

REGISTRATION:
10th ANNUAL MEETING

The fee for all-inclusive registration (lectures, discussions, receptions, exhibits, theater presentation) is \$7.50; a special fee of \$5.00 has been established for graduate students and Wisconsin high school teachers. The fee for the Annual Banquet (including cocktails) is \$5.50. Checks should be mailed to Professor Janet E. Dunleavy, English Department, The University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee.

Special rates for ACIS registrants have been established at The Milwaukee Inn, 916 East State Street, Milwaukee 53202: \$12 single, \$16 double, \$20 triple. Note ACIS on reservation request.

american committee for



IRISH STUDIES

newsletter

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Volume II

April 1972

Conference Lectures, Discussions Focus on 20th Century

THURSDAY, MAY 4

Lecture: 8-9 p.m. Wisconsin Room, East Student Union
Jack B. Yeats: Promise and Regret, Brian O'Doherty, art critic, sculptor, editor, *Art in America*

FRIDAY, MAY 5

Lectures: 9-12:30, Cinema, Student Union East

Chairman, Malcolm Brown, Department of English, University of Washington

Romantic Nationalism, Giovanni Costigan, Department of History, University of Washington

Jack B. Yeats: The Double-Gifted Patriot (slide lecture), Marilyn Gaddis Rose, Department of French and Comparative Literature, State University of New York—Binghamton

By Memory Inspired: Themes and Forces in Recent Irish Writing, Maurice Harmon, Department of English, University College, Dublin

Where Motley Is Worn: "On the Run" in Irish and Black-American Fiction, Joseph Browne, Department of English, West Chester State College

Discussion: 2-3:30 p.m., Cinema, Student Union East

The Future for Ireland: An End to Partition?

Background to the Question: John Fair, Department of History, Auburn University, Montgomery
Commentary: Joseph Curran, Department of History, Le Moyne College

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Panel Discussions: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Cinema, Student Union East

The Problems of Producing An Irish Play for An American Audience: Ann Saddlemyer, Department of English, Victoria College, and Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama, University of Toronto, Moderator; Herbert Felsenfeld, Corliss Phillabaum, John Whitty, Department of Theater Arts, The University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, Participants.

Irish Studies: The Next Ten Years:

Eoin McKiernan, editor, *Eire-Ireland*, Moderator
David H. Greene, Department of English, New York University: Anglo-Irish Literature

Eric Hamp, Department of Linguistics, University of Chicago: Linguistics

Lawrence J. McCaffrey, Department of History, Loyola University: History and Economics

John Messenger, Department of Anthropology, Ohio State University: Anthropology, Sociology, and Political Science

Harold Orel, Department of English, University of Kansas: Irish Studies in the Classroom.

Ann Saddlemyer, Department of English, Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama, University of Toronto: Yeats, Irish Theater

Gordon Streib, The Committee on Human Development, The University of Chicago: The Irish Language, Its Relevance in Research

APRIL MEETINGS ON JOYCE, REVOLUTION

The Third Canadian James Joyce Seminar meets April 14-15 at McMaster University. Participants include Ronald Bates, University of Western Ontario; Morris Ernst, New York City; Leslie Fiedler and Mark Schechner, SUNY-Buffalo; Thomas F. Staley, Tulsa University; Richard Morton and Harry J. Pollack, McMaster University.

Oregon State University's Conference on "Irish Writers Revolution" meets April 24-26. Participants include Giovanni Costigan and Malcolm Brown, University of Washington; Thomas Staley, Tulsa University; Ann Saddlemyer, University of Toronto; Robert Hogan, University of Delaware, and Darcy O'Brien, Pomona College.

ACIS AUTHORS IN THE NEWS

"The Grand Old Sport of Hating Catholics: American Anti-Catholic Caricature Prints" by ACIS members John and Selma Appel, appeared in the November-December 1971 issue of *The Critic*. John Appel's "From Shanties to Lace Curtains: the Irish Image in Puck" was in the October 1971 issue of *Comparative Studies in Society and History*. Both pieces originally were presented as slide lectures at ACIS meetings.

"Ireland's Unfinished Revolution" by Mary C. Bromage was published in *The South Atlantic Quarterly* (Winter 1972, vol. 71, no. 1, pp. 16-30). It was originally delivered as the annual faculty lecture for Phi Beta Kappa, The University of Michigan, spring 1971.

Participants: Tenth Annual Conference

Malcolm Brown, Ph.D., University of Washington; Professor of English, University of Washington. Author, *George Moore: A Reconsideration, The Politics of Irish Literature*.

Joseph Browne, M.A., Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Associate Professor of English, West Chester State College. Has written articles and reviews on 19th and 20th century literature for *America*; is presently completing book on Sean O'Faolain to be published in 1972-1973.

Joseph Curran, M.A., Ph.D., University of Chicago; Professor and Chairman, Department of History, LeMoyne College; Fulbright Scholar, Queens University, Belfast 1958-1959. Author, articles and reviews (most recent: "Lloyd George and the Irish Settlement, 1921-1922," *Eire-Ireland*, Spring 1972). Completing manuscript of book entitled "The Birth of the Irish Free State, 1921-1923."

Giovanni Costigan, B. Litt., M.A., Oxford, M.A., Ph.D., University of Wisconsin; Professor of History, University of Washington. Recent publications include *Sigmund Freud: A Short Biography, Makers of Modern England, History of Modern Ireland*. Currently working on the life of Sir Roger Casement.

John Fair, M.A. Wake Forest University, Ph.D., Duke University; Assistant Professor, Auburn University at Montgomery. Has written articles and reviews for *Eire-Ireland, The Journal of British Studies, The English Historical Review*; is presently completing book-length manuscript tentatively entitled "The Role of the Conference in British Politics, 1869-1921."

Herbert Felsenfeld, M.F.A., Goodman Theater, Chicago; Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of Theater Arts, Coordinator, Community Theater Institute, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Editor, *The Offstage Voice*.

David H. Greene, M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University; Professor and Head, All-University Department of English, New York University. Author articles and reviews in Irish literature, also *J. M. Synge 1871-1909*; editor, *Anthology of Irish Literature*, co-editor (with Vivian Mercier) *1000 Years of Irish Prose*. Currently working on study of Irish High Crosses.

Eric P. Hamp, M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University; Professor, Department of Linguistics, Director, Center for Balkan and

Slavic Studies, The University of Chicago; Fulbright Senior Research Scholar, University of Athens, 1955-1956. Delivered first Vernam Hull Lecture in Celtic Studies, Harvard University, 1971; Section Head, Comparative and Historical Linguistics, Celtic, and Albanian, *MLA Annual Bibliography*. Author numerous articles (more than 70 published in various journals, 1968-1971); editor, *Readings in Linguistics II*; advisory editor, *Foundations of Language, Papers in Language and Literature, General Linguistics, Journal of Linguistics*; review editor, *International Journal of American Linguistics*. Participant, all four international congresses of Celtic Studies to date.

Maurice Harmon, M. Litt., University College, Dublin; Ph.D., Harvard University; Lecturer in English, University College, Dublin. Editor, *The Irish University Review, J. M. Synge Centenary Papers, The Malone Shakespeare: Richard II, Romeo and Juliet, King Lear, Coriolanus*. Author, articles and reviews, also *Sean O'Faolain, Modern Irish Literature 1800-1967, Fenians and Fenianism, The Celtic Master*.

Lawrence J. McCaffrey, M.A., Indiana University, Ph.D., University of Iowa; Professor and Chairman, Department of History, Loyola University. Author, *Irish Federalism in the 1870's: A Study in Conservative Nationalism, Daniel O'Connell and the Repeal Year, The Irish Question, 1800-1922*, also articles and reviews in *Irish Historical Studies, The Review of Politics, College English, Cithara, The Catholic Historical Review, The Illinois Quarterly*, and *The Journal of General Education*.

Eoin McKiernan, Ed.M., University of New Hampshire; president, Irish American Cultural Institute. Author, *The Will of A Nation*, articles and reviews in *College English, Journal of American Folklore, Commonweal*, etc. Editor, *Eire-Ireland, The Bibliography of the College Teaching of English* (NCTE).

John C. Messenger, Ph.D., Northwestern University; Professor of Anthropology, The Ohio State University. Contributor, chapters in *Human Sexual Behavior, The Traditional Artist in African Society, Folklore and Folklife*; author, *Inis Beag: Isle of Ireland*, also articles and reviews. In work: analysis of Irish peasant in relation to various models of peasantry.

Brian O'Doherty, sculptor, Betty Parsons Gallery (New York City); Adjunct Professor, Barnard College; editor, *Art in America*; contributor, essay collections, journals.

Harold Orel, M.A., Ph.D., The University of Michigan; Professor of English, The University of Kansas. Publications include: *The World of Victorian Humor, Thomas Hardy's Epic-Drama: A Study of The Dynasts, Thomas Hardy's Personal Writings: Prefaces, Literary Opinions, Reminiscences, The Development of William Butler Yeats: 1885-1900, British Poetry 1880-1920: Edwardian Voices* (with Paul Wiley, University of Wisconsin, as co-editor). In progress: a book on Irish culture, based on materials prepared for a course taught by seven faculty members at The University of Kansas, Fall, 1971.

Corliss Phillabaum, M.A., Pennsylvania State University, Ph.D., Ohio State University; Associate Professor of Theatre Arts, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Most recent productions directed include *Hamlet* (First Quarto), *The Beggar's Opera, Life is a Dream, Twelfth Night, Carmen, Tosca*. Articles and reviews on contemporary theater in *Educational Theatre Journal, Journal of Modern Literature, American Record Guide*, etc.

Marilyn Gaddis Rose, Ph.D., The University of Missouri; Associate Professor of French, Chairman of the Comparative Literature Program, The State University of New York at Binghamton. Author, forthcoming monograph, *Jack B. Yeats: Painter and Poet*; also a monograph on Julian Green, a translation of *Axel* by Villiers de l'Isle-Adam, as well as numerous articles and reviews on French, American, Anglo-Irish, and German literature in academic journals.

Ann Saddlemyer, M.A., Queens University (Ontario), Ph.D., University of London; Professor of English, Victoria College, and Professor of Drama, Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama, University of Toronto. In addition to numerous articles and reviews, major publications include: *The World of W. B. Yeats*, (co-editor with R. Skelton), *In Defence of Lady Gregory, Playwright, The Plays of J. M.*

Synge: Books One and Two, Synge and Modern Comedy, The Plays of Lady Gregory, Books 1-4, A Selection of Letters from John M. Synge to W. B. Yeats and Lady Gregory, Letters to Molly: J. M. Synge to Maire O'Neill. In progress, manuscripts under contract on "Theatre Business, Management of Men" (Letters of Synge, Yeats, and Lady Gregory); initial study of John Millington Synge.

Gordon F. Streib, Professor of Sociology, Cornell University; Visiting Fellow, 1971-1972, The Committee on Human Development of the University of Chicago; Fulbright Scholar, Dublin, 1966-1967. Author of articles and reviews on Irish studies.

John C. Whitty, M.A., University of North Carolina, Ph.D., University of Iowa; Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Author, "The Half-Price Riots of 1763," *Theatre Notebook*, Autumn, 1969; in progress, article on Steele MacKaye and the Madison Square Theatre; several articles on topic of The Lord Admiral's Men: 1594-1600.

Milwaukee's Irish Welcome ACIS

by John H. Crowley

A warm welcome for ACIS is being prepared by Milwaukee's Irish Community.

Member's of the Shamrock Club, an organization over 2,000 strong, plus volunteers working with the Milwaukee Convention and Visitor's Bureau, have many plans underway to make sure that this traditionally German city's "Gemutlichkeit" will be offered to every ACIS visitor.

County Executive John Doyle and other Irish-American city and county officials will join in the hospitality arrangements. Committees have been formed to see that members are cordially welcomed, that they have easy transportation to meetings, that refreshments are available whenever appropriate and that they have access to whatever information they would like about places to go and things to do.

ACIS members who wish to review books or special issues of journals should write to the Editor, stating specific areas of academic interest.

seem to me most valuable insights, as in his perception of the connection, in "Two Gallants," between the blue skirt of the muscular girl and the great blue platter on which the cut ham is "exposed." Totally obvious once it is pointed out, the relationship brings into line many hitherto puzzling elements of the story, and contributes to the powerful effect of the final epiphany.

Most valuable of all, in my judgment, is his treatment of the dominance of the dead mothers in "The Dead" and in *Exiles*, with the devastating effects of their steely demands that the sons submit to living through their experiences. Richard's resultant repetitious and paradoxical compulsion to possess and to reject those around him accounts for a good deal of the psychic complexity of Joyce's play, much of it explored on other terms, as Brandabur indicates, by fine critics like Kenner and Hayman.

ulating conclusion of this book, touching as it is on the operation of sadomasochism in *Portrait* and *Exiles*, strike me as a trifle evangelistic and overly therapeutic aims. Indeed, though Brandabur is being dogmatic in his application of his assumptions, one may occasionally feel that too imprecisely few to warrant quite so clear a

Continued on p. 4

ART EXHIBIT, ONE-ACT PLAYS, FEATURES OF ACIS MEETING


A special exhibit of Jack B. Yeats's work will be featured at the Tenth Annual Conference of the American Committee for Irish Studies, May 4-6, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Comprising paintings and notebooks by the artist-prosewriter-playwright whose centennial was celebrated last year, the exhibit is made possible through the generosity of Cormac O'Malley, Mrs. Helen Roelofs, and Joseph Hirschorn, well-known collectors with a particular interest in Yeats. Brian O'Doherty, Dublin-born sculptor and art critic, will discuss the themes to which Yeats was most attracted; Marilyn Gaddis Rose, author of *Jack B. Yeats: Painter and Poet*, will concentrate on interrelationships in his writings and paintings.

Samuel Beckett, friend of Jack B. Yeats, and William Butler Yeats, the painter's more famous brother, are the authors of the one-act plays selected by the UWM Theater Department for presentation at the Tenth Annual Conference. Planned for an intimate Studio Theater audience, *All That Fall* and *Words Upon The Windowpane* will be presented frequently, May 3-6, with opportunity for discussion following each performance.

Book Collection For Sale

The Irish book collection of retiring ACIS member Israel Kaplan, English Department, SUNY College at Potsdam is for sale. Interested buyers please write Professor Kaplan for details.

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newsletter

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Bibliographer: Jim Ford
Editorial Assistant: Susan Munley

reviews

Review of *A Scrupulous Meanness: a Study of Joyce's Early Work* by Edward Brandabur, University of Illinois Press, 1971, pp. 184, \$6.95.

We have all seen, particularly in the Joyce field, the damage that the psychoanalytic approach to literary criticism has effected. To see that method, then, in the hands of a competent critic, producing good results, is a relief as well as a pleasure. Mr. Brandabur does not altogether escape an occasional medicinal whiff, but he seldom allows it to dull his sound and remarkably well-informed critical judgment.

In his treatment of the first three stories of *Dubliners*, Brandabur examines with profit the urge for self-defeat in the protagonist, and concludes with insight: "The itch of masochism urges him finally to look into the sad darkness of self-awareness." (p. 56)

His profound study of the paralyzed celibates (Eveline, Maria, James Duffy) and love. The blackthorn and the incestuous desire to be... obvious to me that... up for me new p...

In his working... ler, Farrington, Doyle, and... Brandabur stresses "the compulsive need for betrayal." His method produces what

certitude. In "Two Gallants," for example, in his concern to stress homosexuality and oral sex, he does not consider Corley's fear of getting the girl in the "family way." And the suggestion that the title of "The Sisters" reveals "an effeminate relationship" between the priest and the boy seems to me to emerge from doctrine, perhaps of the masochistic implications of all submission, rather than from what I am able to see in the text.

But on the whole, I am grateful for this penetrating and attractive study, treating with such clarity and precision a number of complicated psychic patterns in Joyce's vision. I look forward to Mr. Brandabur's treating in like fashion the sublime products of Joyce's maturity.

Robert Boyle, S.J.
Marquette University

The Earl of Longford and Thomas P. O'Neill, *Eamon De Valera*, Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1971, xix 499 pp., \$12.50.

Eamon de Valera is Ireland's man for all seasons. Active in the politics of his nation for over half a century, de Valera has been head of the Irish government for 24 years and leader of the opposition for 16. He serves today as President of the Irish Republic. Few statesmen have ever possessed so keen an empathy for their people, or have enjoyed the confidence of an electorate for so long a duration. De Valera once remarked: "When I want to know what the people of Ireland want, I examine my own heart." The farm boy from Limerick knew the grievances of his rural countrymen; the professor from Maynooth understood their expectations. His instinctive political sagacity and sincere religious fervor served him well in a country which placed a premium on both.

De Valera never wished to write an autobiography but he cooperated fully with the authors of this biography. The latter claim that the President provided them with the benefit of his personal recollections but they deferred to existing documents whenever facts seemed unclear. One supposes the implication to be that this account more closely resembles a definitive biography than an official history. In fairness, it must be conceded that the overall effort, despite its shortcomings, is considerably more informative than Denis Gwynn's rather dated and severely critical biography or Mary Bromage's decidedly sympathetic but more limited study. Yet there is no

denying the heavily partisan tone of the book which inevitably detracts from its objectivity. Daniel Cohalan and John Devoy are portrayed so unfavorably that the account of de Valera's difficulties in America during 1919-20 serves only to balance Charles Tansill's version which by contrast is totally hostile to de Valera. The authors do little better by Michael Collins when they analyze his motives for signing the Treaty of 1921 without any reference to Piaras Beaslai's interpretation. Most disappointing is the book's failure to provide a reasonably satisfactory explanation for the two questions which continue to perplex students of this period: Why did de Valera not head the delegation which negotiated the Anglo-Irish treaty in London? What prompted de Valera to resort to civil war rather than accept the oath of allegiance to the British Crown in 1921, only to take the oath later after judging it to be a meaningless declaration? The answers which are offered are unconvincing but they possess one virtue: they are consistent with what de Valera himself has repeatedly contended.

Even if less than definitive, this is doubtlessly the best book to date on the Irish President and it seems unlikely that anything better will appear for some time. Beginning with a thirty-page coverage of de Valera's life between 1882 and 1916, recounted in an anecdotal but frequently revealing narrative, the book is almost evenly divided between the revolutionary years of 1916 to 1924 (205 pages), and the purely political years from 1924 to the present (257 pages). It is more than the story of a man's life for the history of twentieth century Ireland has seldom, if ever, been told from a more authoritative perspective. The volume contains a useful index, a section on source references, and is further embellished with portraits of de Valera with world leaders. Especially noteworthy, however, is the abundant number of pithy and heretofore incomplete accounts of episodes in the Irish President's remarkable career: the role which de Valera played in the Howth gun-running of 1914; the strategy behind the negotiations with Neville Chamberlain over the treaty ports; the difficulties with Churchill and the scrupulous observance of neutrality during World War Two. Few biographers have had so enigmatic a figure as their subject, and one estimate of the accomplished skills of these authors is the insightful way in which they have captured the character and personality of both the private and public de Valera.

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