

# American Committee for Irish studies

**25<sup>th</sup>**  
*Anniversary*

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AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR IRISH STUDIES NEWSLETTER

WINTER 1986

## The Buile Suibhne

There will be a "working seminar" on the Buile Suibhne at the Plymouth Forum, to be held in Plymouth, New Hampshire, on April 10-11, 1987. The seminar will use the tale to study the wider problems of translation. The basic texts for the session will be J.G. O'Keefe's edition of the Irish text (Dublin Inst. for Advanced Studies, 1975), and the recent English version *Sweeney Astray* by Seamus Heaney (Farrar Straus Giroux, 1983). For further information and registration materials on the Forum, contact Prof. Manuel Marquez-Sterling, Director, Medieval Studies Council, Plymouth State College, USNH, Plymouth NH 03264. For information on the seminar, contact Dr. James Doan, Dept. of Humanities, Chamberlayne Junior College, 128 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston MA 02116.

## Appreciation to James Ford

Jim Ford of the Boston Public Library has been doing the "Current Books of Irish Interest" report for the *ACIS Newsletter* for the last eighteen years, beginning in 1965. Because of personal commitments, Jim will not be able to continue this column. He has the thanks of the entire membership of ACIS, past and present, for his first-rate scholarship and consistency. Anyone interested in continuing the column should contact ACIS President Robert Rhodes.

## IASAIL Conference

The 1987 International Association for the Study of Anglo-Irish Literature Congress will be held at the University of Caen (Esplanade de la Paix, 14032 Caen Cedex) from Monday July 13 to Thursday July 16, 1987. The theme is "The Irish Theatre"; papers on other subjects will not be accepted. All paper proposals should be submitted by April 30, 1987, to Jacqueline Genet, Secretariat IASAIL, Institut d'Anglais, at the address above.

## James T. Farrell Meeting

The first annual meeting of the Friends of the James T. Farrell Collection will be held Saturday, May 2, 1987, at the Charles Patterson Van Pelt Library and the University Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia. Papers for the meeting should be submitted to Prof. Edgar Branch, 4810 Bonham Road, Oxford OH 45056. For information about the Friends of the James T. Farrell Collection, write to Prof. Dennis Flynn, Dept. of English, Bentley College, Waltham MA 02254.

## CAIS Conference

The Canadian Association for Irish Studies will present their annual conference at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon on February 18-21, 1987, on the theme of "Irish Poetry: Regional and International Contexts." On hand will be poets Paul Durcan, Frank Ormsby and Medbh McGuckian. Contact Ron Marken at the Dept. of English for more information.

## ACIS-MLA Party

There will be a party in Dillon Johnston's room at the Marriot Marquis Monday evening, December 29, immediately after the second ACIS panel, "Catholicism and the Anglo-Irish" (9:00 - 10:15 p.m., Winter Garden, Marriott). The first ACIS panel, "New Approaches to Recent Irish Literature," will meet 1:45 - 3:00 p.m., Monday, December 29, Suite 3748, Marriot.

## Call for Papers

Tina Mahoney is organizing a panel on "Irish Verse Drama" for the 1987 MLA. Those interested should send topic and brief description to her at Dept. of English II, Arts Block, Trinity College, Dublin 2.

## Fulbright Appointment for ACISer

Ruth-Ann Harris, History Dept., Northeastern University, Boston, has been appointed to serve as a member of the Area Advisory Committee for Western Europe, subcommittee for Ireland and the U.K., with responsibility to nominate candidates for senior Fulbright awards abroad and "to address problems and issues in academic exchange related to their geographic area." The other committee members have expertise in comparative politics, English literature, and cell biology, but this is the first appointment of a person with knowledge of Ireland. Of the 57 applications for Fulbrights for Ireland last year, only one was from a member from ACIS. Where are you, guys?

## Tribute to McNamara's Band

Here's a reverse twist on the old stereotype. It's from Dave Anderson's "Sport of the Times" column in the *New York Times* about the manager of the Boston Red Sox. "He's an Irishman with the map of Boston on his face. John McNamara's noble nose is now as famous as the steeple of the Old North Church, his blue eyes are as serene as the Charles River, his managerial manner is as old-fashioned as Fenway park itself."

**Dublin Update (page four)**



### WESTERN REGIONAL PAPERS

University of California Santa Barbara  
October 10-12, 1986

- "The Gods of the Mountain: Dunsany, Yeats and A.E.," Brother Ronald Gallagher, St. Mary's College, Moraga
- "Fiction/Autobiography: Monk Gibbon," Geoffrey Inverarity, Vancouver, British Columbia
- "Fact/Fiction: *Cruiskeen Lawn*, 1945-66," Steven C. Young, Pomona College, Claremont
- "'Ego Dominus Tuus' in the Context of Yeats's Book," Hazard Adams, University of Washington
- "Jack B. Yeats's Illustrations to *Broadside Ballads*," Nora A. McGuinness, University of California, Davis
- "'To Hell or Mayo': The Cromwellian Land Settlement," Donald Jordan, Stanford University
- "State and Nation in Independent Ireland," Joseph Lee, University College Cork
- "Innovation and Experiment in Contemporary Writing in Irish," Joan Trodden Keefe, University of California, Berkeley
- "Irish Language Policy: Success or Failure?" William E. Neely, California State University, Stanislaus
- "Wins and Losses in Anthony C. West's *As Towns with Fire*," Audrey Eyler, Pacific Lutheran University
- "Stephen Dedalus and 'Ireland's split little pea'," Willard Potts, Oregon State University

### NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL PAPERS

Elms College, Chicopee, Massachusetts  
October 24-25, 1986

- "Irish Constitutionalism: A Rescue Operation," Maurice O'Connell, Fordham University
- "The Newfoundland and Daniel O'Connell's Great Repeal Year: A Response from Britain's 'Oldest Colony,'" William Kearns, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- "'Give us war in Our time, O Lord!' A Reading of John Mitchel in Context," Conor Johnston, Massasoit Community College
- "Moral and Physical Force: Rhetorical Violence During the Land War," Perry Curtis, Brown University
- "Confessions of an Irish Revisionist," Ruth Dudley Edwards, London, England
- "Parnell's Oratorical Style in the Debate over Home Rule," John Carney, SUNY at Oneonta
- "Douglas Hyde and the Question of Physical Force," Janet Dunleavy, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- "Yeats as Myth-maker: Rewriting the Story of Deirdre," Virginia Rohan
- "James Joyce's Ambivalence Toward Irish Nationalism," James Fairhall, SUNY at Stony Brook
- "'This isn't politics, it's its national,' Lennox Robinson's *The Lost Leader*," Thomas O'Grady, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- "The Impact of the 1916 Rising on the Irish Labour Movement," Michael Connolly, University of Southern Maine
- Discussion of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, One Year Later, Kevin Boyle, University College Galway
- "Full Circle: The Ulster Crisis and the Security Policy of the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic," Richard Finnegan, Stonehill College
- "Street Communication — Northern Ireland," Therese Law, SUNY at Potsdam
- "Irish Speakers in New England as a Source of Oral History and Folklore," Kenneth Nilsen, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia
- "Irish Nationalism as Reflected in Boston Public Library's Triangle Collection," Leslie Watson, Northeastern University

### ATLANTIC REGIONAL PAPERS

Howard Community College, Columbia, Maryland  
October 31-November 1, 1986

- "Irish Foreign Policy: Context and Concerns," Padraic MacKernan, Irish Embassy (Keynote Address)
- "The Confluence of Creative Folklore: The Irish Families of Flaherty, de Valera, Arensberg and Kimball," Thomas M. Wilson, United Nations International School, New York
- "Images of Irishness in Commercial Motion Pictures," Arthur Gribben, University of California, Los Angeles
- "Song and the Sense of Place in Newtownbutler," Marge Steiner, Indiana University
- "Models of Government and Anglo-Irish Relations, 1782-1937," Alan Ward, College of William and Mary
- "America and the Anglo-Irish Agreement," Joseph Thompson, Villanova University
- "Ireland and the European Economic Community," Desmond Dinan, University College Cork
- "Dion Boucicault: International Man of the Theatre," Sven Eric Molin, George Mason University
- "The Modernity of Thomas Murphy," Christopher Griffin, Strayer College
- "In the Face of the World: The Meaning of Europe in the Work of Aidan Higgins," George O'Brien, Georgetown University
- "Pearse, Connolly and the First World War," Ruth Dudley-Edwards, London, England

### MIDWEST REGIONAL PAPERS

Loyola University of Chicago  
October 11, 1986

- "The Land and Its People," James S. Donnelly, Jr., University of Wisconsin, Madison
- "The British Impact," Thomas Hachey, Marquette University
- "The Religious Heritage," Emmet Larkin, University of Chicago
- "The Gaelic Element," R.V. Comerford, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth
- "The Literary Tradition," Thomas Flanagan, SUNY at Stony Brook
- "The Folklore of Irish Nationalism," Mary Helen Thuente, Indiana University, Fort Wayne
- "Irish-American Influences," Thomas N. Brown, University of Massachusetts, Boston

## Regional Notes

- Some of the newly-elected regional representatives include: Don Jordan, Stanford Univ., Western Regional Representative, and Bill Potts, Oregon, as secretary/treasurer; Catherine Shannon, Westfield State College, New England Regional Representative, and Tom Moriarty, Chicopee, as secretary/treasurer; and Thomas Hachey, Marquette Univ., Midwestern Regional Representative. The Atlantic Regional Representative is being voted on.
- Sites of the 1987 regional conferences include: Western—Univ. of Washington; New England—Massasoit Community College; and, Atlantic—Hofstra Univ. We have been assured that in the Mets-minded Atlantic Regional the conference will not conflict with the 1987 World Series. At the Western and New England conferences, Mr. Walkman was in attendance.
- Attendance at the 1986 regional conferences ranged from about 50 in the newly-formed Western Regional to 175 in the Midwestern Regional. About 125 attended each of the other two regional conferences.
- Irish Ambassador to the United States Padraic MacKernan spoke at the Atlantic Regional Conference. Ruth Dudley Edwards, author of the seminal study *Patrick Pearse, The Triumph of Failure* spoke at the New England and Atlantic conferences.

### Sixth Ulster-American Heritage Symposium

Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina  
July 24 — 27, 1986

- "The Religion of the First Scots Settlers in Ulster," Fred Graham, Michigan State University
- "Scoto-Hibernicus: The Scottish Contribution to the Making of Ulster Society, 1607-1700," Martin Dowling, University of Wisconsin.
- "The Operation of the Ulster Custom: Evidence from the Abercorn Estate, 1745-1800," Martin Dowling, University of Wisconsin
- "The Claraghmore Farm: An Insight to the Socio-economic and Physical Environments of Rural Tyrone in the Early 19th Century," Phillip Mowat, Ulster-American Folk Park
- "Continuity and Change in Emigration from Northwest Ulster to the United States, 1783-1830," Peggy Langan, University of Ulster
- "From Ulster to America: New Data on Emigrant Ships and Shipping in the 18th Century," Graeme Kirkham, Research Assistant to the Garfield Weston Project on Ulster-American Migration
- "Ulster Emigrants in Pennsylvania: The Evidence of the Emigrants' Letters," Trevor Parkhill, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
- "The 'Irish Party' and the New Hampshire/Massachusetts Boundary Controversy, 1718-1743," Stuart Wallace, New Hampshire Historical Society
- "The Culbertsons: Partisans in Scotland, Ireland, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina," Bobby Moss, Limestone College
- "The Ratchford Family in the Carolinas," Wilma Craig, Gastonia, North Carolina
- "Matthew Patton, Daniel McNeill, and the Cattle Trade in Western Virginia," Richard MacMaster, Bluffton College
- "Scots Traders Among the Cherokee," William Anderson, Western Carolina University
- "Scotch-Irish Landscapes in the Ozarks," Russel Gerlach, Southwest Missouri State University
- "Land, Ethnicity and Community at the Opequon Settlement, Virginia," Warren Hofstra, Shenandoah College
- "The Scotch-Irish: A Culture or a Group of Settlers," Jack Weaver, Winthrop College
- "Irish American Nationalism and Attitudes to Ulster," Stephen Mills, University of Keele
- "Prelude to Mass Emigration: The Demographic Transition in Ulster, c. 1750-1840," William Macaffee, University of Ulster
- "The Ulster Cotton Famine of 1862-63 and its Effects on Emigration," Lorraine Tennant, University of Ulster
- "The Orange Musical Tradition," Gary Hastings, Irish Studies, University of Ulster

### Irish-Canadian Assn.

"The Shamrock Leaf" is the newsletter of the Irish Canadian Cultural Association, run by ACIS member Farrell McCarthy (109 Roy Ave., Newcastle, N.B. E1V 3N8). It contains several interesting articles and notes about the Irish-Canadian scene. For instance, it notifies us that Dr. Diarmuid O'Muirthithe of University College Dublin has been appointed the first head of the Chair of Irish Studies at St. Mary's University in

Halifax. Nice to know that such a chair exists at a Canadian college.

### Irish Summer School

Stonehill College (North Easton, Mass. 02357) and Old Dominion University (Norfolk, Vir. 23508) are each sponsoring interdisciplinary programs for students in Irish Studies at University College Dublin in the fall of 1987. For more information, contact Richard Finnegan at Stonehill and Jan Aycock at Old Dominion.

### Atlantic Regional

By a vote of 68 to 2, members of the Atlantic Regional ratified a revision of the regional bylaws which changed the terms of office of regional officers from three years to two. The new term of office, which is the same as that of national officers, will be effective with the officers elected in the upcoming regional elections.

Elections will be held for the Atlantic Regional executive committee. Four positions are to be filled: president (who serves as the region's representative to the national executive committee), secretary-treasurer, and two at-large members. The president may serve only one term. Please send nominations of individuals to: Prof. Maryann Valuilus, Dept. of History, Lafayette College, Easton, Penn., by January 15, 1987

### Joycean Gatherings

■ A new publication, *The James Joyce Literary Supplement*, will appear in May 1987 from the University of Miami Department of English Graduate Program. The editor will be Bernard Benstock; its editorial board will comprise Zack Bowen, Shari Benstock, and Patrick A. McCarthy. It will be published by Robert Lowery.

■ There will be a major Joyce conference in Milwaukee from June 11-16, 1987, which is being co-sponsored by Marquette University and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Write Michael Gillespie at Marquette for more information.

■ There will be a conference on *Finnegans Wake* at the University of Leeds in July 1987. Write to Richard Brown at the School of English, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, England, for information.

■ Joyceans will frolic at the Gotham Bookstore in New York during the MLA festivities. The bash begins at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 28.

### Research Award

The "Hibernian Research Award" is sponsored by the Charles and Margaret Hall Cushwa Center at the University of Notre Dame and is funded by an endowment from the AOH. Awards of \$2000 will be made to postdoctoral scholars of any academic discipline who are

engaged in a research project studying the Irish experience in the U.S. Application for the Award must be made before December 31 to Jay P. Dolan, Director, Charles and Margaret Hall Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, 614 Memorial Library, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

### Grievous Error

Last issue's "Transitions" column reported that Tony Cahill had moved to University of Pennsylvania after spending the summer in Borneo. This was erroneous. Tony is not at the University of Pennsylvania; he's at The Pennsylvania State University, with the emphasis on the "The." It was a good career move, Tony reports, and he hopes to return to Borneo again someday.

### Thy Name is Vanity

You won't be surprised to see in Virginia license plates such as "YEATS" and "J. JOYCE" (belonging, respectively, to Johann Norstedt and Colleen Owens). And if you're in New York, there's "ILS-I" belonging to you know who. Now there's "ACIS-I" belonging to President Robert Rhodes. He says he hasn't the slightest idea what to do with it when he gives up the office in June, but he will be entertaining sealed bids on July 4.

### The Magic Mark

James Donnelly, Jr. treasurer of ACIS, reports that we will soon pass the 1000 mark for new members in one year, which means that you new folks can decide who gets Robert Rhodes' license plate, among other things. More important, you can decide who will be running ACIS in the years to come. So exercise the new-found franchise. Nominations for the offices of vice-president and the three discipline representatives have been extended to January 15, 1987. See the last ACIS newsletter for details.



## Dublin Update

Sit tight members; you'll soon be receiving all sorts of mailings about travel arrangements, hotel accommodations, tours, receptions, side-trips, perhaps even boutiques and circuses. All this, of course, in preparation for the big ACIS conference in Dublin next June-July to celebrate our 25th anniversary. Gus Martin and Sean White, the Dublin coordinators of the event, will be sending letters to everyone explaining what's what, where, when, why, and how. In the meantime, the committee on papers met at the ACIS Atlantic Regional conference in Columbia, Maryland, in October to sort out the proposals. Look for notification of that as well in your mail.

Plans are being finalized for a scheduled tour of selected universities and cities in Ireland and Northern Ireland following the week of the ACIS conference. This will enable you to spend the week fruitfully between the ACIS and IASAIL conferences (see page one).

On July 5, there will be a "City Reception" in Galway for ACIS members. On July 6-7, there will be a lecture about Galway, readings by local writers, a field trip to the Burren, and a reception at University College Galway. On July 8, the group will journey to Enniskillen. On July 9, the trip will move to Belfast via Irish American Folk Park. Registrants will stay at Queen's University where there will be a reception that night. On July 10, there will be tours to the Ulster Folklore Museum, the Public Records Office, the Linenhall Library, and the Ulster Art Museum. That evening will be a "Theatre Evening," with a visit to either the Lyric or another Belfast theatre. On July 11, the group will return to Dublin via Armagh and Navan Fort. On July 12, when the drums begin to roll up north, you can travel to France for the IASAIL conference.

Don't ask for too many details now. Just watch your mailbox. All paid up members will get all the information in plenty of time.

**AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR IRISH STUDIES**  
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**First Class Mail**



*Ruth Dudley-Edwards, author of "Patrick Pearse, The Triumph of Failure," and her husband John Mattock, at the Atlantic Regional Conference in Columbia, Maryland, in October.*

**The Executive Board of  
The American Committee for  
Irish Studies  
wishes every member  
a joyous holiday season  
and a peaceful 1987**

