

## AHA REPORT

The 93rd annual meeting of the American Historical Association (San Francisco, December 28-30) will include the following papers on Irish and Irish-American topics:

"Nationalism and Unionism in Ireland, 1916-1921" by Arthur Mitchell, and "The Lloyd George Government and the Anglo-Irish War, 1919-1921" by Martin Seedorf, at Seminar 27, Problems Facing Twentieth-Century Liberation Movements.

"The Church of the Irish Frontier in the Late Middle Ages" by W.R. Jones, at Seminar 47, The Closing of the Medieval Frontier, Circa 1300.

"Ireland and Holland: A Comparative Study of Industrial Failure" by Joel Mokyr, at Seminar 52, Nineteenth Century Wealth and Poverty.

"William 'Pig-Iron' Kelly and the Rhetoric of Race" by Michael Greco, at Seminar 148, Ethnic Scapegoats and Gilded Age Politics.

## JANUARY ACTIVITIES IN IRELAND

Poetry Ireland, a new organization whose first president is John Montague, plans to run a Poetry Week beginning January 5, 1979. Readings and workshops will be held in Dublin and possibly elsewhere as well. Annual membership in Poetry Ireland is £6; to join, send a check to John F. Deane, General Secretary, 89 Carrick Court, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin.

The Irish Humanities Centre will conduct its annual January Intersession in Irish Studies during January 8-19, 1979. Lectures will cover the Gaelic tradition, Easter 1916, Northern Ireland, modern Irish writers, and a host of other topics. For details write to Grattan Freyer, Director, 23 Westland Row, Dublin 2.

## LINEN HALL LIBRARY

Linen Hall Library in Belfast, which contains an extensive collection of works in the area of Irish studies, is supported largely through private subscription. Several members of ACIS have suggested that scholars may wish to make contributions to the library in return for using its facilities. In addition, the Executive Council has recommended, and the membership has approved, a \$100 donation to the library, whose facilities have helped many ACIS members. A similar contribution was made a few years ago to the National Library in Dublin.



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## IRISH STUDIES AT MLA

The 1978 Modern Language Association meeting in New York will feature a dozen events of particular interest to ACIS members. Irish-related sessions scheduled for the meeting include the following:

*Thursday, December 28, 8:30-9:45 a.m.:* Seminar 88, W.B. Yeats. Presiding: George Bornstein, University of Michigan. Papers: "Yeats' Early Concept of the Symbolic," Hazard Adams; "Yeats and Pound Once More: The Question of Influence," Thomas Parkinson; "Structure among Yeats's Cuchulain Plays," Lori Hall Burghardt. Discussant: Douglas Archibald. Also: Seminar 97, Pen, Pencil, and Paradox: Oscar Wilde's Criticism Revisited. Discussion leader: Wendell V. Harris, Northern Illinois University. Panelists: Jonathan Culler, Herbert Sussman, Bruce Bashford, and Richard Freed.

*Thursday, December 28, 1:00-2:15 p.m.:* Seminar 166, Celtic Literature and Language. Presiding: Edgar M. Slotkin, University of Cincinnati. Papers: "Táin Bó Cúailnge as Anti-Epic," Kathryn S. Campbell; "On the Theory and Practice of Linguistics among the Irish Grammarians," Jefferey F. Huntsman; "On the Welsh 'Impersonal' Passive," T.D. Griffen; "The Theme of Sovereignty in the First Branch of the Mabinogi," Catherine McKenna.

*Thursday, December 28, 1:00-4:00 p.m.:* Beckett's *Film* and Antonioni's *Blow-Up* will be shown in the Monte Carlo Room, Americana, in conjunction with the special session on The Grotesque in Film, which will follow at 4:30.

*Thursday, December 28, 2:45-4:00 p.m.:* Seminar 208, Problems of Research in Anglo-Irish Literature. Discussion Leader: James F. Carens, Bucknell University. Panelists: Zack Bowen, Michael Groden, George M. Harper, and James Matthews.

*Thursday, December 28, 4:30-5:45 p.m.:* Seminar 256, Time and Space in Samuel Beckett's Writings. Discussion Leaders: S.E. Gontarski, Ohio State University, Lima, and Calvin Israel, SUNY College at Geneseo. Panelists: James D. O'Hara, Raymond Federman, Thomas Bishop, and Susan D. Brienza.

*Friday, December 29, 8:30-9:45 a.m.:* Seminar 336, The Character as Interpreter in Modern Fiction: Machado de Assis, James Joyce, Marguerite Duras. Discussion Leader: William W. Stowe, Wesleyan University. Panelists: Marta Peixoto, Marianne Hirsch, and Karen Lawrence.

*Friday, December 29, 9:00-11:30 a.m., Sutton Center, Hilton:* Seminar 353, Irish Innovations in Literary Form. Presiding: Dillon Johnston, Wake Forest University. Papers: "Renewal through Folklore in Yeats and Joyce," Mary Helen Thuente; "Narrative Technique in *Ulysses*," Shari Benstock; "Yeats's Use of the Ballad Form," Jeanne Argoff; "Traditional Music in Contemporary Irish Literature," Sean Golden; "Stretching the Scope: Recent Irish Poetry," Carolyn Rosenberg; "Comments and Conclusions," Thomas Flanagan. This is the official ACIS-sponsored meeting. Papers are available from Professor Johnston.

*Friday, December 29, 1:00-2:15 p.m.:* Seminar 403, Samuel Beckett in the Theater. Presiding: Ruby Cohn, University of California, Davis. Participants: Alan Schneider, Director, Julliard Drama School; Lee Breuer, Director, Mabou Mines; Joseph Dunn, Director, American Contemporary Theatre.

*Friday, December 29, 2:30-5:30 p.m.:* Seminar 435, Eugene O'Neill: Long Night's Journey to Redemption of a Playwright and His Interpreters. Moderator: Virginia Floyd, Bryant College. Critical Approaches: "From the Silence at Tao House,"

# current books of irish interest

Compiled by Jim Ford  
Boston Public Library

## Reference

Boylan, Henry. *A Dictionary of Irish Biography*. Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 1978. £9.00.

## Art

Andersen, Jørgen. *The Witch on the Wall: Medieval Erotic Sculpture in the British Isles*. Edison, N.J.: Allen & Unwin, 1978. \$32.50.

Anderson, William. *Cathedrals in Britain and Ireland: from Early Times to the Reformation*. New York: Scribners, 1978. \$17.50.

*Art in Ulster*. Belfast: Blackstaff, 1978. 2 vols., £2.95 each. A survey of art in Ulster. John Hewitt covers the period up to 1960 in volume 1; Mike Catto covers the 60's & 70's in volume 2. Both contain biographical and bibliographical notes by Theo. Snoddy.

Crookshank, Anne and the Knight of Glinn. *Painters of Ireland, 1660-1920*. London: Barrie & Jenkins, 1978. £15.00.

Evans, David. *An Introduction to Modern Ulster Architecture*. Belfast: Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, 1978. £3.00.

Harbison, Peter and Homan Potterton and Jeanne Sheehy. *Irish Art and Architecture*. New York: W. Morrow/Thames & Hudson, 1978. \$24.95. A survey of the visual arts in Ireland from prehistory to the present.

Hewitt, John. *John Luke, 1906-1975*. Dublin: Arts Councils of Ireland, 1978. £2.00.

Sheehy, Jeanne. *J.J. McCarthy and the Gothic Revival in Ireland*. Belfast: Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, 1977. £3.00.

Welch, Robert John. *Ireland's Eye: The Photographs of Robert John Welch*. Selection and commentary by E. Estyn Evans and Brian S. Turner. Belfast: Blackstaff Press, 1978. £6.95.

Westropp, Dudley. *Irish Glass*. Revised edition edited by Mary Boydell. Dublin: Allen Figgis, 1978. £16.50.

## Bibliography

Deming, Robert H. *A Bibliography of James Joyce Studies*. 2nd edition revised & enlarged. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1977. \$36.50. 1st edition was published in 1964.

Englefield, Dermot. *The Printed Records of the Parliament of Ireland, 1613-1800*. London: Lemon Tree Press, 1978. £2.50.

Finneran, Richard J., ed. *Anglo-Irish Literature: A Review of Research*. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 1976. \$18.00.

The individual chapters are the work of one or more scholars.

Harmon, Maurice. *Select Bibliography for the Study of Anglo-Irish Literature and its Backgrounds: an Irish Studies Handbook*. Portmarnock, Co. Dublin: Wolfhound Press, 1977. £7.50.

Jochum, K.P. W. B. *Yeats: A Classified Bibliography*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1978. \$30.00.

Kavanagh, Michael V. *A Bibliography of the History of County Kildare in Printed Books*. Droichead Nua: Kildare County Library, 1978. £5.50.

Mikhail, E.H. *Oscar Wilde: An Annotated Bibliography of Criticism*. Totowa, N.J.: Rowman & Littlefield, 1978. \$22.50.

## Biography

Bair, Deirdre. *Samuel Beckett: A Biography*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1978. \$19.95.

Cardozo, Nancy. *Lucky Eyes and a High Heart: The Life of Maud Gonne*. Indianapolis: Bobbs Merrill, 1978. \$15.00.

Craig, Mary. *Longford: A Biographical Portrait*. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1978. £5.95.

Cronin, John. *Gerald Griffin, 1803-1840: A Critical Biography*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1978. \$16.95.

Cronin, Sean. *Young Connolly*. Dublin: Reppol, 1978. £1.20. An account of the young James Connolly.

Faulkner, Brian. *Memoirs of a Statesman*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1978. £6.95.

Finneran, Richard J. ed. *The Correspondence of Robert Bridges and W.B. Yeats*. London: Macmillan, 1977. £6.95.

Galway, James. *James Galway: An Autobiography*. London: Elm Tree/Hamish Hamilton, 1978. £5.50.

Gordon, Robert. *John Butler Yeats and John Hloan: The Record of a Friendship*. New York: Humanities, 1978. \$7.00 (\$4.95 paper). New York Papers, 14.

Greaves, C. Desmond. *Sean O'Casey*. London: Lawrence & Wishart, 1978. £6.00.

Grigg, John. *Lloyd George: The People's Champion*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1978. \$20.00.

Mac an Bheatha, Prionsias. *James Connolly and*

*the Workers' Republic*. Dublin: Foilseachain Naisiunta, 1978. £1.25.

Malcomson, A.P.W. *John Foster: The Politics of the Anglo-Irish Ascendancy*. Oxford: The University Press for the Institute of Irish Studies, Queens University, Belfast 1978. £16.50.

Murphy, William M. *Prodigal Father: The Life of John Butler Yeats, 1839-1922*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1978. \$27.50.

Peck, John, Sir. *Dublin from Downing Street*. New York: Irish Book Center, 1978. \$12.50.

Plunkett, Oliver, St. *The Letters of Saint Oliver Plunkett, 1625-1681*. Edited by John Hanly. Dublin: Lomen, 1978. £30.00.

Rossi, Alfred, ed. *Astonish Us in the Morning: Tyrone Guthrie Remembered*. Salem, N.H.: Hutchinson, 1978. \$16.95.

Ryan, Meda. *Biddy Early, The Wise Woman of Clare*. Cork: Mercier Press, 1978. £1.40.

Shaw, Richard. *Dagger John*. Washington, D.C.: Paulist Press/Newman Bookshop, 1978. \$10.95. A biography of Archbishop Hughes of New York.

## Civilization

Markale, Jean. *Celtic Civilization*. New York: Atheneum/Gordon & Cremonesi, 1978. \$19.95.

Rutherford, Ward. *The Druids*. New York: Atheneum/Gordon & Cremonesi, 1978. \$18.95.

## Current Events: Northern Ireland

Clark, Dennis J. *Irish Blood: Northern Ireland and the American Conscience*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press, 1977. \$7.95.

Darby, John, ed. *Violence and the Social Services in Northern Ireland*. London: Heineman, 1978. £7.50.

McAllister, Ian. *The Northern Ireland Social Democratic and Labour Party: Political Opposition in a Divided Society*. New York: Holmes & Meier, 1978. \$26.50.

Murphy, Dervla. *A Place Apart*. London, John Murray, 1978. £5.50.

O'Donnell, Edward E. *Northern Irish Stereotypes*. Dublin: College of Industrial Relations, Research Branch, 1977. £4.00.



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## MLA, continued from page 1

Travis Bogard; "1956 World Premier of *Long Day's Journey into Night* at the Royal Dramatic Theatre, Stockholm," Tom Olsson; "O'Neill's Climax: Memory as Phoenix," John Henry Raleigh. Theatrical Approaches: "My Life-Work with Eugene O'Neill," José Quintero; "O'Neill Roles I Have Played: The Hell and Redemption of Jamie-Jim Tyrone," Jason Robards; "Josie Hogan; The Redeeming Woman of O'Neill's *Misbegotten*," Colleen Dewhurst.

*Saturday, December 30, 9:00-10:15 a.m.*: Seminar 600, Flann O'Brien: "A Bash in the Tunnel" — The Art of Irish Parody. Discussion Leader: Michael Finney, Youngstown State University. Panelists: Bernard Benstock, James Kittredge, and Richard Peterson.

*Saturday, December 30, 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.*: Seminar 636, Defining Modernism: Versions of Keats in Yeats, Pound, and Olson. Discussion Leader: Paul Bové, Columbia University. Panelists: Homer Brown, Daniel O'Hara, and William V. Spanos.

Oliver, John A. *Working at Stormont*. Dublin: Institute of Public Administration, 1978. £8.47.

Probert, Belinda. *Beyond Orange and Green: The Northern Ireland Crisis in a New Perspective*. Belfast, Maine: B. Porter, 1978. \$24.50.

#### Description and Travel

*Burke's Guide to Country Houses*. Vol. 1: *Ireland*. London: Burke's Peerage, 1978. £18.00.

Finnegan, Thomas A. *Sligo, Sinbad's Yellow Shore*. 2nd edition. Dublin: Dolmen, 1978. £2.00.

Flower, Robin. *The Western Island or, The Great Blasket*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978. \$3.50. Paperback edition of a work first published in 1945.

Kiely, Benedict. *All the Way to Bantry Bay*. London: Gollancz, 1978. £6.50.

Lanigan, Katherine & Gerald Tyler, eds. *Kilkenny: Its Architecture and History*. Dublin: O'Brien for An Taisce Kilkenny Association, 1977. £5.99.

MacNally, Kenneth. *The Islands of Ireland*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1978. \$17.95.

O'Crohan, Tomas. *The Islandman*. Translated by Robin Flower. N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1978. \$4.50. Paperback edition of a work first published in 1934.

Sayers, Peig. *An Old Woman Remembers*. Translated by Seamus Ennis. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978. \$3.50. Paperback edition of a work first published in 1962.

#### Folklore

Feder, Alison & Bernice Schrank, eds. *Literature and Folk Culture: Ireland and Newfoundland*. St. Johns: Memorial University of Newfoundland, 1977. \$8.00 (\$4.00 paper). Based on papers from the 1976 Conference of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies.

Messenger, Betty. *Picking the Linen Threads: A Study in Industrial Folklore*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1978. \$15.95.

Ó hEochaidh, Sean & Séamus Ó Cathain, eagar. *Síscelta ó Thír Chonaill: Fairy Legends from Donegal*. Baile Atha Cliath: Comhairle Bhealoideas Éireann, 1977. Text in Irish and English. Maire MacNeill is the translator.

O'Sullivan, Sean. *Legends from Ireland*. Totowa, N.J.: Rowman & Littlefield, 1978. \$10.00.

#### History

Andrews, K.R. & N.P. Canny & P.E.H. Hair, eds. *The Westward Enterprise: English Activities in Ireland, the Atlantic and America 1480-1650*. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 1978. £15.00.

Bowen, Desmond. *The Protestant Crusade in Ireland, 1800-1870: A Study of Protestant-Catholic Relations between the Act of Union and Disestablishment*. Buffalo: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1978. \$23.95.

Brynn, Edward. *Crown and Castle: British Rule in Ireland, 1800-1830*. Dublin: O'Brien Press, 1978. £8.50.

Butlin, R.A., ed. *The Development of the Irish Town*. Totowa, N.J.: Rowman & Littlefield, 1977. \$15.75.

Carroll, Francis M. *American Opinion and the Irish Question, 1910-1923*. New York: St. Martin's, 1978. \$23.50.

Cullen, Louis M. & T.C. Smouth, eds. *Comparative Aspects of Scottish and Irish Economic and Social History, 1600-1900*. Edinburgh: Donald, 1977. £10.00. Proceedings of

a Seminar held in Dublin in 1976.

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Fallon, Niall. *The Armada in Ireland*. London: Stanford Maritime, 1977. £8.00.

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Fitzpatrick, David. *Politics and Irish Life, 1913-1921: Provincial Experience of War and Revolution*. New York: Irish Book Center, 1978. \$25.00.

Gilbert, John T. *A History of Dublin*. Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 1978. 3 vols. £25.00. Facsimile reprint of the 1854-1859 edition.

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Malton, James. *A Picturesque and Descriptive View of the City of Dublin*. Dublin: Domen in association with the Irish Georgian Society, 1978. £10.00. This edition is in reduced facsimile of the 1799 edition with complete text and monochrome prints.

Marnell, William H. *Light from the West: The Irish Mission and the Emergence of Europe*. New York: Crossroad Books/Seabury, 1978. \$11.95.

O'Malley, Ernie. *The Singing Flame*. Prepared for publication by Mary Frances Blake. Dublin: Anvil Books, 1978. £10.00. O'Malley's personal account of the 1922-1924 Civil War.

Share, Bernard. *The Emergency: An Evocative History*. Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 1978. £7.00.

#### Literature: Fiction

Arnold, Bruce. *A Singer at the Wedding*. London: Hamish Hamilton, 1978. £4.95.

Berleth, Richard. *The Twilight Lords: An Irish Chronicle*. New York: Knopf, 1978. \$12.95.

Bernen, Robert. *Tales from the Blue Stacks*. London: Hamish Hamilton, 1977. £4.50.

Bowen, Elizabeth. *The Irish Short Stories of Elizabeth Bowen*. Swords, Co. Dublin: Poolbeg Press, 1978. £1.50.

Cowell, John. *The Begrudgers*. Dublin: O'Brien Press, 1978. £4.50.

Donleavy, J.P. *The Destinies of Darcy Dancer, Gentleman*. New York: Delta, 1978. \$4.95.

Fleming, Thomas J. *Promises to Keep*. New York: Doubleday, 1978. \$10.00.

Griffin, Gerald. *The Rivals and Tracy's Ambition*. Introduction and glossary by John Cronin. Lille: Publications de l'Université de Lille, 1978. 38F.

Herron, Shaun. *The MacDonnell*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1978. £5.95.

Kavanagh, Patrick. *By Night Unstarred: An Autobiographical Novel*. Edited with an introduction by Peter Kavanagh. The Curragh, Co. Kildare: Goldsmith Press, 1977. £4.50.

Kelly, Maeve. *A Life of Her Own and Other Stories*. Swords, Co. Dublin: Poolbeg Press, 1978. £1.20.

Lavin, Mary. *Tales from Bective Bridge*. Swords, Co. Dublin: Poolbeg Press, 1978. £1.50. First published in 1942.

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McGahern, John. *Getting Through*. London: Faber, 1978. £4.25.

McLavery, Michael. *Collected Short Stories*. Swords, Co. Dublin: Poolbeg Press, 1978. £2.00.

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MacMahon, Bryan. *The End of the World and Other Stories*. Swords, Co. Dublin: Poolbeg Press, 1978. £1.20.

Manning, Mary. *The Last Chronicles of Ballyfungus*. Boston: Little Brown, 1978. \$9.95.

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O'Brien, Kate Cruise. *A Gift Horse*. Swords, Co. Dublin: Poolbeg Press, 1978. £1.50.

Ó Cadhain, Máirtín. *An tSraith Tógtha*. Baile Atha Cliath: Sáirséal agus Dill, 1977. £3.00.

Ó Faolain, Julia. *Melancholy Baby and Other Stories*. Swords, Co. Dublin: Poolbeg Press, 1978. £1.50.

O'Faolain, Sean. *Selected Stories of Sean O'Faolain*. Boston: Atlantic/Little Brown, 1978. \$9.95.

O'Flaherty, Liam. *The Ecstasy of Angus*. Portmarnock, Co. Dublin, 1978. £3.50.

———. *The Wilderness*. Portmarnock, Co. Dublin, 1978. £3.50.

O hEithir, Breandan. *Lead Us into Temptation*. Boston: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1978. \$10.00. Translation of *Lig Sinn i gCathu*.

Trevor, William. *Lovers of Their Time*. London: Bodley head, 1978. £4.95.

#### Literature: Poetry

Ennis, John. *Dolmen Hill*. Dublin: Gallery Press, 1978. £3.30. (£1.50 paper).

Fiacc, Padraic. *Nights in a Bad Place*. Belfast, Blackstaff, 1977. £1.75.

Harnett, Michael. *Poems in English*. New York: Humanities, 1978. \$13.50.

Kelleher, John V. *Too Small for Stove Wood, Too Big for Kindling*. New York: Humanities, 1978. Translations from the Irish.

Kinsella, Thomas. *One and Other Poems*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978.

McCarthy, Thomas. *The First Convention*. Dublin: Dolmen, 1978. £2.50.

Montague, John. *The Great Cloak*. Winston Salem, N.C.: Wake Forest University Press, 1978. \$4.25.

Ormsby, Frank. *A Store of Candles*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1977. \$4.50.

Simmons, James. *The Selected James Simmons*. Edited by Edna Longley. Belfast: Blackstaff, 1978. £4.50 (£2.50 paper).

#### Literature Collections

Freyer, Grattan, comp. *A Prose and Verse Anthology of Modern Irish Writing*.

Marcus, David, comp. *Best Irish Short Stories*. Collection 2. Salem, N.H.: R. Elek, 1978. \$9.95.

#### Music

Garvin, Wilbert. *The Irish Bagpipes, Their Construction and Maintenance*. Belfast: Blackstaff, 1978. £3.95.

O'Canainn, Tomas. *Traditional Music in Ireland*. Boston: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1978. \$8.50.

Rona M. Fields. *Society Under Siege: A Psychology of Northern Ireland*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1977. 267 pp. \$15.00.

Rona Fields, a social psychologist and fourth generation Irish-American, went to Northern Ireland in 1971. Inspired or assisted by Alfred McClung Lee, Eoin McKiernan, and Patrick Snoddy, President of the Gaelic League, and committed to the underdog, she began research into the effects of violence on children. (She does not relate how, through social action research, she became further involved in the problems of the North.) She learned "that I am not a pacifist. I have felt deep anger and desperately wanted to hit back at those who bullied and abused me" (p.xii). *Society Under Siege* may be her means.

Fields places her data in a sociopolitical context. The causes and motives she attributes to events and people, her discourses on the British Army, organized religion, health care, censorship, the economy, etc. in Ireland, north and south, plus feelings she expresses about the "record of villainy and corruption" (p.xiii) to be found in archives of Whitehall, Westminster, and Dublin, all closely parallel views held within the Official Republican Movement. More original is her main thesis. Admitting that there "can be room for argument on the issue of premeditated, organized, schematic destruction of the Irish people" (p. 2), she nevertheless posits that because the British government has hitherto failed to eliminate the inhabitants and distinctive culture of Ireland, the people in Northern Ireland now "have been marked for . . . psychological genocide" (p.xiii) with "Internment . . . the specific [destructive] instrument" (p. 70). Introducing a melange of theories, Fields attempts to show the social and psychological dynamics of the ongoing conflict. Hers are grave allegations. Space permits me to indicate only a few of the shortcomings of her research and reporting methods.

The sample of children to whom Fields administered projective and moral-judgment tests and with and about whom she conducted interviews was small (77 Belfast, 12 Dublin, 26 Derry Catholics and 75 Belfast, 10 Dublin Protestants) and unrepresentative (it evidences no awareness on her part of important differences between post-Famine ghetto and pre-Famine indigenous Catholics elsewhere in the North). By her own admission (to her credit), not only was testing carried out under far from ideal conditions, but trends revealed were often "statistically insignificant" (p. 42). She did not, as claimed, conduct a meaningful, longitudinal (1971-1975) study, inasmuch as she had apparently no comparable data on children before 1969, used different groups for comparison in repeat tests, and retested mainly Catholics, mostly from the Lower Falls area in Belfast. Like previous studies, hers indicates that a number of children suffered trauma from recent violence; her findings do not adequately support her contention that the entire population of Northern Ireland and its unique characteristics are therefore doomed to extinction.

Other data, obtained from testing and interviewing former internees "under the auspices of the [NICRA] Association for Legal Justice, and republican clubs" (p. 82), confirm the ill-treatment accorded some internees that has been noted in various official reports; they do not prove that techniques of coercive persuasion were part of a "sophisticated experiment in psychological genocide" (p. 69). How reliable are self-appraisals of physical and mental disabilities,

mailed in by 83 former internees? How trustworthy are numerous undocumented statements, such as "Estimates indicate that in one or another fashion at least twenty thousand Catholics were subjected to one or more of the following experimental conditions" (p. 67)?

Perhaps to bolster a shaky thesis, Fields employs questionable reporting techniques. Typically, she speculates: "If one were to conceive of the troubles . . . in terms of a huge experiment . . . then the research design *might* read . . ." [italics mine] (p. 65). She then describes events as if such were, *in fact*, the case. Her many references to Jews in Nazi Germany, Russians under the NKVD, and Armenians under the Ottoman Empire are also misleading; they imply that the experiences of the people in Northern Ireland are directly comparable. Even she indicates that it is difficult to compare findings from studies of diverse nature.

Fields' research report on the "Women of Ireland: Slaves of Slaves," reads much like a tract of the Women's Liberation Movement. She writes, approvingly, of evidence of a matriarchy among the Picts (a concept unsupported anthropologically) and of the high status of women under Brehon Laws (ideal, not real laws: cf. Sean O'Faolain, *The Irish*, p. 44); alleges that "Torture of women in interrogation in many places features rape" (p.116, undocumented); attacks policies granting leave to internees to wed pregnant girl friends or attend funerals, saying they reinforce "the role of the woman as breeder or martyr" (p. 124); and notes that the "sexist overtones of the word 'chairman' are entirely missing from the Irish equivalent . . . and the [Irish] word for the Holy Ghost is of feminine gender" (p. 105).

Although she attacks Irish men for many things, she asserts that "puritanism afflicting women's status . . . was . . . a consequence of . . . the infusion into secular life of the archaic domestic code imposed by the Cromwellian invasion" (p. 105), a questionable interpretation. Finally, her accounts of the activities of Irish women—from "Queen Eire" to "Ms. Drumm"—do not seem to substantiate her claim that the status of women has declined since partition.

It is unfortunate that Fields did not read more carefully *The Open and Closed Mind*, to which she refers. In that report of thorough, dispassionate research on the nature of belief systems, Milton Rokeach writes:

It is often the case in psychology, and in other social sciences as well, that researchers select and formulate research problems because of their personal or ideological significance. This is undesirable to the extent that it leads to blind spots and to hidden value judgments, which detract from the scientific merit of the research (p.viii).

Betty Messenger  
Columbus, Ohio

Samuel Levenson. *Maud Gonne*. New York: Reader's Digest Press; distributed by Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1976. 436 pp. \$15.00.

A letter from Maud Gonne to her friend Ella Young finds Joseph Hone's book on Yeats "dry as the dust of Trinity College; but it contains valuable data for someone who may yet write a living biography." Samuel Levenson's biography of Maud Gonne is not always dry but his initial writing often bears the imprint of a pedant, an unfortunate characteristic

for so legendary a subject. The author apologizes for not offering a "modern" biography, but it is truly Maud's point about valuable data that he too often ignores. He deplors her vagaries concerning accurate dates, yet his own sad omission of footnotes containing such information must draw the obvious criticism that a book of this sort provides the scholar with unnecessary mazes for even textual wanderings. If the author intended to aim his study at the general public, his writing requires a livelier style (say, in the manner of H.F. Peters in his accounts of un-Irish but remarkable women). The bibliography contains few unexpected sources and does not include the results of his unnecessarily explained sojourn at Collindale.

But of Maud Gonne: she emerges as a tougher woman than the reading of Yeats's own writings would suppose; an impassioned, if disorganized social worker who by twenty-five cared deeply for the plight of evicted tenants and, later, near-starving school children. As a pseudo-terrorist, she attempted to agitate Franco-Irish union against her native country, England, hoping to reduce it to rubble. She was no intellectual, as the separatist John O'Leary quickly discovered; certainly John Quinn was obliged to explain James Joyce to her and to offer her an approach for aesthetic decisions. But it was not for her intellect that Yeats sought her, a point that deserves fuller interpretation, just as the account of the Golden Dawn activities is lightly dismissed and requires more accurate description from abundant, extant sources. An enrichment of the text here, for example, may have spared unnecessary padding elsewhere about policemen reading advertisements for Erect Form corsets.

Concerning the male players in Maud's life: Lucien Millevoye's portrait suffers from too little information, a point the author acknowledges, but Maud's husband, John MacBride, is etched more solidly. The quirks of Maud's needs to create war-gods or mongers of men are fully appreciated when she attempts to incite John Quinn to devote himself "entirely" to Ireland and to make "history as Parnell did."

The book begins to acquire verve during the description of the Easter Rising, a point in time where the author is more at home, and is strengthened thereafter by hitherto unpublished, if sadly undocumented, letters, as well as from biographical and autobiographical material from Iseult's husband, Francis Stuart. It is with Maud's old age that the study is at its best. Prematurely aged, as the fine photographs clearly support, and with "witch-craft" in her voice, her fine madness and insipient understanding of Yeats are very well handled. Accounts of Maud's children, Iseult and Sean MacBride are equally useful.

Levenson deserves commendation for his restraint to linger unduly with Yeats. When he does, it is regrettable that we read Yeats "clinched" an argument, or Maud was "keeping him on a string." In spite of occasional indecorous style, the book is an important ancillary addition to Yeats studies, and although the author regards Maud's primary value to be the object of Yeats's "obsessive pursuit," he has presented a fascinating woman whose study is interesting in itself.

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James Cousins. *The Sleep of the King and The Sword of Dermot*, ed. & intro. William A. Dumbleton. Irish Drama Series, Vol. VIII. Chicago: DePaul University, 1973.

Thomas MacDonagh. *When the Dawn is Come*, ed. & intro. Chester Garrison, with textual commentary by Johann Norstedt. Irish Drama Series, Vol. IX. Chicago: DePaul University, 1973.

George Moore and William Butler Yeats. *Diarmuid and Grania*, ed. & intro. Anthony Farrow. Irish Drama Series, Vol. X. Chicago: DePaul University, 1974.

The final three volumes of the DePaul Irish Drama Series are given over to curiosities, plays performed once seventy years ago and known today, if at all, through anecdote and footnote. They include the only product of the improbable collaboration of George Moore and William Butler Yeats, a futurist play by the critic-historian and 1916 martyr, Thomas MacDonagh, and two playlets by the Theosophist who made his passage to India, James Cousins. The plays are stylistically and thematically diverse, and yet they have much in common apart from accidents of date and nationality; three of the plays adapt tragic narratives from Old Irish mythology and the fourth is a tragedy set during a future war for Irish liberation. Although their republication might appear only an archival service, these previously inaccessible plays give us an enlarged understanding of the Irish Theater, 1900-1910.

For obvious reasons our attention is first drawn to the Moore-Yeats *Diarmuid and Grania*. One of a dozen modern treatments of the well-known Fenian narrative, the play, until now, has been best remembered for the levity it inspired. In a contemporary caricature Max Beerbohm portrayed Yeats introducing Moore to the Queen of the Fairies. In a frequently quoted passage from his memoirs, Moore asserts that he planned to write a play in French which Lady Gregory would translate into English; Taidgh O'Donoghue would translate this text into Irish which Lady Gregory would put into English. Then, added Moore generously, Yeats would put style into it. The 1901 extravaganza premiere (with incidental music commissioned from Elgar) was a failure, and the manuscript was not published and thought lost until twelve years after Yeats' death. Published previously in *The Dublin Magazine* and the Variorum edition of the plays, it here finds its most convenient edition.

In reading the play we find Moore's *bon mot* instructive. As Anthony Farrow shows in his introduction, the best criticism of the play yet published, the themes, characterization, and tone of *Diarmuid and Grania* unite it with the rest of Moore's canon. For example, all elements of the supernatural have been expunged or rationalized. The fleeing lovers strive for the impossible idea of the beautiful life in this world, much like protagonists in *The Strike at Arlingford* and other Moore works of the previous decade. Their exile is in a peasant milieu, a contribution we would ascribe to Yeats if Diarmuid had not been transformed into a sheep-shearing commoner. Worse, there is only occasional evidence that Yeats "put style" into the prosy, sometimes bathetic dialogue.

*Grania*: Kill me if you will, kill me with your sword, here is my breast. . . . If you would go to this hunting, you must do it; for while I live, you shall not go.

Although *Diarmuid and Grania* is unlikely to be revived on the boards, it does make rewarding reading, even with its flaws. Characterizations such as the coarse, woodland Finn and the reduced Diarmuid give the play a unique flavor among the treatments of saga narrative.

Thomas MacDonagh's *When the Dawn is Come*, first performed in 1908, is set fifty years in the future in an unfinished war for national liberation. Far from being the tract one might expect (one reviewer misleadingly called it "the first *sinn fién* drama"), the plot is an awkward shell game of intrigue in which Thurlough, a poet of "eternal song," finds himself pitted against his short-sighted colleagues. Thurlough, who frequently compares himself with Savonarola, has been elected head of the Council of Ireland where his antagonist is Réamonn, a caricatured parliamentarian. Thurlough must also contend with a spy and ballad-singer, Connor, who argues that art should be no more than propaganda. We learn in a useful appendix to this edition that MacDonagh had originally designed that his hero would be

misperceived and killed by his own side. In the present ending of the play, rewritten under the urgency of J. M. Synge, then manager of the Abbey, MacDonagh has Thurlough prepared for a death for Ireland.

*When the Dawn is Come* was a failure at its premiere, in part because of an indifferent performance. In his cogent introduction Chester Garrison refuses to make any inflated claims for the play and counsels that we see it as a personal rather than a professional achievement. It is must reading for all scholars of Easter, 1916, for what it has to say about feminism, tradition, and the role of art in revolution.

The third discovery from the DePaul plays is the Belfast-born poet and playwright, James Cousins (Seumas O Cuisin), whose *Sleep of the King* (1902) was one of the earliest plays of the revival. After a falling out with Yeats, Cousins left Ireland, arriving in India in 1915 where he lived until 1956. He is the most substantial of the unknown early playwrights, more prolific than Alice Milligan and much more of an artist than William Boyle. Both of the plays republished here are taken from mythological narrative and show the influence of the Yeatsean theater. *The Sleep of the King*, in verse and first performed behind a gauze curtain,

portrays Connla's mystical awakening and abandonment of his throne. It appears modeled on the classical masque as understood, perhaps, through Milton. The second play, *The Sword of Dermot* (1903), is a three act tragedy in prose which portrays the death of star-crossed lovers. Cousins separates himself from the Yeatsean theater in a passage of comic relief in which a gallowglass ridicules the craft of poetry. Despite this, echoes of Yeats appear frequently in the heavily mannered prose: "one can see crowds of stars"; "a new moon treads on the heels of the sun across the Curlews."

William Dumbleton's introduction helps us to locate this diverse and elusive poet-playwright, sometimes thought of as a third poet of the Renaissance, after Yeats and A. E. Like the editors of the other two volumes, Prof. Dumbleton is fully professional and a pleasure to read.

Whatever the quality of the plays reprinted in the DePaul series we regret seeing it come to an end. It yielded some lost treasures, like A. E.'s *Deirdre*, gave us texts that were easy to use, and was blessedly inexpensive.

James MacKillop  
Harvard University and Onondaga Community College

### O'HARA JOURNAL

The *John O'Hara Journal* will include articles on all aspects of O'Hara's life and work. Subscriptions (\$6 annually for two issues) and manuscripts (8-25 pages) should be sent to Dr. Vincent D. Balitas, Editor, *John O'Hara Journal*, 1401 Mahantongo Street, Pottsville, Pennsylvania 17901.

### CURRENT THEATER

*Mother Jones*, a new play by ACIS member Victor Power, will run at the Body Politic Theater in Chicago from November 16 through December 16. The play concerns the famous "Joan of Arc of the Miners" whose struggle for the rights of laborers and of children has become legendary. Power, an Irish-born Chicagoan like his subject, has won awards for his 1974 play *The Escape*

and, this year, for his translation of the Gaelic book *Apple on the Treetop* by his brother, Richard Power.

In New York, meanwhile, Hugh Leonard's *Da* continues its successful run at the Morosco. Leonard's comedy, winner of a Tony and other awards, revolves around the plight of an Irish dramatist who is haunted by his father's ghost.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please help us keep down the cost of ACIS membership by paying your 1979 dues by the end of December. Dues remain \$6.00 for individual and institutional memberships, \$9.00 for couples with joint memberships, and \$3.00 for students and retired persons. Checks should be sent to Professor Thomas E. Hachey, History Department, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233.

### GAELIC LANGUAGE POSITIONS

Two recently advertised positions require a knowledge of Gaelic. The College of St. Thomas wants a temporary employee who is familiar with library cataloguing rules and can read Gaelic and Welsh. The project, which will take about thirteen weeks, will involve the cataloguing of 1300 Irish, Scottish, and Welsh items for the O'Shaughnessy Library. For further information write to John B. Davenport, Celtic Librarian, College of St. Thomas, 2115 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55105. Deadline: January 1, 1979.

Also, the University of Pennsylvania has a "possible opening" for a scholar in the field of "Celtic Renaissance and Irish language." To apply, write to Stuart Curran, Chariman, English Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104.

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