

# **EOIN MACNEILL ADDITIONAL PAPERS**

**LA 1 / N**



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**T + 353 1 716 7555**

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**LA1/N Eoin MacNeill Additional Papers: content and structure**

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## I IRISH IRELAND

### (i) Gaelic League, 1894 - 1919

- |          |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | 4 April 1894-<br>13 January 1912    | Letters to MacNeill concerning the language revival movement, its current state and recommendations on improvements to its policy focus; enquiries about lectures, subscriptions and competitions; payments of affiliation and subscription fees; requests for Gaelic League language publications; letters requesting recommendations for positions advertised in League publications; letters conveying results of Irish examinations; requests for advice and acknowledgements of sympathetic resolutions of the Gaelic League to bereaved members. Also a letter from C. Smith, copies of which were also sent to leading church figures, Irish members of Parliament, prominent Irish men and the Lord Lieutenant, concerning Ireland's destiny and the best means of achieving it (37-54) |
|          |                                     | <b>57 items</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>2</b> | 18 October 1894-<br>22 January 1902 | Letters to the editor and manager of <i>Gaelic Journal</i> and <i>An Claidheamh Soluis</i> ; suggestions for the improvement of Gaelic League publications; attitudes towards the language movement; letters and notices for publication; requests for publication of branch reports; estimates of publication costs; letters on articles printed in Gaelic League publications. Also a letter on the attitude of the Catholic Hierarchy to the language movement (15-17); letter of application for Managership of Gaelic League papers, with suggestions for increased circulation, from Michael O Liathain (27-28).                                                                                                                                                                          |
|          |                                     | <b>31 items</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>3</b> | 17 October 1894-<br>6 August 1919   | Letters to MacNeill asking for explanations of Gaelic terms, origins of place names, Irish forms of surnames, advice on Irish papers and the best means of learning the Irish language.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|          |                                     | <b>31 items</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

**(ii) Employment enquiries, 1892 - 1915**

- 4                    11 February 1892-            Letters to MacNeill requesting his support  
                          25 June            1915                    for candidates for positions as clerks,  
                                                                                             teachers, inspectors of schools and as  
                          solicitor to the Richmond Lunatic Asylum (13-15). Letters in reply  
                          to MacNeill's intercessions on behalf of candidates; letters  
                          forwarded to MacNeill with regard to securing positions and salary  
                          increases (20-22); letters regarding jobs advertised in Gaelic  
                          League publications. Also letters requesting MacNeill to give work  
                          to Irish Irelanders and to help them to secure positions.  
                          **35 items**

**II ACADEMIC CONCERNS, 1895 - 1945**

- 5                    1895 - 1923                    Letters to MacNeill from former pupils of  
                                                                                             his, requesting references; references  
                          given to people and forwarded to MacNeill; letter thanking him for  
                          a reference; copy references of Miss E.M. Evans from C. Powell  
                          Anderson (Irish Centre Party), Captain Stephen Gwynn, William  
                          Whitla M.P. and others (12-18); two manuscript and two sets of  
                          printed testimonials of Charles MacNeill (1-4). Also letter  
                          requesting a reference for publication from a candidate for  
                          Mastership of a workhouse (8).  
                          **21 items**
- 6                    17 November 1899-            Letters to MacNeill asking him to find out  
                          11 August            1915                    results of Certificate examinations, the  
                                                                                             comparative cost of education in Wales  
                          which he is asked in turn to communicate to Healy, Dillon and  
                          Redmond; letters to the Principal of St Patrick's College and to  
                          MacNeill asking to be absented from trigonometry. Also a letter of  
                          complaint against a mark awarded by an Inspector to a teacher  
                          (9).  
                          **10 items**

- 7            6 September 1894-     Letters from students to MacNeill  
18 October      1919            requesting suggestions on books to use;  
                                                         letters concerning the establishment of  
Chairs of German in U.C.C. (from Hanna Sheehy Skeffington (17)  
and of Celtic Literature at the Catholic University (from J. Hogan  
and from J.F. Hogan to J. Hogan (1-2)); letters of enquiry on  
history courses; letter informing MacNeill of the assignment of  
scholarship places for part of the Diocese of Armagh in 1914.  
**20 items**
- 8            17 December 1894-     Letters to MacNeill concerning academic  
29 May            1945            matters; requests for his opinion on  
                                                         articles and chapters of books from  
Herbert Pim (who also asks MacNeill to contribute articles to *The  
Irishman* (20-21), W.F.T. Butler (*Gleanings from Irish History*  
(London) 1925) (9-17), Hudson Maxim *The Science of Poetry and  
the Philosophy of Language*) (6); letter, copy and manuscript reply  
to Mrs Tenison concerning the life of Aodh O'Neill (34-39); letter  
from Rev. H. Parkin on the destruction of vellum documents (30-  
32); letter requesting permission to publish sketches by MacNeill  
for a book by Lily Brennan (24). Also a letter from the Irish  
Academy of letters concerning the award of its Gold Medal to  
MacNeill (43).  
**45 items**
- 9            9 January 1897-        Invitations to attend meetings, dinners,  
22 June            1923            lectures, to lend his support to  
                                                         demonstrations against the status of the  
Irish language in Universities, to second votes of thanks to lectures  
and to deliver papers to Gaelic League branches. Invitations from  
C.Y.M.S., Catholic Truth Society of Ireland, National Literary Society,  
Catholic Total Abstinence Federation of Ireland, Dublin Education  
Society, Catholic Boys Brigade, and Student's National Literary  
Society, City of Dublin Workingmen's Club, Father Matthew Total  
Abstinence Association and the New Ireland Literary Society. Also a  
letter from P.D. Kenny inviting MacNeill to help persuade  
Methodists to become 'Nationalists and Home Rulers' (33)  
**64 items**

### III POLITICAL CONCERNS

#### (i) Employment Enquiries, 1921 - 25

- 10**            4 October 1921-       Letters to MacNeill seeking his influence  
28 November 1922       to secure jobs, transfers and  
                                 reinstatements; includes letters  
concerning the vacancy in the American Consular Agency in Londonderry (5), the reinstatement of a Post Office Engineer who resigned because of victimisation over his refusal to join the British Army in World War I (16), a letter requesting the replacement of a transferred postmaster by a Catholic (19). Also letters seeking influence in securing posts in the Civil Service, including one from a former civil servant seeking temporary work to assist the establishment of the provisional Government; letters, resumés and a copy reference for Jack Delargy, seeking a position as a wireless operator at the Vice-Regal Lodge (28-36).

**36 items**

- 11**            31 March 1923-       Letters requesting MacNeill to use his  
4 August 1925           influence on behalf of candidates for  
                                 vacancies in the Exchequer and Audit  
Department, Inspectorships of National Schools, the Shannon Scheme, Clerkships, the Coastal Patrol Service and as the Phoenix Park Head Bailiff. Also letters concerning vacancies as teachers.

**34 items**

#### (ii) The Belfast Boycott, 1920 - 22

- 12**            29 August 1921-       Letters to MacNeill from Ulstermen  
7 December 1923       seeking his help in finding positions  
                                 outside Ulster; letters outlining Orange  
aggression, the victimisation of Catholics and intimidation; also the policy of the Free State Government in boycotting workers from Ulster. Includes fragment of a letter from H.A. McLaughlin to W.T. Cosgrave in which he discloses the receipt of a notice to quit ('or as it is popularly called "Death Notice" ') from the Craig government (12).

**31 items**



**(iii) Pensions and compensation, 1913 - 41**

- 13**            8 July       1913-       Letters to MacNeill asking his assistance  
                 6 March      1926       in securing pensions and compensations;  
                                                                         subjects include compensation for loss of  
                                                                         tolls of the Kilmihill Fairs, for damage done by Crown forces in  
                                                                         1921, and for loss of books and manuscripts by Robert H. Murray  
                                                                         (14); Also request for increase in teachers' pensions, payment of  
                                                                         salary to a locum tenens teacher and Dependants' Allowance to the  
                                                                         family of a soldier in the Free State Army.
- 26 items**
- 14**            15 April      1914-       Letters asking MacNeill to use his  
                 30 June       1941       influence to secure transfers to other  
                                                                         places of work, a sworn inquiry into  
                                                                         corporal punishment (15-27), a place in a teacher-training college,  
                                                                         on an evening course, to get lands vested in the names of the  
                                                                         tenants and revaluation for rates, tickets for the Dail and to find  
                                                                         out why a Customs and Excise surveyor has failed to gain  
                                                                         promotion (6-10); Also a letter from William Harding on the  
                                                                         possibility of establishing a Federation of Irish Photography; a copy  
                                                                         Deportation Order, issued under the Emergency Powers  
                                                                         (Deportation) Order, 1939 (35) a letter to MacNeill from the  
                                                                         Congested Districts Board on the re-arrangement of holdings on  
                                                                         the McCormack Estate in Co. Mayo (1); and a letter to the  
                                                                         Chairman of the Mayo County Board of Health on the work done as  
                                                                         County Surgeon by Dr Anthony McBride (30-31).
- 35 items**

**IV PERSONAL MATERIAL, 1893 - 1924**

- 15**            29 September 1893- Letters and postcards to MacNeill, mostly  
                 12 August       1924       of a personal and routine nature. Letters  
                                                                         of sympathy on the death of his son  
                                                                         Brian from members of the Provisional Government and of Fine  
                                                                         Gaedheal (27-29); Letters from his son Liam and brother Charles  
                                                                         on holiday in Donegal; Letters from local charitable causes and  
                                                                         residents association; Letters about the sale of his house and  
                                                                         accommodation for holidays.
- 38 items**