

ACIS Newsletter

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Editor's Note: Please be reminded to continue sending news of interest to the ACIS Newsletter.

Send change of address to your editor and to Richard J. Loftus, Department of English, University of Illinois, Urbana.

For Your Information

Joe Curran of Le Moyne College is preparing annual reports of ACIS activities for Irish Historical Studies; he would appreciate any information on members' significant achievements, great happenings, awards, and the like -- in any area of Irish studies.

Visiting Lecturer

As part of the program of the Irish American Cultural Institute, Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, will have Tomas MacAnna, Abbey director, on its faculty beginning in January. Anyone wishing to make arrangements for a lecture or seminar stay by Mr. MacAnna in the first semester should contact the Institute, 683 Osceola Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota for details.

Fulbright Scholar

Leo McNamara is teaching American and English Literature for the academic year 1968-1969 at Trinity College, Dublin and would welcome visitors, ACIS people, from the U.S.

Book List

John Burke & Partners, 20 Pembridge Road, Kensington, London W. 11, has released its "List of Irish Books, No. 1." There are over 150 items on this listing, with volumes on every aspect of Irish studies. Since there are many o.p. and rare books here, members would be well advised to request to be put on the mailing list of Burke & Partners if they wish an opportunity to fill voids in their own collections. Prices seem more reasonable than those noticed this summer in the Dublin shops.

Studia Hibernica

The ACIS membership will be interested in an annual titled, Studia Hibernica, published at St. Patrick's College, Dublin 9. The journal is bilingual and publishes research in many fields of Irish studies. The seventh volume in the series includes articles on 1916, information from unpublished descriptions of the Boyne Valley tombs, as well as a paper on Irish-Canadian financial contributions to the Home Rule movement of the 1890's by ACIS member D. C. Lyne of Ottawa. Contemporary Irish literature is not usually a subject of the journal; the editors probably feel that this area is well-covered in other places. However, there have been essays on the literature of the Renaissance; there is usually a long book review section.

Subscriptions are £1 annually, and requests for such, back issues, as well as for information regarding publication policy, should be forwarded to the Secretary, S. B. Ó hAnnracháin, M.A., St. Patrick's College.

Travel Information: For the Long Finger

The IACI has planned for another discount flight (less than half regular fare) to Ireland in August for subscribers of Eire-Ireland in good standing. Please notice that the fare is for a flight from Chicago to Shannon, and return:

Pan-Am jet, regular flight, movies and the rest, to leave Chicago on the third or fourth of August; to leave Shannon on the 29th/30th of August. Fare: \$247.50. Reservations and other information should be requested from Eóin McKiernan, 683 Osceola Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55105.

This summer your editor had occasion and money for a ten week stay in Ireland. In the process of searching for a convenient date and an inexpensive means of getting there, he discovered that the Synnott Travel Bureau, 415 Lexington Avenue, New York, has a list of about thirty flights through the summer for members of qualifying organizations. Prices are not as cheap as the IACI flights. However there are regularly scheduled Aer Lingus jet flights with meals, drinks, flight maps, and the solace of stewardesses. And the fare is never more than 2/3rds the ordinary rate, and usually near half-price. Children (under ?) travel half the fare. The length of each go-and-return varies. One leaving at the start of June may return in three weeks; one leaving a day later may return in five weeks. Synnott has a heavy Irish and Irish American traffic and so can offer a variety of dates and lengths of stay. Write Mr. Callender at the above address for further information.

Play List

James Duffy and Company, Ltd., 21 Shaw Street, Pearse Street, Dublin 2, has issued their 1968 plays listing. Many of the four hundred items stocked by Duffy are acting scripts, and most are by Irish authors. Prices average about 5 shillings. Those interested in the hard-to-find or not-always-well-known

among the playwrights should contact Mr. Duffy for his catalogue. He is one of the major suppliers for this material in the British Isles. He also carries several hardbound editions of the better known writers.

Joyce Request

"I am editing the text of Joyce's Ulysses for a new Random House edition. I am also editing the text of Finnegans Wake (a project announced in my essay 'AdVERTISEMENT for the Restoration', distributed to members of this Committee several years ago). Can anyone tell me of manuscripts, typescripts, and proofs, of either book, of which I may be unaware? I want especially to hear of material in private hands and of small institutional holdings. There must be, for example, some unlocated Ulysses typescripts extant: of the single sheets Sylvia Beach offered for sale in 1935, I have found only four, scattered across the breadth of the land. No item is too small. Write: Jack P. Dalton, 631 Norfolk Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14215."

McGee Collection: Loyola College, Montreal.

Loyola College has acquired a collection of books which should interest students of Irish history and literature. This collection, which was named in honor of the Irish-born Canadian statesman Thomas D'Arcy McGee, was dedicated four years ago by the late Governor General of Canada, Georges P. Vanier, and is housed in a special room in the Georges P. Vanier Library. It was brought together through the efforts of Mr. Timothy P. Slattery, Q.C., M.B.E., legal advisor to Loyola College and author of The Assassination of Thomas McGee and Loyola and Montreal. It is especially appropriate at this time to call attention to the McGee Collection, for this year Canadians are commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of the assassination of McGee, one of the founders of the Canadian Confederation.

Indeed, the collection includes books written by McGee as well as books devoted to McGee and the Irish in Canada. There are many Irish historical works of the 19th century and earlier and a small number of early Irish texts in the McGee Collection. Mr. George Trowsdale, Chief Librarian, hopes to increase the number of holdings in these areas and, in addition, build up a collection of more recent Anglo-Irish literary works and later editions of early Irish texts. Mr. Trowsdale and Mr. Slattery hopefully regard the present holdings as only the nucleus of a quite extensive collection which will attract all Canadians interested in Thomas D'Arcy McGee, the Irish in Canada, Irish history, and both Irish and Anglo-Irish literatures.

As yet, the McGee Collection is relatively modest in size, but the following list of titles will give a fair indication of the quality of a large percentage of the items it contains:

Leabhar na g-Ceart, Senchus Mor, Annals of Loch Cé, Chronicum Scotorum, Lewis's Topographical Dictionary of Ireland (two copies), works of the Banims, an autographed copy of the Poems of Lady Wilde ("Speranza"), and her Ancient Legends.

Some college funds will be devoted to the development of the McGee Collection, but Mr. Trowsdale is hopeful that books and money will be forthcoming from the

Irish community in the Montreal area.

Connor P. Hartnett
St. Peter's College

Irish Life and Culture Series

The Mercier Press Ltd. of Cork is to carry each title in the above series. As most members no doubt know, these little volumes serve as handy introductions to the subjects listed below; checks in dollar equivalents should be forwarded to the Press.

The latest volume is The Irish Language by David Greene of the Institute for Advanced Studies; it is the clearest and most logical description of Irish that your editor has come upon. It is highly recommended to teachers of the Irish literature in English who want some information on the structure and sense of the older language.

Clarke, Austin	Poetry in Modern Ireland	3/6
Craig, Maurice	The Personality of Leinster	3/6
Dillon, Myles (Editor)	Early Irish Society	3/6
Greene, David	The Irish Language	5/-
Henry Francoise	Early Irish Christian Art	7/6
	Irish High Crosses	8/6
Knott, Eleanor	Irish Classical Poetry	3/6
Moore, Desmond F.	Dublin	6/-
Murphy, Gerard	Saga & Myth in Ancient Ireland	2/-
	Ossianic Lore & Romantic Tales	3/6
MacGiollarnáth, Sean	Conamara	2/-
MacLiammoir, Michael	Theatre in Ireland	5/6
McDowell, R.B. (Editor)	Social Life in Ireland	3/6
O'Sullivan, Donal	Irish Folk Music & Song	3/6
O Suilleabháin, Sean	Irish Folk Custom and Belief	7/-
Praeger, R. Lloyd	Irish Landscape	2/-

Information Request: Charles Lamb, R.H.A.

Mrs. Katharine Lamb, Carraroe, Co. Galway, is searching for two oil paintings by her late husband. One is of a young Connemara girl (30" x 25"), the other is of the western Gaeltacht (about 48" x 36"). Both are on canvas. The second painting was bought by a Mrs. Kreutzberg of Bethlehem, Penna., in 1930, and represents summer activities in the Gaeltacht with a cart with creel, sheep, men and women, a donkey, and a young girl springing away from hissing geese. The first is the portrait of a young girl with shawl, seated full-face before a plain background (she may be leaning against a boulder, the photograph is unclear), her head supported by one hand as she stares pensively. It is signed, "C. Lamb 1924" in the lower left corner.

Anyone with information on these should write Mrs. Lamb at the above address.

Jack B. Yeats

1971 is the Jack B. Yeats centenary. It is an auspicious time to hold an

exhibit of his works in several of our cities. Such an exhibit would include oil paintings, watercolors, sketchbooks, broad sheets, Cuala Press prints, illustrations in books as well as first editions of any of his own written materials. Cormac O'Malley of 549 West 123rd St., 21F, New York, N. Y. 10027 would be interested in finding out whether such an exhibit might be feasible in New York, Washington, San Francisco, St. Paul, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Boston, or any other city. However, he also needs to locate materials other than oils. Would anyone with information on the whereabouts of materials please inform him.

N.Y.U. Group: Education Forum

On October 26 at the Princeton Club in New York City, the National University of Ireland Club will sponsor a panel discussion on the "Future of Higher Education in Ireland." Mr. Brian Lenihan, Ireland's Minister for Education, will give a major address on this topic. There is a distinguished panel for the discussion following the Minister's talk. Professor David H. Green, Chairman, All-University English Department, New York University, will be keeping the company of The Honorable Eugene McCarthy; Mr. Jeremiah Hogan, President of University College, Dublin; and Mr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, Albert Schweitzer Professor, New York University.

Diploma Course in Anglo-Irish Studies

Trinity College, Dublin has instituted a full-year diploma course in Anglo-Irish literature; it is designed for post graduate students and, in special circumstances, undergraduates of other schools who can produce evidence that they have already reached a mature level of attainment in the study of literature. Candidates for the diploma must "perform the required exercises satisfactorily and attend the courses of lectures (as well as) pass the necessary examinations" in December and June. Lectures will cover Anglo-Irish literature of the 19th and 20th centuries and begin with the poetry of Ferguson, Mangan, Todhunter, among others, and the prose of the Banim brothers, Lady Morgan, Carleton, and Maria Edgeworth.

"Three lectures will be given each week, as well as one seminar and one tutorial. In addition, students may attend any of the courses given in the honours program." The course fee is £150, and application for admission and requests for further information should be made to the Graduate Studies Office, Trinity College, Dublin. The closing date is ordinarily 20 July, but considering the rhythm of school applications in this country the chairman has mentioned that December/January applications will be considered.

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BOOK REVIEWS

North Munster Studies, ed. Etienne Rynne, Limerick, The Thomond Archeological Society, 1967. 63/-.

This is a big book (4 to. and 535 pp.) and a difficult one to review, in that it is a collection of essays, covering many disciplines; it is written "in commemoration of Mgr. Michael Moloney," first editor of the revived North Munster Antiquarian Journal in 1936.

The main headings under which the essays are printed are 'Archeology' and 'History'. Smaller sections are devoted to 'Numismatics', where the two major figures in that field delineate "The Chronology of the First Anglo-Irish Coinage"; and 'Folklore' where Caoimhín Ó Danachair of the Irish Folklore Commission presents an illustrated article on "The Bothán Scóir."

The range of the history essays is very wide and the standard is, as one might expect, uneven. But there are some important studies which will need to be taken into account in any future work on the topics covered. John Ryan, S. J., Emeritus Professor of Early Irish History at U.C.D., contributes a long examination of Brian Borumha as King of Ireland; the first siege of Limerick (1690) is the subject of Dr. J. G. Simms's contribution; and Professor G. A. Hayes McCoy answers questions about "Irish Soldiers of the '45" - the last, ill-starred, attempt at a Stuart restoration.

Among the documents edited are the private comments of Caleb Powell (High Sheriff of Co. Limerick, 1858) on the members of his Grand Jury. His often scabrous notes are set in historical and genealogical context by Dr. R. J. Cussen.

The longest article in the collection is on "The Plundering and Burning of Churches in Ireland 7th to 16th Century" by the director of the National Museum of Ireland; it is a thorough inventory of such occurrences and a contribution to the reassessment of Irish-Norse relationships. Dr. Wyse Jackson discusses "Stella: Her Relationship with Jonathan Swift" and Fr. Benignus Millet "Rival Vicars: Disputed Jurisdiction in Limerick 1654-1671."

In the section on Archeology the Keeper of Irish Antiquities in the National Museum publishes "The Gorteenreagh Hoard" of gold ornaments of the Late Bronze Age; the editor argues that the famous Tau-Cross of Killinaboy is a Romanesque boundary mark rather than a pagan idol of the early bronze age; and Pádraig Ó hÉailidhe gives a very comprehensive survey of "The Crosses and Slabs at St. Berrihert's Kyle in the Glen of Aherlow."

Libraries on Irish studies should have this book.

Oliver Snoddy