

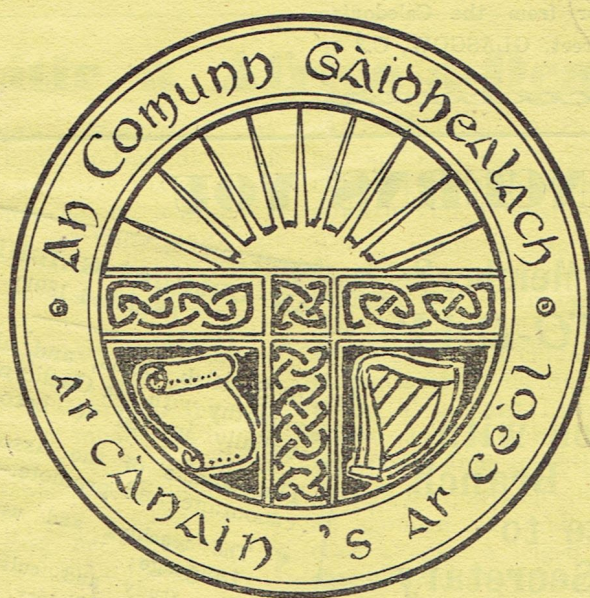
An Gàidheal

== THE GAEL ==

VOL. XLVII

FEBRUARY, 1952

No. 2



Miosachan Gàidhlig is Beurla
GAELIC AND ENGLISH MONTHLY **6d**

JUST PUBLISHED

A Reprint of

NICOLSON'S GAELIC PROVERBS

To which an Index etc. has been added by

MALCOLM MACINNES, M.A., LL.B.
(Of Drumfearn, Skye, and Inverness)

Med 8vo, 516 pp. 30s.

From any Bookseller or from the Caledonian
Press, 793 Argyle Street, GLASGOW, C.3

THIS CONCERNS YOU

Are *YOU* a Member?
If not *JOIN TO-DAY*

Get in touch with
your Local Branch
or write to
The General Secretary

The Gaelic Movement
needs you Don't fail it

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH
65 West Regent Street Glasgow
Branches Throughout Scotland

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.—

- ¶ The teaching and use of the Gaelic
Language;
- ¶ The study and cultivation of Gaelic
Literature, History, Music, and Art;
- ¶ The native industries of the Highlands
of Scotland, and
- ¶ The wearing of the Highland Dress.

Terms of Membership.

LIFE MEMBERS
One Subscription of £3 3/-

ORDINARY MEMBERS
Annual Subscription of 5/-



AN GAIDHEAL THE GAEL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Editor

REV. T. M. MURCHISON, M.A.

Advertising Manager

JAMES HARRISON MILLER

All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, except that concerning advertising, which should be addressed to the Manager.

65 West Regent Street,
Glasgow, C.2.

Telephone: DOUGLAS 1433.

CLAR-INNSIDH

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

GAIDHLIG

Litir á Africa	9
Litir Gu Maighistir Ailean	11

ENGLISH

Dr. Norman Maclean	10
Notes and Comments	10
Fishing Limits	11
Secretary's Notes	12
Executive Council	12
New Periodical	13
Northern Organiser's Notes	14
Recent Publications	15
Treasurer's Notes	16

AN GAIDHEAL OG

Amadan Chill-Fhinn	5
Dòmhnall Gorm	6
Litir Bho'n Mhór-Sgeir	7
Coimeasan	7

Leabhar XLVII

AN GEARRAN, 1952

Aireamh 2

Litir a Africa-a-Deas

Fhir-Dheasachaidh.—An “Gaidheal” na Sultuin tha sibh, an dà chuid an Gàidhlig is am Beurla, ag àireamh nan aobhar a tha a’ cur as do’n Ghàidhlig mar dhual-chainnt, ach, a réir coltais, cha tàinig e idir gu bhur n-aire, gu bheil sinn a nis a’ fogharadh toradh nan ceithir fichead bliadhna de theagasg na cloinne tre mheadhon na Beurla.

Ciamar as urrainn e a bhith gum mair a’ Ghàidhlig air bilean na cloinne, agus iad air an smachdachadh gu bhith a’ smuaintinn am Beurla, agus am Beurla a mhàin? Fiù am beagan teagaisg a thàtar a’ deanamh air a’ Ghàidhlig, is ann tre mheadhon na Beurla a tha e, agus tha na leabhraichean-teagaisg air an ullachadh air son teagasg na Gàidhlig tre mheadhon na Beurla, mar chànan choigreach.

Tha gach nì air a shònrachadh a chum stiùradh inntinnean na cloinne Gaidhealaich an amar na Beurla, agus is i a’ chànan anns a bheil sinn a’ smuaintinn as deise a leumas gu ar bilean. Mur teid so atharrachadh, agus gu h-aithghearr, cha bhì tuilleadh tairbhe an saothair a’ Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich na bhiodh ann an cur plàs air uachdar othair a tha a’ lobhadh o’n taobh-a-staigh. Agus, mo nuar, chan ’eil mi am beachd gu bheil aon chuid an Comunn Gaidhealach no na Gaidheil air làr

na Gaidhealtachd fuathasach déidheil air clann na Gaidhealtachd a bhith air an teagasg tre mheadhon na Gàidhlig a mhàin. Tha iad fo amharus gum mill seo Beurla na cloinne.

Nan tigibh-sa aon là do’n dùthaich seo dhrùidheadh an fhirinn oirbh. Tha clann na dùthcha seo air an teagasg tre mheadhon an cànan mhàthaireil gu aois shè bhliadhna deug, agus chan ’eil aon chion Beurla orra. A ghabhail muinntir gheal na dùthcha seo thar a chéile, thàtar a’ labhairt Beurla fada nas fheàrr na bhàtar ann an roinn mhóir de Shasann am làithean-sa anns an dùthaich sin.

Mura h-atharraich sibh am meadhan-teagaisg an sgoilean na Gaidhealtachd, faodaidh sibh cead a coise a leigeil leis a’ Ghàidhlig mar chainnt, agus cha dean uile shaothair a’ Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich nì nas tarbhaiche na ball-sampaill dhith a chumail am bith air chleas na coise-cruime an taigh-àrsaidhean.

Na bithibh am beachd gur ann a’ faighinn coire a tha mi. Chan ann gu dearbh, ach a’ foillseachadh na firinn. Chan ’eil nì saoghalta a b’fheàrr leamsa na gum maireadh a’ Ghàidhlig agus an Comunn Gaidhealach, ach cha mhair a’ Ghàidhlig agus a’ chlann air an tumadh thar an cinn an amar na Beurla. Chunnaic mise le mo shùilean fhéin an lobhadh ceudna air dual-

chainnt anns an dùthaich seo, agus chunnaic mi an leasachadh, agus i air a togail gu inbhe àrd tre theagasg na cloinne 'nan cànanin mhàthaireil.

Pretoria.

DONNCHADH MACDHUNLEIBHE

(Tha rud aig ar caraaid, rud as còir ar dùsgadh gu smuain is gu deasbud is, seach gach nì eile, gu gnìomh. Cluinneamaid, ma thà, beachdan ar luchd-leughaidh mu'n chùis seo. An i seo an dòigh air cor na Gàidhlig a leasachadh—teagasg na cloinne a bhith tre mheadhon na Gàidhlig? Air neo, a bheil dòigh nas freagarraiche ann?—F.-D.)

A SAD BEREAVEMENT. Their many friends feel the deepest sympathy for Mr. and Mrs. Donald Thomson, Oban, in the loss of their five-year-old son, Lionel, as the result of an accident. We pray they may be consoled and strengthened.

DR. NORMAN MACLEAN

BY the death on 15th January of the Very Rev. Norman Maclean, D.D., in his native Isle of Skye, a notable career has been closed. The son of the schoolmaster of the Braes, Portree, where he was born in 1869, Norman Maclean passed from the local school to Rain-ing's School, Inverness (nursery of many distinguished men and at that time under the rectorship of Dr. Alexander Macbain, a leading Gaelic scholar of his time), and then to St. Andrews and Edinburgh Universities. From one of the smallest and most remote of charges (Watnish, Skye), he passed step by step, by way of the parishes of Glengarry, Colinton, and the Park (Glasgow), to one of the largest congregations in the Church of Scotland, St. Cuthbert's Edinburgh, where he ministered for twenty-two years. He was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1927, and rendered outstanding service to the Church in many ways.

One of the foremost preachers of his time, Dr. Maclean was also a gifted author and wrote many books, including two recent volumes of autobiography, "*The Former Days*" and "*Set Free*". One hopes that the third volume of his autobiography is in a sufficiently advanced stage of preparation to be published.

GLIOCAS NAN GAIDHEAL

Far am bi an t-iasg, is ann a bhios na h-eòin.

FIRINN AIR SON A' MHIOS SEO

Ge b' àit 's am bi a' chairbh, is ann an sin a chruinnichear na h-iolairan.—*Mata* xxiv. 28.

Notes and Comments

Higher Gaelic. The Scottish Leaving Certificate Higher Grade Examination in Gaelic was instituted in 1916, when 26 pupils were presented. In the thirty-year period from 1916 to 1951 (excluding 1940-45, when special war-time regulations were in force) the total number of pupils presented was 1,050 (an average of 35 per year). Dividing the thirty years into ten-year periods, we find the number presented in each period to be: 1916-25, 165; 1926-35, 427; 1936-51 (excluding 1940-45), 458. This indicates a steady increase despite the census figures. The peak years were: 1931 (56), 1938 (50), 1939 (53), 1950 (50), and 1951 (51). We owe these figures to the courtesy of Sir J. Mackay Thomson, Secretary of the Scottish Education Department.

Who Wrote It? Mr. J. N. Macleod enquires about the authorship of the song, "Fhir a dhìreas am bealach." It begins:

"Thig trì nithean gun iarraidh,
an t-eagal, an t-iadach, 's an gaol."

In "*Sar-Obair*" it is ascribed to "Nighean Fhir na Reilig." Can anyone help?

"The Clarion." Mr. A. W. Nicolson's useful and interesting little journal holds on its way. The January 1952 issue runs to 16 pages, and includes a rare variety of items—district news, comment, weather news, anecdotes, poems, correspondence, a book review, and several long articles, along with a large number of advertisements, which cover an extraordinary assortment of things wanted and for sale, from "one large bath, suitable for crofter's bathroom" to a haystack and white cow (price £26).

Fios a New Zealand. Tha ar taing aig Mgr. Murchadh Dòmhnallach air son na chuir e chugainn, agus tha sinn an dòchas gun d'fhuair e an litir a chuir sinn chuige-san. Tha e ag innse dhuinn gu bheil Comunn Gàidhlig fa leth anns na trì bailtean móra, Wellington, Auckland, is Dun-éideann; gu bheil ceud gu leth ball ann an Comunn Gàidhlig Wellington; agus gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig aig mu leth na h-àireimh sin. Tha e ag ràdh gum biodh mòran am measg na h-òigridh thall an sin deònach a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh, nan robh luchd-teagaisg ann dhaibh. B' àbhaist an t-Ollamh Eòghann MacCoinnich, an Oil-thaigh Victoria, a bhith a' cumail clas Ghàidhlig.

Litir bho Dhomhnall MacCarraig gu Mgr. Ailein Domhnallach, Eirisgeidh

FHUARAS an litir seo am measg phaipeirean Mhgr. Ailein. Bha Dòmhnall Mac Carraig eudmhor a thaobh beul-aithris Gàidhlig, agus rinn e cruinneachadh de dh'òrain luadhaidh agus cruinneachadh de sheanfhaclan. A réir mar a chuala mise, thug Gill' Easbuig Mac 'Ille Mhicheil na h-òrain luadhaidh sin air falbh gu Dun-Eideann, ach ged a bha mi sealltainn a mach air an son nuair a bha mi an Dun-Eideann o chionn ghoirid cha d' fhuair mi fhathast iad. Rinn Mgr. Ailein eadar-theangachadh de dh'fhèadhainn dhiubh, agus chitear an sin gur h-e òrain mhatha a bh'annta. Bu mhór am beud mura faighear iad.

Seo agaibh, ma tà, litir Dhomhnaill anns an litreachadh aige fhéin :—

Cillpheadair 'n Coigeamh La
diag do'n Iuchar

Go Maighstir Alain Domhnallach
Sagart Eireisgaidh

Guidheam oirbh gun fhaicinn dona na dana dhomh an ionnsuidh lapach agus fhaoine seo thoirt uam go sgrìobhadh ugaibh. Cha'n ann 'n diugh na 'n de thainig e a staigh orm, ach gu tric agus minic bho'n a rinn sibh an imric uain.

'S cuimhneach leam air latha sonruichte ann an Dalabrog gu'n do dh'fhoighneachd sibh dhìom am b'aithne dhomh ni ma shealladh Eachain mhic Leoid, ma'n robh uine agam a'r freagairt thuirt mo charaid ionmhuinn Maighstir Caimbeall gu'm b'ann do mhuintir Ghearraidh Sheille bha 'm Bard sin. Thainig seanachas eile 'n stigh 'n deigh sin air chor 's nach do fhreagair mise cheist gosa nist.

Bha uair a b'aithne dhomhsa gu leor ma thiomachioll Eachain 's a chuid Bardachd 's bha roinn mhath agam hin diubh a chuala mi o'm sheanair—agus 's e mo bharrail gu'm fac e 'n duine. Co dhiubh mar a fac' e e, bha moran aige do sheanachas ma dheighinn; chuala mi hin e cantuinn gu'm b'ann daonan maille ri Sagart Maighstir Forastar a bhiodh e fuireach; bu tric le'm sheanair a bhi seinn oran, *Seadh* na onar; 's ro thrì bhiodh seallad(h) a Bhàird mar a theireadh e fein, agus dan na Smeoraich leis ga'n luaidh, air dhomhsa bhi cho tric gan cluinntinn 's meomhair chumanta bhi agam, ar leam gun dug mi leam a'd le cheile. 'S thug mi 'n oidhirp 'n uiridh air an sgrìobhadh duibhse o bha sibh a foighneachd ma aon diubh. Sa n' am 'n cuala mi iad cha robh moran agam umpa

's ann le tuiteamas a dh'ionnsaich mi iad 's bha eagal orm 'n deigh dhomh 'n sgrìobhadh air ur son mach robh a'd slan agam, biodh na na biodh 's fiach a'd 'n tsaothair, na th'agam dhiubh.

Mar 's trice a thig mi thairis orra 's ann a's taitnìche tha a'd a cìntinn 's gu sonraichte coilleach na Smeoraich, dhe gach Bardachd a chuala na leubh mi riabh thug e gu mor an urram dhiubh ach a mhain marbh-rann Fir Aird na bidhe, 's e sin mo bheachd hein.

Faodaidh e bhi gu'm faca sibh fein sgrìobht ad ma tha tuilleadh ri fhaighinn diubh rachainn fad air a luirg.

Tha mi 'n dochas gu'n bheil sibh gu math 's gu'm bheil at slainr a 'g ath-thilleadh mar bu mhiann

le Donill MacCarraig

Cillpheadair.

Feumaidh gun deachaidh an litir seo sgrìobhadh an déidh do Mhgr. Ailein a bhith air a shuidheachadh ann an Eirisgeidh, 's e sin, an déidh na bliadhna 1893.

FEAR CHANAIDH.

FISHING LIMITS

A PROTRACTED dispute between the British and Norwegian Governments has just been settled by a decision of the International Court of Justice at the Hague. The case concerned the legality of the Norwegian claim to regard as territorial waters for fishery purposes the seas between the islands off the coast of Norway and the mainland and the waters of the fiords. This decision is of very great importance.

We recently heard a Lewisman say that an uncle of his had been harbourmaster at a certain fishing harbour on the west side of Lewis. In his early years there, 100 fishing-boats regularly sailed in and out of that harbour, but latterly there were only two or three, until at last there was no need to put up the harbour lights at night.

The decline of the inshore fishing and the steady disappearance of the crofter-fisherman all along the West Coast may have been brought about by several factors, but it can scarcely be denied that the lack of protection for the inshore fisheries against the depredations of trawlers, British and foreign, has contributed greatly to the decline.

Some twenty years ago "The Sea League" was established in the Outer Hebrides, its objects being to have full inquiry made into the decline of the local fisheries and to devise method of controlling the fishing areas. Among the measures proposed was that the Minch, as well as the Moray Firth, should be closed to steam trawlers, and that, in general, the Norwegian principle should be adopted that waters "within the jaws of the land" should be regarded as national waters for fishery purposes. The Norwegians have held all along that there is no valid reason why fishery limits should be identical with the three-mile neutrality limit. Various interests in this country, and not least the Government itself, have been opposed to any extension of the fishery limits, and the main

argument was that any such extension would be contrary to international law. The recent decision of the International Court shows that to close the Minch, the Moray Firth, and the Firth of Clyde to trawlers would not be contrary to international law.

Mr. J. L. Campbell of Canna, who was one of the leaders of the Sea League, has been pointing out that, had the Norwegian principles of fishery protection been adopted by Scotland when steam trawling first started, the West Highland crofter-fisherman would not have lost his livelihood.

Here is an issue which, despite the many grave problems of the time, ought not to be shelved.

Fios o'n Runaire

PAISLEY: The Secretary presided over a meeting of the Paisley Highlanders on 3rd November. Weekly meetings are held regularly during the winter session and accommodation is fully taxed at all meetings. It was intimated at this meeting that a Gaelic Choir was about to be formed and an appeal was made for members. The Gaelic language class, conducted by the President, Rev. A. C. MacGillivray, is being well attended.

VALE OF LEVEN: The opening meeting of the Vale of Leven Branch was held in the Masonic Halls, Alexandria, on 21st November. The Secretary presided and was introduced by the new President, Captain MacInnes. Mr. Shaw had the following party with him to sustain the programme:—Mrs. Malcolm MacLeod, Alexander Brown, Peter MacKay, Miss Bessie Alexander (violin) and Miss Chris. Turner (accompanist). There was a very good attendance of members and friends, and during a short interval Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Assistant Secretary, gave short addresses in Gaelic and English.

HELENSBURGH: A well attended meeting of the Helensburgh and Clan Colquhoun Association was held in the Victoria Hall, Helensburgh, on 19th December, over which the Secretary presided. He was introduced by the President, Mr. D. J. Ewing Hunter, whose guest he was at Inverlyon. A Gaelic Choir has been formed under the auspices of the Association, and the Gaelic Class, which has been a feature of the session's activities for several years, is making good progress.

PERTH: At the monthly meeting of the Perth Gaelic Society held on 10th January the General Secretary gave a talk on the Orain Mhora. He was accompanied by Mr. Iain

Douglas, Gold Medallist, who sang the songs mentioned during the talk. Mr. Shaw, in his introductory remarks to each item, referred to the authors and to the circumstances which inspired the poems. Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, Chief of the Society, presided over the largest meeting held by the Society this session. Tea was served, after which songs in a lighter vein were sung by Iain Douglas and Iain MacLeish. Ex-Chief John MacDonald, Mrs. MacDonald, Miss Grace MacKenzie, and Mr. Dugald MacDonald, Stonehaven, were among the many old friends present. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw were the guests of Mrs. Junor and her daughter during their short stay in the Fair City. The Gaelic Class, conducted by the Chief, is flourishing.

CRIEFF: The Secretary travelled to Crieff on 15th January and addressed members of the Crieff and District Highland Association in the local Institute. Miss Cameron presided and was supported by Mr. Athole Robertson, Editor of "The Scots Year-Book", a Vice-President of the Association. Mr. Shaw reviewed the work of An Comunn, with particular reference to Mods and the Census Returns. Local artists contributed a varied and interesting programme of songs, recitations, and bagpipe selections. Hospitality was provided by the Association in the Glenburn Hotel, and Mr. Shaw was assured before leaving that his visit was greatly appreciated and would encourage the members to a greater effort.

STIRLING: The monthly meeting of the Stirling Branch was held in Millar's Tea Rooms on 18th January, and the programme was arranged by Mrs. MacKenzie, who represents the Branch on the Executive Council. The

(Contd. on p. 13)



AN GAIDHEAL OG

MIOSACHAN COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH

Leabhar XLVII

AN GEARRAN, 1952

Aireamh 2

Amadan Chill-Fhinn agus an t-Uircean

Le DIARMAD

ANNS a' bhliadhna 1832 bha aig Siorramachd Pheairt ri fear a thaghadh air son Pàrlamaid na rioghachd. Bha Morair Ghleann-Urchaidh, oighre Bhealaich, ag iarraidh a staigh air son nan *Whigs*, agus Sir Deòrsa Moireach air taobh nan *Tories*. An déidh còmhstri chruaidh, rinn guth an t-sluaigh roghainn de Mhorair Ghleann-Urchaidh. Bha aoibhneas mòr air na *Whigs*, agus thug iad dinneir bhriagha agus bàl eireachdail ann an Cill-Fhinn gu bhith a' cumail air chuimhne na buaidhe a fhuair iad agus gu bhith a' cur onair air Fear na Pàrlamaid a choisinn i.

Chaidh bùth mhór fharsaing a chur suas dlùth do dh'eaglais na sgìre, agus air a' cheart fhonn air a bheil an eaglais bheag Shasannach a nis 'na seasamh. Bha àireamh mhath de dhaoine uaisle na siorramachd cruinn aig a' chuirm ainmeil seo, cho math ri mòran de mhuinntir Bhraghaid-Albann eadar beul Tàtha agus Cruachan. Cha robh biadh no deoch nach robh gu pailt air a' bhòrd, agus neo-ar-thaing mur fhaigheadh.

"An taigh soilleir na féile
Gach ceòl bu bhinne r'an éisdeachd,
Co-fhreagairt a chéile,
An fhiodhall 's na teudan 's a' chlàrsach."

Bithidh fhios aig ar luchd-leughaidh gur e torc, no muc fhiadhaich, suaicheantas Caimbeulaich a' Chaisteil Bhealaich. Ann an òran Dhonnchaidh Bhàin do Réisimeid Bhraghaid-Albann, gheibh sinn na facail seo:—

"Bha 'n suaicheantas àraid
Is na h-àrmainn d'a réir,
Bréid sròil ri crann-àrd
Is torc làidir nach géill."

Gu bhith a' cur an tuilleadh onair air teaghlach Bhraghaid-Albann, cha robh uircean fireann muice mar mhlèan do Chill-Fhinn air nach deachaidh greim a dheanamh agus a thoirt gu Cill-Fhinn. Chaidh sgian-dubh a chur r'am muineal gu bhith leigeil leis an fhuil a bhith a' ruith; chaidh am plodadh le uisge teth; chaidh gach frioghan is greann, gach colg is calg, a sgriobadh 's a robadh dhiubh; chaidh a h-uile greallach-mionnach a ghlanadh gu pongail air falbh; chaidh an taobh a staigh is

an taobh a mach a nighe gu math is gu ro-mhath; chaidh am bruithheadh gu cùramach; chaidh an deasachadh gu seòlta air son na cuirme; agus an sin chaidh an leigeil gu grinn ann an àitean freagarrach, beagan astair o chéile, air bòrd mòr na féile.

An uair a bha a' chuid mu dheireadh de'n obair seo a' dol air adhart, bha Uilleam Chalum, amadan Chill-Fhinn, a mach 's a staigh mar thogradh e, gun neach a' gabhail feirt no suim dheth. An uair a chunnaic e an sealladh iongantach, shanntaich e uircean. Tha mi cinnteach gur minig a chuala Uilleam Chalum seana chinn Chill-Fhinn ag radh, coltach ri clag Sgàinn, "An rud nach buin duit, na buin da." Ach, ma chuala, dhì-chuimhnich e an ràdh ainmeil seo aig an àm, oir ann am prioba na sùla bha uircean aige fo a chòta, agus theich e leis gu taobh abhainn Lòchaidh, mu thuaiream d'a cheud slat o bhùth na féile.

Chunnaic dithis no trìuir an t-amadan a' ruith le cabhaig, agus thog seo an amharus gu robh nì-eigin air dhochair, agus chaidh iad air a thòir. Bha e a nis 'na shuidhe aig bun craoibhe a' deanamh deas gu bhith a' cur as do'n uircean. Bha an latha ro-theth, agus dìreach an uair a bha luchd-tòireachd Uilleim Chalum a' tighinn an àird ris, dh'fhoillsicheadh plath dealanaich. agus an déidh sin chuala iad brùchd cruaidh tàirneanaich.

"Uhh, ubh!" thuirt an t-amadan còir, "nach e sin an stairirich air son uircean fireann muice!" (Bho "*An Deo-Greine*", 1918)

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH

Bho chuireadh Feachd air bonn ann an baile Ghlaschu air an ochdamh là de'n t-Samhainn tha na buill a' coinneachadh gach feasgar Diar-daoin ann an aitreibh a' Chomuinn aig seachd uairean fo stiùradh na Ban-Cheannaird, Sìne NicDhòmhnaill. Gu ruige seo chan 'eil ach na caileagan a bha aig Campa Luchd-ionnsachaidh an Suardail 'nam buill, ach nithear seòl an ùine ghoirid air cur ris an àireamh, agus theagamh Feachd eile a chur air bonn. Tha na buill ag ionnsachadh figheadarachd agus obair ghnìomhachais de'n t-seòrsa sin,

An Gaidheal Og

ach chan 'eil dearmad 'ga dheanamh air lùth-chleasan freagrach mar a chithear iomchuidh.

Aig a' cheud choinneamh bha a' Bhean Uasal NicGhille-na-Brataich an làthair, agus còmhla rithe bha Iain A. MacDhòmhnaill, fear-teagaisg na Gàidhlig ann an Sgoil Bella-houston, a' Mhgn. Sìne NicDhòmhnaill, an Rùnaire, agus a luchd-cuidichidh. B'e an Rùnaire a riaghail a' choinneamh seo agus a mhnich do na caileagan ciod a bha iad a'

gabhail os làimh agus ciod a bha dùil gun dean-adh iad as leth ar cànan. An déidh nam bóidean àbhaisteach thug a' Bhean-Uasal NicGhille-na-Brataich seachad na bràistean le facal misnich do gach aon diubh. Labhair Mgr. MacDhòmhnaill agus a' Mhgn. Sìne NicDhòmhnaill briathran misneachail ris na caileagan agus a' guidhe gach soirbheachadh a bhith leotha. Is e àireamh nam ball aig an ám, fichead.

Domhnall Gorm

Le IAIN N. MACLEOID

A M measg cinn-fheadhna nam fineachan Gàidhealach anns na linntean a dh'fhalbh chan 'eil eachdraidh na h-Albann ag comharrachadh a mach nas iomraitiche 'na latha fhéin na Dòmhnall Gorm Dhun-tuilm, Triath Shléibhte is Thròndairnis anns an Eilean Sgitheanach agus fear-seilbhe móran de fhear-ann Uibhist a Deas agus a Tuath. Is e MacDhòmhnaill a theireadh na h-eileanaich ris mar bu trice.

Anns na h-oidhirpean-litreachais seo tha mi air son iomradh a dheanamh air cuid de sheanchasan mu Dhòmhnall Gorm nach 'eil an clò idir.

Ged is e duine fiadhaich borb gun iochd 'na chaithe-beatha a bha ann, bha tuigse agus breithneachadh sònraichte aige.

An uair a chuireadh air bonn "Reachdan I Chaluim Chille", chan fheumadh Dòmhnall Gorm ach seisear fhiùran de luchd-leanmhainn a chumail anns a' chaisteal, agus chan fheumadh armachd, claidheamh, biodag no airm sam bith a bhith air an cleachdadh. Bha cead aige ceithir tunnachan, is e sin ochd pìoban, de fhìon a chaitheamh anns a' bhliadhna. Bha sia fichead dusan searrag cumanta anns gach tunna, ach chan fheumadh duine de'n luchd-leanmhainn blasad air deoch idir. Theagamh gun d'rinn Dòmhnall Gorm lagh dha fhéin anns na gnothaichean sin cia bè air bith ciod i a' bhòid a thug e seachad.

Aig an ám seo shocraich MacDhòmhnaill a shùil air ceann a tuath Uibhist far an robh Clann MhicLeòid na Hearadh a' dol gu uchd an dìchill fiach an coisneadh iad beagan fearainn. Bha sùil aig Dòmhnall Gorm cuideachd an caisteal a bha am meadhon Loch Chaluim-Chille, an Cille-Mhoire, far an robh Pàirc, an Lochlannach, a' gabhail còmhnaidh.

Bha curaidhean anabarrach foghainnteach, toirtealach, snaomanach aig MacDhòmhnaill fhéin 'na dhùn ris an abradh iad MacSuain á Bràigh Thròndairnis, Uisdean Mór Mac Ghille Easbaig Chléirich, Mac Iain Mhic Sheumais as a' Chuidrich, Taothag Mór Mac Cuinn, agus Mac Ghille Charra á Tota-Ròm agus a dhithis mhac. Thug am morair òrdugh gum biodh na curaidhean seo air an tional os ìosal agus air an sadadh air bòrd nam birlinnean a bha aca am falach, agus a null a ghabh iad do Uibhist an aghaidh àithne an rìgh.

B'e Mac Suain agus Uisdean Mór na ceannardan a bha orra, agus, nan rachadh aca air cur as do na Hearaich, gheall MacDhòmhnaill do Mhac Suain am Bràighe, Ratharsaidh, agus Beinn Lìdh, agus do Uisdean na h-uile sgriob o Earrlais gu abhainn Ghlinn-Hinisidil.

Choinnich na curaidhean le an cuid ghaiseach Clann MhicLeòid, agus, ma choinnich, cha b'ann gun fhios. Chuireadh blàr millteach air Tràigh Chàirinis, gach buidheann a' cath leis a' chlaidheamh agus a' bhiodaig. Cha robh gunna caol aig duine a bha an làthair, ach, ged nach robh, bha fuil air a dòrtadh gun abhsadh idir, air chor is gun tuirt bàrd a bha 'nam measg:

"'S truagh nach robh Tràigh Chàirinis
'na blàthaich 's 'na gruth,
'S bhiodh mnathan nan ceàrdan
le'n spàinean a muigh."

Chaidh iomadh fear-ghnìomh a nochdadh gu h-àraidh le Mac Dhòmhnaill Hearaich a thug a leithid de dhùbhlán do Uisdean Mór fhéin agus gum b'fheudar do'n laoch sin a bhith a mach gu ruig a achlaisean anns a' mhuir 'ga dhìon fhéin.

Mu dheireadh chuireadh ruaig air Clann MhicLeòid agus am beagan làithean thill na
(An còrr air t.d. 8)

Litir Bho'n Mhor-Sgeir

Fhir-Dheasachaidh Urramaich,

Gabhaidh sibh mo lethsgheul sgrìobag mar seo a chur chugaibh, ach tha rud agam ri ràdh, agus their mi e a dheòin no a dh'aindeoin. Faodaidh e a bhith nach 'eil mòran sgoile againn mu chladaichean na Mór-Sgeir, agus gu dearbh, mar a thubhairt Ciorstaidh Chaol uair is uair, is beag ar feum air sin. Ach, biodh sin mar a bhitheas, chan 'eil sinn gu tur aineolach, agus theid aig cuid againn air leughadh, ged nach 'eil aon phaidhir speuclairean 'nar measg.

An là-roimhe nach ann a thàinig Tormod Trosg, am bodach còir, do'n Chéilidh Sheachd-aineach againn, agus criomag phaipeir aige 'na ghob. Saoil sibhse dé bh'ann? Bha bideag de "Mhìosachan Comunn na h-Oigridh" a fhuair e an àit-eigin. Is iomadh rud neònach a gheibhear anns a' chuan, agus b'e siod, 'nam bheachd-sa, an rud a bu neònaiche buileach—pìos duilleige á "Mìosachan Comunn na h-Oigridh." Biodh am barail fhéin aig càch, tha mise de'n bheachd gur ann as a' bhàta-smùide, an "Loch Mór", a thàinig am paipear ud. Tha mi a' smuaineachadh gu robh cuid-eigin a mhuinntir Innse-Gall a' gabhail a thuruis air a' bhàta, agus ceapaire aige paisgte ann am pìos paipeir gus an t-acras a chumail dheth gus an ruigeadh e port. Agus gu dé am paipear-pasgaidh a bha aige ach duilleig de'n "Mhìosachan" agaibh.

Agus gu dé bhur barail air seo? Nach ann m'ar timcheall fhéin a bha na bha sgrìobhte air a' phaipear a thug Tormod dhachaigh leis. Leugh Tormod a mach gu dòigheil a h-uile nì mar a bha e sgrìobhte aig "Tormod Tuath." Bha cuid ann a rinn gàire, ach chunnaic mi gruaim is dreun air fear is té thall 's a bhos.

"Gu dé a dh'fhàg gruaim orra?" arsa sibhse. An e na breugan a bha aig "Tormod Tuath" m'ar timcheall? O, chan ann mar sin idir a bha. Bha an fhìrinn aige, càit air bith an d'fhuair e i. Ach 's e a leamhaich feadhainn de'n t-sluagh againne, nach robh iomradh idir orra fhéin anns a' Mhìosachan.

A nis, Fhir-Dheasachaidh, tha fhios agaibh fhéin a cheart cho math 's a th'agamsa cho déidheil is a tha clann nan daoine air na h-ainmean aca fhaicinn anns na paipearan. Ma thà, is ann mar sin a tha feadhainn de na h-éisg mar an ceudna. Lachlainn Langa is Leacsaidh Liabag, Tormod Trosg is Seonaidh Sòrnan, Eilidh Choinnich is Bantrach Nèill Sgait! Có ach iad? Ach tha creutairean

tùrail, toinisgeil eile mu na cladaichean seo a bharrachd orrasan!

Feuch a nis gun abair sibh ri "Tormod Tuath" barrachd eòlais a chur air na daoine againne, agus àite a thoirt do fheadhainn eile anns na duilleagan agaibh. Agus gus a bhith cinnteach gun cuir sibh an litir seo agamsa an clò, seo dhuibh duanag bheag a rinn mi. Nach mi am bàrd! (Ban-bhàrd, 's e b'fheàrr leam a ràdh).

Cailleach liath na lice

Is bodach ruadh nan òb;

Ruairidh Rionnach 's deann aig':

Càit bheil fear cho còir?

Dhannsadh na cùdaigean,

's chruinnicheadh na h-eòin!

Oighrig Bheag Liabag

'S grinn fiacian a beòil;

Cailleach mhòr na Sgaite

Cho blasda ris an fheòil.

Dhannsadh na cùdaigean,

's chruinnicheadh na h-eòin!

Gu dé bhur barail air sin, a nis?

Le deagh dhùrachd,

ANNAG ADAG.

(Chan 'eil agamsa, a bhan-charaid, ach barail bho chd air do chuid dhuanag, ach is minig a thug am posta chugam rud a bu mhiosa na sin.—AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH).

COIMEASAN

Seo cuid de na ràdhan leis am bi Gaidheil a' coimeas aon nì ri nì eile. Feuch cia meud eile de na ràdhan sin a theid agad air a thrusadh.

Cho aigeantach ri fiadh.

Cho luath ri fiadh.

Cho luath ri earb.

Cho luath ris a' ghaoith.

Cho dall ri dallaig.

Cho dall ri damh anns a' cheò.

Cho sgìth ri cù.

Cho leisg ri seann chù.

Cho reamhar ris an ròn.

Cho sleamhainn ris an ròn.

Cho dubh ris an fhitheach.

Cho dubh ris a' ghual.

Cho dubh ris an t-sùidh.

Cho geal ri sneachd na h-aon oidhche.

Cho binn ri smeòrach air géig.

Cho daor ris an t-salann.

Cho crosda ris an dris.

Cho crosda ris a' chat air earball.

An Gaidheal Og

(Bho t.d. 6)

fir-feachda aig MacDhòmhnaill agus chaidh iad air sàil aon uair eile agus rinn iad calg dhìreach air Tròndairnis. Thuirling droch oidhche orra le cur is cathadh, agus an uair a bha iad am meadhon a' chuain dh'éirich gaoth mhór is chaidh an cabhlach a roinn as a chéile.

Thàinig cuid gu tìr aig Dun-tuilm, ach gu h-aimlisgeach dh'iomain an fhaire a' bhirlinn chaol aotrom aig Mac Iain Mhic Sheumais gu port Róghdail anns na Hearadh. Chaidh inn-seadh do MhacLeòid anns a' chaisteal cò na h-àrraich-cuain a bha air a' chladach leis an stoirm, agus chaidh Mac Iain agus a dhaoine suas a dh'amharc air.

"Mas maith mo chuimhne," arsa MacLeòid, "a fhichead oidhche gus an nochd mharbh Mac Iain Mhic Sheumais Dòmhnall Glas, bràthair MhicLeòid, am blàr Tràigh Chàirinis."

"Mas ann a' deanamh cuimhneachain de sin a tha thu, is e seo an t-àm," arsa Mac Iain.

Cha deachaidh iad na b'fhaide air a' mhionaid sin, agus thairg MacLeòid leabaidh dhaibh anns a' chaisteal. Cha ghabhadh Mac Iain leabaidh ach far am biodh e fhéin agus a chuid dhaoine. Chaidh na fir co-dhiubh do shabhal mór Mhic-Leòid, ach an tacan, an uair a ghabh na h-uile duine mu thàmh agus a bha fiath air muir is air tìr, dh'ealaidh na seòid air falbh gun fhios.

An uair a bha iad a mach aig bun Loch Róghdail chunnaic iad an sabhal a' dol 'na theine, agus rinn e deagh sholus daibh gus an do dheàrrs gathannan òr-bhuidhe na gréine maidne orra anns a' chamhanaich a' dol a steach do Bhàgh Dhun-tuilm.

Bha Mac Suain agus Uisdean Mór romhpa, ach an uair a thàinig am na duaise a thoirt seachad, bha car eile an adhairc an daimh agus cuilbheart-an domhain an inntinn a' Mhorair. Cha do chòrd e ri Dòmhnall Gorm idir a luchd-fearainn a phàirteachadh ri cinn-fheadhna eile. Dh'fheumadh Mac Suain ceann Phàirce, fear caisteal Eilean Chaluim Chille, a thoirt do Dhun-tuilm, agus cha d'fhuair Uisdean Mór ach Peighinn an Dùin anns a' Chuidrich.

Bha nighean aig Mac Suain d'am b'ainm Saobh. Phòs i Uisdean Mór agus chaidh iad agus thog iad caisteal anns a' Chuidrich an cois na mara. Tha an caisteal sin fhathast mar a dh'fhàg Uisdean e, gun uinneig no dorus ach fosgladh air taobh na mara.

Am beagan ùine chaidh Uisdean agus Mac Suain do'n Bhràighe fiach an d'rachadh aca air reachd a' Mhorair a thoirt gu buil. Ged a

bha lasair 'nan uchd a thaobh mar a chùim am Morair a fhacal, bha deagh fhios aca air a' chumhachd agus air an ùghdarras a bha aige air beatha no bàs. Ach cha robh uiread de eagal orra agus a bha air Dòmhnall Gorm fhéin gum faigheadh Morairean Cùirt an Rìgh a mach an spùilleadh is an léirsgrìos a bha e a' cur an cèill air feadh na dùthcha.

Bha eòlas aig Uisdean agus aig Mac Suain air na nithean seo, ged nach do leig iad dad orra. Thionail Mac Suain deich duine fichead de a chuid dhaoine fhéin agus chrom e leotha troimh gharbhlach a' mhonaidh gun tighinn am fianuis Loch Chaluim Chille, gus an tàinig iad gu cùlaibh creige mu choinneamh an locha. Chrùb iad an sin agus chuir Mac Suain air deise diol-déirce agus claidheamh rùisgte aige fo na luideagan.

"Mur bi mise leibh," arsa Mac Suain, "mun tig an latha màireach, deanaibh ràth de fhiar an locha agus deanabh dìreach air an eilean."

Dh'fhalbh Mac Suain far an robh seirbhisich an Lochlannaich ag aiseag mhòndadh, agus dh'iarr e a null do'n eilean.

"Chan 'eil òrdugh againn," arsa iadsan, "duine sam bith a thoirt a null, ach bheir sinn a nall déirce dhuit."

Chùm an déirceach orra ag ràdh gum faigheadh e fhéin barrachd agus e bhith thall. Co-dhiubh, an uair a thàinig iad air ais thubhairt iad gum foadadh e an t-aiseag a ghabhail ma bha e 'na fhear-seanchais maith.

Chaidh Mac Suain, ma tà, do'n eilean, agus gu dearbh b'e fhéin fear nan naidheachdan. Thaitinn geàrr-chunntas Mhic Suain ri Pàirc cho maith agus gum feumadh an déirceach séid a dheanamh ri taobh na leapa fiach an caidleadh an Lochlannach ag éisdeachd ris na seanchasan. Gu grad bhuail tinneas Mac Suain, agus b'fheudar an dorus fhàgail fosgailte.

O àm gu àm an uair a bhiodh Mac Suain a' tighinn a mach bhiodh e a' sìor phutadh a' bhàta sìos am mol gus mu dheireadh an d'fhuair e i air flod. An uair a chaidil Pàirc sgar Mac Suain an ceann deth agus dh'fhalbh na seòid anns a' mhoch mhadainn gu caisteal a' Mhorair. Cha robh aig a' Mhorair a nis ach cumail ri a ghealladh; co-dhiubh, cha b'ann le a chridhe a ghabh Dòmhnall Gorm ri a chùimhnant.

Anns an iomairt a bha ann, chuir Dòmhnall Gorm sanas an cluais a' Ghille Mhóir aig Mac Suain ag ràdh gum faigheadh e am Bràighe nan cuireadh e ceann Mhic Suain do an Dùn.

Dh'fhalbh na ceatharnaich dhachaigh gu deas. Thog iad taigh-seilge aig bun Beinn Lìdhe—àite aig an àm sin anns an robh féidh gun àireimh.

(Ri leantainn)

(from p. 12)

General Secretary presided over a large attendance of members, and a splendid programme of songs and bagpipe selections was submitted. The singers were:—Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Malcolm MacLeod, Tom Bryson, John Gordon, Duncan MacKenzie (Gold Medallist), and Alasdair Matheson. Miss Chris. Turner was accompanist. The Gaelic Class and Gaelic Choir are meeting regularly and are being well attended. Mrs. MacNicol, wife of the genial President, who was present, moved a vote of thanks to all who had contributed to the evening's entertainment. Mr. Shaw was the guest of Mrs. MacKenzie and her son, Angus, who conducts a weekly Gaelic Class in Falkirk.

ROTHESAY MOD

Preparations for the Rothesay Mod, which will be held during week commencing 6th October next, are proceeding satisfactorily, and various money-making efforts are being successfully promoted by the Local Committee. A Sale of Work was held in the Tower Street Hall on 11th December and was opened by Mrs. J. M. Bannerman. She was introduced by the Local Convener, Sheriff Donald, and was cordially thanked by the Lady Provost, Mrs. Elbert. The General Secretary was present and, in consultation with the local Office-bearers, gave guidance as to general procedure. Mrs. Bannerman and Mr. Shaw were hospitably entertained by the Convener and Mrs. Donald at their home, Ardmory House. It was learned that the Sale realised a sum approaching £90.

GAELIC LANGUAGE CLASSES

Gaelic Classes are being held in the following centres in the Southern area:—Ardrossan, Blair Atholl, Clydebank, Edinburgh (2), Falkirk, Glasgow (3), Grantully, Helensburgh, Kilmar-nock, Paisley, Perth, Rothesay and Stirling.

Local and Provincial Mods in the Southern Area to be held during the month of May are:—Edinburgh, 10th; Islay, 16th; Campbeltown, 22nd and 23rd. Glasgow, Mull, and Paisley are likely to hold their Mods in May

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A MEETING of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Central Halls, Bath Street, Glasgow, on 11th January, 1952. Mr. J. M. Bannerman, President, occupied the Chair.

Mr. Bannerman feelingly expressed the sym-

pathy of the members with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Thomson, Oban, on the accidental death of their young son.

Mr. Farquhar MacRae conveyed to the President the congratulations of the Council on his having been awarded the O.B.E. in the recent Honours List.

Minutes of the following standing committees were submitted, discussed, and approved:—Finance, Education, Publication, Propaganda, Art and Industry, Mod and Music.

Mr. Kenneth Macdonald, Convener of the Finance Committee, stressed the need for economy in all departments of An Comunn's activities, without, however, harming the useful work being done.

There was a lengthy discussion about the dropping of Gaelic from the list of Civil Service Examination subjects, on the ground that scarcely anyone ever took Gaelic in these examinations. The matter is to be considered further.

Mr. Neil Maclean urged that Gaelic should be available to pupils at Dunoon Grammar School, and Mr. Derick Thomson said it appeared that in secondary schools the better pupils were being directed to take Latin and French as their languages, and the second-best Gaelic and French. This, if true, was most unfortunate, and an approach should be made to the Highland Directors of Education about the matter.

It was reported that the Publication Committee is arranging to make available a catalogue of the large stock of publications available in An Comunn's office.

Great satisfaction was expressed with the decision of the Oban Branch to invite the Jubilee Mod of 1953 to be held in Oban. It was stressed that ways and means must be found of re-organising the Mod arrangements to suit the accommodation available in Oban and the other Highland centres, otherwise the Mod could be held only in the cities, which would be detrimental to the Cause.

The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held in Glasgow on 28th March at 6 p.m.

NEW GAELIC PUBLICATION PROJECTED

MR. Derick S. Thomson and Mr. Finlay J. Macdonald announce that they are planning to establish an all-Gaelic Quarterly, to be called "*Gairm*", the first number of which is promised for 20th September, 1952.

The contents of the Quarterly will consist

of general comment on Gaelic cultural matters and Highland affairs, together with special articles on Highland problems, short stories, poetry, and book reviews, as well as light and humorous articles, cartoons, pen-sketches, and photographs.

"Gaelic writers, both those of established reputation and those little known to the public, will be asked to contribute. A contemporary idiom, both of speech and of thought, will be encouraged. Anything of promise, however new and experimental, will be actively encouraged, and whatever seems valuable and live in the old tradition will be fostered."

The sponsors of this interesting project deserve congratulations on their courage and enterprise, and An Comunn Gaidhealach, as the President has already made clear, welcomes this new effort on behalf of Gaelic language and literature.

The past history of Gaelic publications,

especially periodicals, cannot prove very encouraging to new ventures in this field. Now, production costs have risen to extraordinary heights, and the secure establishment of any periodical depends on the provision of an adequate capital sum to begin with, and on a large measure of support from subscribers and advertisers. All who are really concerned to help this project are invited to contribute to a guarantee fund, by sending a personal donation or by organising some money-raising function (concert, ceilidh, sale, etc.). Donations etc., should be sent to Messrs. Thomson and Macdonald at 9 Cromwell Street, Glasgow, N.W.

If a venture of this kind is at all likely to succeed, it could not be in better hands than those of Derick Thomson and Finlay Macdonald, both men of distinctive gifts and no little experience. We wish them well, and we appeal for more concrete support for them than mere good wishes.

—T.M.M.

Naidheachd na h-Airde Tuath

NORTHERN ORGANISER'S NOTES

THE old saying, "As the day lengthens, the cold strengthens", is certainly true of the Northern Area this year. January has been a very cold month, with snow and frost, and especially after the turn of the day.

The Organiser paid a visit to the Lochaber Mod district in January, and visited the majority of the schools in that area. It was heartening to note the interest taken in the local Mod, and we are assured of a good representation of the Juniors at this year's Mod. The Junior Music has been distributed throughout the area and, after the Promotion Examinations are over (26th and 27th February), preparations will go ahead.

A meeting of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee was held on 5th January but, because of the severe weather conditions prevailing, the attendance was not up to the usual. Consideration was given to the work in general and to the Provincial Mods in particular. The dates of these Mods were intimated in the January issue of "*An Gaidheal*," except Uist. It is now understood that the Uist Mod is to be held on 1st July, circumstances permitting.

Owing to steep increases in printing, cost of travel for adjudicators and competitors, etc., local committees are finding it increasingly difficult to meet all the necessary expenses, and these committees deserve our warmest thanks for all they are doing in difficult circumstances. Much preparatory work has to be done, and members of the teaching profession and others

have earned our deepest gratitude for all they are doing to prepare the children for the various competitions, Choral, Solos, Duets, Verse-speaking, Recitation, and Reading. It is true to say that without the loyal co-operation and hard work of these good people much of the excellent work would be left undone.

A meeting of the Northern Education Sub-Committee was held on 5th January, when the educational side of the movement was considered. Satisfaction was expressed at the number of Gaelic Continuation Classes being held this session. An endeavour is to be made to increase the numbers next session.

A meeting of the Gairloch Provincial Mod Committee was held recently, and preparations are going ahead for this local Mod to be held on 16th May. Functions are being arranged to provide the necessary funds.

Congratulations to the Inverasdale Branch on having produced two Gaelic plays this winter—"Domhnall Dearg", and another play written by an Inverasdale man. It is hoped to have this latter play published.

Dingwall Branch continues to have very successful Ceilidhs. The January one was held in the lesser Town Hall and, despite severe weather and dangerous roads, there was an attendance of over 100 people. The Organiser was present, and, at the invitation of the President, presided during the first half of the evening. Mr. MacPhail thanked the Branch for their good work and said he would be glad to

have a few boys and girls at the Swordale School for Learners to be held in July.

At the January meeting of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir-Nis, as the lecturer for the evening was absent through illness, the Organiser gave a short talk on his experiences in the Highlands over a number of years. Capt. John MacLean, President, was in the Chair, and a very happy evening was thereafter spent with song and sgeulachd. At the February meeting the lady members are to provide the entertainment and, with Mrs. Menzies, Vice-President, in charge, we may be assured of a very successful evening, which is to include a short Gaelic play.

There passed away recently at The Whins,

Kenneth Street, Inverness, one of the oldest members of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir-Nis. She was Mrs. Ross, a lady who did a great deal in her own quiet way for the Gaelic cause. She was a regular attender at the meetings of the Society until illness prevented her. Her quiet voice was often heard in discussions which followed the lectures. One of her sons, Walter, was for a number of years an Itinerant Teacher of Music with An Comunn and his services were much appreciated in the various districts where he worked throughout the Northern Area. He died on service with the R.A.F. during the last war.

To the family we extend our sincerest sympathy in their great loss.

Recent Publications

GAELIC PROVERBS, by Alexander Nicolson, reprinted with Index by Malcolm MacInnes (Caledonian Press, Glasgow, 470 pp., 30/-).

In a list of, say, six Gaelic books to share one's exile, Sheriff Nicolson's great collection of Gaelic proverbs would surely merit a place. There is always something new to learn from it. It is a book to be dipped into, taken in small sips, as it were. Here is the "potted wisdom" of the Gael, the crystallisation of the shrewd thinking of countless generations. Here are pointers to life and character today, as well as insight into the sort of people the Gaelic folk were and, to some extent, still are.

Unfortunately, Nicolson's "Proverbs", of which editions appeared in 1881 and 1882, has for a long time been a rare and costly volume. Now, however, we have this splendid new edition, well-arranged, well-printed, and well-bound, and with the invaluable addition of an Index of Topics comprising some 8,000 references.

The new edition is an exact re-print, page for page, of the previous edition, and there is a brief biographical note on Sheriff Nicolson. Apart from occasional misprints, the work is exceedingly well done.

This new edition was brought out by Mr. Malcolm MacInnes, Inverness, who compiled the Index of Topics. By a melancholy coincidence, Mr. MacInnes died the week-end that the book was ready for publication, but we and future generations are in his debt for this fine piece of work.

Sheriff Nicolson, of course, used for the nucleus of his compilation the little book of Gaelic proverbs first published as long ago as

1785 by the Rev. Donald MacIntosh, a native of Badenoch, who gathered much of his material in Badenoch and Lochaber.

SOME PROVERBS AND PROVERBIAL EXPRESSIONS FROM LEWIS, by Angus Matheson (reprinted from "The Journal of Celtic Studies", Vol. I, No. 1, Nov. 1949).

Great as is the collection of proverbs made by MacIntosh and Nicolson, it represents but a part of the vast heritage of proverbial lore found among the Gaels, much of it still unrecorded. The Lecturer in Celtic at Glasgow University lists 85 proverbs and proverbial sayings, taken down from his mother and aunt, who were brought up in Ness, Lewis. The list, consisting of the Gaelic text, phonetic transcription, and English translation, supplements Nicolson's collection, with some variants, and contains some words and forms no longer in use. This paper is a valuable contribution to Scottish Gaelic studies.

EIGSE, Vol. VI, Part III, includes "Some Textual Notes on the Poems of Alexander Macdonald", by Mr. Angus Matheson. Among the sixteen items discussed, mention may be made of Mr. Matheson's note on "Dh'fhàgadh earblaich creuchdach." in the poem, "Deoch-Slàinte Theàrlaich." Apparently it was strongly believed in Scotland in medieval times that the English had tails. "It is said that after battles the Scots stripped the English dead to examine them for this phenomenon!" This may also be the allusion in Mac Mhaighistir Alasdair's fondness for splitting the English down to the *rumpall*.

OSSIAN, the magazine of Glasgow University Ossianic Society, the third number of which has now appeared, is an attractive 32-page

Treasurer's Notes

National Mod—Edinburgh, 1951

Received at Edinburgh—

Previously acknowledged ... £3,159 7 4

Received at Headquarters—

Previously acknowledged ...	£ 133 2 0
Mrs. MacPhee, Glasgow ...	0 10 0
Mrs. Mary H. M. Gilmour, Sutherland ...	1 0 0
Highland Society of Los Angeles ...	8 0 0
Miss Jean Cameron Greer, Glasgow ...	0 10 0
Miss Catriona Kelso, Aros, Mull ...	1 17 0
Mrs. A. M. MacLeod, Tobermory ...	0 3 6
Coll MacDonald, Esq., Edinburgh ...	0 3 0
Miss B. MacIver, Garve ...	2 6 0
Govan Ceilidh Committee ...	10 0 0
Thomas Hope, Esq., Moffat ...	0 5 0
Anonymous, Perth ...	1 1 0
Mrs. Flora McD. Craighead, London ...	1 0 0
Dr. A. M. Campbell, Edinburgh ...	1 0 0
Capt. Wm. Mackay, Inverness ...	1 0 0
Miss Grace MacKenzie, B.Sc., Craigie, Perth ...	2 2 0
Mrs. M. Robertson, Arran ...	0 4 0
Paisley Highlanders Association ...	25 0 0
do do do ...	3 3 0
Mrs. Mackintosh, Nairn ...	1 0 0
Miss Mary I. Mackintosh, Nairn ...	1 0 0
Anonymous ...	1 1 0
Miss K. A. MacDonald, Lairg ...	5 0 0
Wm. Gemmel, Esq., Connel ...	2 0 0
Niven MacCalman, Esq., Greenock ...	0 15 0
Miss Marion Falconer, Bellochantuy ...	0 10 0
Thurso Branch ...	5 5 0
Balmacara Branch ...	5 0 0
Miss Eveline MacLaren, Edinburgh ...	5 0 0
Anonymous ...	35 0 0
Anonymous ...	0 10 0
Anonymous ...	0 5 0
The Gaelic Society of Glasgow ...	5 0 0
The Clarsach Society, Edinburgh ...	1 0 0
The Marquis of Aberdeen ...	0 10 0
Uist and Barra Association ...	3 0 0
The Glasgow Celtic Society ...	4 10 0
Oban and Lorn Association ...	6 0 0
Neil Macleod, Esq., M.A., Tighna-bruaich ...	1 5 10

Total to date £3,435 5 8

Central Fund

Previously acknowledged ...	£36 16 5
Anonymous ...	2 2 0
Govan Ceilidh Committee ...	3 0 0
Balmacara Branch ...	10 0 0
Anonymous ...	0 3 0
Miss Grace MacKenzie, B.Sc., Perth ...	1 1 0
Kingussie Branch ...	2 2 0
Luss and District Highland Society ...	2 0 0
Anonymous ...	0 14 0
Lochaber Branch ...	5 0 0
Miss A. M. Gillies, Lochgilphead ...	1 0 0
County of Sutherland Provincial Mod Committee ...	15 0 0
Wick Branch ...	3 0 0

Iochdar Ceilidh per Donald MacPhail, Esq. ...	1 5 3
Part proceeds of Concert per Rev. Neil G. Macdonald, Kilchoan ...	5 10 0
Miss Grace MacKenzie, B.Sc., Perth ...	5 5 0
A. M. MacDonald, Esq., Dumfries ...	0 5 0
Kyle Branch ...	1 1 0

Total since 1st May, 1951 £95 4 8

Magazine Fund

Previously acknowledged ...	£6 11 0
Roderick Thomson, Esq., Glasgow ...	1 1 0
Wm. Gommell, Esq., Connel, Argyll ...	0 4 0
Mrs. A. R. Smith, Pitlochry ...	0 10 0
John MacGregor, Esq., London ...	0 14 0
J. H. Miller, Esq., Glasgow ...	1 0 0

Total since 1st May, 1951 £10 0 0

War Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund

Previously acknowledged ...	£16 2 3
Donations ingathered by Members and Friends of Coll Association	
Stall, Grand Feill ...	50 0 0
Rev. P. J. Donnelly, Dundee ...	0 9 0
Kyle Branch ...	5 0 0
Contents of Collecting Box at Lochearnhead Hotel ...	2 8 4

Total since 1st May, 1951 £73 19 7

(from previous page)

publication, with a rich variety of contents in both Gaelic and English. Dr. I. F. Grant graphically describes "The General Setting of Old Highland Life." Mr. J. W. Hobbs of Inverlochry describes the great experiment of the "Great Glen Cattle Ranch." Mr. Angus Matheson, Glasgow University, discusses Bishop John Carswell and Bardic Poetry. Mr. Lachlan Robertson contributes an ancient Ossianic poem, hitherto unpublished, which he got from his father, who got it from his grand-uncle some sixty years ago. Mr. Alexander Nicolson contributes a moving old Gaelic lament and explains the occasion of its composition. The Hydro-Electric Board, Birds of the West Coast, the Recording of Gaelic Folklore, Shinty, "Nine Danger Don'ts for English Visitors", and some light verse in addition go to make up an excellent two-shillings-worth. There are four pages of photographic illustrations.

THE CLAN MUNRO MAGAZINE, making its appearance after a lapse of several years, also provides varied and interesting fare. Lord Alness recalls "Ross-shire Ministers of Long Ago." Mr. Archibald Campbell of Kilberry, the well-known authority on pipe music, contributes the score of part of the piobaireachd, "Bealach nam Bròg," sometimes known as "The Munro's March."

HOLMES

GLASGOW'S GREAT BOOKSHOP

FROM our most extensive range of books covering all subjects, we offer a wide selection on particularly Scottish interests. Postal enquiries invited.

W. & R. HOLMES (Books)
LTD.

3-11 DUNLOP ST., GLASGOW, C.I

The SCOTTISH CENTRE

- The Highlands of Scotland, Seton Gordon
(A new book—illustrated with 50 photographs) 18/-
- In the Steps of the Clansmen, J. Alan Rennie 15/-
- Arran with Camera and Sketchbook
V. A. Firsoff 18/-
- Kayak to Cape Wrath, J. Lewis Henderson 15/-
- The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands, Frank Adam
(New, revised edition) 42/-
- The Skye Scene, Eric G. Meadows
(70 Photos) 18/-
- History of Skye, Alexander Nicolson 15/-
- Celtic Art (The Methods of Construction)
G. Bain 42/-
- An Dealbh Briste, Derick Thomson 7/6
- Nicolson's Gaelic Proverbs (New Edition with index) 30/-

158 HOPE STREET GLASGOW, C.2

Telephone : DOUGLAS 6140

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Gaelic Plays and Translations of English Plays Published to date

TITLE OF PLAY	ENGLISH TITLE AND AUTHOR	CHARACTERS
Bha 'ainm anns an Fhearann (D)	Original : J. M. Mathieson	2 F. 3 M.
Feasgar trang 'san Osd-thigh (C)	Original : Ranald C. MacDonald	4 M.
Muintir a' Chuain (T)	Riders to the Sea—Synge	3 F. 1 M.
An t-Airgiod-Cinn (D)	The Rising of the Moon—Gregory	4 M.
Am Bata-Luath (T)	The Grenadier—Malloch	3 F. 2 M.
Domhnall Dearg (C)	The Five Year Plan—Stewart	2 F. 3 M.
Sios chun na Mara (D)	Down to the Seas—Stuart Ready	3 F. 3 M.
Spuir na h-Iolaire	The Eagle's Claw—Macphail	2 F. 5 M.
An Tigh-osda (D)	The Change House—Brandane	2 F. 3 M.
An Tacharan (C)	The Changeling—MacLellan	2 F. 4 M.
A' Chailleach (T)	The Cailleach—MacLellan	5 F. 3 M.
Caimbeulach na Cille Moire (D)	Campbell of Kilmhor—Ferguson	2 F. 4 M.
Gaothan ri'n Reic (D)	Winds for Sale—Coleman Milton	1 F. 2 M.
An Snaithnean Scarlaid (D)	Thread o' Scarlet—J. J. Bell	6 M.
An t-Suirghe Fhadalach (C)	Love Lingers On—Gordon Wright	4 F. 2 M.
Or Choigreach (C)	Strangers' Gold—Evan John	3 F. 3 M.
Am Bodach-Ròcais (C)	The Scarecrow—Ferguson	2 F. 2 M.
Suirghe a' Mhuilleir (C)	The Miller's Wooing—Cocker	
An Imrich (D)	Men Must Go—Coleman Milton	
An Seann Tarbh (C)	The Old Bull—	
Am Poidsear (C)	The Poacher—J. O. Francis	
Breac a Linne (C)	Birds of a Feather—ditto.	

D—Drama C—Comedy T—Tragedy.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH, 65 WEST REGENT ST., GLASGOW

SEANN ORAIN A BARRAIDH AIR CLAIR

Genuine Traditional Gaelic Songs
recorded on the Isle of Barra in 1938.

RUAIRI IAIN BHAIN nach maireann
(brathair Bean Shomhairle Bhig):—

*Mo rùn geal òg.
Alasdair mhic, a hò.*

*Mhic Iarla nam Bratach Bàna.
Chraobh nan Ubhal, Gheug nan
Abhal.*

*Thug mi 'n oidhche, ge b'fhad i.
A Mhic a' Mhaoir.*

ANNA NIC IAIN:—

Is muladach mi o chionn seachdain.

ANNA RAGHNAILL EACHAINN nach
maireann:—

Latha bha 'n Rìdìre ag òl.

*Bhean ud a staigh, bheil thu
t' fhaireachadh?*

Latha siubhal beinne dhomh.

Five 12-inch discs (sold only as sets)
along with book of words Price 70s.
(post free)

Book of words and translations
available separately Price 3/9
(postage 3d.)

Published for the
**FOLKLORE INSTITUTE
OF SCOTLAND**
by the **LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE**
207 Regent Street, London, W.1

Obtainable from the Linguaphone
Institute only. — Book obtainable
separately from the records.

MACLAREN'S PUBLICATIONS

	Price	Post
Cnoc an Fhradhaire. Poems by Angus Robertson	5/-	5d
Easy Gaelic Syntax. Gaelic Sentences	2/-	3d
Orain nam Beann. 26 Gaelic Songs with music	6/-	6d
Oiteagan a Tir nan Og. Songs by Roderick MacKay, The Uist Bard	5/-	6d
Nicolson's Basic Gaelic Grammar	3/6	4d
MacLaren's Gaelic Self Taught, 3/- net. Key	2/-	3d
MacLaren's Gaelic Self Taught, in cloth, with Key	6/-	6d
Dance Tunes Orain is Puirt a Beul: Solfa 1/-, Staff	1/6	3d
Orain Da-Ghuthach: Gaelic Duet Songs: Solfa	1/-	3d
Duanagan agus Sgeulachdan Beaga. MacLennan	2/6	4d
Cnoc Chusbaig. Lewis Songs by Wm. MacKenzie	3/-	3d
Baird Chill-Chomainn. Songs by D. & C. MacNiven	5/-	6d
Testament. New parallel Gaelic & English edition		
In gift edges	7/6	9d
Is Ann. The Gaelic Verb "to be" explained	6d	2 1/2d
MacAlpine's Pronouncing Gaelic-English Dicty.	6/-	9d
MacAlpine's Gaelic-English, English-Gaelic Dicty.	12/-	9d
MacKenzie: Skye Traditions and Memories	7/6	9d
"Six Little Bannocks." Gaelic and English	2/6	3d
MacInnes: Six Songs of Skye with music	5/-	4d
Ishebal na h-Airigh. Gaelic and English Songs	3/-	3d
Buchanan's Spiritual Songs in Gaelic	2/-	3d
Ceolradh Cridhe, 9 Original Songs with music.		
Gaelic and English	4/-	4d
Munro's Gaelic Vocabulary and Phrase Book	2/-	3d
Dwelly's Illustrated Gaelic-English Dictionary	35/-	9d
An T-Eileanach, MacFadyen's Gaelic Songs	6/-	6d
Celtic Garland. Gaelic Songs, Poems and Readings	6/-	6d
History of the Highland Clearances by MacKenzie	7/6	6d
Celtic Lyre. Gaelic Songs with English Translation and Music	4/-	3d
Cuairtear Nan Gaidheal. Gaelic and English Songs		
with Melodies by Donald MacLean, Skye	3/6	3d
Fear Slubhal Nan Gleann. Murdo Morrison	5/-	6d
Colair a Mhold, Four Books each: Staff, 2/6; Solfa	2/6	3d
Gaelic Songs and Poems, by Neil MacLean, Govan	6/-	3d

All An Comunn's publications as advertised are in stock.

ALEX. MACLAREN & SONS

Gaelic Booksellers

268 Argyle Street, Glasgow, C.2

HIGHLAND DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE

Founded 1936

To inform and mobilise public opinion in
support of comprehensive reconstruction
of the Highlands and Islands and
unified resource development

Hon. Secretary:

Mr. IAIN D. MACKAY
Solicitor

180 WEST GEORGE ST., GLASGOW, C.2.

FEDERATION OF HIGHLAND ASSOCIATIONS GLASGOW

To encourage the many Highland and Clan
Societies in Glasgow to co-operate in support
of measures for the benefit of the Highlands
and Islands and of the City Gaels, and also
in the promotion of Gaelic Culture.

Hon. Secretary:

Mr. KENNETH MACDONALD
35 Balerno Drive, Glasgow, S.W.2