

AMERICAN CONFERENCE *for* IRISH STUDIES

formerly AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR IRISH STUDIES

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Research Report

DeeGee Lester
Hendersonville, Tennessee

Editors, Newsletter

Thomas Eugene Hachey
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NEWSLETTER

ACIS NATIONAL CONFERENCES

Planning is in the final stages for the 1993 ACIS National Conference, "Ireland and America: From Famine to Cultural Renewal." Preliminary programs have already been mailed. Those wishing additional information should write to James J. Murphy, Director of Irish Studies, Villanova University, Villanova, PA 19085. FAX: (215) 645-7910.

The 1994 ACIS national meeting will take place on 27-30 April 1994 at Creighton University. Details will appear in the fall newsletter. Those wishing preliminary information can contact Eamonn Wall or Kathleen Collins, English Department, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska 68178.

The Executive Committee welcomes formal proposals to host future national conferences. Interested members who would like preliminary information about what is involved should contact Mary Helen Thuente or Blanche Touhill.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS

This is the official notice that a vote will be taken at the Annual Business Meeting of ACIS during the national conference at Villanova, 15-18 April 1993, on the issue of changing the name of our organization from the "American Committee for Irish Studies" to the "American Conference for Irish Studies."

A REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK

Members will notice a number of changes in the ACIS Annual Research Report questionnaire, included in this issue of the Newsletter. The editor, DeeGee Lester, welcomes any suggestions for improving the content or format of the Research Report. "There is tremendous potential for the report to serve as an important networking and research tool and as a gauge of what is happening in all areas of Irish research." If you wish to make suggestions, include a note with the questionnaire or write to DeeGee Lester, 148 Neverbreak, Hendersonville, TN 37075.

CATALOGUE OF JOYCE MATERIAL PUBLISHED

This spring the National Library of Ireland published The James Joyce/Paul Léon Papers: A Catalogue, a detailed description of Joyce material that had been sealed for fifty years. That catalogue is now being distributed in the U.S. by Syracuse University Press.

SPRING 1993

Conference Announcements

Regional Conference Announcements

The New England Region Conference--the 1993 regional conference will take place on 15-16 October at Westfield State College. Those interested in participating should contact Catherine Shannon, Department of History, Westfield State College, Westfield, MA 01086. Paper proposals/abstracts are due 15 May.

The Mid-Atlantic Region Conference--the 1993 regional conference, The Irish in America, will take place on 12-13 November at Siena College. Those interested in participating should contact Tramble Turner, English Department, Penn State University--Ogontz Campus, 1600 Woodland Rd., Abington, PA 19001.

The Midwest Region Conference--the 1993 regional conference, "Emigrants/Immigrants," will take place on 1-2 October at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago. Abstracts or papers due by 1 July. For further information, contact Janet Nolan, History Department, Loyola University, 6525 N. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, IL 60626.

The Southern Region Conference--the 1993 regional conference, "The Consciousness of a Race: Irish Studies in the 90s," was held on 26-27 February at the University of Tulsa. Those interested in participating in the 1994 regional conference should write for information to Robert Spoo, English Department, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK 74104.

The Western Region Conference--the 1993 regional meeting will be held at Oregon State University and hosted by Bill Potts and Charlotte Headrick.

National and International Conferences, Seminars, and Schools

The Zurich James Joyce Foundation will hold a spring workshop, "The Maternal in Joyce," during the Easter weekend 9-12 April. For information contact Leslie McDowell, 100 King's Park Avenue, Glasgow G44 4HS, Scotland; or, the Zurich James Joyce Foundation, Strauhof, Augustinergasse 9, CH 8001, Zurich, Switzerland. The topic for the August workshop (1-7 August 1993) has not yet been finalized but may possibly be "Negation in Joyce."

The New England American Studies Association's spring conference, "The Cultures of Technology: Science, Media, and the Arts" will be held 30 April-2 May 1993 at Brandeis

University. For more information write to Tom Doherty, Department of American Studies, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02254, (617) 736-3032.

The Centre for Film Studies, University College--Dublin, is offering an Irish Film Summer School, 21 June-23 July 1993. For further information contact Patrick March, Director, Centre for Film Studies, University College--Dublin, Dublin 4, Ireland.

The fourteenth International Summer School in Irish Studies, "The Formation of Irish Cultural Identity," will take place 5-31 July 1993 at University College--Cork. For further information, contact Seamus O Tuama, Department of Adult and Continuing Education, University College--Cork, Cork, Ireland.

The fourth Jonathan Swift Seminar, "Swift and the Ladies," will take place 8-10 July 1993 at Celbridge Abbey. For further information contact Monica Curran, Celbridge Abbey, Celbridge, Co. Kildare, Ireland.

The tenth annual Canada Irish Festival on the Miramichi will take place 16-18 July 1993. For further information, write Farrell McCarthy, 109 Roy Ave., Newcastle, New Brunswick, Canada E1V 3N8.

The sixth John Hewitt International Summer School, "Substance and Shadow: Images and Image-Makers," will take place at St. MacNissi's College, Garron Tower, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland, 26-31 July 1993. For further information, contact Professor Edna Longley, School of English, Queen's University, Belfast, BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland.

The Yeats International Summer School will be held from 7-21 August 1993 in Sligo. Themes include: Poetry and Plays of Yeats; Cultural and Critical Contexts; Yeats's Predecessors, Contemporaries and Successors; Recent Irish Poetry and Drama. For further information, write to Mrs. Georgina Wynne, The Yeats Building, Douglas Hyde Bridge, Sligo, Ireland.

The Council on International Exchange is sponsoring a seminar, "Northern Ireland: Images of a Divided Society," at the University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland, 21-27 November 1993. For further information, contact the Council on International Educational Exchange, 205 E. 42d St., New York, NY 10017.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOR IRISH STUDIES 1993 RESEARCH REPORT

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR THE 1993 ACIS RESEARCH REPORT. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS 1 JUNE 1993. RESEARCH WILL BE RECORDED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

PUBLICATIONS: Work already in print or reasonably certain to be printed by 1 June 1993. Type complete bibliographical information.

WORK IN PROGRESS/PRESS: Work accepted, but with date of publication undetermined or set after 1 June 1993. List publisher or journal and, if know, tentative date of publication.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS: Work incomplete or still under editorial consideration. List tentative title and/or short sentence of explanation. ("Yeats" or "The Great Famine" is not enough; a paragraph is too much).

DIRECTIONS:
PLEASE TYPE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM. SUBMIT ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PAGE. For additional entries, photocopy this page. Limit four (4) total entries per person.

REPORT ONLY WORK RELATED TO IRISH STUDIES.

DO NOT INCLUDE BOOK REVIEWS, PUBLICATIONS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, OR WORK BEFORE 1991.

PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR RESEARCH FIELD: CHECK CATEGORY OF ENTRY IN EACH COLUMN:

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| ANTHROPOLOGY, THE ARTS (art, drama, music, etc), Celtic Studies | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLICATION | <input type="checkbox"/> Book |
| HISTORY & RELATED AREAS | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> Article |
| LITERATURE & LINGUISTICS | <input type="checkbox"/> RESEARCH IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> Dissertation |
| SOCIOLOGY, WOMEN'S STUDIES | | |

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Type or Print clearly)

Send to: DeeGee Lester, 148 Neverbreak, Hendersonville, Tennessee, 37075.
Or Fax #: (615) 824-9512.

**FEATURES: THE M.L.A. AND THE IRISH
STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE**

by *Conor Johnston, Massasoit Community College*

Despite its title, this piece will not shed new light on the period 1916-1921. It will, instead, focus on the period 1983-1991, during which a struggle took place between ACIS and the MLA over the latter's tradition of classifying Irish writers as British. ACIS emerged victorious.

It all began in 1983. That was when I, as an Irish native, finally got fed up seeing works by and about Irish writers listed in Volume One of the MLA International Bibliography, which was titled "British, American, Australian, English-Canadian, and English-Caribbean Literatures." Swift, Yeats, Joyce, Heaney *et al.* deserved, I felt, a more accurate designation.

At the ACIS A.G.M. in 1983, I proposed, with unanimous support, that the MLA be asked to add the rubric "Irish" to the title page of Volume One. Incoming ACIS President Bob Rhodes wrote to the MLA. They agreed only to change "British" to "British Isles." This "concession" was greeted with derision at the next ACIS meeting, and when it was re-introduced, my original motion again passed unanimously. The new ACIS President Maureen Murphy accordingly wrote to the MLA. Its response was on a par with Anthony Trollope's response to the Irish Land League, which he accused of trying to "alter the laws for governing the world." Maureen patiently wrote again. The MLA refused to budge.

We were now into Jim Donnelly's Presidency. I reintroduced my motion. Jim, drawing on his historical expertise, thought he might convert the MLA. Again, no go. It was not until 1990, at the ACIS St. Louis meeting, that the tide began to turn. There, Leo McNamara smartly suggested that the issue be brought up at the MLA Delegate Assembly. I contacted Bernard Benstock, then an MLA delegate. He cooperated enthusiastically, and successfully raised the issue at the 1990 MLA Delegate Assembly. The 1991 Volume One reads "British and Irish, Commonwealth, English-Caribbean, and American Literatures." When I first looked at the title page, Seamus Heaney's quote from Mioslav Holub sprang happily to mind: "The right name is the first step towards the truth which makes things things and us us."

Calls for Papers

An international conference on James Joyce, "At the Birthplace of Leopold Bloom," will be held 29 August - 4 September. Send proposals for papers, workshops, and/or panels to Katalin Molnar, University of Western Hungary, Berzsenyi College, H-9700 Szombathely, Bersenyi ter 2, Hungary.

Papers are invited on all aspects of Medievalism for the eighth International General Conference on Medievalism, 22-25 September 1993, at the University of Leeds. Send proposals to Professor Leslie J. Workman, Editor, Studies in Medievalism, English Department, Hope College, Holland, MI 49423. (616) 394-7626. Deadline is 15 March.

The New England Historical Association has issued an open call for papers or paper proposals for its fall meeting on 23 October at Brown University. Contact Peter Holloran, NEHA Executive Secretary, Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167. Deadline is 15 June.

The topic for the 1993 MLA Celtic Studies Discussion Group will be "Nationalism in the Celtic Sphere." Anyone interested in submitting a paper should send a one page abstract to Professor Elissa Henken, English Department, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. Deadline is 15 March.

In Remembrance

Former ACIS member Frank Kinahan died at the age of 48 on 3 February 1993. He was associate professor of English and co-chair of the Committee on General Studies in the Humanities at the University of Chicago. In 1989 he published Yeats in Context: Folklore, Occultism, and the Early Work and Thought. He was working on a study of contemporary literature in Northern Ireland. Seamus Heaney commemorated Frank Kinahan with these words: "We loved Frank because he was like poetry itself; he surprised by fine excess. Great kindness, wily intelligence, jubilant and spontaneous wit, huge joie de vivre--he had all these things, but they were deeply guaranteed by a sweet intimation of wisdom suffered for and of learning transformed to magnanimity."

Alfred McClung Lee died 19 May 1992. Long a member of the Sociology Department of Brooklyn College, Professor Lee was the author of many admired books including The Multivalent Man (1966) and The Fine Art of Propaganda (1979), the latter written with his wife Elizabeth B. Lee, who survives him. Professor Lee addressed several ACIS meetings in the 1960s and 1970s, taking a special interest in Northern Ireland.

Members in the News

ACIS Vice President Blanche Touhill has been named Grand Marshall of this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade in St. Louis.

ACIS Bibliographer DeeGee Lester will chair a panel discussion entitled "The Irish in Nashville" on Friday 19 March at Belmont University.

Rand Brandes has received a Fulbright Fellowship for 1993-94. He will be based in Dublin where he will do historical and bibliographical work on contemporary Irish poets.

Charles Fanning has been appointed Professor of English at Southern Illinois University.

ACIS Co-Editor Thomas Hachey has been named Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Marquette University. After 1 June all mail should be sent to him at the college.

Seamus Dean has been appointed the Donald and Mickie Keough Chaired Professor of Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame.

Announcements

A project is underway by ACIS member Brent A. Barlow to identify as many of the Irish immigrants to the United States

and Canada as possible. Anyone with information on sources of such data is asked to contact Barlow at the Department of Family Sciences, 1036 SWKT, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, 84602.

The Center for Irish Studies, The Catholic University of America, has announced the first graduates of the MA Degree Program in Irish Studies, Ms. Robin Jenkins and Ms. Patricia Wheeler. Both hope to proceed to doctoral work at other universities in the fall of 1993.

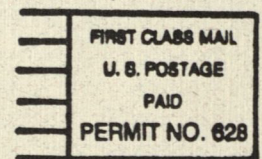
In November 1991 the Sociological Association of Ireland began publishing the Irish Journal of Sociology. For further information, contact The Editors, Irish Journal of Sociology, Department of Social Studies, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, Ireland.

March 1993 has been declared "Irish-American Heritage Month" as a result of an official resolution signed into law by President George Bush on 23 October 1992.

For members looking for a summer home. CABLE HEAD EAST, Prince Edward Island, Canada--Newly built summer home on peaceful, private four acres in enchanting setting. Fully equipped. Sleeps 4. Beautiful ocean view. Three-minute walk to quiet beach and safe swimming in warm water. Available May 29 onward. \$375 per week. (617) 282-4814.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOR IRISH STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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First Class Mail

Deadline for submissions for the next issue, 15 August 1993.
Fax: (414) 288-3300 E-Mail: GILLESPIEM@VMS.CSD.MU.EDU

