

new University, and even—a very sanguine speculation—when its use will become so general throughout the country that it can be largely employed as 'the medium of instruction in the constituent colleges.' At the same time they admit that Ireland is not yet within measurable distance of such a state of things. Their conclusion is that to insist on compulsion in existing circumstances would very possibly be rather a hindrance than a help to the language movement, while it would, to a certainty, drive away from the University not a few students whom it is desirable to bring and to keep under the influence of the Catholic atmosphere. . . . The Corporation of Dublin on Wednesday carried a motion in favor of compulsory Irish by twenty-four votes against one. . . . The fact remains that the municipal rulers of the Irish capital have committed themselves to the Gaelic League demand, 'if the University is to be an Irish and national institution, in fact as well as in name.' "

Commenting on this decision, the *Claidheamh Soluis*, the official organ of the Gaelic League, says editorially:

"The news that the Standing Committee of the Catholic Bishops is opposed to the national demand for essential Irish in the National University has been heard by Gaelic Leaguers with regret, but without dismay. . . .

"We do not know how far the views of the Standing Committee are shared by the Bishops as a body. It is quite certain that the Bishops are not unanimous in the matter, for two at least have publicly endorsed the Gaelic League demands. . . .

"We trust that there will be no disposition amongst Gaels to regard the pronouncement of the Standing Committee of the Bishops as the pronouncement of a body of men who are hostile to the language movement. The Committee expresses itself as most friendly to the general aims and aspirations of the Gaelic League, and states that it looks forward to the day when Irish will be commonly spoken throughout the country. We take it that their Lordships are thoroughly sincere in these professions, and are content to believe that they differ from us merely as to the best ways and means of realizing our—and their—hopes. It is further to be borne in mind that their Lordships do not—and in fact cannot—claim for their pronouncement any sacrosanct authority; they expressly state that the question on which they proceed to give their opinion 'is a question for fair argument.' "

The "*Claidheamh*," in later issues, summarizes the situation as follows:

"The manner in which the Councils use their powers will decide the issue. Dublin City Council has not yet formally declared