

Irish Ireland

CONNRADH NA GAEDHILGE.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The second meeting of the new Coisde Gnotha was held on Thursday, 8th inst. Mr. John MacNeill, vice-president, and subsequently Dr. J. St. Clair Boyd, presided, and there were also present—Rev. I. Lee, P.P., Croom; Rev. F. MacEnerney, C.C., Dublin; Rev. Cathaoir O'Brennan, Killarney; Rev. J. O'Donovan, P.P., Loughrea; Rev. P. S. Dineen, M.A.; Rev. L. O'Kiernan, C.C., Maheracloone; Miss A. O'Farrell, M.A.; Miss M. E. L. Butler, Miss E. O'Donovan, Miss M. Hayden, M.A.; Mrs. P. Bradley, James Casey, Alderman Cole, Richard Foghludha, P. T. MacGinley, Edward Martyn, Dr. J. P. Henry (London), John Sweetman, Patrick MacSwaney (Fermoy), Dr. Lynch (Ballyvourney), T. MacDonaugh, Mahony, Henry Morris (Dundalk).

Arising out of the minutes of the Finance Committee, various questions were asked by Dr. Lynch and other members as to the receipts and expenditure on the Irisleabhar, Oireachtas Fund, particulars of petty cash items, etc., and were replied to by the manager of An Irisleabhar and the secretary. It was decided that a complete financial statement re Oireachtas be submitted to next meeting of Coisde Gnotha. The secretary was instructed to request the organisers to direct almost their entire attention to getting the bilingual programme introduced into the National Schools. It was also suggested to point out that teachers need not take up the entire bilingual course at once; and Miss O'Donovan said that the orders, etc., might be given in Irish in all the schools.

It was also decided to write the National Board pointing out disadvantages under which the teaching of Irish was at present carried on in the National Schools, and asking for this unsatisfactory state of affairs to be remedied.

Right Rev. Monsignor O'Hara, of Crossmolina, was co-opted a member of the Coisde.

The question of the printing of An Claidheamb Soluir was taken up, and after some discussion, it was decided that the contract be left in the hands of the present printers on terms as agreed upon.

It was agreed, in pursuance of recommendation of Ard-fheis to send deputations to interview the authorities of the various colleges, boarding schools, etc., throughout the country in reference to the question of the teaching of Irish in those colleges and schools.

It was decided to advertise for two additional organisers—one for Ulster and one for Clare and East Galway.

The following votes of condolence were passed:—

"Súir cúir bhón uínn cairde u'fáil ar b'ár ádair ar gcaraib agus ar gcóm-bálta Séamur Ó Dubháil, agus go bfuairimís ar gcóm-buairnean oo."

"Súir cúir bhón uínn b'ár an ádair e. ó nuallán mar ir maic an obair oo uéin ré ar ron na Gaedhilge."

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THE FEIS AT STRABANE,

NEXT THURSDAY PROGRAMME.

Irish Irelanders throughout the whole North-West cherish pleasant memories of the last successful Feis at Strabane; and, judging from the syllabus of next Thursday's (Sept. 22nd) Gaelic festival in the same picturesque town, visitors will find this year's proceedings even more interesting and important than those which delighted and encouraged all friends of the movement in 1903. There are no less than twenty competitions on the programme, and these are so skilfully arranged that "students who commenced Irish since last Feis" will be given an opportunity of distinguishing themselves and proving their proficiency, while, if it were feasible, some of the prizes offered might be competed for by Dr. Douglas Hyde, Father Peter O'Leary, Mr. Patrick O'Shea, Mr. Thomas Hayes, and Mr. J. J. Doyle. The Feis will be a purely local one to a very great extent. Due attention is paid to the practical literary side of the movement, and dancers and singers have plenty of scope for the display of their abilities. All the competitions with the exception of numbers 19 and 20 are confined to pupils attending the classes conducted by the Strabane Coisde Ceanntair. Items 19 and 20 are:—

Dancing: Hornpipe. Open to all residents in the district taken in by Strabane Coisde Ceanntair. Prizes value 15s.

Dancing: Jig and Reel. Open to all residents taken in by Strabane Coisde Ceanntair. Prizes value 15s.

We confidently anticipate a great gathering of sympathisers of the Gaelic Movement at Strabane on Thursday.

St. Columba's Continuation Classes.

OPENING ON MONDAY NIGHT.

REFERENCE BY FATHER W. O'DOHERTY.

As already announced by advertisement, the St. Columba's Continuation Classes will be re-opened in St. Columba's Hall on Monday evening next at a quarter to eight o'clock. Referring to them at twelve o'clock Mass on Sunday last Father Doherty said he hoped that the success which had attended the classes last season would be theirs again in the session of 1904-5. No effort would be spared on the part of all concerned to make them even more productive of good than last year. Education is the great lever that raises young men in the world, and unfortunately most of our youths leave school just at an age when the school is beginning to prove more practically useful. To summarise, continue the school work in easy and pleasureable fashion; to teach young men how to improve their minds, refine their fancies, and store their memories with beautiful facts relating to God and the wondrous beauties of His creation; to give them a taste and an aptitude for further study from books, and deeper, more intelligent observation of things surrounding them; and above all to fit themselves by special study of particular subjects for the more efficient discharge of their various duties are the main objects of the classes. He appealed to all who had influence with young men—as parents, employers, friends, etc.—to urge them to take advantage of the opportunities now placed within their reach. He hoped to have in connection with the classes a series of popular lectures on useful subjects, to which all the Catholic young men of the city who wished to improve themselves mentally might come.

ST. PETER'S CONVENT OF MERCY.

Sympathisers with the Gaelic Revival will note with interest and satisfaction that in the long list of successes scored at recent examinations by the pupils of the above institution, Irish is the subject receiving most attention. In nearly every case the successful pupil is credited with a knowledge of the old tongue. The good nuns and their scholars, and the parents of the children, are to be warmly congratulated on the creditable and encouraging record set forth in our columns this week.

COUNTY DERRY LADY'S WILL.

Mrs. Jane Letitia Trowbridge Alexander, of Castlerock, county Londonderry, who died on the 15th May last, left personal estate valued at £13,197 17s 10d, and probate of her will has been granted to Colonel Stewart Bruce, of the Lodge, Toombridge, Londonderry. The testatrix bequeathed £300 to Hugh Lecky, £300 to Mary Beresford, £250 each to Geraldine Clark, Adeline Moore, Emeline Bruce, Arthur Stewart, and Robert Bruce, and the residue upon trust for Colonel H. S. Bruce, with remainder to his issue.