in my soul a gleam
Of joy that I no more may share;
May love forever round ye beam!

My pleasant dream, oh! hast thou gone?
Come back; but one brief glimpse restore.
Alas! thou wilt not hear my moan;
Farewell sweet scenes for evermore!

I do not see you now, adieu!
Thou comely youth, thou lovely maid!
A summer's joy was given to you,
But oh! my winter ne'er can fade.

Oh! carry me where I can hear
The cascade's murmur sounding far,
And let my harp and shell be near,
And shield that saved my sires in war.

Then gentle breeze, that lov'st to stray!
With kindness come across the wave,
And swiftly bear my shade away,
To the bright island of the brave;

Where those who long have left our arms,
Whose absence we have sorely wept,
Are deaf to music's sweetest charms,
And in soft chains of slumber kept.

Oh! open to my weary ghost
The hall where Daol and Ossian dwell;
The night shall come, the bard be lost,
And none his hiding place may tell.

But yet, before the hour is come,
In which my spirit shall be borne
To Ardven, and the bard's bright home,
From whence none ever may return.

Give me, to cheer the lonely way,
My much-loved harp and soothing shell,
And ending thus my life's last day,
I'll bid them both for aye farewell.

* St. John's Wort.

† In the original the phrase means "strath of dark green firs," but as the same epithet is used in the previous verse, I have altered it to avoid repetition.

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POEM BY FEARACHAR MAC-IAN OIG, MHIC MACRA

(Early XVIIth Century).

*(The spelling in the old MS. is retained.)**(Translation by Douglas Macrae Tay'or.)*

Cha ne dìreadh na bruaich
dh'fhag mo shiubhal gun treoir,
na teas ri la greine
'nuair a dh'eireadh i oirnn
laidh a' sneachd so air m'fheusaig,
'us cha leir dhomh mo bhrog;
's gann is leir dhomh ni's fhaigse
ceann a bhata nam dhorn.
'se mo thaigh mor na creagan,
'se mo dhaingean gach frog,
'se mo thubhailte m'osan,
'se mo chopan mo bhrog.

ge do cheanaichinn am buideal
cha'n fhaigh mi cuideachd 'ni ol;
's ged a cheanaichinn a seipein
cha'n fhaigh mi creideas a' stoip;
ged a dh'fhàdainn an teine
chi fear foille dheth ceo.
's i do nighean-so, Dhonnachaidh,
chuir an iomagain-so oirnn:
te 'g am beil an cul dualach
o guallainn gu brog;
te 'g am beil an cul bachlach
is a dhreach mar an t-or.

Dheoin Dia cha bhi gillean
riut a'mire's mi beo:—
ged nach deanainn dhut fìdhe,
bhiodh iasg a's sitheinn ma d'bhord.
'S truagh nach robh mi 's tu, 'ghaolach,
anns an aonach 'm bi 'n ceo;
ann am bothan beag barraich
's gun bhi mar riur ach d'fhòil;—
agus paisdean beag leinibh
a cheileadh ar gloir.
'S mi a shnamhadh an caolas
airson faoilteachd do bhèoil.

'Nuair a thigeadh am foghar
b'e mo roghainn bhi falbh,
Leis a' ghunna nach diultadh
's leis an fhùdar dhu-gorm;
'nuair a gheibhinn cead frithe
bho'n rìgh's bho'n iar! og.
Gum biodh fuil an daimh chabraich
ruith le altaibh mo dhorn;
agus fuil a bhuic bhioraich
sior shileadh feadh feoir;
ach 's do nighean-sa Dhonnachaidh,
chuir an iomagain-so oirnn.

'T was not climbing the mountain
left my step without vigour,
nor the sun's heat at mid-day
when he rose high above us,
Lies this snow on my beard,
so my shoes remain hid
and I scarce see the head
of the stick in my hand.
The crags are my castle,
each cave my stronghold.
My shoe gives me wassail,
a tow'l my plaid's fold.

Were I buying a bottle
there'd be no one to drink.
Were I buying a choppin
't would not credit a stoup.
Were I kindling a fire
't would be seen and betray'd.
'T was thy daughter, O Duncan,
put this trouble upon us:—
she with long locks falling
from shoulder to shoe:—
she whose tresses streaming
shed golden bright hue.

God grant no lads at thee
while life in me will last:—
though I no weft would weave thee
no game thy board would miss.
Lorn not to have thee sweetheart
in the lonesome where there's mist:—
in the bare brushwood bothy
with but by me thy flesh,
and a wee baby infant
who'd hide all our joy.
I'd be swimming the ferry
for the welcome of thy mouth.

When the autumn was falling
would I want to be faring
with a gun firing true,
and with powder dark blue.
When I'd get forest freedom
from the king and young earl;—
with the blood of the great stag
may my hand be imbrued
and the blood of the buck-fawn
the long grass blade bedew.
But thy daughter 't was, Duncan
put upon us this trouble.

AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH (SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Le K. W. G.

IX.

Tha'n so cuid diubh, leis an ainm anns an riochd anns an robh e o shean, air a thoirt aig toiseach gach clàir:—

Askill, mar: McAsgill, McCaskill, Mac Askill; tha'n "t" Ghàidhlig air a thoirt a stigh an labhairt mu "Chloinn t-Asguill." "Ann am Bernera" ars' an Dr. Mac Eanruig, "tha'n t-ainm Taskill Mac Askill, air a sgrìobhadh gu mearachdach mar McCaskill, mar cheud ainm duine: b'e Uilleam MacAskill a bha mar cheannard aig Clann Leòid an dol an aghaidh cabhlach Chloinn Raonuill, aig Ainort (Eyvinds-fjodr) air taobh siar an Eilean Sgitheanaich anns a 16amh linn.

Björn, *Bjarni*, mar McBurney.

Eystein, mar: Hhisdean, Uistein, McQuisten.

Gunni, *Gunnar*, mar: Guinne, Gunnach, Gunn.

Guthormr, mar: McCodrum (bàrd ainmeil Uibhisteach).

Gudrödr, mar: Goraidh, Gorry, McGorry, Guthrie.

Haraldr, mar: Harailt, Araitl, McArailt, McRàild.

Hallmundr, *Hjalmundr*, mar: McCalman, McCalmont.

Hrómundr, mar: McCrimmon, Mac-Cruimein.

Hrörekr, mar: Rerik, McRerik, McCريك (ach ainmie).

Halfdan, mar: Haldane, McCaldin, McAaldin.

Hlödver, *Hlodver*, mar: McLeoid, Mac-MacLeoid. (Faic gu h-ìosal: Gàidh. Mac Leòid.)

Ivarr mar McIver, MacIamhair; an Gall-aobh nu dheas, tha e againn mar McEur, McCure; bho Ivarr thàinig mar an ceudna Iverach. Tha'n Dr. MacEanruig ag innseadh gu'm bheil e air a bheul-aithris gu'n do choisinn Iamhair Crom fearann an Còmhal dlùth air toiseach an 13mh linn, agus air do Chloinn Iamhair an fearann a chall 's an 17mh linn bha e air a thoirt air ais dhaibh air chùmhnaidh gu'n gabhadh an t-oghre an t-ainm Caimbeul.

Kol, *Kali*, mar: McColl, Coulson.

Lagman, mar: Lamont, Lamond, McLaomuinn; mar an ceudna McClymont.

Magnus, mar: Mànus, MacMhànuis, Manson, Masson, McVanish, McVenish.

Olafr, *Oli*, mar; Anlaf (o shean), Amhlaidh, MacAmhlaidh, Macaulay.

Rögnvaldr, *Ragnvaldr*, mar: Raonull, Raognnull, Rao'ull, Ronald, Ranald.

Ragnhildr (ainm nighinn), mar: Raonuid, Raonuilt, Raghnuilt.

Somarliði, mar: Somhairle, Sorley, McSorley.

Sygtryggr, mar: McKittrick, McKetterick (Gallaobh an taoibh deas).

Sigurdr, mar: McSiridh; faodaidh so a bhi bho Sigridr—ainm boirionnaich.

Sveinn, mar: Mac Suain, McSwan, Swanson, is ainm Sgitheanaich e. Tha McQueen air a thoirt mar air a tharruing bho Sveinn. Anns an 16amh agus an 17amh linn tha Sween agus Swyne ri fhaotainn mar cheud ainmean dhaoine, ann an boinn-sgrìobhte.

Thorald, mar: Torull, Thoruill (anns na h-Earadh).

Thörljurn, mar: Thorburn.

Thormodr, *Thormundr*, mar: Tòrmod, Tòrmaid, Thòrmoid, Tormailt, Tòrmond; anns a Bheurla "Norman"; is e dìreach dòigh eile a tha'n so air sgrìobhadh Norseman, no Northman; 's e "Normand" a their Lochlannaich an la-diugh ri fear a bhuineas do Lochlann.

Thorkell, mar: Tòrcull, Tòrcall, Torquill, McCorkle. 'S e Thorketil dòigh Lochlannach eile air an ainm so, agus a gheibhear mar Mac Corcadail, McCorquodale, McCorkindale, McCorkadell.

Uspakr, mar: Aspuig, an sinnsearachd Chloinn Leòid, "Mic Araitl MicAspuig," a réir an Dr. Mhic Eanruig. Gheibhear McUsbaig 's na h-Earadh.

Faodar mar an ceudna Clann Neacail an Eilean Sgitheanaich (Nicolsons) a ghabhail a stigh mar o shinnsearachd Lochlannach; bha Nikulas, Nikolas 'n a ainm glé chumanta an Lochlann o shean, agus 's an la-diugh mar Nicolai; bha'm Barran Andres Nikulasson 'n a aon de cheannardan Rìgh Haacoin air a thurus "siar thar saile"; chaidh a chur le earann de'n chabhlag bho Chearara deas gu Bóid, a ghlèidheadh an seilbh, agus bha e ainmeil air son a ghaisge aig Blàr Na Leargaidh Ghallda. Faodar an t-ainm "Polson" an Gallaobh a ghabhail mar o'n ainm Lochlannach Páll, agus Pálsson, ainmean air an robh iad anabarrach déigheil, gu h-arsaidh anns na h-Araibh, far an robh Iarlan agus uaislean urramach a dol fo'n ainm sin, agus leigidh sin a thuigsinn ciamar

a thàinig e do Ghallaobh. Tha mar an ceudna Tolmie, Tolme (dòigh eile "Tolmache, Talmach") a réir barail cuid o'n Lochlannach "holmr," "holmi" (holm).

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

THE RIGHT HON. JAMES IAN MACPHERSON, M.P.

It was with singular satisfaction that the Highland public learned a few weeks ago that the well-merited distinction of a baronetcy was to be conferred by the King on the Right Hon. James Ian MacPherson. This outstanding Gael is one of our honorary life members. For many years he has associated himself in a practical way with the activities of An Comunn as well as with every other movement that aims at the good of the Highland people. He has been a friend and champion of Gaelic at critical moments, such as the passing of the Gaelic Clause in the Act of 1918. And he has never lost an opportunity whether inside or outside the House of Commons of furthering the interests of the old language. As the official organ of An Comunn, this magazine now acknowledges the services of the new baronet, and desires to offer congratulations on an honour which brings credit to his constituency as well as to his native county of Inverness.

NATIONAL MOD—GLASGOW.

The Glasgow Local Committee have now commenced their preparations for the National Mod. A series of functions are being arranged by the Entertainments Committee, the first of which, a concert and dance, takes place in the Highlanders' Institute on Tuesday, 7th February. A whist drive follows on 2nd March, also in the Highlanders' Institute. It is hoped that a Highland Ball may be organised before the end of the social season. An appeal is made to all members of An Comunn and friends of the movement resident in and around Glasgow to patronise these functions so as to ensure their success.

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.

CRAOBH SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Chumadh coinneamh de luchd-comhairle na h-Airde Tuath ann am baile Inbhirnis air Disathuirne, an ceithreamh la deug de cheud mhios na bliadhna agus bha móran de na buill an lathair.

Bha am Fear Gairme Mgr. Domhnall MacDhomhnuill, anns a 'chathair. Thug am Fear-Deilbhe iomradh air a' chuairt do Chataobh mar a leanas:—

Bha mi a' tadhal thall agus a bhos air feadh siorramachd Chataobh bho chionn aon mhios, agus feumaidh mi aideachadh gu'n do mhòthaich mi gu bheil spiorad na spéise, agus na h-uaille a thaobh na Gàidhlig, a sior mheudachadh am measg nan Catach, ge be cearna de'n duthaich mhóir ud anns an stad neach re a thurais 'n am measg.

Thug Comunn Tuathach a' Chraobh-sgaoilidh iomadh ionnsaidh air cearnaidhean de Chataobh airson leas na càin, agus ged dh'fhaodadh nach robh an toradh air uairibh a reir am miann, tha duais na saothreach sin a' nochdadh air faire a nis.

Tha Comunn Foghlum na Siorramachd air cùram a ghabhail a nis de theagasg na Gàidhlig anns na sgoilean Catach, agus ged a tha am foghar sin mòr agus an luchd-oibreach tearc, chaidh iad an ceann gnìomha cheana anns an oidhirp.

Dh'fhasdaidh iad Mgr. Aonghas M. Ros, M.A. airson teagasg sgoilean oidhche Gàidhlig, agus tha cròilean gasda, eudmhor, aige an Goillspidh, Brùra, Dornoch agus Embo. Tha barrachd agus ciad de bhuill anns na sgoilean sin.

Tha Comunn an Fhoghlum an dùil ri maighstir-sgoile Gàidhlig fhasdadh airson Ard-Sgoil Ghoillspidh, agus an uair a thachras sin cha ruig clann òga Chataobh a' bhios a' sireadh àrd fhoghlum a leas gun chothrom na Feinne fhaighinn an Gàidhlig cuideachd.

Thig greis fhathast mu'm bi teagasg na Gàidhlig air clàr gach sgoile 's an t-siorramachd, a chionn gu bheil àireamh nan oidean-foghlum aig a bheil eòlas litreachail air a chàin tearc, ach tha Gàidhlig cheana air a teagasg ann an trì-deug de na sgoilean ann an Cataibh, agus is ciatach an toiseach tòiseachaidh sin fhein an uair a smaoinichear air gach duilgheadas a tha timcheall air an aobhar.

Tha àireamh Meuran a 'Chomuinn a sior dhol am meud 's an t-siorramachd, agus tha na Mòid ionadail, a bha 's an Luirg agus an Tunga, a' gintinn spéis do'n chàin am measg na h-òigridh, agus chan 'eil teagamh sam bith

nach bi toradh sìochail gach iomairt a rinneadh, ri fhaicinn an deidh mòran de laithibh. Tha Comunn a' Chraobh-Sgaoidh air ullachadh a dheanamh airson gu'm bi cothrom air a thoirt do phàrantan air iartas sgrìobhte chur gu Comunn an Fhòghluim an Cataobh ag iarraidh gu'm bi fòghlum na Gàidhlig air a chur air bunait chinntich anns gach sgoil anns a bheil clann a tha toileach air an ionnsachadh sin fhaighinn, agus tha fhios agam gu'n gabh Comhairle an Fhòghluim ris an iartus sin le bàigh agus muir, agus gu'n teid iad gu uchd an dèichill, cho luath 's is urrainn iad, ann a bhi toirt gach cothrom do theagasg na Gàidhlig.

An Airde Deas.

Choinnich Fo-chomhairle an Taoibh Deas air a' cheathramh là fìchead de'n Fhaoilteach an seòmar gnothaich a' Chomuinn agus bha aireamh math de na buill an làthair. Bha am Fear Gairme, Mgr Eoghann MacThòrcadail, anns a' chathair, agus bha an Rùnaire agus am fear cuidichidh a' frithealadh.

Thug an Rùnaire fathunn nach do shoirbhich leis coinneamhan a shocrachadh mar a dh'iarr e an Siorramachd Pheairt. Cha robh e comasach do na Meuran coinneachadh air an t-seachdain a shonraich e airson na cuairte ach bha e an dùil a' chathair a thoirt gu buil mu'n ruitheadh an seisean.

Tha litrichean eadar an Rùnaire agus Fear stiùiridh an Fhòghluim an Siorramachd Pheairt mu dheidhinn teagasg na Gàidhlig do'n oigridh agus tha dochas gu'n tig buil mhath as an eadar-sgrìobhadh so.

Chumadh cuirm-chiùil an Taigh-an-lòin a chuideachadh cosdas an fhir-sheinn a phaigheadh. Bha an Rùnaire agus Mgr Seumas Mac-a-Phi an làthair a thoirt cuideachaidh do'n chomhairle ionadail. Bha a' Bhean Uasal NicDhomhnuill na Learga anns a' chathair. A dh'aindeoin a' chnatain mhóir bha aireamh math cruinn anns an talla agus is fheairde an t-ionmhas sin.

Chaidh an Rùnaire a dh'aon sgrìob bho Thaigh-an-lòin gu baile mòr Abairtheadh far an do fhrithheil e aig ceud cheilidh a' mheoir ùr a chuireadh air bonn an sin. Bha faisg air ceud an làthair agus bha an Ceann Suidhe, An t-Ollamh Eachann MacDhomhnuill, air ceann na cuideachd. Bha gach nì cho Gàidhealach is a bha e comasach e bhith: Gàidhlig 'ga labhairt, mòine air an teine, brataichean breacain an sùid 's an so—gu ruige 'n claidheamh mòr fhéin agus targaid os cionn an teintin. Tha sè fìthead ball co-cheangailte ris a' mheur so cheana agus tha

a' chànan air a teagasg an Sgoil Oidhche a' bhaile mar tha. A réir na chunnacas agus na chualas aig a' cheilidh tha am meur ùr so an toiseach obair ghleusda air son a' Chomuinn.

Bha an Rùnaire aig ceilidh am baile Helensburgh o cheann ghoirid agus ged a bha an ceo dùmhail bha mòran cruinn. Labhair an Rùnaire an Gàidhlig 's am Beurla is fhuair e òrain bho chuideachd ghasda anns na cànaichean ceudna.

Chumadh coinneamh de Chomhairle Ionadail Mòd Siorramachd Pheairt an Obair-pheallaidh air an t-seachdain roimhe sin agus shonraicheadh an 19mh là de'n Og-mhios air son a' Mhòid. Bidh am Mòd am bliadhna an Obair-pheallaidh. Bha an t-Ollamh MacLaomainn anns a' chathair. Fhrithheil an Rùnaire aig a' choinneamh so agus bha os cionn deich ar fhìthead an làthair.

DUNDEE MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

Gaelic Section for 1933.

On the Official Syllabus, Section XIV. is entirely Celtic Solo Singing. There are three competitions and one of these must be in Gaelic. It is well to draw the attention of Gaelic singers to this competition. The authorities of the Festival are to be congratulated on introducing a Gaelic Section. First prize winners in 1932 are debared till 1934. The entrance fee is 2s. 6d. The prizes in the Gaelic Solo are given by the Highland Society of Dundee. A copy of the Syllabus and Entry Forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. D. A. Mortimer, Solicitor, 31 Murraygate, Dundee.

PROVINCIAL MODS.

Provincial Mods have been arranged as follows:—Badenoch (Newtonmore), 5th April; Kintyre (Campbeltown), 11th and 12th May; East Sutherland (Brora), 9th June; Mid-Argyll (Lochgilphead), 13th and 14th June; Perthshire (Aberfeldy), 16th June; Ardnarmurchan (Strontian), 27th June.

Teachers are employed as follows:—

NORTHERN AREA:

Miss Margaret MacDonald, Nethy Bridge.
John MacDonald, Wester Ross.
Walter W. M. Ross, Sutherlandshire.

SOUTHERN AREA:

Mrs. H. MacDonald, Ardnarmurchan.
John MacDiarmid, Tiree.

OPENING OF NEW BRANCH IN ABERDEEN.

Enthusiasm was the keynote of the first meeting of the Aberdeen branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, which was held in the St Nicholas Cafe, on 19th January. Professor Hector M. Macdonald, president, presided over a company of nearly 100.

In his presidential address the Chairman gave the assurance that he was always ready to do anything he could to encourage Gaelic and forward the interests of those who belonged to the Highlands. One of the reasons why he had taken such great interest in educating people in connection with Gaelic was that he well remembered going to a certain part of the Highlands peopled by those who talked no Gaelic and those who talked nothing else. One found there a rising generation which had no language. They had been taught Gaelic at their mother's knee and then they learned English as a foreign language under teachers who did not know a word of Gaelic, and the consequence was they forgot Gaelic and could never use the other language.

Mr. D. Campbell Cowan, Huntly, until recently president of the Dumfries Branch, conveyed the felicitations and good wishes of the Dumfries Branch to the members. He impressed upon the company that it was up to them to see that the old language got a fair deal, and that at every opportunity they could get they should not only speak the language but sing those beautiful Gaelic songs.

Mr. Neil Shaw, general secretary and organiser of An Comunn Gaidhealach, who had travelled 270 miles to attend the function, brought greetings and best wishes to the branch. He was sure they would find much to please and entertain them at the meetings. Let those who knew Gaelic practise and speak it so that others who knew just a little might become accustomed and understand at least the words of the Gaelic songs. Mr. Shaw impressed the fact that branch meetings should be educational as well as entertaining, and he advocated short lectures on Highland and Celtic subjects.

They had 160 branches and were always adding to their numbers. Mr. Shaw also paid tribute to the Mods, which had done wonderful work in concentrating interest in Gaelic music and literature.

An exceedingly enjoyable evening was spent, the gathering being entertained by Pipe-Majors Smith and Henderson, Mr. C. Brown (violinist), Miss Souter and Mr. J. B. Munro (Gaelic songs) and Mrs. Campbell (pianist).

BOOK REVIEW.

A Pronouncing Dictionary of Scottish Gaelic. By HENRY CYRIL DIECKHOFF, O.S.B. 186 + xxiv. pages. Published by W. & A. K. Johnston, Ltd. Price 10/6.

As the title indicates, the main feature of the new dictionary is phonetic. The author has based the work on the Glengarry Dialect, according to oral information obtained from natives born before the middle of last century. Having conversed in Gaelic with the learned author we are able to say that he speaks Gaelic with the freedom of a native and the correctness of a scholar. From its somewhat secluded situation in the Great Glen, the district of Glengarry has preserved its Gaelic dialect almost without trace of the external influences that have marred the speech of other districts. It is a fortunate circumstance that Father Dieckhoff has just been in time to capture and preserve on record the lingering echoes of the correct speech of a generation that is fast passing away.

It is well known that Scottish Gaelic is rich in sounds, fifty-four in all to forty-three in English. With a masterly grasp of the system of phonetics which obtains among the learned, the author has analysed the dialect of Glengarry, showing in many instances where it differs from the neighbouring forms. In this comparison we get some insight into other dialects than Glengarry. The author is a pioneer in this thorough method of investigation of one specific dialect. He has revealed to students at home and abroad the phonetic riches of one local form of Scottish Gaelic. He has also shown what a wide vocabulary is still in common use in the Central Highlands; and that a speech retaining such vitality and variety is very far from being the dead language it is supposed by many to be.

In a future edition some of the patronymics at the end of the book might be corrected. The Duke of Argyll is Mac Caillein, not Mac Chaillein-mor or any other form; Mac Ewen is Mac Eoghainn, and not Mac 'ic Eoghainn, which is the patronymic of Maclean of Ardgour. There should be no aspiration in Siol Thormaid and Siol Thorcuil, the names of the Macleods. The correct forms are Siol Tormaid and Siol Torcuil. Lochail is Mac Dhomhnuill Duibh, not dhuibh. The modern tendency to aspirate should not be allowed to alter the old names.

The gratitude of all Gaels is due to Father Dieckhoff, for this masterly analysis of a central Scottish dialect. The printing and appearance of the volume are admirable. N. R.

BRANCH REPORTS.

APPIN.—The recent ceilidh of the Appin branch was, in the matter of attendance, one of the best ever held by the branch. No fewer than 33 handed in their names and subscriptions to the treasurer. Gaelic and English songs were rendered by a large company of artistes, including Miss Heloise Russell Ferguson, whose presence gave much pleasure to all. Mr. MacPherson, president, in an informal talk on the poetry of Badenoch, interspersed his remarks with anecdotes of persons of note in their day, and he was able to infuse interest in a subject unfamiliar to his audience. An excellent tea was afterwards provided by the ladies' committee.

ARDGOUR.—A well attended ceilidh, held in Ardgour Memorial Hall, was organised by Mrs.

C. C. MacDonald and the Adgour Ladies' Choir, which proved an outstanding success. The Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour, who presided, gave an account of the financial state of the Mod. She urged the necessity for more local endeavours to meet the heavy charges incident upon the local Mod. The Ardgour Choir were ably assisted by performers and vocalists from Strontian and Pollock. The local Mod competitors, junior and senior, took the opportunity at the ceilidh of showing in some measure their appreciation of the help given to them by Miss D. C. MacIntyre and Rev. A. D. MacLean. For a number of years Miss MacIntyre and Mr. MacLean have been most active in training junior and senior choirs, and individual competitors in the local and National Mods. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour ably voiced their appreciation, and called upon Miss Blair to hand over the presentation volumes. Miss MacIntyre and Mr. MacLean acknowledged their gratitude and the good wishes of the donors.

BRORA.—It is gratifying to record that there was a splendid response to the invitation to attend the evening continuation classes in Gaelic conducted by the Sutherland Education Committee in co-operation with An Comunn Gàidhealach. A start was made with the junior and senior classes in the Clyne H.G. School on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday each week. Mr. Angus Ross, M.A., Inverness, is acting as teacher. Those who have not yet enrolled should do so at once by kindly giving their names to Mr. W. Sutherland, c/o Dr. Sutherland, Victoria Road, or Mr. D. Grant, 3 Manse Park, Brora. A Provincial Mod for East Sutherland is to be held in Brora this year. It is hoped the inhabitants will do all they can to help their local branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach to make it the best Mod ever held in Sutherland.

BUTE.—There was a large attendance of members and friends of the branch in the Tower Street Hall, Rothsay, on the occasion of a lecture on "Dunvegan and its Relics," by Mr. John Mathieson, M.A., Motherwell. The president, Mr. Archd. Campbell, occupied the chair. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Mathieson made most interesting reference to the antiquities and history of this famous Highland keep, and at the close he was warmly thanked for the informative nature of his paper, which was illustrated with lantern slides. A song programme followed.

CARLOWAY.—The proceeds of the ceilidh of the Carloway branch, held in the School, were devoted as a donation to the funds of the Lewis Hospital, and in order to make their contribution to this worthy institution as substantial as possible, there was a large attendance. A lengthy programme of a varied character was very much enjoyed, and as a result of the entertainment the sum of £13 15/- was forwarded to the hospital funds.

DUMBARTON.—A very large attendance welcomed the Greenock Gaelic Choir at the meeting of the Dumbarton branch, at which the programme was sustained by the choir members as solo and concerted items. The president, Mr. Peter MacKenzie, discharged the duties of chairman, and the evening was one of the most enjoyable held under the auspices of the branch.

EASDALE.—A very successful ceilidh was promoted by the local branch in the Easdale School. The president, Mr. Alex. MacIntyre, made an excellent Fear-an-Tighe, and the proceedings, which included Gaelic and English songs, together with sgèulachdan and instrumental music, was much enjoyed by the large company present.

LEWIS.—In the absence of the president, Mr. John MacSween, the chair at the ceilidh of the Lewis branch at Stornoway was occupied by Mr. Duncan MacDonald, Sandwickhill. The proceedings, which took the form of a concert programme, was sustained by a large company of local artistes. At the close the vote of thanks by Mr. MacDonald amply testified to the manner in which the company enjoyed the various items.

PORTREE.—The local branch of An Comunn held a successful ceilidh in the Reading Room of the Skye Gathering Hall, which was packed to overflowing. A long and enjoyable musical programme was carried out, to which several Mod medallists and prize-winners contributed. The committee were fortunate in being able to secure the services of outside artistes on holiday to help the programme. The popular president, Colonel K. L. MacDonald, D.S.O., was, as usual, the life of the meeting. Miss MacDonald, Viewfield, and Mrs. MacIntyre, Cruachan, were responsible for the splendid preliminary arrangements made for the ceilidh, and deserve the thanks of all.

TORLOISK.—The children of Torloisk, Burg, and Fanmore were entertained to a Christmas treat in Fanmore School by the members of the local branch. The minister, Rev. Mr. MacCuish, presided. The schoolroom was gay with festive decorations. Tea was served by a number of willing helpers organised by the ladies' committee, and a programme of Gaelic and English songs was submitted. After the gaily decorated tree was lit, Santa Claus (Mr. H. MacInnes) brought great delight when he appeared and distributed to each child a toy, sweets, and crackers. Thereafter the chairman called for thanks to the local members of An Comunn, who had provided the funds for the treat, and to all who had helped with the arrangements. Before dispersing, each child received fruit and sweets.

TOBERMORY.—There was much variety at the recent meeting of the Tobermory branch. Ex-Provost Hugh MacCowan, who was accompanied by his daughter, Miss Irene MacCowan, delivered an eloquent and inspiring address on the subject, "Gael is Ceol," while the president, the Rev. J. M. Menzies, read a short paper referring to local traditions, which was illustrated with several beautiful and interesting lantern slides. The remainder of the proceedings included a well acted "Comhradh" and several nicely rendered Gaelic and English songs.

TOBERMORY.—Aig toiseach a' cheilidh air 18mh de'n Fhaoilleach, bha fear an tighe, Iain Cumshrou, a cur "bliadhna mhath ùr" air a' chuideachd, agus a' toirt seachd òraid bheag air na seann nòsan a bha aig na Gàidheil aig a' bhliadhna ùir. Bha Niall Moireasdan, bho Ehomuin Dhearbhag, an sin a cur suas na pìoba mòire; agus bha òrain a' leanntuim bho'n bhean usail Nicleoid, Fionnaghal Medlicott, a' mhaighdean Simpson, Iain MacEanruig, Aonghas MacEanruig, Sibhil NicEanruig, agus Tormod MacDhomhuill; agus a' bhean usail NicCoinnich a cur ceol nosglach air a phiano. Ach b'e gnòthach mòr na h-òidhean air òraid a thug Niall Moireasdan air bardachd Oisein. Le reusan chomasach roinn e soilleir gu'n robh "Bardachd Oisein," le Macmhuirich, fìor gu léir. Bha faicail aige ri radh air baird eile cuideachd, agus thug e a bharail, gun eagal, air a' bhàrdachd aca. Anns an deasbairreachd a' bha leanntuim bha beagan ri radh aig Fear-an-Tighe, an t-Urr. MacCuish agus A. M. MacLachlainn, agus bu mhat a bha Calum Macacoidh a' cumail suas bardachd a dhutlacha fhéin.

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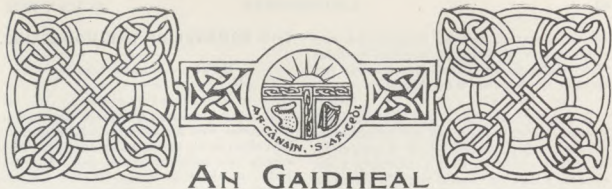
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Leabhar XXVIII.]

An Màrt, 1933.

[Earrann 6

A' GHÀIDHLIG AN CANADA.

Anns a' bhliadhna 1931, an uair a chaidh sluagh na rioghachd a chunntas, bha luchd labhairt na Gàidhlig air an àireamh gu cùramach. Tha e coltach nach eil Rìghaltas Chanada a' gabhail na suim is lugha de 'n chànan air am cunntas an t-sluaigh. Tha sin a' nochdadh gu bheil e iomchuidh aire a tharruinn gu còirichean ar cànan anns an dùthaich mhòir sin, far a bheil iomadh mìle de Ghaidheil a tha comasach air Gàidhlig a labhairt. O chionn seachdainn no dha thainig earrann a mach anns na paipeirean naidheachd a sgrìobh Caimbeulach Òg Inbhirneil. Tha an t-usal so eudmhor as leth na cànan. Ghabh e saothair mhòr ann a bhi a' cur oched fìhead litir le seachd ceistean mu'n Ghaidhlig anns gach litir, a dh'ionnsaidh mhinistirean agus shagart an Cape Bhreatann, an Eilean Phrionns' Edward agus an trì siorramachdan air tìr-mòr Nova Scotia. Anns an àireamh so fhéin de 'n *Ghaidheal* gheibhear cuibhrionn mhaith de 'n sgrìobhadh thaitneach a rinn Caimbeulach Inbhirneil; agus tha sinn uile gu mòr 'n a chomhainn airson na saothair a tha e a' gabhail an aobhar na cànan.

* * * * *

Bha na ceistean freagarrach gu bhi a' feòrach mu chor na cainnte anns a' chearn ud de Chanada: Cìod e an àireamh anns gach sgrì a labhradh Gàidhlig; cia mar bha an àireamh sin a' coimeas ri àireamh an t-sluaigh air fad; an robh a' chlànn comasach air Gàidhlig a mhàin, no Beurla a mhain a labhairt, no an robh an dà chànan sin aca; an robh a' chainnt 'g a cleachdadh anns na sgoilean; cia cho tric 's a bha seirbheis Gàidhlig air

a cumail anns na h-eaglaisean; cìod e meud nan coimhthional Gàidhealach, agus an robh a' chuid bu mho de 'n choimhthional a' fàs sean; an robh a' Ghaidhlig a' dol air a h-ais anns gach sgrì; an robh i air a measgachadh gu mòr le facail Bheurla; an robh paipeirean naidheachd Gàidhlig 'g am foillseachadh, no an robh leabhraichean Gàidhlig 'g an leughadh. A rèir nam freagairt a fhuaradh tha e air a mheas gu bheil suas ri deich mìle fìhead de luchd labhairt Gàidhlig anns na cearnaibh a chaidh ainmeachadh de Chanada. Tha tomhas mòr dhiubh sin, faodaidh gu bheil a' chuid is motha dhiubh, nach faca Alba riamh, agus nach faca an aithrichean Alba riamh. Tha feadhainn dhiubh de 'n choigeimh glùn, no de 'n choigeimh ginealach, bho dh'fhag an sinnsir a' Ghaidhealtachd.

* * * * *

Nach ruig sin ar cridhe le bàigh do 'n iarmad dhileas ud a ghlèidh an dualchas? Nach aobhraidh e luasgan inntinn do mhóran aig an dachaidh an Alba, gun do cheadaich sinn do chainnt ar sluaigh dol cho fada sìos, an uair a tha na càirdean ud thall thar chuantan cho duineil, dian gu bhi a' gleidheadh na cànan? Ach a thuilleadh air an àireamh a tha an Nova Scotia agus an Cape Bhreatann agus Eilean Phrionns' Edward, is iomadh mìle de dheagh Ghaidheil a tha air an sgapadh feadh gach cearn de Chanada, mòran dhiubh a rugadh agus a thogadh an Alba. Bu chòir gum biodh rian air a chleachdadh gus na mìltean sin a ghluasad gu eud. Bhiodh sin comasach. Mar is fhaide a shìubhlas an Gaidheal air astar bho dhùthaich nam beann is ann is blàithe a dheòin do a cheòl is do a chànan. Mar a chaill ar cainnt a greim gu mòr anns a' Ghaid-

healtachd mar thoradh air mì-chùram is cion rian, caillidh a' Ghaidhlig a greim a cheart cho cinnteach an Canada cuideachd mar thoradh air cion rian is mì-chùran.

* * * * *

Is gaun gu leig mi a leas dol thairis gu mionaideach air freagairt nan ceist, oir gheibhear sin ann Beurla air duilleig eile de 'n àireamh so. Ach tha e soilleir gu bheil a' Ghaidhlig a sior dhol ni 's laige an Canada mar bha i anns an an dùthaich so fhèin, agus gur ann do bhrìgh nan ceart aobhar—dearmad na cànanain anns a' sgoil, dearmad na Gaidhlig ann an aoradh follaiseach, agus dearmad a bhi a' sgrìobhadh is a leughadh na cànanain. Chan eil mi idir ag ràdh nach eil àireamh de na coimhthionail dìleas do 'n chainnt, pailt cho dìleas ruinne; agus nach eil muinntir na dùthcha sin cho dìleas ruinne gu Ghaidhlig a chlo-bhualadh agus a leughadh—ach tha an aon ghàlair anns a' chànanain an sud is a tha againne an Alba, tha i a chuid 's a chuid a' dol a cleachdadh. Is ann mar sin a thig am bàs gu cinnteach air a' chainnt, mur deanar strì gu h-òrdail, rianail, an deagh am.

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Tha an cuspair so a' tairgse cothrom dhomh gu bhi ag ainmeachadh aon turus eile rùn àraidh air an robh mi a' beachd smuaineachadh gu tric bho chionn bhliadhnaichean. Is e sin—gum bu chòir do 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach oidheirp a dheanamh gu meanglain a shuidh-eachadh an Canada. Tha a' Ghaidhlig cho luachmhor agus cho beothail an Canada is a tha i an Alba. Ma tha An Comunn eudmhor gu bhi a' gleidheadh na cànanain, tha e ceart gu'n gabhadh An Comunn meadhonan gu Gaidheil Chanada a sheòladh; gu bhi a' sealltainn dhaibh ciamar a dh'faodar aonadh ri chèile gu dian, dùrachdach airson na crìche sònruichte so—ar cainnt is ar ceòl a theasraiginn. Chan e idir gu bheil sinne ni's teoma no ni's glìce na iadsan: ach is e gu bheil sinn fathast aig an t-seann dachaigh anns an dùthaich mhàtharail—agus gun do dhearbh sinn le obair A' Chomuinn fad dha fhichead bliadhna, gun gabh ar cànanain cuideachadh; gun èisd ard-riaghaltais ri ar guth; gun gabh ath-bheothachadh a dheanamh le teasgag na cànanain anns na sgoilean; agus gu bheil e comasach na seann fhuinn a chumail air chuimhne le bhi 'g an seinn aig mòid le aon-neach is le còisir. Cuireadh an Comunn a null *thar chuan trì no cèithear de theachdair-ean gu labhairt is gu seinn anns a' Ghaidhlig*; agus chan eil an teagamh is lugha nach bith deagh thòradh air meanglain ùra a thig fo bhlàth an Canada.

THE ROMANCE OF THE MOUNTAINS.

By Dr. LACHLAN GRANT.

III.—INDUSTRIAL.

Man has harnessed the forces of nature in his service, and the mountains he has turned into allies in his industrial operations. They supply him with power and protection, and yield up their treasures for his material benefit. They are also important in creating climatological conditions which purify the air and furnish an inexhaustible water supply.

Wherever there are *mountains*, nature is prodigal with its *water supply*; and they are a guarantee of purity of the atmosphere; and bracing, healthful, conditions. Without them the land would be tame and dispiriting, and our power over nature a very small quantity. People in the plains have a strong preference for the mountains, and perhaps that was one reason why our early ancestors made their way from Asia and through Europe, settling under the protection of the mountains, grazing their flocks, and sure of supplies of water and vegetation.

Since pre-historic times man has been mining and quarrying, and there is still plenty of material to keep the world going a long time yet. We read of the Phœnicians getting tin from Cornwall over two thousand years ago, and of metals and precious stones taken to the great Kingdoms in Egypt, Greece, and Asia Minor from all parts of the known earth. The slates of Ballachulish have been quarried for over two centuries, and there are still plenty left. Slates belong to one of the older formations, and consist mainly of mud and clay well baked, pressed, and fired during vast ages, and now we use it for roofing and other purposes; and in the course of time it will decay and decompose, and return to its natural and original state of dust, clay, mud, and sand. In all this man is but hastening the process of nature, for, sooner or later, the mountains will melt away.

“Time's corrosive dewdrop eats

The giant warrior to a crust

Of earth in earth and rust in rust.”

As science progresses and fresh discoveries are made the mountains may be made to yield more and more of their secrets and *new acquisitions* to our stores of useful materials. True, as Bishop Hall wrote: “There is many a rich stone laid up in the bowels of the earth, many a fair pearl laid up in the

bosom of the sea that never was seen, nor ever shall be."

But the past achievements of science and industry encourage us to hope there is much more to be discovered and turned to man's advantage. When we look around we cannot but imagine there are still vast reserves of energy locked up in nature; and mountains even of common rock may yet be found to contain wonderful potentialities. May there not be other forms of force such as radium only waiting for some magic hand to farther unlock the gates of knowledge. Speculation can carry us to a future of scientific and industrial development working still more in alliance with natural forces, when even coal and gas may become things of the past, and by means of electric and other potent energies the world's work be reduced to a minimum, leaving man more free to develop himself on the higher planes of thought and not always be putting the leading question *Cui Bono?* (What the use of it?); or, how much will it bring? But often true values are not seen on the surface, and if some mountains seem only to yield mole hills at present, the time has perhaps not yet come for them to give up their secrets; and so long as they are objects of inspiration and beauty for mankind they are treasures that money cannot buy or sell. To quote Cowper: "Happiness depends, as Nature shows, less on exterior things than most suppose." For the utilitarian point of view it may be said that if science has robbed us of some old-world fancies, and torn the veil of mystery from the fairies, gnomes, and elves of mountain, glen, lake, waterfall, and stream; and if industry has left its marks of powder and pickaxe, we are more than compensated by the new mysteries revealed, and by the material benefits that conduce to progress and civilisation.

Those wonderful tunnels alone, such as the St. Gothard, Mont Cenis, Simplon, The Andes, Ben Nevis now, and others throughout the world, penetrating the highest mountains, can well take the place of the old-time illusions of the imaginations.

SCENIC.

Man does not live by bread alone, and he will always have a craving for something above and beyond the material aspect of things—something that will satisfy the higher senses, and appeal to the eye and the imagination. The sense of the beautiful is innate in man, and the earliest artistic efforts of our pre-historic ancestors shows them to have been appreciative observers of

natural things. The farmer looks on his crop with the eye of calculation, and rightly so, as food is the first consideration; but that necessity need not prevent him sensing and admiring the odours, sights, and sounds of the summer, and of harvest time, and all the other attractions of a country life. We may quarry the mountain and dig into the bowels of the earth for a living, and yet not lose our admiration for the beautiful in nature. Some people are eager to go to other countries to see their wonderful scenery, and remain oblivious or forgetful of the scenic attractions at their very doors. From the glens and passes we have mountain scenery that is wild and majestic, a natural grandeur amazing and inspiring. None of us have failed to note the gorgeous view of the sun's reflected glory on our mountains. I dare say the late war, by preventing much tourist traffic abroad, was the means of showing many people that in the homeland there are undreamt-of beauties of mountain, river, waterfall, moorland ground, stream, and glen only a few hours' journey away. In the scenery of a country, mountains are the most conspicuous feature. They form the strongest sentimental tie in love of country, and the greatest fascination for the tourist and traveller. In national song mountains are set forth as a glorious gift. To our own poets who were inspired by our Highland bens we owe the following songs: "Beinn Dorain," "Cruachan Beann," "Chi mi na Mòrbeanna," "Bens of Jura," and many others, and whether it is in Scotland, Switzerland, Italy, Japan, India, or America, they are a dominant theme with artist or author. In a sense they are also material assets regarded merely as scenic adjuncts for they attract the holiday seekers and the lovers of natural beauty. It is the scenic background that gives Scott's novels and poems the romantic setting that heightens the interest of plot and story; and so will others, writers like Fiona MacLeod, William Sharp, Crockett, Black, and Stevenson. And in all this scenic display, mountains and hills form what may be termed the background of the background just as they do in the case of the painter, sketcher, or photographer. What though, as Campbell says—

" 'Tis distance lends enchantment to the view,
And robes the mountain in its azure hue."

It serves its purpose as a charm for the senses; and, like many pleasures when pursued too closely, the charm may retreat and disappear. (To be continued.)

GAELIC DRAMA.

By DONALD A. ROBERTSON.

Sometime back, Dr. Neil Ross, as President of An Comunn, made an eloquent plea for the development of Gaelic drama. If one concurs with the judgment of Matthew Arnold, that the Celtic genius is of a passionate, flashing, impatient quality that disdains the *magnum opus* and compresses its art in impetuous lyrics, gems of folk-song, and fascinating illuminated manuscripts and decorative design, then here, indeed, is an outlet for the racial genius for giving glimpses of intoxicating spiritual power. For the play, especially the one-act play, is the ploy for a passing mood.

So far, on the serious side, the Gael has left the theatre alone. This is not to be wondered at, for drama is largely on urban art. Its conventions and standards have developed, as far as British Drama is concerned, on Anglo-Saxon soil. It has yet to be made a plastic medium for Gaelic expression. And diffidence apart, by religious endowment the Celt has long looked askance at a form of entertainment that has taken centuries to be recognised as a cultural impulse in a specific artistic form.

The difficulties, however, are more apparent than real. The craft of play-writing is easily within the grasp of any Gaelic-speaking man with dramatic instinct. That he has a flair for drama by ethnic disposition is evident from the quality of the tale and legend of his people. Gaelic literature is packed with dramatic incident, and, above all, coloured by that illusive imagery and mystic charm to which scholars attribute that "touch of magic" in English poetry. Here is a field in which a dramatist of genius, sure of his craft, and working by racial instinct, should enrich not only his own literature, but contemporary letters as well. Should inspiration flag, it can always be galvanized by a "creach" on the romantic page of Highland history—feuds, forays, the "45," tartan, piobaireachd, with all the glamorous background of heather and glen, flit before the eye!

Hitherto, Gaelic playwrights have had the greatest difficulty in overcoming purely technical considerations. In plot-making they have been more concerned with humour than verisimilitude. Incident has been staged regardless of probability, where a more natural happening could have been explained by skilful narrative. Often needless scene-changing is entailed, which, apart from being costly

and destroying interest, is bad from the point of view of modern practice. Most three-act plays are now done in one scene,—or, at least, only one change of scene.

Again, too many characters are frequently introduced. This increases the work of the producer, the difficulties of the players, and most certainly weakens the play. Incident and dialogue must be thrust on as few players as possible. It heightens the dramatic value of the actor. Movement however, must be by definite impulse or the affect is lost. It is weak craftsmanship for instance, to send Mairi out to collect eggs or Ruari to gossip with his neighbour, unless it fits in with the progression of the play. It leaves an impression on the audience that the playwright is desperate to get rid of his characters. Plausibility is the test. Neither must there be continual going too and fro, either on or off the stage; it makes the atmosphere restless, and is almost as irritating as the monotony of long drawn-out dialogue between static characters. The psychology of audiences must be sensed and played upon.

Another, and most important consideration from the point of view of construction, is finding suitable curtains. In a three-act play, the curtain should drop on the first two acts at an intense moment that carries the interest of the audience until it arises again. The whole effect of a play can be marred by "bad curtains." There must be suspense. The final curtain, the most important of all, should come on a lively phrase or scene that *grips*. A play should leave a picture behind it.

Of course, the conventional mode of the play is exposition, action and climax. There are two methods of attack; the Shakespearian way and the Ibsen way. In the first, things happen as you go along. Perhaps, a 'confidante' is introduced to whom people are described, or fears or events disclosed. In a general way, the stage is set for the appearance of the caste and the happenings of the play. Briefly, in this method, the first act is usually devoted to exposition and in getting a clash of personality or event; the second, in getting things into a tangle; and the third, in straightening them out again. On the other hand, the Ibsen method starts with the climax. There is an emotional eruption in which past events are thrown up. There is a tension in the atmosphere almost from the rise of the curtain.

The grasp of such essentials in play-construction, instead of handicapping the free development of drama, greatly simplifies and aids the dramatist in his work. In knowing the

form, he becomes more selective and adept in his choice and use of materials. He fixes on one or two big moments and builds round them, skilfully weaving incident with incident. But the machinery must not jut out. His characters should not be dangled like puppets, but behave with individuality as if events flowed from them, and not from the manipulation of the playwright. In sound creative work, strong characterisation is a convincing ingredient. To achieve it, there must be definite visualisation beforehand.

Most Gaelic plays are prone to use stock types. There is the romantic, humorous 'bodach'; the worldly-wise, acrimonious 'cailleach'; the pretty, bold or coy young daughter of an obedient disposition; the 'tuathanach mor' with a ploughed field in one hand and a 'sgalag' in the other; and, of course, the bashful but impecunious young man. They are thrown together to produce as much humour as possible, or sing a song as the spirit moves them. The effects in the hands of a few enthusiasts can be quite charming, but it is not play-writing; it is merely using the stage as a convenient vehicle for giving a lively entertainment.

Yet, however skilful a plot, delicate character-drawing, or sensitive an atmosphere, unless the dialogue is in proper shape the effect is lost. Naturally, the Gaelic enthusiast wishes to decorate his language with old-words and proverbs. But splendid as is his zeal, the play is not the literary form for its lavish employment. Unless the old-word or phrase advances the action, falling naturally and better than straight-forward language, its use is to be deprecated artistically. The playwright is concerned more with emotion, character, atmosphere and incident than with language. Narration should be forced out of the players in dramatic form under stress of emotion, and ordinary interchange dominated by economy of expression. This makes for a crisp style, devoid of literary flourish, and following unambiguous, colloquial speech—indeed, ordinary conversation in a compressed and a controlled form, and coming in single or double sentences from the players. Long speeches are only tolerated where the exigencies of drama demand it. In no case should the dialogue be monopolised by the few. It should be broken up here and there and thrown amongst the onlookers to keep them in the picture.

To attain tenseness the author must sacrifice ruthlessly; every extraneous sentence, phrase

or even word must be "cut." If there is a shorter way round it must be taken.

Although his work may appear bald in the reading, it is for the player and the arts of the producer to give it life. For their guidance the author should colour his script with a running commentary interpreting the nuances between speech and actor, and, particularly, aid the producer by meticulously arranging his scenery and furniture, outlining the 'business,' and indicating the movements of players.

To-day, we hear of English plays being frequently produced in Gaelic-speaking areas. More would be played in the old language if the notes to published plays were more helpful.

In conclusion, it cannot be over-emphasised that play-writing is no haphazard thing. It has its art and conventions that can only be understood by sympathetic contact with the theatre, and, perhaps, guided by such excellent expositions on the craft of play-writing as given by the late Wm. Archer, St. John Ervine or Miss Agnes Platt.

But, above all, to write plays, one must read plays—and live them.

“ SPORS.”

Mo Chairdean, chaidh mi do Inbhirnis air an t-seachdainn so chaidh. Chaidh a' bhó agam, Bella, bho bhainne, agus bha mi an rùn a reic. An uair a dhealach mi ri Bella, chaidh mi do 'n *Railway Station*, a dol dachaidh. De bha an sin ach móran sluagh a' seasamh aig bùth nan leabhraichean. “De tha so? De tha so?” arsa mise, “ri fear a bha seasamh an sin. A bheil cogadh eile ann no an e Lloyd George a bhàsaich?” “Chan e sin idir a tha ann,” fhreagair e, “tha iad a' feitheamh ris an *Daily Mail*.” “Ud! ud!” arsa mise, “b'fhearr gu'n robh iad a' leughadh a' Bhìobuill. Agus dé bhitheas iad a' faicinn anns an *Daily Mail*?” “Naidheachd mù thimchioll na *Cricket Match* an *Australia*,” arsa' esan. “Bha iongantas mór orm, agus cheannaich mi an *Daily Mail*. An sin air aghaidh a' phaipear bha litrichean móra *Larwood strikes Woodfull*; *Woodfull complains to Plum Warner*.” “Hoch,” arsa mise, agus thilg mi am paipear sìos air an làr. “Cha bhiodh e mar sin anns an t-seann aimsir. Cha bhiodh Fionn no Oscar a' gearan ged bhiodh an cinn-air am bualadh. Bhiodh iad a' bualadh air ais. Bhiodh e na b'fhearr gu'n robh iad a' cumail ri camanachd an aite “new fangled notions mar cricket.” W. M.

AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH (SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Mainly Translated from the Norwegian.

Le K. W. G.

X.

Dh'fhaoidte nach biodh e neo-thaitneach le cuid na'n toirinn cunntas beagan na's mionaidiche an so air mar a thàinig an t-ainm MacLeòid a nuas o shean. Chunnaic sinn cheana gu'n tàinig e o Lodver (na b'fhaid'air ais Hlodver); tha Lod, Hlod a ciallachadh "ainmeil" am feadh a tha "ver," "verr" a ciallachadh "duine." B'e ceud sinnsear nan Leòdach, Leòd no Loyd, mac rìgh Lochlannach an Eilein Mhanannaich agus nan Innse Gall, Amhlaidh Dubh agus a threasa bean Cairistiona, nìghean Fhearaghair Iarla Rois; chaidh 'altrum an tigh a chinn-fheadhna chumhachdaich Lochlannaich Páll Balkason, Siorram an Eilean Sgitheanaich, air a ghairm mar an ceudna Triath an Eilean sin; bha so tràth anns an 13mh linn. Bho Oidaltrom fhuair e na h-Earadh, agus bho athair a mhàthar earrann de oighreachd barain an Gleann Eilg; phòs e aon nighean, is ban-oighe ridire Lochlannach: Mhic Arait-Armuinn (Arman, Stùbhard an Rìgh), agus bha e 'n a oighe air na fearainn fharsuinn aige, Dun-bheagan, Minginis, Bracadal, Diurinnis, Lundal, agus earrann de Thronairnis 's an Eilean Sgitheanaich (uile ainmean Lochlannach). Tha fathast teaghlachan de'n ainm MacRaild air oighreachdan Chloinn Leòd. Bha dà mhac aig Leòd, Tòrmòd, ceann-cinnidh Chloinn Leòd Na h-Earadh agus Ghlinn Eilg, d'an robh a shlohad a 'fuireach an Dun-bheagan, agus ris an abrar Siol Tormòid; b'e Torcuill am mac eile, ceann-cinneadh Chloinn Leòd Leòdhais, Bhaternis, Asainn, Gheàrr-loch is Ra'arsa, ris an abrar Siol Torcuill. Tha'n dà mhac is sine de cheann-cinneadh Chloinn Leòid gus an latha 'n diugh air an ainmeachadh Tormòd is Torcuill. Bha caraid dhomh, Lochlannach a thachair a bhi 'n a larchomhairleach-choigreach an Grianais, a bha 's an Eilean Sgitheanaich o chionn beagan bhliadhnachan, a ghabh an cothrom tadhall air MacLeòid an Dun-bheagan; ghabh an Ceann-cinnidh ris gu suilbhear agus 'n an comhradh thuirt e gu'n robh e leagail meas sonruichte air a shinnsearachd Lochlannach. Tha Sir Bhalter Scott mar an ceudna a' toirt tarraim air sinnsearachd Chloinn Leòid 'n a Dhuhan "Triath nan Eilean," far am bheil e ag

innseadh mu bhuadhan "Ridire foghainteach Dhun-bheagain."

"Blas garg an Lochlannach tha dian An rùintean Thòrcuill 's neart a mhiann." Tha cuid de na nithe sin air an toirt a "Eachdraidh Nan Leòdach," le Alasdair McCoinnich. B'e dara mac Rìgh Amhlaidh Dhuibh, Guinn (Gunn, Gunnar) sinnsear Guinnich Ghallaobh.

Tha iomadh teaghlach ainmeil eile am measg am bheil beul-aithris mu na ceannardan móra Lochlannach o'n tainig iad; Iarlan Chromba mar eisimpleir. Thuirt Sir Deòrsa Mac Coinnich, ceud Iarla Chromba, uime fhéin nach robh ann ach "ceann-cinneadh beag de'n aon teaghlach Lochlannach a dh'fhàgadh an Albainn de shliochd Amhlaidh, aon de na fir mu dheireadh 's an Eilean Mhanannach a dh'fhan dileas do'n Rìgh, agus a mhac Leòd, a bha 'n a oighe air Leòdhas." (Fraser, 'n a leabhar "Iarlan Chrombaidh.") Tha teaghlach Mhic Amhlaidh Uig ann mar an ceudna. Tha Sir Deòrsa Trevelyan ag ràdh gu'n robh e air aithris an teaghlach Lord Macaulay gu'n d'thàinig iad bho Amhlaidh Mhanuis, Rìgh Lochlainn.

Tha, mar an ceudna, ainmean Gàidhlig ann aig am bheil comhcheangal ri Lochlainn; mar eisimpleir, Lachlan, 'n a dhòighean sgrìobhaidh uile: Laughlan, Loughlin, McLaughlan, McLaughlin, McLaughlan; bha iad air an sgrìobhadh an toiseach mar Lochlann, agus McLochlann. B'e Lochlann ainm nan Gàidheal air an tìr as an tàinig na Viking, air an aobhar sin thatar de'n bharail gu'n robh sin a ciallachadh Lochlann Siar (às an tainig a chuid a bu mhò de na Viking "siar thar sàile") agus gu h-àraidh an earrann sin a chaidh o shean fo'n ainm, Firdafylki, agus ris an cainte mar an ceudna Firdir no Fjordane=na fjordan, no na lochan, agus fhreagradh sin do Lochlann (Fjordlannet) no Tìr nan Lochan.

Tha ainmean coltach ri Fionnaghal agus Dùghall 'n a cuimhneachan mar an ceudna air làthaireachd nan Tuathach air corsa siar na h-Alba. Tha Fionn-ghall a ciallachadh "coigreach bànn, no le falt bàn" an eadar-dhealachadh ri "Dubh-ghall" na "coigreach duth," ciod air bith a thug orra am mùthadh so a dheanamh eadar na Lochlannaich à Tuath agus iadsan à Deas. Bho Fhionnaghal tha'n t-ainm McKinnel.

Theirair Lochlannaich riu uile, tuath is deas aig an àm so, ach gur iad daonnan na Fionn-Lochlannaich na Tuathaich.

Air an làimh eile, ghabh na Lochlannaich coingheal de ainmean Gàidhlig, mar

eisimpleir, Njall=Niall, ainm a tha air a dheanamh neo-bhàsmhor anns an Saga Icelandach "Losgadh Nèill"; 'n ar latha-ne 's e Niels, Nielsen an dòigh air am bheil e dol, agus a tha fìor chumanta, gu dearbh tha e sin, anns na trì dùthchannan Lochlannach; agus Kjallakr = Ceallach, o 'm bheil McKillaig; Kjartan = Muir-cheartach; Kormakr = Cormac; Feilan = Fhaolan; Kvaran=Cuaran.

A chionn gu'n do ghabhadh a stigh an t-Eilean Manannach 's an riochachd Lochlannaich "sìar tha saile" bith e cho math a dhà no trì ainmean a chur sìos a tha air fuireach an sin o linn nan Lochlannach: Casement = McAsmundr; Corlet = McThorljotr; Crennel, Crenilt = McRognvaldr; Cowley=Mac Olaf; Goree, Gorry = Gùdròir, gu beagan diubh a chur sìos.

(Ri Leantainn.)

DO'N FHEAR-DHEASACHAIDH.

A' Ghàidhlig Anns Na Sgoilean Gàidhealach.

Urramaich uasail,—Tha mi ag iarraidh oirbh cead gu sgeul beag innseadh air rud a thàinig fo m'aire o chionn ghoirid, 's mi air chuir do dh'Oil-thigh àraidh ainmeil air taobh eile na dùthcha, far an do choinnich mi oileanach òg Gàidhealach. Air teannadh dhuinn ri seanchas chuir mi ceist no dhà air mu staid na Gàidhlig ann an sgoilean nan Innse-Gall, oir is ann an sin a fhuair e 'arach, ged nach d'ionnsaich e á Ghàidhlig gus an robh e ocd bliadhna dh'aois. "S an robh am maighstir-sgoile a' bruidhinn Gàidhlig ris a' chloinn?" thubhairt mi, "agus an robh e 'gan teagasg anns a' Ghàidhlig?" "Ma ta, is i nach robh—is fada bh'uaire e" thubhairt mo chompanach, "ged is e fìor Bhana-Ghàidheal a bha innte, agus i déidheil gu leòir air a' Ghàidhlig; cha robh i bruidhinn fòcal Gàidhlig anns an sgoil ach ris na sgoilearan beaga, ùra, nach tuigeadh a' Bheurla, air eagal 'n uair a thigeadh fear-rannsachaidh nan sgoilean gun abradh e gur h-olc a' Bheurla a bha aig na sgoilearan, 's gun chailleadh i fhéin a cosnadh. A thuilleadh air sin, bha eagal mór air a' chloinn roimh 'n fhear-rannsachaidh, duine fiadhaich, Gallda bha cur ceistean orra ann an cànan ainmharaisich agus 'gan cronachadh gu geur nam biodh fear dhiubh cho mì-chrèamach 's gun leigeadh e facl Gàidhlig as a bheul."

A nis, faodaidh mi bhith am mearachd, ach nan deante a leithid so ann an Cuibec, am Malta,

no an Africa mu Dheas, no an àite eile far am bheil an sluagh a bruidhinn cànan eile a bharrachd air cànan na dùthcha do'm buin iad bu mhór an glaoth 's an gearan a thogte, gus an ruigeadh e, gun teagamh, Ard-Chomhairle Léig nan Stàitean; ach 'n uair a thachras an dearbh-rud 'sa Ghàidhealtachd, cha tog duine a lām no a ghuth 'n aghaidh. Saoilidh an saoghal gum bheil na Gàidheil 'nan traillean truagha aig na daoine a fhuair lām-an-uachdar orra, o nach eil toil no misneach aca an cànan a sheasamh tuilleadh.

Ma tha na dh'innis mi fìor an diu—agus is ann an déidh a' Chogaidh Mhóir a thachair e—is beag an dòchas da rìreadh gu mair a' Ghàidhlig leth-cheud bliadhna. Biodh na mór-uaislean ag ràdh "Na treigibh a' Ghàidhlig"—is fursada sin, cha robh fear-rannsachaidh 'gan cronachadh-san ri linn an cuid Beurla bhith gann; cha robh e air a thoirmeasg dhaibh-san an cànan mhàtharail a chleachdadh 'sna sgoilean. Is e a leithid so de dh'ana-cothrom a tha cur nach eil a' Ghàidhlig a' fàs 'na cànan làidir, fuasgaite, mar a tha cànannean eile fàs, agus is beag an t-ìoghnadh sin. Cha bhi a' Ghàidhlig sàbhailte gus au abrar, "'S i Gàidhlig cainnt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan sgoilean Gàidhealach, mar is i cainnt nan eaglaisean Gàidhealach; chan eil 's an Bheurla ach cànan choimheach, agus is ann mar chànan choimhich is còir a teagasg, gun eagal roimh chronachadh fir-rannsachaidh Ghallda no muinntir eile nach buin d'ar dùthaich."—Mise, le mòr-mheas oirbh,

IAIN LATHARNA CAIMBEUL.

Inbhir Nèill, Ardriseig,
Earraghaidheal, 30/1/33.

COMUNN NA CLARSACH.

At a meeting of the Executive Council of Comunn na Clarsach, held in Glasgow last month, with Mrs. Iain Campbell, the president, in the chair, it was decided to invite pupils to attend a special class for the clarsach at the Summer School at Portree. The fee for the three weeks' course will be £1. It was reported at the same meeting that the Society had just issued its first publication, *Oran mór MhicLeoid* (musical setting for clarsach by F. G. Scott), copies of which may be obtained from the hon. secretary, Miss E. Taylor, Glencairn, Dunblane, at a cost of a shilling. Forty-three new members were elected, bringing the total membership of the Society up to one hundred and fifty since its inception just over a year ago.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Friday, 27th January. The president, Rev. Neil Ross, D.Litt., presided, and the following members were present:—John M. Bannerman, B.Sc., Balmaha; Wm. D. Barclay, Glasgow; Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow; Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Rev. David Duncan, Musselburgh; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. S. C. B. Edgar, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Col. A. D. Greenhill Gardyne of Glenforsa; Rev. Donald Lamont, D.D., Blair Atholl; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Sir Alexander M. MacEwen, Inverness; Miss Ann MacGillivray, Glasgow; Gilbert MacIntyre, Killin; John MacIntyre, Glasgow; John MacKay, Linlithgow; Duncan C. MacKenzie, Glasgow; Alasdair C. MacLaren, Dalmally; Hugh MacLean, Troon; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Dr. R. R. MacNicol, Taynult; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh; Mrs. Stewart (Fasnacloich); A. M. Sweet, Skelmorlie; Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, Dunblane; Rev. Donald Thomson, B.D., Killin. In attendance—Robert MacFarlane, C.A., treasurer; Neil Shaw, secretary; and Hugh MacPhee, assistant to the secretary.

Minute of previous meeting was read and approved.

The president said that since their last meeting one of their life members, the Right Hon. J. Ian MacPherson, P.C., M.P. for Ross-shire, had a signal honour conferred upon him by the King. To Sir Ian MacPherson they extended their congratulations.

Dr. Ross added that one of their Gaelic adjudicators, Dr. D. J. MacLeod, had also been honoured by the King, having been made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire. Dr. MacLeod had performed very important work for Gaelic literature. They wished also to convey their compliments to Dr. MacLeod on the honour he had received.

Minute of meeting of Finance Committee reported that the financial returns in connection with the Fort William Mod had shown the record surplus of £1295. The committee expressed great satisfaction at this splendid result, and were indebted to the people of Fort William and elsewhere, who helped to ensure the success of the Mod.

The president stated that fitting acknowledgment should be made of the success of

the Mod at Fort William. Minute was adopted.

The Education Committee recommended that the Summer School of Gaelic be held in Portree for three weeks, from 6th to 27th July, inclusive. The committee reported correspondence with the Director of Education for Perthshire with reference to the teaching of Gaelic in schools. The Director promised to ascertain the number of Gaelic speaking children in the county, and submit the number to the committee. The committee agreed to support Col. Greenhill Gardyne of Glenforsa in an endeavour to have a Gaelic speaking teacher appointed to the headmastership of Salen (Aros) School. The minute was adopted.

The Publication Committee minute reported their consideration of the proposal that a phrase book should be published. It was decided to recommend that they could not become responsible for such a publication in the meantime. The minute was adopted.

A minute of the Propaganda Committee and reports from the Northern and Southern Sub-Committees were read.

The Northern Sub-Committee reported that a letter had been received from Sir Alexander M. MacEwen, per Mr. Donald Graham, offering on behalf of an anonymous donor prizes to the extent of £5 10s for the Gaelic section of the Northern Counties' Association Musical Festival and Provincial Mod. Mr. Graham was asked to arrange a suitable competition in consultation with Sir Alexander MacEwen. As there are to be two Mods in Sutherland this year, the secretary was instructed to write the donors of the two cups presented for choral singing at the Sutherland Provincial Mod. The sub-committee suggested that the Duke of Sutherland Cup be offered for competition at Tongue and Sir Edgar Horne's at Brora.

Mr. Angus M. Ross, it was intimated, had begun his duties as Gaelic teacher under the Sutherland Education Committee as from 9th January. He was also conducting Gaelic continuation classes in various districts.

The Propaganda Committee expressed appreciation of the work done by the sub-committee appointed to confer with the Director of Education for the County of Sutherland, and were pleased at the sympathetic consideration shown by Mr. Ross.

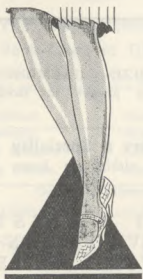
The minute and reports were adopted.

The Art and Industry Committee reported that the last of the special orders for rug-

(Continued on Page 89)

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making had been completed. The committee were in communication with education committees in the Highland areas, and the Women's Rural Institute with regard to the establishment of classes for instruction in the use of vegetable dyes. The minute was adopted.

The Mod and Music Committee reported that the syllabus for the 1934 Mod was practically completed. The secretary had reported that the sum of £100 had now been received from the Mrs. Kennedy Fraser Memorial Committee. The committee approved of the terms of the receipt given for the money. The minute was adopted.

Mr. D. C. MacKenzie asked whether it was possible to have the suspension raised in regard to a competitor who had been debarred from competing. He thought the matter might be considered by the Mod and Music Committee.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod thought there would be no objection to that.

Mr. John A. Nicolson said that as the Executive had made the suspension, it would have to be raised by them. He moved that the suspension be raised.

Mrs. Colquhoun seconded.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod said that it might be better to adopt Mr. MacKenzie's suggestion to remit the matter to the Mod and Music Committee.

This was agreed to.

In reply to Mr. Nicolson, who asked whether it was possible for the Mod and Music Committee to meet when it was convenient for all the members to attend, Mr. M. MacLeod said it had been resolved by the Executive that as many committee meetings as possible should be held on the day that the Executive met.

The president observed that at the Annual Meeting at Fort William it had been recommended that one meeting of the Executive should be conducted in Gaelic, and it was suggested that the next meeting in March be selected for the purpose.

Mr. M. MacLeod said it was for the president and secretary to appoint the meeting.

The president said that in accordance with the recommendation, the next meeting would be conducted in Gaelic, with the exception of the minutes, which would be read in English. The business would be entirely in Gaelic.

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

DUNFERMLINE GAELS.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow, presided at an inaugural meeting of the Dunfermline Highland Society. All Highlanders, he said, had a sentimental interest in the ancient and historic town of Dunfermline, which was the seat for so long of the old Celtic kings. That interest was not appreciably lessened, after the lapse of so many centuries by the reflection that it was in Dunfermline their ancient Celtic tongue received one of its earliest and most serious blows at the hands of Malcolm Canmore's saintly but very Saxon queen. He was glad to find so many of his fellow-Lewismen actively engaged in the conduct of this Society.

He recalled that, somewhere over three hundred years ago, successive companies of Fife gentlemen went, or were sent up to the Island of Lewis, to civilise the barbarous natives of that remote and very troublesome island. There would also be remembered the reception they got from the Lewis men, who had no use for a Fife civilisation. After very serious losses in life and in property, these gentlemen adventurers from Fife had to leave the island; that was, as many of them as escaped the fury of the Clan MacLeod. (Laughter.) Tradition told them that one of these families was the MacRitchies. If tradition spoke true, the Rev. Kenneth A. MacRitchie, the first president of the Dunfermline Highland Society, in coming to Dunfermline, was only, in a sense, returning home. (Laughter.)

The wheel had gone the full circle, and now they had Lewis sending down its sons to carry the blessings of their superior civilisation to the inhabitants of that ancient "Kingdom" of Fife. (Laughter.) Highland societies were springing up now all over the country, and in places, perhaps, in which one would least expect to find them; certainly in places much less racially Celtic than Fife.

There was no doubt whatever that there was a strong revival of interest in the fortunes of their old Gaelic tongue at this moment; it was probably part and parcel of the renewed interest which was now being exhibited in all that pertained to their Scottish national heritage. All Scotsmen, whether they were Lowlanders or Highlanders, ought to regard Gaelic as one of their most valuable national possessions, and one was glad to observe that that was the attitude which was being taken toward it in many influential circles to-day.—*Scotsman*.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The work of the Mod goes on apace. The local committee is actively engaged promoting money-making efforts. The next of these will be a whistle drive in the Highlanders' Institute on Thursday, 2nd March, when it is hoped there will be a good attendance. There will also be a Carnival Dance in the Highlanders' Institute on 17th March. A Highland Ball is being arranged in the Grosvenor Restaurant, on Wednesday, 29th March. The Duchess of Montrose has kindly consented to be chief patroness of this function, and it is expected that many prominent people will be present. The tickets for this function are 12/6 each, and may be had from the Mod local secretary, Mrs. S. C. B. Edgar, 30 Woodlands Drive, Glasgow, C.4, or from this office.

* * *

It is hoped that all branches are taking an interest in the work of the Mod. The expenses in Glasgow will be high, and as the proceeds of the Mod to a very large extent determine the scope of An Comunn's activities, it is desired that the branches will respond as liberally as possible. Mr. Macfarlane, treasurer, will be very pleased to receive and acknowledge all donations.

* * *

I have received particulars of a special function that is being promoted by the Vale of Leven branch in aid of the Mod funds. The committee have engaged the large Co-operative Hall at Alexandria, and the ladies, in addition to attending to the catering, are inviting the guests, while the men folk are being held responsible for the artistes and the arranging of the programme. Every available table has already been taken up, and there is a keen demand for more. Many prominent people in the district are actively interested in the success of the evening. The hall expenses are being borne by the branch, and thus the whole proceeds are to be devoted to the Mod funds. This branch have also under contemplation the idea of promoting a summer cruise on Loch Lomond as a further effort to raise funds for the Mod. I shall be pleased to hear and refer to what other branches purpose doing for the Mod.

* * *

I am pleased to announce that the Corporation of Glasgow have kindly agreed to extend a civic reception to the Mod. This will take place in the City Chambers, on the evening of Wednesday, 27th September.

It is gratifying to observe the continued appreciation that is accorded by musical people in the south to our Gaelic songs. Mr. J. Norman MacConochie, M.A., the conductor of the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, has prepared a choral arrangement of several Gaelic puirt-a-beul, to which he has adapted English words. These pieces, I understand, are being taken up by the famous Glasgow Orpheus Choir, of which Sir Hugh S. Robertson is conductor, and they are to be submitted at the spring concert of the choir in March.

* * *

Intending students at the Summer School of Gaelic should note that provisional arrangements have been made for the classes to be held at Portree Higher Grade School, from Thursday, 6th July, until Thursday, 27th July, inclusive. As in former years, the instruction will include Senior and Junior Gaelic classes, and classes in Celtic Art and Gaelic singing. Fuller particulars will be given in the next issue of *An Gàidheal*.

NIALL.

PROPAGANDA TOURS.

Southern Area.

The General Secretary and Organiser visited the branches in Luig, 31st January; Easdale, 1st February; Kilniver, 2nd February; and Rothesay, 3rd February. All these meetings were well attended.

Mr. Shaw commenced a tour of the Morvern and Ardnamurchan branches on 6th February, and successful meetings were held at Lochaline, Kilchoan, Kilmory, Mingarry, Kinlochell, and Ardgour. At each of these large attendances were present, and the major part of the proceedings were conducted in Gaelic. At Acharacle a concert was promoted in aid of the funds of the Western Infirmary, which Mr. Shaw attended, and during the course of the evening, on the invitation of the chairman, he addressed the audience. It was hoped to form a branch of An Comunn at Strontian, but the arrangements for a ceilidh for that purpose had to be cancelled owing to the death of a well-known local resident. There is much appreciation for the cause of An Comunn in this district, and opportunity will be taken on the first occasion to institute a branch in this village. Before returning to the city, Mr. Shaw called on the branch at Killin, where he received a most cordial welcome from the large and enthusiastic audience that assembled for the ceilidh. A very happy evening was spent in real Highland

fashion by the members of this branch. The tour was a most successful one, and the most encouraging feature was the general desire for the greater use of Gaelic.

Northern Area.

During the course of the month Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, was actively engaged in branch visitations. An extensive tour was carried through successfully in the Kyle and Wester Ross districts. He attended a music class concert at Auchtertyre, and arranged the services of a music teacher in that district. At Lochcarron a Gaelic continuation class is being held twice weekly by Mr. Montgomery. The branches in the Gairloch district have not been meeting regularly, and unfortunately it was found necessary to postpone the local provincial Mod this year. Efforts are now being made to arouse enthusiasm anew, and it is confidently anticipated the cause of An Comunn will again prosper in this district.

Further interviews were arranged with Mr. Hugh A. Ross, M.A., Director of Education for Sutherland, in connection with the Gaelic classes at Golspie, Embo, and Dornoch. These classes are now being most successfully conducted, with large attendances at each centre, by Mr. Angus Ross, M.A. It is hoped also to organise similar classes under the Inverness-shire Education Committee at Fort Augustus.

CRAOBH SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Chumadh coinneamh de luchd-comhairle na h-Airde Tuath ann am baile Inbhirnis, air Di-sathuirne, an ochdamh-la-deug de cheud mhios an Earraich.

Bha am Fear-Gairme, Mghr. Domhnall MacDhomhnuill anns a' chathair agus bha mòran de na buill an làthair.

Thug am Fear-Deilbhe fainear gu 'n robh co-shealladh aige ri Ard-fhear Foghlaim Siorramachd Inbhirnis, a chum agus gu'm biodh a' Ghàidhlig air a teagasg anns na sgoilean ann an Cill-a-Chuimein. Tha dòchas againn gu'n tig so gu buil a dh'aithghearr.

Chaidh dà Chòisir Chiùil Ghàidhlig a chur air bonn ann an Cinn a' Ghiuthsaich agus Bail 'Ur-an t-Slèibh fa leth, agus tha dùil againn ri Mòd buadhach ann am Baideanach air a' choigeanh là de'n Ghiblein.

Chumadh Ceilidh ghasda ann an Cinn a' Ghiuthsaich agus bha dà chiad an làthair. Thug am Fear-Deilbhe òraid shnasail, a chum agus gu'm biodh na pàrantan air am brosnachadh gu bhi ag cleachdadh na cànan anns na dachaidhean.

Bha aireamh math cruinn aig coinneamh ann am Bail'ur an t-Slèibh, agus bha am Fear-Deilbhe 'na Fhear Cathrach. Chuireadh seachad oidhche thaitneach, le sean òrain agus sgeulachdan.

Tha na sgoilean oidhche air taobh an ear de Chataibh a' deanamh anabarrach math, agus tha faisg air ochd fichead a' faotainn cothrom air a' chànan ionnsachadh ann an seòl ceart. Tha cròilean eudmhor, gasda anns an Luirg, mar an ceudna, agus tha iadsan a' deanamh adhartais a tha taitneach.

Chaidh gnothaichean a chur an orduigh a chum agus gu'm biodh am Fear-Deilbhe a' dol air chuairt do Uibhist (Deas agus Tuath) a dh'aithghearr.

An Airde Deas.

Bha coinneamh aig an Fho-chomhairle Dheasaich air feasgar Diardaoin, an 23mh la de'n Ghearran agus bha aireamh mhaith de na buill an làthair.

Thug an Ard Runaire fathunn air a chuairt do'n Mhòraime, Aird nam Murchan agus Siorramachd Pheairt. Bha coinneamhan matha aige anns gach aite: cha robh na bu lugha na leth cheud aig aon diubh agus bha aon aig an robh os cionn da cheud. Aig na sè coinneamhan deug labhair an Runaire ri 1200 sluagh. A bharrachd air na meuran a tha air an ainmeachadh 's an iomradh Bheurla fhritheil an Runaire aig coinneamhan am Feartairchill, Obair-pheallaidh agus Blar an Athoill.

Bheachdaich a' choinneimh air fìosan freagairt mu theagasg na Gàidhlig do'n oigridh an sgoilean Siorramachd Pheairt agus thugadh aithne do'n Runaire am fiosrachadh a chur gu Mgr. Peuton, Baile Pheairt, air son a bheachdan. Tha Fear Gairme Comhairle an Fhoghlaim a' co-oibreachadh leis a' Chomhairle mu'n cheist so.

Tha meuran a' Chomuinn an Ile ag ullachadh fa chomhair turus an Runaire aig deireadh a' mhìos so.

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SCOTTISH GAELIC IN CANADA.

An Unofficial Census.

By J. L. CAMPBELL.

Although the Canadian census enumerates the speakers in Canada of many different languages, the speakers of Scottish Gaelic are not included in this linguistic enumeration. This omission, which is unfortunately rather typical of the official attitude in the Dominion towards the Gaelic language, in spite of the fact that many notable Canadians are from Gaelic-speaking homes, renders it difficult to find out how far the descendants of the eighteenth and nineteenth century Highland emigrants have preserved their old language in their new home, a matter of no small sentimental and linguistic interest.

In order to obtain further information upon this question, the writer had printed a short questionnaire upon the state of the Gaelic language in Canada, which was distributed to all ministers and priests of parishes in Cape Breton and Prince Edward Islands and in the counties of Pictou, Antigonish, and Guysborough on the Nova Scotian mainland. About 160 or so of these questionnaires were sent out, and all but about 30 received replies, many of which were accompanied by very interesting letters supplementing the answers given. The questions were as follows:—

1. Is Gaelic spoken in your parish? If so, by about how many? And by what proportion of the total population?
2. Do the children speak English, or Gaelic, or both?
3. Is Gaelic used in the schools?
4. Are Gaelic services held in your church? If so, how often? Do you ever preach in Gaelic?
5. Is your Gaelic congregation large? Or declining? Does it consist mostly of old people?
6. Is Gaelic declining in your parish, or holding its own? Is it becoming corrupted with English?
7. Are there any Gaelic journals in circulation? Or books read?

THE NUMBER OF GAELIC SPEAKERS.

Unfortunately, not all correspondents gave both the number and the proportion of persons speaking Gaelic in their parish. This, together with those who did not reply, made the total number a matter of guesswork. But sufficient figures were given to provide an idea of what the total might be.

Cape Breton Island, Inverness county	15	parishes enumerated out of	23	6,980
Victoria county	8	do.	13	2,975
Richmond county	3	do.	6	230
Rural—Cape Breton county ...	8	do.	13	1,261
Urban—Cape Breton county ...	14	do.	24	2,200
Total	48		79	13,645
Mainland—				
Pictou county, in 10 out of 17 parishes, about				350
Antigonish county, 6 parishes enumerated out of 13				1,129
Guysborough county, about				50
Total				1,529
Prince Edward Island, in eight parishes only				250
Total number of Gaelic speakers enumerated				*15,425

* There are about 130,000 persons in Cape Breton Island, and 50,000 in Pictou and Antigonish together.

It is probable that the actual number is anything up to twice this figure. Many parishes showing a large proportion of Gaelic speakers did not state their number, while it would be nearly impossible for urban correspondents, especially those ignorant of Gaelic themselves, to estimate the number of Gaelic speakers in their parishes.

THE STATE OF THE LANGUAGE.

In nearly every case the language was stated to be declining, and often to be corrupted with English words and expressions as well. In only four parishes, those of Inverness (Catholic), Whycocamagh (United Church of Canada and Presbyterian parishes), Gabarus (United), and Framboise and Loch Lomond (Presbyterian), was it stated to be holding its own, though in several others, notably Judique (Catholic), Strathlorne and Lake Ainslie (United), St. Ann's (United), and North Shore (Presbyterian), the decline was only gradual as yet. All these parishes are in the island of Cape Breton, of which it can be said, so far as the non-French rural districts are concerned, that it is as a whole as Highland as any part of Scotland is to-day. In nearly every parish it was stated that the proportion of children speaking Gaelic was smaller, often a good deal smaller, than that of adults, though in several cases it was said that children, brought up at home and in school to speak English, used to pick up Gaelic from their elders after leaving school, not, however, learning it very well in this way. It was clearly evident that further decline is inevitable, the younger generation as a whole tending to grow up either ignorant, or with only a smattering of the language.

GAELIC IN THE CHURCHES.

This is best studied with reference to the percentages of Gaelic speakers in the parishes.

It is evident that there are scarcely the number of Gaelic services held that might be expected; there are 24 parishes where more than 60 per cent. of the people speak Gaelic, but only eight where Gaelic is preached more than one a month. Many Gaelic parishes lack Gaelic ministers; some Gaelic ministers are in non-Gaelic parishes, but generally there is a shortage of Gaelic-speaking ministers compared to the need.

All correspondents stated that the Gaelic congregations were declining, and consisted mostly of the elder generation, except those from the above-mentioned parishes, where the language is holding its own, or has only just begun to decline.

GAELIC IN THE SCHOOLS.

Gaelic is not used or taught in the schools in Nova Scotia, although provision for its inclusion in the curriculum was made about ten years ago. So far, hardly any teachers have been found. There are two classes in the Roman Catholic Convent School at Port Hawkesbury, and winter classes are held in Sydney. Gaelic is also taught at the Roman Catholic College of St. Francis Xavier at Antigonish to candidates for the priesthood. The correspondents from Strathlorne and Lake Ainslie (United), Broad Cove (Catholic), Whycocmagh (United), and Boishale (Catholic), all in Cape Breton Island, state that Gaelic is often used by children on the playground. But it is evident that as a whole Gaelic plays little or no part in education in Nova Scotia to-day.

GAELIC LITERATURE IN THE MARITIMES.

In most protestant parishes it was stated that the Bible in Gaelic was read by the older people, also such books as the "Pilgrim's Progress," Psalm and Hymn Books. Song books and poetry are mentioned occasionally. Periodicals, either wholly or partly in Gaelic, were *Teachdaire nan Gàidheal*, *Fear na Ceilidh* (written by J. G. MacKinnon, at one time editor of the well-known paper *Mac Talla*); amongst Roman Catholics, *Mosgladh*; while the Antigonish Catholic paper the *Casket* has a weekly column in Gaelic, and some of the Cape Breton papers print columns from time to time. Gaelic plays are performed twice a year at Inverness by the Catholics and at times at St. Ann's. Gaelic songs are frequently sung at concerts, and of

late competitions in fulling songs have been started between villages with great success.

On the whole, it cannot be denied that Gaelic in the Maritimes is a dying language, but there is life in it yet, enough to suggest that enthusiasm and interest could still be easily aroused for it in those parts whose traditions and speech are still, after three and more generations, predominantly Highland, while a fertile field exists for the student of Celtic who desires to investigate what change the Gaelic dialects have undergone across the ocean, under the influence of Canadian expressions, both French and English.—*Scotsman*.

BRANCH REPORTS.

ABERDEEN.—The second meeting of this recently formed branch was held in Mitchell & Muir's Restaurant on Thursday, 16th February. The attendance was about 120 out of a membership which, for the short period of its existence, has reached 160. At the outset, bagpipe music was supplied by two members of the University Celtic Society. The audience was afterwards taken on "tour" to the Western Isles, led by Mr. Charles Davidson, M.A., by means of an artistic display of lantern views. Mr. Campbell Cowan, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Davidson, expressed his own pleasure and that of the audience at the treat which had been provided for them.

GLENGARRY.—Mr. John MacGillivray, president, presided over a packed audience in the Invergarry Coronation Hall, when the local branch of An Comunn wound up a highly successful session with an enjoyable ceilidh. Rev. Neil Ross, B.D., D.Litt., president of An Comunn, was the guest of honour. Addressing the audience, Dr. Ross referred to the pleasure he felt at being present. He knew all about the fine work the Glengarry branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was doing for the Gaelic cause; they were certainly keeping up the old traditions. Dr. Ross also spoke in complimentary terms of the excellent Gaelic dictionary which the Rev. Father Cyril Deickhoff, O.S.B., Fort Augustus, had recently brought out, and he counselled all lovers of the ancient language to secure a copy. During the evening a presentation of a silver tea service was made to Mrs. Peter Grant, Tomdoun, for her many valuable and highly appreciated services to the movement in the district while acting as secretary of the branch.

INVERARAY.—At the fortnightly meeting of the Inveraray branch of An Comunn, held in the St. Malieu Hall, Mr. Robert Bain, vice-president, presided. A feature of the proceedings was the assistance received with the programme from friends at a distance, and the ceilidh was greatly enjoyed by a large audience.

ARDNAMURCHAN.—The meeting of the Kilchoan branch, held in the Public Hall, was very well attended. Rev. Mr. MacDonald presided, and in his address he emphasised the sentimental and cultural value of the ceilidh, the benefit these gatherings were in the community. A musical programme followed.

BALNAIN.—A most successful ceilidh was held in Balnain School. Rev. A. Boyd, M.A., who presided, explained that the ceilidh was organised by the teachers to provide funds for prizes for the school children. As a result of this effort the sum of £4 was raised.

BALIVANICH.—A successful meeting of the Balivanich Ceilidh was well attended. At the dance which followed music on the bagpipes and melodeon was supplied by Mr. D. J. MacEachan, Aird.

DURNESS.—Mr. Walter Ross, Gaelic singing teacher, has been conducting a Gaelic singing class in Durine School for the past fortnight. The classes are well attended.

EASDALE.—In the Easdale Public School Mr. Alex. MacIntyre, president, introduced Mr. Neil Shaw, general secretary, who spoke on the activities of An Comunn. A programme of songs, recitations, and sgeulachdan followed. Mr. Shaw favoured the audience with several songs.

EMBO.—It is to be hoped that those desirous of becoming more proficient in Gaelic, their mother tongue, and who have not yet enrolled in the Gaelic Class, will take steps to do so with a view to having the various classes proceeded with now.

FORT AUGUSTUS.—Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William, was the guest at the ceilidh, which attracted about 300 people to the Public Hall. Mr. Wm. MacLellan, president, presided, and an excellent programme was submitted.

GLENELG.—A ceilidh was held in the Reading Room. Mr. Murdo MacKenzie, president of the branch, was in the chair. The lecturer for the evening was the Rev. T. M. Murchison, honorary president of the branch. Mr. Murchison's subject was "Gael is Ceol," delivered in Gaelic, and followed with the closest interest by his audience, who were charmed by the lecturer's eloquent accounts of Duncan Ban MacIntyre, Rob Donn, Alexander MacDonald, and William Ross.

KILMALLIE.—This branch held their monthly ceilidh in the Gordon Smith Cameron Hall, Mr. James Weir presiding. The Kilmallie Gaelic Choir, conducted by Mr. R. H. MacConnachie, opened the proceedings, and the programme was most enjoyably sustained with part songs and solos.

KILNINVER.—A ceilidh was held in the Kilninver School, at which Mr. Neil Shaw, general secretary, gave a Gaelic address. Rev. D. W. MacKenzie presided, and tendered an apology for the unavoidable absence of the president. The proceedings throughout were conducted in real ceilidh fashion with song and story alternating in a most pleasing manner. A gratifying feature was the predominant place that was accorded to Gaelic in the programme.

LOCHINVER.—A considerable number of Gaelic enthusiasts attended the first ceilidh held by the recently re-formed branch of An Comunn at Lochinver in the Comrades' Hall. Miss Graham, president, who was in the chair, spoke of the objects of An Comunn to encourage and promote the teaching of the Gaelic language, study of Gaelic literature, and wearing of the Highland dress. Miss MacLeod, Kirkaig, the vice-president, addressed the company in Gaelic. There followed a lengthy and nicely varied programme of Gaelic and English songs with instrumental items, and there is every reason to hope that the movement will again prosper in this district.

LUING.—A ceilidh was held in the Schoolroom, at which Mr. John Brown, president, presided over a large attendance. The principal speaker was Mr. Neil Shaw, the general secretary, who, in addition to delivering a spirited address, helped considerably with the most enjoyable programme that followed.

MALLAIG.—The music class closing concert in the Public Hall, over which the Rev. Duncan M. Sinclair presided, attracted a large and enthusiastic audience. The Junior and Senior Choirs gave very pleasing renderings of their respective pieces, and their singing and interpretations reflected most creditably upon the instruction received from Miss Margaret MacDonald, music teacher. The concert both financially and socially was most successful.

NAIRN.—The Nairn branch held an excellent ceilidh on 25th January. Mrs. Mackintosh of Balvraid presided. She commented on the fine work of the Nairn Choir at the Fort William Mod, and the warm commendation they received from the adjudicators. Mrs. Mackintosh introduced the lecturer for the evening, Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., teacher of Gaelic in the Inverness Academy, who delivered a paper on "Gaelic Bards." Mr. Ian MacKenzie, president, proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker. Tea and a musical programme followed.

PORTREE.—The Portree branch held a successful meeting in the Masonic Hall with an entirely Gaelic programme. The branch's new secretary, Mr. Angus MacDonald, who is well known in Gaelic circles in Glasgow, has by his enthusiasm increased the membership roll till it now stands at 200. The meeting took the form of a debate on a humorous and entertaining subject, and the arguments and discussion that were taken part in showed how very thoroughly the art of public speaking in Gaelic is being cultivated by the members of this branch.

TARBERT.—The members of the local branch held a successful concert at Minard. It was followed by an enjoyable dance. Mr. MacLean, teacher of Gaelic music, who has given instruction here previously, has again given several nights' tuition to the branch.

TAYNUILT.—At the recent ceilidh of An Comunn, Rev. J. MacPherson, who presided, expressed gratification that each ceilidh is better attended than the preceding one—an index of growing popularity. This no doubt is due to the excellent programmes that are submitted. The committee of this branch are to be congratulated and encouraged in their successful efforts in conducting the greater part of their proceedings in Gaelic.

TOBARNHOIRE.—Chumadh ceilidh air a' cheud là de'n Ghearran. Bha Iain Camshron anns a' chathair. Thug an t-Urr. C. MacIlleathain òrad mhaith air Domhnall MacDhomhnuill, "Bàrd Bharabhais," agus fhuaireadh ceòl bho chuideachd ghasda. Bha ceilidh eile air an 15mh de'n Ghearran, agus bha an sgoil loma làn an uair a ghabh Iain Camshron a' chathair. Bha an t-Urr. A. D. MacRath agus luchd seinn as an t-Sailein an làthair.

TREE.—Practically the whole Island of Tree was represented at the ceilidh of the Balmartine branch held at Hyilpol School. The programme was largely sustained by the members attending the music class conducted by Mr. John MacDiarmid, and in addition to the usual song items the Gaelic play, "An Gaol a Bheir Buaidh," was excellently acted by local players, who all displayed a keen sense of the dramatic as well as considerable capabilities as exponents of Gaelic histrionic art. Mr. Archibald Currie presided over the ceilidh.

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TELEGRAMS.—Runaire, Glasgow.

TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXVIII]

An Giblein, 1933.

[Earrann 7

CAOCHLAIDHEAN.

Is iomadh rud a chì am fear a bhios fada beò. Ged bha an seanfhacal sin 'g a chleachdadh bho chionn cheudan bliadhna, gidheadh tha an fhirinn a tha air a filleadh a stigh ann 'g a nochdadh féin as ùr mar tha na ginealaich a' dol seachad. Is dearbh nach seas an saoghal fada air aon chor. Is e coachladh is dual do gach cùis a bhuineas do staid an duine. Is chan ann a mhaoin mu na nithean is cudthromaiche a tha sin cinnteach, ach tha e cheart cho fìor mu nithean aimsireil air am bheil leas is buannachd dhaoine an crochadh. Gabh beachd air ar sinnsir féin anns a' Ghàidhealtachd, mar bha iad còig ceud bliadhna air ais. Bha iad a' factainn an arain làitheal bharr an fhearrainn. Biodh an teachd an tìr gann no na biodh, bha iad co dhiu fallain, laidir, stuama. Agus ged thainig aghart air ealldhain is innleachd cha thainig feabhas air nàdur a bhìdh air an robh iad an uair sin a' tighinn beò, toradh na talmhainn 'g a shaothrachadh, is maith na buaille 'g a thional, aran coirce is eòrna, feòil is sìthionn, bainne is im is caise, maille ri measan na talmhainn. Mar bha iad air an àrach le biadh anns an robh brìgh bha iad cuideachd air an comhdach le eudach anns an robh blàths is iomfhuasgladh.

* * *

Le bhì a' cur car cas anns a' chùis tha mi dol a dh'fhaighneachd co is fhearr an sean chor sin, iriosal is mar bha e, na an cor ùr anns an d' ionnsaich muinntir dòighean móra, àilghiosach, gun chul taic no rian air na h-iartruis sin a shàsachadh? Thainig

atharrachadh air an dùthaich an uair a chaidh sean chleachdadh air chùl. Mar dh'èirich linn a' ghlomhachais air a' Ghalldachd thainig mùthadh is dearmad air treabhachas anns a' Ghàidhealtachd. Ach tha an seorsa glomhachais ud a nis an déidh ar treigsinn, agus tha sinn air ar fàgail ionns a bhì diomhain, falamlh, acrach mar shluagh. Bu mhór mar sin am mearachd is an t-aimeadas am fearann a leigeil a dholaidh, gu bhì leantainn an tàlaidh aig glomhachas choigreach a thionndaidh gun bhuannachd air a' cheann thall. Gun teagamh cha b'e coire nan Gall a bha an sud, oir bha iadsan riamh càirdeil, agus tha iad féin air an aon ruith ruinne. Ach is fìor gu mì-shealbhach gu'n d'fhàg an Gàidheal a dhachaidh as a dhéidh, agus a dhùthaich 'n a fàsach. Their òganach foghainteach, car son a bhithinn-se a' saothrachadh fearainn mar bha mo shinnsir? Is maith ma nì a leithid sin feum. Tha an saoghal an diugh air fàs cho cruaidh is gur iomadh atharrachadh a thig nach saoil an òigridh. Agus feumaidh an sluagh an aghaidh a thionndadh le misnich ris na cruaidh-chàsan a dh'fhaodas tachairt mu'n teid cor an t-saoghail am feabhas.

* * *

Is e an t-inneal toit le beairt is aefhuinn a thug an caochladh mòr air aghaidh na dùthcha bho chionn ceud bliadhna air ais. Ach a nis tha réis an innleachd sin féin a' tighinn gu crìch. Thainig mùthadh cile ri linn do chumhachd electric fàs. Tha buaidh nan inneal toit a nis a' géilleadh do'n chumhachd ùr. Is ann ri teachd a' chumhachd so gu inbhe a chì sinn caoch-laidhean ùra ris nach robh dùil againn. Ach

is fheadar an cumhachd sin a chur gu feum glie. Is còir a chur gu obair nach gabh deanamh ach le tomhas anabarrach de neart aig aon am. Ni aon' bheairt obair ceud duine. Ach tha an ceud duine sin ri am beathachadh agus ri an cumail mar bu chòir do gach duine reusanta bhi air a chumail. Cuirte a' bheairt mhór, chomasach gu obair a tha freagarrach air spionnadh na beirte, mar tha iomairt acfhuinn shiubhail air muir is tìr is anns an adhar, a' tolladh fo 'n chuan, agus a' bùrach troimh na beanntan. Feumaidh luchd oibre nan làmh cothrom fhaotainn gus an aran laitheil a chosnadh, air neo theid an saoghal bun os cionn. Agus an obair a ghabhas deanamh le làmh duine, is còir an cothrom a thoirt do 'n duine sin an obair sin a dheanamh.

* * *

Có aige tha fhios nach bi an tuathnach Gàidhealach fathast a' treabhadh an fhearainn, chan ann le seiseirich ach le cumhachd electric air a chraobh sgaoileadh bho 'n eas mhór a tha a' srùladh leis a' bheinn os a chionn. Tha 80% de chumhachd uisge na h-Alba ri fhaotainn anns a' Ghàidhealtachd. Agus mar chuirear an cumhachd sin gu buil, chan fhaod a bhith, an ainm ceartais, gur ann airson choigreach a mhàin a bhios sin gu feum is buannachd. Chan fhaod a bhith nach cumar ionmhas nadurra na Gàidhealtachd airson leas na Gàidhealtachd féin. Ach ma cheadaichear do 'n dùthaich dol fàs, am fearann fo fhraoch is luachair, maise is maith na dùthaich 'g am mealladh le coigrich, chan urrainn gum bi a' chroch fada uainn, gus an tig eachdraidh nan Gàidheal gu ceann, agus am bi dùthaich nam beann 'n a fàsach falamh.



SIR ALEXANDER MACEWEN AT THE INVERNESS GAELIC SOCIETY.

The following is an extract from the speech made by Sir Alexander at the annual dinner:

The great need of to-day — a need not confined to the Highlands—is the restoration of life in the country. It is said in the *Egoist* that Willoughby abandoned London "as the burial place of the individual man." That is largely true of all great cities. It is in the country that individual and national life is at its best and simplest and strongest. The greatest hope for the restoration of the Highlands would be the re-creation of industry in the Highlands, whether in the form of a largely increased number of people living off

the produce of the soil, or making their living in some way. But of itself that would do little or nothing for Gaelic. Life in the country is only supportable for those whose minds and hearts are attuned to the country; for those who are open to the sounds and smells, to the poetry and music, to all the hopes and despairs of the race. And the key to all this is the language. Where the people are resolute and retentive of their speech there will flourish best the customs and characteristics of the race.

Even on low ulterior grounds the Highlands would be much more interesting to strangers than they are to-day if they could note evidences of a real racial culture. How are we to preserve this culture? I offer you two suggestions. First, we must begin with the young; not only with school children, but with the young people from the universities and the colleges — the future teachers, clergy, and doctors. If they were to go forth as missionaries of Gaelic it would ensure that the next generation would be taught. More than this, we must not be content with the Gaelic clause in the 1918 Act. We must make as our goal provision for the teaching of Gaelic in all schools in the Highland counties. I don't say compulsory teaching. It is quite wrong that in the primary schools in Inverness there is no provision for the teaching of Gaelic. We must create a demand for it. There are Gaelic-speaking teachers in nearly all our schools, and it should not be impossible to arrange this. But we want more than the teaching of Gaelic. We want teaching of the subjects in Gaelic. We want a campaign to show the value of Gaelic as an instrument of culture, as a key to the history and literature and music of our own land. That may arouse opposition. So much the better. Apathy and applause are our deadliest enemies. We want opposition, fierce opposition. Then perhaps we may hope to arouse the martial instincts of our people.

You will be told that it is an impossible demand. I agree that before satisfactory Gaelic education could be put in force much preliminary education will have to be done among parents and teachers. All the same I regard it as a vital matter. Gaelic has declined because it fell into disrespect. It will decline further unless the present Gaelic speakers realise what a precious possession they have. If they see people in the north-eastern and central Highlands anxious to learn Gaelic if they knew provision was made for it in all Highland schools, they

would see to it that their children did not lose their inheritance.

There is something more which we can do. We can set an example. I would appeal earnestly to native Gaelic speakers not to be afraid of being wanting in politeness if they speak Gaelic on all possible occasions. It should be an accepted custom for all people to pass the time of day and make the usual conventional remarks about the weather and their health in Gaelic. It would help to create an atmosphere. I should like to see this Society pass a rule making it compulsory on all members to devote half-an-hour per day to Gaelic or to pay a fine to the Publication Fund of the Society. There are only three excuses for not learning Gaelic — want of inclination, want of ability, want of time. The first can be dismissed as far as the members of this Society are concerned. When I look around and observe the intelligent faces of my audience I at once dismiss the second objection. As regards want of time, there is a simple remedy. Get up half-an-hour earlier or go to bed half-an-hour later. The one will give you a sense of self-righteousness, the other will give a cloak of virtue to an otherwise bad habit.

And, lastly, what we need is not merely a fight of defence but a crusade. A crusade implies faith and courage and self-sacrifice. We shall need all these if we are to attain the holy sepulchre where lies buried the lost treasure of our national spirit. The soul of a people needs salvation like the soul of a man. Its salvation is committed to the people. We can none of us escape the responsibility. If we would save the soul of the Highland race, that is not merely the culture of the past, but the civilisation of the future, we must wage this crusade with faith, with courage, with passionate sincerity. For some strange reason the crusades and missionary zeal of mankind have always been devoted to other lands. The time has come for a crusade to save our dear fatherland — to save from depopulation our declining countryside, to save from apathy our national spirit, to save from decay and death the tongue of our forefathers, the silver chain which all unconsciously binds together those of yesterday and those of to-day, those at home and those beyond the seas, those who in the dim past heard the bards recite the tales of the Feinn and those who in the mysterious unfolding of the future may uphold the spirit of the Celtic race. (Loud applause.)

AN ARD CHOMHAIRLE.

Chumadh a' cheud choinneamh Ghàidhlig de Ard Chomhairle a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich an Osd-thigh *Waverley*, Srùibhlean, air Di-haoine, an deicheamh la de'n Mhàrt, 1933 Bha an Ceann Suidhe, an t-Ollamh Niall Ros, anns a' chathair agus bha na buill a leanas an làthair:—Uilleam D. Barclay, Glaschu; Caipitein A. R. Caimbeul, O.B.E., Glaschu; Tearlach Caimbeul, M.B.E., Glaschu; A' Bhean Uasal Edgar, Glaschu; Alasdair Friseal, Baile an Easbaig; Còirneal A. D. Greenhill Gardyne Ghlinn Forsa; Iain MacAoidh, Glenn Ìùcha; A' Mhgd. Anna Nic 'Ille Bhrà, Glaschu; A' Bhean Uasal Nic a' Chombaich, Glaschu; Niall C. Mac a' Chombaich, Glaschu; A' Bhean Uasal NicDhomhnaill Dhunathach; A' Bhean Uasal NicDhomhnaill, Baile Chloichiridh; Domhnall MacDhomhnaill, Inbhirnis; Iain MacDhomhnaill, A.M., Glaschu; Eachann MacDhughail, Glaschu; An t-Urra. C. A. MacRisnidh, Dùn Phàrlain; Alasdair C. MacLabhrainn, Dailmbhàil; A' Mhgd. NicLaomainn a' Chnoic Dhuibh; An t-Urra. Calum MacLeod, A.M., Glaschu; Calum MacLeod, Glaschu; Iain A. MacNeacail, A.M., Glaschu; An Lighiche R. R. MacNeacail, Taigh an Uillt; A' Bhean Uasal Nic an Toisich, Inbhirnis; An t-Urra. Domhnall MacThomais, B.D., Cillfinn; Seòras MacThomais, A.M., Glaschu; Seòras Marjoribanks, Sonachan; A' Mhgd. Millar Weir, Alecsandria, agus a' Bhean Uasal M. NicUilleim, Dùn Blàthain. A frithealadh, Niall MacGille Sheathanaich, Rùnaire, agus Eoghann Mac a' Phi, Fear Cuideachaidh.

Leugh an Rùnaire Gear-sheanachas na Coinneimh roimhe, chaidh gabhail ris agus chuir Fear na Cathrach ainm ris. Leughadh tagraidhean neo-làthaireachd, air an sgrìobhadh an Gàidhlig, bho àireamh de bhuill na Comhairle.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Iomlais. Ghluais Mgr. Alasdair Friseal, Fear Gairme na Comhairle, gu'n rachadh gabhail ris an Iomradh. Ghluais Mgr. Tearlach Caimbeul gu'n rachadh an earrann sin de'n Iomradh a chur air ais air son ath-bheachdachaidh a bha ag iarraidh air luchd-teagaisg a' chiùil litir bho lighiche a chur a steach do'n Chomunn na'm biodh iad thar an obair barrachd air trì laithean le timeas. Chuir Mgr. Calum MacLeod aonta ri Mgr. Caimbeul agus leis an athleasachadh so ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Fhòghluim.

Thugadh fathunn gu'n robh cead air a thoirt seachad air son na Sgoil Shluamhaidh a chumail an Tigh Sgoile Phorthrigh, agus gu'm biodh an sgoil air a fosgladh air an t-seathamh la de'n Iuchar agus air a dùnadh air an 27mh la de'n mhios chudna. Ghabh luchd-teagaisg na bliadhna 'n uiridh ris an dreuchd a bha aca roimhe. Thug a' Chomhairle cunntas air litir bho Fhear-stiùiridh an Fhòghluim an Siorramachd Pheairt anns an d'thugadh seachad àireamh na cloinne a bhruidhneas Gàidhlig an sgoilean na Siorramachd. Is e an àireamh uile 96 agus sin sgapte feadh na Siorramachd gu léir. Is e an àireamh as motha an aon sgoil aon leanabh deug. Chliuthaich a' Chomhairle do Chomhairle a' Mhòid is a' Chiùil atharrachadh sonraichte a dheanamh air co-fharpais Buidheann "F"—Sgoilean Oidheche.

Air iartas an Fhir Ghairme, An t-Urra. Calum MacLeoid, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Chraobh-sgaoididh, maille ri fathunnan bho na Fo-chomhairlean Tuathach agus Deasach. Thug a' Chomhairle cunntas air freagairtean a fhuairheadh bho àireamh de na meòir mu mhuinntir 'nan sgìrean fa leth aig an robh ùgh an obair a' Chomuinn. Dh'fhàgadh an làmhan an Fhir Ghairme, an Rùnaire agus 'fhear-cuideachaidh an fiosaichadh so a chleachdadh chum cur ri àireamh bhall a' Chomuinn. Fhuair an Rùnaire cuireadh frithealadh aig Mòd Bhrùra agus Mòd an Obain air an naoidheamh latha de'n Og-mhios. Shonraich a' Chomhairle gu'n rachadh Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich gu Brùra, bho'n a b'è so a' cheud Mhòd a chumadh anns a' cheàrna sin, agus gu'n rachadh Còirneal Gardyne Ghlinn Forsa agus Mgr. Seòras Marjoribanks gu Mòd an Obain an ainn na Comhairle. Ghabhadh Comunn Ceilteach Oil-thigh Dhuneideann an co-dhaimh ris a' Chomuinn.

Air iartas Fhir Ghairme na Comhairle, Mgr. Tearlach Caimbeul, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh agus ri fathunnan nam Fo-chomhairlean.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Mhòid is a' Chiùil. Bheachdaicheadh air clàr-eagar Mòd na bliadhna 1934 agus dh'ullaicheadh cuspair fa chomhar gach co-fharpais anns an dòigh ghnàthaichte. Thugadh fa chomhar na Comhairle rùn Comhairle an Fhòghluim gu'm biodh leasachadh air a dheanadh air co-fharpais Buidheann "F." Dh'aontaich

a' Chomhairle gu'n rachadh earrann eile a chur ris a' cho-fharpais so a bheir cothrom do oileanaich nach 'eil fathast ro choimhlionta an sgrìobhadh na Gàidhlig agus gu'm bi duaisean air son gach buidhne fa leth.

Thug Mgr. Marjoribanks fathunn air obair Cloinn an Fhraoich agus thubhairt e gu'n do tharruing Comhairle na Cloinne suas, gu mionaideach, dealbhan gu stèidheachadh buidheann òigridh a bhiodh air ainmeachadh "Comunn na h-Oigridh." Chuireadh leth-bhreac de bheachdan Comhairle Cloinn an Fhraoich a dh'ionnsuidh gach ball de'n Ard Chomhairle roimh làimh a chum breithneachadh orra. Ghabh an Ard Chomhairle, an coitcheantas, ris na beachdan agus tha iad air an cur a dh'ionnsaidh na Coinneimh Bhliadhnaidh air son gabhail riutha.

Thug an Ceann Suidhe fa chomhar na Coinneimh gu'm biodh cruinneachadh mòr a' Chomuinn Cheiltich air a chumail an baile Brest air a' bhliadhna so aig deireadh mìos Iuchar, agus bu mhaith leis a' choinneamh so a shonrachadh teachdairean ma bha sin a réir an tograidh. Ghluais Mgr. Iain A. MacNeacail gu'm biodh an Ceann Suidhe agus an Rùnaire 'nan teachdairean air a' bhliadhna so. Dh'aontaich a' Chomhairle ris a so agus gu'm biodh an cosdas air a phagheadh.

Thug Mgr. Domhnall MacDomhnaill, Inbhirnis, fo aire na Coinneimh gu'm bu chòir àithne a thoirt do'n Rùnaire an uair a bhiodh barrachd is aon ainm air a chur suas air son dreuchd Cinn Suidhe agus Iar-Chinn Suidhe gu'n innsear do gach aon fa leth ainmean nam ball eile a chuireadh suas. Dh'aontaich a' Choinneamh ris a so.

Thubhairt an Ceann Suidhe gu'm b'i so a' cheud Choinneamh de'n Ard Chomhairle a riaghladh gu h-iomlan an Gàidhlig. Bha e soilleir gu leòir a nis gu'n robh a' Ghàidhlig cho tèma ri cànan air bith eile a chum gnothaichean na Coinneimh a ghiùlan a mach.

Thugadh a' Choinneamh gu crìch le taing chridheil a thoirt do Fhear na Cathrach.

Junior Gaelic Essay Competition.

In the Junior Gaelic Essay Competition nine papers were received. They are all creditable to their writers. The first place was awarded to William Robertson, Tobermory, who receives the prize of ten shillings. The next subject will be *An Sgadan*. Competitors should be under sixteen years of age; the essays should be about 250 words in length, and should be certified by the Teacher.

THE ROMANCE OF THE MOUNTAINS.

By Dr. LACHLAN GRANT.

IV.—POETICAL AND ROMANTIC.

When the human soul is attuned to its surroundings or stirred by some great emotion it must find expression in music, song, poetry, and romance. The two great sources of inspiration for the artist and poet are human association and nature. The impulses derived from the former may be more emotional than those received from nature; but the feelings generated by an attachment to nature are never ill-balanced or tempestuous; they are deeply calm and soothing, and lead us up to heights that never make us giddy. As Keats says, they always keep for us a quiet sleep.

To those who are interested in our Gaelic language, its literature and music, there is the further attraction that on some of our historic mountains roamed not only the great Gaelic bard, Duncan MacIntyre, but if tradition be true a still greater genius known to the world as Ossian. On a spot almost inaccessible, high up on one of Glencoe's mighty Bens, is Ossian's cave and Ossian's shower bath. Having occasion in my professional work to motor frequently through Glencoe, the proximity of Ossianic associations makes me often think of the grand old Celtic bards. Now, whatever may be the truth regarding the personality of Ossian, and the poetry bearing his name, the great fact remains that the work is essentially Celtic and national, and if the "higher criticism" eventually decided that not Ossian, but that a dozen or more Celtic bards are responsible for Ossian's poems, they will still be as valuable as ever as poetic expression of Celtic sentiment.

In India we have examples of the effect of a mountainous country on the people. The brave and hardy Ghurkas are conspicuous in their resemblance to the Scottish Highlanders in many respects. It is a hard and rough life they have at the best, but that seems to increase their love of country like the mountaineers described by Goldsmith—

"The loud torrent and the whirlwind's
 roar
But bind him to his native mountains
 more."

They wear kilts, have bagpipes, and are pre-eminent in their physical strength and martial ardour. There are also other hill tribes there who make soldiers; and even the wild Afghans are falling into line and showing they have fine qualities besides

marauling and sharp-shooting. Mountains seem to have the effect of bringing out the fierce, venturesome, and combative elements in their denizens, and when civilisation gets a strong hold on them those rough and primitive qualities take gentler and more rational forms, and the surplus energy and animal spirits is diverted into higher fields of progress, culture, and industry. It is not so long since we fell into line of the higher civilisation ourselves, so we must not be too critical of races who are a couple of centuries behind us. In due time the hill tribes of our Indian Empire, Thibet (where the so-called "roof of the world" is), Afghanistan, and other parts of the world will reach our stage of progress, if we may call it so—and, like the Scottish Clans, will put their genius and virility into newer and better channels of activity.

Isolation is a bad thing for both the individual and the race, and the ideal government of the world is one that breaks down all kinds of barriers between man and man, and between race and race, whether such obstructions to harmony and understanding be material mountains, or the still more dangerous artificial mountains of prejudice, hate, suspicion, greed, or religion. Though mountains, rivers, or seas physically create geographical boundaries, giving us often a sturdy and healthy nationalism, that is no reason why race should not unite with race in the spirit of our common humanity. The great tunnels between Italy, France, and Switzerland have conquered the Alpine barriers and brought Southern Europe closer together. Engineering feats of great magnitude have pierced the Andes of South America, bringing Chili on the West and the Argentine on the East in close contact, and so in the Rockies and other mountainous ranges in North America. The world needs more of this kind of civilising work both in the material and metaphorical sense. We need to tunnel, if we cannot destroy, the mountainous obstructions of human ignorance and error accumulated through the centuries. Let us look forward to a time when neither mountains nor exaggerated molehills of man's own making will intervene between the nations to prevent the universal rule of the spirit of peace and goodwill on earth. And whether or not the human race will ever reach the "Delectable Mountains," it is well for us to keep alive the high ideals we have fallen heir to, and to retain our faith in the Promised Land beyond the mountains.

THE END.



TURUS AN AIGHE.

Annas na linn-tean a dh'fhalbh mus robh daoine aig an inbhe eòlais aig am bheil iad an diugh bha iomadh rud 'ga dheanamh a bhiodh anns na laithean 's a bheil sinne beò air am peanasachadh gu cruaidh leis an lagh. Bha e 'na chleachdadh ann an Leodhas mar àiteachan eile de Alba a bhi ri creachadh chruidh is chaorach. Aon bhliadhna bha so chaidh am fogharadh an aghaidh muinntir Uige is thainig an geamhradh gle chruaidh orra. Air cùl Bhearnaraidh tha eilean beag ris an abrar Bearnaraidh Bheag; is bha e aig muinntir Bhearnaraidh fhéin riamh mar àite geamhraidhidh do an cuid stuic.

Ann an Timisgearraidh an ceann shuas Uige bha dithis bhodach stritheil, bheothail air an do rainig gainne a' bhuntàta is na mine-eòrna gu teann. An e iad-san a rachadh a dhith is crodh gu leòr aig muinntir Bhearnaraidh 'g an geamhrachadh am Bearnaraidh Bheag. "Falbhaidh mi féin is tu fhéin," arsa Murchadh ri Torcull," is théid sinn feasgar an ath-oidheche a dh'iarraidh beathach maith, trom, aighe do Bhearnaraidh Bheag." "Cha b'urrainn na b'fhearr," arsa Torcull, "is falbhaidh sinn bho 'n tigh 's an chomh-thràth." Cha do leig na bodaich càil orra ach gabhail air falbh, Torcull air an toiseach, is an taod airson an aighe 'na chualla air a ghualainn. An uair a rainig iad Ungishadair bha a h-uile neach a bha 'n sin 's an tigh-chéilidh ach na cailleanach a bha ri sniomh is ri càrdadh chum an teaghlaichean a chomhdach. Chaidh iad troimh an bhaile bheag so cho fiata ris na cait, is air laimrig nan eathraichean gu'n do rinn iad. Dh'fhuasgail iad té de na bàtaichean, is as gu'n d'rinn iad leatha gu taobh eile an òib. Bha an t-aiseag so ri cur a steach mu thrì uairean a thìde de choiseachd ri a bharr air a dhòl thiehioll Ceann Loch Ròig. Rinn na bodaich mata an t-eathar sàbhailte air an taobh eile de 'n òb, is thug iad na buinn gu caolas Iarshadair.

An sin bha duine no dha air dol mu thàmh, is fhuair na bodaich an t-aiseag air a' chleas cheudna is a fhuair iad roimhe so. Chaidh iad troimh Bhearnaraidh gus an do ràinig iad caolas Bhearnaraidh Bhig; is bho dh'fhalbh iad a Timisgearraidh gus an sin cha robh aon lide comhraidh eatorra. Gu mi-fhortanach cha robh eathar ri faotainn aig a' chaolas so, ach feuch an cuireadh sin stad air na laoch; thilg iad dhiubh an caisbheart is an cuid aodaich, is rinn iad air an t-snàmh. Cha robh an caolas leathan, ach ged bhiodh e sin féin bha de smior anns na bodaich na dheanadh a' chùis,

is bha iad air talamh tioram am prìoba nan sùl. Chaidh iad am measg na spréidh, is fhuair iad an sin trì-bhliadhnach ruadh aighe. Chuir iad an taod ann, is gun smid a ràdh chuir iad an aghaidh air a' chaolas a rithist.

Bha Torcull air thoiseach leis an taod agus Murchadh ri tighinn as déidh an aighe troimh an chaolas is troimh Bhearnaraidh. An uair a rainig iad caolas Iarshadair a rithist, fhuair iad rompa an t-eathar a dh'fhàg iad, is chaidh iad gu tìr-mór innte, agus an t-agh ruadh air snàmh as a déidh. Cheangail iad an t-eathar dìreach mar fhuair iad i an toiseach, is thog iad orra troimh 'n mhòintich. Chaidh iad a null air Caolas Ungishadair, is thug iad an deagh aire gu'n d'fhàg iad an t-eathar mar fhuair iad i. An sin ghabh iad air an aghart suas Gleann Bhaltois. Ghairm a' cheud choileach, is airson na ceud uair bho dh'fhàg iad Timisgearraidh bhruidhinn Murchadh is thuir e, "A Thorcuill, sud an latha ri tighinn." Fhreagair Torcull is thuir e. "Cum do theanga, bhòdhradh tu baile." Cha dubhairt aon neach smid tuille. An uair a rainig iad Timisgearraidh mharbh iad an t-agh, is dh'fheann iad e. An uair 'a bha iad a' cur teine mòr air, airson na creich a bhruidh, ghairm an ath choileach. Bhruidhinn Torcull an dara uair agus thuir e: "A Mhurchaidh, a Mhurchaidh, sgriob air am pollachan,* chan e an latha am fear nach tig." Bha a' chuid a b' fhearr de'n agh ruadh aig na laoch air cur as da, agus iad sasuichte le feòil is eanraich mus d'éirich muinntir eile a' bhaile.

MOR NIC A' GHOBHANN.

* pollachan = poit-fheòla.

 CELTIC IDEALS.

At the Glasgow Highland Club on Monday, 13th March, Lord Mackay, one of the Judges of the Court of Session, said he had had enough of hearing that Gaelic had been a condemned language for centuries and had to apologise, like Charles II., for being "an unconscionable time of dying." It was not his view that Gaelic was dying. He would do what he could to help the movement that he saw growing from day to day.

"Do not mistake me," Lord Mackay proceeded, "it is not the Nationalist movement as a political movement—it is the movement to appreciate our literature, our old language, and our old independence better and more fully than we have done for the last century and a half."

That movement, he thought, was spreading and growing. There was a definite movement to teach the world that was interested in things that would bring the world out of its present impasse, and remind them of the things that raised human unity. He had heard it called Celticism—an ugly word, and one that he hated. The great ideals that were inherent in all Celtic places, and none more than in our own Gaelic land, were worth enforcing in these days, and, in his opinion, would go far to dispel the gloom and remind us that we were men, and that men could be contenders and fighters against the forces of nature and against the forces of lowering humanity. He was for none of the old sentimentalism. Let them be up and doing.

After stating his conviction that there was no such thing as a "Highland line"—he described it as an innovation of geographers of the 17th and 18th centuries—Lord Mackay quoted a statement which, he said, assumed that the Celtic race, as such, could never again stand on its own feet and be up and doing for itself; that it must be the mixed race, the Anglo-Celtic race that held the torch in the future.

That was not his view. He thought the Anglo-Saxon had been overwritten in this world. The Anglo-Saxon had not conquered the Gael or the Celt. The Celtic spirit that was present in their forefathers was a spirit dating from before the introduction of Christianity, and had the greatest ideals of hospitality, of fairness, and of heroism of any literature of its time—Greek and Roman not excluded.

"That ideal," Lord Mackay concluded, "is not dead. It is not subordinated; it is not standing lower than the Anglo-Saxon civilisation of the world. In my judgment it is to be the saviour of the world and of civilisation."

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC, 1933.

The Summer School of Gaelic will be held this year at Portree, Skye, from Thursday, 6th July, to Thursday, 27th July, inclusive. The Classes will be held in the Portree Secondary School, kindly granted by the Education Committee of the Inverness County Council. All prospective students are requested to make arrangements for rooms well in advance.

THE CLASSES.

Mornings.

Senior Gaelic Class—Miss M. D. MacQueen, Oban.

Junior Gaelic Class—Miss Annie Johnston, Barra.

Afternoons.

Celtic Art Class—Miss MacBride, D.A., Glasgow.

Gaelic Singing Class—Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Gilmerton.

CLARSACH.

A Class for instruction in Clarsach playing will be held if a sufficient number of pupils enrol. Application should be made to the Secretary of the Clarsach Society, Miss E. L. O. Taylor, Glencairn, Dunblane.

FEES.

Full Course, including morning, afternoon, and evening Classes, 30s. Celtic Art Class only, 15s. Singing Class only, 5s. Clarsach Class, £1.

ENROLMENT.

Intending students are advised to enrol early, and to send their names and addresses to Mr. Neil Shaw, 212 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2. Fees are preferably sent to him in advance, but may alternatively be paid to the teachers at the opening of the School.

LODGINGS.

Students must obtain their own lodgings in advance. They may obtain assistance in so doing by writing to the local Secretary, Mr. Angus MacDonald, 6 Beaumont Crescent, Portree.

TEXT BOOKS.

SENIOR CLASS.

Reid & MacLeod's Elementary Course, 2s 6d.
Blackie's Gaelic Reader, Leabhar IV., 2s.
An Dileab, 1s 6d.
A Gaelic Dictionary.

JUNIOR CLASS.

Reid & MacLeod's Elementary Course, 2s 6d.
An Ceud Cheum (Blackie & Son), 6d.
Leabhar na Cloinne Bìge, 7d.

SINGING CLASS.

A' Chòisir Chùil, 3s.
Orain a' Mhòid X., 1s.
1933 Mòd Choral Leaflet, 9d.
High School Singer, Books 1 and 2, by L. C. Venables (Curwen), 1s 6d each.

JUNIOR GAELIC ESSAY.

(Choisinn an oidheirp so an duais, deich tasdain.)

Am Fiadh.

Tha am fiadh a' comhnuidh anns na coireachan agus anns na glinn Ghàidhealach, agus tha gach Gàidheal aig am bheil croit no fearann ro eòlach air, agus tha cuid dhiubh ag ràdh gum bu choir cur as dha air fad.

Ach co dhiubh chan eil mise 'dol a ràdh sin mu'n fhiadh; is toil leam am faicinn a mach ag ionaltradh air monaidhean fada Mhuile. An uair thig duine mu leth-cheud slat dhaibh, togaidh iad an cinn agus 'nuair chi iad thu tha iad air falbh mar a' ghaoth, le sùrdaig uallaich.

Is e fear-snàmbha annabarach a th'anns an fhiadh. Aon latha bha mise fhéin agus trìdìr eile ag iasgach ann am bàta eadar an Sailein agus Aros 'nuair chuala sinn fuaim air an taobh a mach dhinn, agus dé bha so ach damh mór ruadh a' snàmh o'n taobh thall gu ruig an tràigh Mhuileach.

Anns an t-Sultainn tha sealgaireachd a fheidh na sheudas air monaidhean agus machraichean air dùthcha. Tha each-beag sònraichte aig na sealgairean airson am fiadh a thoirt dhachaidh, agus tha na h-uaislean a' smuaintinn nach mór as fhiach bòrd gun sithionn aig a cheann.

Bha mi bho chionn bhliadhnaichean air falbh laithean féille comhla ri iasgairean ghiomach ann am port air an taobh an iar-thuath de dh' Alba. Bha sinn a' comhnuidh ann an long mhór a bha aig na daoine còire so agus bha i air tràigh mhór de ghainmhich gus am bitheadh iad ag imrich aig deireadh a' gheamhraidh. Agus a h-uile maduinn a dh' 'eireamaid bhiadh còrr agus fichead fiadh 'g an tachais féin ri taobh na luinge.

Rinn mi suas m'intinn an uair thigeadh iad a rithist gu'n toirinn eagal maith dhaibh. Air an ath la bha iad ann mar b'abhaist. An uair chaidh mi an àird fhuair mi ròpa agus chaidh mi gu sàmhach gu taobh a' bhàta. Leig mi an ròpa sìos ach cha do ghabh iad iongantas sam bith. An sin bhuail mi an damh mór a bu dlùithe dhomh agus le sud, bha mi uile chinnteach gu'n robh e 'dol a thighinn a nuas air mo mhuin, ach cha robh e fada a' toirt a chàsan as 'nuair fhuair e air an tràigh.

Bha mi seachdain eile anns an àite sin ach cha'n fhacas na feidh air tràigh 's an am sin agus bha mi glé dhuilich.

B'fheudar dhomh falbh a rithist do'n bhaile mhór air son bliadhna eile. Ach bha an aon ghuidhe 'nam chridhe gu'n tigeadh latha a bhithinn a' comhnuidh a measg nan gleann agus nam beann agus nam fiadh.

UILLEAM MACDHONNCHAIIDH,

5, Sraid Victoria,
Tobar-mhoire.

(Latha Breith, 26, Dùdhlachd, 1918).

AN GLEANNAN.

Fàilt ort fhéin a Ghleannain chiùin
Le d' choilltean dlùth gu h-ùr, grinn;
'S e miann gach dùil bhi teannadh dlùth
A dh' eisdeachd ciùil do lùb-uillt bhinn.
Tha d' aghaidh mhìn le miltean blàth
Fo'n osaig thlàith air làr an fhuinn;
Tha 'n gean 's an t-àgh air slìos do mhàigh
A' toirt na bha a ris am chuimhn.'

Tha 'n Tùr* ud shuas 'na sheasamh fuar,
Air bàrr a' ghruaig tha snuadh na h-aois;
Gun cheòl, gun fhuaim, gun chaitheam buadh'
Mu'n cuairt air bòrda féill nan laoch:
Gun bhoigh' air gheus, gun chlaidheamh geur
A tharruing beum an àm an fhuathais;
Ach tha thu fhéin ag innseadh sgéil
Mu linn nan euchd 's nan treun fhear cruaidh.

Cha léir dhomh bhratach mar bu nòs
Gu dàn a' seòladh anns a' ghaoith;
Cha léir dhomh 'm fùran calma, beò,
Le shùil gun sgèò a' d'ion nan aoigh:
Tha sìth mar sgàile daingean teann
Mu stùc nam beann a' laighe dlùth,
'S fo'n lèanaig mhìn ud shìos 'sa ghleann
Tha luchd nan lann am bann na h-ùir.

Soraidh slàn gu'n robh gu bràth
Do'n ghleannan àigh 's gach màin mu'n cuairt;
O soraidh slàn gach nì a bha
'S na gaisgich làidir tha 'nan suain;
Bidh mise triall a nis o'n Dùn,
Tha 'n dealt a' tùrling air an raon;
Thug d' achlais bhàth dhomh sonas àigh
Is sealladh àrd air spàirn an t-saoghail.

* CAISTEAL CHARN-ASARAIDH.

Chaidh an dàn so a sgrìobhadh le Aonghas Mac-Eacharn (Aonghas Og), Gleannarasdail, Diura. Bu bhrathair e do Dhomhnall MacEacharn, "Am Fear Ciùil." Bha Aonghas Og 'na bhàrd cho math 'sa bha beo 'na latha; chan 'eil de choire air ach nach do sgrìobh e barrachd dhuan is òran. Tha dà òran de na sgrìobh e an tùs òige anns an leabhar "An t-Oranaiche" agus chaidh aon eile a chlo-bhuailadh anns An Deo Greine, leabhar 9. An laithean òige bha Aonghas 'na bhall de Choisir Chiùil Ghàidhlig Chalum Chille an Glaschu. Chaochail e an Inbhir-lusa, Diura, 'sa bhliadhna 1928.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Baile an Rois,
Taobh Deas Africa.

Ceann Suidhe,
A' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich,

Fhir Iomhainn,

Is ann bha mi smuaineachadh gu'm bu chòir dhomh, mar aon de bhuill a' Chomuinn, facal misneachaidh a chur thugaibh airson nan oidhirpean mòra tha sibh a' deanamh air a Ghàidhlig ath-bheothachadh—Buaidh leibh.

Tha e na chuis-bhròin dhuinn uile mar a tha a' Ghàidhlig bho chd a' teicheadh, agus na Gàidheil tréigsinn an dùthcha. Chunnaic mi gu bheil oibrichean mòra air chois feadh na Gàidhealtachd airson cumhachd electric agus rudan eile. Ged tha mòran brònach gu bheil sin a' milleadh àilleachd na dùthcha, gidheadh chan eil comas air ma tha e toirt oibreach agus a' cumail muinntir na Gàidhealtachd aig an tigh. Ach am bheil e deanamh so? Tha eagal orm gu bheil a chuid is mó de'n luchd oibreach as na taobh deas. Ma tha, bitheadh cùisean nì 's miosa na bha iad roimhe a thaobh na Ghàidhlig, oir far sam bith a gheibh sibh cruinneachadh luchd Beurla anns a' Ghàidhealtachd tha iad a' cur as do'n Ghàidhlig.

Tha nàire air na Gàidheil a bhi bruidhinn Ghàidhlig ann fannis luchd Beurla, is truagh sin aideachadh. Tha a leithid so a' cur dlmeas air a' chàinain. Cìod e is coireach gu bheil cuid de na Gàidheil mar so? Chan eil ann ach dìreach *Inferiority Complex*, sin agus aineolas; aineolas air na tha iad a' call ann a bhi dlibreadh an cainnt.

Is iongantach gu bheil cuid de mhuinntir Ghàidheala a' gabhail nìs mo de thlachd anns a' Ghàidhlig na feadhann Ghàidhealach fhéin, mar eisimpleir Mgr. Marjoribanks, Moffat Pender, agus muinntir eile. Bu chòir so deirge nàire thoirt gu gruaidh gach Gàidheil nach eil a' deanamh a' dhìchill ris a' chàinain a ghleidheadh.

Chan eil feum a bhi ag eubhach "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig" aig mòd no cruinneachadh mar eil sinn a' cur na càinain gu buil, agus chan eil teagamh sam bith, mur bi na Gàidheal a' gabhail tlachd, agus a' deanamh an dìchill ris an teanga, gu h'àraidh an luchd comhnuidh anns a' Ghàidhealtachd, nach faigh a' Ghàidhlig bàs, agus sin gu h'aithghearr, a dh'aindeoin nan oidhirpean a tha An Comunn a' deanamh.

Chan fhaod sinn gun bhi smalanach a' cuimhneachadh air na caochlaidhean a thanaig air ar dùthaich. Chan eil sinn ach tearc, agus cha robh an aontachd riamh n' ar cois, is duilich nach robh.

"Tir is Teanga." Is maith a thubhairt! oir tha an dà rud fuaighte ri chèile.

Tir gun Teanga; Tir gun urram!! Ach chan fhaod sinn a bhi a' fannachadh ma tha a' Ghàidhlig gu bhi air a tearnadh agus ged tha sinn sgaoilte an diugh, is ar tìr a' dol fàs, theagamh gu'n tìg an latha a bhitheas na glinn air an comhdachadh le daoine an àite fhiaidh is chaorach.

Is e mo dhùrachd gu'm bi anam gach Gàidheil air a shoillseachadh chum is gurn bi e treubhach ann an cumail suas càinain agus eachdraidh a dhùthcha.

Tha mi gle thoilichte leis a' mhìosachan *An Gàidheal*. Tha e toirt toilinntinn mhòr dhomh gach mìos, leis an uiread de Ghàidhlig ghlan a tha ann.—Is mise le spéis,

A. MACAOIDH.

Sir Alexander M. MacEwen on Scottish Gaelic in Canada.

Sir,—Your leading article on this subject and Mr. J. L. Campbell's account of his unofficial census in the March number of *An Gàidheal* suggest a new direction for the activities of An Comunn Gàidhealach. A delegation from An Comunn visiting Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, and Prince Edward Island might produce results, not only of great interest, but of permanent value. The settlements of Gaelic-speaking Highlanders throughout the world are so few, and the anti-Gaelic influences are so strong that it is highly important that contact and co-operation between Gaelic speakers in different countries should be established and encouraged. It would be of reciprocal benefit. I would suggest that steps should be immediately taken to examine this matter. A small committee might be appointed to consider the probable cost of sending a small deputation, including both speakers and singers, to Canada, and how to raise the necessary funds. If successful, such a delegation would be a striking testimony to the practical activities of An Comunn, as well as to our faith and missionary zeal. It would emphasise the fact that we regard Gaelic as a living language, and not merely as a subject for scholastic research.

ALEXANDER M. MACEWEN.

An Gleann,
Bagh a' Chaisteil,
Barraidh, 17/2/33.

An t-Urramach,
Mgr. Niall Ros, An Lagan,

A Charaid Chòir,

Guidheam oirbh mo leisgeul
a ghabhail airson na litreach so, ach o'n
fhuair mi "Gàidheal" a' Ghearrain, agus a

chunnaic mi ann an t-bran aig Fearachar
Mac-Iain Oig Mhic Macra, bha mi
smaointinn gu'm bu mhaith leibh fonn an
òrain sin fhaotainn mur bheil e agaibh
cheana. Chuala mi aig mo mhàthair e o
chionn iomadh bliadhna, agus bha roinn
mhaith de na facail aice cuideachd.—Is
misè, Ur bana-charaid,

ANNA NIC IAIN.

{ : 1 ₁	d : r : m	d' : r'	: d' . t	1 : m	: s	l : —	
Chan e	dìreadh	na	bruaich	dh-fhag mo	shiubhal	gun	treoir ;
{ : 1 ₁	d : r : m	s : l	: s . m	s : m	: r	d :	
no	teas	ri	la	gréine	'n uair a dh'èireadh	oirnn	.

Bha na rannan mar gum biodh iad ceathair-shreathach.

CRUINNEAG AN FHUARAIN.

Seis.

O chruinneag, e chruinneag,
O chruinneag an fhuarain,
Nach truagh 'fhuair mi do chairdeas
Mur bi e'n dàn dhomh do bhuanaichd.

Thoir mo shoraidh gun sòradh
Gu cruinneag òg an tigh usail,
Air an d'chuir mi cheud eòlas
'Toirt deoch ri òl dhomh o'n fhuaran.

Cha robh coimeas d'a boidhchead
A b'aithne dhomhsa measg ghruagach,
No ann an aigne thug barr oirr'
An céill, an àrach, 's an suairceas.

Bha dà shùil bu ghorm sealladh,
A' nochdadh glaine a buadhan,
Mar bheir soirseann na speuran
De h'iomhaigh fhéin anns an fhuaran.

Bha h'uchd geal mar an cathadh
'Thig o'n adhar gun truaillleadh,
A ghluais le h-'anail gun saothair
Mar eal' air aomadh na stuadhan.

Bha cruth mar eilid an aonaich
Cuimir, saor, ann a ghluasad,
'S mar shiubhal linne bho chabhail
Bha lùban fanna a gruaige.

'S tric a dh'fhalbh mi glé dheònach
Gu ar comhdhail 'san uaigneas,
'S a fhuair mi sòlas a caidreimh
Fo dhubhar fagach nam bruachan.

O 's fada thrialainn ga h-ionnsaidh
'S cha chumadh mbèiseag a' chuain mi,
No gaillionn aimsir na dubhlachd,
Air sgàth bhi sùgradh car uair rith'.

Ged b'ann a' siubhal na sràide
No aisridh shàmhach nan cluaintean,
Gum bi a cruth mar a bha i,
A tigh'nn gach là fo mo smuaintean.

A. C. M.

d	s	: ta	: l	s	: f	: f . f	s	: s	: d	r' : d	: m . m	
r	: d	: d	r	: m . s	: d . t	l	: s	: m	r	: d	:	

The above is the melody of "Cruinneag An Fhuarain."—A. C. M.

CRAOBH SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Air iartras luchd-comhairle na h-Airde Tuath thug mi cuairt do dh'Uibhist (Deas agus Tuath) air a' mhìos a chaidh seachad.

Chum mi coinneamhan aig Loch nam Madadh, Sollas, Tigh Ghearraidh, Cladach, Ceann a' Bhàigh, Cairinis, Am Baile Sear, Baile Mhanaich, Tòrlum, Geuranaich, Iochdar agus Dail-a-brug. Bha àireamh mòr sluagh aig gach coinneimh agus chaidh mòran de òrain a bhuineas do dh'Uibhist a sheinn. Bha sgeulachdan r'a chluinntinn anns gach clachan agus bu ghle phògail a chaidh an aithris a rèir an t-seann nòis. Cha robh Beurla r'a chluinntinn idir.

Chuireadh Dealbh-chluich air bonn ann an Ceann a' Bhàigh agus bha e ro-thaitneach eiseachd ri luchd na cluiche ann an Gaidhlig fhileanta, agus ged nach robh ùrlar-togte no raòran soluis ann, b'ann cothromach a chuir iad f'ar comhar spiorad na cluiche.

Ann am Beinn nam Faoghla tha meuran a' Chomuinn a' deanamh an dhill air son Mòd beag a chur air adhart am bliadhna agus tha sinn an dòchas gu'n tig so gu deagh bhuil. A thaobh gu'm bheil fadhlachan a' cuartachadh Beinn nam Faoghla chan 'eil e freagarach a bhi a' toirt na cloinne ru thuath no mu dheas, agus bhitheadh Mòd beag anns an ionad so fhèin gheumail.

Bha e taitneach eiseachd ris an oigridh a' labhairt agus a' cluich anns a' Ghaidhlig, agus is anns na h-ionadan so is còir dhuinn gach cothrom a thoirt do'n oigridh a bhi ag ionnsachadh na cànan agus a' chìthil. Mar a thubhairt duine còir an Uibhist rium:—"Is e an cuan a tha eadar Tìr-mòr agus na h-eileanan an fhìor Chomunn Gaidhealach." D.M.P.

An Airde Deas.

A thaobh coinneamhan na h-Ard Chomhairle agus nan Comhairlean Seasmach a bhi air an cumail aig toiseach a' mhìos a chaidh seachad bha an Rùnaire aig baile a' chuid bu mhotha de'n ùine bho'n a thugadh iomradh air craobh-sgaioleadh roimhe.

Fhritheil Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich aig coinneimh de mheur na Conghail air an 24mh la de'n Ghearran. B'e so an cruinneachadh a bu mhotha a bha aig a' mheur anns a' Chonghail bho'n a chuireadh air bonn e. Bha Mgr. Iain MacDhomhnaill an Obain anns a' chathair agus bha cuideachd òranaichean comhla ris a' bhaile anns an de rugadh an Comunn.

Bha an t-Urramach Calum MacLeod agus an Rùnaire aig ceilidh am baile Hamilton air

an t-seachdamh là de'n Mhàrt. Bha Mgr. MacLeod anns a' chathair agus liubhar e òraid thaitneach ris an d'eisid a' chuideachd gu beachdail. Labhair an Rùnaire mar an ceudna.

Bha Mgr. Tearlach Caimbeul, Fear Gairme Comhairle a' Chraobhs-gaoilidh, 'na Fhearcathrach aig coinneimh chaidrich meur an Leamhanaich air an naoideamh là de'n Mhàrt. Chaidh buidheann luchd-seinn comhla ris á Glaschu agus ebruinnichadh suim mhaith airgid air son Mòd na bliadhna so.

Chaidh Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich do Dhunomhainn air an 17mh la de'n Mhàrt agus liubhar e òraid, an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla, do bhuil a' Chomuinn anns a' bhaile sin. Bha mu dhà cheud cruinn agus bha an Ceann Suidhe, Mgr. Domhnall MacDhomhnaill, anns a' chathair. Air an la-arn-a-mhàireach chaidh an Rùnaire comhla ri Mgr. Marjoribanks á Glaschu gu Sonachan agus fhritheil iad le cheile aig ceilidh an Dail-mhàili air an fheasgar sin. Ged a bha an oidheche fuar, fhuach bha mu leth cheud an lathair agus chuir iad seachad oidheche shunndach le òrain, ceol pìoba agus riarachadh gasda de thea agus bonnach bhuntata, B'i so ceud choinneamh a' mheoir air a' Gheamhradh so ach tha a' Chòisir Ghaidhlig an uidheam agus gu ullachadh air son Mòd Latharna agus Mòd Ghlaschu. N.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Many interesting functions are in prospect to assist with the National Mod preparations in Glasgow. The Carnival Dance held in the Highlanders' Institute on Friday, 17th March, was a very happy and well-attended function. A brisk demand continues for tickets for the Highland Ball in the Grosvenor Restaurant on 29th March. Among the further activities of the Entertainments Committee, of which Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun is convener, is a Garden Fete in the grounds of "Elpalet," the home of Mr. John MacDonald, president of the Clan Donald Society. This will take place in June and we are much indebted to Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald for their kind and practical interest in the Mod.

* * *

A number of the Glasgow Highland Societies, now that their own particular activities are at an end for the session, are concentrating on doing something for the Mod fund. It is probable that an Evening Cruise on the Clyde or Loch Lomond will be arranged some time during the Summer months. The Clan Macrae Association is giving a Whist Drive and Dance

in the Burlington House on 28th April in aid of Mod funds. Several Branches have also promised assistance. If Secretaries will kindly inform me of their efforts on behalf of the Mod I shall be very glad to refer to them here.

* * *

The Social Evening promoted by the Vale of Leven Branch in aid of Mod funds was a splendid success. There was a large company including Sir Iain Colquhoun, Bart., of Luss, and the proceeds, which were entirely devoted to the Mod funds, amounted to the handsome sum of £33. Mr. Charles Campbell, M.B.E., convener of the Propaganda Committee, presided, and the programme was sustained by a company of artists from Glasgow.

* * *

Members of An Comunn would learn with deep regret of the death of Mr. Alex. N. Nicolson, Greenock. Mr. Nicolson was prominent at the National Mods during the past eight years as conductor of the Greenock Gaelic Church Junior Gaelic Choirs. His work among the juvenile members of the Gaelic community of Greenock will long be remembered and his passing at an early age is a distinct loss to the Gaelic cause in Greenock.

NIALL.

BOOK REVIEW.

The Tires Bards. Being the original compositions of Natives of Tires at home and abroad. Edited by the Rev. Hector Cameron. 438+20 pages. Price 7/6. Published by the Tires Association.

Mr. Cameron has put the Gaelic public under a deep obligation in bringing together in one volume this very striking collection of the native poetry of Tires. There are no less than forty-eight composers named in the table of contents. These differ from one another in many ways, as we might expect, in original endowment, in education, in social advantage, and in knowledge of the great outer world. But there is one feature in which they all resemble each other, that excellent feature of mentality which impels them to seek verse as a vehicle of expression, to set their thoughts to music, and to cast the varied experiences of their lives in a bright setting of imagination. This is the charm of the present volume, a collection of pieces, revealing innate differences in merit and point of view, but all touched with the same mystic quality that seems to hang over that little green island in the sea. The work of John MacLean, the bard of the Laird of Coll, stands pre-eminent, of course, for he was the laureate of Tires, a man of evident genius. And it is a great compliment to many of the other authors to say that they are quite worthy to be included in the same fellowship. The patriotic element is very noticeable. The vein of humour in many songs is undeniable. The score of pieces by the editor deserve high commendation. This book merits a warm welcome not only from all natives of Tires, but from all Gaels. An excellent book, well edited, and well got-up. We wish it every success.—N. R.

AIT-AINMEAN LOCHLANNACH (SCANDINAVIAN PLACE NAMES)

Mainly Translated from the Norwegian.

Le K. W. G.

XI.

FACAIL GHÀIDHLIG AIR AN TARRUING O'N
LOCHLANNACH.

'Na leabhar "Litreachas Nan Ceilteach" tha'n t-Ollamh Manus Mac Illeathain, an lorgachadh an drùghaidh a rinn briseadh a stigh nan Lochlannach air litreachas nan Ceilteach, tha e 'leigeil ris gu'n robh cànan agus litreachas Eirinn agus Albainn 'n an aon gus an tàinig na Lochlannach, ach sgar na Lochlannach an dà rioghachd dhàimheil fad dà cheud bliadhna o chéile agus riamh cha do ath-bheothaicheadh an aonachd a bha eatorra air tús; agus an àm an sgaraidh sin thòisich na h-earrannan fa leth air dol, gach aon duibh a réir a ghnè, air rathaidean cho eadar-dhealaichte gu'n do sgar e iad gu bràth o chéile; tha 'n t-Ollamh a cur ris a sin, gu'm b'iad mar sin tighinn a stigh nan Lochlannach a b' aobhar air Gàidhlig na h-Alba a thogail a cinn, mar a tha i air a dheanamh agus litreachas air leth a bhuineas dhi fhéin a chur air chois; an àite neart a dheoghal tuilleadh o bhròilleach a màthar an Eirinn gu'n do thionndaidh i gu ùrachadh fhaotainn o'n chànan Lochlannach, aig an robh gun teagamh mòr dh'rùghadh air Gàidhlig Albainn.

Mar a dh'fhaodadh fiuthair a bhi againn, tha, mar sin, mòran fhacal anns a Ghàidhlig à cànan Lochlainn, agus tha cuid mhaith dhiubh a tha fathast a' nochdadh an sinnsearachd, am feadh a tha cuid eile nach gabh, dh'fhaoidte, a lorgachadh air dhith shean litreachas cailte. Leis an Lochlannach bhuadhach air an fhairge, tha e nàdurra gu'm faighear a chuid mhòr do fhacal a bhuineas do'n mhuir agus do loingear anns a Ghàidhlig air an tarruing às an Lochlannach, ach tha fios gu'm bheil àireamh mhòr de sheòrsachan eile ann cuideachd. Rinn an t-Ollamh MacEanruig an seòrsachadh 'n a leabhar *Norse Influence on Celtic Scotland*, a réir an ghnè, mar a leanas: (1) An Tigh, an Teaghlach, agus Obair-tighe; (2) Aodach, agus Armachd; (3) Feurachas, agus Aradaireachd; (4) A Mhòine; (5) Saorsainneachd; (6) Iasg, agus Iasgachd; (7) Eòhn; (8) Beathaichean; (9) Aimsir, agus Tomhas; (10) Uachdarannachd; (11) Craobhan; (12) A Mhuir, agus loingear; (13) Coltas na Dùthcha—Thr is Fairge; (14)

Facail Mheasgta. Bheir mi facal mo dhà às gach earrann; faodaidh nach bi cuid diubh ach dàimheil d'a chéile, oir cha dean mi ach beagan a thaghadh a mach:

Uinneag (vind-auga); spàin (spónn, spánn); àirinn, àrainn=leac an teinntean, cagailt (arinn); buta=soitheach fiodha—an Irt (bytta); cnapach=balach mór (knapi); méis=bascaid-chlòimhe (meiss); bròg (brok); meirghe=banner (merki); spadrach=spaidheil (spatra); gearraidh=feurachas eadar cladaich is sliabh (gerdi); ristéal, rustal=crann air son uachdar na talmhainn—Uibhist (ristill); siola=bràid-fiodha (sili); sgileag, sgiolag=coirce leis a chhàth air a thoirt deth (skilja); sgálag=seirbheiseach tuathanaich (skalkr); sgru'an=adag (skruf); bac-mòine (bakki); toirpsgian=toirsgian=peat spade (torfskeri); rùghan=cruach mhòine (krùga); lópan=croitheag no cliabh-mhòine (laupr); glamair=teachair gobhainn (klömbr); locar (lokarr); lonn, rolair fiodha fo dhruim bàta, a chum gu'n téid i mach gu réidh (hlunnr); geinn (gandr); dorga=hand fishing-line (dorg); spàrr, sail=a beam (sparri); spéic, spic (spilkr); saidh, saidhean=saithe (seidr); sgat, sgait (skata); trosg, bodach-ruadh (thorskr); stangaram=stickleback (stanga); alc, falc=common auk, gearrbhail (alka); ròcas crainheach=a rook (hrókr); sgarbh (skarfr); sgàireag=sgliurach (skari); sùlaire=solan goose (sula); gadhar=lurcher dog (gagarr); rùta, reithe (hrútr); tìd, uine (tìdr); ocar=interest on money (okr); biorsmaid=spring balance, meidh-thomhais bheag (bismari); sgàlain, meidh (skál)—Iarla (jarl); àrmuinn, armuinn=laoch (ármadr, árman, o shean b'e a 'chiallachadh—Stiùbhard rioghail); mòd, cùirt, co-thional (Mót); tabh, an cuan (haf); bodha, creag comhdhaichte leis na tonnann (bodi); birilinn (byrdingr); carbh, cnarra=air dol a cleachduinn (karfi, agus Knòr, Knarrar, dà sheòrsa long eadar-dhealaichte); bàta (bátar); acair (akkeri); abhsadh=shortening of the sail (halsa); cnag=a rowlock (knakkr); reang, rong=a boat rib (röng); stagh, stadh=stay in ship's rigging (stag); súdh=seam between ship's planks (súd); stiùir=to steer (styra); stiùrusmann (ni 's fhaid' air ais)=stiùradair, fear na stiùire (stýris-madr); lannaidh, lannair=sealladh na dùthcha, coltas àite (land-eign); sgriodan=broken face of declivity (skrida); còs=a hollow (kvos, kjos); air son facail eile a bhuineas do na sreathan mu dheireadh gheibhear iad

gu h-àrd a measg "ait-ainmean coimh-mheasgta" — nàbuidh, coimhearsnach (nabui); dais, burraidh (dási); glamhadh (glama); sgàig=trembling, fear (skaka); sgall=baldness (skalli); sgàlan=a hut (skáli); ùslaig, ùslainn=old hag, wretch (ù-saellingr); strì (strìdr); cromadh=finger-length (krumma); mùr=a bulwark (mùrr); crebailt=garter (knébelti); rotach=storm (rota), etc.

Mar a chaidh a ràdh cheana, dlùth air toiseach a phàipeir so, an uair a thàinig an dà fhineadh gu beantuinn gu teann ri chéile bhiodh buaidh aca ma seach air gach taobh; tha sinn mar sin a' faotainn facail Ghàidhlig air an gabhail a stigh do chaint nan Loch-lannach. Tha'n t-Ollamh MacEanruig a' cur a sìos cor aon diubh: Anns an Oide Loch-lannach=Edda, mar eisimpleir, tha 'm facal Gàidhlig-Eirionnach "geilt" (air a chuthach) air a thionndadh gu "gialti"; agus tha 'm facal Gàidhlig (Albannach) "lámh" ri fhaotainn an aon de shean naigheachdan Iceland mar "lám" an innseadh mu chràgan mór an fhamhair; "m" a seasamh air son "mh" a thàinig a stigh na 's anmoiche 's an fhacal Ghàidhlig a leigil ris cho fad' air ais agus a bha 'n t-àm anns an do ghabhadh coingheall dheth, thuit an Dotair. Mar a thuit mi cheana foidh na h-ait-ainmean, tha 'n àirigh Ghàidhlig air a tionndadh leis na Lochlannach gu "aerg," agus "crò" gu "kró"; bheireadh beagan sgrùdaidh tuilleadh gu follais chan eil teagamh.

Bha dàimh aig an t-sean chàinain Loch-lannach ris an t-sean Bheurla agus chan eil ann an dual-chainnt Ghalldachd na h-Alba ach dreach sean Bheurla taobh-tuath Shasuinn a lèthair gus a nis (an co-cheangal ri so tha e air ràdh gur urrainn Albannach Chaucer a thuigsinn na 's fhasa na do Shasunnach anns na làithean so). Mar so gheibhear móran fhacal aig Goill na h-Alba a thig glé dlùth air caint muinntir na dùthcha an Lochlann aig an àm so a th'air marsainn o'n t-sean chàinain.

Tha'n so cuid diubh, leis na facail Loch-lannach ris am bheil suaip aca:

Gang (ganga); bairn (barn, börn); hoose (hus; air a labhairt "hoose"); sark (serk); fremd, fremat fouk (framand folk); frae (fra); oot (ut, air a labhairt "oot"); thole (tola); kist (kista); ken, kent (kjenna, kjend); mair (meir); sair (saar); host (hosta); wauken (vaken); stane (sten, stein—a cheud fhacal air a labhairt "stane"); lang (lang); hame (heim, hem); brigg (briygga), etc., etc.

(*Ri Leantainn.*)

BRANCH REPORTS.

ARDGOUR.—A ceilidh was held, when a visit was paid by Mr. Neil Shaw, secretary of An Comunn Gàidhealach. The Hon. Mrs. Maclean of Ardgour, a strong supporter of the Gaelic cause, occupied the chair, and introduced Mr. Shaw, who gave an interesting account of the work and aims of An Comunn Gàidhealach. Mr. Shaw also delighted the audience by his renderings of Gaelic song and story.

ARDNAMURCHAN.—Mr. Neil Shaw, general secretary, recently visited the Ardnarmurchan branches of the organisation. A successful ceilidh was held in the Public Hall, Kilchoan, Rev. Mr. MacDonald, parish minister, presiding. Mr. Shaw addressed the gathering, and afterwards sang several Orain Mhóra. Mr. Shaw, accompanied by Rev. Mr. MacDonald and Mr. L. Cameron, also visited Kilmory, where a ceilidh was held.

APPIN.—The president, Mr. D. MacPherson, M.A., delivered a very interesting address on the "National Poet's Tours in the Highlands" at the ceilidh of the Appin branch. At the close of the lecture, a musical programme was submitted by a large number of popular artists.

BUTE.—There was a large attendance in Tower Street Hall, Rothesay, when Mr. Donald MacLaren, the Scots playwright, addressed the members of the Bute Comunn Gàidhealach on "The Music of the Gael." Mr. Archibald Campbell presided. Mr. MacLaren said that no instrument was so truly national as ours, so expressive of our passions and our history, our long and arduous battle with the winds and the waters and our grudging soil, as the pibroch. No other nation had an instrument that it could call its own in the same way as we called the bagpipes ours.

CARRADALE.—A very pleasant ceilidh was held by the local branch in the Mission Hall. The president of the branch, the Rev. J. A. Argyle Baker, M.A., occupied the chair and introduced the Rev. W. MacPhail and Messrs. A. R. Grinlaw and G. Stewart, all of Ardrishag. Rev. Mr. MacPhail addressed the audience first in Gaelic and then in English, and congratulated them on their enthusiasm for the Gaelic cause and their success attained at the National Mod, while Mr. Grinlaw sang several popular Gaelic songs.

CONNEL.—A successful ceilidh was held, when Mr. John MacDonald, the genial and popular conductor of Oban Gaelic Choir, presided over an attendance of about 200 persons. In introducing Mr. Neil Shaw, a welcome figure at a ceilidh, Mr. MacDonald paid tribute to his work for An Comunn. Mr. Shaw then gave a brief account of the growing activities of the Comunn. An enjoyable programme, during an interval in which tea was served, was sustained.

GLENELG.—A recent ceilidh held in the Reading Room, Glenelg, Mr. Angus Stewart gave an address in Gaelic on "The old-time ceilidh and how it could in a measure be revived." Mr. Murdo MacKenzie, president of the branch, occupied the chair. Mr. Stewart gave a detailed description of the old ceilidh, and suggestions as to how it could be revived into forming an institution for furthering the aims and interests of Gaelic-speaking people.

INVERARAY.—The fortnightly meeting of the local branch of An Comunn, held in the St. Malieu Hall, was a pleasant and successful gathering. Mr. Robert Bain, vice-president, presided. The programme, which was sustained by a large company of local artistes, was very much enjoyed.

LOCHMADDY.—At a ceilidh held recently, Mr. A. C. F. Davidson, president, presided. Mr. Donald Morrison, Trumisgarry, delivered an interesting lecture on the subject of "Witches." After discussion, a programme of songs, also instrumental music, was carried out. An interesting item of the programme was a poem of great merit by Mr. W. S. Morrison, M.P. for Cirencester, brother of the lecturer, which was recited by Mr. Williamson.

PORTREE.—A meeting of the Portree branch of An Comunn was held in the Masonic Hall the other evening. The membership roll continues to swell, and has now reached 265. The business of the meeting was a paper on India by Colonel K. L. MacDonald, D.S.O., the popular president. The lecture was most entertaining, and was listened to with appreciation. An enjoyable musical programme followed.

SALEN.—A ceilidh was held in the School, over which Colonel Gardyne of Glenforsa presided. Mr. Morison, Kengharair, gave an interesting lecture on "Dr. Johnson's Travels in the Hebrides," particularly in Mull. After the lecture, questions were asked by members of the company regarding special points of interest. Mr. Morison, who is an authority on the history of Mull, ably responded. A programme of songs followed.

TARBERT.—An enjoyable ceilidh by the local branch was held in the Good Templar Hall, when there was a good attendance. Mr. James Cooper, president of the branch, presided. Gaelic and English solos were sung in good fashion by several ladies and gentlemen. The evening was interspersed with dancing, while during an interval tea was served to the company.

TREE.—The proceedings at the meeting of the Balemartine branch took the form of a ceilidh, which was attended by friends of the movement throughout the island. Mr. Alex. Campbell, president, occupied the chair, and a lengthy and nicely varied programme of songs, sguelchdan, and instrumental music was very much enjoyed by the large company present.

TOBARMOHIRE.—Anns a' Mhàrt bha dà cheilidh air an cumail, agus chaidh oidhcheanan air leth sunndach a chur seachad. Bha innealan ciùil air ghleus agus a h-uile duine gu fonnmhor, fear na cathrach fhéin 's gun a dhìth air dol dhachaidh. Thug Coinneach MacPharlain seachad dàn, a riun e fhéin, mu a thuras do'n Zoo, agus bha sin a' toirt mòran sòlais do'n luchd eiseidh. Dh'fhàilltich iad 'nam measg an t-urramach E. MacSuaire a dh'innis ann am briathran snasmhor eachdraidh Thormaid Mhic Leòid, "Caraid nan Gàidheal." Thainig Seoras Marjoribanks a Loch Odha, "ged is fada an eigh," mar a thubhairt e. Labhair e gu fleanata, deas-bhriathrach ag innseadh mu'n toillintinn a fhuair e ann am bardachd Ghàidhlig, gu sonruichte ann an òrain Dhonnchaidh Bhàin. Dh'aithris e gu snasmhor "Oran do'n Bhriogais" agus an deidh sin thainig sguelchdan eibhinn. A bharr air an so bha òrain mhóra, òrain ghaoil, agus sguelchdan fada agus gòirid—uile gu h-anabarrach taitneach.

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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Leabhar XXVIII.]

An Cèitein, 1933.

[Earrann 8

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha da ghinealach a nis bho thugadh tàmailt do 'n Ghaidhlig le bhi 'g a toirmeasg do 'n chloinn anns a' sgoil. Tha na ficheadan beò fathast aig am bheil cuimhne air droch laimh-seachadh mar thoradh air a bhi a' bruidhinn an càinain mhàtharail air an raon chluiche. Is ann mar sin a dh'éirich linn òg suas leis an robh cainnt an dùthcha suarach a chionn gu robh sin air a theagasg dhaibh. Agus cha d' rinn Achd an Fhoghlaim 1872 a bheag de chuideachadh le cor tàmailteach na càinain. Tha an diugh na ceudan teaghlach anns an do bhàsaich a' chainnt ri aon ghinealach, far an robh eòlas na Gaidhlig aig na pàrantan agus gun dìog no lideadh aig a' chloinn. Is e bha an sin ach gnothach nàr, toil is cainnt coigrich 'g an sparradh air sluagh, geur-leanmhainn is marbhadh air càinain bheò, mhaिसich, gun ghuth air an ana-ceartas ladarna, ginealach òg 'g an spuinneadh de an còir-bhreith.

* * *

Tha fios againn uile gu bheil beatha na Gaidhlig an urra ris an oigridh. Is ann ris a' ghinealach òg a tha so an earbsa, a bhi a' giùlan air aghaidh cainnt, cleachdaidhean is beul-aithris an sinnsir. Their cuid gu bheil sinn buailteach air greim ro-theann a dheanamh air na nithean a chaidh seachad. Ach is bochd da rìribh an fear sin a chailleas cuimhne is iomradh air na daoine bho 'n tàinig e. Agus a chum gu 'n gleidhear na nithean prìseil sin air cuimhne tha e air leth iomchuidh aig an am so gum biodh a' chlann Ghaidhealach air an

eideachadh gus meas a bhi aca orra fhein agus air an oilein dhùthchail a tha dualach dhaibh. Tha an oigridh ullamh a ghnàth gu bhi ag aithris air an eiseimpleir a bheirear dhaibh. "An rud a chui e gu smaoinean mi a bhi a' faicinn cròilein cloinne aig cèilidh. Cìod e an t-annas is an t-ioghnadh leis an òliad astigh na sgeulachd-an agus na seann òrain. Tha sin a' nochdadh gu bheil am buadhan deas gus a' chàinain is an ceòl a thogail.

* * *

Is còir ainmeachadh an so nach robh An Comunn Gaidhealach a' dearmad na h-oigridh. Is iomadh oidheirp a rinn An Comunn gus an linn òg a theagasg agus a sheòladh. Tha aireamh bhliadhnachan bho chuir An Comunn a mach leabhraichean sgoile gus an oigridh a thàladh air an aghaidh bho cheum gu ceum an eòlas na càinain. Agus tha na leabhraichean sin measail, feumail feadh na tìre an diugh. Is ann air sgàth na h-oigridh a chuir cuid de bhuill is de chàirdean A' Chomuinn cath cruaidh a chum gum biodh àite is cothrom aig a' chàinain agus aig an oigridh an Achd an Fhoghlaim 1918. Gus an latha an diugh tha gach meadhan an cleachdadh gu Comhairlean an Fhoghlaim anns gach Siorramachd Ghaidhealaich a chumail an cuimhne air àithne an Achd a thaobh na h-oigridh anns an sgoil. Tha a' cheud latha de 'n Mhòd mhór bhliadhnail 'g a thoirt suas gu léir do 'n oigridh agus duaisean gasda 'g an tairgsinn am beul aithris, leughadh is seinn. Tha latha is oidhche aig a' chloinn dhaibh féin, comh-fharpaisean feadh an latha agus cuirm chiùil air an fheasgar.

An teis meadhoin A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich tha buidheann ris an canair Clann an Fhraoich. Is e cloch àraidh na buidhne sin a bhi a' labhairt na Gaidhlig an uair a thachras iad ri a chéile. Tha iad so de 'n bheachd nach cumar beò a' Ghaidhlig le bhi a' labhairt Beurla a mhàin. Tha iad a' creidsinn gur e an dòigh is fhearr air a' chàinain a ghleidheadh a bhi 'g a labhairt is 'g a sgrìobhadh cho tric 's a ghabhas sin deanamh. Chan eil fada bho chaidh a' bhuidheann so a chur air chois, agus tha toradh maith a' leantainn na saothrach a tha Clann an Fhraoich a' cleachdadh. Is e aon mhaithreas sonraichte gu bheil buidheann ùr de 'n ghnè cheudna gu bhi air a suidheachadh airson na h-òigridh. Is ann le rian is òrdugh a ghabhas obair de 'n t-seòrsa so cur air a h-aghaidh. Agus mar theid rian a chur air saothair na cloinne bheir sin misneach is toil-intinn dhaibh. Chi iad an sin gu bheil iad mùrmeach an sùilean nan inbheach, an uair a gheibh iad aire chùramach, agus buidheann ùr dhaibh fhéin.

* * *

Thugadh fainear aig mòd a' Ghearasdain an uiridh, gum biodh Comunn na h-Oigridh 'g a shuidheachadh, agus chaidh an gnothach a chur an earbsa ri Clann an Fhraoich riaghailtean a chur an cèill airson cuideachd na cloinne. Chaidh sin a dheanamh gu h-eagnuidh, eireachdail; agus tha na h-uile coltas gum bi Comunn na h-Oigridh ag èiridh suas an neart is am feum. Tha dòchas gu 'n toir pàrantan is maighstirean sgoile cuideachadh do 'n chloinn mar is fhearr a tha 'n an comas. Theid meadhon fhosgladh a chum gu ruig na gillea is na nigheanan air ceuman urramach anns a' Chomunn. Is iad na ceuman "làn Ghaidheal," is "sàr Ghaidheal" airson nan òganach; agus "làn bhana-Ghaidheal" is "sàr bhana-Ghaidheal" airson nam maighdeannan. Mar sin le spiorad dian agus deagh eiseimpleir tha dùil gu 'n teid Comunn na h-Oigridh air aghart, a chum gum bi meur anns gach cearn anns am bheil meanglan ri fhaotainn de 'n Chomuinn Ghaidhealach féin.



The Highland Ball in aid of the Mod funds, in the Grosvenor Restaurant, on 29th March, was an outstanding success. There was a company exceeding four hundred present, and the scene presented, with the male members dressed in Highland garb and the ladies wearing clan tartan sashes, was most colourful and picturesque. The Duchess of Montrose, Mrs. MacCredie, and Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Convener of the Mod Local Committee, received the guests.

Gaelic Satire.

By THE EDITOR.

When hostile feeling attains a certain degree of intensity it seeks to find verbal expression in raillery, sarcasm, and ridicule. Such an attack, if directed with taste and acumen, results in the literary species known as satire. The use of this weapon, for purposes of retaliation, is generally congenial to irritable and vindictive natures. Kept within bounds by a sense of proportion, satire may become an effective instrument of chastisement. As the vehicle of jealousy or revenge, unless restrained by the rules of decorum, it will not scorn to utilise the full resources of abuse; and giving rein to the instincts of invective, it may easily descend to scurrility. There is a milder type of satire, however, which serves a didactic purpose by setting in a humorous and amusing light the faults and foibles of mankind. This type is sometimes useful in the guidance and instruction of public opinion. Concentrating attention by genial banter or gentle irony upon excesses that require to be restrained, it has frequently helped to bring about a reformation of social manners.

Among the ancient Gaels the power of satire was so great that it was believed to be capable of affecting inanimate Nature. In "Tain Bo Cualnge" (line 5468), we read: "As roimhe thraight na locha agus na haibhna an tan aoras" (In his presence the lochs and streams subside when he satirises them). If such was considered to be the case with regard to material things, we may well imagine how extraordinary the influence of satire would be held to be, when directed against human beings.

Professor Thurneysen has published in "Irische Texte" some fragments of bardic text-books which are believed to have come down from pre-Christian times, and to be a survival of druidical ceremonies. The fragments are found in the Books of Leinster and of Ballymote, and in two manuscripts in Trinity College, Dublin, and in the Bodleian. Among these ancient remnants there is a satiric incantation called the "Glam Dichinn." It is intended to punish any niggardly prince who is unwilling to give suitable remuneration to a bard for his poetry. Dr. Douglas Hyde gives a translation of this technical piece in his "Literary History of Ireland" (p. 242): "The poet, in a company of seven (that is, six

others and himself, upon whom poetic degrees had been conferred, namely, a *focloc*, *macfuirmédh*, *doss*, *cana*, *cli*, *anradh*, and *ollamh*, went at the rising of the sun to a hill which should be situated on the boundary of seven lands, and each of them was to turn his face to a different land, and the *ollamh's* face was to be turned to the land of the king who was to be satirised; and their backs was to be turned to a hawthorn which should be growing upon the top of a hill, and the wind should be blowing from the north; and each man was to hold a perforated stone and a thorn of the hawthorn in his hand, and each man was to sing a verse of this composition for the king. If it was they that were in the wrong in the case the ground of the hill would swallow them; and if it was the king that was in the wrong the ground would swallow him and his wife, and his son, and his steed, and his robes, and his hound. The satire of the *macfuirmédh* fell on the hound, the satire of the *focloc* on the robes, the satire of the *doss* on the arms, the satire of the *cana* on the wife, the satire of the *cli* on the son, the satire of the *anrad* on the steed, and the satire of the *ollamh* on the king."

The effectiveness of this strange ceremony must have been firmly credited by the ancient Gaels. So implicit was their faith in the power of satire that they believed that blisters could be raised on the face of the person who was unfortunate enough to become the object of satirical attack. A reference to this effect occurs in "Cormac's Glossary." Caier, the King of Connacht, was wrongfully satirised: "Dogni Neide glam n-dicend do, co dorolae teora bulgae for a gruaidib." "Neide made a 'glam-dicend' to him, so that three blisters grew on his cheeks" ("Cormac's Glossary," p. xxxvii., published by Whitley Stokes). "Caier arose next morning early, and went to the well. He put his hand over his countenance; he found on his face three blisters which the satire had caused, namely, Stain, Blemish, and Defect (*on, anim, eusbaidh*), to wit, red and green and white." And if such was believed to be the effect of satire upon the very face of an individual, what must have been its influence on his good name? There is in "Tecosca Cormaic: The Instructions of King Cormac" (translated by Kuno Meyer) a significant aphorism bearing on this point: "Sochlu each co áir" (Every one is fair-famed till he is satirised).

A striking instance of the dread caused by this particular type of satire occurs in the "Tain Bó Cualnge." When Ferdiad has

expressed his unwillingness, on sentimental grounds, to go out to fight against his former fellow-pupil, Cuchulainn, Queen Meve threatens him with the dire consequences of satire. "Is and-sin faitte Medb na druith agus na glamma agus na cruadgresse ar cend Firdiad, ar con derntais teora aera fossaigthe do, agus teora glamma dicend, go tocbaithis teora bolga bar a agid, ail agus anim agus athis, manu thised. Tanic Ferdiad leo dar cend a enig, daig ba hussu leissium a thuttum do gaib gaile agus gaiscid agus engnama na a thuttim de gaib aire agus eenaig agus imdergtha" (It was then that Meve sent the buffoons and the exorcists and the sharp assailants to Ferdiad that they might make three satires to impede him, and three imprecations which should cause three tumours to protrude on his countenance, even affront, infamy, and guilt if he did not come (to fight). Ferdiad decided to come with them for the sake of his honour, for he considered it preferable that he should fall by the spears of valour and skill and prowess, than that he should fall by the dark satire and abuse and insult).

The persistent ambition to shine as public singers on the part of those to whom musical talents have been denied, is ridiculed with gentle yet subtle irony in a short poem preserved in the Dean of Lismore's Book. The author is Duncan Mor of Lennox:

"As marg nach sgurre di chrwt veynni
Is nach synni mir is meynni;
As marg nach skur da dryng drang
Agis di rann di ray;
Agis na cluntyr a chrwt
Is nach tuggis a zayn."

"Pity him who cannot put aside his harp,
Yet cannot sing as he would wish;
Pity him ever with his 'dring, drang,'
Trying his verses to recite,
When men can neither hear his harp,
Nor understand the songs he sings."

—MacLachlan's Edition.

It might be noted that the satirical quality of these lines is of the restrained and sober kind which does not labour after effect by introducing ludicrous or outrageous comparisons. The sense of control gives power, and the ridicule is all the keener that it does not try to appeal to any feeling of disapproval stronger than "pity."

"The MacDonald Collection of Gaelic Poetry" (p. 332) gives a specimen of satire which bears the mark of having come directly from the heart of a man who had undergone much tribulation at the hands of his persecuting wife. The piece throbs with

passion, and may be regarded as an ill-natured attack on womankind in general. After comparing his partner to thorns and nettles, he proceeds in a curious style, which is remarkable for its power of aphorism:

"Teine 'ga fhadadh mu loch,
Gu tiornachadh cloich an cuan,
Comhairle 'g a toirt do mhnaoi bhuirb,
Mar bhuil' ùird air iarrunn fuar.

"Cha truimid an loch an lach,
Cha truimid an t-each a shrian,
Cha truimid a' chaor' a h-olainn,
'S cha truimid a' choluinn ciall."

"To attempt to dry a stone in the water,
By kindling a fire beside the lake,
Or like a blow of a hammer on cold iron,
Is advice to a barbarous woman.

"The loch is not heavier for the wild-duck,
Nor is the horse heavier for the reins;
A sheep is not heavier for its wool,
Nor yet a human being for common-sense."

When a bard's attack was not moved by personal rancour, but simply by the desire to draw an amusing picture, he generally succeeded in portraying the ludicrous eccentricities which marked the subject. An instance of this type is the burlesque by Archibald MacDonald, the comic bard of Uist, on a certain physician who persisted in wearing an old dirk in civil life. The unusual figure cut by the armed man when he visited his patients, or when he went to capture the wild-fowl in the rocks, is subjected to clever ridicule. Rob Donn also was occasionally happy in his treatment of amusing episodes. Having learned that a certain marriage was postponed for a whole month owing to a dispute over a stirk which the bridegroom expected to be included in the bride's dowry, the bard immortalised the event in a poem which shows that he possessed a keen sense of humour, as well as the ability to set such matters in an entertaining light.

Rob Donn, the Gaelic poet, exerts his powers of sarcasm on a fault which is common in every grade of society. The fault is the notorious one—that some parents are willing to sacrifice, for the sake of wealth or position, the matrimonial happiness of their daughters. The sight of incongruous matches of this type appears to have roused the indignation of the poet, and he satirises and deplores the mercenary element that has blinded such parents to the intrinsic merits or demerits of a suitor. He lampoons a case in which an ungracious clown with some possessions can outstrip in the race for a

bride a poor man of much personal worth and charm. With bitter irony Rob Donn exposes the unfair way in which the virtues of an attractive but unmonied wooer are twisted to his disadvantage:

"Ma tha e pàgach tha e gun nàire,
'S ma tha e sgàthach, cha bheag a' chrois;
Ma tha e gaolach tha e 'n a chaora;
'S ma tha e faoilteach, tha e 'n a thros'g."

"If he is demonstrative, he is shameless,
And if he is timid, he is inefficient;
If he is affectionate, he is a sheep,
And if he is frank, he is tactless."

Regarding the eligibility of the repulsive candidate who owns worldly gear, the poet exclaims:

"Tha fear fòs ann, a dh'aindeoin dòchais,
A dh'fhaodas pòsadh gun mhòran char;
Na'm biodh de chiall aig' na dh'aithnich riamh

Gu'n do dh'èirich grian anns an àirde 'n ear;

Dean 'n a dhuaire e, 'a rugadh 'n cuaran,
Thoir baile 's buar dha, is treabhair gheal;

Leig labhairt uair dha ri athair gruagaich,
'S bheir mi mo chluas dhuit mur faigh e bean."

"There is further one fellow, who, in spite of anything to the contrary, may marry without much wooing; provided he have only as much sense as to know that the sun rises in the east; let him be an ogre 'born in a shoe' (referring to a fable); give him a farm and cattle, and a white-washed steading; let him talk but for one hour to a fair maid's father, and I wager my ear the ogre will get a bride."

COMUNN NA CLARSACH.

This new Society is gaining rapidly in strength and importance. At the next meeting no less than ninety-three new names will be proposed for admission, fifty-five of these being life members. The extraordinary increase in membership in so short a time augurs well for the progress and success of the Society whose aim is to revive the use of the Clàrsach for the rendering of Gaelic melodies, and as accompaniment to Gaelic song, as in the middle ages.

At the Summer School of Gaelic in Portree, 6th to 27th July, there is to be a class for the teaching of the Clàrsach. The fee is £1. The test piece for Clàrsach competition at next Mòd is *Oran Mòr MhicLeoid*, price 1/- per copy, now ready, and to be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Miss Edith Taylor, Glencairn, Dunblane.

CUIREADH DO NA GAIDHEIL.

IAD A THIGHINN AIR AIS—A DH'AMHARO AIR AN
DUTHAICH FHEIN.

A' Cheud Duais, Mod a' Ghearasdain, 1932.

Le DOMHNUL MAC ILLIOSA, Glascho.

A Ghàidheal' caomh 's a dhaoine còir'
Tha'n duigh air fògradh fad o chéil',
Feadh threan céin far bheil bhuir còir'
Air móran sòlais agus spéis,
Nach leam bu chaomh sibh bhi ri m' thaobh
'S mi 'g aithris faoin dhuibh smaoin mo chléibh,
Le iomadh dùrachd dlùth tha'n dràsd
Gu 'r tarruing tràth gu'r dùthaich fhéin?

Carson mar sin bhitheas sibh ri strìth—
'S ri claidh bhuir crìdh' le nì nach fhéum,
'S nach eil 's an aigiod dhuibh aon nì
A bheir dhuibh sìth no nì d' a réir;
'S ro-fhearr gu mór dhuibh càirdeas dhaoin'
Le gean is gaol gach aon d' a chéil',
Is sùgradh, mànan, bàigh is mùirn,
Mar bha o thùs 'n ur dùthaich fhéin.

Thigibh mar sin is faighibh còir,
Air tìr bhuir n-òig 's bhuir sinnsir ghrinn,
An tìr sin bha o iomadh àl,
Cho pailt an gràdh 's an sìochainnt ribh,
Is nach do chuir dhuibh riamh air chùl
A càirdeas dùthchail, mùirneach, réidh,
Ach sìor thoirt dhuibh-se cuireadh tlàth,
Tighinn dhachaidh tràth gu'r dùthaich fhéin.

Ma fhuaradh sud le cuid dhibh maoin
Le pailteas chaorach agus spréidh,
'S nach fiù leibh teachd air ais faraoon
A dh' àiteach aonaichean an fhéidh,
Tha 'n cuireadh sùgrach so nis uainn
A' dol thar chuan le buaidh is spéis,
'S e sin:—co-dhiu 's ann mall no luath—
Sibh thoirt aon chuairt do'r dùthaich fhéin.

Oir 's iomadh nì a chi sibh innt'
A bhios ro-phrèisil dhuibh ri 'luaidh,
Le gleannthan àluinn 's dreachmhor lì
Is srathan mìne 's isle chuain;
Mòr-bheanntan àrd 's àille ciabh,
'S iad tosdach sgiamhach sìos 'nan suain,
Le 'm bàrr a' sìaradh àrd 's an chìar
'S am bonn as fhiannais shìos 's an chuan.

Tha eachdraidh arsaidh chaomh ar dùthch'
Ri fhaotainn air gach raon is blàr,
Is mu gach cnoc is sloc is chùil
Is iomadh Dùn tha 'n duigh ri làr,
Far 'n tric a dhoirteadh fuil nan laoch,
A' cogadh air son saorsa chàich;
Nach d' leag fo dhaorsa riamh an saor
'S nach d'fhuirich riamh fo dhaorsa nàmh.

Fo sgàil nam beann tha gleannan tlàth
Tha nise fàs o iomadh linn,
Oir chi sibh fhathast anns gach àit
Sean-làraichean nam fàrdach ghrinn;
'S cha 'n iognadh 'n duigh ged thigeadh àl
A thabhairt do na làraich spéis,
Oir 's doch' an làrach sin fodh 'n sàil,—
Sean-làrach tigh' an sinnsir fhéin.

Co-dhiu is ann tre shrath no gheann
A bhios sibh mall ag gabhail céum,
Cha'n e dhuibh am is gainne ceann
Gu faighinn annsachdan gun mhéud,
Le ceò a' snàmh thar bàrr gach stùc,
'S e lùbadh nùll air chùl an t-sléibh,
Gach feasgar ciùin am mìos na Ciùin'
No madaunn dhriùchdmhor tùs an Chéit.

No eadhon fòs dol feadh an fhraoich
Tha móran iognaidhean d' a réir,
Le eunlaith sgaoimeil 's iad fo mhaoim
Ag eiridh aotrom air an sgéith;
Is féidh is maoislichean air raoin,
Is spréidh is caoraich air na lòin,
'S gach uile chréutair—beag is maoth
Gu trang a saothrachadh a lòin.

Fa-dheòidh 'nuair dhreas sibh air sliabh,
'S a sheasas sibh air ciabh nan stùc,
'S a dhearcas sibh a mach do 'n iar,
Air feadh na diomhaireachd le iùl,
Tha iomadh iognadh anns gach ial,
Bheir riarachadh do mhiann gach sùl'
Le seallaidhean nach fhac' sibh riamh,
'S ri fhaicinn—nach robh riamh 'n ur dùil.

Oir fad do radhairc mach gu cuan
Tha seallaidhean tha buadhmhòr àrd,
Le eilein mhara—'s iad 'nan suain
Gu daingeann buan fo bhuaidh an t-sàil,
Is caolais chumhainn, dhomhainn, réidh,
'G an sgarachdainn o chéil' 's gach àit,
No lochan farsuinn, fagach, séimh,
Is dreach nan néamhan air am bàrr.

An sud 's an so, a mach o thìr
Tha rùdhachan a' sìneadh ceann,
Is butaichean is sròin is ruigh',
Is àirdean isalta neo-ghann,
Is tairbeartan le 'm muineil chaol',
Is doirlingeann is maoil comh-theann,
Aig caol-fhad ghaideanan de 'n t-sàl
Tha sruthadh stigh gu sàil nam beann.

A nùll 's a nall a' seòladh cùrs'
Tha bàtaichean 'g an stiùradh teann,
Cuid dhiù tha sìubhal mall fo shiùil,
Is cuid le roth is smùid 'n an deann;
Cuid eile dhiù 's an fhasan ùr
Le ùilleadh dol le sùrd is srann,
'S cuid eile dol gun roth gun stiùir
Le iomairt ràmh is dhùirn comh-theann.

Fa d' chomhair thall aig ceann a' chaoil
Tha Clachan maoth ri taobh na tràgh'd.
Is iomhaigh chaomh gach tigh' is craoibh'
'N am faileas faoin air aodan sàil;
Gach crann is dos fo chlos 's an t-sìth
'S gach ceò dol dìreach—dìreach àrd;
'S bho 'n tha sinn nis car fann is sgìth
Gu fàg sinn ceann ar sgrìob 's an àit'.

Nis, Ghaidheal' caomh' 's a dhaoine còir
Tha'n diugh air fògradh fad o chéil,
Feadh threan cén far bheil bhuir còir
Air mórán sòlais agus spéis.
Nach leam bu chaomh sibh bhi ri m' thaobh
'S mi 'g aithris faoin dhuibh smaoin mo chleibh
Le iomadh dùrachd dlùth tha 'n dràs
Gu 'r tarruing tràth gu 'r dùthaich fhéin?

A' Bheinn a' labhairt:—

Ged 's lionmhoir strìoc tha sìos o m' thaobh
Cha'n ann le aois a dh' aom iad nuas,
Ach meud mo dheur—bha ruith neo-fhaoin,
'S gu tric a' taomadh thar mo ghruaidh;
'S mi faicinn nis gach srath is raon
Le 'm pailteas maoin fo chaor' is bhuar,
Aig clann nan Gall—'s iad teann ri 'm thaobh,
Is clann mo ghaoil air faontradh uam.

O 'n là a chuir sibh rium bhuir cùl
Bu duilich, tùrsach bha mo chàs,
'S gach là—o 'n là a chaidh sibh 'nùll,
Bu tric mo shùil gu dlùth thar sail,
Mi 'n dùil gu faicinn long fo 'sìuil
'S i togail cùrsa thun na tràgh 'd,
A' tilleadh dhachaidh ruinn le sùrd,
Is clann mo rùin aic' air a clàr.

An Gleann ri comhradh:—

Nam faicinn fhìn ruinn 'teachd an dràs,
Sàr-shliochd mo ghràidh—na h-àrmuinn ghrinn,
A' tilleadh air an ais le slàint'
A dh'fhaicinn chàirdean agus tìr;
Gu luath bhiodh m' ùilt le cuireadh tlàth,
'N an còmhail dol gu tràigh 'n an still,
Seadh, bhiodh gach eas is preas fo ghàir'
Le meud na fàilt' bhiodh tighinn o m' chridh'.

Tha 'n gleann a nis air teachd fo bhlàth—
Tha 'n samhradh tlàth air tilleadh ruinn,
'S tha 'n chuthag anns an chreagan àrd
Le guthan tlàth air tighinn air sgrìob,
'S tha eadhon fùg gach dùil le 'n gnàth's
Air tilleadh gu àit àraich ris,
Ach ruinn an tìll—no 'n tìll gu bràth,
Na h-àrmuinn ghràidh chaidh àrach leinn?

An Clachan a' freagairt:—

Tha' bhratach nis leinn sgaoilt' air làr,
Gu dhol gu h-àrd gu bàrr a' chruinn,
'S tha 'n phìob air ghléus le séisd neo-chearr,
Gu ceol is àille chuir gu fuinn,
Tha searrag dhubh de 'n stuth is fhearr
S i dìonach làn le àrc fo chuing,
'S a' chuach rith' suas gu dhol mun cuairt
Le fàilt is suairceas do na suinn.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC, Portree, 6th to 27th July.

List of Hotels and Boarding-houses.

The undernoted list of Hotels and Boarding-houses is given for the information of prospective students at the Summer School of Gaelic at Portree. As is already well known, this district, particularly the town of Portree, is very popular with holiday makers, and consequently it is very difficult to obtain accommodation during the summer months. Students who intend being present at the School are advised to make their arrangements as early as possible. Mr. Angus MacDonald, 6 Beaumont Crescent, Portree, will be very pleased to give every assistance.

ROYAL HOTEL.
PORTREE HOTEL.
CALEDONIAN HOTEL.
MARINE HOTEL.
PIER HOTEL.
BEATON'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL.
NICOLSON'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, Portree.
Mrs. MCINTYRE, Cruachan, Portree.
Miss FRASER, Beaufort, Portree.
Mr. NEIL BEATON, The Cottage, Portree.
Mrs. MACDONALD, 6 Beaumont Crescent, Portree.
Miss HELEN NICOLSON, Telephone House, Portree.
Mrs. NICOLSON, Rhu-Arden, Portree.
Mrs. ANDERSON, Achacherk, Portree.
Mrs. McAULAY, Portree House, Portree.
Mrs. BAIN, The Square, Portree.
Mrs. MACLEOD, Sluggans, Portree.
Mrs. MCPHERSON, Craigacharrain, Portree.

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.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 1933.

GÆLIC—LOWER GRADE.

Tuesday, 28th 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 the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

1. Translate into English, paying careful attention to idiom :—

Ma théid mi a ruamhar gun fios a leigeil chuire le bhi a' luaidh air a h-ainm, cluinidh na cluasan biorach aig an tunnaig 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 chl i na cearcan a' sgriobadh an measg na h-ùrach a thionndaidheas mo chaibe. Is ann dhi is aithne sgraing a chur air, agus caobaidh i té thall 's a bhos gus an cuir i an teicheadh buileach air luchd nan crean dearga. Cha seas i anns an t-sreath ag gabhail gréim mu seach ris na cearcan. Is e tha innte maor-ùrlair, ach tha eagal orm nach abradh a dearbh charaid gur e maor-sithe a tha innte. Is e mi-rian agus aisith a bhios aig an eunlaith eile an uair a bhios an tunnaig a lathair.

D. URCHADAN. (20)

2. Translate into English :—

Oran do na Fògarach.

Togaibh misneachd is sòlas,
Bithibh inntinneach ceòlmhor,
Is cuiribh bhur dòchas
Ann an còmhnaidh an Ard-Rìgh;
Bho'n is éiginn duihbh seòladh,
Is nach ann de bhur deoin e,
Do'n rìoghachd nach eòl duihbh,
Mar a thòisich bhur càirdean.
Bho nach fuiling iad beò sibh
Ann an crìochaibh bhur n-eòlais,
Is fearr duihbh falbh de bhur deoin as
Na bhi fodha mar thràillean.
'S iad na h-uachdarain ghòrach
A chuir fuaradh fo 'r srònaibh,
'S a bhris muineal rìgh Deòrsa
'N uair a dh'fhògradh na Gàidheil.
Ma thig cogadh is creachadh,
Mar is minic a thachair,
'S ann a bhios sibh 'nur starsaich
Fo chasaibh bhur nàmhaid.
Tha sibh soirbh ri bhur cagsairt,
Gun neach ann gus a' bhacail;
Tha bhur guaillean gun taice,
'S na gaisgich 'gur fàgail.

IAIN MACCODRUM. (20)

3. Translate into Gaelic :—

Every ledge of this rocky coast is the abode of countless seabirds. All along the face of the crags they make their home—they float on the waters and they glide in the air, with ceaseless yet varying cry. White gulls and grey gulls; sea-swallows and snowy gannets; cormorants innumerable, with black glistening plumage and long necks that rise, snake-like, from the water; and, quaintest of all, the little puffins with their thick scarlet beaks, peeping out from the old rabbit-holes, or teaching their fluffy infants their first lessons in a life on the ocean wave.

GORDON CUMMING. (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 sportsman, diminutive in body but a keen angler, sets out to fish a loch, accompanied by a tall Highland gillie. Gillie rows about knowingly, seeking likely places—warm wind from south-west—light clouds—trout abundant—sportsman happy. Evening comes—swarms of midges annoy gillie, but leave happy sportsman alone—latter enquires of gillie why this should be. Exasperated gillie suggests it may be because the midges have not yet seen him. (20)

(Complete the story in your own way.)

GÆLIC—HIGHER GRADE—(FIRST PAPER).

Tuesday, 28th March—10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The value attached to each question is shown in brackets after the question.

N.B.—Begin the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

1. Translate into idiomatic English :—

Mar shiùbhlas fear turuis troimh choille air latha soilleir samhraidh, chle e craobhan de iomadh gnè a' sgeadachadh na dùthcha. An giuthas, an t-uinnseann, an darag; gach aon eadar-dhealaichte o chéile an àrde, an cumadh is an duilleach; ach gidheadh, gach aon ag cur maise fa leth air an t-sealladh. Sin mar tha na cinnidh a tha a' deanamh suas Impireachd Bhreatann; eadar Ghàidheil is Ghoil, eadar Mhanannach is Chuimrich, eadar Eireannaich

is Sasunnaich, agus na sluaigh òga thall thar chuantan; tha gach treubh is cinneadh diubh sin a' tairgse an cuibhrionn féin a chum gum biodh an dùthaich làidir an duinealas is deagh bheus. Chan fhaodar cruth na craobhe giuthais a chur air an uinnseann; agus chan fhaodar duilleach na beithe iarraidh air an daraig. Tha a cruth, a snuadh, a meanglain is a duilleach féin aig gach craobh fa leth. Faodar an comhsamhlachd sin a ghabhail gu bhi a' nochdadh cia mar bhitheas gach treubh na's treise agus na's foghaintiche air son an dleasdanas mar is fearr a chuireas iad gu buil na gibhtean a tha dualach dhaibh.

NEIL ROSS. (25)

2. Translate into English:—

Tha mi faicinn bhur truaighe
Mar nì nach cualas a shamhuil,
A' chuid as fearr de bhur seabhagan
Bhi air slabhruidh aig clamhan;
Ach ma tha sibh 'nur leómhain,
Pillibh an dòghruinn-s' 'n a teamhair,
Is dèanaibh an deudach a thrusadh
Mun téid bhur busan a cheangal.

An uair thig bagradh an nàmhaid
Gus an àit anns do phill e.
'S ann bu mhaith leam, a chàirdean,
Sibh bhi an àireamh na buidhne
D'am biodh spiorad cho Gàidhealach
'S gum biodh an sàr⁽¹⁾ ud 'n a cuimhne,
Gus bhur pilleadh 'san abhainn,
Oir tha i reimhibh na's doimhne.

Nis, a Thearlaich òig Stiùbhairt,
Riut tha dùil aig gach fine,
Chaidh a chothachadh crùn duit,
Is leig an dùthaich 'n a teine;
Tha mar nathraichean folaicht,
A chaill an earradh an uiridh,
Ach tha 'g ath-ghleusadh an gathan
Gu éirigh latha do thighinn.

ROB DONN. (25)

(¹) sàr, oppression.

3. Translate into English, or turn carefully into Scottish Gaelic:—

Ceanglaid Diarmaid agus Guaire sìoth eatorra féin, agus adubhairt Diarmaid ris teacht go h-aonach Tailtean i bhfiadhnais fhear nEireann; “agus do-bhéar féin mo thighearnas ó m' lá féin amach dhuit,” ar sé.

Téid Guaire iar sin go h-aonach Tailtean agus miach nó mála airgid re n-a chois i gcoinne a bhronnta d'fhearaihb Eireann. Tug iomorro Diarmaid ar fearaibh Eireann gan aon díobh d'iarraidh aoin-neithe ar Ghuaire 'san aonach. Dá lá dhó amhlaidh sin; an treas lá iomorro

adubhairt Guaire re Diarmaid fios do chur ar easbog chuige, go ndearnadh a fhaoisidin agus a ongadh.

“Créad sin?” ar Diarmaid.

“Bás atá im ghar,” ar Guaire.

“Cionnus tuigear tu sin?” ar Diarmaid.

“Tuigim,” ar Guaire, “fir Eireann ar aon láthair, agus gan neach dhíobh ag iarraidh neithe orm.”

Tug Diarmaid iar sin cead bronnais do Ghuaire. Gabhais Guaire ag bronnadh neithe do gach aon duine an tan soin; agus ma's fíor, ba faide an lámh le n-dáileadh ní do na bochtaibh ioná an lámh le dtiodhlacaidh ní do'n éigse. Do rinne Diarmaid síoth is sìothcháin re Guaire an tráth soin do láthair fhear nEireann, is do bhádar muinnteartha d'a chéile ó shoin amach.

GEORFFREY KEATING. (25)

BADENOCH AND STRATHSPEY
PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Mod was happy in many ways. Its excellent location, the glorious spring-summer weather, the numbers of competitors, their fine quality, keenness, and sportsmanship, and the friendliness and hospitality, made the work of adjudicating a pleasant if arduous experience. The standard was high, and competitors, especially in the choral work, senior and junior, sang with insight and evident enjoyment. One recalls with lingering satisfaction the excellent work in the unison choral class, a type of work that does not usually commend itself to choirs that have tasted the joys of harmony, but a type that is of the greatest importance.

One would like to make good an omission due to the rather hurried work towards the close of the Mod, which was really the place to bear glad testimony to the work that has been put in by the teachers and choir conductors, whose work of preparation was brought to such fine fruition at the Mod. May their work continue to flourish. It only remains to bear testimony to the genial influence Mr. Donald MacDonald, Convener of the Northern Sub-Committee, the infectious enthusiasm of Mr. MacPhail, organiser, and the kindness of colleagues.

J. N. McC.

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CRAOBH SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Bu toigh leam ann an cunntas a' mhìosa so beagan aithris a dheanamh air a' Mhòd shoirbheachail a bha am Bail' Ur an t-Sléibhe air a' choigeamh là de 'n Ghiblein.

Thoisich am Mòd so aig deich uairean anns a' mhàduinn agus bha an luchd-deuchainn anns na co-fharpaisean cho lìonmhor 's gu'n robh e ochd uairean feasgar mu'n do chuireadh crìoch orra. Bha còrr agus trì cheud co-fharpaiseach eadar gach iomairt a bh' ann, Agus bha na breitheamhan ro-thoilichte leis gach oidhirp a rinn iad. Bha obair nan còisirean-ciuil gu h-àraidh taitneach agus tha Peigi NicDhomhnaill ri a moladh air son gach saothar dhealasach a chuir i 's an obair ann an ùine bhig.

Bha aireamh laghach a' feuchainn leughaidh, aithris, bàrdachd agus sgeulachdan, agus chitheadh neach gu'n robh labhairt na Gaidhlig fhathast beò am Baideanach agus nach eil a dhìth air a' chàinain ach misneach a bhi air a thoirt dhith le bhi 'ga labhairt timchioll an teallaich eadar pàrantan agus clann.

Bha an talla mòr 's an robh am Mòd loma-làn fad an latha de mhuinntir an àite agus gach aon ag eisdeachd le miadh agus dùrachd ri òrain agus sgeòil, agus chan eil teagamh 's am bith agam nach robh an latha ud 'na aobhar misnich dhoibhsan a tha mùirneach mu leas na càinain.

Bha Mgr Murchadh MacGille Mhoire, fear stùbhiridh an fhoghlaim air son na siorramachd, anns a' chathair, agus thug esan òraid shnasail, bhrìgh-mhor seachad anns an do rinn e àrd-mholadh air gach iomairt a tha An Comunn a' deanamh air son ath-bheothachadh na Gaidhlig.

D. M. P.

An Airde Deas.

Bha coinneamh aig Fo-chomhairle Craobh-sgaoidh na h-Airde Deise air an 23mh la de 'n Mhàrt an Glaschu agus leughadh fathunn bho'n Rùnaire mu a thurasan ré nan seachdainean roimhe sin.

Bha an Rùnaire air an fheasgar sin aig Ceilidh Dhonnchaidh Bhàin anns an Oban. Tha meur an Obain ag cumail cuimhne a' bhàird ainmeil so air mhaireann anns an doigh thaitneach so agus tha mòran ag cruinneachadh a chum a bhi a' nochdadh am bàigh ri Bàrd Ghlinn Urchaidh. Bha an Cenn Suidhe, Mgr Iain MacDhomhnaill, anns a' chathair.

Sheòl an Rùnaire air maduinn an là-arn-a-mhaireach gu Liosmór a chumail coinneamh

ri muinntir an eilein sin 'san fhesagar. Chaochail tuathanach measail an latha sin agus chum sin mòran bho thighinn a dh'ionnsuidh na coinneimh. Bha an t-Urra. Dughall Mac 'Ille Mhaoil, B.D., anns a' chathair agus thug an Rùnaire òraid an Gaidhlig air obair a' Chomuinn, a' beachdachadh gu sònraichte air Mòd a' Ghearasdain.

Air Di-luain, an 27mh la de 'n Mhàrt, chaidh an Rùnaire air chuairt do Ìle. Bha coinneamhan aige am Baile Ghrànda, Port na h-Aibhne, Port Charlotte, Port Ellen agus Beul an Ath. Bha cuirm-chiuil am Beul an Ath agus chruinnich mòran ann as gach cearna de 'n eilean. Bha an Rùnaire anns a' chathair agus fhuaradh òrain, ceòl agus dealbh-chluich a bha taitneach ri eisdeachd ri. Aig na coinneamhan eile bha aireamh maith sluaigh cruinn ged a bha obair an Earraich aig a h-àirde.

Chaidh Mgr Tearlach Caimbeul, Fear Gairme Comhairle a' Chraobh-sgaoidh, Mgr Eachann MacDhughail, Cenn Suidhe Meur an Leamhain, agus an Rùnaire gu cuirm-chiuil meur Dhunbreatuinn air an t-seachdamh la de 'n Ghiblein. Bha Probst Bilsland anns a' chathair agus bha mu cheithir cheud an lathair. Aig crìoch na cuirme thug Mgr Tearlach Caimbeul taing do na seinneadaran agus do'n luchd-cluiche. Thug a' choinneamh so gu crìch obair a' mheòir air son t-seisein so.

Air Di-sathuirne, an t-ochdamh là de 'n Ghiblein, bha an Rùnaire 'na fhear-cathrach aig ceilidh Tìr nam Beann an Grianag. Bha mu naoi fichead an lathair agus dh'iarr fear na cathrach cuideachadh fa chomhar a' Mhòid.

Air Di-mairt 'na dheidh sin chaidh an Rùnaire agus cuideachd sheinneadaran gu baile Inbhir Air. Bha mu sheachd fichead cruinn aig a' cheilidh an sin agus cho-dhùin iad obair a' gheamhraidh leis a' chruinneachadh a bu mhotha bha aca fad an t-seisein. Chumadh a' Choinneamh Bhliadhnail mu'n do thoisich a' cheilidh agus chaidh an luchd-dreuchd uile ath-thaghadh.

Fhrithail an Rùnaire aig Coinneimh Bhliadhnail meur Shrubhlea air a' cheathramh la deug agus thug e òraid seachad an Gaidhlig is am Beurla air obair nam meuran agus air teagasg na Gaidhlig anns na sgoilean Gaidhealach. Air a' choigeamh la deug chaidh an Rùnaire gu baile Hamilton far an do thachair e ri buill Comhairle Comunn Gaidhealach na Lannraig. Chuir e fa'n comhar iarrtas na Comhairle Ionadail air son cuideachaidh leo Mod Ghlaschu a dheanamh cho soirbheachail 'sa ghabhas deanamh. Dh'aontaich iad oidhirpean a dheanamh a chum cur ri ionnnhas a' Mhòid.

N.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

We have introduced an advertising column for announcing the various events that are now being arranged to assist the Mod funds. This feature will be continued right up to the date of the Mod, and we will be glad if secretaries of branches and others promoting functions will advise us of their arrangements, so that their particular function may be mentioned with the others. No charge will be made for these insertions.

* * *

We would direct the attention of our readers to the Mod appeal which is now being circulated, and we trust that a liberal response will be made. The Mod and general activities of An Comunn depend largely upon the support received, and we trust our friends will assist us in the work by contributing as generously as possible.

* * *

Collection cards have now been sent to branch secretaries, and it is hoped that they will do their utmost to assist the Mod funds with these cards among the members of the branch and friends of the movement in their districts.

* * *

The closing social of the session of the Mull and Iona Association was promoted as a special effort for the Mod funds. There was a large gathering in the Highlanders' Institute, where this concert was held, and a most attractive programme was submitted. Mr. Charles Campbell, M.B.E., president, occupied the chair, and seated with him on the platform were Mr. and Mrs. Neil Cameron, Sunderland, the donors of the Mull and Iona Trophy for the Male Voice Choir Competition at the National Mod.

* * *

Several other functions by the various societies are to take place before the end of April, and these being too late for mention in this number will be referred to in our next issue. On Tuesday, 2nd May, the Jura Association are holding a whist drive, tea, and dance in the Highlanders' Institute. Mr. Donald MacKay, secretary, extends a hearty invitation to all Glasgow Gaels, who may be free, to join them on this occasion. An enjoyable evening is assured.

* * *

The Combined Choir Concert in the St. Andrew's Hall, on Saturday, 6th May, is arousing much interest. His Grace the Duke of Montrose has kindly consented to

preside, and the Edinburgh Choir are associating themselves with the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, the Govan Gaelic Choir, the Greenock Gaelic Choir, and St. Columba Choir in this effort.

* * *

We are much indebted to Sir Archibald and Lady Campbell of Succoth for kindly granting permission to visitors to enter the grounds of their estate at Garscube, on Saturday, 13th May, to view the beautiful varieties of rhododendrons and azaleas then in bloom. A charge of 6d will be made, on entry, towards the Mod funds. Cars will be admitted at a charge of 1/-.

* * *

It has now been decided that the Garden Fete in the grounds of Mr. John MacDonald, Elpalet House, Cathkin, will take place on Saturday, 10th June. Various stalls have been arranged, and the work of preparation has already been commenced. Any contributions for the plenishing of these stalls would be greatly welcomed, and could be sent to me at the office here.

* * *

An evening cruise is being promoted by the Skye Association, to take place on Thursday, 15th June. The new turbine pleasure steamer, "Queen Mary," will be ready for this date, and will be at the disposal of the party. This is a very popular form of spending a pleasant few hours, and a large company is expected to attend this cruise. The price of the tickets are 2/6 each, and may be had from the officials of the Skye Association, the members of the Mod Committee, or from the office here. The steamer, "Queen Mary," will sail from Bridge Wharf at 6.30 p.m.

* * *

A tablet to mark the site where the old Gaelic Chapel of Perth stood is being placed in a prominent position in Messrs. Leslie's printing, bookbinding and lithographic works in Canal Street, which now occupy the site. This tablet bears the inscription: "This building was erected as a Gaelic chapel, 1787; closed 1843-45; used as St Stephen's Church, 1880-1885." This interesting memorial should form an attraction to Highland visitors to the "Fair City."

* * *

It is rather interesting to note that a prominent place will be taken by the Dumfries Branch Gaelic Choir in a pageant

to be given in the town on 23rd, 24th, and 26th June. Nine episodes from the work of Sir Walter Scott comprise the pageant, and "The Speeding of the Fiery Cross" will be one of the most stirring, and the choir members are taking prominent parts in the cast, while in one of the incidents portraying a Highland funeral the choir ladies will sing a lament. It may be mentioned that this choir was only formed recently, and has already done excellent service in assisting with the musical part of the ceildh proceedings.

NIALL.

BADENOCH-STRATHSPEY PROVINCIAL MOD.

Large entries and crowded sessions marked the proceedings at the fifth Provincial Mod in the Strathspey-Badenoch district held on Wednesday, 5th April, at Newtonmore. Enthusiasts from all parts of Speyside travelled by special train to the event, while Badenoch was strongly represented.

Mr. Donald MacDonald, president of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee, performed the opening ceremony, and referred to the regrettable absence of Miss Farquharson of Invercauld through illness. On his suggestion it was resolved to send her a telegram of good wishes for a speedy recovery.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Rev. Hector Cameron, Moy; Rev. Alistair MacLean, B.D., Daviot; and Mr. John MacLeod, Kirkhill. Music—Mr. J. MacConochie, M.A., Glasgow, and Mr. T. Davies, Inverness. Bagpipe playing—Col. Grant of Rothiemurchus.

Arrangements for the day's programme were efficiently carried through by Miss Grant, Woodcliffe, secretary of the Newtonmore branch, assisted by members of the local committee, and Mr. MacPhail, Northern Organiser.

At the close of the Mod proceedings, a concert was held, the programme of which was sustained by the prize-winners. Mr. Murdo Morrison, Director of Education for Inverness-shire, presided over a full hall.

PRIZE-LIST.

JUNIOR SECTION.

Choral Singing—1 (Nìe Fhionnlaigh Cuaich, by Miss Farquharson), Newtonmore School Choir; 2, Dalwhinnie School Choir.

Unison Singing—1 (Mrs. Wilson, Dunblane, Vase), Talloch School Choir; 2, Alvie School Choir; 3, Newtonmore School Choir.

Action Song—1, Newtonmore School Choir.
Duets—1, John MacBean and James Young; 2, Isabella Cameron and Elizabeth Cameron, Talloch.
Solos (Girls)—1, Marie B. Smith; 2, Muriel Cattanaich; 3, Eva Anderson.
Solos (Boys)—1, Alistair Ross; 2, Arthur Sims; special prize, Donald Mackintosh.
Oral (Reciting)—1, Sheila Grant; 2, Marie B. Smith.

SENIOR SECTION.

Choral Singing—1 (Balavil Cuaich), Alvie Gaelic Choir; 2, Newtonmore Gaelic Choir; 3, Grantown-on-Spey Gaelic Choir.

Unison Singing—1, equal (Coignashee Cup, by Miss Farquharson), Nethy-Bridge Gaelic Choir and Alvie Gaelic Choir; 2, Newtonmore Gaelic Choir.

Duets—1, Miss Lizzie MacDonald and P. Curley; 2, Mrs. Rose Stewart and Miss Margaret MacDonald; 3, Mr. and Mrs. MacKerrol.

Solos (Ladies)—1, Miss Chrissie Scott; 2, Miss Lizzie MacDonald; 3 (equal), Mrs. MacKerrol and Miss Rhoda Asher.

Solos (Male Voices)—1, L. Smith; 2, Alistair MacDonald; 3, Malcolm MacDonald.

Solos (former first prize-winners)—1, Mrs. Rose Stewart; 2, Mrs. Mackintosh.

Song by Local Bard—1, Miss Margot Campbell; 2, Mrs. MacKerrol.

Oral (Reading at Sight)—1, Mrs. MacLeod; 2, Miss Fletcher; 3, Mr. Donald Davidson.

Oral (Learners)—1, Mrs. Grant of Rothiemurchus; 2, Miss Mary MacAllister.

Recitation—1, Miss Fletcher; 2 (equal), Mrs. MacLeod and Mr. Malcolm MacDonald.

Sgeulachd (narrating old Gaelic tale in traditional manner)—1, Mrs. MacLeod; 2, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald.

Acted Dialogue—1, Mrs. MacLeod and Mrs. MacKerrol.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Violin—1, Wm. Cuthbert; 2, Alistair Curley.

Bagpipe Playing—1 (MacCallum Shoulder Brooch), William Campbell; 2, I. Johnstone; 3, Ian Fraser.

Entries in the Literary Section, which were conducted by correspondence, will be assessed in due course, and the results published.

Gaelic in Arran.

Among the most pleasing features of the Arran Musical Festival was the introduction of two new Gaelic classes for juniors—Gaelic reading and Gaelic unison singing. There were no fewer than 21 entries in the former class, and although, as in the unison singing class also, the competitors were all from one district—Shiskine—it was an excellent start, and no doubt in the future the young folks in other districts in the island will endeavour to emulate the boys and girls from Shiskine. Mr. Angus Smith, the schoolmaster of Shiskine, who is a Gael from the north, deserves the highest credit for his indefatigable efforts in training his scholars in the reading and singing of Gaelic. The adult Gaelic classes were also well

supported. An Comunn Gaidhealach sent a teacher to the island this winter, and they are due thanks for the practical interest they are showing in the cultivation of the Gaelic language in Arran. Tribute must also be paid to Mr. John MacBride, Brodick, for his enthusiastic labours in the same connection. He presented a medal for award to the winner in the junior reading class, and he has worked hard to enliven the interest in the Gaelic movement.

Before presenting the prizes in the evening, the Duchess of Montrose remarked on the increase of 72 in the number of entries, and said this increase, after eleven years, was an indication of the popularity of the Festival. She was delighted with the increase in the Gaelic entries, and she mentioned that she herself had taken up the study of Gaelic.

Mr. Bannerman complimented the children in the Gaelic reading (junior) class on the quality of their readings. Everyone was word perfect, not a mistake being made in the chapter. It was very difficult to place them. He was also pleased with the unison singing. The winners were remarkably sweet and well blended.

Mr. Bannerman, adjudicating on the senior Gaelic reading, said he could divide Arran into three classes—the Arran man by birth, the Arran man with imported Gaelic, and the Arran man taught by a North Country man. He knew at once the “taste” of the North Country Gaelic. They could use liberties with ordinary Gaelic, but when reading the Bible they must be careful to pronounce every syllable. In reading Gaelic when the word begins with a consonant they should come away with it strong and let the rest of the word take care of itself. Be careful of vowels. An island such as Arran should absorb Gaelic. He warmly complimented all the competitors on their performances.

Regarding the vocal quartet (Gaelic), Dr. Whittaker said he was charmed with them, and he brought them together and let them sing as a massed choir. They were all really very good. He knew there was a difficulty in getting Gaelic singers, and he appreciated their singing very much.

LIST OF AWARDS.

Gaelic Reading (Juniors)—1, Barbara S. MacDonald, 94; 2, Annie MacDougall, 93; 3, Alistair S. MacDougall, 92; 4, Janet S. Bannatyne, 91; 5 (equal), Addie McD. Smith, Seonaid McM. Smith, 90; 7 (equal), Janet M. S. Currie, James Currie, 89; 9 (equal), Mary Currie, Margaret S. Currie, 88; 11, Elizabeth R. Sinclair, 87; 12 (equal), Ella Watson,

Colin C. Bannatyne, Elizabeth MacDonald, James D. Sinclair, Donald C. Currie, Alan C. Bannatyne, Margaret E. Stewart, 86; 19 (equal), John MacDougall, Ebenezer Murchie, 85—all of Shiskine School.

Gaelic Unison Singing—1, Shiskine School (Group II).—Annie MacDougall, John MacDougall, William Lang, Seonaid McM. Smith, 87; 2, Shiskine School (Group III).—Margaret S. Currie, Alistair S. MacDougall, Margaret E. Stewart, Ella Watson, 82; 3, Shiskine School (Group I).—Mary Currie, Mary McK. Hamilton, Barbara S. MacDonald, James Currie, 81; 4, Shiskine School (Group IV).—Janet M. S. Currie, Ann McK. Hamilton, Ebenezer Murchie, Addie McD. Smith, 80.

Gaelic Reading (Bible)—1, Mr. Wm. Kelso, Shiskine, 93; 2 (equal), Miss Mysie Craig, Machrie Bay; Mr. Angus MacRae, Shiskine; Miss Janet MacKelvie, Blackwaterfoot; Miss Mary Robertson, Blackwaterfoot; Mr. John Kennedy, Brodick; and Mr. Charles Robertson, Blackwaterfoot, 92; 8, (equal), Miss Belle MacMillan, Pirmill, and Mr. James Kelso, Shiskine, 91; 10 (equal), Mr. Angus Craig, Machrie Bay, and Mr. Arch. MacKenzie, Shiskine, 90; 12 (equal), Mr. John B. Murchie, Shiskine, and Mr. John Henderson, Shiskine, 89.

Gaelic Reading (from sight)—1, Mrs. Catherine MacRae, Torbeg, 96; 2, Mr. Malcolm Currie, Pirmill, 95.

Vocal Solos (Gaelic)—For Men—1, Mr. John Kennedy, Brodick, 86; 2, Mr. John Henderson, Shiskine, 85; 3, Mr. Finlay Henderson, Shiskine, 83. For Women—1, Miss Georgina Teesdale, Lochranza, 81.

Vocal Quartets (Gaelic)—1, Shiskine Vocal Quartet (1).

GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH.

A most informative lecture was recently given before this Society by Mr. Andrew Rutherford, Perth. The subject was the “Early Celtic Saints.” Chief Beaton presided. The lecture was illustrated by appropriate musical selections of Gaelic and Irish tunes by the St. Leonards in the Field Church Choir, under the leadership of Mr. Edward Nicol, organist.

The lecturer made the long distant past very real to the audience by his graphic description of the personality and work of the ancient pioneers of Christian civilization in this country. Such lectures have an educative value of a high order, making the audience realize how much we owe to those great men and women of old. The speaker spoke of the work of Palladius and Ninian, of Patrick and of Bride, of Mungo and of Columba. Against a well-conceived rendering of the historical background, Mr. Rutherford delineated the contribution of the Celtic saints to the furtherance of the early Church. A well deserved vote of thanks was given at the close.

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BOOK REVIEW.

SAR ORAIN: Three Gaelic Poems. Edited by
 ANGUS MACLEOD, M.A., B.Sc., F.E.I.S., Rector,
 Oban High School. 232 + xv. pp. Price 3/-.
 Published by An Comunn Gàidhealach.

This volume is an exceedingly valuable addition to the text books on Gaelic Poetry. It contains three poems, "Luinneag MhicLeòid," by Mary MacLeod; "Birlinn Chlann Raghnaill," by Alexander MacDonald; and "Moladh Beinn Dobhrain," by Duncan Ban MacIntyre. The volume opens with a clear general note on contracted linguistic forms in the Gaelic language, and with a very fine introduction to the poem by Mary MacLeod. The three introductions to the three poems are both biographical and literary, assessing with a very true critical faculty the personality and work of each of the three composers. The introductions and the notes are full in every case, and contain much new and interesting information; for example, the note on the Highland galley in the introduction to MacDonald's Birlinn. We are impressed with the English style of the descriptive parts, so lucid and simple, and yet so full and masterly. It is partly owing to this that the reader cannot lay down the book, but is drawn on and on from page to page. As a text-book, the new volume will prove to be one of the important books in Secondary Schools and in the Universities. Watson's *Bardachd and Roge* are, and will long remain, the standard text-books in the general literature, but as regards the two great classic poems the Birlinn and Beinn Dobhrain, Mr. MacLeod's book is outstanding; because of its more limited range it gives a very thorough and minute treatment of these two very difficult poems. Indeed, the handling is on a par with anything that you can find in linguistic text-books, English or other. To all this must be added that the new book has the distinction of being the very thing required by a student of these three poems, and of being, at the same time, not too abstruse or academic for the general Gaelic reader. It is beautifully printed and bound, and is very cheap at three shillings. N. R.

BRANCH REPORTS.

APPIN.—For the March ceilidh the local branch of An Comunn were fortunate in securing Dr. Grant, Ballachulish, as a lecturer. He gave much helpful information as to the preservation of health. His felicity of word and phrase, with occasional flashes of humour, added greatly to the charm of the lecture, which was highly appreciated. The president paid a tribute to Dr. Grant for the interest he takes in public welfare, and proposed a cordial vote of thanks to him. A musical programme followed.

DUMFRIES.—One of the most successful ceilidhs in the history of the local branch was held in the Y.M.C.A., when an enthusiastic gathering of members and friends assembled from over a wide area, and spent a pleasant evening. Mr. Alex. Anderson, president of the branch, presided, and extended a hearty welcome to all. In doing so he strongly advised the members to adopt as their motto, "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig," and make use of that language at every opportunity. He admitted that since coming to Dumfries he had become more fluent in the language, and attributed this to the opportunities afforded by the ceilidhs and also meeting members outside in the ordinary course, and making use of the Gaelic whenever possible. The choir, which has been recently formed and is proving of great assistance at the ceilidhs, contributed to the evening's entertainment.

HALLADALE.—An enjoyable evening was spent in the Public Hall, when Mr. Walter Ross, who has held a Gaelic singing class in the district for a fortnight, terminated the classes. Mr. Ross entertained the branch to a most interesting musical programme, Mr. Hugh MacKay, Birchwood, giving special selections on the piano. Votes of thanks to Mr. Ross for all his kindness brought the meeting to an end. A dance followed.

KINLOCHLEVEN.—At the concluding ceilidh of the branch there was a large attendance of members. Included in the programme were Gaelic and English songs, together with readings and instrumental items. There was also an enjoyable dance, which was well attended. The branch are shortly holding a concert and dance, at which Dr. L. Grant has kindly consented to act as chairman, and for which a talented company of artistes has been arranged.

KILMENY.—Mr. Neil Shaw opened his week's itinerary of the Islay branches of An Comunn by attending a ceilidh in Ballygrant Hall, over which he himself presided. An excellent programme was arranged by Mr. Gilbert MacPhail, branch secretary, which included bagpipe selections, Highland dancing, and Gaelic and English song numbers.

KINGUSSIE.—This branch terminated their season's ceilidhs with a very enjoyable Gaelic concert in the Victoria Hall, and there was a large attendance, including a number of enthusiasts from Newtonmore. Rev. Dr. MacFarlane, in an address in Gaelic and English, introduced Mr. Donald MacPhail, northern organiser, Inverness, who presided. Mr. MacPhail, who also spoke in Gaelic and English, in the course of his remarks, made a strong plea for keeping the old language alive. During an interval in the proceedings, Miss Peigi MacDonald, conductor of the Kingussie Gaelic Choir, was made the recipient of a gift from the members in appreciation of her services.

NAIRN.—Mr. Ian MacKenzie, president, presided at the annual business meeting of the branch, when most gratifying reports on the year's activities were submitted. In his financial report Mr. Stewart was able to show a substantial credit balance. A noteworthy feature was the putting forward of a Gaelic choir at the Mod at Fort-William, and the individual competition of several Gaelic singers. Following the business meeting, a highly enjoyable ceilidh took place in the Public Hall, when there was a large gathering, presided over by Mr. MacKenzie. In the course of the evening Rev. D. MacGillivray, Petty, gave a very amusing address on wit and humour as applying mainly to ministers, headles, and parishioners. A fine musical programme was sustained.

STRATHLACHLAN.—The Strathlachlan branch has just completed a very successful session. A feature of all the meetings was the friendly and enthusiastic spirit that prevailed, which to no small extent was due to the interest taken by MacLachlan of MacLachlan, who presides at all the ceilidhs. The Gaelic class conducted by Mr. MacFadyen and Mr. MacIntyre met regularly, and was largely attended with excellent results. Another successful effort of the branch was the institution of a Gaelic choir, which rendered valuable assistance in the musical part of the ceilidh proceedings. This branch are doing excellent work, and are to be congratulated on their efforts to stimulate a greater appreciation in Gaelic matters throughout the district.

TAIN.—An enjoyable function took place in the Oddfellows' Hall, when the Gaelic class of the branch ended their session with a social. The programme comprised vocal and instrumental music, dancing, and games. After tea had been served, Dr. Hamilton, in a concise and effective Gaelic speech, presented Mr. MacKenzie, Edderton, with two valuable volumes of Gaelic poetry in token of the class's appreciation of his services as teacher. Mr. MacKenzie, in reply, expressed his gratitude to such a splendid and enthusiastic class. Others who received gifts were Mr. Campbell, Fearn, who acted as assistant teacher when necessary, and Mr. A. R. MacKenzie, Summerston, the able secretary.

TOBARMHOIRE.—Chumadh cuirm-chiùil bhliadhnaidh A' Chomuinn air an 31mh de Mhàrt. Cha robh Talla Arois cho làn riann roimhe, agus bha eadhon grunnan mu'n doras. Thainig iad as gach cèarn de Mhuile agus as A' Mhorairne. Bha Mgr. Calum MacAoidh anns a' chathair, agus labhair e gu fìleanta ann an rogha Gàidhlig. Dh'innis e eachdraidh "A' Chomuinn Gàidhealaich," agus chuir e sunnd maith air a' chuideachd gu léir. Bha Mgr. MacPharlain, as an Oban, an sin a' cur suas na pìoba mòire. Aig ceann an luchd ciùil bha Niall MacIlleathain, agus a bhean; agus co bheir bàrr orra-san air na h-brain Gàidhlig? Chòrd an dealbhcùlch aighearach "Gael air a' Dhearbhadh" (le Iain MacCormaig) glè mhaith ris a' chuideachd, agus thug Calum MacIlleathain agus a choisir cunntas maith orra thein ann na h-brain "Mo Rìn Chailin" agus "Iseabail Nic-Aoidh." Thainig Calum Mac an t-Saoir a h-uile ceum á Glaschu le' fhidhlig, agus bu mhaith a b'fhiach a thurus. Bha na mnathan uaisle Nic Illeathain agus Nic Coinnich aig a phiano. Agus co nach robh aig an dannsadh? Bithidh cumhne air an oidhche so fada iomadh latha.

CLARSACH.—Tuition in Song Accompaniment.—Mrs. Johnstone, 4 Belgrave Terrace, Edinburgh. Results:—1st Prize, Mods 1929, 1930, 1931, and 1932.

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Leabhar XXVIII.]

An t-Ogmhios, 1933.

[Earrann 9

IASGACH MI-LAGHAIL.

Is dian, bras, an sruth lìonaidh air cladaichean siar na h-Alba. Thig sruth bho'n chuan mhór, le cìrean geal is cath choileach eadhon ri uair chiùin; ach mar shéideas gaoth an aghaidh srutha, sin far am bi bòilich is buaireas fairge. Is e toradh an luasgain so gu bheil biadh airson an éisg air a ghiùlan a ghnath bho 'n chuan a dh' ionnsaidh cladaich na dùthcha. Mar sin bu chòir gu'm biodh iasgach pailt an lochan mara na Gaidhealtachd. Bha uair ann agus bha sin fìor. Tha seann mhuinntir fathast beò aig a bheil cuimhne air iasgach neochumanta fhaicinn an cearnaibh sonraichte de na h-eileanan siar. Thuirt duine uasal o chionn ghoirid gu bheil beachd aige fein air dà fhichead tunna fhaicinn 'g a thoirt air falbh an aon latha le bàta smùide á Cadh' a' Mhara aig Rudha Dhunbheagain anns an Eilean Sgitheanach. Agus cha robh iasg anns an luchd sin ach trosg is langa. Theirte iasgach nan lìon móra ri a leithid sin.

* * *

Ach a thuilleadh air trosg is langa bha gnèthean eile éisg 'g an iasgach le lìn mhóra. Is minic a fhuaras tarraunn throm de bhacaich is de bhradain-leathann. Ach is e an sgadan rìgh nan iasg, agus bu phàirt a thigheadh e air chuairt a thoirt soirbheachaidh is toilintinn do na h-iasgairean. Le cion cothrom is tric a bha na h-iasgairean Gaidhealach eucomasach

air bàtaichean fhaotainn a bhiodh mór gu leòr airson turas fada gu cuan. Do bhrìgh sin bha iad air am bacadh iomadh bliadhna air an sgadan a leantainn mar thogadh e air falbh ach astar goirid bho na cladaichean. Cha b'fhada gus an cuala iasgairean na h-airde an ear mu ghrund iasgaich beairteach na Gaidhealtachd. Cha b'fhada gus an do thòisich iadsan ri tighinn troimh Chaol Arcaibh is seachad air a' Pharbh, gus an do thaghail iad gach cearn anns a robh sgadan ri ghlacadh.

* * *

Nam biodh na coigrich sin air fuireach riaraichte leis an doigh iasgaich abhaistich cha robh an gnothach cho buileach dona. Nam biodh iad toilichte le bhi a' cur lìn mhóra is lìn sgadain cho robh iad air iasgach na Gaidhealtachd a mhilleadh mar tha iad a nis air a dheanamh. Tha lagh Bhreatann a' toirneasg do iasgairean nan lìon-rìbe no tràla tighinn nì 's faisge na trì mìle astair air na cladaichean. Ach tha na tràlairean cho dàna is gu bheil iad a' briseadh an lagha sin an comhnaidh. Chan eil suim aca do 'n reachd mu dhéidhinn nan trì mìle astair bho thir. Is ann a tha iad cho dalma is gu'n tig iad a stigh do na lochan, a glacadh an éisg, agus air uairibh a' sracadh nan lìon sgadain a bhùineas do na h-iasgairean beaga dùthchail. Tha bàta smùide a mach bho 'n Ard Riaghladh gus ruaig a chur air luchd brisidh an lagha. Ach mar is trice tha bàtaichean nan tràlairean nì

's luaithe na bàta an Ard Riaghlaidh, air chor is gu bheil iad gu bitheanta a' tàrsuinn as.

* * *

Bho chionn deich bliadhna air ais bha mi a' comhradh ri seann' duine còir, ministear Ghaidhealach, aig an robh cuimhne gu h-eagnuidh air iasgach trom sgadain anns a' Bhagh Fharsuinn, beagan astair tuath air Steornabhagh. Mar chaidh iomradh an iasgaich sin am fad is am fairsuinn thainig àireamh mhór de bhàtaichean iasgaich as an airde an ear, agus eadhon a Sasuinn. Chaidh tomhas anabarrach de 'n sgadan a ghlacadh leis na ceudan bàta. Ach is e a dh'fhàg an gnothach duilich nach robh marsantan èisg pailt gu leor air an làraich gus an t-anabarr èisg sin a cheannach is a thoirt gu margadh. Is e bhuila bha ann gu 'm b'èiginn do na h-iasgairean na ceudan tunna de 'n iasg mharbh a thaomadh anns an loch. Mar bha sin a' grodadh anns a' Bhagh Fharsuinn is ann a shalaich e an sàl mu 'n cuairt. Ghabh an sgadan beò grain an aoig de 'n uisge sin. Thog an sgadan air falbh agus thagh e grunn d eile gu siolachadh ann. Mar sin theich iasgach sgadain as an loch. Tha an sgadan coltach anns an t-seadh sin ri creutairean tìre. An dèidh cuairt a chur mu dheas gu còrsan Africa, tillidh an sgadan air ais gus an àite anns an deachaidh a bhreith is àrach mar gu'm b' eadh.

* * *

Bha am ministear ceudna air thurus an Newfoundland. Bha e ag innseadh so do iasgairean a bhuineadh do 'n eilean ainmeil sin. Thuir iadsan gu 'n do thachair an ni ceudna anns a' ghrund iasgaich aca-san. Cho luath is a rachadh tomhas mór de 'n iasg mharbh a dhòrtadh anns a mhuir, bha an t-iasg beò a' gabhail sgreamh, agus a' seachnadh an àite sin fad iomadh bliadhna. Thachair a' cheart ni mar an ceudna an Loch Shubhairn. Bha iasgach trom an sin bho chionn da fhichead bliadhna. Chaidh mòran de 'n iasg mharbh a thilgeadh anns an t-sàl. Theich an sgadan, agus cha do thill e fhathast. Mar sin faodar a bhi a' comhdhunadh gu bheil na tràlairean a' milleadh a' ghrunna an uair is èiginn dhaibh iasg marbh a dhòrtadh a mach, mar bhitheas iad air uairibh anamoch airson a' mhargaidh. Chan e idir na bheil iad as a' mhuir de 'n iasg bheò, ach na tha iad a' cur anns a' mhuir de 'n iasg mharbh, a tha ri dhìtheadh gu smiorail. Is còir Achd Parlaimant fhaotainn gu bacadh da rìribh a chur air na tràlairean coigreach a tha a' sìor mhilleadh grunn d iasgaich na Gaidhealtachd.

MRS. BURNLEY CAMPBELL HONOURED.

On the afternoon of Tuesday the 9th May a very interesting and happy function took place in the Grosvenor Restaurant, Glasgow, when Mrs. Burnley Campbell was the recipient of a Gaelic illuminated address in album form and a silver spectacle case in recognition of her long, faithful and disinterested services to the Gaelic cause. The Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, president of An Comunn, occupied the chair and the proceedings were opened with a Gaelic prayer offered by the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A. There was a company of about fifty present and numerous letters of apology were intimated, several of which were read.

Dr. Ross, in his introductory remarks, spoke of the pioneer work which Mrs. Burnley Campbell had done in the Gaelic cause. There had been many difficulties to overcome including a widespread lethargy with regard to the language and music. The first thing Mrs. Burnley Campbell did was to learn the language, to read, write and speak it. By her example, and influence she had brought many valuable workers into the movement. The harvest which was being reaped now in the Gaelic field had sprung from the ploughing, harrowing and sowing performed by Mrs. Burnley Campbell and her fellow workers in the early years of An Comunn. They had placed her in the chair of An Comunn at a time when it was not so common as it was now for women to occupy high public office and they had no reason to regret their choice. She had filled the office with dignity and ability and An Comunn had greatly prospered under her guidance of its affairs. As Convener of the two Great Feills she had rendered unforgettable service. These very successful enterprises had placed the finances of An Comunn on a fairly stable footing and had enabled them to carry out their purposes in a more thorough and efficient manner than would have been otherwise possible. Dr. Ross paid tribute to the splendid work of the women who had been and who still were members of the Executive Council and among them Mrs. Burnley Campbell was preminent.

The presentation of the address was made by Mr. Malcolm MacLeod who gave expression, at the outset, to the pleasure all felt at finding Mrs. Burnley Campbell so far recovered from her prolonged illness as to be able to be present with them that afternoon. No one must imagine, he said, that what was taking place that afternoon was to be regarded as in any

sense marking the close of Mrs. Burnley Campbell's work for Gaelic. On the contrary they hoped to have the advantage of her presence and assistance in the work of An Comunn for many years to come. They all knew how much she disliked to be praised or thanked for her work for Gaelic, but to-day, for once she must allow them to tell her what they thought of her and he promised her that they would speak only what they sincerely believed to be true. They were gathered to give expression to the affection and admiration in which they held her for her own and her work's sake. Without in the slightest degree disparaging the work of others who had served them faithfully and well, it could be truthfully said that they owed more to her than to any other individual member. Looking back on the long succession of devoted men and women whose labours had brought An Comunn to its present position of prosperity and influence, hers was the central and most commanding figure. Her zeal had never slackened, her interest had never waned, disappointments had not daunted her or caused her to lose heart. Since she first put her hand to the plough she had not once looked back. The furtherance of the cause of Gaelic, the preservation of our Gaelic cultural heritage had been one of the absorbing passions of her life. It was not merely the extent and value of her actual labours they were remembering and emphasising that day but, also, the fine spirit of self-forgetfulness, of unflinching single-mindedness and sincerity that had characterised all her work. Her thought, her time and her means had been spent ungrudgingly in the cause. She had filled with distinction the office of President, and had made her inspiring influence felt in all the activities of An Comunn. Behind all her advocacy of the claims of Gaelic; behind all her earnest and generous support of the objects for the promotion of which An Comunn existed there was evident not only a real love for the language itself but also of the people whose speech it was and is, and a deep sympathy with all their legitimate aspirations. Her services had been so exceptional that they felt it a duty to themselves to recognise them as they were doing that day. Mr. MacLeod then in the name of the subscribers asked Mrs. Burnley Campbell to accept of an illuminated address in album form, the album containing the address in Gaelic with an English translation and the names of the subscribers, over 200 in number, and along with the album a silver spectacle case with Celtic chasing.

Mrs. Burnley Campbell, in her reply, thanked her friends in An Comunn for their more than generous recognition of her work. She did not feel that any thanks were due to her for anything she had done, she was grateful for the opportunity of doing anything she could for the language she, and they, loved so dearly, and it had been one of the greatest pleasures of her life to have been associated with the work of An Comunn on behalf of the language. She loved the Highlands and their kindly, generous, warm-hearted people. All her life she had been interested in the language and had set herself to learn it, and it had been a real joy to her to have had the opportunity of doing something to help in its preservation and encourage its use. Over thirty years ago she had been introduced to An Comunn by the late Capt. Eoghann Carmichael, and she had eagerly embraced the opportunity of associating herself with its work. Her interest in it had continued unabated and she rejoiced in the success of its efforts. She thanked them sincerely for their lovely gifts and would try to forgive them all for all the excessively kind things they had said about her.

Brief appreciative speeches were afterwards made by Miss Campbell of Inverneil, Dr. Colin Sinclair, Sir Norman Lamont, Bart., Mr. J. R. Bannerman (in Gaelic) and by the Rev. Alex. MacDonald, M.A. (in Gaelic).

The following are the terms of the address :—

Do 'n Bhean-Uasal Bhurnley Chaimbeul,
Baintighearna Ormadail.

Tha buill a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich leis an so a nochdadh am mór bhuidheachas airson na seirbhis ionmholtas a rinn sibh fad deich bliadhna fichead ann a bhi ag cur air adhart na h-obrach sin air sgàth ar dùthcha agus a bheil An Comunn Gàidhealach an sàs. Ré na h-ùine sin bha sibh 'n ur cùl-taig agus 'n ur spionnadh do 'n chuid as motha de 'n obair a bha An Comunn Gàidhealach comasach air a thoirt gu buil.

Chan ann a mhàin am facal ach an gnìomh a nochd sibh gu soilleir bhur gràdh do 'n Ghàidhlig agus do an t-sluagh a tha 'ga labhairt. Choisinn bhur saothair dhìleas agus eudmhor as an leth dhuibh teas ghràdh is fìor dheagh-ghean gach neach aig an robh làmh anns an obair comhla ruibh, agus chan e mhàin iad-san ach na Gàidheil sin feadh an t-saoghail gu léir a gheidh an daimh is an gràdh do an Tìr is do an Teanga.

Tha luchd-saothrachaidh as leth a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealach lionmhor is comasach darricadh ach 'nam measg uile chan 'eil aon a thug bàrr oirbh-se ann am meud bhur seirbhis

Presentation to Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale.



The above is a reproduction in monochrome of a specimen page of the Book. The decoration enshrining the Address follows the true Celtic tradition of the best period in respect of style and treatment, where variety and elaboration are subservient to a basic unity—like our native piobaireachd. The highly developed and ornate initial letters are characteristically rendered, as are the interlaced and spiral *motifs*—portrayed in vivid and harmonious colourings—through which the style is expressed. In format and execution, the work reflects the influence of such examples as the famous books of Kells and Durrow.

agus an dealas bhur saothrach. Chaith sibh gu saor bhur latha, bhur neart is bhur maoin ann an cùis na Gàidhlig; agus feumaidh gu bheil e 'na riarachadh air leth dhuibh an diugh gu bheil a leithid de thoradh pailt an cois bhur seirbhis dhileis agus a tha ri fhaicinn a cheana an crochadh ri obair A' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich—tre an àite is an inbhe a tha aige agus an urram a tha e dleasadh, chan ann a mhàin feadh na Gàidhealtachd ach fad an taobh am muigh de a crìochaibh.

Rinn bhur n-iartras a tha cho blàth agus beothail, rinn bhur n-eud a tha cho seasmhach is dùrachdach a' mhuinntir a bha mi-chùramach a dhùsgadh, a' mhuinntir a bha meagh-bhlàth a theòthadh, a' mhuinntir a bha lag-chridheach a neartachadh, agus mar so chuir sibh spionnadh is neart an aobhair is an toil na muinntir a bha ag cur a' chatha air sgàth na Gàidhlig, chan ann a mhàin an ionadan iomallach is uaigneach ach air meadhon is àrd a' bhlàir. Thug sibh barr air mòran ann a bhi dugsadh an aobhair-uail ùir sin ann an eòlas is an eachdraidh na Gàidhlig a tha nis cho faicsinneach air gach laimh.

Is maith a tha fios againne, co-bhuill a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich maille ruibh, gur h-e sibh fhéin an t-aon neach mu dhèireadh a thagradh cliu airson na h-obrach a rinn sibh—gu dearbh is maith a tha fhios againn nach 'eil neach eile ann as lugha aig a bheil de mhothachadh air mòr luach na h-obrach a rinn sibh na sibh fhéin—ach tha sinne mothachail, air ar sgàth fhéin, gu bheil e oirnn mar dhleasdanas a bhi nochdadh mar so, agus a bhi leigil fhaicinn do an t-saoghal, mar a tha sinne agus na h-uile aig a bheil ùidh anns na Gàidheil agus na bhuineas dhaibh mar chinneach, fo fhiachaibh dhuibh-se airson bhur saothair dhileas agus bhuan agus luachmhor as er leth.

Tha sinn an dòchas gum bi sibh maille ruin fad iomadh là is bliadhna 'gar cuideachadh is 'gar brosnachadh mar a chleachd; agus is e ar n-urnuigh as bhur leth fhéin agus as leth na bhuineas dhuibh gum bi beannachd saoi bhir an De Uile-chumhachdaich daonnan a' laighe oirbh.

Niall Ros, Ceann Suidhe.

Olive Chaimbeul, Iar-Cheann Suidhe.

Alasdair Friseal, Iar-Cheann Suidhe.

Domhnall MacDhomhnuill, Iar-Cheann Suidhe.

Calum MacLeod, Fear Gairme Comhairle an Fhoghluin.

Calum MacLeod, Fear Gairme Comhairle a' Chlo-bhualaidh agus Comhairle a' Mhoid is a' Chiuil.

Tearlach Caimbeul, Fear Gairme Comhairle a' Chraobh-sgaolaidh.

Raibeart MacPharlain, Ionmhasair.

Niall MacGille Sheathanaich, Runaire.

To Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale.

The members of An Comunn Gàidhealach desire to express to you their grateful thanks for the eminent service you have rendered during the past 30 years in promoting the patriotic work for which An Comunn exists. During that period you have been the inspiring and driving force behind much of the work which An Comunn has been able to accomplish.

Your love of the Gaelic language and the people who speak it has been exhibited not in words only but in deeds. Your devoted and unselfish labours in their behalf has won for you the admiring affection and the unequalled respect of all with whom you have been associated, and not of these only but of all Gaels throughout the world who have retained their love of "Tir is Teanga."

An Comunn Gàidhealach has within its ranks many able and devoted workers, but, in the extent and quality of your service, you have been unexcelled by any. You have spent your time, your strength and your means freely in the cause of Gaelic, and it must be a source of intense satisfaction to you to know that your self-sacrificing work has borne such abundant fruit as is to be seen in the results which have already followed An Comunn's activities, in the recognition it receives and the influence it exerts not in Gaeldom alone but far beyond its bounds.

By your glowing and infectious enthusiasm, your fervent and untiring zeal you have roused the apathetic, stimulated the lukewarm, encouraged the fainthearted, braced the will and strengthened the purpose of those who have been waging the fight for Gaelic in obscure situations as well as in the high places of the field. To a greater degree than most you have helped to awaken that new sense of pride in our Gaelic Cultural heritage which is now so evident on every hand.

Your fellow members are fully aware of the fact that you would be the last to claim credit for what you have done—indeed they know it to be true that you are yourself the one who is least conscious of the supreme worth of your work—but they feel it to be a duty they owe to themselves to place on record their sense of the deep obligation under which they and all who love the Gael and his racial heritage have been placed by your loyal, long-continued, and conspicuously valuable services. They hope

to have the advantage of your presence and your help in their midst for many years to come and their prayer is that the richest blessing of Almighty God may now and always rest upon you and yours.

The album in which the address is contained has been described as a masterpiece of Celtic art. It is the work of the well-known firm of Messrs. MacLure & MacDonald who had the advantage of the skilled assistance of Dr. Colin Sinclair in its design and execution

SGEULACHD.

(*A' Cheud Duais, Mòd 1931.*)

Le IAIN MAC PHAIDEIN.

Cìod a Thainig ri MacNeill?

Mu thoiseach na linn a chaidh seachad, no mu dheireadh na linn roimhe sin, bha teaghlach ann an eilein Ghiogha—teaghlach measail cuideachd. Bha iad de Chloinn Nèill. Bha mòran de'n ainm sin ann an Gìogha aig an am. Ach measail 's mar a bha an teaghlach ud, bha son fhear do na mic nach robh a chairdean no a choimhearsnaich idir ro chinnteach as. Chan eil an sgeul ag innseadh de'm bonn no am barantas a bh'aig daoine aig an am ud air Mac Nèill a bhi fo dhroch amharus aca; ach an uair a thoisicheadh slugh air a bhi a' bruidhinn ma neach sam bith ann an cagarsaich, cha bhi cliu an neach sin a' dol dad na's fearr.

'S fhada o na thug cuideiginn faineair, nach robh "coille mheadh riamh gun chrionaich"; agus dh'fhaodteadh gur ann mar sin a thachair do'n teaghlach a bha an sud.

Biodh sin mar a thogras e, fhuair am beachd greim air inntinnean mòran d'am b'aithne Mac Nèill nach do ghabh esan, co-dhiubh, comhairle "Clag Sgàin": "An rud nach buin duit, na bean da," a chionn tha e soilleir gu leoir, a reir nan sgeul—'s tha fios againn gu'n robh cuid diubh fìor—gu'm beanadh Mac Nèill do'n rud nach buineadh dha. Cha bu mheirleach cumanta Mac Nèill.—Dh'fhaodteadh gu'm faodadh e bhi air a radh mu thèirmheall-san, mar a thubhairt neach air choireiginn mu Rob Ruadh Mac Griogair: "Cha ghoideadh e bó, ach ghoideadh e buaille." Tha mi a' gabhail an radh so gu coimeasail, a chionn nach robh e air a chur as leth Mhic Nèill gu'n do thog e mart no caora no dad a bha ri fhaotainn air tìr.

Dh'fhag e'n t-eilean Gioghach 'na bhata, agus sgioba maith comhla ris—air latha

sonraichte agus iomraiteach—latha Feill Chill Bhreannain.

Chan eil sgeul gu'n do thachair ni sonraichte do Mhac Nèill no do h-aon de a sgioba aig an fhéill. Ach an uair a thainig an t-am do na fearaibh a bhi sealltainn mu'n cuairt orra, agus an t-amoch a' tighinn, cha robh Mac Nèill ri fhaotainn. Shìr iad shìos is dh'iarr iad shuas, ach cha robh sealladh ri fhaotainn de Mhac Nèill.

Chuir a chairdean agus a chompanaich am feasgar agus an oidhche ud, agus a chuid bu mhotha de'n latha maireach seachad 'ga iarraidh, ach bha an saothair diomhain dhoibh. Cha robh fios de thàinig ri Mac Nèill—ged a bha a bhàta sàbhailte anns a phort far an d'fhag e i.

B'ann le inntinnean troma agus smuainteanan iomaguineach a dh'fhag a chairdean cladaich Chinn-tìre agus a dh'fhalbh iad dachaidh do Ghiogha; ach cha d'fhan cuid diubh fada aig an dachaidhean 'nuair a bha iad air an ais a rithist ann an Cinn-tìre, ach ged a thug iad iomadh latha a' rannsachadh anns gach àite anns an saoidheal iad gum faighthead iad sgeul no feorachadh sam bith mu Mhac Nèill, cha robh sin ri fhaotainn 's cha robh dhoibh ach tilleadh dhachaidh mar a thainig iad—gun dad aca air son an saothrach.

Ach is iomadh neach a bha air Feill Chill Bhreannain a thainig air astar fada—na b'fhàide na iomallan Chinn-tìre. Agus mar sin chaidh an sgeul am fad' is am farsuingeachd, agus is iomadh cagailt mu'n robh i air a h-aithris mu'n robh i seachdain a dh'aois.

Mu'n d'fhuair an sgeul mu Mhac Nèill ùine gu fàs sean bha sgeul eile air a luig, agus 'na luib.

A reir na h-ath sgeoil, thainig a h-aon de uaislean aon de eileanan na h-àirde tuath, no'n iar-thuath, agus feumaidh gu'm bu duine cothromach e; bha e 'na bhirilinn, agus dà fhear dheug de sgiobha agus balaich inntè, a bharrachd air an duine mhór fein agus trìùir no cheathrar de chompanaich.

Co dhiubh a b'e tighinn dh'ionnsaidh Mac feille an aon turas a thug a mach o dhachaidh fein e no nach b'e chan eil an sgeul ag innseadh; ach cha tug e a bhirilinn cho faisg air an àite anns an robh an fheill air a cumail agus a dh'fhaodadh e a dheanamh—thug e do gheodha beag sàmhach i aig Tigh-an-loin, no aiteiginn faisg air.

Thug e laithean, mar a tug seachdain, anns an acarsaid sin; ach chaidh e féin is a chuideachd uile a chum na feille an uair a thainig an latha mòr sin mu'n cuairt, a' fagail na bhirilinn air a h-àraichean, is gu'n duine beo innte ach am balach. Ach cìod air bith

dé 'n t-am de latha, no de dh'oidhche aig na thill an duine mór agus a chuideachd bharr na Feille, agus a rainig iad an t-àite anns an d'fhàg iad a' bhirilinn, cha robh birlinn no balach an sud a' feithamh orra.

Is ann an sin a bha 'n uirgheall, an gleadhhar 's a chor-iomchair, a' bhirilinn air chall, 's gun fhios c'ait an deachaidh i.

Cha robh gaoth ann o na dh'fhag iad a bhrisdeadh buill de h-acfhuinn; 's cha do thog am balach leis fein riamh an t-acair. Thoisich an sin an iarraidh 's an fharraid mu'n bhirilinn—obair a bha a cheart cho saothrachail ri sireadh Mhic Nèill agus, gun teagamh b'e cor sgioba na birlinn a bu mhiosa na cor sgioba Mhic Nèill.—bha'm bàta acasan, agus thug i dhachaidh iad; ach bha sgioba na birlinn na mìltean a dh'astar cuain o'n dachaidhean féin, is iad gun bàta a bheireadh an sin iad. Thug iad iomadh latha agus an cor cho dona—mur an robh na bu mhiosa—na cor an fhir a bha a' coiseachd dhachaidh do'n Ghaidhealtachd as a Ghalldachd an deidh dha a sporan a chall aig an Eaglais Bhric.

Cha deachaidh na gnòthaichean ud air di-chuimhne an uair a chruinnich an sluagh gu Féill Chill-Bhreannain air teachd do'n latha sin mu'n cuairt an ath bhliadhna; agus b'iad na ceistean a bha tric r'an cluinntinn air an Fhéill "Cìod a thainig ri Mac Nèill?" agus "C'ait 'n deachaidh a' bhirilinn?"

Mar a thachras do mhóran de ghnothaichean an t-saoghail so; "mar is sine is ann is fainne"—dh'fhas na sgeoil ud sean cuideachd, agus dh'fhas iad fann. Cha robh diog mu Mhac Nèill ach gle annamh, ged nach eil teagamh nach biodh a chàirdean agus a chaoimh féin, ga chuimhneachadh 's ga ionndrainn.

Am feadh 's a bha chisean anns an t-suidheachadh ud, dh'fhag gille òg an t-eilean Gioghach, agus thug e Cluaidh air; o Chluaidh thog e air gu marachd; agus thug e ochd bliadhna aig an obair sin mu'm facas a rithist e le a chàirdean anns an eilean Gioghach, an uair a chaidh e sgrìob dachaidh a dh'fhaicinn a chàirdean 's a sheann luchd eolais. Cha d' fhuirich e fada aig an tigh. Bha spiorad an luasgain ro laidir 'na inntinn, agus thug e gu muir a rithist air. Bha a cheann gle liath mu'n do thill e an ath uair, a chur seachad a chòrr de shaothal ann an tìr a dhùthecha, far an robh e fad a lathèan aithnichte fo'n ainm "An Seoladair."

Feumaidh nach robh uibhir de na daoine òga a' dol gu muir as a' Ghaidhealtachd anns na lathèan ud is a tha a' deanamh sin air an latha 'n diugh.

Cha bhiodh an t-ainm "An Seoladair," air a ràdh ri neach ann a h-aon de na h-eileanan, air an latha 'n diugh 'ga chomharrachadh no 'ga shonrachadh ann an doigh sam bith, a chionn, tha na seoladairean lionmhor an sud a nis, agus tric ri tachairt orra.

Mar is tric a thachair, agus a thachras a rithist, da leithid, bha iomadh sgeul aige ri aithris.

Cha robh a bheatha fein air a' chuan saor o chunnart, da uair le long-bhriseadh, agus uair eile le bhi air a ruagadh le luing-chogaidh Fhrangaich a thainig tuilleadh is teann air an luing-mharsanta anns an robh e, mu'n tugadh an aire dhith; agus ged a chuir an long Bhreatunnach a h-uile stiall ris gach slait a bh'air a crannaibh, cho luath 's a thuig i an cunnart, agus ged a bha i a' meudachadh an astair eadar i fein 's an long-chogaidh, bha peileirean 'o ghunnachan an Fhrangaich a' stròiceadh a clàir, agus, co-dhuibh a b'ann le deagh chuime no le tuiteamas thilg e na bha os cionn a mheadhoin de'n chrann-deiridh aig an luing Bhreatunnaich am mach air a cliathaich. Chan eil teagamh nach deanadh e'n còrr millidh mur a b'e gu'n tainig sgailean càirdeal na h-oidhche a thug cothrom dol as dhith agus a chuir am Frangach a chluich air dallan-dà.

Is fhada o'n chuala sinn an sean-fhacal a tha 'g ràdh "Gur caol an snathain air an croch beatha an fhir aig am bheil ri bhi fada beo," agus dh'fhaodadh gum bu chaol an snathain air an robh beatha a' Ghioghaich air an uair ud; ach bha aice ri crochadh air snathain a 'bu chaoile na sud aon uair eile fathast.

Thubhairt an t-òran: "Dh'fhag sinn eilean Iamaica, an toiseach éirigh na gealaich." Chan eil mise an drasd ann an suidheachadh a ràdh gun d'fhàg an Gioghach eilean Iamaica air an turus mu'm bheil mi dol a dh'iomradh; ach dh'fhàg e eilean no aiteigin anns na h-Innsean-an-iar air luing a bha mór agus cumhachdadh, is i luchdaichte le bathar luachmhor. Agus a bharr air sin uile, bha móran de òr agus de airgead ann an geinn innte. Chaidh gach ni gu maith leis an luing fad iomadh latha an déidh dhith cur gu cuan.

Ach air latha de na làithean thainig long mhór gu h-obann oirre, agus cha do chòrd a cheud sealladh a fhuaras dith ri neach a chunnaic i; agus mar a b'fhaisge bha i a' tighinn dhoibh is ann bu mhiosa a bha coltas a' còrdadh ri, is cha b'iongantach e.

Cha b'fhada gus an robh fios gun teagamh aca, a thaobh co i, agus cìod e a gnè 's a gnòthach.

Chuir i a' cheud fhailte air na Breatunnaich le peilair a thilgeil thairis air toiseach na luinge; agus o nach do ghabh an long Bhreatunnach

móran suim de sud thilg an long choigreach, tri peilearan cearta comhla troimh na siuil aig an luing eile. Bha fios aig an sgiobair Bhreatunnach nach robh feum sam bith dol a chonnsaid ris an luing eile. Is e bha innte spúnneadair cuain, oillt agus uamhas maraichean an t-saoghail aig an am ud, agus iomadh latha agus bliadhna as a dheidh. Bha i armaichte o stac gu stac, agus cho luath ri ni a chunnaic na Breatunnaich riamh a' snámh air uisge. Bha a sgioba a thri uibhir ann an àireamh ri sgioba na luinge Bhreatunnaich, is cha b'fhada gus an robh i ri cliathaich na luinge sin, is a' streap air bórd oirre, agus ann an seilbh air an luing fein, 's air gach ni a's neach a bha innte.

A cheart cho luath 's a fhuair na spúnneadairean gach eòlas a bha dhith orra mu'n luing agus na bh'innte, chuir iad a' bhratach dhubh ri crann, is chaidh an clàr bàis a shuidheachadh 's a theannachadh ri deireadh na luinge, agus na Breatunnaich 'nan sreath eadar da shreath de na spúnneadairean, a bha 'gan stiuradh le comharan, is gun iad a' tuigsinn smid de'n cainnte, a' coiseachd a dh'ionnsaidh a chlàir air an robh iad ri imeachd gu bàs, le bhì tuiteam thar a chinn am mach aige, is air am bàthadh anns a' chuan. Cha robh feum ann an guidhe; is cha robh maith dol a dhiùltadh, a chionn cha deanadh diùltadh ach bàs bu chràitiche a thoirt orra na bhì air am bàthadh an sàile glan a' chuan.

Thachair gu'r e an Gioghach a bh'air thoiseach na sreatha a bha 'g imeachd cho luath gu clàr an uamhas.

Bha e caoineadh agus a' fàsgadh a làmh, bha e ag ùrnugh ann an guth cho ard 's gu'm faodadh na bha mu'n cuairt air a chluinntinn; agus sin ann an Gaidhlig. Mu'n d'rainig e an ceann a b'fhaisge dha de'n chlàr chual e briathran cas-colgarrach ann an cainnt nach do thuig e, agus aig a' cheart am fhuair e sanas gu seasamh o'n fhear a bha 'ga fhreiceadan, agus an sin o'n cheart ghuth o'n d'thainig na briathran cas-colgarrach, chual an Gioghach ann an cainnt a mhàthar agus a dhùthcha, na briathran ann an rogha na Gaidhlig:

“Cait an d'ionnsaich thu Gaidhlig?”

Thionndaidh an Gioghach leth-char mu'n cuairt agus chunnaic e gu'm b'e Sgiobair nan spúnneadairean a bhruidhinn ris; agus fhreagair e a' cheist a chuireadh air ann an Gaidhlig cuideachd, ag radh: “Dh'ionnsaich mi a' Gaidhlig ann an eilean Ghiogha” —: “Am faca tu riamh Tarbh Charra?” ars' an Sgiobair. “Is iomadh uair sin, a chunna

mise Tarbh Charra,” ars' an Gioghach. “Co an aird ris am bheil aodann an Tairbh?” ars' an Sgiobair. “Tha aodann an Tairbh ris an aird an ear-thuath,” ars' an Gioghach.

Tha sean-fhacal anns a' Ghaidhealtachd a tha'g radh: “Chi thu coltas do mhàthar an Eirinn” agus a reir coltais, bha sgiobair nan spúnneadairean a' saoilinn gun robh an Gioghach a' faicinn coltais air choireiginn a bha toirt air a bhì a' geur amharc ann an aodann an sgiobair. Ach aon uair 's gun do bhuail sud 'na inntinn, cha do leig e leis a' Ghiohach an ath shealladh dìreach de aodann fhaicinn.

Chaidh sgioba na luinge Bhreatunnaich a smeideadh air an ais o'n chlàr-bhàis; ach thug an spúnneadair leis na bha de òr agus de airgead ann an geinn innte; ach do ni no do neach eile cha do bhean e, is ghabh e a rathad fein, is chan fhac an long Bhreatunnach an ath shealladh dheth no de aon de a sheorsa; is thainig i gu cala a ceann-uidhe gu sàbhailte.

Ach “cìod e a thainig ri Mac Nèill?” Cha deachaidh a' cheist ud riamh a fhreagairt ann an doigh 's gu'm biodh an fhreagairt a chum feum 'sam bith mar phuig lagha; ged a thubhairt an seoladair Gioghach ri caraid, “gun robh mac brathar do Mhac Nèill a bha ann an Giògha aig an am ud, agus sgiobair nan spúnneadairean cho coltach ri chéile ri dà sgadan.”

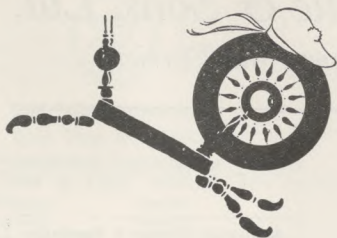
Bidh Goill ag radh nach eil feum sam bith 'sa Ghaidhlig; ach cha 'n e sin idir a' chuid is duilghe leinn, ach gu'm bi Gaidheil ag radh sin cuideachd. Co-dhiubh, cha b'ann mar sin a fhuair an Gioghach i.

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OUR GAELIC ARTISTS' REGISTER

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SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Efforts in preparation for the National Mod continue unabated. Among the functions that have been held is a Whist Drive and Dance in the Burlington House by the Clan Macrae Association. The entire building was requisitioned for this entertainment and proved hardly big enough to accommodate all who desired to be present. The Jura Association Whist Drive in the Highlander's Institute was also very successful. The Concert at Aberfoyle which was promoted by Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun was an outstanding success, the programme being of a very high order and the attendance most satisfactory.

* * *

The Concert by the combined Gaelic choirs in the St. Andrew's Halls over which his Grace the Duke of Montrose presided attracted a large audience, and the proceedings which were much enjoyed were of a most impressive character. A large party took advantage of the opportunity of visiting Garscube estate and viewing the many varieties of flowers in the grounds. The fortunate circumstance of the day being fine resulted in quite a substantial increase in the Mod funds. The Committee is grateful to Sir Archibald and Lady Campbell of Succoth for this privilege and also to the Glasgow Corporation Tramway officials for so kindly including this event among their advertising matter on the trams and 'buses.

* * *

The Tírce Association and the University Ossianic Society held successful functions in aid of Mod funds. There was a large attendance at the Whist Drive and Dance promoted by Miss Netta Kennedy and the fund will benefit substantially. Miss May H. Cameron organised an effort in Kilmarnock which proved popular and highly successful.

* * *

By kind permission of the Anchor Line (Henderson Brothers) Ltd. a Whist Drive and Dance is to be held on board the T.S.S. "Transylvania" at Yorkhill Wharf on the evening of Friday, 2nd June, from 7.30 to 12 midnight.

The arrangements for the Garden Fete in the grounds of Elpalet, Cathkin, on 10th June, are now well advanced. Various committees have been formed to take charge of the stalls and entertainments, and there is every indication that this effort will prove very popular. Special handbills have been printed giving full particulars of the stalls and how to reach the home of Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald where the Fete is to

be held. A special room is being set aside in the Highlanders' Institute for the receiving of donations. Contributions should be sent direct to Capt. A. R. Campbell, Manager of the Institute.

* * *

The Evening Cruise promoted by the Skye Association and which will take place on the 15th of June is likely to prove very popular. The main attraction will be to view the luxurious new Turbine Steamer "Queen Mary" which went into commission on 22nd May. The steamer leaves Bridge Wharf at 6.30 p.m.

NIALL.

PROPAGANDA.

The General Secretary paid a return visit to Strontian on 20th April and was successful in forming a Branch. Mrs. Fletcher, Laudale, was appointed president and Mr. Allan Rankin, Druimantorran, Secretary.

On 21st April Mr. Shaw attended a Concert of the Kinlochleven Branch and addressed the members and friends in Gaelic and English. Dr. Grant, Ballachulish, presided over a large attendance. The meetings of this Branch were largely attended during the Winter session notwithstanding the adverse effect of the prevailing trade depression on the local industry.

The closing Ceilidh of the Dumfries Branch was held on Thursday, 27th April. Mr. Charles Campbell, Convener of the Propaganda Committee, and the General Secretary were present and addressed a company of 160 people in the Unionist Rooms. This Branch has done excellent work since its formation three years ago. A well attended Gaelic Reading Class has been conducted each session and the Gaelic Choir, recently formed, gave splendid renderings of Gaelic songs at the Ceilidh.

Mr. Shaw proceeded to Pitlochry on 4th May and attended the Annual Business Meeting and closing Ceilidh of the Branch that evening. Mr. Scott Rankin, who had been President since the re-organisation of the Branch, vacated the office and Mr. Forbes was elected in his stead. Mr. Anderson was appointed Secretary in place of Mrs. Pantoun who resigned on account of pressure of other work. The Gaelic Continuation Class was well attended throughout the whole session, and the Junior and Senior Choirs were kept in practice. The total membership of this Branch is 284.

On the following day, 5th May, Mr. Shaw travelled to Kinloch Rannoch and attended the closing Ceilidh of the Branch there in the

evening. Regular meetings have been held throughout the winter and it is interesting to note that the Gaelic Continuation Class closed with a larger number of pupils than when it opened at the beginning of the session.

The General Secretary attended and assisted with adjudication at the Kintyre Mod in Campbeltown on 11th and 12th May.

Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, has been busily completing his visitation of the Branches, and, now that the Summer session has commenced, his attention is being directed towards making arrangements for the various Provincial Mods to be held in the Northern Area.

Special attention is being directed towards organising Gaelic Continuation Classes to be held next session, and interviews have taken place with the Directors of Education for the counties of Inverness and Ross and Cromarty. It is hoped to have the language more widely and more systematically taught in this area than at any other period in the history of the movement. The classes already conducted by Mr. Angus Ross in Sutherland have been most successful.

Miss Margaret MacDonald is engaged in Skye preparing choirs for the Skye Mod. Mr. John MacDonald is similarly occupied in the South West Ross district and will proceed to the Arisaig district after the Kyle Mod. Mr. Walter W. M. Ross is giving instruction in the Glenmore district which, for Mod purposes, is included in the Lochaber area.

CRAOBH SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Chumadh coinneamh de luchd-comhairle na h-Airde Tuath ann am baile Inbhirnis air an 22mh la de 'r Ghiblean, agus bha Mgr Domhnall MacDhombnaill, am Fear Gairme, anns a' chathair.

Thug an Rùnaire iomradh air cor na Gaidhlig anns an taobh tuath de 'n Ghaidhealtachd agus am meas mór a tha aig an t-sluagh air a' chàinain.

Tha an luchd-comhairle a' deanamh oidheirp dhìchiollaich aig an àm so a chum agus gu 'm bi grunn mór ag ionnsachadh na Ghaidhlig a leughadh agus a sgrìobhadh anns na sgoilean oidhche. Tha aig an àm so cròileanan gasda 'g an cur air bonn anns gach cearna eadar Uibhist agus Baideanach, agus tha an Ard-Fhòghlum anns na Siorramachdan 's an taobh tuath a' toirt gach cuideachadh do An Chomunn a thaobh luchd teagaisg a bhi air lom air son gach cròilean.

Bha seisean gle shoirbheachail aig Mgr A. M. Ros, A.M., ann an Cataibh agus tha fuighar gu 'm bi e a' tilleadh do'n chearn sin aig deireadh na bliadhna.

Thadhail am Fear-deilbhe aig Drochaid Ruaidh, An Gearasdan, Mallaig, Arasaig agus Gleann Fhionainn. Chumadh cèilidh ghasda aig Drochaid Ruaidh agus tha Coisir Oigridh a' dol a dh' ionnsaidh Mòd Lochabar.

Air an 28mh là bha còrr agus ceithir fichead cruinn aig Cèilidh an Gleann Fhionainn. Bha Mgr Domhnall Mac Gille-mhaoil, as a' Choire Bheag anns a' chathair, agus thubhairt e gu 'n robh e "bòsdail" cruinneachadh cho gasda fhaicinn anns a' Ghleann. Chuidich am Fear-deilbhe aig a' Cèilidh agus fhuair e òrain, ceòl agus dealbh-chluichead. Bu ro-mhath a dh' aithris an gille beag "Domhnall cruaidh agus an Ceard," agus bu phongail an da chailleig bligh mar "An Seilean agus a' Chuileag."

Tha dùil ri cruinneachadh mór aig Mòd Lochabar air an 23mh la de 'n Ogmhios.

D. M. P.

An Airde Deas.

Aig coinneimh de 'n Chomhairle Dheasaich ann an ionad a' Chomuinn air an 21mh la de 'n Ghiblean thug am Fear Cathrach, Mgr Eoghann MacThorcadail iomradh air coinneimh a chumadh ri fear gleidhidh Ionad na h-Oigridh am baile Ghobhainn ag iarraidh gu 'm bitheadh cead aig meur a' Chomuinn coinneamhan a chumail anns an Talla sin. Tha dòchas gu 'n toirear cead seachad mar a dh' iarradh.

Bha Mgr MacGille Sheathanaich saothrach 'na chuairtean mar a leughar anns an iomradh Bheurla anns an àireamh so. A réir iartas na Comhairle gu 'n rachadh tadhal air gach meur uair 'sa bhliadhna co-dhiu na 'm biodh sin comasach thugadh iomradh nach robh ach dà mheur de 'n da dheug agus trì fichead aig nach robh e, agus bu aobhar dha sin nach b'urrainnear coinneamhan ullachadh dha an uair a bha e 'sa choimhearsnachd. Theid cuimhne a chumail orra sin agus gabhaidh e a' cheud chothrom air sgrìob a' gabhail a' choimhead orra aig toiseach an ath sheisein.

Tha shìl a nis g' a thoirt ris na Mòdan Dùthchail a bhios ag gabhail àite 'san earrainn so. Chumadh a' cheud aon diubh sin an Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain air an 11mh la 'san 12mh la de 'n Chèitein. Bha Mgr Uisdean Mac Gilleathain fad choig laithean deug a' teagasg chòisirean Oigridh is Inbheach aig Taobh na Learga fa chomhar so. Bha am Mòd fòr shoirbheachail agus bha an t-adhartas a rinnear an cleachdadh na càinain 'na aobhar misnich. Tha Mgr Mac Gilleathain air tilleadh gu Dailriada far am bi a theagasg fo stiùrad na Comhairle Ionadail.

Tha a' Chomhairle gu mór an comain an luchd-teagaisg air feadh na h-earrainn so uile air son an dealais agus an cuideachaidh ann a bhi ag ullachadh choisirean is cho-fharpaisichean fa chomhar nam Mòdan. Mur bitheadh an luchd-teagaisg cho saothrachail anns na sgoilean 'sa tha iad cha bhiodh na Mòdan idir cho soirbheachail, agus cha bhiodh an òirgidh is na h-inbhidh cho ùidheil mu 'n chànain.

Tha a' Chomhairle mothachail air seirbhis an luchd-teagaisg so agus tha iad a' toirt taing dhurachdaich dhaibh air son na h-oibre ionmholta tha iad a' deanamh.

E. M. P.

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Cha teid thu gu sràid a Shasunn
'S e bu chleachdach leat a' fraoch.

Gur a diombach mi do Thormad,
Ged nach tric leam a bhi feirg ris;
Nuair a dh'ìarradh e air falbh thu,
'S gur tu 's earbsaich againn fhè.

Bha thu 'd sgoileir a bha sàr-mhath,
An Laidean, an Greugais, 's an gràmar,
'S b' fhearr thu gu cluich a' phiano
Na'n bhain-tighearna 's fearr san tìr.

'S tric a dh' fhalbh thu anns an dùbhlachd,
Le do ghunna caol ga ghiùlan,
'S do chrios-guaille, 's t-adharc-fhùdair,
Air a dùnadh air do thaobh.

Bu tu sealgair gleusd' a gheoidh-ghlais,
'S nan lachunn an cois nan òban;
'S mharbhadh tu 'n earb air a' mhòintich,
'S cuilein an ròin anns a' chaol.

'S mur a bitheadh achd na Ban-rìgh'n
Ga d' chumail o fhrith nan àrd-bheann,
Bheireadh tu dhachaidh a' chàraid,
Eilid an fhàsaich, 's an laogh.

Bu tu ceann-feadhna nan gillean,
Sa mhachaire rèidh ag iomain;
'S bu deacair am ball a thilleadh
Far am biodh tu air a thil.

Ged a bha thu saitheamh, suairce,
Bu tu 'n gaisgeach nuair a ghluais thu;
'S bu tearc iad, air meud an cruadail,
Sheasadh suas riut anns an t-strìth.

Bu tu 'm marcaich eutrom, dealbhach,
An glaic diollaid an eich mheamnaich,
'S bu lùthor a cheum a falbh leat,
'S do lamh dhearbhte os a chinn.

MOD BLIADHNAIL COMUNN GAIDHLIG LUNNAIN.

Chumadh am Mòd so ann an Talla Scots Corporation, Fleur-de-Lis Court, Fetter Lane, E.C.2, air an fhicheadamh latha de 'n Ghiblein, Mgrh Iain MacLeod anns a' chathair. Bha leth-uiread de cho-fharpaisean a bharrachd ann air na bh' ann an uiridh. Chan e a mhàin, gu robh adhartas ri fhaicinn ann an cuspairean ciuil is litreachais, ach bha an cruinneachadh mór; cuid diubh a thàinig air astar fada agus mi-ghoireasach. Bha h-uile ni cho soirbheachail agus gun do chuir Comhairle Comunn Gaidhlig Lunnain mar fhiachaibh orra fhéin Mòd na h-ath-bhladhna a chumail air Di-sathuirne an àite meadhon na seachdain mar a b' àbhaist. Tha iad de 'n rùn gun toir so cothrom na 's fheàrr do 'n fheadhainn sin nach 'eil e furasda dhaibh frithealadh air a chuid eile de 'n t-seachdain.

Na breithemhean-ciùil, Mgrh Seumas Caimbeul, Mgrh Rees Davies, A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., L.T.S.C., agus Bean Aonghais Mhicdhonnachaidh; agus airson Gaidhlig, an oigh Iseabal NicMhoirreich, Mgrh Aonghas Macdhonnachaidh agus Mgrh Alasdair MacSuaibh.

B'e Niall A. R. MacAoidh a bhunaich a' chuach a thug Mgrh Raonall MacAonghais seachad airson feabhais ann an ceol agus ann an litreachas.

PRIZE-LIST.

JUVENILES.

Recitation—Stella MacIntyre.
Solo Singing—1, Aoirig Campbell; 2, Stella MacIntyre.

SENIORS.

Reading, Prose (Learners)—Ladies—1, Miss Jean Matheson; 2, Mrs. May Sheldrake; 3, Miss Mary Davies. Men—1, Mr. J. H. MacDonald; 2, Mr. John MacLennan; 3, Mr. A. G. MacKechnie.
Reading, Unseen Poetry (Open)—Mr. Donald J. MacDonald.

Recitation or Short Story (Learners)—Mr. Raonall MacInnes.

Conversation with Adjudicator (Learners)—1, Mr. A. G. MacKechnie; 2, Miss K. B. Milner.

Dialogue (Open)—1, Miss Mairi MacLeod and Mr. Donald J. MacDonald; 2, Miss Peigi MacLean and Miss Catherine MacLeod.

Essay on "Na Gàidheil ri Guailibh a chéile" (Open)—1, Mr. N. A. R. MacKay; 2, Miss Peigi MacLean.

Solo Singing of a Song of Competitor's Choice (Learners)—Ladies—1, Miss Lena Caff; 2, Miss Mary Geddes. Men—Mr. Duncan MacCalman.

Solo Singing (Ladies) of "Faill ill o agus horo eile" or "Air a ghille tha mo rùn"—1, Miss Flora MacLennan; 2, Mrs. M. C. Thomson; 3, Miss Lena Caff.

Solo Singing (Men) of "An Ribhinn Donn" or "Mo shùil 'ad dheigh"—1, Dr. Edgar MacWilliam; 2, Mr. Duncan MacCalman; 3, Mr. N. A. R. MacKay.

Duet (Open)—1, Mrs. Margaret Thornley and Miss Mollie Wilson; 2, Miss Mary Geddes and Miss Aleen Murray.

Solo Singing of a Song with Clarsach Accompaniment (Open)—Miss A. M. Impey.

Solo Singing of "Gu ma slàn do na Fearaibh" (confining to first-prize winners at previous local Mods of the Society)—1, Mrs. Margaret Thornley; 2, Miss Flora MacLennan; 3, Miss Lena Caff.

KINTYRE MOD.

The tenth Kintyre Provincial Mod was held in Campbeltown on 11th and 12th May. The entries in the Junior section constituted a record, and the standard in the oral and music section is steadily advancing. The teachers in the Peninsula are deserving of all praise and encouragement for their splendid work among the children. Three essays were submitted in the Senior section, and each received high marks for matter and orthography. The adjudicators were—Gaelic, Mr. Hector MacDougall and Mr. Neil Shaw, Glasgow; Music, Mr. David T. Yacmini, Perth. Competitors were assisted by the accompaniments played by Mrs. Carson and Mr. MacTaggart (the blind pianist). Miss Hall of Tangy presided over the Junior concert on the Thursday evening. In the unavoidable absence of Capt. G. I. Campbell, Yr. of Sucooth, and Sheriff MacMaster Campbell, the Rev. T. S. MacPherson acted as chairman at the Senior concert on Friday night, at which there was an attendance of fully 1200 people. Miss Hall of Tangy presented the prizes at both concerts. Miss Jean Hastings, Glasgow, and Mr. Neil MacLean assisted the prize-winners at the Senior concert. The local committee, and particularly the secretary, Mr. Peter J. Campbell, were heartily thanked for making such admirable arrangements.

The prize-winners were:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

LITERATURE.

Letter Writing—1, Mary Smith, Rhunahaorine; 2, Amelia Currie, Rhunahaorine.

Writing from Dictation—1, Neil Smart, Rhunahaorine.

Reading Poetry—1, May MacBride, Rhunahaorine; 2, Cathie Mitchell; 3, Amelia Currie.

Reading Prose—1, Mary Smith; 2, Amelia Currie.

Reciting Poetry—1, Molly Robertson; 2, Amelia Currie; 3, Mary Smith.

Repeating from St. Luke's Gospel—1, Cathie Mitchell.

CELTIC SONGS IN ENGLISH.

Girls not over 12—1, Etta Repple; 2, Cathie MacSporrin; 3, Rose MacBride, Tayinloan.

Boys not over 12—1, John MacMillan, Carradale; 2, Archd. Paterson, Carradale; 3, Ian MacDonald.

Girls over 12—1, Effie Fisher, Carradale; 2, Sarah MacKinnon, Carradale; 3 (equal), Mary MacDougall, Carradale, and Ann Blackstock, Southend.

Boys over 12—1, Malcolm MacEachran; 2, John Mees; 3, Charles Mees.

GAELIC SOLOS.

Competitor's Choice, Girls—1, Sarah MacKinnon; 2, Molly Robertson; 3, Effie Fisher.

Competitor's Choice, Boys—1, Malcolm MacEachran; 2, Joseph MacDonald; 3 (equal), Donald Campbell and Neil Smart.

Girls and Boys—1, Sarah MacKinnon; 2, Effie Fisher; 3, Malcolm MacEachran.

Girls and Boys not over 12—1, Mary MacKinnon; 2, Elizabeth MacSporrin; 3 (equal), Nancy MacEachran and John MacMillan.

DUET SINGING.

1, Effie Fisher and Mary MacDougall; 2, Sarah MacKinnon and Nan Galbraith; 3, Mary Smith and Neil Smart, Tayinloan.

UNISON SINGING.

Choirs not over 12—1, Grammar School B, Miss MacConnachie, conductor; 2, Campbeltown, Mr. R. A. Wallace, conductor; 3, Grammar School A.

Choirs not over 16—1, Drumlemble, Miss Thomson, conductor; 2, Grammar School B; 3 (equal), Grammar School A and Largieside, Mr. H. MacLean, conductor.

English Choirs (six competing)—1, Grammar School B; 2, Campbeltown; 3, Grammar School A.

TWO-PART HARMONY.

1, Carradale, Miss MacIntyre, conductor; 2, Campbeltown; 3, Drumlemble.

Highest Aggregate in Gaelic—Mary Smith and Amelia Currie, 480; each, out of possible 540.

SENIOR SECTION.

LITERATURE.

Reading at Sight—1, Isa MacDonald; 2, Susan MacDonald; 3, Margaret Mitchell.

Reciting Poetry—1, Mrs. Paterson; 2, Margaret Mitchell; 3, Isa MacDonald.

Reciting Prose—1, Margaret Mitchell and Susan MacDonald (equal); 3, Mrs. Paterson.

Gaelic Speech—1, Isa MacDonald; 2, Margaret Mitchell.

Sgeulachd—1, Susan MacDonald; 2, Margaret Mitchell; 3, Isa MacDonald.

CELTIC SONGS IN ENGLISH.

Ladies—1, Martha McIvor; 2, Jessie Paterson; 3, Nita Livingstone, Carradale.

Gentlemen—1, William Buchanan, Carradale; 2, John McKendrick; 3, Donald MacSporrin.

Gaelic Solos, Male and Female Voices—1, Rose MacConnachie; 2, Rae MacSporrin; 3, William Buchanan.

Gaelic Solos, former First-Prize Winners—1, Jemima MacLean; 2, Cissie Fisher; 3, Donald MacSporrin.

Puirt-a-beul—Jemima MacLean.

Dialogue—1, Susan MacDonald and Bella Mitchell; 2, Margaret Mitchell and Isa MacDonald.

Scripture Reading—1, Mrs. Paterson; 2, Isa MacDonald; 3, Margaret Mitchell.

Duets—1, Martha McIvor and Jessie Paterson; 2, Rae MacSporrin and Margaret MacSporrin; 3 (equal), Marie MacDougall and Jemima MacLean and Mary Coffield and Bella MacFadyen.

Ladies' Choirs—1, Carradale (Miss Chrissie MacIntyre); 2, Tarbert (Mr. MacDougall); 3, Drumlemble (Miss Thomson).

Mixed Choirs (Gaelic)—1, Tarbert; 2, Carradale; 3, Largieside.

Mixed Choirs, Puirt-a-beul—1, Campbeltown Gaelic Choir; 2, Carradale; 3 (equal), Tarbert and Largieside.

Mixed Choirs, English—1, Tarbert; 2, Largieside. Highest Aggregate—Susan MacDonald, 434 out of possible 600.

GLASGOW MOD DONATIONS.

Already acknowledged	£149 10 0
Proceeds, Highland Ball in Glasgow	150 5 0
Mrs. Bullough, Fasnacloich (additional)	5 0 0
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D. H. Huie, Esq., Edinburgh	0 10 0
P. MacDougall Pullar, Esq., Glasgow	1 1 0
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Dundee Highland Society	3 9 0
Skelmorlie and District Highland Association	1 0 0
Iona Branch, per Mr. Malcolm MacLeod (Cards)	2 0 0
Appin Branch	2 0 0
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Sheriff J. Bartholomew, Glasgow	1 0 0
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Miss May MacFarlane, Glasgow	0 5 0
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Mrs. M. Stewart, Giffen House	1 1 0
Mull and Iona Association	20 0 0
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Kilbrandon Branch	0 10 0
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Gaelic Society of Glasgow	10 0 0
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The Hon. Mrs. Smyth, Ness Castle	5 0 0
Peter MacIntyre, Esq., Drymen	1 1 0
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COMPLETE Set "Celtic Monthly," 25 volumes, in good order, for Sale.—Offers to Mary MacKintosh Macrae, 19 Holeburn Road, Glasgow, S.3.

BRANCH REPORTS.

APPIN.—The closing meeting of the Appin branch was held in the Public Hall, when the popular president, Mr. D. MacPherson, presided. The function took the form of a Highland ceilidh, and a general invitation to all in the Strath of Appin districts got a response that taxed the capacity of the hall to its utmost. The dance which followed proved to be one of the most entertaining social functions ever held in the district. The musical programme was entirely sustained by local artistes, and the excellence of their contributions earned repeated encores. A special feature was the work of the hostesses, Mrs. Wilson, Miss MacInnes, Miss J. Colthart, Miss J. Braid, and Mrs. Cathie MacInnes, who were unflinching in their attention to the audience's comfort and pleasure. The following were the artistes:—Bagpipe selections, Piper D. Mathieson; rallying song, the company; songs, Miss MacMillan and Mr. J. MacGregor; violin selections, Miss A. Boa; recitation, Mr. D. MacPherson; song, Miss J. Livingstone; violin and piano selections, Miss C. MacDonald and Mr. A. MacLean; Gaelic reading, Mr. Hugh Ross; songs, Mr. A. Cameron, Miss B. MacInnes, Mr. D. MacPherson; accompanist, Miss F. J. MacIntyre. At the close Rev. J. G. Nairn proposed votes of thanks to the chairman and artistes, which were cordially given. A collection for the National Mod funds drew a generous response.

BRIDGEND.—To raise funds for the expenses in connection with the local Mod, a concert, under the auspices of the Bridgend Branch of An Comunn, was held in the Bridgend Hall recently. Mr. Neil Shaw, general secretary of An Comunn, presided. He addressed the audience in Gaelic and English, and also contributed to the programme. An amusing Gaelic sketch, entitled "An te a chail a Gaidhlig," was presented. Mr. D. MacNiven gave an entertaining sgulachd of his own composition, and Gaelic and English songs with instrumental music completed the programme.

DORNOCH.—Mr. A. Ross, M.A., who has been teaching Gaelic on two nights a week during the past three months in the Academy, brought the session to a close recently. The attendance throughout has been good, and the progress made by the pupils most gratifying both to Mr. Ross and H.M. Inspector. After the close of the last class, the pupils adjourned to the Scout Room at Schoolhill, and, to mark their appreciation of Mr. Ross's services, presented him with a gold-mounted fountain pen. Dr. John MacLachlan presided, and also made the presentation. Mr. Ross feelingly replied. After a refreshing cup of tea, prepared by the ladies, a dance followed.

DUMFRIES.—The Dumfries and Galloway Branch brought the work of a highly successful session to a close with a largely attended ceilidh and dance in the Unionist Rooms, Dumfries. Mr. Neil Shaw, the general secretary of An Comunn, and Mr. Charles Campbell, convener of the Propaganda Committee, attended the function and delivered short addresses. An excellent musical programme was provided, and tea was served during the evening.

KINGUSSIE.—Under the auspices of the local branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach, the Rev. Dr. MacFarlane, president of the branch, conducted a Gaelic service in St. Columba's Church of Scotland, Kingussie. There was a fairly large congregation, and Mr. Finlay MacLeod, Craigview, Kingussie, conducted the praise in the old Highland style.

LOCHINVER.—There was a large attendance at the monthly ceilidh of the Lochinver Branch. Miss Graham presided, and opened the ceilidh with a Gaelic address of welcome. She handed over two Gaelic books presented to the branch by Rev. D. Finlayson and Mrs. MacLennan, who recently left Lochinver. Mr. Murdo Macaskill, whose talk on "Assynt" in the old times kept the company interested for the best part of an hour. He spoke in Gaelic, beginning with the ancient days when Assynt was a fir forest belonging to the Thanes of Sutherland, of whom mention is made early in the ancient history of Scotland; the burning of this forest by Scandinavian invaders; how Assynt was given to one MacNicol of Ullapool and Coigach, as a reward for recovering cattle that had been taken away by foreign invaders. The heiress of MacNicol was married to a son of MacLeod of Lewis, and Assynt settled on them a marriage portion. From that marriage fourteen chiefs of the MacLeod family ruled Assynt. Coming to more modern times, when it fell into the possession of the MacKenzie, the lecturer dealt with the building of Caldra House, a description of Ardrvack and Caldra, Montrose, the iron mines of Assynt, marble, charcoal, etc. The old traditions regarding the meaning of the word "Assynt" were discussed by several of the members, and different reasons were quoted.

PORTREE.—Under the auspices of the Portree Branch the Gaelic play, "Peigi Bheag," was produced in the Skye Gathering Hall. Rev. J. MacKay, vice-president, occupied the chair. The play was produced in a very creditable manner. It was pointed out at the end that most of the performers had never taken part in dramatic work before, which fact made their appearance all the more creditable. At the conclusion of the play, the ceilidh was continued by members of the cast.

SALEN, MULL.—The annual Gaelic concert, under the auspices of the Salen branch of An Comunn, was held in the Salen Hall. Rev. A. D. MacRae, M.A., Salen, who was attired in Highland garb, occupied the chair. The concert opened with bagpipe selections by Mr. Hector MacLean, Gruline, and the company sang "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig." The various artistes acquitted themselves creditably, and reflected credit on Mr. MacDiarmid, An Comunn's singing master. Mr. MacRae called upon Miss Mary MacNeil to hand to Mr. MacDiarmid a small memento of his stay in Salen. Mr. MacDiarmid expressed his gratitude, and hoped that he would return to Salen at some future date. Mr. Cameron, St. Oran, proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman. The programme was sustained by the Junior and Senior Choirs (Mr. MacDiarmid), Mr. Donald Gillies, Miss Mary MacDonald, Mr. A. L. Smith, Mr. D. MacLucas, Mr. A. Cattanach, Mr. Hugh MacInnes, the Salen Band, Miss MacDougall, Mr. Dennis MacNeil, Miss MacLucas, Miss M. MacNeil, Mr. Charles MacDonald. At the dance which followed, music was supplied by the Salen Band, and Mr. A. L. Smith, M.A., acted as M.C. The total drawings were £15 4/-.

SRONOWAY.—The final ceilidh for the current session was held in the Masonic Hall. Although the night was stormy and wet, the seating capacity of the hall was taxed to the full—a gratifying proof of the great popularity of this form of entertainment. Mr. MacSween, president, occupied the chair, and after tea an excellent musical programme was submitted, a special feature of which was a "luadh," staged in the old style by some of the lady members, whose performance was enthusiastically cheered by the audience.

TARBERT.—While the local branch is assiduously carrying on practice in view of the forthcoming Mod, we are glad to learn that a junior choir is in course of formation. Mr. James MacDougall, leader of the An Comunn choir, has shown a very decided interest in the branch by giving attention to the junior section. Tuition is now being given, and it is expected that the young people, who are showing great enthusiasm, will be prepared to compete at one of the forthcoming Argyllshire Mods.

WICK.—At the concluding meeting for the winter session, Mr. Donald MacKay, Shebster, Reay, gave an interesting paper on "Two Caithness Witches—Jenny Horne and Peggy MacGilchrist." The former was burned at Dornoch in 1722, and Peggy, he said, was done to death by the mob before word could be received from Edinburgh as to how she should be dealt with in view of her alleged deeds of witchcraft. Mr. MacKay spoke of personal acquaintance with strange happenings, including the unusual experience of having seen a "corp creadha." Rev. George Sutherland and others added interesting comments on the old ideas of witchcraft, and expressed appreciation of Mr. MacKay's informative lecture. A short programme of song and story followed, after which the annual reports were read and regarded as satisfactory. The office-bearers were reappointed, with the addition of Mr. Henry Christian to the Committee.—On Sunday evening, April 30, by request of the branch, Rev. Roderick MacKenzie, Resolis, Ross-shire (who was in Wick assisting at the Communion service in the Old Parish Church), conducted a Gaelic service in the Church Hall. The attendance was larger than had been anticipated, numbering over 120. Mr. MacKenzie intoned the line in the traditional form of Gaelic praise, and the singing was assisted by a choir. He preached an eloquent evangelical sermon from the well-known text, John iii. 16. The service was of a deeply devotional character, and the hope was expressed that another Gaelic service would be held on a future date as soon as it could be arranged.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

FOUNDED 1891.

All Scottish Gaels, and all persons in sympathy with the Gaelic movement, are cordially invited to become members. The objects of the Association are to encourage and promote

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TELEGRAMS.—Runaire, Glasgow.

TELEPHONE—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXVIII.]

An t-Iuchar, 1933.

[Earrann 10

DUAISEAN NA CLOINNE.

Cuiridh inbhich féin meas air duais. Cia mo na sin a chuireas a' chlann òga meas da riribh air duais. Tha sinn a' ciallachadh air an duilleig so na duaisean a tha ri thairgse is ri chosnadh aig mòd, co dhiu is e mòd dùthchail no cinneachail. Tha fhios againn uile gu bheil duais no luach saothrach coimhcheangailte ri iomadh cuspair. Is gann gu bheil slighe air an cuir daoine an obair is an dìchioll a' strì ri chéile, anns nach faighear duais 'g a tairgse do 'n neach is fhearr a ni an obair. Mas ann aig cluich no aig foghlum, air neart no air gheusdachd, is e am fear is treise agus is teoma a bhuinigeas an duais.

* * *

Beachdaich mar dh'fhàs cleachdadh na duaise anns na comhfharpaisen a thainig gu ìre aird air feadh na dùthcha o chionn ghoirid. Is e aon diubh sin an deuchainn ann an alt na dealbh-chluich. Tuath is deas tha iomadh sgioba sunndach ag ullachadh dealbh-chluich anns a' gheamhradh, a' deanamh an dìchill gus iad féin a dheanamh deas gu duais a chosnadh aig comhfharpais. Tha an ni ceudan fìor a thaobh nan cuirmean ciùil is na fèisdean a tha cho lìonmhor a nis air Ghalldachd, fèisdean a mhaireas fad seachdain, agus aig am bi na ceudan a' comhstri. Chithear toradh na comhfharpais cuideachd anns na cluichean

fallain air an raoin, mar iomain chaman is iomadh gnè eile de chluich, anns a' bheil an òigridh a' faotainn slàinte is toilintinn. Mar sin cuideachd anns gach sgoil is oil-thigh tha an duais fathast measail.

* * *

A nis is e a dh'fhàg an cuspair so cho soilleir dhomhsa aig an àm gu'm faca mi air an t-seachdain so chaidh aig mòd dùthchail, ni a chuir gu smuaintean mi. Chunnaic mi clann òga nach robh thairis air còig bliadhna de aois, a' labhairt is ag aithris Gaidhlig air dhòigh cho coimhlianta is gu'n ghabh mi ioghnadh dheth. Cha robh e cumanta a leithid sud fhaicinn aig mòd. Dh'fheoraich mi ciod e an t-aobhar. Chaidh innse dhomh gu'r e an t-aobhar gu'n deachaidh duais a thairgse do mhàthair an leinibh òig a b'fhearr a dh' aithriseadh Gaidhlig. Thainig na h-uirid air an aghart mar thoradh air sin. Agus is e buil a bha ann gu'n cualas an latha sin leanaban gle òg a' bruidhinn gu pongail, eagnaigh air ard-ùrlar. Thug so taitneas do chuid agus misneach is dòchas do chuid eile.

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Tha eagal mòr orm gu bheil sinn a' dearmad rud no dha a thaobh na cloinne. Feumar aideachadh gun teagamh gu bheil An Comunn gle chùramach mu'n òigridh. Tha a' cheud latha de 'n Mhòd bhliadhnail air a thoirt suas gu tur do'n òigridh. Ach tha dòigh fathast

ann air am faodadh feabhas tighinn le cuideachadh bho chàirdean an taobh a mach de'n Chomunn, no bho bhuill de'n Chomunn aig am bheil comas beagan airgid a thairgse a chum na crìche so. Is i a' chrìoch àraidh duaisean na cloinne a dheanamh ni 's pailte agus ni 's luachmhoire. Nam biodh na duaisean ni bu mhotha bhiodh tuilleadh strì air an son. Aig an am so is ann do na h-inbhich a tha na duaisean is-airde 'g an tairgse. Agus gle thrìc gheibh inbheach duais air *gle bheagan* de Ghaidhlig. Chan eil sin fìor a thaobh na cloinne ag aithris Gaidhlig. Tha iadsan de'n fhìor sheòrsa d' am bu chòir duais a thairgse.

* * *

Faodar a thuigsinn gu bheil beatha na cànan an earbsa ris an òigridh. Is còir dhuinn dealachadh mòr a dheanamh eadar seinn nan inbheach a tha a' togail uiread de dh'ùine is de dh'aire, agus aithris na h-òigridh nach eil a' faotainn na h-ùine is na h-aire a bu chòir dha faotainn. Faodaidh na h-inbhich seinn gu leòr a dheanamh, agus a' Ghaidhlig a bhi a' sior bhàsachadh cho fad 's a tha a beatha an crochadh orra-san. Ach ma tha na ceudan de'n chloinn òga a' foghlum aithris na cànan, is e sin a chumas cothrom is ceartas ris a' chaint. Is e sin a shìneas a làithean; oir cho cinnteach is a choisneas a' chlann duais gabhaidh iad tlachd is uail as ùr as a' Ghaidhlig. Nach sinne a tha staoim ann breithneachadh agus mall an tuigse ma chreideas sinn a chaochladh!

* * *

Tha mòran fathast ri dheanamh gu aire is dùrachd na cloinne a dhùsgadh. Tha an leanabh a thaobh nàduir ni 's dèidheile air cliù na air buannachd. Saoilidh e barrachd de'n chliù a thig an cois na duaise, na shaoileas e de'n duais féin. Agus a thuilleadh air a' chloinn is còir duaisean gasda a bhi ann airson nam màthraichean agus nam maighstearan sgoile. Mar sin bidh dealas dùbailte 'g a ghluasad. Chan e a' mhàin gu'n dean na màthraichean comhstri feuch co is fhearr a theagaisgeas a' chlann, ach bidh comhfharpais mar an ceudna eadar na maighstearan. Aig an am tha a leithid sin 'g a dheanamh a thaobh sgrìobhadh Gaidhlig leis an òigridh. Tha duais ann airson an luchd teagaisg. Agus bu chòir duaisean luachmhor a bhi air an tairgse do na màthraichean agus do na maighstearan, a chum gu'n teagaisgeadh iad gu dian aithris na cànan do 'n chloinn.

CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

"An Ceangal Càirdeasa."

A Chlann,—Is fhad o nach do chuir mi facal do bhur n-ionnsaidh, agus 's e is aobhar gu'n robh mi driopail, mar is coltach a bha sibh fhein, le obair an Earraich. Am meas nithean eile cìod a bh'agam am bliadhna ach an tigh a ghealachadh le aol agus b'e sin an obair gun chrìch; gus a so bha mi saòilsinn gur e tigh car beag a bh'againn, ach tha atharrachadh beachd agam air a sin a nis. Is e sean tigh tuathanais a th'ann, agus an treabhair a bha aon uair air leth air dà thaobh dheth a nis ceangailte ris, air chor agus eadar cinn is staidh, cùil is bial, sìneadh a mach is tionndadh a steach, gu'n saoil mise nach robh uachdar cho farsuing riamh air aitreabh cho cuimseach. Obair na dunach! Bha amharus agam riamh gu'n robh spiorad an donais anns na nithean ris an abair sinn "neo-bheothail" agus tha fhios agam a nis gur fìor e—mur a b'e, carson a dhiùltadh an t-aol laighe air na ballachan gu réidh, cothromach, seach a bhi ruith thar gach doras, uinneag, pìob is feadan is anainn, 'gam ludraigeadh bho cheann gu sàil 's "a' cur dalladh air mo leirsinn?" Ach an éiric mo ghealachaidh aig an aol fhuair mi mo dhubhadh le glanadh nan luidhear, 's cha dual domh gearan. Tha an tigh glan réidh a muigh 's a stigh agus ma thig Clann an Fhraoich 'ga fhaicinn, gheibh iad fàilt is furan.

Ach cha'n e obair an Earraich idir a thug orm mo pheann a thogail an diugh, 's ann a tha mi dol a ghabhail de dhànadas orm rud a chur 'nur cuimhne a tha sinn buailteach, air uairean, a bhi leigeil air dl-chuimhne—nach sinne, Gaidheil na h-Alba, na h-aon daoine a tha bruidhinn cànan Céiltich, no b'eagnuidhe ràdh, mo chreach! bu chòir a bhi 'ga bruidhinn; gu'm bheil sluaigh eile ann aig am bheil na dearbh cheistean a th'againne a thaobh cànan is dualchais is naiseantachd. Agus is e a chuir 's gu'm bheil mi luaidh air na nithean sin an dràsda, litir a fhuair mi o chionn ghoirid, as na neòil mar gu'm b'eadh, o Ghaidheal an Eirinn nach fhaca mi riamh ged is ainmeil e an saoghal an litreachais Céiltich, agus ma 's math mo chuimhne, cha coigreach e ann an duilleagan A' Ghaidheil.

Aidichidh mi air ball nach do leugh mi fhein a' bheag de a obair-san fhathast; cha nàir orm sin agus a' mhòr-chuid dhith 's a' Ghaidhlig Eireannaich, ged a tha Gaidhlig

Albannach gu freagarrach aige cuideachd agus is urrainn da a leughadh, a sgrìobhadh agus a bruidhinn. Co-dhiù tha aon ni 'na aorabh a tha cho trid-shoilair agus nach gabh e ceiltinn, gu'm bheil teine fhlor-ghlan an spioraid Cheiltich a' ruith 'na chuistibh agus gu'n seall e air a h-uile Gaidheal riamh, dè sam bith an dùthaich, mar a dhearbhbhràithrean.

Cha rud ùr so, feuchainn ri "ceangal càirdeas" stéidheadh eadar na Gaidheil an Alba is Eirinn, Cuimridh is Manain, Cornhall is Breatainn nan Amhòrach. Ach cia lion dhinn a tha cuideachadh leis an aobhar sin 'nar caitheamh-beatha? Nach eil sinn toilichte a' chùis a leigil gu léir air guallibh a' Cho-Chomuinn Chéiltich, a tha seasamh uair 's a' bhliadhna? Chan eil e an comas a h-uile fir nithean móra dheanamh gus an dà chinneadh, Alba is Eirinn, a tharruing na's dlùithe r' a chéile, ach saoilidh mise nach còir dhuinn a bhi 'nar buill de chòmhlan caidreach mar a tha Clann an Fhraoich, mur a beir sinn air làimh a' chaireis 'nuair a tha i air a sineadh a mach dhuinn thar sàil le fear a tha neo-ar-thaing cho dileas do'n Ghaidhlig ri aon duine 'nar croidhlean fein. Agus sin na tha Seán Toibín a' deanamh— an Gaidheal a bha sgrìobhadh chugam o Eirinn. Thuig esan gu'm bheil neart ann an aonachd, agus gu'm faod toradh math tighinn an cois an *ceangal càirdeas* sin a bhi eadar Gaidheil na h-Eireann 's na h-Alba. Agus tha e'g iarraidh ar cobhrach.

Nis, tha fhios nach tearc a' Chlann sin a tha comasach air earann no oidhirp bheag litreachail (no *dreucht* mar a their fir n'Eireann ris) a sgrìobhadh 's a' Ghaidhlig mu chor na Gaidhealtachd againn fein no mu ni sam bith eile 's an gabhadh na Gaidheil ud thall suim, agus nach lionmhor na cuspairean a th'ann. Ma chuirear a leithid a dh'ionnsaidh ar caraide, ni esan leth-eadartheangachadh air, ach e bhi idir freagarrach, agus gheibh e àite ann am fear de na paipearan naigheachd aig am bheil "oisinn na Gaidhlig" mar a tha 's na paipearan againn a bhos. No ma tha còlas sam bith a dhìth air fear againn mu chàinail no litreachas no cleachduinnean nan Gaidheal 's an dùthaich eile, cha'n e mhàin gu'm faighear e le feoraich ach bithidh sinn a' cur comain, le sin a dheanamh, air duine nach eil 's an t-sealladh aige ach leas nan Gaidheal gu léir.

A bharr air na "dreuchtan" agus a' chomh-sgrìobhadh sin a bhi eadarainn, nach faodamaid a bhi cuideachadh ann an nithean beaga gus an *ceangal càirdeas* a dheanamh

na 's buadhmaire. Bu chòir fuaim-leac (clair-òrain airson na ciste-chiùil) Ghaidhlig a bhi an cleachdadh againn thall 's a bhos. Tha nithean Gaidhlig ri 'n cluinntinn gu tric air an *aer-ghleus* (facal Eireannach a tha freagarrach airson guthan di-dhealgach) bho *Radio Baile Ath-Chliath* agus bho Abaieardhain, agus na'n deanadh gach Gaidheal dileas oidhirp air na nithean sin a dh'èisdeachd cha bheag an comhnadh do'n *cheangal càirdeas* e. Tha fhios gu'm bi luchd-camanachd bho Eirinn a strì ri feadhainn Albannaich an Glaschu mu'm bi an ath "Gaidheal" ann an clò. Nach math a dh'fhaodadh luchd-riaghlaidh nam buidheann-camanachd cluicheadh eadar an dà dhùthaich? Is ann an Eirinn a chaith fear no dhà a tha ainmeil 'nar Comunn Gaidhealach an Saoire shamhraidh o chionn ghoirid, cleachdadh a tha ionmholt 's a h-uile seadh. Nach eile cuimhne chùbhraidh againn air na teachdairean a thàinig o Eirinn agus o Chuimridh a dh'ionnsuidh Mòd Baile Pheairt?

Thar gach ni eile, cumamaid ar teaghlachlean fein cho Gaidhealach agus is urrainn duinn. Mur dean sinn sin, is faoin gach oidhirp eile a ni sinn, cha bhiodh annainn ach cealgairean a thaobh a' *cheangal càirdeas*.

Cuir do chomhairle ri Seán Toibín, Sgoil na Trachtála, Corcaigh, an Eirinn, agus cha bhi e aithreach leat. Bha e fìor-ealach air Niall Mac an Rothaich nach maireann; sgrìobh e leabhar, "Iain Aluinn" mar chloich air a chàrn cheana, agus bithidh "clach" eile aige an clò gun dàil.

Mise le Mùirn,

SEORAS GALLDA.

EAST SUTHERLAND PROVINCIAL MOD.

The first East Sutherland Provincial Mod was held in Brora on 9th June. It was an unqualified success, and for this no little credit is due to Mr. David Grant, hon. local secretary, who was ably supported by the president, Mrs. J. G. Wilson, Sunrise, and a willing band of workers. The proceedings were officially opened by Mrs. Wilson, who acted as chairman throughout the sessions. All the competitors acquitted themselves creditably, and the adjudicators were well pleased with the standard of Gaelic, spoken and sung.

The adjudicators were:—Vocal music, Mr. Alex. Napier, A.T.S.C., Nairn, and Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., Dulnain Bridge; oral delivery, Mr. Alasdair Fraser, M.A., Dingwall; pianoforte, Mr. Alex. Napier, A.T.S.C., Nairn, Mrs. D. Macrae, Links Hotel, Brora, and Mrs. Gilmour, Invercauld; bagpipes, Mr. Neil Shaw, secretary of An Comunn Gaidhealach, Glasgow.

FIRST PRIZE WINNERS.

JUNIOR SECTION.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing of a Song (girls under 11)—1, Sarah Ross, Embo.

Solo Singing of a Song (boys under 11)—1, Ronald Cummings, Golspie.

Solo Singing of a Song (boys under 16)—1, Andrew Macleod, Dornoch.

Solo Singing of a Song (girls under 16)—1, Isa Ballantyne, Brora.

SENIOR SECTION.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading at Sight—1, David Grant, Brora.

Recitation, "Cead Deireannach Nam Beann"—1, John A. Macrae, Lairg.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing of a Song, "Crodh Chailein," and Song of Own Choice (female voices)—1, Adaline Sutherland, Brora.

Solo Singing of a Song, "Far an rebb mi'n Raoir," and Song of Own Choice (male voices)—1, A. MacDonell, Rogart.

Duet Singing of a Song—1, Misses Adaline and Anna Sutherland, Brora.

Pianoforte Playing: March, Strathspey, and Reel—1, Winnie Sutherland, Helmsdale.

Solo Singing of 'Puirt a Beul'—1, John A. Macrae, Lairg.

Violin: Playing of a Gaelic Song Air, Strathspey, and Reel—1, John Ross, Brora.

Senior Choral Singing of a Song, "Nunn do Mhuile," and song of own choice—1, Brora Senior Gaelic Choir.

Junior Choral Singing of Song, "Ill-u-oro-u-o," and Song of Own Choice—1, Clyde H.G. School Choir.

Bagpipes: Playing of a March, Strathspey, and Reel—1, D. W. Sutherland, Dornoch.

The concert in the evening was one of the largest attended functions ever held in Brora. Enthusiasts came from "a' the airts," many failing to find suitable seating accommodation. Mr. A. N. Macaulay, Golspie, Convener of the County, presided. Under his able guidance everything seemed to go like clockwork. The items on the programme were of a purely Celtic nature, and they were thoroughly appreciated by the audience. All were amazed at the Highland spirit that prevailed. It was a true sign that Gaelic is not dead on the East Coast of Sutherland.

CRAOBH SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Bha cruinneachadh gasda cruinn aig coinneimh de'n Chomhairle Thuathaich ann am baile Inbhirnis air an 20mh la de'n Chèitein, agus bha am Fear Gairme, Mgr. Domhnall MacDomhnaill, anns a' chathair.

Thug am Fear-deilbhe iomradh gu'n do thadhail e air Mgr. Murchadh Mac Gille Mhoire, Fear-stiùiridh an Fhòghluim an Inbhirnis, agus air an Ollamh Philip, Fear-stiùiridh an Fhòghluim an Siorramachd Rois, mar a chaidh earbasa ris. Tha a' Chomhairle so deònach gu'm bi iad ag oibreachadh làmh an làmh ri Comuinn an Fhòghluim as leth cùis na Gàidhlig.

Chumadh Mòd am Brùra air an naoidheamh là de'n Og-mhios agus ged a b'e so a' cheud oidheip anns a' chearn so de Chataibh bha e furasda fhaicinn gu'n robh an sluagh blàth-chridheach a thaobh na càinain. Le beagan cuideachaidh tha dòchas gu'n teid iad gu dealasach an ceann aoibhar na càinain agus gu'm bi a' Ghàidhlig air a labhairt anns gach clachan an taobh an ear de Chataibh.

Chumadh Mòd a' Chaoil (Loch Aillse) air an aon latha ri Brùra, agus bha e 'na aoibhar misnich do chàirdean na càinain eisdachd ris a' chloinn bhig anns a' Ghàidhlig fhileanta, bhlasda a tha iad a' cleachdadh 'nan dachaidhean. Is e so a' cheud uair a bha luchd-farpais as a' Chomhairle aig a' Mhòd so, agus tha e ro thaitneach ri innseadh gu'n deachaidh am bonn òir air son seinn agus a' cheud duais air son sgeulachd do'n chearn so. Is e so aon de na clachain air tìr-mór far nach do threig clann na sgoile càinain an athraichean.

Bha Caipitein Frisæl, a tha air Ard-eilghe fhàgail, 'na charaid dileas do Mhòd a' Chaoil riamh bho'n chuireadh air bonn e. Ged nach robh e air aon ghnìomh maith eile a dheanamh ach an cuideachadh a bha e a' toirt do Mhòd a' Chaoil cha teid ainm air dichuimhn' anns an sgìre sin ré iomadh latha.

Air an 26mh la de'n Chèitein bha am Fear-deilbhe 'na Fhear Cathrach aig oidheche chiùil aig Druim-na-drochaid agus bha cuideachd ghasda cruinn

D. M. P.

An Airde Deas.

Tha coinneamhan nam Meuran air tighinn gu crìch air son seisein eile, agus

is toil-inntinneach ri sgrìobhadh e gu'n robh na cròilein fhoghlum agus na ceilidhean air am frithealadh gu dealasach le mòran bhall is chàrdean. Tha na ceilidhean a nis air àite a thoirt do na Mòdan Dùthchail fa chomhair an do rinn iad ullachadh ré nan oidhchean fada Geamhraidh.

A reir iartas na Comhairle chaidh mi gu Mòd Bhùra, an siorramachd Chataibh, air an naoidheamh la de'n Og-mhios. Bha mòran òigridh an lathair — a' farpais 's ag eisdeachd—agus thionail muinntir na dùthcha a dh'ionnsuidh a' bhaile a leigeil ris an spéis do chànan an athraichean. Is annamh a chithear uibhir sluaigh aig cuirm chiùil air Gàidhealtachd 's a bha an làthair am Brùra. Rinn an luchd-farpais gu fìor mhaith agus air gach taobh chluinnteadh Gàidhlig ga labhairt leo-san a bha a' frithealadh cròilein Gàidhlig Mhgr. Rois, am fear-teagaisg.

An deidh Bhùra chaidh mi gu Mòd Dhailriada an Ceannlochgilb. Tha dà latha air an cur air leth air son a' Mhòid so agus tha sin a' toirt cothrom do'n luchd-farpais is do na breitheamhan. Bha barrachd cloinne a' farpais air a' bhliadhna so na bha riamh roimhe, chan e mhàin an earrainn na seinne ach an earrainn na h-aithris mar an ceudna. Tha mu leth cheud sgoilear ag gabhail Gàidhlig mar chuspair fòghlum ann an Sgoil Mhóir a' bhaile, agus bha sin ri fhaicinn is ri chluinntinn aig a' Mhòd. B'e so an dara Mòd deug agus cha tug aon a chaidh roimhe bàrr air do thaobh lionmhorachd luchd-farpais agus sluaigh aig gach seisean.

Da latha an deidh Cheannlochgilb bha Mòd Siorramachd Pheairt an Abarpheallaidh. Tha an t-aon ni ri aithris mu dheidhinn a' Mhòid so agus Mòd Dhailriada. Is e Mòd as fhearr a bha an Siorramachd Pheairt thathast. Bha mòran cloinne, gu h-àraidh iadsan fo dheich bliadhna dh'aois, ag gabhail cuid am farpaisean a' bheoil-aithris. Aon ni eile is aithris ainmeachadh agus is e sin gu'n robh mòran inbheach ag eisdeachd ri farpaisean leughaidh is aithris. Tha so 'na mhisneach mhòr.

Aig Mòd Dhailriada agus Mòd Pheairt tha co-fharpais shonraichte air nach còir dearmad iomradh a thoirt—co-chruinneachadh de bhlàthan is luibhean, le an ainmean Gàidhlig. Chan e mhàin gu'm bheil so a' toirt toil-inntinn do'n chloinn a bhi a' solar nam blàthan air feadh nam preas 's nam bruch, ach tha e ag cur gu mòr ri am foghlum, agus ag cur slainte 's neart 'nam bodhaigean, cho maith ri bhi ag cumail nan

ainmean Gàidhlig cho cùbhraidh dhoibh ri àileadh nam blàthan féin. Bu mhaith leinn co-fharpais de'n t-seorsa so fhaicinn air clàr-eagair gach Mòd Dùthchail.

Bha Mòd Latharna, Mhuile 's na Morairne air a chumail am baile an Obain air an naoidheamh la de'n Og-mhios agus do thaobh lionmhorachd luchd-farpais thug e bàrr air gach Mòd Dùthchail a chumadh gu ruige so. Bha barrachd cho-fharpaiseach ann na bha aig a' Mhòd mhòr am Baile Bhòid bho chionn còig bliadhna fichead.

NIALL.

STORNOWAY MOD.

The tenth Lewis Provincial Mod was held at Stornoway on Thursday and Friday, 22nd and 23rd June. There was a large number of entrants, and competitions proceeded simultaneously in several rooms. A concert was held on Friday night in the Town Hall. It is now a well-established event in the island. The judges of the competitions were:—Mr. J. R. Bannerman, Clynder, music adjudicator; Mr. Donald MacLeod, Breasclate, Gaelic assessor in the musical competitions; and Mr. Angus Macdonald, Tarbert, adjudicator in the oral competitions. Leading results:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Bible Reading, 14 to 16—John Macarthur, Bayble. Under 14, Reading of Acts—Johanna Mackenzie, Bayble.

Reading of Matthew—Helen Macdonald, Knock, and Dolina MacLeod, Knock (equal). Reading (Learners)—Mary Buchanan, Sandwick. Reciting, 14 to 16—Alex. D. MacDonald, Aird.

Prescribed Song—Boys—Donald Macrae, Nicolson Institute. Girls—Dolina Morrison, Lionel.

Traditional—Girls—Margaret Jane Maciver, Knock.

Own Choice—Boys—Angus Mackenzie, Aird. Girls—Christina Murray, Ness.

SENIOR SECTION.

Own Choice—Ladies—Maggie Smith. Gents—Stewart MacLeod.

Duets—Mary Morrison and Ina Campbell, Nicolson Institute.

Quartettes—Class V., Nicolson Institute. Choral Singing—Aird Choir and Knock Choir (equal).

Waulking—Knock No. 1 Choir.

Recitation—John Macmillan, Aird.

Unseen Reading—John Macarthur, Bayble.

Royal Celtic Society's Prize for Traditional Story—Nora Macaulay, Aird, and Normina MacLeod, Sandwick.

On the Friday evening a largely attended and enthusiastic concert took place, over which Mr. J. R. Bannerman presided.

CAISTEAL CHISMUIL AGUS CLANN MHIC NEILL BHARRAIDH.

LE CAIRISTIONA NIC PHAIDEIN.

An uair a thig am bàta am fradharc Bhàgh a' Chaisteil, no mar a theireadh na seann daoine ris Baile Mhic Neill, is e ballachan aosda a' chaisteil a cheud rud a ghlacas aire. Tha an dara taobh de'n bhalla air tuiteam, cha mhór gu làr, ach tha an stéidh is a' mhór chuid deth cho daingeann is a bha e riamh, ged a tha e air a ràdh gum bheil còrr is sia ceud bliadhna bho 'n a chaidh an caisteal a thogail an toiseach.

Tha caochladh bharrail am measg an t-sluaigh mu thogail a' chaisteil. Theireadh cuid gun do thog na fineachan e, theireadh na seann daoine gun do thog na Lochlannaich e, le clachan a chaidh a thoirt a dùn cùl a' chaisteil, agus tha so coltach gu leòr, oir cluinnear fhathast iomradh air "cùl an dùn" "beul an dùn" agus "port an dùn", ged a tha an dùn fhein air dol a sealladh.

Tha e air a ràdh gun robh fear de Chloinn Neill aig an robh caisteal tubhaidh air sgeir a' chaisteil. Bha Mac Neill pòsda aig nighean Tighearna Chinn t-Sàile. Ri ùine rugadh oighre òg dhaibh, agus air ball Chaidh a' Bhirlinn Bharrach air sàl agus stiùir i a cùrsa gu Ceann t-Sàile, a dh' innseadh do Mhac Coinnich gu'n robh urra òg aig baintighearna Mhic Neill. Thàinig birlinn Chinn t-Sàile air ais agus seanair Mhic Neill òig innte, agus neo-ar-thaig nach robh ceòl agus feadhachas anns a' chaisteal. Aig deireadh na cuirme rug MacNeill air an oighre òg, agus chàirich e ann an làmhnan a sheanar e. Dh' fheòrach an seann duine ciod bu mhaith leis e thoirt do 'n leanbha. Fhreagair MacNeill "Caisteal math! na 's fearr 'n am fear so, anns am faigh e àrach mar is coltach do oighre MhicNeill fhaotainn."

Bha Tighearna Chinn t-Sàile car spiochdach agus cha robh e ro dheònach so a ghealltuinn, ach cha ghabhadh MacNeill air ais a' mhac gun aigheadh e iartas. Chum MacCoinnich fhacal agus chaidh Caisteal Chismuil a thogail. Chithear gus an latha diugh pìos de bhalla an t-sean chaisteil air a dheagh chlachaireachd ri taobh a' chaisteil eile. Chithear cuideachd an tobar fìor uisge a tha ag eirigh suas a ùrlar cloiche a' chaisteal. Bho 'n a bha a' mhuir timchioll air a' chaisteal cha 'n fhaigheadh neach chuige ach le eathar. Mar sin bha a' bhirlinn Bharrach daonnan a' strìth ri

gaoith is gailinn, agus bha na Barraich air leth pròiseil a buadhan sgiobaireachd an cinnfheadhna.

Tha e air a ràdh gun robh Barrach, ag comhstri ri fear de Chloinn Ghilleathain feuch co an cinneadh a bu shine. Bha am Barrach a' cumail am mach gun robh Clann Mhic Neill ann bho thoiseach an t-saoghail. "Mata," arsa MacGhilleathain (a bha mion-eolach air eachdraidh a Bhiobuill), chan eil iomradh againn gun tug Noah leis duine de do chinneadh do 'n àire," "Tud, eisd a' dhuine," arsa a' chompanach, "cha robh MacNeill ann an taing Noah, oir cha tàinig am MacNeill sin riamh aig nach robh birlinn dha fhéin?"

Tha e air a ràdh gun robh Domhnall Gorm Shleibhte mion-eolach air togail bhirlinnean, agus ma bha, a réir briathran a' Bharrach, birlinn aig MacNeill roimh dhìle Noah, tha e neònach gun do chuir e brath air Domhnall Gorm aig aon àm gus a bheachd fhaotainn air togail birlinn Chismuil. Thog Domhnall Gorm air, gus a bhirlinn Bharrach fhaicinn air na stuic. Cha do thachair do MhacNeill a bhi aig baile, agus chaidh Domhnall Gorm a steach gun fhios gun aithne do sheomar obrach a' Chaisteil. Bha a' bhean-fhuinne trang. Sheas Tighearna nan Eilean is a chùl ris a gheallbhan ag amharc timchioll air. Thàinig a' bhean fhuinne is ceud cabhag oirre is thuir i ris—"Teann am mach a sin a' bhalach." Sheall Domhnall Gorm oirre "Cha bu bhalach ach am balach a theirte riumsa," arsa e. Dh' eirich àrdan is aigne cho mòr is gun do chàirich e air, air ais gu Sleibhte, agus cha d'fhuair MacNeill aithne 'sam bith air togail na birlinne.

Aig àm eile thàinig Domhnall Gorm Shleibhte le a dhusan ceannfheadhna gu Caisteal Chismuil, agus bha aig MacNeill le ceartas ri "cuid oidhche" a thoirt do Thighearna nan Eilean. Rinneadh a' chuirm. Bha fion dearg na Spàine agus fion uaine aig na seòid. Chaidh na cuachan a chur mu 'n cuairt, ach mu 'n tàinig deireadh na cuirme thug Domhnall Gorm, a bha air leth cuimseach le a theangaidh is 'na dheagh bhàrd, an aire nach robh iad làn gu 'm bàrr. Dh' eirich e aig ceann a' bhuird, sheall e air a luchd leanmhainn agus thuir e:

"Is mithich a nis a bhi trial
A Barraich chrìon nach 'eil pailt.
Innsidh na sligean an sgeul,
Gum bheil Clann MhicNeill nan airc,
Canar Tighearna ri Mac Neill,
Canar iasg ris an iasg bheag,
Canar fead ri seid a' gheoidh
'S ris an fhionnan fheòir ge beag."

A nis bha starsach bhrèagha de shligean bhàrr na Tràigh Mòire ann an Eoligarraidh aig MacNeill mu 'n chaisteal, agus shaoil le Domhnall Gorm gur ann a bha e fhéin is a luchd leanmhainn a' tighinn beò air maorach a' chladaich. Is e sin a tha e ag ciallachadh an uair a tha e ag ràdh "Innsidh na sligean an sgeul" Ghabh MacNeill so gu dona, oir ma bha MacDomhnuill uaibhreac bha MacNeill cho uaibhreac ris. Cò nach cuala mu Ghocaman Chismuil a bhiodh ag eigheach bho Thùr a' chaisteil—"Thoireadh gach sluagh cluas, is éisdeadh gach cinneach ri 'm ghuth! Tha MacNeill Mór Bharraidh air eirigh o bhòrd, us faodaidh prionnsachan an domhainn a nis suidhe sìos gu 'm biadh." Gheibh sinn iomradh air a' ghocaman ann an leabhar Mhàirtinn agus tha esan ag innse dhuinn nach leigeadh an ceatharnach so a muigh no a mach a steach do 'n chaisteal e air eagal agus gun cuireadh e teine ris is gun MacNeill aig baile. Nam feuchadh neach ri tighinn gun fhios gu geata chaisteil sgathadh an gocaman an ceann dheth le cloich mhóir a thigil sìos air. Aig cachalaidh mhóir a' chaisteil bha Mór nan Ceann, ceatharnach mor de mhnai, ris an robh fiosadh làimhe clithe ri MacNeill. Is e nighean Tighearna Cholla a bh' innte agus an uair a bha an latha 's a' bhliadhna aice suas mar bhean dheuchainn aig MacNeill dh' iarr i a fàgail a' thoirt a mach binn a naimhdean aig cachalaidh mhóir a' chaisteil, agus is iomadh ceann a sgàth i bharr cuim. Mu'n do dh' eug i dh' irr i a tiodhlacadh 'na seasamh 's a h-aghaidh ri Colla. Rinneadh so. Thiodhlaicheadh ann a' Bhatarasidh i, agus chithear gus an latha an diugh Caibeall mór nan Ceann.

Bha trì deug air fhichead de Ruairidhean ann an Cismul. Bhiodh e duilich eachdraidh mòrain duibh a thoirt seachad, ach tha aon fhear ann a tha comharraichte bho chàch leis cho fìor chalma, borb, neo sgàthach is a bha e. Is e so Ruairidh Dubh MacNeill. Is ann ri linn-san a rinneadh a' chuirim mhór anns a' chaisteal, gus an d' fhuair gach neach fiadhachadh ach Mac a' Chreachaire. Rinn esan fàisneachd, ged a bha an caisteal làn de mhire 's de cheòl-gàire aig an àm ud gum biodh e fhathast gu falamh fàs:

"Ri linn Ruairidh, an t-seachdamh Ruairidh, Thig an cuaradh air gach neach, Mac na bantighearna caoile tàine, Is meirg a bhios ann ri linn. Is mi nìarach a bhios ann ri linn, Bidh Cismul 'na gharraidh bhiastan dubha, 'S 'na nead aig eunlaith nan speur."

Chuala MacNeill mu 'n fhaismeachd so, agus dh' òrdaich e Mac a' Chreachaire a chur 'na phrìosanach air eilean fuar aonaranach Mhuilidhnaich, far an do dh' eug e. Chithear gus an la diugh tobhta mhic a' chreachaire ann am Muldònaich.

Ach thainig fàisneachd mhic a' Chreachaire gu crìch. Dh' fhalbh Ruairidh Dubh is a mhuinntir gu Dubhaird a thogail creiche. Bha birlinn ochd-ramhach aca agus sgioba calma Ràinig iad Dubhaird ann an dorchadas na h-oidheche, ann an trailthean dubha a' Gheamhaird. Chaidh Ruairidh Dubh suas a' dh' ionnsaidh a' chaisteil feuch ciod a chitheadh e. Cha 'n fhaca e duine ach tàilleir crùbach a' fuaghal aig uinneig seomair. Shaoil le Mac Neill nach robh anns a' chaisteal ach an tailleur, gun rachadh aige air a mharbhadh gun strìth air bith, agus gun togadh e a' chreach leis fhéin. Chaidh e steach, ach ma chaidh bha freiceadan aig cùl an doruis, agus shàth e a' bhiodag 'na chorp. Ghlac MacNeill le 'laimh an t-aite anns an deach a' bhiodag, rinn e dreach air a' bhirlinn, thug e air an sgioba togail orra gu Barraidh cho luath is a b' urrainn daibh mum fàgadh an deò e air talamh choigreach. Rinneadh so. Ràinig a' bhirlinn Bharrach Cismul, agus thug Ruairidh Dubh suas an deò air fòd aithrichean.

(Ri Leantainn.)

Among the distinguished company that were honoured at the graduation ceremony in Glasgow University on Wednesday, 21st June, it is very pleasing to note the names of the Right Rev. Dr. L. MacLean Watt, Moderator of the General Assembly, who received the degree of LL.D., and the Rev. Coll A. MacDonald, B.D., of Logerait, on whom was conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity. Both gentlemen are life members of An Comunn, and on behalf of our members we extend to them our heartiest congratulations.

Prospective competitors at the National Mod are reminded that the closing date for receiving entries is Saturday, 22nd July. Entries in Celtic Art Section close on 26th August.

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LORN, MULL, AND MORVEN PROVINCIAL MOD.

The above Provincial Mod was held in Oban on Friday, 9th June. There was a record entry of 460, and six halls were required to accommodate the various sections. The standard of Gaelic was very high and it is worthy of note that not one of the Senior Choirs was awarded a lower percentage of marks than 90 per cent. for Gaelic. The arrangements for the Mod were expeditiously carried through by a large and enthusiastic Committee with Mr. John MacDonald as president, and Mr. Neil MacLeod as secretary.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic, Rev. W. MacPhail, Ardrishaig; Rev. Alex. MacDonald, Ardehatten; Mr. J. R. Bannerman, Rahane, Clynder; Rev. A. E. Anderson, Dalmally; Mr. A. MacLeod, Oban; Rev. John MacInnes, Connel; Mr. P. Fletcher, Oban; Rev. M. M. MacLeod, Oban; Mrs. C. MacGregor, Oban, and Rev. J. MacPherson, Taynult. Music, Mr. Robert MacLeod, Mus.Bac., Edinburgh, and Mr. J. N. MacConochie, Glasgow.

FIRST PRIZE WINNERS.

JUNIOR SECTION.

Composition—1 (equal), Isabel Stewart, O.H.S., and John Black, O.H.S.

Translation—1, Cath. MacSween, O.H.S.

Oral Delivery: Reading with expression piece of Poetry chosen by Competitors—1, Catherine Vance, Ballachulish Public School.

Reading Prose (200 to 250 words) chosen by Competitors—1, Jane Kennedy, Tobermory.

Reading Unfamiliar Prose chosen by Judges—1, Katie MacKinnon, Tobermory H.G. School.

Reciting from Memory, "Mo ghràdh do m' Dhàthaich fhìn"—1, Isabel Stewart.

Reciting from Memory a short Gaelic Story—1, Isabel Stewart.

Vocal Music: Solo Singing, Own Choice (Girls)—1, Margaret MacQueen, Oban High School.

Solo Singing, Own Choice (Boys)—1, Willie Stewart, Benderloch.

Solo Singing (Boys and Girls) of prescribed songs, "Thàinig an gille dubh" and "Muile nam Mòr-bheann"—1, Margaret K. S. MacQueen, Easdale.

Solo Singing (Boys and Girls, 12 years and under)—1, Peter MacKay, Luig MacDougall.

Duets—1, Nan Brown and Peter MacKay, Luig MacDougall.

Choral Singing in Two-Part Harmony Songs, prescribed, "A Dhòmhnuil Bhig" and "Caidil gu là" (Coisir na Cloinne) (1933 Mod Songs)—1, Oban High School (A).

Unison Singing, songs prescribed, "Maol Ruainidh" (Coisir na Cloinne) and "Puirt a Beul" (1933 Mod)—1, Oban High School (A).

SENIOR SECTION.

Reading at Sight piece of Prose, chosen by Judges—1, Colin Palmer, O.H.S.

Reciting from Memory, "Cumha Mhic Cruimein"—1, Sadie Kennedy, O.H.S.

Original Dialogue—1, Colin Palmer and Jessie MacLean, O.H.S.

Vocal Music: Solo Singing of a Song, chosen by Competitor (female voices)—1 and Pendant presented by Mrs MacDonald of Dunach, Jean MacDougall, Easdale.

Solo Singing of a Song, chosen by Competitor (male voices)—1 and Pendant presented by Mrs MacDonald of Dunach, Donald Gillies, Salen.

Male and Female Voices (choice of songs, "Hi orò 's na h-òrò éile" and "Ghruaigach Dhonn")—1, Duncan MacPherson, Bunessan.

Puirt a beul—1, A. Campbell, Easdale.

Duets—1, Mrs A. C. MacLaren and Mrs J. C. Campbell, Dalmally.

Choral Singing in Harmony, songs prescribed, "Nunn do Mhuile" and "Cead Deirneannach nam Beann" (Coisir a Mhoid II.)—1, Luig Gaelic Choir (conductor, Mr Peter MacDougall).

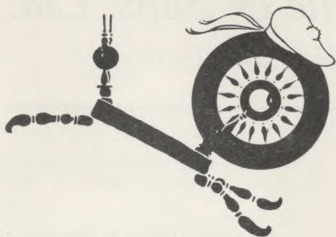
Choral Singing in Harmony, prescribed songs, "Mo Dhòmhnullan fhein" (Coisir a' Mhoid I.) and "Chunna' mi'n damh donn 's na h-eildean (Coisir a Mhoid II.) Competition for Lorn, Mull, and Morvern Provincial Mod Trophy—1, Salen Gaelic Choir (conductor, Mrs Greenhill, Gardyne).

There was a very large attendance at the concert held in the Argyllshire Gathering Hall in the evening. Mr. John P. MacDonald, Oban, opened the proceedings with lively renderings on the bagpipes.

Mr. J. R. Bannerman, Rahane, Clynder, who presided, was introduced by Mr. John MacDonald, Oban. It was noteworthy that Mr. Bannerman, said Mr. MacDonald, had stood on that platform forty-one years previously in order to uphold Gaelic music.

Mr. Bannerman addressed the gathering in both Gaelic and English. There had been a time, he said, when it was a danger to be associated with things Gaelic. It was not quite respectable. But, however unhappy the condition of things was then, they were different to-day. That evening they were holding a splendid Gaelic Mod in Oban. Gaelic, he maintained, was going to live. The children had it, and they were going to have it in a more literary form than their forebears; and along with it they would have their Gaelic civilisation of sentiments and traditions. The Gaelic civilisation was one in which spirituality counted for a great deal, and it was such a civilisation that the whole world was looking for. He believed that the ultimate salvation of the country from the maelstrom of continental materialism would be the propagation of their Gaelic ideas. He defied anyone to find a greater community of friends than existed in Gaeldom.

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LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 1933.

Gaelic—Higher Grade—(Second Paper).

Tuesday, 28th 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. Inform the candidates that they may not ask for the repetition of any word or phrase.

2. 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.

3. Then dictate the passage slowly, saying each group of words (as indicated by vertical lines) twice, 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.

Dictation.

An Carghus.

So an t-am de'n bhliadhna | ris an abrar
an Carghus, | na seachduinnean a tha roimh 'n
Chàisg; | am de'n bhliadhna | anns am bi
móran dhaoine | air feadh an t-saoghail uile |
a' smachdachadh an cuirp | air sgàth an
anama. | Theagamh nach 'eil cuid dhiùbh |
'g a dhèanamh | ach an ainm a mhàin; |
ged nach ith iad feòil, | ithidh iad an leòr |
de sheòrsachan bidh eile | a tha cheart cho
mhaith ri feòil, | air chor agus nach 'eil iad |
'g an àicheadh féin ann an dòigh air bith, |
no có dhiùbh ann an dòigh | as fhiach féin-
àicheadh a ràdh ris. | Ach tha móran eile | a
bhios 'g an àicheadh féin ann da rìreadh; | ag
àicheadh dhaibh féin | nìthan a bheireadh
tlachd do'n fheoil | air ghaol leas an ama.

D. LAMONT. (10)

Gaelic—Higher Grade—(Second Paper).

Tuesday, 28th 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 the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

SECTION I.

All the questions in this Section should be attempted.

- Write an essay, in Gaelic, on *one* of the following subjects:—
 - A' Ghrian.
 - Anail a' Ghàidheil—am mullach.
 - Oilean na Céilidh. (30)
- Translate into idiomatic Gaelic:—
 - Your tongue runs too fast for your wit.
 - Nigel, like others of his age, was more sensible to ridicule than to reason.
 - How were it possible to refuse what is offered so frankly, even if your father had not been a second father to me?
 - If one must have the truth, the piping is bad piping, but the fish-lures and the tales are the best in the world. (10)
- Translate into idiomatic English:—
 - Gum bu dòrn sud air mholadh
Do'n òganach ealamh.
 - 'N uair a thogadh tu tonnag
Air chuan meanmach nan dronnag,
'S iomadh gleann ris an cromadh i
h-eàrradh.
 - Cèil farasda fìor-bhinn
Fonnmhor farumach dìonach,
A sheinn an cailein donn mlogach,
Bheireadh blòg air an àruinn.
 - Meirle salainn 's meirle frois,
Meirle o nach faigh anam clos. (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.

- Explain any *five* of the following terms: clachan, manchainn, longphort, grianan, cill, innis, "aber," "inver," "broch." (5)
- Give the Gaelic words borrowed from the following Latin words:—baculum, circulus, candela, lorica, maledictio, nona (hora), peccatum, pellis, regula, auctor. (5)
- Suggest suitable Gaelic equivalents for:—kitchen, clock, mantelpiece, path, kipper, lunch, tin pail, window-blind. (5)
- Give the Gaelic names for:—Outer Hebrides, Shetland, Sweden, Campbeltown, Isle of Man, Ailsa Craig, the Pentland Firth, Tain. (5)
- State briefly the characteristics of the poetry of Màiri Nighean Alasdair Ruaidh. Quote a verse from any of her poems to illustrate her style of versification. (5)

MOD DHAILRIADA.

The twelfth annual Mid Argyll Provincial Mod, held in Lochgilphead on 13th and 14th June, proved highly successful from every point of view. The weather was delightful and both the competitions and the concerts were largely attended. The Mod, apart altogether from its primary object—the stimulation and perpetuation of the Gaelic language—does a vast amount of good. It provides the people of the district, both juvenile and adult, with profitable preparatory study of Scottish literature and music, and affords them an opportunity of becoming accustomed to using their talents on the public platform, to the edification and entertainment of the community. Though statistics show that throughout the country the number of Gaelic speakers has been steadily decreasing, there is no question whatever that in Mid Argyll to-day the number of young people who can write and read the language is very much greater than it was at any time within the last quarter-century, and it was observed that the Gaelic adjudicator could find very little fault with the pronunciation—he had, in fact, to grasp at grammatical slips for his criticisms. This fact speaks highly for the work of the teachers in the schools of the district.

The judges, whose decisions gave general satisfaction, were:—For Gaelic, Miss M. D. McQueen, Oban, Rev. John MacInnes, Connel Ferry, and Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; vocal music, Mr. M. G. MacCallum, A.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., Greenock; instrumental music, Captain MacLaren, Dalmally, and Mr. M. G. MacCallum; dancing, Captain MacLaren and Mr. J. Graham-Campbell, yr. of Shirvan.

FIRST PRIZE WINNERS.

JUNIOR SECTION.

Literature (under 16)—Letter—1, Roderick MacLeod, Lochgilphead. Dictation—1, Archie MacIntyre. Translation into English—1, Roderick MacLeod. Translation into Gaelic—1, Roderick MacLeod.

Collection of Wild Flowers, with their Gaelic names—1, Nan Campbell, Ormsary.

Oral (under 14)—Reading Poetry—1, Isabel Campbell, Lochgilphead. Reading Prose—1, Isabel Campbell. Under 16—Reading Unfamiliar Prose—1, Archie Campbell, Lochgilphead. Reciting—1, Roderick MacLeod. Reciting Poetry—1, Isabel Campbell. Conversation—1, Donald MacDonald.

Vocal (under 16)—Girls' Solos—1, Jessie R. Y. Cameron, Kilmichael-Glassary. Boys' Solos—1, Archie Campbell. Open Solos (prizes presented by Miss Madge Campbell Brown)—1, Roderick MacLeod. Gold Medal for Aggregate in Singing—Archie Campbell. Under 12—1, Jean MacCallum,

Lochgilphead. Under 16—1, Agnes Mary Cameron, Kilmichael-Glassary.

Instrumental Music—Bagpipe Playing—March—1, Ewan Revie, Lochgilphead. Strathspey and Reel—1, Ewan Revie. March (under 14, prizes presented by Mr. J. Graham-Campbell, yr. of Shirvan)—1, Donald MacAlpine. March on the Chanter—1, Sheenac MacLean, Kilmartin. Pianoforte Playing—March, Strathspey, and Reel—1, Molly MacIntyre.

Dancing (under 16)—Highland Fling—1, Johan Livingstone, Lochgilphead. Sword Dance (prizes presented by Mrs. Kenneth of Oakfield)—1, Joan Blair. Reel of Four—1, Nan Wilkie, Lochgilphead. Highland Fling, Sword Dance, and Reel of Four (Gold Medal presented by Mrs. J. Graham-Campbell, yr. of Shirvan)—1, Nan Wilkie. Country Dances (prizes presented by Mrs. Kenneth of Stronachullin)—Team A (Billie Greenshields, captain).

SENIOR SECTION.

Literature—Letter—1, Mr. Dugald Campbell, Ormsary. Place Names—1, Mr. Dugald Campbell. Essay—1, Mr. Dugald Campbell. Translation (prize by Lady Elspeth Campbell)—Mr. Dugald Campbell.

Oral—Reading Unfamiliar Prose—1, Mr. Archie MacDonald, Lochgilphead. Reciting—1, Miss I. Smyth Urquhart, Inveraray. Sgeulachd—1, Mr. Archie MacDonald. Dialogue (prizes presented by Dr. Ross)—1, Mr. Hugh MacInnes, Lochgilphead, and Mr. Dugald Campbell.

Vocal—Ladies' Solos—1, Miss I. S. Urquhart. Men's Solos—1, Mr. Hugh MacInnes. Solos (male and female)—1, Miss M. MacAllister. Puirt a Beul (prizes presented by Captain George I. Campbell, yr. of Succoth)—1, Mr. Hugh MacInnes. Oran Mor (Gold Medal presented by Captain G. I. Campbell)—1, Miss I. S. Urquhart. Duets—1, Miss M. MacAllister and Miss S. MacAllister.

Special interest was evinced in the choral competitions, which resulted as follows:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Singing in Harmony—1 and Cup, Lochgilphead A. Union Singing—1, Minard.

SENIOR SECTION.

Singing in Harmony—1 and Cup, Lochgilphead. Union Singing—1, Tarbert. Choral Singing, Female Voices Only—1, Tarbert.

Miss Campbell of Inverneill and the Lady Elspeth Campbell presided at the Junior and Senior concerts respectively and both gave racy and interesting addresses. Following past custom, the programmes were sustained by the principal prize-winners and by Miss Nan MacInnes, Luining, and Captain MacLaren, Dalmally; while Miss Madge Campbell Brown, Lochgilphead; Mrs. MacLean, Ballymeanoch; and Mr. M. G. MacCallum, Greenock, gave their expert services as accompanists.

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.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Dr. Ross Honoured.

Friends of Gaelic everywhere were delighted to observe the Royal recognition given to the President of An Comunn in the recent King's Birthday Honours, and they offer Dr. Ross cordial congratulations on being made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. The honour has been given in recognition of services to Gaelic scholarship, as was the Royal honour conferred last year on Dr. D. J. MacLeod. It is gratifying to find the place and importance of our language in the national life being recognised in the highest quarters and particularly when the recognition is being made in the persons of men like Dr. Ross and Dr. MacLeod, whose interest in the future of the living language is so deep and active. Dr. Ross has the hearty congratulations of the members of An Comunn, and it is their earnest hope that he may long be spared to enjoy the distinction which has come to him.

* * *

At the recent General Assembly, the following were appointed to represent the Church on the governing body of the Highlands and Islands Trust, viz.:—Rev. Dr. Dugald MacFarlane, Kingussie; Rev. Dr. Donald Lamont, Blair Atholl; Very Rev. Principal MacGregor, Glasgow; Rev. Dr. Roderick MacLeod, Edinburgh; Mr Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow.

* * *

Prospective competitors at the National Mod are reminded that the closing date for receiving entries is Saturday, 22nd July. I would esteem it a favour if those who intend taking part would send me their names with a note of their competitions as early as possible and not leave it until the last moment. By doing this they would considerably expedite our arrangements.

* * *

The Local Committee are still active in their efforts on behalf of the Mod funds. During the course of last month three very successful functions were carried through. The first of these, the whist drive and dance in the T.S.S. Transylvania, attracted a large company of ladies and gentlemen, who all thoroughly enjoyed the excellent arrangements made for their entertainment. Whist

and dancing were carried on simultaneously, and it was found necessary to conduct the card playing in separate saloons to accommodate all who desired to indulge in this pastime. The novelty of the entertainment, along with the courtesy and hospitality of the Anchor line officials, were factors which made this function the success it undoubtedly was. A surprise item was the appearance of the ship's pipe band in full Highland costume at the gangway playing the guests on board the ship with appropriate selections.

* * *

The fete at Elpalet House was the next item. The Committee were fortunate in having the presence of Captain Moss, M.P., to perform the opening ceremony, which he did with fitting reference to the arrangements for the Mod and the work of the movement. A spacious field was placed at the disposal of the Committee, which was well laid out with stalls and amusements. Despite the unfortunate return of cold weather which was experienced, there was a good attendance of members of the Glasgow Highland community present. We would again express our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald for kindly granting the use of the field and for their assistance in the general arrangements of the fete. Thanks are also tendered to the Conveners and their assistants for their much appreciated services, so willingly placed at the disposal of the Committee.

* * *

A company of nine hundred voyagers accompanied the Skye Cruise on Thursday, 15th June, on the pleasure steamer "Queen Mary." The evening being fine, the sail was very much enjoyed, and the community singing of Gaelic songs, led by a party of singers from the Glasgow Gaelic and St. Columba Choirs, was a very attractive feature. Mr Calum Beaton, who attended to arrangements, is to be complimented on the success that attended this effort.

* * *

In connection with the Civic reception which is being accorded by the Lord Provost and Magistrates of the City of Glasgow to the Mod Party, it would be of considerable assistance in preparing our list if members of An Comunn who intend being present will advise me to this effect as early as possible. By doing so our arrangements will be considerably facilitated.

It is intended to arrange an exhibition of Celtic Art at the National Mod, at which the various articles and designs received in the special competitions promoted by the Art and Industry Committee will be on view. In addition to these, the Committee will welcome other exhibits of an appropriate character, and it is hoped that all those who have such articles will contribute towards the success of this effort. I shall be glad to hear from anyone interested in this matter.

* * *

A brief respite will be enjoyed by the local committee until after the holidays, when they will resume their work with renewed vigour until the actual date of the Mod. Full details of future functions will be given later.

* * *

Many of our members will learn with regret of the passing away of the Rev. Robert L. Ritchie, Creich. A native of Iona, he attended Glasgow University, and with the exception of the two years he ministered in Clyne parish, the whole of his pastoral life was spent at Creich, Sutherland. A charming and interesting personality with a cultured mind, he was very well versed in the lore and traditions of his beloved Highlands. A delightful companion and a true friend, he took a real interest in the work of An Comunn, of which he was one of the oldest members. He has now departed to enter his well earned rest and many there are who will miss the presence and mourn the passing of this fine old Highland gentleman.

* * *

We also have to refer to the death of Mr. William Cameron, Schoolmaster at Dalcross, Petty. One of the most regular attenders at the Mod for many years, his presence will be much missed. His geniality and abounding good nature made him a most likeable personality. Mr. Cameron had been in bad health for some time and he passed away at Resolis on 20th June.

* * *

It is very pleasant to hear from members overseas, and to be advised by them of incidents of Gaelic interest. Shortly after the publication of the poem "An Gleannan" in the April number, I received a copy of "The Charlottetown Guardian" from Mr. H. A. Messervy, M.A., B.Sc., which includes an English translation of this piece in which he has most excellently captured the atmosphere and reflective repose

of the poem. I hope it may be possible to publish this translation in some future number.

* * *

From Ballarat I have received a report from Mr. Alex. J. Shaw, one of our life members, of a Gaelic circle which has been carried on for several years. The members of this circle set the splendid example of communicating with each other in Gaelic, and the letters received are read at each of the meetings as a form of exercise and encouragement, in addition to the usual class exercises, which are set in the form of essays on Highland and Gaelic subjects. Thus the love of "Tir is Teanga" is most commendably kept alive. A supply of newspapers containing Gaelic articles are on regular order, including "Teachdaire nan Gaidheal" from Nova Scotia. At the close of all the meetings the company disperse with the singing of "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig."

* * *

The attention of members is directed to the circular which has been issued by the Treasurer in connection with membership subscriptions for the current year, which commenced on 1st June. It is hoped that members will send their remittance as early as possible and so dispense with the need of further reminders. This also applies to magazine subscribers. Thanks are tendered to those who have already responded.

NIALL.

HOW IT STRIKES A VISITOR.

Thanks to the co-operation of the B.B.C., not less than to the success of its own efforts, the work of An Comunn Gaidheal so far as it is centred on the Mod, is now widely known in all parts of the country, and there is much evidence to show that the songs and music of the Gael are widely enjoyed by Lowland audiences. Even by many who have not the advantage of an easy understanding of Gaelic, the work of An Comunn in preserving and amplifying the heritage of the ancient culture is watched with interest. It may be that there are some who look to similar efforts to keep alive the idiom and vocabulary of the Lowland Scot's tongue. For the present writer at least a similarity of purpose gives added interest to the work. Everyone will understand that the annual demonstration of strength which the Mod affords cannot be built up on nothing. The great days of the annual gathering are simply the fruit of a long period of

preparation in the work of which, it may well be, there is more value than in the finished production.

On arriving in the district of Appin lately for a short holiday, it was with keen anticipation that I, a Lowlander with no Gaelic worth mentioning, accepted the general invitation of the local branch of An Comunn to attend their Ceilidh in Appin Hall. It was my first visit to such a gathering and I went, not hoping to understand the content of the songs and stories, but hoping to catch something of the spirit that is behind the revival of Gaelic. There can be no doubt that it is upon community effort, on no matter how small a scale, that the most fruitful advance can be made, and it was with special gratification that I learned that Appin folk were themselves to be responsible for the whole programme. I think it is far more important that as many as possible should have the chance of speaking and singing in Gaelic than that public effort should be confined to the inner circle of those who admittedly excel in that direction. There is an element of encouragement in such homely and outwardly unpretentious gatherings which is absent from more polished, but perhaps colder occasions.

Of the actual programme of songs, story and bagpipe and violin music there is no need for me to speak in detail, save to remark that the audience—of much larger proportions than one had expected—received each item with great appreciation. The extent of familiarity with Gaelic is not yet as great as it might be, but it was a hopeful sign to find that several of the young people present were expert in their understanding and use of the language. The reading of a longish story acted as a dividing rod and it was easy for a stranger to see who did and who did not follow the theme. Perhaps on a less public occasion an opportunity might be given those who care to produce some original work in their own tongue. The ceilidh provides an excellent piece of machinery for such expression. I enjoyed my evening both for its entertainment value and for the insight it provided into the power that is behind the Gaelic revival.

THE LEGEND OF THE FAIRIES' LOCH.

In days of long ago, when the fairies still dwelt in many a lonely wood and glen, and when children feared to walk seven times round a ringed grassy mound, lest a door to the underworld should suddenly open to

engulf them for ever, there was one spot the fairies loved to haunt, and which to this day is known as Loch Oss, or "the Fairies' Loch."

Above the shores of Loch Lomond, hidden among trees on the hillside, there is a large deep pool, not unlike other pools, except for the wonderful gleam of many colours shining at the bottom of the water, as if permanently reflecting a rainbow.

Now the fairies who haunted this pool possessed a magic art to make the most beautiful colours from flowers, and leaves, and lichens, and berries, and mushrooms, and they delighted to hold high revel by moonlight clad in diaphanous garments of the most exquisite hues, which they themselves dyed. The peasants in the neighbourhood, from far and near, were wont to bring the fleeces of their flocks to be dyed, and the good fairies, happy in their beneficent work, never failed to gratify every request.

One autumn evening a little girl, whose name has long since been forgotten, was sent to the wood to gather sticks for the fire. The child was well accustomed to such errands, and she enjoyed tying up little faggots of larch branches with rushes to fill her basket, but this evening, before setting to work, she caught sight of a beautiful, rare moth, and began to chase it from tree to tree, ever faster and further, till the growing dusk entirely hid it from view. The poor child, quite exhausted, sat down to rest below a pine tree, near the Fairies' Loch, and was soon sound asleep. Darkness had now descended, and all was still, when gradually a faint, sweet sound fell on the night air, as from fairy blue bells and quivering aspen leaves, and the moon rose, and shone full on the pool till it glittered like pure silver. The fairies tripped forth merrily, and, joining hands, began to dance and sing round the pool, their many-hued garments glimmering ethereally in the moon's rays. Between the dances, they paused to repeat their magic rhymes, till the moon waned and the last star set. At the first streak of dawn in the sky they vanished, and the child awoke with a start. "Oh, where am I?" she exclaimed, looking round in dismay. "How could I have strayed so far from home?" Then she remembered the moth chase, and the strange dream that followed. She rose, and there, only a few yards away, she saw the very scene of her beautiful dream, but the fairies were gone. "I am lost, I am lost," the poor child cried, and the tears began to fall, when suddenly a loud bark was heard, and

with a joyous leap her faithful collie dog rushed towards her and led the way home. When the little girl related her dream to her companions and told them of the fairies' magic art, they all resolved to go to the pool, and each take some article of clothing with a sample of the colour to be dyed. On returning the following day, great was the joy of the children to find that the good fairies had fulfilled every wish, and left each garment on the margin of the pool, dyed to the exact shade desired.

Now it happened that a cross, selfish old woman, whom all avoided, determined to try her fortune, so she started off at nightfall, unseen, and, on arriving at the pool, laid on the bank a black fleece to be dyed white. When the fairies found the old woman's fleece, great was their indignation. "This must be an enemy to make such a request, for to dye black white is beyond our power." Baffled and enraged they flung all their beautiful colours into the depths of the pool, and fled from it for ever.

E. B. MACMILLAN.

LITIR GUS AN FHEAR-EAGAIR.

Capetown, South Africa.

Fhir Iomhainn,—Fhuar mi an rann a leanas bho Ghaidheal a Rhodesia an là roimhe agus tha i cho binn fhaclach, ceòlmhor is gu'm bu mhiann leam a' chuid eile de an òran fhaotainn. Is maith dh'fhaoidte an bheil cuid de bhuir luchd leughaidh eòlach air:—

"A ghrian ud shuas gur beag an t-ioghnadh

Glòir na faoilte bhi mu d' cheann;

Tha thu 'triall o'n ghleann 's an oidhche,

Null gu caoimhneas a' chusain thall;

Nam bu leam do thriall 's na speuraidh

Nail! cha bhiodh mo cheum cho mall,

Aomaidh tus a nochd cuan Bharraidh,

'S mis' fo bharran cruaidh nam beann.

A réir iomraidh chaidh an t-òran a dheanamh le bean uasal de theaghlach Mhic Neill Bharraidh, a bha pòsda ri duine uasal air Tir-mór, am measg nam beanntan creagach, ciar, anns a' robh i ag ionndrainn a dùthcha féin, Bharraidh ghorm. Bha i farnadach ris a' ghréin féin; chan iongantach ged robh i glòirmhor; nach robh i a' dol fodha gach fearsgair thairis air Bharraidh!

Bhithinn fada an comain neach sam bith a bheireadh fios dhomh mu dheidhinn na cuid eile de'n òran.

Mise le spéis,

A. MACAOIDH.

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Leabhar XXVIII.]

An Lùnasdal, 1933.

[Earrann 11

STONEHENGE.

Air an aon fheasgar air an t-seachdain so a chaidh chunnaic mi an eaglais urramach an Salisbury aig am bheil an stiopall is airde am Breatunn, ceithir cheud troigh is a ceithir; chunnaic mi sin le tlachd is ioghnadh; ach leth uair an déidh sin chunnaic mi le ioghnadh nach robh dad na bu lugha, an togail aosda ris an canair Stonehenge. Ged tha mu dha cheud de chearcaill chlach air feadh Bhreatunn agus àireamh mar an ceudna air tìr-mór na h-Eorpa, gidheadh is e Stonehenge am prìomh-chearcall, agus an rìgh nam measg gu léir. Tha mu thrì fichead is a dha dheug de chlachan fathast air an làraich. Tha a dha dheug thar fhichead 'n an seasamh, agus an corr 'n an sìneadh air an talamh. Chan eil ach oched bliadhna fichead bho ghabhadh cùram de Stonehenge gus a chumail sàbhailt. Feadh nan ginealach bha e rùisgte ris na sìantan, agus fosgailte do luchd reubainn. Anns a' bhliadhana 1655 rinn Inigo Jones gearan, gu robh mòran de na clachan, ri a chuimhne fhéin, 'g an goid is 'g am briseadh airson dhrochaidean!

* * *

Tha na clachan de atharrachadh meud, is cudthrom is cumaidh. Tha an cearcall is fhaide a stigh de chlaich ghluirm, nì's isle na cach, agus air an snaidheadh gu gob biorach aig am barr. Ach is e tha iongantach na clachan móra, gu

h-araidh an fheadhainn a tha air an togail is air an càradh comhnard mar dhrochaid air da chlaich 'n an seasamh dìreach. Thuit aon de na carraighean a bha a' seasamh dìreach, thuit i ri oidheche stoirmeil anns a' bhliadhna 1900. Ghabhadh meadhon gus a' chlach a thogail a ris air a ceann, agus chaidh sin a dheanamh le saothair is innleachd. Tha a' chlach sin naoi troidhean fichead is sia oirlich air faid, agus corr is deich tunna fichead air cudthrom. Ach tha carraighean eile an sud a tha mòran nì's truite agus nì's tomadaiche.

* * *

Is i a' cheist cia mar chaidh 'na leacan iongantach so a ghiùlan is a chur 'n an àite. Buinidh an cearcall is lugha, de chlaich ghluirm, do 'n dùthaich mu 'n cuart. Ach is ann do chearn eile, ceann a deas na Cuimrigh, a bhùineas na clachan móra. Chan eil fhios ciod an dòigh no an t-innleachd air an deachaidh an giùlan air astar cho fada. Tha na sgoilearan aig a bheil eòlas nan creag de 'n aon bharail gu'n tugadh na clachan is truite corr is trì fichead mìle air astar mus deachaidh an cur suas an òrdugh anns an togail shòlumte so. Anns na leacan tiugha a tha a' laidhe comhnard air mullach nan carragh a tha 'n an seasamh, tha tolg air a chladhach, agus tha adharc air a deanamh anns a charragh dhìreach a tha a' dol domhain anns an tolg, agus sin a chum a' chlach chomhnard a dheanamh daingeann, a thuilleadh air a cudthrom féin.

Ach ciod am feum gus an robh an togail anabarrach so 'g a cur? Tha caochladh beachd mu'n chùis. Their cuid gu'r carragh cuimhne so, coltach ri piorramaidean Eipheiteach. Agus their cuid eile gu'r ann gu aoradh a chaidh na clachan a chur suas. Is e sin is coltaiche. Chan ann le tuiteamas a thachair gu bheil ionad is suidheachadh nan clach a' còrdadh ri caochladh nan tràthan feadh na bliadhna. Tha cearcall Challairinis an Leodhas de'n ghne cheudna. Laidhidh faileas nan clach air mhodh sonruichte mar thig raithean na bliadhna mu'n cuairt. Aig Stonehenge tha clach mhór ard mu cheud gu leth slat air falbh bho 'n chearcall. Tha an cearcall air cumadh crudha eich. Tha a' chlach mhór so dìreach mu choinneamh cridhe a' chrudha. Air an la is fhaide de 'n t-Samhradh an am eirigh do'n ghréin, thig an gath soillseach thar bharr na claiche gu teis-meadhoin a' chrudha.

* * *

Tha mórán de dhaoine breithneachail de 'n bharail gur ann airson aoradh na gréine a bha Stonehenge air a thogail. Their ear Clach na Gréine ris a' chlaich mhóir gus an la an diugh. Ach rinn luchd eòlais beachdachadh gu geur, agus mhothaich iad nach eil ceud gnath na gréine, air an la is fhaide de 'n bhliadhna, a' bualadh gu buileach eagnuidh air fìor mheadhon a' chrudha. Their na reultairean ruinn gu bheil *aomadh* an t-saoghail ag atharrachadh bho linn gu linn, agus gur e sin a dh'aobhraich linn na h-eighe tighinn tuilleadh is aon turas a chomhdach na h-Eorpa; agus mar thainig *aomadh* an t-saoghail air ais gu abhaist, gu'n tainig solus is blàths air an ais do 'n Eorpa. A nis leag Sir Tormod Lockyer, an reultair ainmeil, a bhuadhan cumhachdach air faileas na claiche móire aig Stonehenge, agus dhearbha e gu soilleir, gu robh gath na gréine, air an la a b' fhaide de 'n t-samhradh, a' bualadh gu h-eagnuidh air fìor teis-meadhoin a' chrudha. Tha esan a' cantuinn gu robh sin mar sin seachd ceud deug bliadhna mus d'rugadh ar Slanuighear.

THE LATE MISS RYAN, ROY BRIDGE.

It was with deep regret that the members learned of the sudden death in London of the only daughter of Mrs. Ryan, Blar a' Cha, Roy Bridge. Mrs. Ryan was a talented singer, and on many occasions delighted members at branch ceilidhs in Lochaber. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Ryan in her sore bereavement.

THE EARLY PRINTED SOURCES OF SCOTTISH GAELIC POETRY.

By J. L. CAMPBELL.

This is an attempt to make a catalogue of the contents of the earliest printed Gaelic anthologies. It is intended to aid both readers and editors in finding with the least trouble all the printed sources of the work of any poet, but particularly of those poets whose works have not as yet been separately printed.

No attempt has been made to collate the versions, or otherwise overload the catalogue with comments on the subject matter, etc., of the poems, it being hoped that the existence of the catalogue itself will help readers to discover these things for themselves.

The catalogue is being made by analysing the printed Gaelic anthologies in turn. Once this is done, the versions of the same poem occurring in different anthologies can be the more easily found and compared, and the way will be paved for the re-examination of the manuscript sources themselves which, in the case of much Gaelic poetry, is highly desirable.

I.—THE EIGG COLLECTION.

This collection (Comh-Chruinneachadh Orannaigh Gaidhealach, le Raonuill Mac-Domhnuill, ann 'n Eilean Eigg), the first Gaelic anthology printed, was published in 1776, by Walter Ruddiman, in Edinburgh for Randal MacDonald, son of the famous poet, Alexander MacDonald, who must himself have had some hand in collecting the poems. It is an important collection, being the first printed source of many valuable pieces, notably the famous "Birlinn Chlann Raghnaill." Unfortunately, misprints abound, and the spelling is bad. The collection contains 106 poems, of which 76 are by named authors, 43 in number. There are 9681 lines of poetry in the book.

[In spelling names and titles the original has usually been kept, but gross misprints have been removed.]

† Indicates the poem appears in Mac-Kenzie's "Sàr-Obair."

* Indicates the poem appears in Professor Watson's "Bàrdachd Ghàidhlig."

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NA BODACHAIN.

By DUNCAN JOHNSTONE, Glasgow.

(1st Prize, Dunoon Mod.)

(*Calum Ceannach agus Iain Iasgair a' tachairt
air a' chéile*).

CALUM—Dé mar tha sibh an diugh Iain ?

IAIN—An dà, bhiodh e dàna dhomh bhi gearan cho fada 'sa bhuilicheas an Cruithfhear breacarsaidh shlàint orm, gun robh maith agaibhse ; a' bheil sibh fhein agus 'ur cuideachd uile 'cumail gu maith ?

CALUM—O thà, tapadh leibhse, Iain, a' h-uile duine air chomas bhi gluasad ; cha chreid mi nach mi fhein an aona chruilaist a tha nam measg !

IAIN—Tha mi ro-dhùilich sin a' chluinntinn ; ciod è is anshocair dhuibh ?

CALUM—Och, ciod è, Iain, ach an aois ghrànda ; tha i a' laighe orm gu h-olc. Tha mi a' leigil leis 'sa leigil leis a' h-uile latha dh'éireas mo thaobh, agus tha mi a' fas mall, dall ; is gann gun urrainn mi an darra cas a' chuir seachad air a' chois eile, agus tha mo shealladh air fàilneachadh cho mór 's nach eil mi ach a' tuthadh a' null 'sa nall mar sheana chaora stùrdain.

IAIN—Obh, obh, nach ann oirbh a' thainig !

CALUM—'S ann orm a' thainig gun teagamh ; cha dù dhuibhse bhi anabarrach lùghmor sibh fhein, agus gur sinn àl na h-aona bhliadhna.

IAIN—Sinn, agus ged is sinn ; biodh sin 'sa roghainn dà, ach a' mhic mo chridhe, 's ann a tha mise a' fas na's lùghmhoire 's na's lùghmhoire, agus mo shealladh a' fas na's géire 's na's géire a' h-uile latha dh'éireas mo thaobh.

CALUM—Och, Iain ; nach iògantach leam fhein bhios sibhse, duine a' thainig g'ar 'n aois a' cainnt air an dòigh sin ! Nach maith tha fhios agaibh nach biodh e nàdurra duibh fàs lùghmor, agus ciannar fo'n chruinne a tha sibh !—

IAIN—Stad oirbh ! Stad oirbh ! Cha b' àbhaist duibh riann 'ur teanga bhi fo' 'ur crios ; ach 'nuair gheibh i an teadhar, agus an t-srian na cluasan, mar fhuair gearran Chill Fhionain, gu'n seachnadh am fortan ormsa i, agus—

CALUM (*A' teannadh air falbh*)—"Nach searbh a' ghloir nach fhadar éisdeachd."

IAIN—Sin sibhse ; cha robh sibh riann dheth, ach leum chun nan seanfhacal ceart mar leumas na balaich bheaga chun nan dòirneag, 's ann a bheil sibh am chuimhne am bàillidh mór ; bha leithid de chomh-chruinneachadh sheanfhacl aige, agus 'nuair

a' mhothaicheadh e dha fhein a' dol ann an cungalach air dhòigh 'sam bith: bhiodh e 'ga chuartaichadh fhein le daingnigh sheanfhaical, anns an robh a liuthad stob agus a bh' ann an aona chròcach a chunnaic sibh riamh. Cha b'urrainn Rìgh Solamh fhein ite chur as le smior gliocais, mar gu'm b'eadh.

CALUM—Chan 'eil teagamh 's am bith, Iain, nach 'eil gliocas mòr air aiseag a' nuas dhùinn o ar n-atraichean leis na seanfhaical sin, agus bu chòir do gach neach, sean is òg, an gnàthachadh 's an cleachdadh; chan e mhàin a chum 's gum biodh iad nam buannachd dhaibh fhein, air gach doigh 'nan caithe-beatha, ach cuideachd a chum 's gum biodh iad nam meadhan airson snas agus loinn a chur air seanachas agus litreachas na dùthcha; Ach mo thruaigh! tha daoine nis air fàs cho gallda, agus cho caoin-shuarach air an còir-bhreith, agus leis a' sin bu chòir gach uile mhniseach bhì air a bhuileachadh orrasan a tha cur ùidh anns na nithean sin: ach mo chreach! “Tha chòir mar chumar i.”

IAIN—Cha dubhairt mise nach bu chòir, ach 's e mo mhór bharail gu bheil an dà chuid, am maith agus an t-òle annta, mar thuir Mairi Ruadh mu'n chat nuair mharbh i an luch, agus a dh' òl i am bainne!

Tha cuimhn' agus nuair bha mi ag iasgach nan sgadan; air aon fheasgar agus sinu uile 'cur an uidheam a tharruing gu muir; thainig am Bàillidh mòr—droc chòmhdhail air!—le cabbaig chun a' chladaich, agus chuir e na h-iasgairean 'nan earalas; gu robh stòrm uamhasach a' teachd; iad a dh' fhuireachd aig cala; gu robh barromaillean an Dùin an deidh tuiteam, agus—

CALUM—Barometer, Iain, Barometer.

IAIN—Seadh, seadh; nach e sin a thuir mi ris! barromaillean. Nach mise bha eòlach air le aghaidh mhóir, leathainn, chruinn, chòir, mar thuir 'Ceit mhór mu ghealach an abuchaidh, agus ged nach bu chòir dhomhsa a radh, 's iomadh uair nach d'innis mo fhleasgach an fhirinn eadhoin do Fhear-an-Dùin fhein, agus a liuthad uair 'sa dh' fhàg a' chomhairle an duine còir, gun bhoineid, gun bhreacan; “eadar am bogha 'san t-sreang,” astar o'n tigh agus uisge nan seachd sian ann, an deidh do'n bharrom—an deigh do'n bharr orachdaich ud—b'àill leam a' ràdh bhì anns a' mhaduinn agus a' mheur aige air “Fry” a' chearta cho riochdail agus a' chì sibh an crann anns a' bhàta sin agamsa.

CALUM—“Se “Dry” bh'ann, Iain.

IAIN—“Sè, theid mi'n urras, ach na'n robh sibhse ceangailt aig an stiùir a' ruith troimh'n chaoil ri seusar sruth-lionaidh, agus an t-uisge

a' sìor shadadh oirbh mu na sùilean, cha chreid mi nach biodh barail gle bhoichd agaibh mu'n chuis, mar bh'ag a' bhroc air a ladhran. “Try!” b'e mo “Thry” e, theid mise fodha dhuibh. Bha e fhein “Try” gu leòir an crochadh eadar dà-bhith an doruis mhóir co-dhiùbh.

CALUM—Nach ait bhur ceann, Iain! Cha chuala mi riamh seamasan cho mòr.

IAIN (*Gu fìgannta*)—Tha aobhar agaibh air bhì taingeil nach cìl dad cearr air bhur claisteachd measg gach éucail eile th'oirbh.

CALUM—“Cha chluinn am bodhar ach na's binn leis.”

IAIN—An dà, nach éibhinn sibh co-dhiùbh! Tha dùil agam fhein gun thog sibh oighreachd a' Bhàillidh; ach o, mo dhì-chuid n'! chaidh mi troimh mo naigheachd. Mar bha mi 'g radh ruibh, dh'earalaich am Baillidh oirnn uile fuireachd aig port air an oidheche ud. Chomh-dhùin e an gnothuch le smachdanachd de sheanfhaical mar b'abhuist.

“Am fear a' ghleidheas a long, gheibh e latha g'a seòladh,” ars' esan, a' chearta cho stòlda agus ged b' e binn-bàis seana-mhaighdinn a bhiodh aige.

CALUM—Comhairle ghlic, gun teagamh.

IAIN—“Is minic bha comhairle an Rìgh am beul an amadain.”

CALUM—Tha e ceart agus iomchuidh gum biodh daoine a' cleachdainn foighidinn agus cèille aig gach àm, oir gu cinnteach tha tearuinteachd, measarrachd, agus stuamachd a' siubhal 'nan lorg.

IAIN—Thà; ach tha mise meallta am bharail air-neo tha gàrlaich eile a' siubhal 'nan lorg cuideachd, mar tha lunndaireachd, leisg, agus—

CALUM—Uistibh! Uistibh! Iain; cleachdadh sibhse bhì foighidinneach, ciallach, agus tha mise cam am bharail 's am bheachd air-neo cha bhì aithreachas oirbh: feithibh agus faicibh.

IAIN—Ach faodaidh a' chaora dol gu bàs a' feitheamh an fheòir ùir, agus mar bha mi 'g radh ruibh; ghabh na fir comhairle a' bhàillidh, agus chaidil iad gu suaimhneach anns an lamraig, ach mi fhein a' mhàin: tharruing mi gu cuan, agus eudail de fhearaibh an t-saoghail, cha do mhothaich mido leithid de thachdair éisg riamh. Bha 'n fhaighe 'na lasair le teine-shionnachainn miltean air gach taobh. Chuir sinn na lontan, agus gun smid bréige; tha mi anns a' bheachd gu robh seachd ciad mìle sgadan a' fìchdadh air cùl gach moguil, mu choinneamh an aoine tha'n sàs. Bha'm bàt' agamsa loma-làn, troma-luchdaichte, agus—

CALUM—"Cha chum soitheach Gaidhealach ach a làn."

IAIN—Agus leis gu robh an oidhche cho bòidheach, ciùin; fhuair sinn troimh "Bhuinne-Mhic-na-glaise" gun dochair 'sam bith. Bha na fir eile fathast 'nan cadal nuair rainig sinn port, agus—

CALUM—"S leisg le leisgean dol a' laighe, ach 's ro-leisg leis èiridh."

IAIN—Thèid mise 'n urras nach robh na seòid bha gleidheadh an cuid long air oidhche nach bristeadh iad snathainn an damhan-alluidh idir buidheach. Chaill iad iasgach sònraichte maith, le bhi cho socharach 's gun chreid iad seanfhacal a' bhàillidh; ach creideadh sibhse mise gun deanadh esan eag anns an t-slabhruidh le sgithinn mhaide mu'n gabhadh na h-iasgairean a chomhaisle rithis.

CALUM—An d'thug sibh achmhasan dà?

IAIN—Thug, 's ged a' thug; ghrad leum e fo sgéith nan seanfhacal, agus ars' esan gu dùrachdach,—“Ged dh'èignichear an seanfhacal cha bhreugaichear e.”

“Cha leighis bròn breamas,” agus “gheibh foighidinn furtachd.”

CALUM—Glé cheart; gheibh foighidinn furtachd.

IAIN—Gheibh, gun ag, ach gheibh griollam gearraidh, 's gheibh faoghaid fiadh. Nach mithich dhomh 'nis bhi togail orm; chan fhuirich an seol-mara ri nì no neach.

Feumaidh mi maorach a dheanamh cho fad 'sa tha'n tràigh ann.

CALUM—"Cha dean luath-chas maorach."

IAIN—Luath-chas, mo chreach! Bha latha bhà!

CALUM—Shaoil mise gu robh sibh a' fàs lùghmhor.

IAIN (*Gu frìonasach*) Nach fhada bàs ur seanmhar 'nur cuimhe! Nach e sin a' bha mi strìth r'a innseadh dhuibh; ach nach eil sibh a' sìor dheanamh fodha leis an ràmh-ghualainn, 'sa cumail na geolaidh daonnan a' dol mu'n cuairt mar bha eachan Mairi ribeich.

CALUM—"S dona an ràmh-nachiomair rudha."

IAIN—"Ach 's e mo bharaisle gur maith an rudha a' dh'iomras droch ràmh, agus a nis 'nuair bha mise am òg-mhac-rìgh, agus a' bhithinn a' tarruing orm na briogaise anns a' mhaduinn; thogainn cas ma seach gun char a chuir a null no nall ni mò 'na chuireas Creag-Bhealach-na-Cailliche; ach a nis a' mhic mo chridhe, 'nuair thogas mi mo chas, sud suas, sud sìos mi, a' beiceis, a' bogadh 's a' dannsadh a' chearta cho sgiobalta ri aona fhear-bainnse a chunnaic sibh riamh. An abair sibh riumsa nach buin sin do lùths, agus—

CALUM—Och! Och! Iain!

IAIN—Agus, "och horo éile." Nach e an ochanaich e! 's ann a' shaoileas mi oirbh gur h-ann tha farmad oirbh, mise bhi fàs aotrom, aighearach, òg, agus sibh fhein a' fàs aosda, bacach, crùbach.

CALUM (*A' ghluasad air falbh*)—Ud, ud, Iain!

IAIN—Gu rèidh sibh! Gu rèidh sibh! Gus an innis mi dhuibh mu m' fhradharc!

CALUM—Chan 'eil fuireas orm, Iain.

IAIN—Deanaibh moille! Deanaibh moille! Nis nuair bhios mise ag iasgach air a' charrag; an àite aon slait 's ann a' chì mi a' dhà, agus "am fear-ud" mise gu faic mi dà dhubhan, agus dà mhaghar air a' h-uile té dhuibh. An abair sibh riumsa nach buin—?

Ach bha Calum air falbh, 's e' crathadh a' chinn, agus thachrais Iain air a' shocair dhachaidh.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council was held in Stirling on Friday, 7th July. The president, Dr. Neil Ross, C.B.E., presided, and the following members were present:—William D. Barclay, J.P., Glasgow; Miss Campbell of Inverneill, M.B.E.; Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Glasgow; Neil Campbell Colquhoun, Glasgow; Mrs. S. C. Edgar, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Col. Gilbert Gunn, Inverness; Niall C. Kennedy, Glasgow; Miss Lamont of Knockdow, M.A., B.Sc.; Miss May MacArthur, Glasgow; Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow; Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Inverness; Alistair C. MacLaren, Dalmally; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Rev. Donald Thomson, B.D., Killin; H. S. Shield, Edinburgh; A. M. Sweet, Skelmorlie; and Mrs. Wilson, Dunblane. In attendance, Robert MacFarlane, C.A., treasurer; Neil Shaw, secretary; Hugh MacPhee, assistant to the secretary; and Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser.

THE LATE MRS. MACDONALD OF DUNACH.

The president said it was a melancholy duty on his part to refer to some of their members who were no longer with them. The Gaelic world got a very severe shock when it learned of the death of Mrs. MacDonald of Dunach. It was a surprise to himself personally, because, a few hours previous to the occurrence, he had travelled in the car with Mrs. MacDonald from

Ardgour to Strontian and back, and she was in her usual bright and happy mood. They all knew how thoroughly her heart and soul were in the Gaelic movement. It was fortunate for An Comunn that people like her entered into the movement so heartily. She carried with her certain traditions, not of racial pride exactly, but of racial consciousness, and a full knowledge of the origin, beauty, and value of Gaelic literature. He moved that the sympathy of An Comunn be conveyed to her husband, Mr. H. L. MacDonald of Dunach.

THE LATE MRS. CHRISTISON.

Just the other day, added the president, another event caused them grief—the passing of Mrs. Christison. It was about forty years since she first associated herself with the cause. She not only gave them of her talents and gifts, notably her beautiful voice, in the development of song, but also resolution and determination. She was one of the early band of pioneers. No difficulty was too arduous for her to cope with if the interests of An Comunn were at stake. They would convey their condolence to her sons and daughters.

THE LATE MR. MACMILLAN, FORT-WILLIAM.

Yet another personality had passed away—Mr. MacMillan, Fort-William, who was just getting ready for the local Mod when death summoned him suddenly. They desired also to commemorate his passing in their record. This was approved unanimously.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. ROSS.

Mr. Charles Campbell said he felt sure it was the desire of the meeting to convey to the president, Dr. Ross, their congratulations in view of the honour lately conferred upon him by the King. They knew the great work he had done for Gaelic literature. They were aware of the dignity and ability with which he conducted the business of the meetings, and how well he represented them on deputation purposes. They hoped that he might be long spared to continue the good work. They felt that in honouring Dr. Ross, His Majesty had also honoured their movement.

In returning thanks, Dr. Ross said that any personal glory was swallowed up in what pertained to the cause, as, he thought, it should be.

The treasurer read a minute of the Finance Committee. Satisfaction was expressed that, for the second year in succession, there was a surplus on the year's transactions.

The surplus this year was £736 6s 5d, compared with £349 for the previous year. This satisfactory result has been brought about by the success of the National Mod at Fort-William. In consequence of the two successful years it had now been possible to form a reserve fund of £386 9s 7d.

On the motion of Mr. Alexander Fraser, convener, the minute was adopted, and the financial statement and balance-sheet as submitted were unanimously approved and passed for audit.

A minute of the Education Committee was read and adopted, on the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

A minute of the Publication Committee was read. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, in moving the adoption of the minute, said that an application came before them for a grant towards the publication of a Gaelic compilation, for which they had agreed to recommend a grant of £25. Regarding the new book, *Sàr Orain*, of which they had received a letter of appreciation from Mr. A. Urquhart, Stornoway, one of their Gaelic teachers, Mr. MacLeod added that he wished to take the opportunity of thanking Mr. Angus MacLeod, Rector of Oban High School, for undertaking that arduous piece of work, and for the highly successful way in which he had discharged the task. He felt that they did not take to themselves, nor did other people, the credit they should for the work they were doing in publishing those books and adding to Gaelic literature. The minute was adopted.

A minute of the Propaganda Committee, with reports from Sub-Committees, was read. Mr. Charles Campbell, in moving the adoption of the minute, referred to the proposal to issue a draft circular to prospective members, and he also stated that it had been recommended that the proceeds of rural choir concerts at the Mods should go to the Propaganda Committee. That committee had been largely responsible for the training of choirs by sending out teachers.

The president said he wanted to make a suggestion—that they should send out a circular to the prospective members in Gaelic, followed by an English translation if they so desired. This was agreed to.

Sir Alexander MacEwen said that at Inverness they had an interesting experiment. At the Provincial Mod a Gaelic competition took place for children who were not native speakers. Although the notice given was extremely short, twenty children

presented themselves for the competition. He felt certain that it was by getting at the English-speaking children that they were going to make progress. Perhaps the Propaganda Committee might see if at other Provincial Mods something like that could be done.

Colonel Gunn referred to educational matters in Sutherlandshire, and it was agreed to refer them to the Northern Subcommittee, with powers. Sir Alexander MacEwen agreed to help in the matter.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod said they agreed with Sir Alexander MacEwen with regard to teaching Gaelic to the children of non-Gaelic-speaking parents. Was it not, however, the policy of the Education Committees in the North of Scotland to provide Gaelic only for those children who were Gaelic-speaking? He wondered whether Sir Alexander MacEwen would use his influence to get Education Committees to extend Gaelic so as to include all children who desired to learn it.

Sir Alexander said he would do what he could.

The minute was adopted.

Minute of Meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, in moving adoption of the minute, said that the prospects for the Glasgow Mod were very promising, and money was coming in extremely well. He thought it was right that they should express their indebtedness to the Highland community in Glasgow and neighbourhood for the generous way in which they were contributing to the Mod fund.

Minute adopted.

The Annual Reports of the Standing Committees were unanimously approved.

Nominations were received for the offices of president, one vice-president, and ten members of Executive Council.

In reply to Miss Lamont, the President said that the Celtic Congress was to take place in Brest from 17th to 25th July, and it had been previously resolved that An Comunn should be represented by the president and secretary. It was his intention to attend, but he understood that Mr. Shaw, the secretary, would be unable to go owing to pressure of work in connection with the entries for the Mod.

On the motion of Mr. MacLeod, it was agreed to relieve Mr. Shaw from the necessity of attending the Congress.

The following notices of motion were submitted for consideration at the Annual Meeting:—

By Mr. Alexander MacKeehnle, London—

That An Comunn Gaidhealach, in co-operation with the Gaelic branch of the P.E.N. Club and the representatives of the various branches of the Gaeltacht, undertake to investigate the recent developments of Gaelic and its requirements regarding vocabulary; that An Comunn be also empowered to consult the educational authorities of the Irish Free State, so that the increase of the Gaelic vocabulary be common to both Ireland and Scotland; finally, that An Comunn should undertake the nationalisation of Gaelic spelling in conjunction with the education authorities of the Irish Free State with the express view of rendering Gaelic as comprehensible, as modern, as commercial, and as widespread as any other European language.

By Mr. Angus Robertson, London—

That the President's expenses are not to form a charge upon An Comunn for the future.

By Mr. A. M. MacLachlainn, Tobermory—

That to Rule 54 of the Constitution (1911), after the word "present" be added "on the proposed alteration amendment or surviving amendment thereto, which ever remains the substantive motion, being placed against the direct negative or existing rule."

By Sir Alexander MacEwen, Inverness—

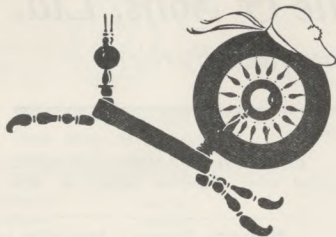
That it be remitted to a committee to consider and report as to how the bonds between the Gaelic-speaking population in Canada and in Scotland could be strengthened, including the possibility of sending out a delegation to Nova Scotia and elsewhere.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

MOD ENTRIES.

We are unable to give a detailed list of Mod entries this month, but the numbers coming forward are highly satisfactory. The Senior Oral Section almost reaches the record total of last year. Four Rural Choirs are competing for the first time for the "Lorn Shield," and with an entry of twelve choirs this promises to be a most interesting competition. No doubt distance and travelling costs are responsible for a decrease in the Junior entries, but the number of papers received from the schools, over 400, constitute a record in this section.

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OUR GAELIC ARTISTS' REGISTER

CLARSACH.—Tuition in Song Accompaniment.—Mrs. Johnstone, 4 Belgrave Terrace, Edinburgh. Results :—1st Prize, Mods 1929, 1930, 1931, and 1932.

Advertisements under the above heading will be accepted by The Simmath Press, Ltd., Simmath House, Roseangle, Dundee.

BUIDSICHEAN LEODHAIS.

By Mrs. CATHERINE F. URQUHART,
North Kessock.

(1st Prize, Dingwall Mod.)

Bha buidsichean Th-r-mór iomraiteach, ach cha deanadh iad gillean do bhuidisichean Leodhais.

Ma's breug bhuam e bu bhreug thugam e ach so mar a bha sgeul air té dhiubh air innseadh dhomhsa mar smior na firinn.

Bha gille de mhuinntir an Rudha a' suirigh air nighinn bho na Lochan.

Thainig e nall mointeach Arnaid an deidh chaorach; b'e caoraich co dhiubh an leisgeul a thug e dhaibh aig an tigh.

Mu anmoch ràinig e an tigh anns an robh an nighean agus a mathair a' fuireach leo fhein oir bu bhantrach an t-sean-bhean.

Fhuair e dorus fosgailte agus teine maith air a' chagailt ach cha robh duine beo a stigh.

Smaoinich an gille gum falaicheadh se e fhéin gu spors fhaighinn air a leannan an uair a thilleadh i. Cha b' fhada gus an tàinig i a stigh agus still aise. Bha e duilich leis fuireach am falach ach is e sin a rinn e.

Cha robh fhoighidinn air a cur gu dùbhlán an uair a thàinig a mathair a stigh agus bha ise cho fhuich agus ged a thogte as a' chuan i.

"De cho fada agus a chaidh thu?" arsa an t-sean bhean ris an nighinn.

"Cha do ràinig mise ach Gob na Càbaig an uair a chùimhnich mi gu robh Domhnall Choinnich a' tighinn an nochd, agus thill mi. De cho fada agus a chaidh thu fhein?" fhreagair an nighean.

"O, ràinig mise na h-eileanan Móra agus chunnaic mi Peigi Iain leis an teaghlach a' tighinn dachaidh anns a' bhàta."

"Ach chan fhaca ise thusa," arsa an té òg. Thòisich iad an sin 'gan túrsaigeadh fhéin air chinn a' ghille; ach chunnaic agus chuala Domhnall Choinnich còrr is na dh' fhoghnadh dha agus a' cheud chothrom shnàig e mach agus thill e dhachaidh.

Bha iongnadh gu leòir air a leannan nach robh Domhnall a' tighinn agus nach tàinig e an oidheche a bha dùil aice ris. An déidh ùine a dhol seachad ghabh i, mar leisgeul, a dhol gu òrduighean an Rudha.

Thachair Domhnall Choinnich rithe agus dh'innis e dhi mu an oidheche a theich e agus thuir e an deidh na chual e, nach b'urrainn e a pòsadh.

Ghuidh i air a pòsadh agus bhóidich i nach tachradh a leithid tuilleadh, ach chan éisdeadh Domhnall rithe.

Thuir i ris an sin, gum biodh e anns a' phrìosan roimh cheann trì mìosan, agus an ceann cheithir la deug an deidh a thighinn a mach gu'n tilleadh e do'n phrìosan, gu'm fàgadh e tir a bhreth leis an nàire ann an ceithir mìosan agus gun rachadh e gu Astràilia far an dùnadh an uaigh air roimh cheann na bliadhna.

Thainig a h-uile ni dhe so gu crìch agus is e an gille bochd a dh' innis an sgeul do fhear-gleidhidh a' phrìosain a' cheud uair a chaidh a chur a steach, air son sabaid agus misg.

Bha e 'na ghille slobhalt, modhail, agus bha Fear a' phrìosain a' toirt comhairle air an uair a thubhairt Domhnall, "Bithidh mise air ais an so ann an ceithir-la-deug eile, ach tha mi taingeil dhuibhse air son bhuir coibhneis."

Mar a thubhairt b' fhàil; thill Domhnall Choinnich do'n phrìosan, agus is e na thuir e ri a charaid, "Nach dubhairt mi ruibh."

Thug a charaid a' chomhairle air an dùthaich fhàgail agus a dhol do thìr chéin.

Fhreagair Domhnall e "Tha mise a' dol gu Astràilia agus mu'n tig ceann bliadhna, bithidh mi fo an ùir."

"Is tusa nach bi an sin," arsa Fear a' phrìosain, "Ach thig thu dhachaidh na do dhuine saobhair agus thig thu a chéilidh ormsa ma bhitheas mi beo."

"O! cha till mise tuilleadh ach sinear mo chnàmhan an dùthaich choigrich roimh cheann na bliadhna. Is e sin a gheall mo leannan dhomh, agus thachair gach ni a ghuidh i dhomh mar tha, ach sin, agus tachraidh sin mar an ceudna."

Ràinig Domhnall Choinnich Astràilia ach cha robh e sealbhach agus mar a thuir a' bhanbhuideach, bha Domhnall anns a' chadal as nach duiog, roimh cheann na bliadhna.

Nach sgiobailt buidsichean Leodhais! Mar a thuir an seann duine, "Gleidh sinn."

LOCHABER PROVINCIAL MOD.

Under the auspices of the local branch, a most successful Provincial Mod was held in Fort-William, on 23rd June, when a record number of competitors was forward from Glen-Urquhart, Fort-Augustus, Invergarry, Roy-Bridge, Spean-Bridge, Mallaig, Arisaig, Glenfinnan, Kinlochiel, Corpach, and Fort-William.

The music adjudicators were Mr. James Murray, L.R.A.M., Kingussie Secondary School; Mr. John MacDonald, Oban; Mr. N. B. Mackenzie, Fort-William; and Pipe-Major Allan Paterson, Banavie. For Gaelic the adjudicators were Rev. William MacDonald, Kilmallie; Rev. Dr. MacKinnon, Kinmonivaig; Rev. Malcolm Galbraith, Rev. Alexander MacLean, and Rev. Canon MacMaster, Fort-William.

Both the musical and Gaelic adjudicators expressed themselves amazed at the huge strides which had been made in the district, not only in Gaelic, but in voice production.

At the official opening, Mr. Neil Shaw made sympathetic reference to the death of Miss Ryan, Roy-Bridge, and Mr. Donald MacMillan, Fort-William, whose passing was a distinct loss to the cause.

In the evening a well attended concert, presided over by the Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour, was held in the Town Hall, the programme being sustained by the prize-winners at the Mod, assisted by such well-known artistes as Miss Margaret MacInnes, Glasgow; Miss Jean Cameron, Fort-William; Mr. Archie Grant, Glasgow; and Mr. John MacDonald, Abriachan.

The following were the prize-winners:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

LITERATURE.

Writing from Dictation—1, Elizabeth Allan.

Translating of a piece of English prose into Gaelic—1, Ann Kennedy.

Special Prize—Elizabeth Allan.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Prose Reading—1, Elizabeth Allan, Fort-William Secondary School.

Recitation, "An Sruthan"—1, Mary Fraser, Invergarry.

Reading at Sight piece of Prose chosen by Judges—1, Jessie Cameron, Blarnmacfoldach.

Reading at Sight piece of Prose chosen by Judges (Learners)—1, Donald Warren, Fort-William Secondary School.

Conversation—1, Farquhar MacRae, Fort-William Secondary School.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing—Girls—1, Margaret Clark, Fort-Augustus. Boys—1, Ronald Cameron, Mallaig.

Solo Singing of Set Piece—Girls—1, Cathie McEachan, Fort-Augustus. Boys—1, Ronald Cameron, Mallaig.

Special Prize—Ronald Cameron, Mallaig.

CHORAL SINGING.

Challenge Shield Competition—1, Roy-Bridge School Choir.

Unison Singing—1, Roy-Bridge School Choir.

SENIOR SECTION.

LITERATURE.

Gaelic Poem on any Subject—1, Miss C. MacPhee, Fort-William Secondary School.

Essay on any Local Historical Incident—1 (equal), Miss C. MacPhee and Mrs. Kennedy, Roy-Bridge.

A Collection of Place Names, etc.—1, Rev. D. Mackintosh Logan.

Special Prize—Miss C. MacPhee.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing of a Song by a Local Bard—Male and Female Voices—1, Mrs. Mackintosh, Drumna-drochit.

Solo Singing—Female Voices—1, Miss Peggy MacAskill, Invergarry. Male Voices—1, William Mackintosh, Fort-Augustus.

Solo Singing of a Set Piece—Female Voices—1, Miss Catherine Gow, Invergarry. Male Voices—1, Peter J. Grant, Drumna-drochit.

Special Prizes—Mrs. Mackintosh and Mr. Peter J. Grant.

Duet Singing—1, Miss Margaret MacNicol and Miss Elizabeth Allan, Fort-William Secondary School.

Choral Singing—Challenge Shield Competition—1, Glen-Urquhart Gaelic Choir.

Unison Singing—1, Glengarry Choir.

Choral Singing—Female Voices—1, Arisaig Ladies' Choir. Male Voices—1, Fort-Augustus Male Voice Choir.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading Prose Piece—1, Miss Mary Fraser, Blarnmacfoldach.

Recitation—1, Miss Catherine Gow.

Sgeulachd—1, Alfred Morrison, Fort-William Secondary School.

Acted Dialogue—1, Miss Jessie MacIntyre and Miss C. MacPhee, Fort-William Secondary School.

Recitation—1, Miss Kennedy, Spean-Bridge.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Violin—1, Lachlan Wynne, Fort-William.

Pianoforte—1, James A. Grant, Drumna-drochit.

Bagpipes—March—1, Miss Jessie MacIntyre, Fort-William Secondary School. Strathspey and Reel—1, Miss Jessie MacIntyre.

CAISTEAL CHISMUIL AGUS CLANN MHIC NEILL BHARRAIDH.

LE CAIRISTIONA NIC PHAIDEIN.

II.

Gheibhear mórán de Chloinn Mhic Neill ann an Sealtuin gus an latha an diugh, agus tha beul-aithris ag ràdh gur ann mar so a chaidh iad ann. Chaidh Ruairidh Dubh leis a' bhirhinn ochd-ràmhach agus an sgioba calma gu Sealtuin a dh' fheuchain cruaidh gheac ri ceatharnach Shealtuin a bha 'na churaidh iomraiteach. A bharrachd air an sgioba, bha aige anns a' bhirhinn mac bantraich de Chloinn MhicNeill a chaidh a thogail ann an Caisteal Chismuil. Bha MacNeill òg cho calma agus nach gabhadh dìthis dhaoine foghainteach eile air. Cha robh Ruairidh Dubh ro dhéidheil air a chionn agus gun robh e cho làidir, agus ma dh'fhaoidte na bu làidre na e fhéin. Cé dhùibh chuir Ruairidh Dubh fios gu ceatharnach Shealtuin gun robh e deiseal gu còmhrag ris, agus chuir

an ceatharnach air ais brath gun robh esan ullamh cuideachd. Ach mun tàinig an ceatharnach, thuir Ruairidh Dubh ri mac na bantraich, “ma chi thu mise a’ gabhail ceum air ais anns a’ chòmhrag, tuigidh tu gum bheil mi ‘call neirt, ach na leig thusa dad ort; ma chi thu mi a’ toirt sùil air m’ fhiaradh tuigidh tu gu bheil nithean a’ dol ’n am aghaidh, ach na dean thusa dad gus an seall mi air m’ fhiaradh an dara uair.” Dh’ aontaich mac na bantraich, agus thòisich na ceatharnaich ri cruaidh ghleac, agus b’ e sin an gleac. Dheanadh iad creagan de’n bhogan agus bogan de’n chreagan, agus a h-uile sinteag a ghearradh iad chite lasair theine as an cuid bhiodag. Chaidh so air aghaidh car greise ach cha b’ fhada gus am facas Ruairidh Dubh a’ gabhail ceum air ais. Cha b’ fhada gus an do sheall e air fhiaradh air mac na bantraich, agus cha b’ fhada gus an do sheall e an dara uair. Leum mac na bantraich ’na àite agus thòisich na laoch air ùr chòmhrag. Mu dheireadh thall ghlaodh Ruairidh Dubh ri mac na bantraich an ceann a sgathadh bharr a cheatharnach. Rinn mac na bantraich so ged nach robh e ’na bheachd a dheanamh, ach an uair a chunnaic e ceatharnach Shealtuin air tuiteam, thionndaidh e ri Ruairidh Dubh agus thuir e “A mhic an leithid so, cha do rinn mise so riamh mur biodh thusa, càirich a nis ort thu fhéin agus do dhaoine air ais do Bharraidh nu chan fhàg mi ceann air amhaich mac màthar agaibh.” Cha robh cothrom air. Thill Ruairidh Dubh is a luchd leanmhainn, agus shealbhaich mac na bantraich is na thàinig bhuaith Sealtuin.

Is tric a chualas sibh an sean fhacal, “Ged is fada mach Barraidh ruigear e,” agus is e so an sgeul a bh’ aig na seann daoine nu dheidhinn. Bha creachadair ainmeil ann uair ris an abairte MacIain Ghearr à Muile; bhiodh e daonnan a’ togail creiche mu ’n Chaol Mhuileach. Bha am bàta aige dubh air an dara taobh agus bàn air an taobh eile, mar a tha an sean fhacal ag radh—“Taobh dubh is taobh bàn, mar tha bàta Mhic Iain Ghearr,” Agus mar so bha e daonnan a’ faotainn teicheadh air an luchd tòrach. Ach thig gach ni maith gu crìch agus mu dheireadh thall chaidh an creachadair a ghlaodh. Chaidh a thoirt do Dhuneideann gus fheuchainn agus b’ e MacNeill fear de na breitheamhan. An uair a chaidh a’ bhàin a thoirt am mach, sheall an creachadair air MacNeill le coltas fiadhaich, chrath e’ dhorn ris agus ghlaodh e le guth sgartheil—“Ged is fada mach Barraidh ruigear e.”

Cha bhiodh e iomchaidh tarruing a thoirt air Caisteal Chismul gun iomradh a thoirt air na h-òrain a chaidh a dheanamh do ’n

bhirleinn Bharraich. Cha mhór an diugh aig am bheil ùidh ann an ceòl, agus gu h-àraidh ann an ceòl binn tiamhaidh nan eilean nach cuala mu ’n òran ainmeil sin—“A’ Bhirlinn Bharraich” a dh’ fhoillsicheadh leis a’ bhean uasail Ceannadaidh Friseal nach maireann. Mar a thuir mi cheana bha na Barraich moiteal a buadhan sgiobaireachd an cinn fheadhtha, agus chaidh an t-òran so a dheanamh le mnaoi, a’ buachailleachd chaorach air Beinn Heabhal, air dhi a’ bhirleinn fhacinn a’ seòladh troimh na caoil, “Sios gu dùthaich Chloinn Ghilleathain.” Bha so air innseadh gu soilleir anns an òran mar a gheibhte e aig na seann daoine.

“Latha dhomh’s mi’m beinn a’ Cheathach, Ag cunntas nan caorach is ’gan gabhail, Chunnaic mi bàta Chloinn Neill ’dol seachad.”

Tha òran na mna uasail Friseal car eadar dhealaichte, ach tha e air leth maith a dh’ aindeoin sin.

Gheibhte òran maith eile aig na seann daoine mu bhirleinn Chloinn Neill a’ togail ri sàil air oidheche nan seachd sian a thogail creiche.

“Is fiuch an oidheche hu il o ro,
Nochd ’s gur fuair i och o riu o,
Ma thug Clann Neill hu il o ro,
Drium a’ chuain ort o och o riu o.”

Tha beul aithris ag ràdh gu’n robh fear de Chloinn Neill pòsda aig a’ Bhaintighearna Leòdaich. Bha ise mòr aiseidh leis agus geur leanmhainneach air muinntir Bharraidh. Cha robh i riamh toilichte ann an Cismul a chionn agus nach robh crodh air buaile aice, agus nach cluinneadh i luinneag na banaraich an àm bleoghann nam bòn. Tha e air a ràdh gu’n robh i tinn aig an àm agus gun deach cailleach de mhuinntir Thangusdail a choimhead oirre. Bha so ann an teis meadhoin a’ Gheamhraidh, ann an traithean dubha na Nollaige. Thug a’ bhean bhochd leatha measgan de im ùr. Ràinig i Cismul, agus chaidh a toirt suas gu seòmar laighe na baintighearna. An uair a chunnaic ise am measgan ime, chuir i a dh’iarraidh Mhic Neill, agus thuir i ris “Seall a’ bhean bhochd so a Tanguisdal, am pailteas a thig bho a làimh nach tig bho làimh na baintighearna—Im ùr aig Nollaig. Cha chuir mise seachad Geamhradh tuilleadh ann an Cismul, oir chan fhaodar a ràdh gu’m bheil pailteas aice-se nach ’eil aig baintighearna Mhic Neill.”

Dh’ fhàg iad Cismul, agus an uair sin chaidh tigh mòr Eolaigearraidh a thogail. Tha e air a ràdh nach robh a leithid de

phailteas riamh ann am Barraidh is a bh' ann ri linn na baintighearna Leddaich. Bha an t-iasg r'a fhaotainn air an tràigh, fas neo-chumanta air gach bàrr agus saobhbheas aig gach nearch.

Nan rachadh aig an t-seann chaisteal so air còmhraidh a dheanainn, is iomadh sgeul a dh' innseadh e mu na laithean a dh' aom. Dh' fhaodadh e na faicil sin a ràdh a chuir am bàrd ann am beul Sean Chaisteal Inbhir-lèchaidh—

“Gur ann an so a bha na tréin,

Nach 'eil an samhla dh' nis fo'n ghréin,

'S nach bi gu 'n till mo ghineal fhéin.”

Tha caisteal aosda Chìsmuill ann an sud, mata, “mar Oisean an deidh na Féinne,” a' strith ri gaoith is gaillinn 's ri stuadhan an-shocrach a' Chuain Shiair, ach cho treun neo sgàthach is a bha na suinn a bha aon uair a' comhnuidh ann. Cha chluinnear mu thimchioll ach fuaim tiamhaidh na tuinne, a tha, mar gum b' eadh a' seinn cumha na bha is nach till gu bràth. Ach dhaibhsan aig am bheil spiorad an fhìor Ghàidheil, agus fuil nan sonn a bha aon uair ann an Cismul a' ruith nan cuislibh, tha barrachd anns a' chaisteal air ballachan briste. Tha spiorad treuntais, mòralachd agus gaisge nan sonn a bha aon uair a' comhnuidh ann, fuaighte anns gach mìr de a shean bhallachan, agus cò aige 'tha fios, an uair a bhios na siantan ri mìre chatha, is seachran cuain air a' mharaiche, nach fhaicear a' bhirliin Bharrach, “is a guala geal mar a' ghrian a' deanamh àirdeachd air tìr nan òg,” no nach cluinnear an glaoth a' tighinn thairis gu fann air sgiathan na gaoithe gu Baile Mhic Néill—

“Thoirleadh gach sluagh cluas, is éisd-eadh gach cinneach ri'm ghuht!—Tha Mac Neill mòr Bharrachd air éiridh o bhòrd, is faodaidh prionnsachan an domhainn a nis suidhe sìos gu'm biadh!”

SOUTH-WEST ROSS AND GLENELG MOD.

There was a large attendance of Gaelic enthusiasts at the South-West Ross and Glenelg Mod, held at Kyle on 9th June. The proceedings were arranged under the able guidance of Mr. Donald MacPhail, Organiser of An Comunn for the Northern Area. A concert presided over by Mr. Fraser, late of Ardelve, was also held. The programme was sustained by the leading prize winners, who had the assistance of Mr. James Campbell, the well-known Gaelic singer and National Mod gold medallist; Mr.

K. J. MacKenzie, and Mr. John MacDonald, An Comunn's teacher of Gaelic in the area. The prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Lady Hamilton of Balmacara, who, along with Sir Daniel Hamilton, was thanked by Mr. MacLennan, Kyle, for the interest shown in the Mod.

The adjudicators were Miss Gordon, Inverness, for music, and Messrs. John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill, and MacPherson, Broadford, for Gaelic. The secretarial duties were undertaken by Mr. K. J. MacKenzie.

The following is the prize-list:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Story—1, Malcolm MacKay, Lochcarron. Essay—1, Alasdair MacLennan. Letter—1, Malcolm MacKay. Reading—1, Mina Stewart. Translation—1, Alex. MacKenzie. Recitation—1, J. MacLeod. Conversation—1, D. MacRae, Plockton.

Medal for most distinguished competitor in Junior Literary Section—Mina Stewart.

Vocal Music—Solo, Girls—1, Mairi Findlay, Ardelve. Boys—1, D. MacRae, Dornie; Traditional—1, Margaret MacLennan, Plockton. Duet—Mairi Findlay and Morag Grant. Choral Singing—1, Plockton. Unison Singing—1, Plockton.

SENIOR SECTION.

Solo Singing—Female Voices—1, Christina M. MacLennan, Kyle. Male Voices—1, Duncan MacLennan, Applecross. Medal (Mixed)—1, Duncan MacKenzie. Former Prize-winners—1, D. Gillies, Plockton.

Choral Singing—1, Plockton. Unison Singing—1, Plockton.

Recitation—1, Kenneth MacRae, Applecross. Sgeulachd—1, Mrs MacGregor, Kyle. Reading—1, Mary MacKenzie.

SPECIMEN REPORT ON INSTRUCTION IN GAELIC.

FIRST STAGE.

At this stage information already possessed by the child was made use of by the teacher in bringing the child out of himself, as it were. Speech was encouraged in every way possible, i.e., Gaelic nursery rhymes and number games, conversation about common objects at home; school furniture, fairy tales; impromptu nature study lessons on birds, animals, plants, fishes, etc., mentioned in fairy tales, stories; riddles, lullabies, and songs; observation lessons, i.e., what child saw on the way to and from school.

1. Drawing on linoleum, sometimes on slates—

Child's representation of fairy tale in all its stages; house, bird, boat, or horse.

2. Easy elements of script—

Drawings of matches in various positions.

Expected to take part in the school céilidh, and do "their bit" along with the older children.

SECOND STAGE.

1. Reading of words of two or three letters from B.B. writing of same in script on linoleum, then slates.

co cù	an so cù	cù is cat.
cù co	cù an so	cat is cù.
cù is cat	beag cat is	cù beag.

[Word cù, interesting to G. speaking, whereas word dog is dead so to speak.]

With the exception of reading, all the Gaelic instruction was given in the form of a céilidh.

To get "the colour" and atmosphere of a real céilidh, the older children got up a few dramatic sketches, one of which was always enacted by all the boys before starting for the céilidh.

Sketch (Term sketch preferable to "play").

[1. Stormy or wet day chosen for this game.]

Characters in sketch—

Fionn and his Fingalians overtaken by snowstorm in hill of hunting.

Fionn, leader—chosen as such for a year and a day.

Dermid, Fionn's nephew.

Oscar, Conan, etc.

Hounds—(Bran, Aotrom, Luath, etc.), Smaller Boys.

[Gille na gaoithe—(pupil) moaned now and again for effect.]

Deer—Lightest boy.

Bones of Deer—Shells (thrown to dogs).

Sturdy branch of oak—Window Pole.

Two of the warriors carried the spoils of the chase suspended from the oak branch, across the shoulders.

Deer skinned, roasted on embers.

Warriors sitting round at feast.

Bones thrown to dogs (who sometimes fought). Conan replenishing the fire, grouching all the time. Caoilte might have done it. All this was enacted in about five minutes; or

[2. Fair Weather Game.]

Fionn and Fingalians after a pleasure trip in the Triallach mhara (birlinn). Door of old cabinet—birlinn. Act—Beaching of birlinn.

Shouts of warriors beaching a birlinn were kept within class-room. Class-room now became Tigh a Bhlair Bhuidhe or Tigh Abhachain Bhig na Bruinne. Sgeulachdean (usually one, or half if too long) recited by children or teacher, the latter drawing

attention to Gaelic idiom, beautiful words and phrases, and moral of tale. (We got several lessons from (1) story. Errors in pronunciation corrected. Pupil called on to sing a verse or two of song with a chorus. The rest joined in the chorus; or port-a-beul or canntaireachd.

[Fionn numbered his men, but not according to Fionn's method.]

Riddles, proverbs, local tradition, nature study, etc., were themes for the céilidh.

Nature study. Gaelic names for wild flowers. Habitat, medicinal and dyeing properties, charms against fairies, etc.

Birds—sea birds and land birds, their notes in nursery rhymes, stories in connection with same.

[Free terms, i.e., Cho làidir is an darach, etc., made very interesting lessons.]

(To be continued.)

BAS DA BHEAN UASAL.

Mar a chi ar luchd-leughaidh an Iomradh na Coinneimh a chumadh an Sruibheala aig toiseach mìos Iuchar chail An Comunn dà bhana-charaid dhileas. Bha iad le chèile 'nam buill de'n Ard Chomhairle, agus ged nach robh an guth ri chluinntinn ro thrì aig na coinneamhan bha iad cho eudmhor, dealasach ri neach air bith eile ann a bhi ag adhartachadh rùintean a' Chomuinn.

Bha Bean Uasal Dòmhnathach de chinne urramach Chloinn Dòmhnail & Eilean a' Cheò, agus b'è a tlachd a bhi ag cleachdadh na Gàidhlig air gach uile chothrom. Bha i iriosal, suaire, coibhneil 'na nàdur, agus 'na giùlan bha fìor uaisle nan sonn bho'n tàinig i ri fhaicinn gu soilleir. Thainig an teachdaire g'a h-ionnsuidh gu h-obann an dèidh frithealadh aig Mòd Aird nam Murchain. Bu chaomh leathan an òigridh a chluinntinn ag conaltradh an Gàidhlig agus chuala i sin an Sròn an t-Sithein, agus bha i toilichte.

Bha a' Bhean Uasal Christison co-cheangailte ri obair a' Chomuinn ré mòran bhliadhnachan. Choisinn i am Bonn Oir air son seinn aig Mòd Pheairt 'sa bhliadhna 1896, agus sheinn i aig Cuirm Chiuil Mòd Shruibheala trì bliadhna deug an dèidh sin. Bha i trì bliadhna fichead a' riochdachadh Comunn Athaill is Bhràghad Albain air Ard Chomhairle a' Chomuinn. B'ann annamh a bha a h-àite falamh aig na coinneamhan, agus ged nach robh a guth ri chluinntinn ach annig cha do chum i a làmh riamh ri a taobh an àm taghaidh. Bha i 'na boirionnach ciùin, blàth-chridheach; a ghnàth a' deanamh gnìomh na seirce.

Labhradh i gu coimhlionta a' Ghàidhlig a dh'ionnsaich i 'na h-òige an Siorramachd Pheairt, agus cha do thrèig i cleachdaidhean nan daoine coire bho 'n tàinig i.

Tha An Comunn Gàidhealach ag cur air mhaireann meas agus urram nam ball orrasan a sheirbhisich gu dlèas agus gu h-eudmhor as leth cànanain an dùthcha.

"'Gan cuimhneachadh 's 'gan ionnd-rainn." N.

ARDNAMURCHAN PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod was held at Strontian, on 27th June, and there was a record entry in the Junior Section. The standard of Gaelic is very high in this district; the children speak the language with fluency and ease in general conversation.

The Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour presided over the evening concert, and presented the prizes. The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Mr. John R. Bannerman, Mr. Hector MacDougall; Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Mr. D. MacPherson, M.A., Dr. Neil Ross, C.B.E., and Mr. Neil Shaw. Music—Mr. Malcolm G. MacCallum, L.R.A.M., and Mr. D. T. Yacimini.

The following is the prize-list:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Reading at Sight—1, Mary MacNeill, Acharacle. Reciting from Memory, "An Sruthan"—1, Willie MacPherson, Strontian.

Learners—Reciting from Memory, "Do m' dhachaidh"—1, Katherine R. MacLean, Ardgour, and Janet Millar, Morvern.

Excellence in Gaelic Conversation—1, John Stewart, Acharacle.

Acted Dialogue—1, Jack Cameron, Ardgour, and Donald Boyd, Ardgour.

Solo Singing—Girls—1, Margaret Simpson, Strontian. Boys—1, John Stewart, Acharacle.

Learners—Boys and Girls (Own Choice)—1, Margaret Smith, Conaglen.

Junior Choirs (Unison Singing)—1, Ardgour.

SENIOR SECTION.

Oral Delivery—1, Miss Dolly MacLean, Killundine.

Reciting "Birlinn Chlaun Raonuill"—1, Miss Mary Cameron, Lochaline.

Sgeulachd—1, Mr. Alex. Cameron, Bunailteachain. Solo Singing—Female Voices—Own Choice—1, Miss Johann Boyd, Ardgour.

Solo Singing—Male Voices—Own Choice—1, Mr. Donnie MacCallum, Kilchoan.

Solo Singing, Unpublished Song of District—1, Mr. John MacMaster, Strontian.

Solo Singing for Ardnamurchan Silver Medal—Female Voices—1, Miss Peggy MacKinnon, Acharacle. Male Voices—1, Mr. John MacMaster, Strontian.

Learners—Male and Female—Own Choice—1, Miss Flora Elliot, Lochaline.

Duet Singing—1, Miss Johann Boyd, Ardgour, and Miss N. S. Rae, Ardgour.

Quartette Singing—1, Ardgour.

Solo Singing of "Puirt a' Beul"—1, Miss Ina MacDonald, Kiel.

Solo Singing (Former 1st Prize-winners)—1, Mr. Donnie MacCallum, Kilchoan.

Choral Singing in Unison—Female Voices—1, Ardgour Ladies' Choir. Male Voices—1, Strontian Male Voice Choir.

Choral Singing in Harmony (Mixed Voices)—1, Strontian Choir.

Bagpipes—Gach—1, Mr. Neil Smart, Polloch. Strathspey and Reel—1, Mr. Neil Smart, Polloch.

Violin—Gaelic Air, Strathspey and Reel—1, Peter MacLennan, Kilchoan.

URRAM DO MHNISTEAR GAIDHEALACH.

So mar tha Fear-deasachaidh nan duilleagan Gàidhlig an mìosachan Eaglais na h-Alba (*Life and Work*) a' deanamb iomraidh air an urram a chaidh a bhuileachadh air Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich.

"Agus thubhairt an rìgh ri Ramsay MacDhòmhnuill, a sheirbhiseach a tha os cionn a thighe agus a rìoghachd, An d' thug thu fanear m' òglach, Niall Ros, nach 'eil neach ann cosmhuilt ris ann an Albainn, duine a tha coimhlionta ann an Gàidhlig, agus eudmhor a thaobh iarmad mo shluagh-sa anns na glinn?"

"Agus fhreagair Ramsay MacDhòmhnuill agus thubhairt e ris an rìgh, Gu maireadh an rìgh gu bràth, Thug bhur seirbhiseach fanear, Niall Ros; nach 'eil neach ann cosmhuilt ris ann an Albainn, oir tha a ghlomharan agus a bhriathran mar Cheann-suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich aithnichte o'n Pharbh gu Dhnéideann.

"Agus thubhairt an rìgh, Ciod an t'urram agus an inbhe a thugadh do Niall Ros air son so?"

"Agus fhreagair Ramsay MacDhòmhnuill, agus thubhairt e, Gu maireadh an rìgh gu bràth, Cha d' rinneadh ni air bith air a shon.

"An sin dh'àithn an rìgh do Ramsay MacDhòmhnuill, a sheirbhiseach, a tha os cionn a thighe agus a rìoghachd, fìs a chur gu Niall Ros, gu'm b'e toil an rìgh gu'n cuireadh e na litrichean C.B.E. as dèidh ainme uile làithean a bheatha, mar chomharradh air deagh-ghean an rìgh.

"Co dhiubh a bha nonach robh an seachas so eadar an rìgh agus a sheirbhiseach tha sinn toilichte gu'n d' fhuair an t-Ollamh Niall Ros an t-urram so, agus gu bheil obair a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich air a h-aideachadh ann am pearsa an fhir a tha air a ceann aig an uair. Gu ma fada a mhealas e an t-urram, agus gu ma fada a mhaireas an Comunn Gàidhealach!" N.

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TELEGRAMS.—Runaire, Glasgow.

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Leabhar XXVIII.]

An t-Sultuin, 1933.

[Earrann 12

CARN MHIC CRUIMEIN.

Is còir do *An Ghaidheal* beachd a ghabhail air gach gluasad aig a bheil mar chrich àraidh a bhi ag ùrachadh an t-seann chiùil. Air a' mhios so chaidh rinneadh gluasad sonruichte a thaobh ceòl mór na pìoba. Mar tha fhios a cheana aig an léughadair is iad Clann Mhic Cruimein anns an Eilean Sgitheanach a thug am meur àraidh sin de 'n cheòl gu inbhe gle ard. Fad trì cheud bliadhna, bho thoiseach na seathamh linn deug, gu toiseach na naodhamh linn deug bha Sgoil Chiùil aig Clann Mhic Cruimein ann am Boraig, mu ochd mìle an iar air Caisteal Dhunbheagain. Bha iad ainmeil mar luchd teagaisg ciùil agus bha iad cliùiteach mar phìobairean ealanta agus mar ughdaran ciùil aig an robh inntinn is buadhan comasach. Leag iad an giblean iongantach air an obair sin, linn an dèidh linn, gu mu dheireadh an do ràinig iad airde cho coimhlionta anns a' cheòl mhór agus nach robh coimeas dhaibh ri fhaotainn an àite sam bith.

* * *

Ach mar thig crìoch air iomadh ni thainig crìoch air Sgoil Chiùil Mhic Cruimein. Tha corr is sia fichead bliadhna bho dh' eug am fear mu dheireadh de 'n luchd ciùil a bha bho dhualachas 'nam pìobairean aig Macleoid. Ged tha cuid fathast a làthair de shìochd na feadhach sin, is duilich a ràdh nach do thog iad dìleab a' chiùil. Ach tha na ficheadan de phuirt Cloinn Mhic Cruimein ri chluinntinn fathast. Tha iad cho uasal, binn, agus nach do leig na pìobairean air dìchuimhne riamh iad. Agus a chum nach biodh an ceòl sin air a chall ghabh buidhean eudmhor as laimh airgid a thional gu càrn cuimhne a chur suas airson

na treubh ainmeil. Is ann le bhi a' cur urram air ughdaran a chiùil is fhearr a chuirear urram air a' cheòl féin.

* * *

Bidh cuimhne againn ri ar beò air an oidhech Mhàrt ud an Caisteal Dunbheagain. Is i sud an oidhech a chluich trìuir phìobairean barraichte, fear an dèidh fir, ceòl mór Mhic Cruimein, anns an talla bu ghnàth le Macleoid. Mar bha na pìobairean a' cluich chaidh mac-meanmna air ais na ceudan bliadhna. Ar leam gu robh Padruig Mór Mac Cruimein a' ceumadh an urlair gu mall, stàtail, agus gu'n cuala mi air a' cheart làraich :—

“ Pìob nualanach mhór
Bheireadh buaidh air gach ceol
Mar ghluais't' i le meòir Phadruig.”

Is ann an seomar aosda a bha a' chuideachda cruinn, seomar anns an do shuidh ginealach an dèidh ginealach de na triathan. Is minic a sheinn Mairi Ni'n Alasdair Ruaidh anns an talla so, agus is tric a chualas an so fuaim nan teud aig a' Chlarsair Dhall. Chi thu an sud a' Bhratach Shithe fo ghloinne air a' bhalla. Agus mar an ceudna chi thu adharc òil Ruairidh Mhóir, agus seann phìobmhór Mhic Cruimein fo ghlais. Tha na ballachan naoidh troighean air thighead.

* * *

Air an ath mhaduinn chaidh ceann cinnidh nan Leodach agus na h-aoidhean a bha leis, air bòrd na birlinn ghasda a bha gus an aiseag thairis air Loch Dhunbheagain gu Boraig. Bha an aimsir fabharach ged bha ciuthar mìn air na monaidhean, a' cumail ann ar cuimhne gu robh sinn an Eilean a' Cheò. An uair a bha a' bhirllinn a' gluasad a mach Beul na Seolaid, mu choinneamh a' Chaisteil, chuir aon de na

plobairean suas port eireachdail de'n cheòl mhór, agus mhair an ceòl ach gann gun lasachadh fad an turais. An uair a sguireadh fear thòisich eadh fear eile. Mar sheòl am bàta a stigh gu bàgh Bhòraigh, chluich dà phìobaire ainmeil an cuideachd a cheile, an Domhnullach á Inbhirneis, agus an Reiteach á Glaschu. Is e am port a thagh iad *Maldonn*, no mar theicair *Leannan Mhic Cruimein*. Agus bu mhór an sòlas dhomhsa, a bha riamh eòlach air an àite agus air an t-seann seanachas, am port binn ud a chluinntinn 'g a chluich turas cho annasach agus le meòirean cho gleusda.

* * *

Tha an carn cuimhne air cnoc os cionn làrach na Sgoil Chiùil. Tha e mu fhichead troigh air airde. Tha clàr granit na taobh a' chuirn le sgrìobhadh ag innseadh gu h-aithghearr mu Chloinn Mhic Cruimein. An dèidh seirbheis anns an robh leughadh Sgrìobtuir is urnaigh leis an Ollamh Niall Ros, chaidh an clàr granit fhoillseachadh do 'n t-sluagh le Macleoid Dhunbheagain. Thug esan iomradh cothromach mu an teaghlach ainmeil. Labhair e mar cheann cinnidh nan Leodach a rinn comhnadh riamh le Cloinn Mhic Cruimein. Liubhair an triath aosda oraid fhileanta. Dh' iarr e air a' chuideachda taing a thairgse le caithream do 'n fheadhainn a chuidich leis a' ghluasad so, gu h-araidh do Mhr. Fred. T. Macleoid an Duneideann. Chluich Iain Domhnullach, M.B.E am port uaibhreach "*Thug mi pòg do lamh an Rìgh*." Bha cruinneachadh mòr an làthair, mu mhille pearsa. Air an fheasgar chaidh clàr cuimhne eile a nochdadh le Macleoid aig reilig Mhic Cruimein, aig seann eaglais Chill-Mhuire an Dunbheagain. Labhair an t-Ollamh Tormod Mac Illeathain gu deas, druigteach, nu cheòl na pìoba an eachdraidh nan Gaidheal. An sin chaidh dà phort ainmeil a chluich an làthair na cuideachda, *Cumha na Cloinne* le Reiteach Ghlascho, agus *Cha till Mac Cruimein* le Aonghas Mac a' Phearsain.

Tha dòchas gu 'n toir an gluasad so mu'n charrn cuimhne is mu'n chlàr an Dunbheagain brosnachadh is beothachadh as ùr do 'n cheòl mhór, agus gu 'n tig aghart air càil is tuigse nan Gaidheal a chum is gu 'n cuir iad meas mar bu chòir air luach a' chiùil a thug Clann Mhic Cruimein gu ìre cho eireachdail.

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LEAGUE OF YOUTH.

The following report by Clann an Fhraoich was submitted to the Executive Council and sent on to the Annual Meeting for consideration:—

(1) We were asked by the General Meeting to consider as to the best means of giving effect to Mr. Alex. MacKechnie's motion for founding a League of Youth for Gaelic-speaking children. We have considered the question in all its aspects, and for economy's sake we have condensed our views into the following precis, which we are prepared to discuss in fuller detail if required.

2. An Association on the lines of the Boy Scouts or Girl Guides, or other big Lowland Associations is not recommended. This would be too costly for An Comunn at present, would be unworkable in the essentially rural and sparsely populated areas forming the main part of Gaeldom, and would clash with such organisations as already exist in the larger Highland towns.

3. Over most of Gaeldom the children are left without any patriotic or social guidance. Although many children of Gaelic parents receive lessons in Gaelic reading, this generation, on whom the nature and value of the Gaelic culture of their age will depend, are growing up in practical ignorance of Gaelic, of its great intrinsic and educational value, and of all the sentiments the word connotes, a fact which spells an unqualified loss.

4. Fortunately, owing to An Comunn's institution of Mod junior competitions, a link exists between it and all schools in which children receive lessons in Gaelic. All such schools are known to An Comunn, and the names of all children so taught are on record locally. This link can be taken advantage of as a starting place on which some organisation of Gaelic children may be at least a feasible proposition. How to organise them in their own interest as Gaels, and in the interest of the Gaelic future is a question demanding the immediate and earnest consideration of An Comunn. Our own suggestions are given below:—

5. The organisation to be named Comunn na h-Oigridh.

6. ADMINISTRATION.—We ask that in order to found and administer Comunn na h-Oigridh, the Executive of An Comunn Gàidhealach should recommend the Annual Meeting to appoint a Standing Committee consisting of the present members of Committee of Clann an Fhraoich, together with

others drawn from the general membership of Clann an Fhraoich. This Committee to have the status of other Standing Committees, and to be called "The Clann an Fhraoich Committee."

7. All clerical arrangements to be made in An Comunn office by An Comunn staff. Stationery, postages, etc., to form a separate charge on the funds of An Comunn.

8. PROCEDURE.—(1) The names, ages, and home addresses of all pupils who receive instruction in Gaelic should be obtained either from each Highland County Council or from the schoolmasters concerned.

(2) A circular letter should inform all parents that An Comunn has in view the formation of a school children's association and should outline its expected advantages, stating that for the present membership would be free, and asking them if they agree to the names of pupils shewn in the addresses being entered on the Association's roll of members.

(3) Each schoolmaster's help should be solicited in keeping the membership roll of Comunn na h-Oigridh correct from year to year in regard to his school, and his attention drawn to the competitions arranged for school children in the first page of Mod syllabus, particularly as these would form the basis of a ranking system in Comunn na h-Oigridh. It would be very important that the decided sympathy of both parents and schoolmasters should be enlisted towards the movement.

(4) RANKING.—All children joining the Association would be ranked as "Gàidheal." The test set according to any of An Comunn's Group examinations, would afford data on which the competing pupils could earn the rank of "Làn Ghàidheal" and "Sìr Ghàidheal," according to certain marks obtained. There would thus be a new incentive to undertake these school competitions so carefully drawn up by An Comunn. (For girls the ranks "Bana-Ghàidheal," etc., would be used.)

(5) So as not to exclude children who, from no fault of their own, get no school instruction in Gaelic a special form of test (say the examination set for Group D) should be made available, on passing which any pupil or ex-pupil under 16 at any school, at home or abroad, would be admitted to membership of a proper rank in "Comunn na h-Oigridh."

(6) In other matters the organisation to be worked in two sections, i.e., for girls and boys. A "Ceannard" and "Bana-

Cheannard" would annually be elected by these, respectively, to give them a lead in all matters of principle and use, particularly to encourage the use of Gaelic on the playground and elsewhere.

(7) DRESS.—No definite ruling would likely be obeyed at present, but the use of the kilt and other characteristic forms of dress and headgear would be encouraged.

(8) The most important suggestion is the enlistment of all An Comunn Branches as local sponsors and organisers. They would be the only effective means of interesting both parents and children in rural parts in the particular cause An Comunn exists to further. Each Branch could appoint a local Committee of "Maighstirean," headed by a "Ceann-feachd," and entrusted with the work of organising instructive entertainments for the members, seeing to Church attendances, arranging Gaelic Musical Classes, instituting Shinty Clubs, etc.

(9) Wherever practicable, Gaelic camps to be held during part of the summer months, to be organised by Branch "Maighstirean."

(10) A possible development to be kept in view would be the training of boys in crafts, e.g., walking-stick and caman making, woodwork, shoe-repairing, etc., and girls in carding, spinning, knitting, rug-making, native dyes, cooking, etc., etc. (probably the W.R.I. would co-operate here).

(11) By and bye the organisation would probably require a news-sheet of its own, say a monthly with a subscription of 1/6 a year. It would be wise, for obvious reasons, that such a paper should be in Gaelic only.

(12) A record should be kept in An Comunn office of all ex-school members who, as a section, might be named Clann òg an Fhraoich, enjoying ordinary members' privileges for five years or till they became Branch members of An Comunn, and full members of Clann an Fhraoich, by paying 2/6 a year to An Comunn. To this end An Comunn should recognise Comunn na h-Oigridh as a Branch organisation.

9. GENERAL.—In these suggestions no mention is made of any manner of swearing-in, or any set of rules or definite injunctions, and no programme is given of work which would have to be performed; in short, nothing is said which suggests any standardisation of Gaelic youth. Different districts in Gaeldom have different views in matters of daily life, but what matters is that in each district approved opportunities should be afforded to the young to become *good Gaels*. The future would probably

evolve a working system satisfactory to all.

It is realised that the clerical and organising work which even the suggested organisation would entail would be heavy, but it is thought that An Comunn's purposes might better be served at the present rather critical time by organising the youth of Gaeldom as Gaels than by any other form of propaganda, and there would be a decided justification for diverting some of the present available energies towards the development of the suggested scheme.

By order, and in name of the Committee of Clann an Fhraoich.

G. E. MARJORIBANKS,
Convener, Clann an Fhraoich.

25/2/33.

AN SGOIL SHAMHRAIDH.

Thàinig An Sgoil Shamhraidh aon uair eile gu crìch, agus tha na h-oileanaich a nis air an dachaidhean a thoirt orra. Bu taitneach agus cridheil a chaidh an ùine seachad, eadar srùdadh air rosg agus bacadh, comhradh buannachdail, ealdhain, coinneamhan ceòlmhor, ceildhean, agus cuirmean-cnuic, agus, mar a b' abhaist, thug iad leotha cuimhneachain bhlàtha nach diochumhnic iad gu bràth.

Is duilich gu fìor nach robh tuilleadh an làthair aig an Sgoil, a ghabhadh pàirt anns gach toilinntinn a bh'againn. Chan urrainn dhuinn gun a bhì 'gabhaill annais carson nach eil barrachd oileanach ag gabhail a' chothruim so air Gàidhlig ionnsachadh "gun deòir," an deidh cho gasda 's a tha an Sgoil a' còrdadh ris na bhios 'ga tathaich.

Anns na bliadhnaichean a chaidh seachad bhatar a' deanamh gearain air cho beag craobh-sgaolaidh 's a bha an Sgoil a' faotainn, agus tha an gearan sin ri a dheanamh fhathast. Carson nach 'eil brath air a chur gu gach oilthigh, agus sgoil, agus comunn Gàidhealach, agus baile-mòr 'san duthaich ma dheidhinn na Sgoile so?

Carson nach eil bratach na Gàidhlig air a sgaioleadh ri gaoidh air mullach gach cnuic feadh na h-Alba? Ciod e an stàth a tha dhuinn a bhì a' glaochaich "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig!" mur dean sinn a h-uile rud 'nar comas gu ar canain a thogail agus ùrachadh agus fhoillseachadh? Chaidh An Communn Gàidhealach a shuidheachadh air son "ar canain 'is ar ceol" a chumail suas, agus bu choir dhuinn a chumail 'nar cuimhne gu bheil "Canain" roimh "Cheòl." Tha mòid agus ceildhean, ceò agus òrain feumail agus riatanach air son ar spioradan a thogail suas,

agus an oighreachd phrìseil a fhuair sinn bho ar n-athraichean a shabhaladh—ach mo thruaighe an oighreachd sin as aonais na Canain!

A rèir mo bharail-sa, tha An Sgoil Shamhraidh an comas a bhì cho cuideachail le ar canain ris a' Mhòd fhein, oir chan ann ach an sgoil de'n t-seorsa so a bhios an cothrom ri fhaighinn air a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh, a chluinntinn, agus a bhruidhinn fad trì seachduinean. Bithidh an toilinntinn a gheibh sinn aig na Mòid 'gar brosnachadh gu gaol d'ar canain, ach 's i sgoil mar so a bheireadh cuideachadh do na bhitheadh ag iarraidh a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh.

A' bheil e freagarrach, matà, gu'm biodh ceudan 'nar duthaich aig a bheil meas agus miadh air ar canain, agus aig a bheil dèidh mhòr air a h-ionnsachadh, nach cuala is nach faca iomradh riamh air an Sgoil Shamhraidh Gàidhlig? Cò is coireach ris an so?

Bha anns an Sgoil Shamhraidh am bliadhna maighdean-usal de mhuinntir Eireann aig an robh sgeul ri innseadh a thug fosgladh sùla dhuinn a thaobh cor na canain anns an duthaich aice fhéin. Chan eil teagamh nach eil a' chanain a' tighinn air aghart an Eirinn. Tha fàinne airgid air a thoirt seachad do gach leanabh Eirionnach 'nuair a theid aige air comhradh a dheanamh anns a' Gàidhlig, agus 'nuair a bhios e na 's ealanta anns a' chanain, tha e a' faighinn fàinne oir. Nach urrainn dhuinn rud-eigin mar so a dheanamh an Albainn? Is ann an lamhan na cloinne a tha beatha na Gàidhlig. Ma bhitheas iadsan 'ga labhairt, mairidh i beò agus fallain, agus mar sin is còir gach cothrom a thoirt dhaibh.

B'ionghnadh le ar banacharaid o Eirinn, air dhi tighinn do Phort-Rìgh, a dh-ionnsachadh, nach robh ach deich duine fichead (agus a' chuid bu mho dhuibh nan làn aois) an làthair anns an aon Sgoil Gàidhlig a bha air a cumail an Albainn. B'èrud ionmholta a rinn An Comunn 'nuair a chuir iad air bonn an Sgoil Shamhraidh Gàidhlig, agus is neònach leam nach eil tuille air a dheanamh gu a craobh-sgaioleadh agus gu a meudachadh.

A dh'aindeoin 's cho beag is a bha an Sgoil am bliadhna, is soirbheachail agus aghmhor a bha i do gach aon de na h-oileanaich d'ealasach bha innte. Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil e comasach do 'n Sgoil Shamhraidh a rathad fhéin a phàidheadh, agus na 's mo, gur ann a dh' fhaodadh i cuideachadh a dheanamh leis a' Chomunn.

Bha gach aon a bha an làthair am bliadhna anabarrach toilichte a bhì aig an Sgoil far an do shuidhicheadh a' cheud Sgoil Chlàrsach. B'è tachartas cliùiteach ainmeil a bha sin, a

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

thogas inntinn nan Gàidheal feadh an t-saoghail. Bu shoilleir soirbheachadh na deuchainn so, agus tha dòchas agam gu'n toir e misneach do 'n Chomunn gu a ghniomhachas a sgoileadh na's fhàide.

Tha mi cinnteach nach eil e soirbh do 'n luchd-riaghlaidh nach eil a' tighinn do 'n Sgoil Shamhraidh an Sgoil a riaghladh á Glascho, ged a dheanadh iad an uile-dhìchioll, agus is ann do Mhaighstir Niall Orra a tha ar taing air son na tha e air a dheanamh gu cuideachadh a thoirt do 'n Sgoil agus do gach oileanach dian. Bu dìleas a ghniomh, agus tha An Comunn agus na h-oileanaich fada 'na chomainn.

Tha mi 'n dòchas gu'm bi anns an àm ri teachd tuilleadh co-obrachaidh eadar na h-oileanaich agus an luchd-riaghlaidh. Bu chòir do gach oileanach feuchainn ri oileanach no dhà eile a thoirt do 'n Sgoil, agus fios a chur gus an ruinaic cho tràth is a bhios e comasach dha gu bheil dùil aige a bhi an lathair 'san Sgoil. Mar sin bhitheadh tuairmse aig an luchd-riaghlaidh air an aireamh a bhios ri bhi ann, agus bhitheadh an obair na 's fhasa. Ma gheibh An Sgoil Shamhraidh deagh chraobh-sgoileadh, is ann a tha mi làn chinnteach gu'm bi an aireamh an ath-bhladhna cho mòr is gun dèan iad tri buidhnean canain, agus tha sin uile riatanach.

Tha sinne uile glé thoileach gu cuideachadh sam bith a tha 'nar comas a thoirt seachad, na 'n iarradh an luchd-riaghlaidh sin oirnn; agus dh' fhaicheadh gu 'n robh sinn a cuideachadh na cùise, agus nach ann gun seadh a bhitheadh ar guth 'nuair a theireamaid "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig!"

Dh' fheuch mi ri so a sgriobhadh anns a' Ghàidhlig, oir is maith leam a bhi 'ga gnàthachadh air gach fath a gheibh mi, agus tha mi'n dòchas gu 'n gabh an leughadair mo leisgeul ma tha mi a' milleadh na canain bhoidhich sin. Faodaidh mi a radh gu 'n d'fhuair mi a h-uile facal Gàidhlig a th' agam o'n chaidh mi do 'n Sgoil Shamhraidh o cheann dà bhliadhna, agus tha mi làn bhaingeil do 'n Chomunn, agus do Anna Nic Iain agus do Mhairi Nic Cuinn, mnathan-teagaisg a thug a leithid de cuideachadh dhomh.

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We have now entered upon our final arrangements for the National Mod, and the stage is now practically set for the commencement of the proceedings which will hold the attention of all Gaeldom from Tuesday, 26th September, until Friday, 29th September. The total entries for this year are 1387, which is 211 less than the total of 1598 received last year. The comparatively small entry of junior choirs explains this decrease. The natural apprehension of parents in permitting their children to travel to the big city for the first time is a large factor in the matter, and the absence of a number of choirs that used to come forward in previous years has its effect on all the junior competitions. There is one feature, however, which gives cause for much satisfaction. The entry of 423 in the junior literary competitions, which is an increase of 43 over last year, is nearly double the total entries received in the other sections of the junior competitions. This shows the progress made in having the language taught in the school, and it is most heartening. We trust these children will continue to come forward and take an interest in the work of the movement. It is to them we look for the future. In the senior section, with an entry of 698, there is a decrease of 61 from last year's figures of 759. When it is considered that the gold medal final competitions have been discontinued, and that the Oban and Lorn Association's gold medal competition is this year taking their place, and is being specially reserved as a final test for the six competitors of each sex who stand highest in the series, it may be said that the senior entries compare most favourably with the figures of any previous year.

* * *

A glance at the lists reveal several interesting features. The new interest now taken in the Clarsach as a result of the efforts of Comunn na Clarsaich is evidenced by the increase experienced in this class. There are nine competitors in the competition where the performers accompany themselves and five in the new competition where those taking part will be solely judged for their rendering of the accompaniment for "Oran Mor Mhic Leoid." The new competition, in memory of the late Mr. Calum MacPharlain, has an entry of 47. The largest number in any competition is 75 in

the "James Grant," made up of 34 ladies and 41 gentlemen. There are 13 aspirants for the bardic crown, and 35 girls and 22 boys have entered for the junior medals. This year we are to have with us the presence of several senior choirs that are taking part for the first time. The peninsula of Kintyre is to be particularly well represented. There will also be a ladies' choir from Ayr, while our friends from London are to be present once more. To all these we extend a cordial welcome to the Mod, and hope they will fully enjoy the proceedings. The following summary showing the entries received on the last occasion the Mod was in Glasgow in 1921 and also those of this year, will best indicate the progress that has been made in that period:—

JUNIOR SECTION.			
	1921.	1933.	
Literary	143	423	
Oral	66	107	
Duet and Solo Singing ...	55	144	
Choral	6	15	
	270	689	

SENIOR SECTION.			
Literary	49	50	
Oral	42	114	
Duet and Solo Singing ...	365	423	
Instrumental	31	42	
Choral	28	68	
	515	697	

* * *

The proceedings will be conducted on much the same lines as in previous years. The junior competitions will be held on Tuesday, and the prize-winners will sustain the programme of the concert in the Berkeley Hall in the evening. From Wednesday until Friday the seniors hold the stage. The official opening takes place on Wednesday at 12 noon, and the welcome by the Lord Provost and Magistrates of the City will be extended to the Mod that evening. On Thursday the Rural Choir concert will be held, and the Grand Concert in two houses on Friday evening. The first of these will commence at 6.30 p.m., and the second at 9 p.m. The programme at these two houses will be the same.

* * *

For the information of members, I may say that the charges of admission will be as follows:—Junior Concert, Tuesday, Berkeley Hall, 2/6 and 1/6. Rural Choir

Concert, Thursday, Grand Hall—Reserved Seats, 3/6; Unreserved, 2/6 and 1/3. Grand Concert (two houses, 6.30 and 9 p.m.), Grand Hall—Reserved Seats, 5/-; Unreserved, 3/6 and 2/6. Booking arrangements and sale of tickets will be entirely undertaken by Messrs. Paterson, Sons & Co., Ltd., 152 Buchanan Street, Glasgow, C.1, to whom all applications should be sent. In the case of the Friday evening concerts, patrons should state which house they desire to attend. No tickets can be had from this office. For the convenience of members and others it has been arranged to transfer the bookings to St. Andrew's Hall during the Mod week. Tickets will then be available only from Messrs. Paterson's representative at the hall. The Chairmen at Mod Concerts will be as follows:—Junior Concert, Tuesday evening, Miss Campbell of Inverneill, M.B.E.; Rural Choir Concert, Thursday evening, Sir Iain Colquhoun, Bart., of Luss, D.S.O.; Friday Evening Concert, First House, Right Rev. Dr. Lauchlan MacLean Watt; Friday Evening Concert, Second House, His Grace The Duke of Montrose, C.B., C.V.O. The crowning of the Bard will take place at the first house on Friday evening. Trophies and prizes will be presented at the second house.

* * *

A list of hotels and boarding-houses has been prepared, and anyone desiring a copy may have same on application to the Secretary.

* * *

We are glad to announce that the Railway Companies will provide return tickets at single fare—plus fractions of a penny—for the double journey from stations within a radius of sixty miles from Glasgow, including Perth and Dundee. These tickets will be valid for day of issue only. Messrs. MacBrayne (1928) Limited and Messrs. MacCallum, Orme & Co., Ltd., continue their concession of return tickets for the Mod period at single fare. The tickets issued by Messrs. MacBrayne will be valid until Monday, 2nd October, and those issued by Messrs. MacCallum, Orme & Co. until Tuesday, 3rd October. Passengers travelling by the Campbelltown steamers, "Davaar" and "Dalriada" will receive cabin fare tickets for the Mod period for the modified fare of 4/-. It should be carefully noted that it will be necessary to present the usual vouchers signed by the General Secretary at the time of purchasing tickets to receive

these concessions. In all cases a stamped addressed envelope should accompany requests for vouchers. Those who are to attend the Mod for the whole period, and to whom the day return tickets do not apply will not require vouchers as in former years. The summer time special fares of single fare and a third for the return journey are being continued, and will be available to all passengers at that time.

* * *

An interesting item of Mod news is that the B.B.C. are arranging several broadcasts of the proceedings. The Rev. Neil Ross, C.B.E., D.Litt., president, will give a talk on the Mod, from the Glasgow Studio, at 6.45 p.m. on Thursday. In addition a Ceilidh on Thursday evening is in prospect, and arrangements are also being made to broadcast a portion of the Friday evening concert. Full details of these items will be given later in the various radio publications and the daily press.

* * *

I would like to remind members that during the past few years it has been the custom to provide facilities at the Mod for the payment of subscriptions. Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, will be in daily attendance for this purpose, and it is hoped that all those who intend to be present, and who have not yet responded to the treasurer's appeal, will make a point of seeing Mr. MacPhail before they leave the city. There are many people who regularly come to the Mod who have not yet associated themselves with the movement. We feel sure that this omission has only to be mentioned to them to be rectified, and if members, on meeting their friends, would kindly approach them on the subject, they would be rendering a distinct service not only to the Mod itself but to the cause of which it is but a part.

* * *

A new trophy has just been presented to the Mod. The Greenock Gaelic Choir has donated a handsome silver cup to the "Puir-a-beul" competition, and it will be awarded to the winners of the competition at this year's Mod. There is now a trophy for all the choral competitions, both in the junior and senior sections. We take this opportunity of publicly expressing our appreciation of the interest and generosity of our Greenock friends.

The concert at Luss on 4th August was most successful and enjoyable. Sir Iain Colquhoun, Bart., of Luss, D.S.O., presided, and there were present as his guests several of the athletes taking part in the amateur championships held at that time. We would express our thanks to all who assisted this effort, and particularly to Mr. Andrew Colquhoun, who undertook all the local arrangements, and to Mrs. Sinclair Colquhoun, Luss Hotel, for so kindly providing hospitality for the artistes.

* * *

From a very favourable review of An Comunn's latest publication, *Sar Orain*, in the *Scottish Educational Journal*, I take the following: "Each poem is preceded by an introduction, biographical and critical, of great value. The notes are very full, and reveal on the editor's part no small degree of scholarship, and an immense capacity for taking pains. Obscurities of vocabulary and syntax, and difficulties of a more general character are boldly faced and discussed with an authority which commands respect. Particularly interesting are the remarks on the build and rig of Clanranald's Galley, and the description of the lock of MacIntyre's gun. The topography of the Ben Dobhruain region is discussed in detail and a map included. These particulars illustrate the thoroughness with which the editor has performed his task. Above all, Mr. MacLeod reveals a balance and sanity of judgment which are all the more refreshing because these qualities have not always been characteristic of the work of writers on Gaelic and Gaelic subjects. Mr. MacLeod is to be congratulated on his work, and An Comunn on their choice of editor."

* * *

It will be of interest to our readers to be informed that the author of the Gaelic article on the history and traditions of Barra and Kishmul's Castle, which appeared in the last two numbers, is a young lady, Miss Christina MacFadyen, who is completing her education at Jordanhill Training College, Glasgow. This paper was delivered in the form of a lecture at a meeting of Ceilidh nan Gàidheal last winter. It is most gratifying to see young ladies like Miss MacFadyen coming forward, who are not only well informed in the lore and traditions of their native district, but are also able to employ our ancient language with such ease and literary grace.

NIALL.

A' BHEALLTUINN.

By DONALD McMILLAN, Corrybeg.

*(First Prize Recitation of Original Poetry at
Fort William, 1932).*

Tha 'Bhealltuinn air tighinn
'S an Samhradh as ùr
Le blàths chuireas fàs
Anns gach càil thig roimh 'n ùir;
Tha 'n t-àilean air àiteach
Le neoinéan an àluinn,
Gu oirdhearach, fàinneachail
Bàn-ghealach flùr.

Tha 'n t-seamrag fo 'n stac
A tha 'n taice na bruaich,
'S na cuileagan fasgach
Nach fhairich gaoth tuath;
'S e blàth ghath na gréine
'S an òg-mhaduinn chéitein,
Dh'ùr-bheothaicheas gach té dhiubh
Gu éirigh a suas.

Tha 'n t-uinnsean 's an darach
An taice 'n uillt ruaidh,
Bu ghruamach mu'n Challuinn
'S bu ghartaiche tuar;
'S e blàths-ghaoth na Bealltuinn
Thug snodhach 's na meanglain,
Is maoth lus an t-Samhradh
Dh'fhag seannas an snuadh.

Tha 'n calltuinn 'sa bhruthach
Air tulaich nam bruach,
Gu bagalach, mogalach,
Cnothachail, cruaidh;
Bìdh òigridh le àbhachd
'Ga leanail gu dàicheil,
Thar gheugan is chràcan
Bheir càileachd do 'n cnuas.

Tha 'n caorunn ri fhaotuin
Air aodann a' bhlàir,
Gu gaigleanach, ruidhteach,
Gu righinn a' fàs;
Gach meangan air lùbadh
'S e lònmbhor 'ga ghiùlan,
Gu dearg-chuireach, cubhraidh,
'S e sùghar gu bharr.

Gu'm bheil am preas cuilinn
Air uilinn 'sa chàrn,
Is nead aig an uiseig
Fo dhuilleig a' chràc;

Le foighidinn 'na suidhe
'Cur blàths anns na h-uibhean,
'S nuair bhriseas an t-slige
Gu'n tig aisd an t-àl.

Tha 'm bricean 'sa bheithe
Ri ceilear gun tàmh,
'Ga fhalach 'sa bharrach
Tha dlùth air a bàrr;
A' seinn a cheol sùgraidh
'S an Samhradh tighinn dlùth dha
Le oiteagan cùbhraidh
'Cur sunnd ris a' bhlàths.

Na caoraich 's an fhreach
An leitr nan crann,
Le 'n uain bheaga mireadh
Gu clisg-leumach seang;
Le 'n cridheachan meara,
Le toradh a' bhainne,
'S e clob agus cneamh
A chuir reachd 's na bheil ann.

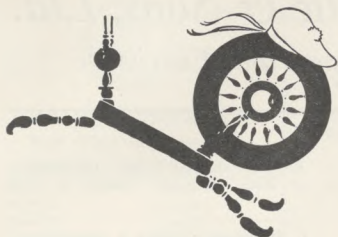
Gach eunlaith is ainmhidh
Is meann anns an t-sliabh
Bha ri dùdlachd a' Gheamhraidh
Cho blianail ri sian;
'Toirt molaich do 'n Ard Righ
Am miannan a shàsuich,
'S le ghràs thainig blàths
A chuir fàs anns an fheur.

Gach ciorramach euslainteach,
Déireasach, truagh,
Bha 'n slabhraidhean reòdhta
'Ga leòn leis an fhuachd;
Thainig Samhradh teas-éibhinn
Rinn slàinte do 'n fheumach,
Thainig locshlaint o 'n ghréin
A leighis creuchdan an t-sluaigh.

Tha 'n Samhradh air tighinn
'S tha 'n Geamhradh air chùl,
Tha àileas an àilean
Gu bràighe nan stùc;
Tha còisir nan speuran
A' coireil le cheile,
'S an laoidhean éibhneach
'Gan gleusadh as ùr.

Members should note that the Annual Meeting on Saturday, 30th September, is to take place in the Highlanders' Institute, 27 Elmbank Street, Glasgow, at 10 a.m. The Mod dates are 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th September, in St. Andrew's Halls.

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Advertisements under the above heading will be accepted by The Simmath Press, Ltd., Simmath House, Roseangle, Dundee.

SPECIMEN REPORT ON INSTRUCTION IN GAELIC.

THIRD STAGE.

Reading of Treòraiche, more difficult. Blackboard much used in explaining ending of words, i.e., ach, each, idh, eadh, etc. (soon mastered).

Conversation lessons on phrases and words, i.e.—

[Morning, Trath-maidne.]

Glasadh an latha.

Glasadh gorm an latha.

a'ghormanaich.

The dawn song of birds, lark, etc.

Animals early astir (good example).

Ciaradh an fheasgair.

[Evening, Trath-eadraidh.]

Cathanaich, Cathain (lesson on flight of wild geese).

Dealachadh nan trathan.

Cath-thonn, cath-thuil.

Nature Study Lesson.—Gàir-na-mara—Forecast of a storm.

Latha buidhe Bealtuinn.

Nach buidhe dhuit.

Tha' bhò buidheach.

Tha mi cho buidheach de Mhàiri.

Tha mi buidheach (rather discourage this phrase after meals).

Geography.—Special attention paid to place names in district, Slochd an dòrchoin (nr. school).

[Milky Way, Four Chief Points.]

Outer and Inner Hebrides (names and stories of same, etc.) Scotland (as much G. of Scotland as possible).

Physical features of Scandinavia.

Reference to Bergen.

Names and stories of fishing grounds near Barra—a subject with which they were all very familiar.

History.—Sometimes taken with geography. The story of the Celts and language.

Danish occupation and invasions of Hebrides (familiar subject again).

Somerled the Great. Lord of the Isles.

Beginning of Clan-ship, Feudal System,

Flora Macdonald, Prince Charlie,

Wanderings of Prince Charlie, St.

Columba, Early Christianity at Iona.

Drill.—Old Gaelic games.

Songs.—Labour songs, Waulking songs, very suitable for the teaching of history, manners, and customs of bygone days. Rowing songs, Milking songs, Churning songs, Riding songs, Sea songs.

Fingalian Code.—Proverb (or motto): "An t-ionnsachadh òg an t-ionnsachadh ceart." Among other rules—

1. Respect and kindness to old people, "Duine aosda" preferable to "bodach," or "seannduine" might be used. Beauty of words, "seannduine liath," pointed out commands respect.

[Kindness to Animals.]

2. Fingalian names not to be used outside school-room as nick-names.

3. To glean as many sgèulachdan, nursery rhymes, etc., as possible ("all is fish that comes in the net").

[Also boat, etc.]

Boys to assist father in building, thatching, etc., of outhouses. To learn the names of the different parts of the building, tota, etc.

Girls to assist mother and glean from her.

4. Boys and girls to glean from grandparents. Type dying out, the Red Indians of our race; impress this on children.

SEASONAL LESSONS AND GAMES.

At the New Year "duain" were revised and new ones learned. Parents and grand parents were willing helpers in this. To obtain the co-operation of parents, etc., and to awaken their interest in the Gaelic movement and instruction of Gaelic to their children, history, music, manners, and customs of the olden times, the old custom of waulking or fulling the blankets was revived and made a public affair. All were invited, men, women, young and old.

Old women came from all the villages to take part in the waulking.

Waulking over, they enjoyed a spirited reel to the tune of the bagpipes. They danced gracefully, and were a lesson in deportment and manners to the younger generation. Many old songs were unearthed.

As will be seen from all the foregoing we tried to work in a natural way.

[No games at this stage.]

1. Speech. Sgeulachd invaluable for idiom.

2. Drawing.

3. Writing.

4. Reading.

First lesson on accent in Treòraiche omitted. Found it greatly confused children. Had special lesson on the same accent. B.B. illustrations. Found phonetic method of instruction unsuccessful. I found that the method given here produced good results. Pupils had an extensive vocabulary in Gaelic and English.

AN CLO MOR.

Le RUAIRIDH CAIMBEUL, Minaird.

(4 *cheud duais ionann, Mod Dhumhainn, 1930*).

I

Ann a bhi 'gabhail a' chuspair so, mar dheuchainn, co-cheangailte ris a' Mhòd, tha aig a' cho-fharpuiseach so ri aideachadh, gu robh e roimh làimh de'n bheachd, gu'm faodadh luchd-sgrùdaidh a bhi mi-thoilichte leatha, a thaobh a furasdachd, ach le tuilleadh cnuasachaidh mu'n chùis tha e làn-dhearbhte gu'm faodadh e bonn-sgrìobhaidh cus na b'fhusa fhaotuinn, gu sònraichte, a chionn 's gu' bheil mòran fhacail air an gnàthachadh, a tha air dol a mach a cleachdadh an diugh, agus, mar sin, a bha duilich an toirt gu cuimhne. Tha rùn orm cinn-sgrìobhaidh a ghabhail le beachdachadh air a' chuspair fo na cinn a leanas:—

(1) Smeuradh no smiùradh nan caorach. (2) Rùsgadh nan caorach no latha faing an rùsgaidh. (3) Nigheadh na clòimhe. (4) Dath na clòimhe. (5) Cleardh agus Càrdadh. (6) Sniomh. (7) Deilbh agus Figheadh. (8) Luadh.

(1) SMEURADH—Chan eil a leithid de rud agus smiùradh air a chleachdadh an aite sam bith an diugh, a chionn, le Achd lagha, feumaidh caoraich a bhi air an tumadh ann an stuth-glanaidh, dà uair 's a' bhliadhna. Feumaidh, a thuilleadh air sin, a' maor-sithe a's fhaig air làimh, sgrìobhadh fhaotuinn gu'n deach an tumadh so a choimhlionadh gu h-òrdail agus gu rèidh anns gach baile. Anns an t-seann latha bha gach teaghlach a' sònrachadh oidhche àraidh gu smiùradh nan caorach. B'i an oidhche fhada gheamhraidh a bha air a cleachdadh an còmhnuidh air son na h-oibreach so, agus bhiodh na h-uiread de bharailtean tearra air an òrduchadh leis gach beag bhaile agus tuath, mu sheachdunn ro' àm an smiùraidh. Bhiodh prais mhór, ris an cainte a' phrais-thearra air a' cumail, gu daonnan, anns gach dachaidh agus an uair nach biodh feum dith bhiodh i air a' cumail air a beul foipe an cùil air chor-eigin mu'n tigh. Dh' fheumadh an tèarr a bhi aig tigheadachd shònraichte agus b'e olla éisg, mar bu trice, a bha air a cleachdadh gu a tanachadh. Bu trang a bhiodh buill an teaghlach fad an latha ri cruinneachadh nan caorach de'n t-sabhal, ri deasachadh fuirm smiùraidh agus ri socrachadh na prais-thearra gu goireas an luchd-smiùraidh. 'Se fìor obair sgìth a bh'ann do neach a bhi fad oidhche le

dhrum crom a' tearradh agus bu mhaith an obair caora a chur seachad fa chomhair gach leth-uair-an-uairadair, a chionn gu robh na caoraich trom agus doirbh an umhlachadh aig an àm so de'n bhliadhna. Is cuimhne leinn an toileachadh agus an t-urram mór a bhiodh ann dhuinn cothrom fhaotuinn gu breth air na caoraich agus an cur thar an casan mar bhiodh feum. 'Sannan sin a bhiodh na sgeulachdan co-cheangailte ri muir is tìr agus cha bhiodh fear nan rann idir air dheireadh, am feadh a bha mise balbh agus bodhar do gach ni eile air thalamh agus mo shùilean mar gu'm bitheadh iad air an glaochadh ris na nithean a bha mu'm chomhair. Bha gach caora air a' leagail eadar glùinean an fhir-smiùraidh agus strìoch air a deanamh anns a chlàimh leis an dà ordaig o bhun an earbuill gu caol na h-amhach. Mar so bha strìoch an dèidh strìoch air an deanamh ma thri òirlich o chèile agus gach strìoch air an tìsraigeadh le bhi tumadh na corraige anns an tèarr.

Tha e air aideachadh gu saor an diugh, nach eil an tumadh idir cho maith do'n chlàimh ris an t-seann doigh, ach ged a dh' fhaodas sin a bhi mar sin cha ghabh an smiùradh a thoirt air ais ged bu mhaith leinn e.

(2) RUSGADH—An dèidh an smiùraidh bha na caoraich saor o thuilleadh dragha, co-dhiù, a thaobh na clòimhe, gu meadhan an ath-shamhraidh, an uair a bhiodh na caoraich air an rùsgadh. Bha latha faing-an-rùsgaidh 'na fhìor latha mór anns gach baile agus na'm feòraicheadh neach dhìom de an latha bu sgìthe bhithinn, ann an làithean mo chinneis— an uair nach cuireadh dìreadh is teàrnadh nan uchdach cus orm, cha bhiodh e duilich dhomh aideachadh gu'm b'e sin latha fainge. Tha cuimhne mhaith agam ruith o'n sgoil gu tric air an latha so. Ach nach b'fhìach e an t-saothair? Tha mi a' smaoinreachadh, da rìreadh, gu'n deanainn na bu trice e a rithisid, na'm bu rud e 's gu'm faighinn m'òige air ais aon uair eile:—

Bha mi uair a bha mi eòlach
Air gach lòn a bh'air an fhìreach.

An uair a bha mi òg is eutrom,
Ri cuairteachadh an sprìidh mu'n innis.
B'èibhinn siubhal feadh na còinnich,
'Sa dìreadh leòidean 'gan tilleadh.

A thaobh muinntir a' mhonaidh a bhi 'fàgail a' bhaile aig càinealachadh an latha bhiodh na caoraich gu cumanta anns an fhaing aig tràth nòin agus mu leth-uair-an-uairadair an dèidh sin bhiodh a chaoraich féin ceangailte aig gach fear air an rèidhlean ghorm ri taobh na fainge agus cha chluinnt e ach fuaim nan

deimhisean agus “Thoir dhomh spearrach!” “Cuir lùthag air an té sin!” “De an comharra cluaise ‘tha oirre?” “‘S e caorra fhuadainn a tha so,” agus mar sin air aghaidh. B’e pàirt de na comharraidhean cluaise anns a’ bhaile anns an do rugadh mise iad so:—beum, barr na cluaise, clisinn, toll, crabhcan, miaolan, agus sùbhlag; agus bha bodach ainmeil ‘san dùthaich a bhiodh a’ falbh o fhaing gu faing, agus bha e air a ràdh nach robh comharra cluaise anns an dùthaich nach b’aithne dha, agus b’e sin mu àireamh chòig mìle, ged nach sgriobhadh ‘s nach leughadh e smid. Aig cìaradh an fheasgair thigeadh cairtean air tòir na clòimhe, bha an fhaing seachad, chluinnte mèilich nan uan a chaidh iomrall air na màthraichean, air a’ chùl, agus dheanamaid ar rathad dhachaidh, gu dubhach sgìth ach a’ miannachadh gu mòr ‘nar cridhe gu’m bitheadh faing eile ann a’ lath-arna-mhàireach.

(3) NIGHEADH NA CLOIMHE—Théid a nis, brath a ghabhail air a’ cheud latha maith a bhios ann gus a’ chlòimh a nigheadh. Cha b’e sin latha gun sunnd, an latha ‘bhiodh na boireannaich le’m fillidhean mu’n glùinean agus cas-rùisgte a’ bogadh na clòimhe le’n casan, ann an tubaichean móra ri taobh na h-aibhne, a’ chlann bheag ri màgàran ‘s an fheur ghorum mu’n cuairt agus na gillean beaga a’ deanamh leum-leoga le ‘bhi tilgeadh leacan cloiche do’n linne. ‘Nuair a bha ‘chlòimh tioram bha i air a cur seachad ann am pocannan ‘s an t-sabhal gu àm a’ chalanais, agus b’e sin fad a’ gheamhraidh—àm an t-sneachda ‘s an reothaidh—an uair nach gabhadh cus de dh’oibre fearainn a chur air aghaidh. ‘Se cheadh na clòimhe ceud thoiseachadh a’ chalanais, agus, gu dearbh, b’e sin an obair a bha ‘g iarraidh foighidinn gu leòir, ged a bha aon mhaith oirre agus b’e sin nach robh cus sgìl ‘ga iarraidh agus gu’m faodadh beag agus mòr, sean agus òg, làmh a chur innte. Nach tric a chuidich sinn ar seana-mhàthair chaomh—ise a bu toighiche leinn ‘s a bu chùramaich umainn, an uair a bhiodh sinn ‘nar suidhe an taic an teine agus teas na griosaiche ri figheadh brat sgeilmeil de bhreacan Màiri Uisdean air ar luirgne lomnochd—anns an obair mhàirnealach fhadalaich so.

(4) DATH NA CLOIMHE—‘Se dath na clòimhe obair a tha a’ nochdadh a mach eirmiseachd agus gnìomhachas na muinntir o’n d’thàinig sinn, agus is duilich aideachadh nach eil boireannaich an latha so idir cho ealanta ann an oibreachadh nan dathan spèisealta a chunnaic sinn an uair a bha sinn ‘og. Tha dathan bùtha cho goireasach agus cho furasda an cleachdadh an diugh ‘s nach ruig neach a

leas a’ bhuadhan nadurra a chur an cèill ach ann an tomhas ro bheag. Bha, mar sin, ar sinnsearan cus na bu ghéire agus na bu tùraille nam breitheachadh air nìthean nadurra, na tha muinntir an diugh. Bha iad a’ faotuin teagasg o luibhean na machrach, o aghaidh a’ chuain, o aodann na speur, o thorran nan eas, agus o shéideadh nan gaothan, a bha ‘toirt dhaibh mór eolais agus gliocais a bha barraichte, a thaobh nan suidhichidhean sin, an coimeas ruinne. Bha móran lusan air an cleachdadh ceudan bliadhna air ais, gu dath clòimhe ‘us aodaichean agus nì an àireamh beag sinn an diugh, ‘nuair a sheallas agus a bheachdaicheas sinn cho beag ‘s as aithne dhuinn, eadhon de dh’ainmean nan luibhean ‘nar cainnt fhìn. Tha mòr thoileachadh agamsa ‘cur sìos an so ainmean nan luibhean a’ bhithinn a’ cluinntinn ‘nam bhalach, agus an fheum gus an robh iad air an cur, no co-dhiù, na dathan a bha air fhaotuin uapa:—

Dath Duth—Seilidear, fèarna, grainnseag, preas-nan-àirneag, agus copag.

Gorm—Braoileagean (dearc-an-fhraoich, curra-mhiag, lus nan-dearc) agus an droman.

Donn—Crotal, duileasg agus duilleag-bhàite. Cro-dheirge—Corcur agus crotal-geal.

Uaine—Conas, ràmh-dhroigheann, fraoch agus bealaidh.

Or-ubhal*—Beàrnan-brighde, buaghallan-buidhe, preas nan smeur.

Purpur—Feòras, lus na fearnaich, crotal-coinnich.

Dearg—Crotal-nan-creag, leanartach (braonan-fraoich, cairt-làir, leamhnach) agus rùdh (ruamh).

Buidhe—Craobh-ubhal, uinnsean, leamhan, roid, raineach, achlasan-Chaluim-Chille (Eala-bhuidhe).

Bha lusan sònruichte air an cleachdadh, gu bhi ‘g almadh no a’ cairteadh na clòimhe, agus b’ iad sin, an cumantas, a’ chairtlair, a’ chairt-leamhna, agus a’ chopagach. Bha féill mhór air an rùdh o chionn leth-cheud bliadhna air ais, mar luibh a dheanadh dath breagha, dearg. Tha an lus so a’ fas ann am fearainn mhachrach, agus tha i ro fheumail gu ceangal na gainmhaich, agus gu a’ cumail o bhi air a’ séideadh bho àite gu àite le gaoth thioram shoirreach an earraich. Air an aobhar so tha e mi-laghail a bhi buain freumhaichean na luis so an diugh. Tha sinn a’ tuigsinn gu robh i anabarrach pàilt air machraichean Bheinn-a-Faogha, aig aon àm agus gur h-ann an so a chuireadh a’ cheud chasg orra-san a bha ‘cleachdadh an rùdh gu dath nan clòitheat.

(Ri Leantainn.)

* Orange.

GAELIC SUMMER SCHOOL, PORTREE.

The annual Gaelic Summer School was held in Portree from Thursday, 6th July to Thursday, 27th July, and was an unqualified success throughout. The courses included the teaching of the Gaelic language to junior and senior classes, instruction in Gaelic singing, and in the Clarsach, and in Celtic art. The students were of all ages, interests, and vocations, the result being that in addition to the technical lessons on the various subjects the students were able to pool their experience of life and profession, and so to add to the mutual profit and interest. Many approached the language from the sentimental and traditional standpoint, being themselves of Highland extraction, but many others came from the Low Country and England, and were not forgetful of the fact that Celtic used in many instances to be the language of their own eastern counties, and of England as well. Thus it was that the whole attitude of the classes to the Gaelic language was widened, and received a new interpretation and impetus.

In addition to the professional teaching of the various subjects the students participated in public concerts and private ceilidhs, at which they had the opportunity of hearing excellent Gaelic, both spoken and sung. A special feature of the final course was a rendering by the Junior Gaelic Class of a spirited translation into the Gaelic language of the well-known nigger minstrel song, "So early in de mornin'," which was specially written for the occasion by Mr. Calum Johnstone of Barra. So successful was this song that the chorus—

"Anns a' mhaduinn mhoich-thrath,
Anns a' mhaduinn mhoich-thrath,
Anns a' mhaduinn mhoich-thrath,
Mu 'm briseadh air an là,"

was heard being sung in the neighbouring island of Raasay next day.

Several of the students were teachers by profession, and hence it was inevitable that the whole question of Gaelic teaching to the younger generation should be discussed both publicly at meetings and privately in conversation. It was felt very strongly by many that (a) children who had not been taught Gaelic by their parents should be able to begin *ab initio* at school; (b) children under fourteen years of age, who had become competent Gaelic speakers at school should be examined by An Comunn, should they or their teachers desire it, and receive

a proficiency badge as an outward and visible sign of their ability to manipulate the spoken, written, and read language.

The object underlying *a* is evident. The object underlying *b* springs from the fact that boys and girls who are not likely to compete for distinction at Mods, or to obtain Leaving Certificates from School, or to go to Universities, but who nevertheless form the rank and file of the Gaelic hinterland, should have their Gaelic speech carefully nurtured. The giving of a proficiency badge, after due examination by An Comunn on suitable lines, would act as a great incentive both to the children and their teachers, who, in many cases, are teaching in remote schools under very isolated conditions.

It will thus be seen that the students of the Gaelic Summer School took the widest possible view of their opportunities in coming together for a common end, and in doing so they received the utmost encouragement from their far-seeing, talented, and energetic teachers. It was frequently stated, both publicly and privately, that the Gaelic Summer School is serving a most useful end in giving opportunities for acquiring the language to persons who would otherwise remain ignorant of a very important part of their traditional heritage. The existence of the Summer School is worthy of even greater publicity.

WILLIAM P. MILNE.

Professor of Mathematics.

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LITIR GUS AN FHEAR-EAGAIR.

Mo dheagh Charaid,—With reference to my motion to be submitted at the Annual Meeting, I would draw your attention to the fact that several errors have crept into the text, probably owing to my bad handwriting. It should read:—

“That An Comunn Gaidhealach, in co-operation with the Gaelic branch of the P.E.N. Club, and representatives of the various churches serving the Gaeltacht, undertake to investigate the recent developments of Gaelic and its requirements regarding vocabulary; that An Comunn be also empowered to consult the Educational Authorities of the Irish Free State, so that the increase of the Gaelic vocabulary be common to both Ireland and Scotland; finally, that An Comunn should undertake the rationalisation of Gaelic spelling in conjunction with the Educational Authorities of the Irish Free State, with the express view of rendering Gaelic as comprehensible, as modern, as commercial, and as widespread as any other European language.”

In support of this resolution, and in order to save time at the Annual Meeting, I should like, if there is space, to draw the attention of your readers to the following brief points:—

1. To-day, for the first time for centuries, there is a Gaelic state in existence, where Gaelic is recognised as the national language and where Gaelic tuition is compulsory in every school, namely, the Irish Free State.

2. In that country Gaelic is the sole medium of instruction in about 150 schools, and is rapidly becoming the linguistic medium of the rising generation. This interesting feature is illustrated by the fact that at the last public examinations, out of 20,000 papers answered, over 5,000 were answered in Gaelic, showing a very appreciable increase on the 1932 figures.

3. As every subject, from Greek to Higher Mathematics, is being taught at Galway University and elsewhere in Ireland through the medium of Gaelic, it is imperative for us in Scotland to keep in close touch with this movement, which enables Gaelic youth to obtain the finest education possible through its native medium.

4. Literature of the highest order is being produced in Irish Gaelic, such as Maurice O'Sullivan's “Fichead bliadhna a' fas,” which in its English translation has been made “The Book of the Month” in both Great Britain and the U.S.A.

Now, at the present moment, it is not difficult for a good Gaelic speaker from Scotland or Ireland to make himself quickly at home with his cousins over the water, but with so many new words coming into the Gaelic dialects there is the very grave danger that in a few years each will have become incomprehensible to the other. Take, for example, a word like motor-car; “carbad ola” in Scotland, “gluaistean” in Ireland.

Besides trying to defend our language, we must try and expand it. Waulking songs are lovely, but economic and engineering books in Gaelic are more important. The growth of Gaelic has been sadly impeded during the last one hundred and fifty years, and there is no time to lose. We must put Gaelic back on the map like the Welsh have their own lovely language, and show that there is as much vitality in it as Hungarian, Czech, or Finnish, and any other language which has been threatened with extinction in the past. To do so we must, as pure common-sense dictates, work in conjunction with our Gaelic cousins across the sea. We shall have to yield on some points, so must they; but we must see that we surmount petty jealousies and provincialisms in order that our children and our children's children have at their command the tongue of their forebears in such a manner that they can be understood from Cape Wrath to Cape Clear, and through use of the same earn their daily bread as their ancestors did.

Believe me, dear Mr. Editor and President, le gach dùrachd,

ALEXANDER McKECHNIE.

Fircones, St. George's Hill,
Weybridge, 4th August, 1933.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.

The Mod is drawing near. One often hears complaints that Gaelic is not heard sufficiently nor spoken sufficiently during Mod Week. I would make an appeal on this occasion to all who know the language. I would appeal to them to use it freely, and not be ashamed to do so. We create difficulties by our own example. How can we expect the stranger to believe in the downright sincerity of this movement if so be that when we assemble at the National Mod we prefer to use English. Even though your Gaelic should be a little rusty from want of practise, you will soon find the wheels going smoothly, and you will render a service to the language. NEIL ROSS.

PERTSHIRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

Representative Gathering at Aberfeldy.

Perthshire Provincial Mod was held in Aberfeldy Town Hall on 16th June. This annual Mod is a most attractive event for all Gaelic speakers in the central and northern districts of Perthshire, and there was a large attendance, practically every district in the northern area of Perthshire being represented.

An entry of 200 represented a slight decrease as compared with last year. A most encouraging feature this year was the large entry in the junior sections, especially in the oral work.

In the evening a concert was held in the Town Hall, Aberfeldy. There was a large and enthusiastic audience. Major Lord James Stewart Murray, hon. convener of the Mod, presided, and the prizes were presented by Mrs. Haggart, J.P., Aberfeldy.

The following is the prize-list:—

Oral Delivery—Reading Prose—1, Barbara MacPhail, Killin. Reading (piece selected)—Catherine Shaw, Killin.

Solo Singing (boys under 10 years)—1, Andrew Sime, Grandtully. Solo Singing (girls over 10 and under 16)—1, Mary Shaw, Aberfeldy. Reciting from Memory (An Sruthan), Open to Learners—1, C. Shaw, Killin.

Solo Singing (girls)—1, Margaret MacMaster. Kinloch-Rannoch. Solo Singing (seniors)—1, Annie C. Stewart, Keltneyburn. Reading from Memory—1, Margaret MacMaster, Kinloch-Rannoch.

Solo Singing (boys over 10 and under 16)—1, John Gow, Glengarry. Girls or Boys—1, Roderick MacPherson. Duets—1 and 2 (equal), Elenora Gow and Jean Taylor, Pitlochry, and Frances Henderson and Lottie Robertson, Pitlochry.

Girls or Boys, over 16 but not over 18—1, Isabel Robertson, Aberfeldy. Duets (over 16 and under 18)—1, Anny Campbell and Isabel Robertson, Aberfeldy. Reciting from Memory, open to learners—1, Barbara MacPhail. Narrative, followed by conversation—1, Catherine M. Robertson, Glenfincastle.

Solo Singing (Senior Section)—Male Voice—1, W. Christie, Fortingall. Male or Female Voices—1, Miss Annie G. Stewart. Male or Female Voices (unpublished Perthshire song)—1, Miss Annie G. Stewart. Singing (former first prize winners)—1, Isabella Menzies.

Violin Playing—1, Muriel Goodall, Pitlochry. Junior Choral—1, Pitlochry Junior Choir. Bagpipe Playing—1, Angus MacKillop, Perth. Duets (Senior Section)—1, Miss Chrissie Coull and Joseph Coull, Acharn.

Violin (Seniors)—1, James Smith, Blair Atholl. Piano-forte (Juniors)—1, Angus Cameron, Aberfeldy. Seniors—Betty Stewart, Aberfeldy.

Place Names—Miss Isabella Robertson, Blair Atholl. Place Names (Junior)—1, Ivy MacGregor, Dalguise School.

Repetition, open to Native Speakers under 16—1, Cathie Shaw, Killin.

Unison Singing (Juniors)—1, Grandtully Gaelic Choir. Choral Singing (Mixed Voices)—1, Pitlochry

Senior Gaelic Choir. Choral Singing (Ladies' Voices)—1, Pitlochry Ladies' Gaelic Choir.

Reciting from Memory (Juniors)—1, James Robertson, Glenfincastle. Recitation (Senior Oral)—1, Miss Margaret Morrison, Aberfeldy.

Oraid Ghàidhlig, Original Gaelic Speech—1, Wm. MacAulay. Sgeulachd, Narrative of an Unpublished Historical or Traditional Gaelic Story—1, Miss Margaret Morrison.

SKYE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Skye Provincial Mod at Portree on 27th and 28th June was, in all respects, a most successful festival. All districts throughout the island were represented in the competitions, and in addition to the very high standard maintained the proceedings were of a most heartening and enjoyable nature. A very commendable feature of this Mod was the action of the adjudicators in submitting their criticisms in Gaelic. These remarks were equally as intelligible and as closely followed as though submitted through the medium of English. This is a practice that could be followed at most other Mods. At the close of each day's proceedings, very successful concerts were held. The senior prize-winners were as follows:—

Gaelic Poem—1, John Nicolson, Uig.

Essay on an Historical Local Incident—1, Ann MacLeod, Portree.

Collection of Unpublished Skye Songs—1, Mrs. Catherine Douglas, Kilmuir.

Essay—1, Malcolm MacLean, Portree.

Place Names—1, Ann MacLeod, Portree.

Oral Delivery, Reading at Sight—To be chosen by the Judges—1, Hughina Mackinnon, Portree.

Recitations—1, Ann MacLeod.

Telling of an Unpublished Local Story—1, Katie MacDonald.

Acted Dialogue—Ina MacPhee and Ina Mackinnon.

Solo Singing, Female Voices—1, Kate MacPherson, Portree.

Solo Singing, Male Voices—1, Duncan Corbett, Uig.

Solo Singing, Female Voices (Test Song)—1, Kate MacPherson.

Solo Singing, Male Voices (Test Song)—1, James Graham.

Solo Singing, Male Voices (Own Choice)—1, Duncan Corbett.

Solo Singing, Female Voices (Competitors under 18)—1, Isobel Shaw.

Solo Singing of Skye Song, Air, and/or Words, Unpublished—1, James Graham.

Duets—1, Margaret Steele and Flo Reid, Portree.

Unison Singing—1, Portree.

Choral Singing—1 (equal), Portree and Strath.

Puir-t-a-Beul, Male or Female Voices—1, J. A. Graham.

Instrumental Section—Bagpipe Playing of Marches—1, Alick Campbell, Dunvegan.

Playing of March, Strathspey, and Reel—1, Donald MacKenzie.

Practice Chanter, confined to Juniors—1, Angus Ferguson, Dunvegan.

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