

The Society was pleased to welcome a lecturer from Canada, Pádraig Ó Broin, in April of 1965. Mr. Ó Broin has been editor of Canadian Poetry and An Tangadóir, and one of his recent books of poetry is Than Any Star, published in 1964.

Mr. Ó Broin spoke on the evolution of the Gaelic Lyric from the sixth century onward. He illustrated his talk with quotations from the poems of Eoghan Rua Ó Suilleabháin, Pádraig Mac Piarais, Máire Mac an tSaoi and from a work of his own then in progress.

After Mr. Ó Broin's talk, Mary McGowan deBouthillier, a former Gaelic Society member, entertained with several songs. We hope she will return and sing for us soon again.

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In December of 1964 about twenty of us gathered in the Brew House on East 54th Street at a dinner hosted by Brian Callender, President of An Fainne, to meet Dr. Frank McKiernan, Professor of English at the College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota. With his wife and Patrick Butler, Dr. McKiernan is co-founder of the Irish-American Cultural Institute (formerly the Patrick Butler Family Foundation).

No doubt many of you are familiar with Dr. McKiernan's booklet, "The Will of a Nation", on the language revival in Ireland. He is also the writer and narrator of two kinescope lecture series: "Ireland Rediscovered" and "Irish Diary". Both of these lecture series were sponsored by the Patrick Butler Family Foundation.

The Irish-American Cultural Institute is modeled after similar organizations founded by Americans of Scandanavian, French, German, Italian and English descent. It attempts to bring about a more accurate public understanding of the contribution of the Irish people to the culture of the world. Donations will be chaneled into specific awards to be made annually for outstanding work that touches upon any phase of Irish-American civilization. Of particular interest to members of the various Gaelic Societies is the fact that the Institute plans to give special consideration to creative and scholarly endeavors in, or relating to, the Irish language.

The Institute recently announced that it will publish a quarterly journal, EIRE-IRELAND (please turn to "Celtic Gleanings", page 9). An Spreach welcomes the competition!

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Liam Fitzgibbon, the Society's dancing master for many years, was the guest of honor at a dinner and ceili on April 24th, 1965. The affair was held in the Carnegie Endowment Center on East 46th Street. Although a large attendance was expected, the number who came exceeded expectations -- credit for "tracking down" many old friends and ex-pupils of Liam's goes to Justine Schneider, chairlady of the affair. She well deserved the compliments she received on the excellent buffet dinner. It was a memorable evening and a fitting tribute to one who has brought pleasure to many.

On behalf of the Society, Brother Quinn presented Liam with a plaque -- Saoghal fada chugat, a Liam!

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