

ISSN 1393-3183

THE GENIE GAZETTE

Vol. 2, No. 9. September 1997
D.L.G.S. Monthly Newsletter

C.I.G.O. SEEKS ASSURANCES ON THE 1926 CENSUS RETURNS

The Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations, C.I.G.O., has written to the Central Statistics Office to ascertain the present storage position of the first Census taken since independence, its condition and what measures, if any, are being taken to ensure its preservation under the National Archives Act, 1986. C.I.G.O. has campaigned for a number of years to have this Census open for research, though, the Statistics Act, 1993, has imposed a hundred year closure on census returns. This period of 100 years is unnecessary, according to C.I.G.O., and the All-Ireland organisation is calling for a more reasonable seventy years in line with most western nations, except the U.K. which still holds to its 100 year rule. What's the Irish for "glasnost" ???

EMBASSY & FIRMS DONATE

Following the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council's decision to allocate the Martello Tower at Seapoint Co. Dublin, to the Society as a permanent home for its growing Archive, the Sub-Committee for Finance has campaigned vigorously for funding to complete the necessary works at the Tower. The British Embassy in Dublin is amongst a number of prominent donors to the Building Fund for *An Daonchartlann Project* like Bank of Ireland and Bord Iascaigh Mhara. The British Embassy confirmed that this project, and the restoration of Martello Tower itself, was ideally suited to the development of a deeper understanding of our shared historical experience. Indeed, the Society's commitment to the study of the Irish Diaspora was reflecting President Robinson's theme of cherishing our far-flung Diaspora as an integral part of the "new" Ireland.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 9th September & 14th October 1997
Evening Open Meeting - An Culturlann, Cornhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann, Belgrave Square, Monkstown. 20.00 hrs.
Buses 7 & 8 - DART Seapoint or Monkstown.
The October meeting is the *Annual General Meeting* of the Society.
Wednesday 24th Sept. & 22nd October 1997
Morning Open Meeting - Port View Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire. 10.30 hrs
Buses 7, 8, 46A, 59, 111, 75 - DART Dun Laoghaire Station.
Wicklow County Genealogical Society
Tuesday 16th September 1997- Grand Hotel, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow 20.30 hrs.
Monday 22nd to Sunday 28th Sept. 1997
3rd Irish Genealogical Congress - Maynooth
Booking Forms - I.G.C., c/o National Archives, Bishop Street, Dublin 8.

LIBRARY PURCHASE SCHEME

The 3 Volume Boxed Set of *Lewis's Topographical Dictionary & Atlas of Ireland* was purchased on Wednesday 13th August 1997 for the Society's Archive by the kind donations received from the following members: Ellen Beare, Betty Dwyer, John Heuston, Heather Jeffrey, Roisin Lafferty, Annette MacDonnell, Joan Merrigan, Michael Merrigan, Ted Morrissey, Rita Murphy, Barry O'Connor, George H. O'Reilly and Jack Sweeney. Plans to extend this scheme to further purchases are being examined. Amongst the many possible purchases is the complete set of County History & Society series.

OUR SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS

"Irish Genealogical Sources No. 1- Shillelagh & Ballinacor South, Co. Wicklow 1837 - A Memorial" price IRP5.00 (ISBN 1 898471 40 1) and "A Guide to the Articles & Sources Published by Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society -1992-1996" price IRP2.00 (ISBN 1 898471 45 2). Second in the sources series, "Irish Genealogical Sources No. 2 - Corn Growers, Carriers & Traders, County Wicklow 1788, 1889 & 1790" price IRP3.00 (ISBN 1 898471 50 9) a valuable census substitute for the period just before *The Great Rebellion of 1798*. Available by post, just add IRP1.00 per item

DAONCHARTLANN PROJECT

Like to help ?

The Society will erect a lasting memorial to all those who, by their kind and generous subscriptions, enabled Ireland's first "*Daonchartlann*" to become a reality. This memorial will be placed in a prominent position in the Martello Tower as a mark of gratitude and respect. This memorial is an unique opportunity for members and friends of the Society to mark the life of a loved one or that special ancestor by having their names inscribed on this memorial. What better way to commemorate their lives than on this memorial in Ireland's *Daonchartlann* (Ir. "peoples archive"). The Society will publish a full list of subscribers, though not the amounts of each subscription, in the quarterly journal and in the commemorative booklet to accompany the opening of the *Daonchartlann*. As this special memorial has limitations as to the number of names that may be inscribed thereon, only subscriptions in excess of twenty five pounds or fifty dollars will qualify for inclusion on the memorial, though, all subscriptions will receive a certificate to mark the donation and the opening of the *Daonchartlann*. Certified copies of the entry on the memorial will be forwarded to each subscriber. *Payments by Bank Transfer to:* D.L.G.S. Building Fund, c/o Ulster Bank, Rochestown Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Sort Code: 98-59-50 Building A/C No. 52252212.

TEN VOLUME SET DONATED TO ARCHIVE

The History of the Great European War by W. Stanley MacBean Knight, in ten volumes, was donated to the Society's Archive by Michael Merrigan in memory of his grandfather who fought in the W.W.I. **GEORGE MERRIGAN** (1898-1956). The set will assist those researching aspects of the war in which family members fought and possibly died.

AMERICAN SEEKS WICKLOW ANCESTORS

Colleen Simmons of 359 E. Robertson Road, Ridgecrest, California, CA 93555 seeks info. on the McGrath, Merrigan and Byrne families from Tinakilly and Ballymorris areas. A clue to the Byrne connection is a Loughlin Byrne as

godfather to Bridget McGrath. Also, Michael Riley (O'Reilly) born in Wicklow circa 1837/38 he is possibly one of four children i.e. John, Mike, Catherine & Mary Riley or O'Reilly. Colleen can be contacted by email on: esimmons@ridgecrest.ca.us

C.I.G.O. PROJECTS

The *Marriage Licence Bonds* in the National Archives are to be indexed and placed on microfiche. You can participate from your own home if you have an IBM Compatible P.C. or if you don't have a computer, Steven Smyrl, requires volunteers to check printouts etc.. *Volunteers*, please phone *Steven* on 668 8074 for further information.

G.R.O. CHARGES INCREASE SLAMMED

C.I.G.O. has discovered that the General Register Office in Dublin is to increase the rates for certificates and search facilities. It is reported that the daily rate for a "*general search*" is likely to rise to **IRP75.00** with corresponding increases in the costs of other services from October 1997. On learning of these developments, members of this Society at the Morning Open Meeting of Wednesday 27th August 1997, described the proposed rates as "*outrageous*" and they insisted that such rates "*ensure that family history in Ireland will become the preserve of the rich*". Calls were made for the Society, through C.I.G.O., to seek an urgent meeting with the Minister. Many felt that it is time to propose the introduction of a seventy year rule for the records of the G.R.O., with all microfilm copies of the indexes and registers, over seventy years old, deposited on open access in the National Archives. This solution would leave the G.R.O. with its "*core*" function of "*registration and certification*".

DEANSGRANGE CEMETERY PROJECT

Barry O'Connor seeks volunteers to input the transcriptions of the memorial inscriptions on to computer disc in their own homes. The average time is four to five hours over a month - often much less !! This will assist in the printing of Volume 4 and the names of all volunteers will be recorded in the publication. Please give Barry a call on tel: 285 4386.

The Genie Gazette is published by Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society, 14, Rochestown Park, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

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