

Brenda Bostable

Comhdhail Muinteoiri na Rinncé Gaelacha

Secretary's Report 1983

Following the Convention At Gweedore, Co. Donegal 1982, the first meeting of the newly elected Executive took place in September 1982. It was encouraging to see all of the delegates present at this meeting. The first task taken by the Executive, was to set out a Calander of events and dates of meetings for the coming year. Twelve Executive meetings took place, and four Special Meetings. Two of these were with the panel of negotiators of An Coimisuin le Rinncé Gaelacha, one with the Feis Organisers, and one with the Panel of Examiners, all meetings were presided over by the Chairperson, Miss Peg McTeggert.

Executive Meetings

As the months went by, some of the meetings were badly attended, and this put a lot of extra work on my duties as Secretary, as it involved unnecessary correspondence to various Branches, whose representatives did not attend. While I realise the difficulty in delegates outside Dublin, attending all meetings, I would like to see permission being given to Branches to send some member other than the elected delegate to meetings in the event of illness. I would also suggest that the Executive should look into the position of small Branches who claim to have a representative, but who never attend any meetings. I would like to pay tribute to all delegates, who paid their travelling expenses, out of their own pockets to attend meetings, this is an area, where branches everywhere should try to raise funds at the beginning of the dancing year to pay the expenses of their delegates who represent them at Executive meetings.

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

During November 1982 examinations were conducted for the T.C.R.G. and A.D.C.R.G. Nineteen attempted the T.C.R.G. of whom six were successful, and four sat for the A.D.C.R.G. of whom two were successful. I would strongly urge my colleagues to consider imposing a limit on the number of participants who can be adequately examined in a single week-end. Also I would like the Examiners to set out a format within the examination, whereby both panels use the same formula and give the same amount of time to each candidate. I think it unfair to examiners, candidates and dancers who participate, to have to

endure late hours and still be required to keep a high level of concentration throughout the whole week-end. The repeats of the above examinations were held during February 1983, sixteen repeated the T.C.R.G. and four repeated the A.D.C.R.G. Seven passed the T.C.R.G. and two passed the A.D.C.R.G.

### Craobhacha na hEireann 1983

The All-Ireland Championships were held in April, while the entries were slightly down on previous years, the Championships went quite smoothly. Once again, this year, the Executive faced with an objection, due to the Teachers misinterpretation of the Rules even though the particular Rule was clearly printed on the syllabus. This was the first time we attempted to send out a Timetable with the syllabus. In view of the fact that the timetable was provisional, competitions did not go too far astray. Many teachers from outside Dublin were very pleased with the timetable being sent out with the syllabus as it gave them an opportunity to make travel arrangements. I would like to see this practice being continued, but this can only be achieved if entries were closed at least three months in advance of the competitions.

### Special Meetings

#### Joint Comhdhail and Commission

The two meetings which were held were very successful, and the Panel representing An Comhdhail came out very strongly against any changes with regard to the identity of An Comhdhail. Listed on the agenda are the points agreed to by both sides.

#### Feis Organisers and The Executive

There was a large attendance at this meeting which was held in the Ormond Hotel. A useful and lively exchange of views took place. Main complaint by the Organisers was the absence of a Rule Book. On this point I would like to say that it was beyond my control to compile such a detailed document. I intend to raise the matter with the incoming Executive, and I would suggest that at least ten members from various locations be present when compiling this book.

### Special Thanks

I would like to convey my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Assistant Secretary, Miss Bernadette Chaney, for all the help given to me throughout the year. Her efficiency and co-operation in taking over my duties at the All-Ireland, when I was adjudicating, was of the highest order.

Also her help given to me for this year's Convention when I was in hospital, was most gratifying.

To Sum Up :

I would like to be in a position to say that we are catching up on our backlog of work outstanding since last year. I'm sorry to say this is not so. I can see no solution to our problem unless we consider the appointment or election of special groups for specific purposes, like the Rule Book, the Examinations, the All-Ireland. Whether we call them Sub-Committees or Specialist Committees or whatever, I feel that the time has come when we must be prepared to admit that a monthly Executive Committee Meeting will never be able to cope with the demands of an increasing membership.

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*Brenda de Coszabla. (Rural)*

March

Leinster Chorus

RTE

Concert Series

Don't Turnen Glass

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Parents' Society

Daddy's Navy

Concert

May

Women

Old Folks

June Festival