

AMERICAN CONFERENCE *for* IRISH STUDIES

formerly American Committee for Irish Studies

NEWSLETTER

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Established 1962

Sauntering to St. Paul

The American Conference for Irish Studies Annual Meeting being held at the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, from Wednesday, April 20, through Saturday, April 23, has lined up a galaxy of good times for all. Delegates will be staying in the Saint Paul Hotel. The nearby Landmark Center will be the site of the opening address Wednesday evening, April 20, by Padraic MacKiernan, ambassador of Ireland to the United States. Irish actress Clare Mullen will give a private performance for delegates on Thursday evening, April 21, in the ballroom of the Saint Paul Hotel. Bakers Well, a popular Irish music group touring the U.S. this spring, will perform at the Ordway Music Theatre Friday evening, April 22. A reception in the James Jerome Hill Reference Library will follow the concert. All paid-up members of ACIS should look for registration material in the mail.

DIB Update

Professor Gordon Herries Davies has written to say that the Dictionary of Irish Biography is proceeding and that he looks forward to the participation of American scholars in the project. Currently, they are drawing up a list of figures with surnames A-C who will be considered for inclusion. Once the list is selected, scholars will be invited to write entries for those subjects. Professor Herries Davies welcomes any inquiries about the DIB. You can reach him c/o Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.

Sculptors' Society in Dublin

The Sculptors' Society of Ireland/Foras Dealbhóirí Éireann is holding an International Conference on Sculpture in Dublin on August 29-31, 1988, as part of the Millennium Celebrations in Dublin City. Discussion topics will include "Sculpture and Urban Renewal" and an assessment of the contribution of Symposia to the development of modern sculpture. Those interested in participating should send proposals for papers before November 20 to the International Conference on Sculpture, 44 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4, Ireland.

ACIS Research Report

The Annual ACIS Research Report will change its format this year, focusing only on articles and work in progress. Work will be recorded in in these areas in the following manner:

- **PUBLICATIONS:** Articles already in print or reasonably certain to be printed by May 1, 1988. Type the bibliographical information in this order: your name (last name first), title of article (in quotation marks), publication (underlined), date and number of publication (either, e.g., Spring 1988, or, e.g., VI: 1, but not both). Do not include book reviews or entries previously reported here.

- **WORK IN PROGRESS:** Report only work *directly related* to Irish Studies. This section will replace and include the "Request for Information" section usually found in the Research Report. Give the subject and/or title and your name and complete address. "Requests for Information" will be carried in each issue of the *ACIS Newsletter* as needed.

- **FORMAT:** Use a 3x5 index card for *each* entry; *one* entry per card.

- **TYPE ALL** information and mail before May 1, 1988, to: Yvette Sencer, History of Art, Room B-634, SUNY Fashion Institute of Technology, 7th Ave. at 27th Street, New York, N.Y. 10001.

Bibliographical listings of books will be carried in a separate issue of the *Newsletter*, and will be compiled by Frank O'Brien (details to follow).

Henry C. Heaney Dead

ACIS members who know Carmel and Henry Heaney during Carmel's tenure as Consul-General in Boston (1977-1982) will be saddened to learn of Henry's death in Dublin earlier this year. An architect by profession, Henry was well-known as a photographer and a designer. A recent ESB exhibition "Defy the Darkness" included Henry's lamps. Born in England in 1917, he was educated in the U.S. and spent his professional life here until they retired in 1972.

Transitions

- Bob Rhodes, former president of ACIS and long-time professor of English at SUNY Cortland, will be retiring from full time teaching at the end of this spring term after 30-plus years at Cortland. He will continue to work in ACIS.
- Lawrence McCaffrey will deliver the 2nd Annual Gilbert Cahill Memorial Lecture at SUNY Cortland on April 6, 1988, on the topic "A Profile of Irish America."
- On March 17, 1988, Catherine Shannon will assume the office of "Keeper of the Silver Key" in the Charitable Irish Society of Boston, the oldest Irish society in the U.S., founded in 1737. Incidentally, Catherine had a reception, hosted by the Boston Chapter of the Irish American Cultural Institute, for her new book, *Arthur J. Balfour and Ireland, 1887-1922*.
- Another book just out is Dee Gee Lester's long awaited *Irish Research, A Guide to Collections in North America, Ireland, and Great Britain* from Greenwood Press (\$49.95).

MLA-ACIS for 1988

The topic for the Anglo-Irish Literature Discussion Group at the 1988 MLA meeting in New Orleans will be "Myth and Modern Literature." Papers and proposals should be directed to Patrick A. McCarthy, English Dept., University of Miami, Coral Gables FL 33124. Dillon Johnston reports that at the last ACIS-MLA panel in San Francisco, one session — from which two members had to withdraw in the autumn — was saved by a revised panel and very fine papers by Wolfgang Zach ("The Irish Writer and Language") and Declan Kiberd ("Dublin on the Brink") (chaired by Robert Tracy). The other session, chaired by Alexander Gonzalez, featured papers by Tony Bradley, Vincent Sherry and George O'Brien.

Membership Figures

As of February 12, 1988, the membership figures for ACIS were:

U.S. Members: 1377

Non-U.S. Members: 181, including

Ireland: 104 England: 17

Continental Europe: 11 Japan: 4

Canada: 35 Brazil: 1 Australia: 19

The United States membership breakdown is:
New England Region: 270

Atlantic: 491 South: 124

Midwest: 273 Western: 219

For the healthy prurient, New York has the most members, with over 300

Offerings

- Nicholas Grene (English, Trinity College) is offering his farm house in the Wicklow Mountains where Synge set three of his plays to an academic who may be on sabbatical in 1988-90.
- Barbara J. McCrory (710 E. Glendale, Shorewood Wis. 53211) is offering to do interdisciplinary research in Ireland beginning in September 1988.

Atlantic Regional Meeting

The 1988 Atlantic Regional meeting of ACIS will take place Friday and Saturday, November 4-5, in Philadelphia. On Friday afternoon, the Rosenbach Museum and Library will hold a sherry reception. The Rosenbach will be mounting an exhibit of their Anglo-Irish manuscripts (the original *Salome*, a *Ulysses*, and selected Yeats papers, among others) in time for the conference. Papers will be delivered at the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies. In honor of the 1000th anniversary of the founding of Dublin, the broad theme of the conference will be "Cities and Towns." Papers and suggestions for panels are welcome on a number of topics, including Irish urban archaeology, medieval town life, the history of a particular city or town, sociological studies of Irish life in cities outside Ireland, urban politics, fiction, poetry, drama, music or visual arts associated with Irish urban life. Three or four panels will be formed. Papers will be selected by ACIS members in the appropriate disciplines; those giving papers must be paid-up members of ACIS. Send papers (no more than eight double-spaced pages) or suggestions for panels (with names of panelists) by June 1, 1988, to Lucy McDiarmid, Dept. of English, Villanova University, Villanova PA 19085.



New England Regional Meeting

The fall 1988 New England Regional Conference of ACIS will be held at Salve Regina College in Newport, Rhode Island, on October 7-8, 1988, Columbus Day weekend. The conference theme is "The Irish and New England," a theme which should be interpreted broadly across disciplines and chronology. Proposals on other themes will be considered in the event an individual has a particularly promising proposal. Proposals should be sent by May 1, 1988, to Catherine Shannon, Dept. of History, Westfield State College, Westport, Conn. 01086 and/or to Robert J. McKenna, Asst. to the President of Salve Regina who will be the local coordinator. (You must be a member of ACIS to give a paper.) Bob is the newly elected mayor of Newport and he hopes to insure that we experience his city's highlights and personality. A local committee will assist Catherine and Bob in constructing the final program. Newport has a variety of accommodations — hotel, motels, guest houses, bed and breakfast — to take care of

individual budget needs. Negotiations are underway with the Newport Tourist Board to give us a wide range of choices.



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

