

American Conference *for* Irish Studies

formerly American Committee for Irish Studies

NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT

Maureen O'R. Murphy
Dean of Students
Hofstra University
Hempstead, New York 11550

VICE-PRESIDENT

James S. Donnelly, Jr.
History Department
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

SECRETARY

Mary Helen Thuente
English Department
Indiana University
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805

TREASURER

Michael Durkan
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Penn. 19081

Past President & International Representative

Robert E. Rhodes
SUNY at Cortland

History Representative

Kevin O'Neill
Boston College

Literature Representative

Michael Kenneally
Marianopolis College

Other Disciplines Representative

Philip O'Leary
S. Yarmouth, Mass.

New England Representative

Catherine B. Shannon
Westfield State College

Atlantic Representative

Lucy McDiarmid
Villanova University

Midwest Representative

Thomas E. Hachey
Marquette University

Western Representative

Willard Potts
Oregon State

Irish Language Committee

Kenneth E. Nilsen, chair
St. Francis Xavier University

Editor, Research Report

Yvette Sencer
Fashion Inst. of Technology

Editor, ACIS Newsletter

Robert G. Lowery

Winter 1988
Established 1962

Call For Papers

The Second North American Celtic Congress will be held August 16-20, 1989, at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, under the auspices of the D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies. Proposals for papers on Celtic topics are invited. Send abstracts of 200-250 words to the 1989 North American Celtic Congress at Saint Mary's in Canada, B3H 3C3.

1989 IASAIL Conference

The 1989 IASAIL conference will be held in Debrecen, Hungary, from July 10-14, on the theme "Irish Letters — A Small Nation's Contribution to the Literature of the World." The chairperson of the conference will be Prof. István Pálffy, Louis Kossuth University, Dept. of English, H-4010, Debrecen 10, Hungary.

CAIS Conference

The 1989 Canadian Association for Irish Studies conference will be held on March 1-5 at St. Thomas University, Fredericton, New Brunswick. The theme will be "Irish Culture: Urban and Rural Contexts." Among the distinguished speakers will be A. Norman Jeffares, Nell McCaffery, novelist and publisher Dermot Bolger, Irish Senator John A. Murphy, and poet Paul Muldoon. There will be several music concerts and a production of Brian Friel's play *The Faith Healer*. Inquiries to Stewart Donovan, Conference Convenor, E3B 5G3.

Committee Studies "Ulysses"

Jason Epstein, vice-president and editorial director of Random House, announced that a committee has been formed to study the much-disputed Hans Walter Gabler edition of Joyce's *Ulysses: The Corrected Text*, published in 1986. The edition has come under severe attack by scholars, primarily John Kidd, director of the new James Joyce Research Center at Boston University. Serving on the committee will be: Jo Ann Boydston, Southern Illinois University and chair of the Committee on Scholarly Editions of the Modern Language Association; Herbert Cahoon, curator of manuscripts, Pierpont Morgan Library; and Denis Donoghue, New York University.

Abbey's Spring Schedule

The Abbey Theatre in Dublin has announced a partial 1989 schedule: Jan. 30-March 4, Shaw's *The Devil's Disciple*; March 7-25, Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World*; April 3-29, Maxim Gorky's *Lower Depths*, version by Jeremy Brooks; May 8-27, Eugene McCabe's *King of the Castle*.

Bush's Royal Genes

Reagan's heralded flirtation with ancestry worship *vis* Brian Boru naturally makes people wonder about President-elect Bush's origins. It turns out that he's descended from 15th-century monarchs of England and France. According to Prof. Lee Cronk of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Cincinnati: "Assuming that none of the links between Mr. Bush and his royal forebears have been broken because of misidentified paternity and that generations have averaged about 30 years, only .000119 percent of [Bush's] genome could have come from Charles II, only .003052 percent could be from Henry VII of England and Louis XII of France, and only .001526 percent could be from Henry VIII. The total royal percentage is just .004697." Reagan? According to Professor Cronk, "only about .00000029805 percent of Mr. Reagan's genetic makeup could have come from the High King."

Storefront Stages Cycle

In April 1989, the Storefront Theatre in Portland, Oregon, will stage in its entirety W.B. Yeats's *Cuchulain Cycle*. According to the press release, this will be the first time all five plays will receive professional production in the U.S. Between April 1-22, there will be least nineteen performance of the complete cycle.

In Memoriam

William V. Shannon
Ambassador to Ireland and ACIS Member

Joe Hill Lives

If you still dream you saw Joe Hill last night, maybe so. It was long thought that the ashes of martyred trade union leader Joe Hill were scattered to the four winds. It turns out, however, that some were kept in a sealed vial. On the 73th anniversary of Hill's execution (November), the National Archives turned over the vial to the IWW's current chairman, Frederic Lee. Irish labor leader James Larkin gave the primary English-language oration at Joe Hill's funeral in Chicago.

Irish Studies from NYPL

John Concannon sends us a seven-page printed catalogue from the New York Public Library which lists standard works in the fields of bibliography, history, literature, biography, folklore, periodicals, newspapers, and genealogy. Ask for Research Guide No. 6.

Anderson

Regional Conference Papers

WESTERN

October 14-16, 1988, Saint Mary's College, Moraga, California
 "Irish Nationalists and the 1798 Centennial," Timothy O'Keefe, Santa Clara Univ.

"Father John McMahon, Fenian Priest: Saint or Charlatan?" Joseph A. King, Lafayette, Calif.

"Unsuspected Sources in W.B. Yeats's 'The Phases of the Moon,'" Wayne K. Chapman, Washington State Univ.

"From Silhouettes to 'The Sisters': Changing Representations of Self and Other in Early Joycean Narrative," Ian Crump, UC Berkeley.

"Hearts Turned to Stone: Myth in Modern Irish Drama," Kathleen A. Quinn, Southern Oregon State Univ.

"A Portrait of the Irish American in Eugene O'Neill," Nora McGuinness, UC Davis.

"Eugene O'Neill: The Touch of a Poet," Dan Cawthon, Saint Mary's College.

"Irish Scribes and their Manuscripts," Cait Ni Dhomhnaill, University College Galway.

"Michael Óg Ó Lóngain — A Consideration of his Poetry," James M. McAuley, Eastern Washington Univ.

"Poetic Justice: Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill's Poetry and its Translators," Joan Trodden Kefe, UC Berkeley.

NB: Willard Potts, President, and Donna Gerstenberg, Treasurer, retained as officers for next year.

ATLANTIC

November 4-5, 1988, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 "Shaw of Dublin and London," Nicholas Grene, Trinity College, Dublin.

"The Early Christian Communities on the Liffey," Dorothy Africa, Univ. of Toronto.

"Early Irish Saints Associated with the Dublin Area," Ursula Moore, Harvard Univ.

"Irish Relations with the Norse in Dublin, 837-1014," James Doan, Nova Univ.

"The Earldom of Kildare and the Elizabethan Conquest," Vincent Carey, Maynooth and SUNY Stony Brook.

"Why the Reformation Failed in Ireland: A Continuing Question," Karl Bottigheimer, SUNY Stony Brook.

"Rural Images, Urban Realities: Notes on Updating the Study of Irish Culture," John J. Conway, N.Y. State Div. of Housing and Community Renewal.

"Architecture as Destiny? Tradition and the Future at Dublin's Colleges," Elizabeth Sheehan, CUNY.

"Whose Town? Whose Country? Subversions of Ownership in Somerville and Ross," Joan Kelly, SUNY Stony Brook.

"Cork, Paris, and the Rule of the River: O'Faolain and Maupassant," Richard Bonaccorso, Central Conn. State Univ.

"The Belfast Novels of Brian Moore," Anthony Bradley, Univ. of Vermont.

"Ni Chuilleanain's Native City: A Poet's Vision of Cork," Patricia Haberstroh, LaSalle Univ.

"William Penn, Ireland and the City of Brotherly Love," Joseph Kelly, Penn. Humanities Council.

"Lost in the City: Irish Immigrants in Nineteenth Century Philadelphia," Ruth-Ann Harris, Northeastern Univ.

"The Milesians in the Metropolis: The Irish-Americans and the problem of Urban Space," Dennis Clark, Center for Irish Studies, Philadelphia.

Concluding remarks by Conor Cruise O'Brien.

MIDWEST

September 30 - October 1, 1988, University of Missouri-St. Louis

"Men of the Cloth, Men of Letters: Irish Popular Fiction, 1890-1920," Catherine Candy, Loyola Univ.

"The Anglo-Irish Identity Under Siege: Elizabeth Bowen's Activities in the Second World War," Heather Bryant Jordan, Univ. of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

"George Russell's Concept of Irish Nationality," Frank A. Biletz, Univ. of Chicago.

"Paddy's Post Cards, Film Excerpts of the Irish Living in America," John Gleeson, Univ. of Wisconsin

"Irish Writers and Modern Literary Theory," Mary Helen Thuente, Indiana Univ./Purdue Univ.

"Ourselves Alone: Irish Women in America, 1885-1920," Janet A. Nolan, Loyola Univ.

"The Irish in St. Louis," Martin Towey, St. Louis Univ.

"Images of Exile: The Ballad Tradition," Carol A. Berger, St. Louis Community College.

NB: Blanche Touhill elected President, Eileen McNulty elected Secretary/Treasurer, as officers for next year.

NEW ENGLAND

October 7-8, 1988, Salve Regina College, Newport, Rhode Island

"Settlement Patterns of 17th Century Ireland and New England, a Comparison Study," Leslie V. Watson, Cambridge, Mass.

"Irish Settlement Patterns of Early Maine, 1780-1830," Edward T. McCarron, Univ. of New Hampshire.

"Early Nineteenth Century Irish Settlement in New England: Evidence from the Naturalization Files," Edward J. O'Day, Southern Illinois Univ. at Carbondale.

"Irish American Folklore in New England," Ellen Moore Quinn, Harvard Univ.

"Eugene O'Neill: The Irish-Yankee Conflict in Five New England Autobiographical Plays," Virginia Floyd, Naples, Florida

"Irish American Families in Fictions: *Before My Time* by Maureen Howard and *A Good Confession* by Elizabeth Savage," Shaun O'Connell, Univ. of Mass.-Boston.

"Birth and Death: Female Tradition and the Narrative Voice in Mary Doyle Curran's *The Parish and the Hill*," Sheila C. Conboy, Stonehill College.

"Emigrating to Tir-na-n-og: The Role of America in Mary Lavin's Fiction," Joseph Zweir, Univ. of Conn.

"Fear of Poverty: Economics and Gender in Irish American Newburyport," Beth Parkhurst, Brown Univ.

"The Role of the Irish in the Lawrence Strike of 1912," Casey Coburn, Bradford College.

"The Sprague Murders in Cranston, Rhode Island," Rev. Jude McGeough, St. Anne's Church, Cranston.

"Ralph Waldo Emerson and the Irish," June Davidson, Deep River, Conn.

"Rachel B. Jacobs, Yankee Champion of the Immigrants in Springfield, 1890-1895," Rev. Philip Jacobs, Fairhaven, Mass.

"John Boyle O'Reilly, Irish Catholic as Progressive," Catherine B. Shannon, Westfield State College.

"James Jeffrey Roche, A Proper Bostonian Irishman," Thomas B. O'Grady, Univ. of Mass.-Boston.

NB: Conor P. Johnston elected President, Tom Moriarty retained as Secretary/Treasurer, as officers for next year. Conference theme for next regional is "Ireland Since the 1960s."

Call for Nominations for Atlantic Regional Offices

NOMINATIONS ARE invited for the officers of the Atlantic Regional. Those nominated must be ACIS members living in the Atlantic Region (New York, New Jersey, Penn., Delaware, Maryland, Washington D.C., Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida). Please send suggestions for specific offices to either Lucy McDiarmid, Dept. of English, Villanova Univ., Villanova, Penn. 19085, or Maureen Waters, Dept. of English, Queens College, CUNY, Flushing NY 11367. The deadline for receipt of nominations is Monday, 30 January 1989. The election will take place by mail ballot in February 1989.

President: organizes the Atlantic Regional conference for Fall 1989 and Fall 1990, and finds venue for Fall 1991 conference; provides direction for the Atlantic Region generally; serves as the regional representative to the ACIS Executive Committee.

Secretary-Treasurer: maintains regional accounts; corresponds with members of the region called for by the President and the Executive Committee.

Members-At-large (2): take part in planning and organizing the regional conference; perform other duties as called for by the President.

Hibernian Research Award

The Cushwa Center announced that the recipients of Hibernian Research Awards for 1988 are Dr. Catherine Tobin, Cambridge, Mass., and Dr. Colleen McDannell, University of Maryland, European Division. Dr. Tobin will expand her dissertation, "The Lowley Muscular Digger: Irish Canal Workers in Nineteenth Century America," and Dr. McDannell will study "Women Writing: Three Generations of Irish Americans." The Hibernian Research Award is funded by an endowment from the Ancient Order of Hibernians which seeks to advance research in Irish American studies. Two awards of \$2000 each are made to postdoctoral scholars of any academic discipline. Applicants should write to Jay P. Dolan, Charles and Margaret Hall Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, 614 Hesburgh Library, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. 46556.

Information Wanted

The name of the artist who did an illustration titled (or captioned) "Writing the Epitaph," depicting an allegorical female figure inscribing the name of Robert Emmet on a monument. Write to Leo Miller, PO Box 1107, New York, N.Y. 10009.



Holiday Greetings to the ACIS Membership from the ACIS Executive Committee

ACIS Bibliographer Appointed

Judy Walsh will be filling the post of ACIS Bibliographer. Her first collection will appear in the Winter 1989 number of the *Newsletter*.

1989 MLA Meeting

Members interested in participating in an ACIS session at the December 1989 MLA Convention in Washington D.C. should send proposals for papers and panels to Michael Kenneally, Dept. of English, Marianopolis College, 3880 Cote Des Neiges, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3H 1W1. Proposals and suggestions should be received by January 31. Please allow sufficient time for the variances of the mail system. Those planning to give papers must be paid-up members of ACIS and MLA.

Recently Published

Reprinted is Betty Mesenger's *Picking Up the Linen Threads: Life in Ulster's Mills*, by Blackstaff Press. John Mesenger's *The Irish Countryman* is being published by Waveland Press Inc. Waveland is also doing John's *Inis Beag: Isle of Ireland*.

Membership Figures

As of November 28, 1988, the ACIS membership total stood at 2009, with 1759 members in the U.S. and 250 non-U.S. members. Those who haven't renewed for 1988-89 are reminded that unless they renew, they won't get to read the interview of Stephen Spender in the Spring *ILS*.

Alien to U.S. Ears

A publicity release from the British Information Services has this to say about the amendment to British criminal law regarding self-incrimination: "There is a tendency for suspects to exploit this 'right of silence.' Justice is being thwarted by the absolute refusal of suspects to answer questions." And on the Broadcasting and Terrorism issue, there's this: "This is not a restriction on reporting, rather a restriction on direct appearances by those who use or support violence."

Yeats Summer School

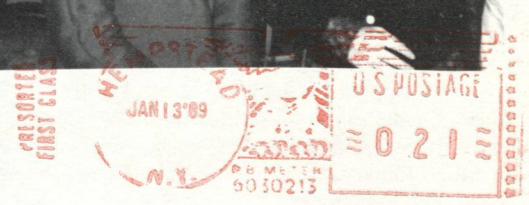
The Thirtieth Yeats International Summer School will commemorate the 50th anniversary of Yeats's death with a special emphasis next year on theatre, music, painting, and printing. Details from Georgie Wynne, Yeats Society, Douglas Hyde Bridge, Sligo, Ireland.

Change of Address

Members are reminded not to send changes of address to the newsletter. Send these items to the Secretary, whose address appears on the front-page lineup.



FOLKS IN PHILADELPHIA: (Top, left to right), Jim Murphy, Lucy McDiarmid, Nicholas Grene. (Top right, left to right), Linda Rose, James MacKillop, Jim Rose. (Right, left to right) Ruth-Ann Harris, Anne Gallagher. Atlantic Regional Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR IRISH STUDIES

114 Paula Blvd.
Selden, New York 11784

First Class Mail

