TRIBUTE TO O RIADA
by Sean Lucy

The death of Sean O Riada last October at the age of 40 was a loss to music, particularly to Irish music, but it was something wider than this, for by his death Irish life as a whole has lost forever a certain light and warmth.

Since the early sixties Sean O Riada had lived with his wife and growing family in Coolea in the west Cork Gaeltacht. He was deeply committed to what he called "The Gaelic Nation": to the cause of the Irish speaking Irish; to their language, culture; to their social and economic survival. From Coolea he drove to lecture in University College Cork, or journeyed out through Ireland and overseas, spreading his music, his knowledge, his gaiety and his wit generously wide.

His body was brought back to Coolea after his last illness in London and taken to the church-yard of St. Gobnait in nearby Ballyvourney. The gathering of people showed that he who had died had touched, even changed the consciousness of a whole nation.

As a musician Sean O Riada had three overlapping areas of achievement: his works in the modern European musical tradition; the creative rearrangement and presentation of Irish traditional music both vocal and instrumental, most of which he undertook with his group of traditional Irish musicians, Ceolróiri Cualann; and his music for films.

His feeling for tradition as a living thing enabled him to give back to Ireland a sense of the rich and even sophisticated excellence of the Irish musical heritage. But also a sense of living historical and musical process is one of the main elements and deep strengths of his works in the European tradition. Nomos No. 2, more than any other of his orchestral compositions, seems to incarnate a deep tragic vision of the history and present agony of Western Man. In its own way it is as controlled, as passionate and as unrelenting as King Lear or as the Theban plays of Sophocles from which it takes its choral themes. His commercial recording in the European tradition is *Vertical Man* (Ceirnín Cheada), which consists of Nomos No. 1 ("Hercules Dux Ferrariae") and ten songs. His records of film music and Irish traditional music are published by Gaeil-Linn.

A memorial fund has been established to further O Riada's work for Irish music and culture and to help in the preservation, performance and recording of his own music. Details can be had from Fundúireacht an Riadaigh, 71 Grafton Street, Dublin 2.

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**American Committee for Irish Studies**

*Newsletter*

Published at the Department of English, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Volume II

October 1972

**ACIS Members on MLA-AHA Programs**

"Ulysses: 1922-1972" is the topic of the annual MLA Celtic Group Meeting for 1972. Chairman is Richard J. Finnern, Newcomb College, Tulane University; Secretary is Michael C. Hennessy, University of Hartford. Papers presented will include "The Thematic Unity of 'Telemachus,'" Weldon Thornton, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; "The 'Cyclops' Chapter in Ulysses," Brendan P. O. Hehir, University of California at Berkeley; "Epiphanies on Green Oval Leaves": Notes on Joyce's Occult Sources, George M. Harper, Florida State University; "Molly Bloom in Gibraltar," Anthony Burgess, by special invitation. The meeting will be held from 10:30-11:45 on 27 December in the Trianon Ballroom, New York Hilton.

"Douglas Hyde: Oral Tradition and the Literary Renaissance" is the topic of the annual MLA-ACIS seminar in Irish Studies. Chairman is Gareth Dunleavy, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Participants are Bruce Rosenberg, Penn State and Lester Conner, Chestnut Hill, also Associate Director of the Sligo Yeats Summer School. Commentator is David Greene Director of the School of Celtic Studies, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies and Visiting Professor at Harvard, 1972-73. Saturday, December 30, 10:30 a.m., Hilton 520.

The second MLA seminar on Swift and His Heirs will explore Swiftian humor in Joyce and Beckett. Chairwoman is Janet Egleson Dunleavy, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Participants are Bernard Benstock, Kent State, and Marilyn Gaddis Rose, SUNY-Binghamton. Friday, December 29, 8:45 a.m., Vendome 9.

"Catholic Identity and Nationalism in the 19th Century" is the topic of the annual AHA-ACIS session in Irish Studies. Chairman is Edmund Kearney. Participants are Emmet Larkin and Lawrence McCaffrey. Commentator is Maurice O'Connell.

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**ACIS Reprints Available**

Emmet Larkin, Editor of the ACIS Reprint Series, reports that the following titles may be purchased from The University of Chicago Bookstore.

Early Irish History and Literature:

Continued on p. 4
reviews


While in the opening sentence of their introduction to the first number of Yeats Studies: An International Journal the editors of that journal are lauding "Yeats as a poet and man" as "a profound influence on Yeats's developing prose style or his expanding sense of ritual," Michael Sidney's "Versions of the Story of Red Hanrahan" is still more complex project involving a more extended history of publication. George Mills Harper's combined essay and edited documents, "Medications upon Unknown Thoughts: Yeats's Break with Monism and Materialism," is a fascinating and often amusing account of a facet in Yeats's life that always arouses interest and has tended to be somewhat enigmatical, and bears heavily on his work on The Tables of the Law, for instance, does not appear to illuminate the work itself, but it is undoubtedly important to establish the various text for future scholars' study, in effect, much of the cultural milieu affecting the poet's life and work. Thus future issues will be devoted to John B. and Jack Betjeman, Yeats, and several articles on the ancestry of W. B. Yeats, his friends and associates, and Yeats's organizational occult activities.

The headnote to this critical section of the issue, in fact, "Ancestors and the Age," and the articles which comprise it, generally giving more attention to Yeats's less known associates than to himself, provide a definite challenge, though important focus on Yeats. But a perspective exists in the opposite direction as well, illuminating Yeats's influence on the control of his material for the purposes of his central position, while keeping Yeats's in the central position that he rightly occupied, would continue dealing with his overall cultural achievement. Although there appears to be a never ending flow of new and revealing material by and about Yeats himself (and, indeed, Senator Michael Yeats has made available a considerable number of his (unpublished manuscripts), if Yeats Studies is to maintain an ongoing interest and vitality it must somehow itself against a danger of dealing with ever more insignificant and potentially unbearable under a rigidity narrow concentration. As it is, this wide view provides possibilities of publishing important and sometimes basic material on people associated with Yeats who have also made considerable contributions, artistically and intellectually, in their right own.

Another important function of the journal— it may be argued it is the most important function—is the publication of previously unpublished material, or material in manuscript, readings, included in the second section, "Editorial." It is sometimes difficult to determine precisely the literary value of certain editorial projects. Robert O'Driscoll's highly competent work on The Tables of the Law, for instance, does not appear to illuminate the work itself, but it is undoubtedly important to establish the various text for future scholars' study, in effect, much of the cultural milieu affecting the poet's life and work. Thus future issues will be devoted to John B. and Jack Betjeman, Yeats, and several articles on the ancestry of W. B. Yeats, his friends and associates, and Yeats's organizational occult activities.

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Yeats Studies is an invaluable journal, not only to people with a special interest in the age's greatest poet, but to anyone concerned with modern Anglo-Irish literature. It combines in good proportion critical articles and newly edited material, and, in future numbers we are told, reviews and bibliographies. Yeats's age is whether it is really the most significant and, indeed, the largely personal work between Plunkett and Arthur Griffin. In Historical Revision XVI, "The Flight of the Earl, 1600" by Nicholas P. Canny, the editors have broadened the chronicle written by this interpretation of a central event. Hug O'Neill, the Earl of Tyrone, greatest of the Ulster Earls, is revealed more as a victim of circumstance than as the heroic figure of legend. Canny argues that O'Neill did not have to flee but, finding that he could not restrain O'Donnell and the other Earls, he refused to be left behind when unimportant political considerations upon him.

This number also includes the annual report on "Research on Irish History in Irish Universities, 1970-71," as well as reviews and short notices of recent publications.

Joe Roslewy
McCullin University


Irish Historical Studies for March, 1971 contains four articles and an essay. In "An American before the Mexican Inquisition, 1574-85," P.H.E. Hair uses transcripts of Mexican National Archives to describe the plight of a seaman, John Martin, captured by the Spanish in the aftermath of John Hawkins' 'flaco at San Juan de Ulloa (1526)." In "The State's Leviathan State, 1230: James Cropper's Plan," Kenneth Charlton discusses the involvement of a Quaker merchant from Liverpool. Cropper's central proposal was the removal of restrictions on Irish trade and the development of a major cotton manufacture in southern Ireland. The reception accorded Cropper's ideas was mixed, and such cotton manufacture never flourished in southern Ireland. William Cobbett devised the scheme to make England as happy as England . . . simply by introducing cotton factories, steam engines and power looms in Ireland. In "The National Agricultural Labourers' Union in Ireland, 1873-9," documents the failure of the effort to unite agricultural labourers in Ireland. The English organizers encountered little enthusiasm for the concept of worker solidarity, and it was the Land League with its more explicitly revolutionary goals which made such Irish prophecies which could not be ignored, and absorbed the N.A.L.U. in Ireland. Michael Laflan in "The Unification of Sinn Fein in 1917" examines "how the different aspects of the movement were, in their own terms, shaped by the events of the Easter Rising leaders, but that the coalition was only slowly and painfully achieved in 1917, bridging the largely personal gulf between Count Plunkett and Arthur Griffin. In Historical Revision XVI, "The Flight of the Earl, 1600" by Nicholas P. Canny, the editors have broadened the chronicle written by this interpretation of a central event. Hug O'Neill, the Earl of Tyrone, greatest of the Ulster Earls, is revealed more as a victim of circumstance than as the heroic figure of legend. Canny argues that O'Neill did not have to flee but, finding that he could not restrain O'Donnell and the other Earls, he refused to be left behind when unimportant political considerations upon him.

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Joe Roslewy
McCullin University


The Carleton News letter is what its title implies: a four page repository, published thrice annually (at least in 1971), for notes, anecdotes, bibliographical data, scholarly juxtapositions, and in one number even fragments from his (meritoriously) forgivable copious correspondence, devoted to resurrecting the reputation of William Carleton. Each issue consists of an editorial (usually stating the rationale for what is to follow), letters to the editor, and an account of the Carleton image or legend (importance and re- quests that the correspondent's subscription be renewed, and brief commentaries on parts of Carleton's career. The numbers I used for this article have included cariol Carleton in the National Library of Ireland, the Georgia and North Carolina academic and research libraries, and the libraries of Arkansas State, the University of Arizona, and the New Mexican; and articles on "The Death of William Carleton" by Terence Brown and "Carleton and Colomille" by Maureen O'Connor. Each contains worthwhile information for the student exploring Carleton's largely uncharted body of work.

My most interesting contribution to the Newsletter was, for me, anyway Carleton's, the excerpt from "Report of theCONFERENCE ON THE
date: October 1: Sendicus due to Thos. Hachev, History, Marquette University.

October 15: Submit program proposals for NEMLA (Boston, Mass. 9-17) to W. Donaldson, English, SUNY-Albany. Focus: Irish Writing After 1900.

November 1: Submit program proposals for ANCA (Ann Arbor, Oct. 6-7) to Leo McNamara, English, Univ. of Michigan.

PROFESSOR CONDON DIES

ACCS members Maire D. Condon, Associate Professor of History, San Jose State College, died October 28, 1971. Born and educated in Los Angeles, she took her B.A. degree in 1937 at Westmont College (now the College of the Pacific), in 1950 and 1960. Miss Condon served as a Lieutenant in the Navy during World War II and taught at East Los Angeles City College where she joined the faculty of San Jose State College in 1963. Within her general area of British history she specialized in early nineteenth-century Ire- land, and was one of the few with twenty-five-year battle against cancer. San Jose State College has set up an Irish collection of books and pamphlets in her memory. Checks may be sent to the Maire Condon Memorial Fund, Department of History.

NOTE IMPORTANT DATES
Newsletters with IASAIL on an organizational basis, though it is expected that the officers of both organizations will participate in the exchange and that major items will be reprinted in each newsletter. ACIS members who are also members of IASAIL will, of course, continue to receive IASAIL’s Newsletter.

Emmet Larkin, reporting for Edmund Kearney, announced the topic of the ACIS session at the 1972 AHA meetings. Harold Orel announced that the ACIS session at the 1972 MLA meetings would be headed by Gareth Dunleavy.

Robert E. Rhodes announced that the Executive Committee has appointed Albert Hamilton (John Carroll University) and Robert Davis (Tarkio College) as archivists and cataloguers of resources available to ACIS members; ACIS will cover annual expenses up to $100.

Re a proposed resolution on the situation in Northern Ireland, Harold Orel announced that by tradition and precedent ACIS does not take stands on political issues as an organization; of course, members may act as they wish as individuals.

David H. Greene, Chairman of the Nominations and Election Committee, announced the election of the following officers, who will serve until May 1975: Chairman: John R. Moore (former Vice-Chairman, who moves to Chairman); Vice-Chairman: Lawrence McCaffrey; Secretary: Janet Egleson Dunleavy; Treasurer: Thomas Hachey; Literature Representatives: Leo McNamara and Richard M. Kain; History Representatives: Emmet Larkin and Gilbert Cahill; Other Disciplines Representative: Alan Ward. Robert Rhodes, retiring Secretary, Joseph Curran, retiring Treasurer, and Harold Orel, retiring Chairman, serve as ex officio members of the Executive Committee.

In related actions, the membership present approved (a) the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the Executive Committee be enlarged to include a fourth ex officio member and that John Messenger be the appointee; and (b) the re-appointment of Maurice Harmon as Irish representative to the Executive Committee.

David H. Greene moved a resolution of thanks to The University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, the host institution, and the Chairman was directed to communicate thanks and appreciation to the appropriate University official with copies to other appropriate groups and individuals.

Submitted by Robert E. Rhodes, ACIS Secretary, 9 May, 1972.

TREASURER’S REPORT, 1971-72

SAVINGS ACCOUNT
Deposits
May, 1971  J. Hernon $1,335.98
July, 1971 checking account 1,000.00
Oct.-Nov., 1971 dues 892.22
May, 1971—April, 1972 interest 89.94
$3,318.14
Withdrawals
Oct., 1971 Newsletter subsidy $ 250.00
Nov., 1971 bad dues checks 16.00
Feb., 1972 Reprint Series subsidy 1,000.00
$1,266.00
Balance, May, 1972 plus month’s interest $2,052.14

CHECKING ACCOUNT
Balance, May, 1972 $1,310.00
Deposits
May, 1971—May, 1972 dues 414.00
$1,724.00
Withdrawals
May, 1971 $ 90.00
June-Sept., 1971 Conference costs 112.00
July, 1971 dues, Newsletter notices 1,000.00
Nov., 1971—Jan., 1972 savings 7.00
Jan.-April, 1972 dues refunds 39.00
Jan., 1972 telephone 142.00
Jan., 1972 Newsletter costs 100.00
Feb., 1972 Secretary’s expenses 35.00
May, 1971—May, 1972 bank charges 10.00
$1,535.00
Balance, May, 1972 $ 189.00
TOTAL BALANCE $2,241.14
plus one month’s interest
Submitted by Joseph M. Curran, ACIS Treasurer, 5 May 1972

The University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee
Department of English
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

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