

Cork City and County Archives

Descriptive List

ISBN: 1 899265 00 7

Identity Statement

Reference Code: IE CCCA/U203

Title: Liam O’Buachalla (Banteer) Papers

Dates: 1907-1925

Level of description: Fonds / Item

Extent: 187 items

Context

Creator

O’Buachalla, Liam (b1882-d1941), Banteer County Cork, Teacher and Gaelic League Organiser

Archival History

Donated to the Archives by O’Buachalla’s only son, Sean O’Buachalla of Banteer.

Biographical History

Born 1882. Known in his early days as William Buckley. Active member of the Gaelic League (Cumann Na Gael), the Irish language organisation, and held the post of Secretary of the Banteer branch for many years. Original career was as a primary school teacher, but later in life he worked as a shopkeeper and dance hall proprietor. First teaching appointment was in 1907 in Gorey, Co. Wexford, which he left rather abruptly seemingly because of homesickness. Founding role in the 1910 Kilcorney Feis (near Millstreet, County Cork). Honourary Secretary of the Feis Committee, overseeing the raising of sponsorship, organisation of events and the distribution of prizes. Other activities and interests outside of teaching and the Gaelic League include a job with the Mutual Insurance Company (Jan 1914 – Feb 1915), which was unsuccessful. From 1914 to the mid 1920’s, he was Presiding Officer for Parliamentary and Local Government elections in the Kilcorney and Crinnaloo Districts. Involved in disputes relating to the appointment of non-Irish speaking doctors to Gaeltacht areas. Possessed of Nationalist leanings, he was imprisoned in February 1915 for being a suspected member “of an organisation or organisations which have promoted armed insurrection against his Majesty, and is reasonably

suspected of having favoured, promoted or assisted in armed insurrection against his Majesty". Invited by William O'Brien M.P. to join the 'All-For – Ireland League', a group which received support from, amongst others, DD Sheehan. His religious faith (he was a Roman Catholic) was an important aspect of his life. Wife Catherine (Kathleen) nee Dennehy. Unlike many of his contemporaries, O' Buachalla spoke and wrote Irish fluently. Contributed to the preservation and rejuvenation of traditional song and dance in the Millstreet area of Co. Cork. Maintained correspondence with a number of emigrant friends and relatives in the U.S.A. Died in 1941.

Content and Structure

Scope and Content

Although known in his early days as William Buckley, he is referred to, for reasons of clarity, as Liam O' Buachalla throughout this guide. (The Archives also hold the papers of another Liam O' Buachalla of Carrigtwohill, County Cork, local historian.)

The collection consists mainly of letters relating to his father's work as a Gaelic League teacher and organiser, and founder of the Kilcorney Feis. Among these letters are examples from Padraig Pearse (U203/131), William O'Brien M.P. (U203/163) and DD Sheehan (U203/164). An interesting group from emigrant relatives and friends is also preserved (U203/121).

The original order having been lost prior to arrival at C.A.I., an artificial order was imposed. The collection has been divided into three main sections, each containing material similar in nature and content.

Section 1, reflects O' Buachalla's active membership of the Gaelic League, (he was for many years Secretary of the Banteer branch) and has been divided into three subsections. Subsection A contains letters from League officials (including one from An Seabhac U203/13), mementoes of league outings (some organised by O' Buachalla) and material relating to various feiseanna as well as sporting and dramatic productions. Also preserved are membership and subscription forms, Ard Fheis reports and newspaper clippings relating to the League.

Subsection B reflects O' Buachalla's career as a teacher. His first appointment was in 1907 in Gorey, Co. Wexford which he left rather abruptly seemingly because of homesickness (see U203/52 and U203/8).

Section C, Feiseanna, deals directly with O' Buachalla's role as the founder in 1910 of the Kilcorney Feis and its subsequent evolution. As Honourary Secretary of the Feis Committee he oversaw the raising of sponsorship, organisation of events and the distribution of prizes. The copious paperwork involved is well reflected in this section, as are letters from grateful and not so grateful prizewinners. (U203/79 ff).

Section 2, Correspondence, contains a cross section of O' Buachalla's daily postbag reflecting his friendships, interests and duties. Contained here in Subsection 1 is a fascinating group of letters from emigrant friends and relatives in the U.S.A. They reflect the ethos of their times (1911-1917) when Irish people could do well, as did

Tim Leahy (U203/124), or fade into obscurity as a comment by one friend reveals “they don’t take any notice of our dying in this country” (U203/125). More general correspondence (some still with League associations) is contained in Subsection II while business letters are grouped together in subsection III.

In the final section, Section 3, Work and Interests are detailed. O’Buachalla’s other activities and interests outside of teaching and the Gaelic League. He worked briefly for the Mutual Insurance Company (Jan 1914 – Feb 1915), but as his records show, he was a poor insurance salesman (U203/143ff). Contained in subsection B are official documents relating to O’Buachalla’s period, from 1914 to the mid ’20’s, as Presiding Officer for Parliamentary and Local Government elections in the Kilcorney and Crinnaloo Districts. Preserved here also are documents relating to the disputes over the appointment of non-Irish speaking doctors to Gaeltacht areas, a practice O’Buachalla took a very dim view of (U203/159). Included is the application for such a post by Dr. Donnchadh Mac Carthaigh (Denis McCarthy) which suggests nationalistic fervour may have counted almost as much as medical skill (U203/160).

Subsection C contains evidence of O’Buachalla’s own political affiliations. Possessed of Nationalist leanings he was in fact imprisoned in February 1915 for being a suspected member “of an organisation or organisations which have promoted armed insurrection against his Majesty, and is reasonably suspected of having favoured, promoted or assisted in armed insurrection against his Majesty” (see U203/162). His prison card is also preserved (U203/161).

O’Buachalla was later invited by William O’Brien M.P. to join the ‘All-For – Ireland League’ (U203/163) a group which received support from, amongst others, DD Sheehan (U203/164). Evidence of O’Buachalla’s political leaning is also reflected in the newspapers he subscribed to which include An Claidheamh Solus, (U203/167), The Cork Weekly Examiner (U203/171), The Nation (U203/174), An Phoblacht (U203/175) and Voice of Labour (U203/178) amongst others.

Evidence of O’Buachalla’s religious faith (he was a Roman Catholic) are preserved in Subsection D. Copies of The Catholic Bulletin (U203/179) are preserved along with prayer cards and advertisements for religious artifacts (U203/181 ff).

It is in subsection E that the only direct reference is found to Catherine (Kathleen) Dennehy, later O’Buachalla’s wife. A booklet of poems is contained here inscribed with her name (U203/183). Preserved also is a rather dour note addressed to a Mr. John Cashel of Banteer warning him not to visit Lyre “if you want to avoid (sic) trouble” and is signed “a friend” (U203/185).

Finally Subsection F, contains a eulogy (author unknown) for Liam O’Buachalla. It praises his commitment to the Irish language movement and his masterful organisation of the Kilcorney Feis. Sympathy is extended to his wife “to whom his devotion was an example of what Catholic ‘Home Life’ should be” (U203/186)

All the papers are in good state of preservation, and are in the main quite legible. Transcriptions were made in some cases of letters in Irish for fuller clarity. Printed material, mainly newspapers in Section 2 were preserved to reflect O’Buachalla’s interests and allegiances.

Liam O’Buachalla’s life and his papers stand testament to the commitment in the first half of the twentieth century of a small group of people who worked unstintingly for the preservation of the Irish language. Unlike many of his contemporaries O’Buachalla both spoke and wrote Irish fluently. His unwavering commitment to the Kilcorney Feis ensured the preservation and rejuvenation of traditional song and dance in the Millstreet area of Co. Cork. O’Buachalla’s papers do not reflect much of his day to day work as a shopkeeper and dance hall proprietor but they give an invaluable insight into the ethos of a time and the motivation of many Gaelic Leaguers.

Arrangement

The original order having been lost prior to arrival at the Archives, an artificial order was imposed. The collection has been divided into three main sections, each containing material similar in nature and content.

Main sections:

Section 1 : Gaelic League, Teaching, Feiseanna

- A Gaelic League
- B Teaching
- C Feiseanna

Section 2: Correspondence

- i Letters From Emigrants
- ii General Correspondence
- iii Business Letters

Section 3 : Work And Interests

- A The Mutual Insurance Company
- B Electoral Work
- C Political Affiliations
- D Religious Affiliation
- E Memorabilia
- F Death

Publication Note:

U203/

Seanachas Duhallow 1986 pp 70-72.

Allied Materials

Related Material:

CCCA: PR25 Sophie O'Brien Papers (William O'Brien material)

Conditions of Access and Use:

Access: Open by appointment to those holding a current readers ticket

Language: English and Irish (Gaelic)

Finding Aid: Descriptive List

Archivists Note:

Carol Quinn, Contract Archivist
Cork Archives Institute
January, 1994

Brian McGee,
Archivist, CCCA
Sept. 2010

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SECTION 1

A GAEILIC LEAGUE

I LETTERS TO LIAM O'BUACHALLA

i From Padraig O'hAnnracain

1. 17 October 1914

Letter in Irish from Padraig O hAnnracain in Killarney to O'Buachalla discussing a proposed visit to Millstreet by An Seabhac (Padraig O Siochfhradha)

1p

2. [n.d]

Postcard in Irish from Padraig O hAnnracain discussing a proposed visit by Seaghan O'Cearbhaill

1p

3. 24 April 1907 – 26 September 1907

Letters in Irish from Seaghan O'Cearbhaill (1) writing to O'Buachalla in Wexford; (2) writing from a trip to [Tarbett], Co. Kerry. Both discuss mainly Gaelic League topics; commenting ruefully that he and O'Buachalla work harder for the Irish language than most (1). He comments also in (1) he has been offered £250 for his land.

2 items

4. 18 February 1909

Postcard in Irish to Liam O'Buachalla from Seaghan O'Cearbhaill in Banteer inquiring about League business.

1p

5. 27 February 1909 – [] 1909

Two largely illegible letters in Irish from Seaghan O'Cearbhaill to Liam O'Buachalla appearing to discuss local League news.

2 items

6. 16 July 1909

Postcard in Irish from Seaghan O’Cearbhaill to Liam O’Buachalla discussing [Feis] organisation.

1p

iii From H. Pomeroy

7. 22 – 27 July 1910

Typescript letter from Michael O Fogludha of Dublin requesting H. Pomeroy to enquire if he knows of any branch of Conradh na Gaeilge willing to nominate him as a delegate to the forthcoming Ard Fheis. Also covering letter from Pomeroy to Liam O’Buachalla explaining although he is in principle against substitute delegates he can recommend O Fogludha as a “hardworking League member”.

2 items

iv From F.M.C.

8. 27 September 1907

Postcard in Irish from F.M.C. (Conradh na Gaeilge, Dublin), inquiring if O’Buachalla has informed his employers in Wexford he will not be returning and informing him there is a job possibility in North Kerry which might suit, it being nearer home. (See also 44ff)

1p

9. 20 June 1910

Postcard in Irish from F.M.C. to O’Buachalla inquiring after local progress in Irish and the forthcoming Feis. Requests an account from O’Buachalla on the state of affairs in his area.

2pp

10. 24 June 1910

Postcard in Irish from F.M.C. to O’Buachalla inquiring if it is true that the Irish speakers in his area are planning an outing on the same day as the Cullen Feis. Requests a postponement of the trip.

1p

11. [n.d]

Postcard in Irish from F.M.C. complimenting Liam O'Buachalla on the dedication of the Banteer group and mentioning the forthcoming Ard Fheis and subscriptions.

1p

v From Seaghan de Roiste

12. 29 August 1910

Largely illegible postcard in Irish from Seaghan de Roiste to Liam O'Buachalla

1p

13. 8 November 1910

Postcard in Irish from 'An Seabhac' (Padraig O Siochfhradha) to O'Buachalla thanking him for the prayers he submitted to an Lochrann. He requests him to forward on any more he encounters commenting he himself has been able to collect only a few from older people.

2pp

vii From League Officials

14. 16 March 1902 – 13 May 1919

Series of letters, in Irish from Gaelic League officials to Liam O'Buachalla detailing arrangements for forthcoming events (1,3), reports of various activities (2) and pleas for monies due (11).

12 items

II GAE LIC LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

i Feiseanna and Sports

15. April 1911
- Letter in Irish from Seosaimh Ruiseal of Limerick, discussing the lack of Cork participation in the recent feis.
- 1p
16. 1927
- Yearbook in Irish commemorating 'Feis Na Mumhan' includes an article "Our Civic Week" by Daniel Corkery
- 80pp
17. [n.d.]
- Programme of events with blank entry form for the "First Annual Athletic & Cycling Sports, under G.A.A. law".
- 4pp
- ### ii Dramatic Endeavours
18. [n.d.]
- Mss copy of a play in Irish, a one act melodrama revolving around a particular household and its attempted burglary. Features the characters of Maire (a serving girl), the woman of the house, and the thief. Annotated 'Sean O'Shea'.
- 4pp
- 19 [n.d.]
- Mss copy in Irish of an untitled comedy set in contemporary times in Irish features the characters of Pilib, Sibeal, Seosamh, Flann and Santiago.
- 1p
20. 13 June 1909
- Four tickets for the Banteer and district Gaelic League Waterford Excursion; 2/9 each.
- 4 items

iii Outings

21. 28 May – 1 June 1910

Series of typescript letters from R. H. Good (Manager Cork, Blackrock and Passage Railway) negotiating travel arrangements for the Banteer Gaelic League's excursion around Cork Harbour.

9 items

22. 14 June 1910

Letter from A. C. Himpton who has been informed of the outing around Cork Harbour by R. H. Good. He invites O' Buachalla to consider bringing the group to visit the Crosshaven Roller Skating Rink for "healthy, harmless and invigorating" amusement.

4pp

23. [1910]

Blank advertising postcard for the Cork, Blackrock and Passage Railway.

1p

III LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS AND MEMORABILIA

i Membership and subscriptions

24. 1908

Three blank subscription forms, also containing the League Financial Statement for that year.

3 items

25. 9 June 1909

Printed circular in Irish issued by Sister Maire Proinsias (Mary Frances), St. Catherine's Convent of Mercy, Ballyshannon calling for support from members for Douglas Hyde.

1p

26. 18 August 1909

Typescript letter in Irish from Pdraig O'Dalaigh, Ard Runaire Conradh na Gaeilge informing the recipient of a forthcoming meeting.

1p

27. 26 April 1916

Typescript letter in Irish from Liam de Roiste, Runaire Conradh na Gaeilge seeking support for the movement's activities.

1p

28. 1914

Pamphlet extolling the Gaelic League and the virtues of membership. Includes blank subscription form.

6pp

29. 1915

Blank Collection Book designed to record subscriptions to the Gaelic League.

7pp

ii Ard Fheis Reports

30. August 1909

Booklet in Irish reporting on the Gaelic League's Ard Fheis.

- 35pp
31. [n.d.]
Booklet in Irish reporting on the Gaelic League's Ard Fheis.
32pp
- iii Publications
32. [n.d.]
Leaflets "What the Irish Language is Some Facts"
4 Items
33. [n.d.]
Two copies of leaflet exhorting the men of Ireland to preserve "Your grand old Gaelic Tongue".
2 items
34. [n.d.]
Leaflet "Men of Ireland" extolling the propagation of Irish
1p
35. [n.d.]
Leaflet "What the Irish Language is Some Facts".
2pp
- iv Newspaper clippings
36. 25 Jan [1914]
Newspaper clipping from [Cork Examiner] of a letter by Liam O'Buachalla responding to criticism of the Gaelic League's involvement with politics.
1p
37. [n.d.]
Report of a public meeting of the Gaelic League at Millstreet.
1p
38. []

Report of a meeting of the Derrinagree branch at which Liam O' Buachalla made a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Cashel.

1p

39. []

Report of a Gaelic League concert held at Kilcorney.

1p

40. [1911]

Newspaper clipping of a census of Cork reporting the numbers who spoke Irish in the county had dropped from 77,072 in 1901 to 43,593 in 1911.

1p

41. []

Clippings (one from the Weekly Examiner) of poems in Irish commemorates An t' Athair Peadar O' Laoire and An t' Athair Ui Orgain of Banteer, with a short note in Irish by Liam O' Buachalla.

2 items

B TEACHING

I QUALIFICATIONS

42. 1907

Card requesting William Buckley to attend an Examination at St. Vincent's National School, William Street, Dublin set by the Irish Board of National Education

1p

43. August 1907 – 13 November 1909

Certificates on completion of courses presented to Liam O'Buachalla for 1907, 1908, 1909 from Colaiste Muinteoireachta na Mumhan also covering letters from Liam de Roiste (9 Dec 1908) (13 Nov 1909). (See also 51)

5 items

II WEXFORD

i Presentation and Testimonial

44. []

Newspaper clipping reporting a presentation made to Liam O'Buachalla by the Rathcoole Gaelic League Branch on the occasion of his leaving for Gorey, Co. Wexford.

45. 3 August 1907

Letter of introduction for Liam O'Buachalla, signed by Father P. White of Banteer, bearing testament to his "excellent character".

1p

46. [1907] – 2 March 1907

Letters from P. Ua Murchada, House of Missions, Enniscorthy (1) welcoming O'Buachalla's proposed visit and giving details of accommodation (2) advising on his duties and offering best wishes for his work in Gorey. Also a Christmas card (3), New Year's Greeting Card (4) and a postcard (5).

ii Duties

47. 16 May 1907

Postcard in Irish from Sean Ua Gruagain wishing O'Buachalla well in Wexford and naming some people to contact.

2pp

48. 16 February 1907

Postcard from Sean MacAlla, informing O’Buachalla of a local meeting of the ‘Star of the Sea’ branch of the Gaelic League.

1p

49. 20 March 1907

Draft of report by O’Buachalla to the Wexford branch of the Gaelic League, commenting favourably on the standard of Irish teaching in the area. Remarks especially on the co-operation and support he has received from the local clergy.

1p

50. 14 May 1907

Letter from Michael Ua Murchadha, Secretary Wexford Gaelic League, explaining the District committee will decide on the date and length of O’Buachalla’s holidays, and that previous organisers were given £3 to finance three weeks in an Irish Training College. The money will be given only on production of a certificate of completion. (See also 43)

3pp

51. 16 May 1907

Letter in Irish from M. O Suilleabhain informing O’Buachalla of (1) a forthcoming Gaelic League meeting in Gorey (2) a visit to local schools by a representative of Choisde Ceanntar.

1p

iii Resignation and aftermath

52. 27 August 1907

Letter from Michael Ua Murchadha, Wexford Gaelic League, expressing his surprise and indignation at the timing of O’Buachalla’s resignation. (He failed to return after the summer recess). He suggests O’Buachalla return and search for a replacement himself

2pp

53. 25 February 1908

Letter from Michael Ua Murchadha, to O’Buachalla demanding to be sent “a true statement of your accounts whilst in Gorey District” reminding him his case has “caused me a lot of trouble and annoyance which I need not have

gone to at all". He asserts O' Buachalla was entitled to £25 for five months work (Feb-July 1907) £20.11.6 of which has already been paid.

2pp

54. 25 February 1908

Letter from [J. Brady] Court National School, Monamolin, Co. Wexford to Liam O' Buachalla, informing him of local news. No Irish is being taught in [Brady's] area, "your successor did not seem to like the long journey". Adds his pupils miss and often speak of him. Discusses some family matters and encloses a cheque owed to O' Buachalla commenting "long time till that much comes here again".

4pp

III NORTH CORK

i Letters

55. 13 December 1909

Letter from P. Ua Murchadha, Ferns to O' Buachalla thanking him for his card and photograph, which he remarks was very lifelike. Mentions he was recently ill and also that Irish classes were started locally for Christmas

1p

56. 24 September 1907

Letter from Padraig Ua Buidim of Lyre National School Banteer to O' Buachalla discussing the opening of classes in Lyre and Clonmeen. He intends to ask Canon Morrissey (see/57, 58,59 below) to preside at the inaugural meeting and requests O' Buachalla's views.

4pp

57. [1908]

Incomplete typescript letter to Canon A. Morrissey (Parish Priest Banteer) from M. Lemass, Office of National Education, informing him his proposed programme for teaching Irish to Standard III is insufficient. He directs him to the notes on "An Mac Leighinn" p.122 of the Commissioners Code for 1907-4.

1p

58. 22 March 1907

Typescript letter from the Secretary of the Office of National Education to Canon Morrissey responding to his enquiries regarding the teaching of Irish in

Kilcorney and Lyre National Schools and informing him Irish was instructed to be taught in the schools but the instruction was ignored.

1p

59. 15 [] 1910

Note from Canon Morrissey to O’Buachalla informing him entertainment cannot be allowed in the schools until after Easter.

1p

60. 19 June 1910

Letter from D. J. McEvery giving notice he will inspect the Irish classes in Banteer Boys and Girls National Schools on the 10th and inviting the recipient to attend.

2pp

61. 19 June 1910

Letter from D. J. McEvery to O’Buachalla explaining he must write to the Secretary National Education Office for permission to give hourly instead of half hourly lessons in the Kilcorney schools, but he will sanction the change in the interim.

2pp

62. 21 Dec ember 1911

Postcard from J. Murphy of [Clonmeen National School] informing O’Buachalla he can pick up the school key to open night classes at his house.

1p

IV TEXTS AND PUBLICATIONS

i Textbooks

63. []

Cathecism in Irish ‘An Tegasc Criostaighe’ containing a series of lessons in question and answer form relating to Catholic Beliefs. Some MSS corrections of the Irish.

38pp

64. []

Catechism in Irish containing a series of lessons in question and answer format. Features vocabulary of religious terms in Irish and English at rear, e.g. "aiteanta-commandments".

51pp

65. []

Booklet giving instructions in Irish and English on the teaching of Irish under the headings Instructions, Lessons, Criticisms, Grammar, and Vocabulary with model lesson plans. Inscribed "William Buckley Rathcoole Banteer Co. Cork" and "Liam Ua Buachalla Rac Cuigail Ban Tir". Contains some ms. jottings of [a journal describing a train trip].

58pp

66. []

Part of book detailing standards for the writing, translating and teaching of Irish.

59pp

ii Catalogue

67. 1913

Copy of James Duffy and Company's Catalogue of Books suitable for the examinations of the Intermediate Education Board National University and Constituent Colleges National Education Board monitors and King's Scholarship.

iii Book Orders and Receipts

68. 10 July 1909

Postcard from M. H. Gill acknowledging receipt of order.

1p

69. 16 September 1909

Covering note from M. H. Gill and Son for account of all payments made by the addressee since April 1908 (account not in collection).

1p

70. 4 September 1912

Letter from Liam Ruiseal of the Fountain Bookshop 67-68 Grand Parade, Cork detailing a list of books and prices requested by O' Buachalla.

pp

iv Cumann na Muinteoiri Taiseil

71. 19 September 1907

Handwritten circular from Domhnaill O'Murchadha, Runaire, Cumann na Muinteoiri Taiseil, detailing a recent meeting of that organisation, its aims and finances.

3pp

C FEISEANNA

I CORRESPONDENCE

i Entrants letters

72. []

Letter from Maurice Connell of Munifluiche Gaelic League to Liam O' Buachalla enclosing a list of entrants for the forthcoming Feis. Mentions posters have been put up in Macroom where they attracted much interest.

2pp

73. 5 May 1910

Postcard in Irish from Seaghan de Roiste to Liam O' Buachalla discussing songs chosen by Liam Ua Conchubhar, Liam Breasnach, P. Ua Conchubhar, Michael de Roiste Michael Breathnach.

1p

74. 24 August 1910

Letter from Maria and Julia Meany of Gurraneduff to Liam O' Buachalla requesting him to include them in the Junior competition for singing and dancing and also Jeremiah Doody for recitation and singing.

75. 26 August 1910

Letter from John Coakley to Liam O' Buachalla informing him of his intention to compete in the Junior Singing Competition at the September Feis.

1p

76. 19 June 1917

Bilingual letter from Pdraig Ua Cronin to Liam O' Buachalla informing him of his wish to enter in three categories at the forthcoming Feis

1p

77. 14 July 1917

Letter from D. O'Neill to Liam O' Buachalla informing him of the entry of John O'Neill in the singing competition together with a request that he perform first; also entering his sister Maggie and Nellie O'Brien in the dancing event.

2pp

78. 19 July 1917

Letter to Liam O’Buachalla from T. Barry of Banteer requesting him to enter C. Linehan of Banteer for a marathon race and informing him he himself will bring his jumping pole and hopes Buckley can secure a cross pole.

2pp

ii Letters of thanks for medals forwarded

79. []

Postcard bearing view of Swords, Round Tower, Co. Dublin, from {L. Ua Br} thank O’Buachalla for forwarding the medal he was presented by “that Patriotic Irishman D. .D. Sheehan”.

1p

80. 10 September 1910

Letter from P. Murphy thanking O’Buachalla for forwarding his medal and apologising for any misunderstanding over race procedure.

2pp

81. Oct 1910

Postcard from Domhnaill O (Cat) thanking O’Buachalla for forwarding his medal.

1p

82. 21 September 1915

Postcard in Irish from “Padraig”. Mamistir na Morna thanking O’Buachalla profusely for his medal.

1p

iii Letters of Complaint

83. []

Incomplete draft of a letter by Liam O’Buachalla to Mr. John Leland of Donoughmore. After praising the Donoughmore entries in the Feis, he discusses Leland’s assertion that his daughter won a medal and suggests she may have been part of the prize winning team for the three hand reel.

2pp

84. 15 October 1923

Letter from J. W. Wiseman disputing Liam O’Buachalla’s version of the arguments concerning the Junior Dance competition at Kilcorney Feis and the

late entry of K. Lehane and Peg Sexton. He exhorts O' Buachalla to forward their medals without rank markings and complains how he saw last year's medals tossed around Andy Healy's public house and that the winners had to pay five shillings to have them engraved. He hopes their dispute will now end, and he is looking forward to a better atmosphere. Adds Mr. Bennett is coming to Donoughmore to give lessons. (See also/93)

6pp

II FINANCES AND ORGANISATION

i Subscribers and Patrons

85. 22 October 1909

Note from C. Cronin, Main Street, Millstreet who is hoping to attend [the Feis] and offers his best wishes.

1p

86. 19 July 1910

Memo from the Irish Book Company Dublin, regretting they cannot provide a prize for the Duhallow/Muskerry Feis, but offering twelve free books for distribution.

1p

87. 20 July 1910

Letter to Liam O' Buachalla from Michael Howard assuring him he is in "thorough sympathy" with the project "to provide a day's sport for young and old to give practical effect to our national sentiments on behalf of the language". He compliments O' Buachalla on the part he has played in the language revival, and offers to provide a subscription or prize and be named as a patron.

3pp

88. 31 August 1910

Note from Seaghan Ua Faolain (5 Fairville, College Road) to O' Buachalla confirming he will make a special effort to attend the Feis. Also letter detailing itinerary for trip and suggesting he bring Christy Bastable or Cormac O' Keeffe with him to give an exhibition of dancing. Only their train fare would need to be paid.

2 items

89. 1 June 1911

Typescript letter from the Cork Coal Company to O' Buachalla enclosing a cheque for £1.10 in support of the Duhallow and Muskerry Feis and Sports.

1p

90. 29 April 1911

Letter from D. Linehan to Liam O' Buachalla offering his continued assistance to the Feis.

1p

91. 17 June 1914

Memo from Henry O'Shea (Bakers) Patrick Street Cork enclosing a subscription of £1.

1p

92. 12 July 1917

Note from John J. Dale of Knocklaugh informing O' Buachalla he will attend the Feis which he hopes will be a great success.

1p

93. 16 July 1919

Letter from J. W. Wiseman also confirming he will be at the Feis and listing some names of entrants. He refuses to be recompensed for any travel or services "because of my appreciation of the Gaelic movements". Adds "up Sinn Fein".

3pp

94. []

Letter from Father O'Sullivan excusing his absence due to a death and sympathising with O' Buachalla about the adverse weather conditions.

1p

ii Prizewinners

95. []

Single page from notebook giving details of prizewinners. (See also/101 and ff)

1p

96. []

Newspaper reports giving details of events and the names of winners.

2 items

iii Accounts

97. 22 August 1910
Receipt from W. Egan & Sons, Cork for seven medals.
1p
98. 24 August 1910
Letter to O’Buachalla from Hopkins of Dublin informing him they will send on a selection of medals.
1p
99. 27 August 1910
Letter to O’Buachalla from John Smyth and Sons, Ecclesiastical Art Manufactory, Dublin discussing the ordering of medals.
2pp
100. 1 Jan 1911
List of expenses and receipts for Feis.
2pp
101. 1911
Copybook labelled ‘Feis A/C containing details of subscriptions expenses and event winners, e.g. “Expenses”, 150 posters and 250 Programmes £2. 7s. 6d; 3,000 Tickets £6. 5s”.
12pp
102. 1913
Notebook containing rough financial records of the Duhallow and Muskerry Feis. Includes a list of advertisers and some prizewinners.
12pp
103. 1924
Notebook containing rough details of Feis finances and also names of contestants and winners.
66pp
104. []

Single page containing a list of books [for prizes] and their cost, e.g. Seadhna cost 9s. for two copies.

1p

105. []

Rough Feis accounts on back of a Conradh na Gaeilge roll page.

2pp

iv Programmes

106. 1910

Programme for the “Duhallow and Muskerry Feis, Sports and Dancing Fete to be held in the grounds of the Kilcorney Co-Operative Society on 4th September.

4pp

107. 1911

Two programmes for the ‘Duhallow and Muskerry Feis and Sports’ to be held on 2nd July. Rules are set out including “(1) All competitors must be dressed in goods of Irish manufacture and in the dancing extra marks will be given for proficiency in Irish”.

2 items

108. 1914

Programme for ‘Duhallow and Muskerry Annual Feis and Sports’ to be held on the 19th July

4pp

109. 1922

Programme for ‘Feis Cill Coirne’ to be held on 2nd July.

6 items

110. []

Programmes “Clan na Feise”.

3 items

111. []

Programme for Duhallow and Muskerry Feis.

1p

112. []

Poster (tattered) advertising Kilcorney Feis and Sports to be held on 6th July.

1p

III DROMTARFFE FEIS AND CONTROVERSY

i Newspaper Clippings

113. 16 July 1912

Incomplete clipping of letter from James O'Connor (Seamus O'Conchubhar) N.T. objecting to Seaghan O'Cearbhaill using the platform of the Feis to speak about the Gaelic League's political views

1p

114. 22 July []

Clippings of letters from D. Buckley, Liam O'Buachalla, Sean de Roiste "Shawn Ban" all supporting O'Cearbhaill's right to speak.

5 items

115. [August 1922]

Clipping of letter from Seamus O'Conchubhar (James O'Connor) attacking Seaghan de Roiste for supporting Seaghan O'Cearbhaill.

1 item

116. 31 July 1912

Pages from Cork Examiner conferring letters on Liam O'Buachalla, Seaghan de Roiste and Seaghan O'Cearbhaill responding to Seamus O'Conchubhar (see above). (Includes a photo of professors and public in Ballingear College).

2pp

117. []

Clipping of letter headed "The Teaching of Irish" by Seamus O'Conchubhar reiterating the resolutions of the Conradh Ard Fheis and inviting the reader to compare them with Seaghan O'Cearbhaill's views.

1p

118. []

U203/

Clipping of letter from Seaghan de Roiste replying to/117 above.

1p

119. 18 September 1912

Clipping of further letter by Seamus O'Conchubhar on the teaching of Irish taken from the Cork Examiner

4pp

120. []

Partial clipping of letter by Liam O'Buachalla attacking the claims and credentials of James O'Connor.

1p

SECTION 2: CORRESPONDENCE

I LETTERS FROM EMIGRANTS

i From Mary Buckley

121. 16 December 1916

Letter from Mary Buckley, Massachusetts, USA to her cousin Liam O’Buachalla discussing current affairs in the two countries. She inquires about the likelihood of Ireland receiving Home Rule and states in the US everything is being geared towards war. Farmers have been hard hit as “The wealthy held fast to their money and did not come to buy”. President Wilson is also, she feels, a reason for poor trade. “The rich keep their money and buy sparingly so that everyone would blame the nomination of a democrat”. With a harsh winter forecast speculation abounds that the end of the world is near. She inquires if any of her cousins have to go to war and if it rains everyday in Ireland. Inquires after various relatives and how well placed is O’Buachalla in the Gaelic League organisation (in case of a vacancy at the top). Close with best wishes for Christmas and New Year.

4pp

122. []

Postcard from Mary Buckley to O’Buachalla thanking him for his gift of shamrock and wishing him a happy Easter.

1p

ii From Sister Mary Finbarr (Katie Creedon)

123. []

Letter from Sr. Mary Finbarr, of New York, USA to her cousins the O’Buachallas, thanking them for the book and explaining she cannot write or receive letters between the 28th of November until Christmas Day when she will give Lizzie Mahony letters for the “little children”. After profuse thanks for [photographs] she again explains she cannot write but promises to get in touch with Mary Buckley (Mrs. Twomey – see/121 above) after Christmas. Mentions she finds nursing the sick in their own homes difficult and she looks forward to her order opening their own hospital. Adds she also found learning Latin difficult but is now fluent. Sends best wishes to friends and family.

6pp

iii From Tim Leahy

124. 12 April 1917

Letter from Tim Leahy, in San Francisco U.S.A. to his old friend Liam O’Buachalla. After thanking him for his letter and assuring him he is “making out ok myself in this great old city of the golden west”, he comments on current affairs. Home Rule for Ireland is been given a lot of coverage in the American papers and although many Irish Americans are opposed to it, he is in favour. Mentions he attended the recent St. Patrick’s Day Parade and a Mass for the A.O.H. – “one of the greatest orders of Irishmen in America” at which the priest encouraged them to offer up their prayers for “Poor Old Erin”. He encloses money for the sale of tickets O’Buachalla sent him commenting he could have sold twice as many. Mentions another Tim O’Leary who hopes to visit Ireland for a dance in O’Buachalla’s hall. Passes on the good wishes of Mike Hallidan and asked to be remembered to friends and family.

4pp

iv From Dan []

125. 1 January 1911

Letter from Dan [] Fort Wayne, Indiana, to his old friend Liam O’Buachalla. Jokes when his landlady saw O’Buachalla’s postcard with the names in Irish he convinced her it was Dutch. Mentions the upsetting nature of Jack Mahony’s death commenting “they don’t take any notice of our dying in this country”. Encloses a photograph of himself he had taken so “I’d see what I looked like”. Mentions James O’Connell whom he met in Banteer is staying with him. They met at Con Nolan’s funeral reminding O’Buachalla “that’s the night I was drunk inside with the donkey in the stall when you went out and got me”. Remarks jokingly the first day he landed in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, he picked money off the streets, which is what he was promised in Ireland. Mentions O’Connell, like himself, is a strong supporter of William O’Brien (See/163 ff). Adds he now has a “Big Job” as an electrician boasting he could run wires from O’Buachalla’s house, down the mountain and put electric lights on the mountain. Passes on remembrances from friends and sends his regards to those at home.

8pp

II GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

i From (Ciobin)

126. []

Letter from [Ciobin] Ballingeary, Co. Cork to O’Buachalla discussing family news and passing on good wishes. Mentions Christmas cards received and not. Bemoans fact she can write only in English.

4pp

ii From B. Ni [Floinn]

127. []

Postcard from B. Ni [Floinn] wishing O’Buachalla Happy New Year

1p

iii From Padraig Mac Suibhne

128. []

Note from Padraig Mac Suibhne informing O’Buachalla when to expect his visit to Millstreet.

1p

iv From James O’Connor

129. []

Christmas card from James O’Connor to Liam O’Buachalla

1p

v From ‘J. O’ S.

130. []

Letter from J. O’S. inviting O’Buachalla to visit on the forthcoming Sunday as long as he does not bring Jack Fowler with him.

vi From ‘Padraig Pearse

131. 1915

Postcard in Irish from Padraig Pearse, thanking O’Buachalla for his donation. Postcard features a view of St. Enda’s College. Also photocopy of same.

2 items

vii From C. J. Randles

132. []

Greeting card from C. J. Randles.

1p

viii From M. Ua Seaghde

133. 26 August 1909

Incomplete bilingual letter from M. Ua Seaghde, Scoil Eadarsolach addressed to “Lady, Gentleman and kids”. She inquires how they are after recent events and advises on securing their property, recommending “(if it is not cheeky on my part) that ‘the Brigand’ be placed in supreme command of the defending party”. Expresses the hope that the dormitories have not been reinvaded and suggests a night watch be set up. She encloses for Mr. Buckley and family an English dictionary in fulfilment of Miss O’Brien’s resolution, the cost of which she herself will cover.

4pp

ix From []

134. Incomplete letter from[] to [Liam O’Buachalla] describing with joy a rural journey around North Cork including Mallow where [O’Buachalla] met him at the station “I was as proud to see you as a brother that I had not seen for years”. Mentions he saw turf for the first time on the trip, adding the driver who took them around Ross Castle and lakes was an Irish speaker “and could sing Irish songs too but he was still fortified”.

4pp

III BUSINESS LETTERS

i From Philip Pierce & Co.

135. 10 October 1909

Postcard to Liam O’Buachalla from Philip Pierce and Co., Mill Works, Wexford, informing him they have forwarded their show cards.

1p

ii From J. B. Brooks & Co.

136. 26 October 1910 – 31 October 1910

Letters from J. B. Brooks & Co., leather manufacturers, Birmingham, discussing repairs to a saddle, and contradicting O’Buachalla’s claim it had never been previously repaired.

2 items

iii From John O’Neill Cycle Co.

137. []

Notes from John O'Neill Cycle Company, Dublin from which O'Buachalla purchased a bicycle clip and one junction bolt and nut.

2 items

iv From A Tighe & Company

138. 24 January 1910

Typescript letter A. Tighe & Company responding to O'Buachalla's enquiries about cycling capes and leggings.

1p

v From S. L. Cook

139. 19 August 1910

Note from S. L. Cook of Wexford informing O'Buachalla the cost of engraving a dozen letters is 15s. 8d.

1p

vi From Wexford Engineering Company

140. 5 June 1914

Typescript letter from Wexford Engineering Company enclosing a cheque and catalogues for O'Buachalla.

1p

vii To Messrs Eustace and Company

141. 15 January 1925

Draft note from O'Buachalla to Messrs. Eustace and Company explaining he was slow in forwarding the monies due because of his faulty Maths.

1p

SECTION 3: WORK AND INTERESTS

A THE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

I OFFICIAL LETTERS TO O'BUACHALLA

143. 25 January 1915

Letter from D. O'Driscoll (Regional Manager) enclosing a form to be completed by O'Buachalla some transaction accounts and premium books (not in new collection). He exhorts him to "do your best to get some new cases this week.

1p

144. 22 February 1914

Letter from D. O'Driscoll acknowledging receipt of O'Buachalla's letter with money enclosed. Requests him to forward his books so he may judge some of the lapsed cases he mentions. Notes O'Buachalla has not done any new business and exhorts him to do so.

1p

145. 1 March 1914

Incomplete letter from D. O'Driscoll acknowledging receipt of O'Buachalla's accounts and monies. Gives instructions for distributing new National Health cards, and mentions Head Office has complained about his lack of new policies.

2pp

146. 15 March 1914

Letter from D. O'Driscoll giving instructions concerning O'Buachalla's weekly accounts, and again urging him to write some cases. "I trust you are keeping the matter of new business before you and that you will make a start this week.

1p

147. 18 March 1914

Letter from Lawrence Casey, Manager, Irish Mutual Assurance Society, instructing O'Buachalla on pain of dismissal to forward his collection book. Warns all arrears must be collected by the end of the current quarter or he will be made personally responsible for their payment.

1p

148. 16 June 1915

Letter from Lawrence Casey detailing procedure with reference to the surrender value on policies.

1p

149. 18 June 1915

Letter from Lawrence Casey enclosing Proposal Form (not in collection). MSS annotation instructs him to forward any cases in which he had difficulty completing the forms.

1p

150. 30 June 1915

Letter from Lawrence Casey stating when he expects all Proposal Forms to be forwarded to Dublin and requesting to be informed immediately of O’Buachalla’s progress in the matter.

1p

II DOCUMENTS

151. 7 October 1914 – 27 September 1915

Series of agents weekly accounts compiled by O’Buachalla reflecting his low sales. He began work in October 1914 but made his first sale in February 1915.

22 items

152. [1914]

Blank Proposal Form of the Irish Mutual Assurance Collection Society.

1p

III POLICY FOR SEAN O’BUACHALLA

153. 18 February 1926

Life Assurance Policy for Sean O’Buachalla (Liam O’Buachalla’s 8 year old son). An annual premium of £2. 3s. 4d. will secure a sum of £25 to be paid 18 February 1936.

1p

B ELECTORAL WORK

I OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

154. 29 may 1914

Typescript letter from the offices of Millstreet Rural District Council informing O' Buachalla he has been appointed Presiding Officer at his local Polling Station.

1p

155. 1918

Printed copy of the electoral roll of the Registration Unit of Crinnaloo Co. Cork (Parliamentary Polling District of Kilcorney). It lists those entitled to vote in Beenreagh, Carrigduff, Crinnaloo North, Crinnaloo South and Gortnalough.

4pp

156. 1918

Two copies of the electoral roll of the registration unit of Kilcorney, Co. Cork. (P.P.D. Kilcorney) listing those entitles to vote in both parliamentary and local government elections by townland; - Bownreagh, Brookpart, Donoure East, Donoure Middle, Donoure West, Drombeg, Finnanfield, Glebe, Glenleigh, Horsemount Mountain, Horsemount North, Horsemount South, Kilcorney,

Killeen, Knackonroe, Knockgorm, Laharn, Lissucapia, Mushera and Shanakill.

2 items

157. 1918

Partial copy of the absent voters list for the constituency of Mid Cork Polling District of Kilcorney.

1p

158. 26 March 1923

Circular letter from C. J. Meany and T. M. Murphy of the Millstreet District Council informing members of the forthcoming meeting called to discuss the co-option of a new member.

1p

II APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS

159. [1914]

Newspaper clipping of a letter by O’Buachalla responding to attempts to employ a non-Irish speaking doctor in the dispensing district of Ballyvourney.

1p

160. 21 June 1922

Letter from Donnchadh MacCarthaigh (Denis McCarthy) declaring his intention to apply as a candidate for the Millstreet Dispensing District, and enclosing testimonials from IRA chiefs. He is confident his medical qualifications as well as his fluency in Irish will supersede other candidates and describes himself as “an Irish man who has consistently upheld Irish ideals without counting the cost”. Enclosed is a typescript letter (21 July 1922) from Commandant General Liam Deasy, O/C 1ST Southern Division IRA attesting to the assistance given by McCarthy in the organisation and development of the medical service in Cork No. 1 Brigade, and the assistance he gave to Cork Nos. 2, 4 Brigades.

2 items

C POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS

I IMPRISONMENT

161. February 1915

Prison record card, recording the committal of William Buckley (Liam O’Buachalla) to Cork Male Prison on 2 February 1915, to be released on February 1915. (Reverse records details of on Thomas Collins sentence to 3 years for attempted larceny).

2pp

162. []

Typescript order directing the internment in Frongoch of William Buckley, a member of organisations “which have promoted armed insurrection against His Majesty, and is reasonably suspect of having favoured, promoted or assisted in armed insurrection against His Majesty”. Details channels of appeal.

1p

II THE ALL-FOR-IRELAND LEAGUE

i Letter from William O’Brien

See Also 169

163 5 March 1908

Letter marked private from William O’Brien (staying at Turner’s Hotel, Cork) to [Liam O’Buachalla] discussing the formation of the All-For-Ireland League. It is to be composed of those of all shades of opinion from the most moderate to the most advanced, who believe in Ireland’s right to self government”. Its aims are the establishment of a common national platform (as hoped for by Thomas Davis) and “the complete transfer of the soil of Ireland to the people at the earliest possible moment”. It further promotes a company to buy Irish goods to re establish prosperity; the upgrading of education “essential in order to fit our youth for prosperous and happy careers in a regenerated Gaelic Ireland”. He earnestly requests O’Buachalla to attend their inaugural meeting.

2pp

ii Letter from DD Sheehan

164. 10 August 1910

Letter from DD Sheehan to Liam O’Buachalla discussing League Business and wishing him well with his Feis.

1p

III LAOCHRA GAODHAL

165. 1 September 1931

Copy of bilingual booklet by Flor O’Donoghue, ‘Laochra Gaodhal Principles Defined’, discussing the impetus and aims of this separatist movement. Its main objective is “To be social and national in activity, and Gaelic in outlook”.

19pp

IV NEWSPAPERS

i An Caman

166. 16 September 1933

Copy of An Caman “The Organ of Irish Ireland”.

pp

ii An Claidheamh Soluis

167. 1908 – 1933

Three copies of An Claidheamh Soluis 1) 13 June 1908 2) May
1928 3) 6 February 1932

3 items

iii The Cork Citizen

168. 5 March 1932

Copy of The Cork Citizen

12pp

iv Cork Free Press

169. 16 February 1915

Copy of the Cork Free Press

8pp

170. 1910

Photograph portraits taken from the Cork Free Press of (1) William O'Brien, (see also U203/162) 18 June 1910 (2) T. M. Healy, KC M.P. (3) Rev. Richard Barrett PP Enniskeane (4) Fr. Casey PP Abbeyfeale.

4 items

v Cork Weekly Examiner

171. July 1907

Photograph clipped from the Cork Weekly Examiner Pictorial Supplement featuring 'The Ballingearry Defenders' a group of men who blocked the eviction of Jeremiah Mahony, grouped outside O'Mahony's cottage.

1p

172. 29 May 1907

Clipping of montage of photograph from the Cork Weekly Examiner picturing scenes from the Cork Labour Day demonstration.

1p

173. 12 July 1923

Poster advertising article in the Cork Examiner 'Mr. O'Higgins states policy.

1ff

vi The Nation

174. 2 June 1928

Copy of The Nation

8pp

vii An Phoblacht

175. 1933

U203/

Copies of An Phoblacht for (1) 13 May 1933 (2) 10 June 1933 (3)
12 August 1933 (4) 9 September 1933

4 items

viii An Saoghal Gaelach

176. December 1951

Copy of An Saoghal Gaelach

4pp

ix Sinn Fein

177. 27 September 1913

Copy of Sinn Fein

8pp

x Voice of Labour

178. 10 November 1923

Copy of Voice of Labour 'Official organ of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union'.

8pp

D RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

I THE CATHOLIC BULLETIN

179. November 1917 – November 1920

Copies of The Catholic Bulletin, a monthly journal containing articles of religious and nationalist interest (1) November 1917 contains an article by W. F. P. Stockley 'John Bright today and in Ireland'.

8 items

180. []

Incomplete copies of The Catholic Bulletin, mainly the advertising and book review sections.

7 items

II RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS

i Prayer Card

181. []

Prayer card dedicated to St. Anthony

2pp

ii Sacred Heart Shield

182. []

Printed advertisement for the Sacred Heart Plaque and Shield.

4pp

E MEMORABILIA

I RELATING TO MRS. KATHLEEN BUCKLEY

183. []

Booklet of poems entitled Isle of Destiny by Padraig O'Morain. Annotated Mrs. K. Buckley, The Hall, Kilcorney also Kilcorney Hall, Banteer, Co. Cork.

12pp

II MILLSTREET CUMANN NA h-OIGE

184. 1913

Name plate from a school copy book "Crabh Sraide an Mhuilinn de Cumann na h-Oige

1p

III Mr. John Cashel

185. [December 1923]

Postcard addressed to Mr. John Cashel of Derrinagree, Banteer, "Dear Jack Don't come to Lyre on St [S] night if you want to avoid (sic) trouble yours a friend".

1p

iv Poem By Liam O'Buachalla

186. 18 May 1909

Poem in Irish by Liam O'Buachalla 'Comhairle on bhard Sigoloige da Mhac'.

6pp

F DEATH

I EULOGY

187. []

Mss of anonymous Eulogy for Liam O’Buachalla written on the reverse of a blank laundry form for the Cork Mental Hospital. The writer describes O’Buachalla as “one of the most popular personalities in North Cork as well as being a brilliant Gaelic Scholar and a loyal patriotic Irishman”. Mentions his internment in Frongoch and his love of Irish, describing how in 1910 he became secretary of the Kilcorney Branch of the Gaelic League and set up the Feis which succeeded “owing to his able management and extraordinary business capabilities”. Sympathy is extended to his wife “to whom his devotion was an example of what Catholic ‘Home Life’ should be”.

1p