

IN THE JOURNALS

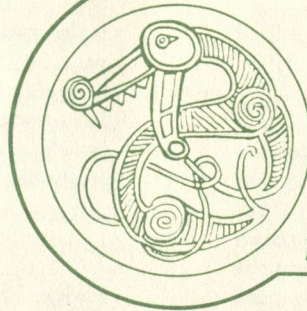
Recently published journals of interest to specialists in Irish studies contain the following articles, many by ACIS authors. Editors of journals not represented below are invited to submit notice of contents of forthcoming issues for future notice.

Irish University Review, Vol. 2. No. 2 (Autumn 1972) contains two Yeats articles, "Myth and Meaning in Yeats's *The Death of Cuchulain*" by Philip L. Marcus and "W. B. Yeats's *Where There Is Nothing*" by Patricia Ann McFate and William E. Doherty; two Beckett pieces, "The Sterne Ways of Beckett and Jack B. Yeats" by Marilyn Gaddis Rose and a Beckett Bibliography; "Swift and the Ireland of His Day" by A. N. Jeffares; "On His Blindness: Joyce, Myth and Memory" by Lorraine Weir; and Bibliography.

The *James Joyce Quarterly* notes that Vol. 10, No. 1 (Fall 1972) commemorates its own tenth anniversary and the 50th anniversary of *Ulysses* in essays by Maurice Beebe, "Ulysses and the Age of Modernism," Richard M. Kain, "The Significance of Stephen's Meeting Bloom: A Survey of Interpretations," Hugh Kenner, "Molly's Masterstroke," A. Walton Litz, "Pound and Eliot on *Ulysses*," Robert Scholes, "Ulysses: A Structuralist Perspective," Fritz Senn, "Book of Many Turns," Leo Knuth, "Joyce's Verbal Acupuncture," Bernard Benstock, "Ulysses Without Dublin," William Schutte, "Leopold Bloom: A Touch of The Artist," Robert Boyle, S. J., "Miracle in Black Ink: A Glance at Joyce's Use of His Eucharistic Image," Morton P. Levitt, "A Hero for Our Time: Bloom and the Myth of *Ulysses*," and Mark Shechner, "The Song of Wandering Aengus: James Joyce and His Mother" plus photographs by Tom Wood. Vol. 10, No. 2 (Winter 1973) contains "A Moore in *Ulysses*" by Albert J. Solomon, "Parnell Is Dead: 'Ivy Day in The Committee Room'" by F. C. Stern, "Spheretual Exercises of Dedalus and Bloom" by H. C. Staley, and "Ulysses in Bloomsbury" by Suzanne Henig.

Eire-Ireland, No. 28 (Winter 1972) contains "Wolfe Tone's Diplomacy in America: August-December 1795" by J. J. St. Mark, "Mr. Punch and Daniel O'Connell" by Elizabeth Petuchowski, "Yeats, Johnson and Ireland's Heroic Dead: Toward A Poetry of Politics" by Barton R. Friedman, "Love and Famine, Family and Country in Trollope's *Castle Richmond*" by Hugh L. Hennedy, "The 'First Tenor' in Joyce's 'A Mother'" by John Scarry, "Population, the Potato, and Depression in Ireland: 1800-1830" by Gale Edward Christianson, and "An Irishman's Diary" by Pdraig O Maidin.

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newsletter

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ACIS MEETING IN ANN ARBOR

by Leo Macnamara

The eleventh Annual Meeting of ACIS will be held at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, May 3 - 5, 1973. Major addresses at the meeting will be given by John V. Kelleher, Harvard University Professor of Irish History, and former Chairman of ACIS, and Mr. Dermot Foley, head of the Library Council in Ireland. Foley's long and distinguished career in the Irish library service has brought him into close acquaintance with many of the nation's leading scholars, writers, and artists, and gives him unique authority for comment upon cultural and political affairs in the past half-century. The program will also include presentation of papers in literature, history, and politics both by newer members of ACIS and by members of long standing such as Professors Eileen Ibarra and Alan Ward. Honorable William S. Warnock, Ireland's Ambassador to the United States, has indicated that he hopes to be with us for the meeting.

Exhibits of Irish material in the University of Michigan Libraries have been arranged, and the local committee hopes to arrange for the showing of recent films of interest to the membership. Those planning to attend the meeting may wish to know of the concurrent presentation of the annual May Festival which brings to Ann Arbor the Philadelphia Orchestra with pianists Rudolf Serkin and Van Cliburn and violinist Isaac Stern. Tickets for a Festival performance should be ordered in advance from the University Musical Society, Burton Tower, Ann Arbor 48104.

Full details of the ACIS program will appear in the next Newsletter. Meanwhile, all members are urged to plan to attend.

SPRING EVENTS IN IRISH STUDIES

Professor William Dumbleton of SUNY-Albany announces that the second NEMLA session on Irish Studies (Boston, April 5-7) focuses on 20th century writers. Maureen Murphy of Hofstra will discuss "O'Flaherty's Double Vision" in a comparison of his Irish and English stories; Raymond Porter of Iona will present "Behan's *The Quare Fellow*: A Joco-serious View of Man"; and Anthony Farrow of Cornell will analyze Beckett's wordless plays.

Meeting at the same time as the NEMLA, a seminar on "Conversations in the Disciplines: The Irish Peasant 1800-1916" at the State University of New York College at Oneonta will feature papers by K. H. Connell of Queens University, Belfast; Maurice Harmon of University College Dublin (visiting professor, spring 1973, Ohio State University); Thomas Brown, University of Massachu-

setts; D. K. Wilgas of UCLA; Maurice O'Connell of Fordham; Martin Waters of Cooper Union; James MacKillop of Onondaga Community College, Gerald O'Donahue of Hartwick, and John Unterecker of Columbia University. Directors of the seminar are Daniel Casey of SUNY College at Oneonta and Gilbert Cahill of SUNY College at Cortland.

The newly founded Irish Arts Theatre directed by Robert O'Driscoll of St. Michaels's College, University of Toronto, announces the following program: January 16-21, *Here Are Ladies*: Siobhan McKenna's presentation of women of modern Irish literature; January 23-28, *Confusion*, humour and sardonic commentary on social, religious, and political subjects by Niall Tobin; January 30 - February 18, O'Casey's *Juno and The Paycock*; March 13-18, *Beckett*, a one-man show by Jack MacGowran.

reviews

Thomas Jones. *Whitehall Diary, III: Ireland, 1918-1925*, edited by Keith Middlemas. London: Oxford University Press, 1971, pp. 268, xxvii.

Publication of Tom Jones's diary on Irish affairs demonstrates, as nothing else could, his remarkable and decisive contribution to the making of the Anglo-Irish Treaty fifty years ago. Not surprisingly, well over half of the book deals with the complex events of 1921—the war, the truce, and the protracted negotiations which culminated in historic agreement on December 6th. In addition to presenting important material from Cabinet Office records, the diary supplements the official record with fuller accounts of crucial British meetings, descriptions of Jones's dealings with both British and Irish leaders outside the conference room, and selections from his correspondence with prominent British political figures. Jones does not tell all that one would like to know about his role as intermediary during the London Conference, especially, what he may have led Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins to expect from the British-proposed Boundary Commission. But he does give a more complete picture of his relationship with Lloyd George and Griffith than any other account, and his portraits of the major participants in the negotiations, especially that of Lloyd George himself, are fascinating and unforgettable. Although his treatment of the months following the Treaty is relatively brief, Jones does provide valuable information on the decisive events in Anglo-Irish relations during May and June, 1922. The same is true of his account of the negotiations preceding establishment of the Boundary Commission in 1924, and those resulting in the tripartite agreement of December, 1925.

This work forms a fitting conclusion to Keith Middlemas's three volume edition of the Jones diaries from 1916 to 1930, and he is to be commended for treating the selections on Ireland in separate context. Middlemas is also to be congratulated for a very fine job of editing. His introduction is excellent (as is the foreword by Nicholas Mansergh): his footnotes are succinct and informative; and his lucid commentary links together Jones's entries to form a continuous narrative. Errors are few and minor; probably the most glaring

Irish Pamphlet Collection by L. P. Curtis Jr.

Students of Irish history may be interested to learn that the Library of the University of California, Berkeley has recently acquired an important collection of Irish pamphlet literature. Numbering some 2,500 separate items, this acquisition covers the period 1700-1900 with an occasional foray into the seventeenth century. The collection is especially useful for students of the later eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Among the subjects represented are constitutional and financial relations between England and Ireland, the Irish land question, relief of distress, Catholic emancipation, education, the Repeal and Home Rule movements, and Church of Ireland affairs. There are almost 200 pamphlets and leaflets published by the Irish Loyal

and Patriotic Union in the 1880's and by the Irish Unionist Alliance in the 1890's. The collection contains several hundred Acts of Parliament relating to Ireland, most of them belonging to the years 1800-70.

In his preface to the catalogue of this collection Professor F. S. L. Lyons of the University of Kent emphasized the "remarkable scope—chronological as well as topical—of the sources" in which "the grain greatly outweighs the chaff."

Researchers, including undergraduates, who wish to explore the resources of this collection should write to Mrs. Leslie Clarke, the Rare Books Collection, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.

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

is the misdating of a letter from Jones to the Prime Minister on page 92 (the correct date is July 30, 1920, not July 30, 1921). Complementing and, on certain points, correcting Frank Pakenham's *Peace by Ordeal* (London, 1935), this book takes its place of honor with that classic as an essential guide for study of the Anglo-Irish settlement of 1921.

Joseph M. Curran
Le Moyne College

Staley, Thomas F. and Bernard Benstock, eds., *Approaches to Ulysses: Ten Essays*, Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Press, 1970, xi 289 pp., \$7.95.

This book is aimed at illustrating the "multiplicity and variety" of critical approaches to *Ulysses*, yet it achieves unity and synthesis. All essays deal with *Ulysses* as a whole and with important issues; all present overviews of the novel by highly knowledgeable Joyce scholars.

The first half deals with problems of characterization. Staley in "Stephen Dedalus and the Temper of the Modern Hero" disagrees with the critical view that Joyce lost interest in Stephen in *Ulysses* and argues persuasively that the characterization is an "accurate portrait of the modern hero," exploring his nothingness in a world of nullity. In "The Priesthoods of Stephen and Buck" Robert Boyle traces the conflict between Stephen as true priest of the imagination and Mulligan as false priest of materialism. He elucidates the complex eucharistic imagery well. Richard Kain's "Motif as Meaning: The Case of Leopold Bloom" demonstrates how leitmotif accentuates the symbolic pattern underlying the naturalistic details of Bloom's life. A useful "Biography of Leopold Bloom" is appended. Two interpretations of Molly contrast. Darcy O'Brien's "Some Determinants of Molly Bloom" defines these elements as the traditional Irish view of woman, a combination of admiration, contempt, and fear of her sexuality, and Joyce's own "psychosexual malady," an inability to unite emotions of tenderness and sensuality. David Hayman's "The Empirical Molly" aims at "balanced assessment" of her character, based on both her interior monologue and the comments of other characters. The result is a rounded

portrait of Molly as "female complement to Bloom," not mere sex symbol.

The last five essays deal with Joyce's techniques and use of background. William Schutte and Erwin Steinberg offer perceptive structural analysis in "The Fictional Technique of *Ulysses*." They show the pattern of the first nine episodes to be a gradual progression from omniscient author to full stream of consciousness, first with Stephen, then with Bloom; and that of the last nine a featuring of a different fictional technique in each episode. H. F. Waidner's "*Ulysses* by Way of *Culture and Anarchy*" applies Arnold's contrast between Hellenic intellectuality and Hebraic morality to Stephen and Bloom and shows that, far from being cultural polarities, both share Hellenic "spontaneity of consciousness" and Hebraic "strictness of conscience." As Joyce noted, "Extremes meet. Jewgreek meets greekjew." Benstock explores another cultural ambiguity, Joyce's love-hate relationship to Ireland. In "*Ulysses: The Making of an Irish Myth*" he discusses history as theme in *Ulysses*, illustrating the Celtic myth in Haines and the Citizen, historical memory of rebellion and defeat in Stephen, and Irish politics in Bloom. Weldon Thornton's "The Allusive Method in *Ulysses*" explores the reasons for Joyce's increasing use of references, finding that Joyce, like Yeats and Eliot, employed them for contrast and connection with the past. He argues convincingly that the allusions offer a healing continuity with past tradition and so act as corrective to splits in the modern psyche. The book concludes with Fritz Senn's "*Ulysses* in Translation," an interesting discussion of the linguistic problems *Ulysses* presents translators and also of the light that translation on occasion throws on darkness in Joyce.

Approaches to Ulysses succeeds in its focus on salient issues. Earlier commonplaces are questioned and extremes of view modified. Overall patterns of structure and motif are clarified. The characters, though further defined as archetypes, now seem more human in dimension and more traditionally fictional in development. And there seems essential agreement that *Ulysses* is a picture of "the rift in modern civilization" (Cleath Brooks), but that the novel offers also the means for synthesizing the dichotomies between present and past, bourgeois and artist, material fact and spiritual value.

Florence L. Walzl
The University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee

Murphy, William M. *The Yeats Family and the Pollexfens of Sligo*, with drawings by John Butler Yeats. New Yeats Papers I. Dublin: Dolmen Press, 1971. 88 pp; £1.25.

The continued results of Professor Murphy's researches into the backgrounds of the Yeats family are splendidly distinguished in this handsome Dolmen Press pamphlet. Drawing heavily upon unpublished letters and MS. materials, he has shown in searching detail the paramount importance of family in the development of W. B. Yeats, his brother, father, and sisters. This succinct account goes a long way to redressing the balance in such matters projected by earlier biographers and critics of the poet, whether they passed over Murphy's sources or succumbed to narrow theorizing. While demonstrating the truth of J. B. Yeats's observation that the wedding of Pollexfen and Yeats made for "the perfect mixture of fuel and fire," the author is no less perceptive in singling out the altogether explosive combination of the two.

Specifically speaking, through a selection of evidence from the lives of the Pollexfen family, Professor Murphy powerfully argues for the transmission of both its strengths and weaknesses to the Yeats children. He points to a suppressed

imagination, unconscious poetry, a primitive earthiness combined unfortunately with a heady sense of class, an eye for property, and what seems to be a congenital melancholia in a galaxy of Pollexfens who predominated in the Yeats environment right down to the death of Uncle Alfred. Appropriately, the last sombre pages of the narrative fix upon the virtual withdrawal from active life of the former Susan Pollexfen, who became the disappointed and then embittered wife of J. B. Yeats, during her last twelve years. With great delicacy Professor Murphy also touches the sympathy, fairness and shortcomings of that former landlord and barrister who became her husband and later turned painter and Bohemian while keeping unremittently to his own ideals and unfashionable, exasperating poverty.

One upshot of this otherwise intricate and scrupulously objective story is Professor Murphy's tacit claim, in an elegant style hard to resist, that Yeats the poet may in the long run be deemed more Pollexfen than Yeats. Though not an enthusiast on the matter, one reader may demur, if only because the renaming strikes one as at best gratuitous. Such a reservation can be no serious objection to this important assay into new territory, offering as it finally does a caveat against most of us who recognized but one stream of talent when we eulogized the Yeats name in painter or poet. But conceptual intellect, conscious art, and articulate performance — Professor Murphy calls these fire, J. B. Yeats tongue — are no mean gifts brought to an otherwise brooding but silent intensity. Yet Professor Murphy's final intention can weather any such minute criticism, for in the end his eye has intelligently and calmly followed that rare and usually unrecoverable human event, the sudden, unexpected emergence of the literary artist.

Donald T. Torchiana
Northwestern University

Messenger, John C. *Inis Beag: Isle of Ireland*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1969, viii 136 pp., \$3.25.

Students of rural Ireland have relied for a generation on the justly famous works of Arensberg and Kimball. Now there is available a study of another small community thirty years later. It deals with subjects which Arensberg and Kimball did not discuss, notably sexual puritanism and personality, mental illness, and the social controls exercised by religion and religious leaders. Messenger has exposed himself to criticism by candidly discussing subjects which are still taboo in some Irish circles. Topics which have been the major themes of novels, plays, and short stories are viewed quite differently when presented by the social scientists as a depiction of the real culture.


This monograph is one in a series of cultural anthropological case studies and is divided into five major divisions: historical and geographic features; the economy and the division of labor; family, friends, and community life; religion, the supernatural, and esthetics; and a final chapter on emigration and the islanders abroad.

Messenger's ethnography is of a small island off the Western Coast of Ireland with a declining population numbering about 350 persons at the time of the major field work. The locale for the study is more isolated than that of Arensberg and Kimball and probably has a higher percentage of Irish speakers. In the past it received public attention because of a famous film which was made there.

Messenger's book may be considered controversial because he has dealt with taboo subjects. While his comments

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newsletter

The *ACIS Newsletter* is published four times annually in February, April, October, and December, at The University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. Vol. III, Serial No. 1. Application to mail at second-class postage rates is pending at Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

Editor: Janet Egleson Dunleavy
Bibliographer: Jim Ford
Book Reviews: Patrick McCarthy
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are sober and objective, they might be construed as hostile by some. Messenger is aware of this situation, for he points out that his views will be contested by primitivists and nativists. Moreover, Messenger's somewhat astrigent observations and comments about the preservation and restoration of the Irish language will not endear him to those who support it.

Religion is another subject which Messenger discusses with a candor rare in the social science literature on the Irish, and his section on religion and personality is a succinct analysis in which he points out that sexual puritanism is the most prominent personality trait. Moreover, he discusses this trait and others in relation to religion as a causal factor. In this respect it is interesting to compare the earlier study of the rural Irish by Arensberg and Kimball. These authors mention the modesty and puritanism, and the rigid social control exercised over sex among the small farmers they studied. But no mention is made of the consequences of these patterns for personality and mental health.

One must ask two fundamental questions: Are Messenger's observations and interpretations based upon well grounded facts? Is he judicious in marshalling his evidence? The answer to both questions is yes. Messenger and his wife spent a total of 19 months residence on Inis Beag as participants and as observers, not only residing in the community for a sustained period, but also returning a number of times over a period of five years to check their observations. This attention to field observations is commendable and is not adhered to in many "one-shot" social science investigations.

Mr. Messenger has pierced the "veil of shamrock" which some observers of the Irish cherish—and thus he may displease a few readers. But he has presented informations and observations which have heretofore been unavailable in the social science literature. As a teaching text the book is enhanced by a dozen photographs, a map of the island, and an annotated list of readings. It is worth reading not only for those in the social sciences, but also for persons interested in Irish literature, history, folklore and the theater.

Gordon F. Steib
Cornell University

Bottigheimer, Karl S. *English Money and Irish Land: The 'Adventurers' in the Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland.* Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1971. pp. vii, 226. \$10.95.

In this statistical analysis of the 'Adventurers' who financially invested in what ultimately resulted in the Cromwellian settlement of Ireland, Karl Bottigheimer has contributed materially to our understanding of the events in question. The author has shed new light on the investors who received lands in Ireland in return for their loans which were intended to enable Parliament to suppress the Irish Rebellion. In this brief study a much needed balance has been given to the emphasis in Dunlop's *Ireland Under the Commonwealth* and Prendergast's *The Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland* on the military aspects of land distribution following the Lord Protector's successful suppression of the Irish rebels.

Although others, such as MacCormack and Hazlett, have dealt with the activities of the 'Adventurers', Bottigheimer's computer analysis (over 2,000 individuals are reflected in the statistics and tables included in the study) sums up and convincingly analyzes the contribution to and influence on Ireland, under the Commonwealth and Restoration, of these English Capitalists. The study covers the patterns of investments, the kinds of persons who invested, the actual amounts subscribed, and the type of schemes advanced for investors. The legislative history of this background history of the Cromwellian settlement is carefully presented.

In this generally satisfactory historical study it is to be regretted that the style of presentation was not more satisfactory. Historians, even when dealing with a topic of admittedly limited interest, have an obligation to present their material in a readable form. Granted that there is no easy way to present statistics in the body of an historical narrative, Bottigheimer could have done better, although when the author allows himself to become caught up in the real drama of his presentation, as he does in chapter five, he is first rate. Even the history of the financial labyrinths of Cromwellian England deserve a more stimulating treatment at our hands than is given in this presentation.

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