

Brenda Bastable

Meeting with An Coimisiún 6 Rinne Jaelacha
6. Sraid Fearchar, Ūc Clach.

19th July 1979.

A second meeting of An Coimisiún, and An Comhdháil was held at number 6 Harcourt St Dublin, on Tuesday 19th July 1979. The following members represented An Coimisiún.

Michael Mac Donughusa (Ruairí)
Eamon de bháil.

Maiziú O'Maolaidigh

Seamus Mac Con Ulad

MAIRE O'neach.

Apologies from Sean O'Dalaigh (Chairman.)

Representing: An Comhdháil,

Brenda De Baszabla (Ruairí) ✓

Rory O'Connor (Chairman)

Chargaret Heine (President)

Peter Bolton (Treasurer)

Miss Bastable apologised on behalf of Miss Anna M' Coy Belfast, Miss Peggy O'Leary Cork, Miss Mary O'Laughlin Derry, she said that this meeting had been called, at very short notice, and she was unable to contact these people, she felt that we could not agree to anything of a serious matter as it would be unfair to our teachers, who, through no fault of their own were not present at the meeting. Mr O'Donoghusa in reply said, that he had instructed his secretary to phone Mr

O'Connor, the previous week, when he was away, thus she failed to do, and he thought that as we had agreed to meet prior to the summer recess this was the only time there seemed to be. In the absence of Mr O'Daugh (Chairman) nobody was appointed to chair the meeting, so all delegates merely had a discussion on the points that were written on the paper that Mr Mac Donoghua handed out to those present.

Point Number 1.

An Comhdháil would have the right to retain their association, and through it negotiate on behalf of its members.

Mr O'Leary said a lot of consideration would have to be given to this matter, he asked what would happen if a member of An Comhdháil was in good standing with that organisation but refused to join An Comisiún? he said according to our constitution, they (the member) would have the right to remain a member of An Comhdháil, without signing their name with An Comisiún, he wondered if the majority of people wanted unification, but a few opted out, yet still wanted An Comhdháil, how would we get around this situation, Mrs Walsh thought in a situation like this, it would be better if we disbanded An Comhdháil, joined forces, and then immediately set up a new teachers association, she did not think that then we could be held legally

to the present Constitution. Mr De Chail, said that at no time would the Commission be prepared to go to Law on any issue. Mr Roy O'Connor said he had not come to this meeting to waste time, he wanted the members of An Coimisiún Present, to know that An Comhdháil wanted full recognition for all its members, the matter of the Constitution he said was our problem, and he did not think it should be discussed, Mr O'Leary disagreed with Mr O'Connor on this issue and said it was a very serious matter, which everybody would have to think about. No solution to point number one was reached.

Point Number 2.

All Feiseanna now registered with An Comhdháil to be accepted for registration with An Coimisiún, and if necessary allowed to operate side by side.

Point Number 3

All registered Teachers and Adjudicators, have the right to participate in all registered Feiseanna.

These two points did not come in for a lot of discussion, as, we all agreed that these points would only be relevant, if and when unity was achieved.

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Point number 4.

Full recognition be given to the results of Examinations of Du Comhóil, and Teachers and Adjudicators qualified by that Body.

This was agreed to by both sides.

Point number 5.

Greater representation be given to Teachers, in relation to members after re-unification.

On point number five, a discussion arose regarding members of the Examination Panel. Mr de Brail said that they were not in agreement with equal representation regarding Exams. He said that we had ten Examiners and they had only six, full Panel members, Mr Bolton doubted this, and Mr Mac Con Ulad, went on to explain that they had in addition to their 6 full members they had six reserves, and a number of others who were selected from time to time. Mr Mac Con Ulad asked Mr O'Connor for the names of our Examiners, when those were issued, Mr Mac Con Ulad said that he did not think that Miss Anna O'Leary and Miss Mary O'Laughlin had ever sat on a Panel of Examiners with The Irish Dancing Commission, Miss Bostable said that they themselves had told Mr Mac Con Ulad this at the previous meeting ^{that they had sat on Exams,} in fact they mentioned that they had sat on some Exams with Comhóil-Chas Ulad, which at the time was

connected ^{with} ~~the~~ An Comhairle in Dublin, Mr Mac Con Uíad said he doubted this, but he would check it out, Mr Bolton asked about their reserve panel members, and how were they selected, also did they sit on all Exams. Miss Bastable said on the question of new numerical members, we did not break down our panel into full time and reserves, therefore we were smaller in number than An Comhairle. Mr De Bhal said we should consider selecting six out of our ten members and the other four could go as reserve. This was not agreed to by the members of An Comhairle who were present.

Following the talk on the 5 points handed to us by Mr Mac Donoghue, a discussion took place on a possible date for re-unification. Mr O'Leary said he could not envisage unity before the end of 1980, he said we could not rush into something that had taken 10 years to achieve. Mr De Bhal said he would like to see both sides agreeing on a specific date for unity, he saw no point in talking on, without coming to something concrete, he said he would like to see January 1st 1980 as a possible date for unity.

This concluded talks, and no other date was agreed to before September 1979. Mr O'Connell said we would be having our Convention in August, and he cordially invited any of the Commission members present to attend our Ceilí Ball if they wished to come.

Brenda Bontable

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2. All Feiseanna now registered with An Comhdhail to be accepted for registration with An Coimisiun and if necessary allowed to operate side by side.
3. All registered Teachers and Adjudicators have the right to participate in all registered Feiseanna.
4. Full recognition be given to the results of Examinations of An Comhdhail and Teachers and Adjudicators qualified by that body.
5. Greater representation be given to Teachers in relation to members after re-unification.