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**COMHDHAIL MÚNTEOIRÍ NA RINCÍ GAELACHA**

SECRETARYS REPORT 1984

Following the Convention at Killarney 1983, the first meeting of the newly elected Executive took place in September, 1983, this meeting was attended by all of the Delegates who were present at the Convention. In the past year we have seen some changes in the history of An Comhdhail in the bringing together Dancers from An Comhdhail and An Coimisiun on to a common platform. Although these four events were mainly centered in Scotland, Northern Ireland, West of Ireland and the midlands, reports to An Coiste Aontas were quite favourable, as both Organisations kept their own identity. During the Examinations 1983, we added two Trainee Examiners on to the Panel of Examiners, they were Mr. Seamus O Ciaragain from Derry and Miss Anne McHugh from Scotland. Our next big task was the introduction of the Printed Constitution and the new Rule Book. During the year September 1983 to June 1984, eleven Executive Meetings took place, an additional four meetings were held with An Coimisiun, and one with the Feis Organisers. Two members of the Executive travelled to London last year to try to sort out some problems in relation to the London Branch. All of the meetings were presided over by the Chairperson and one by Mr Michael Fennell, who presided in the absence of the Vice-Chairperson.

#### Meetings

As the months went by some of the meetings were poorly attended. One meeting was held in Belfast, and all others in Dublin. While I realise the difficulty in Delegates outside Dublin attending all the meetings, it would be in the interest of the organisation if delegates were able to send a representative to the Executive Meetings, when they themselves could not attend, in order to keep in touch with the day to day affairs of An Comhdhail. I have had complaints from some members around the country stating that they were never informed about what was happening at Executive level because their representatives did not attend the Executive Meetings.

#### Examinations T.C.R.G/ A.D.C.R.G.

During the month of February examinations were conducted for the T.C.R.G. and A.D.C.R.G. Twenty six attempted the T.C.R.G. of whom all were successful, and three sat for the A.D.C.R.G., all of whom were successful. The Panel of Examiners reported that the candidates who sat for these exams were of the highest standard, and as such nobody failed.

#### Craobhacha na h-Eireann 1983

The All-Ireland Championships were held in April and introduced for the first time, the Five Adjudicators, on the championships; this was welcomed by all teachers, and proved to be very successful. Once again the Timetable seemed to overlap at some competitions, this problem will continue to occur unless the Executives can issue the Syllabus months in advance of the Championship, and entries received in time. I consider it unfair for a secretary to have to sit up all hours of the night with one or two other members to write in entries apart from the weariness of the job, it only leads to errors and mistakes. I know I speak for all members, when I convey a very sincere "Thank You" to Miss Cora Cadwell for the magnificent Buffet organised by her during the All-Ireland. This gesture gave a wonderful friendly atmosphere to the All-Ireland, as most teachers were able to relax while having the "Cupain Tae". To all the teachers who supplied the lovely cakes, a sincere thank you, I hope this gesture will be repeated at future All-Irelands.

#### New Constitution and Rule Book

Many of you will have received your copy of the New Constitution and Rule Book, this was one of my major tasks during the year, as it required many visits to the printers to ensure all was correct. I would remind all the members that great time and effort went into the drafting of these documents, as many of our Executive Meetings were given over to finalising these books. I consider this a great achievement on the part of An Comhdhail, as all of the officers work on a part time basis without the convenience of an official office.

#### Meeting with Feis Organisers

In October 1984, a meeting was held between the Executive and the Feis Organisers, the attendance was not as big as the previous meeting, however a very good meeting took place. The main complaint on behalf of the members of An Comhdhail to the organisers, was the very late hour which some Feiseanna were ending, also the over-loading of Feis Syllbi.

#### To Sum Up

I would like to convey my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Assistant Secretary Miss Berney Downey for all the help given to me throughout the year; it was a great help to work with such a pleasant and efficient colleague. I feel it is most regrettable that after seven years of my secretaryship, I am now handing over the job to somebody who will have no official offices. I wish to thank all my colleagues for their patience in having to put up with correspondence being somewhat slow at times, this was mainly due to the increasing number of people joining An Comhdhail, and the passing out of new teachers. To the Chairperson, along with all the other Officers and Executive members who worked so hard in keeping An Comhdhail going on very little resources, other than their time and dedication, may I say thank you, and I wish the new Secretary every success; to all my colleagues who voted me into the esteemed position as secretary of a great organisation, over the past seven years a very special Thank You.