

## The Congress Reel

The musical score for "The Congress Reel" is presented in two systems, A and B, each consisting of three staves of music. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various chords (Am, Em7), triplets, and first/second endings. The first system (A) starts with a boxed 'A' and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign. The second system (B) starts with a boxed 'B' and also ends with a double bar line and repeat sign.

"The Congress Reel", in Gaelic "*An Chomhdháil*" is an Irish reel in A Aeolian (Brody) or A Dorian (most versions). The parts are played AABB.

It is said that this reel was composed in honor of the World Eucharistic Congress in Dublin, in 1932, or was popular around that time and the name became attached. The melody shares some similarities with "The Hunter's Purse".

It was printed in Breathnach's *CRÉ I* (1963), Breathnach's *Folk Music and Dance of Ireland* (1971), Brody's *Fiddler's Fakebook* (1983), Cranitch's *Irish Fiddle Book* (1996), Cranitch's *Irish Session Tunes: Red Book* (2000), Harker's *300 Tunes from Mike Rafferty* (2005), Mallinson's *100 Essential* (1995) and Taylor's *Traditional Irish Music: Karen Tweed's Irish Choice* (1994).

It was recorded by Seamus Creagh on *An Fhidil Straith II*, The Irish Tradition on *The Corner House* (1978), Kevin Burke on *Open House* (1992), Frankie Gavin on *Traditional Music of Ireland* and Yankee Ingenuity on *Heatin' Up the Hall* (1989).