

**Leabharlann Naisiúnta na hÉireann
National Library of Ireland**

Collection List No. 63

JOHN L. BURKE PAPERS

(Mss 34,246-34,249; 36,100-36,125)

ACC. Nos. 4829, 5135, 5258, 5305

INTRODUCTION

The papers of John Leo Burke (1888-1959) were donated to the National Library of Ireland by his daughter Miss Ann Burke. The major part of this Collection was received in two sections in September 1997 and January 2000 (Accession 5135). Other material was donated as follows: September 1994 (Accession 4829); June 1998 (Accession 5258) and November 1998 (Accession 5305). These various accruals have been consolidated in this List.

The Collection also includes a biographical note on John Leo Burke by Robert Tracy (MS 36,125(4)).

LETTERS TO JOHN L. BURKE

MS 36,100(1)

Actors' Church Union. Irish Branch

1953 Oct.: Circular in support of the Irish Branch. Autograph signature of Lennox Robinson. *1 printed item.*

MS 36,100(2)

Allgood, Sara

1923 Dec. 12: Thanking JLB for sending story; Abbey production of T.C. Murray's *Birthright*. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,100(3)

Bodkin, Thomas

1959 June 16: Gift of print for John Costello. Portrait of Joyce. Unhappy about conditions at National Gallery – “God save us all from the machinations of incompetence.” *1 sheet.*

MS 36,100(4)

Colum, Padraic

1949 Sept. 6: Thanking JLB for photograph of Joyce. Good quality of articles in *The Shanachie*. “Joyce used to frequent Aux Trianon, opposite Gare Montparnasse. The food is good ...”. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,100(5-6)

Cosgrave, W. T.

2 items:

Undated: Christmas card.

1946 Nov. 5: His right to send a photograph of a work by Sean O'Sullivan. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,101(1-9)

Costello, John A.

1948-1950, 1954-1955: Christmas cards. *6 items.*

3 items:

1944 May 13: Thanking JLB for his advice and kindness and expressing “a deep and abiding feeling of friendship”. *1 sheet + cover.*

1950 Jan. 4: Regrets cannot help with William Leech pictures. *1 sheet.*

1950 Sept. 27: Thomas Bodkin's report. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,102(1-5)

D'Alton, John Francis, Cardinal

1953-1956; 1958 Dec.: Unsigned Christmas cards. *5 items.*

MS 36,103(1-26)

De Valera, Eamon

1936-1945, 1947-1948, 1951-1958 and undated: Christmas cards. *24 items.*

2 items:

1932 Dec. 9: Condolences on death of Arthur Clery; thanking JLB for his work on land annuities. *1 sheet + cover.*

1957 Mar.: Thanks for good wishes on his appointment as Taoiseach. *1 printed card.*

MS 36,104(1-3)

De Valera, Sinéad

3 items:

1948 Oct. 11: On her translation of a poem in Irish by Joseph Mary Plunkett she made for JLB; with the poem and her translation. *3 sheets + cover.*

1949 Sept. 19: Thanking JLB for his kindness throughout the years. *1 sheet + cover.*

1951 Feb. 2: Thanking JLB for photographs. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,104(4)

Duff, Frank

1949 Sept. 12: Acknowledges condolences. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,104(5)

Dulanty, John William

1938 June 23: Interest in "Inis Fáil" statue fund; "I entirely agree with you that a better feeling now prevails over here with regard to Ireland ...; I am arranging for a selection of pictures by the Dublin Painters Group to be shown in this Office [High Commissioner for Ireland, London]". *1 sheet.*

MS 36,104(6)

Fahy, Frank

1932 Mar. 16: Acknowledges congratulations on his appointment as Ceann Comhairle. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,104(7)

Fine Gael

1942 Apr. 24: Thanking JLB for gift of portrait of W.T. Cosgrave by Sean O'Sullivan. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,104(8-9)

Gonne, Maud

2 items:

1947 Nov. 18 [postmark]: Election of her son to Dáil. Merits of Clann na Poblachta. *1 sheet + cover.*

1949 Oct. 28: On proposed sale of her pictures. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,104(10)

Gwynn, Stephen

[ca. 1945?] Jan 15: Recommending paintings of Grace Henry. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,105(1)

Henry, Paul

1927 May 23: On proposed sale of his “The Boy” to friend of JLB. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,105(2-5)

Holloway, Joseph

4 items:

1926 Jan. 11: Thanking JLB for caricature of Sara Allgood playing Juno. *1 sheet.*

1939 Oct. 10: Arrangements for “Inis Fáil” statue. *1 sheet + cover.*

1941 Apr. 4: Postcard. Thanking JLB for gift; with drawing of man’s head by Holloway. *1 item.*

1942 Oct. 27: On JLB’s parody of W.B. Yeats. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,105(6-7)

Hone, Evie

2 items:

195? ?? 29: Difficulties with duty on glass imported from France. *2 sheets + cover.*

1955 Mar. 2: Her poor health. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,105(8-10)

Kelly, Gerald Festus, Sir

3 items:

1942 Sept. 25: On purchasing some of his paintings. *1 sheet + cover.*

1945 June 24: At Windsor working on portrait of King George VI – “after which I hope to give full length portraits a miss. They’re silly things nowadays ...” ; worried about picture market; has not seen Maurice Collis for some time; hopes to send pictures to Dublin. *1 sheet + cover.*

1945 Nov. 12: Death of Dermot O’Brien. Unhappy with work done on royal portraits at Windsor Castle – “Those terrible canvasses obsessed me and used up all my energies”. Trials of house repairs. Maurice Collis taling care of Kelly’s Burmese sketches. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,105(11)

Lemass, Sean

1959 July 2: In thanks for congratulations on his appointment as Taoiseach. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,105(12-13)

McCormack, John

2 items:

[1932] Nov. 26: "Beechcomber" on McCormack's singing of "Panis" during Eucharistic Congress. Orpen's book. *1 sheet + cover.*

1944 Apr. 19: Looking forward to the Feis. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,105(14)

McQuaid, John Charles, Abp. Of Dublin

1956 June 19: On photograph of Frank Duff and value of Legion of Mary. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,106(1-9)

Murray, T. C.

9 items:

1924 Nov. 11: Invitation to reading of Murray's *Autumn Fire*. *1 sheet + cover.*

Undated [ca. 1925?]: On drawing by Grace Gifford Plunkett presented by Murray to JLB. *1 sheet + unposted cover annotated by JLB.*

1927 Jan. 20: Invitation to reading of his "pastoral play". *Autumn Fire* to be revived by Abbey Theatre. *1 sheet + cover.*

1930 Sept. 28: Arranging an evening of readings; offer from Hilton Edwards for something for the Gate Theatre; attended play by Austin Clarke at the Gate – "It bored everybody I fear and I'm sorry for Clarke who is a poet of unusual quality". *1 sheet + cover.*

1937 Dec. 28: Subscriptions to "Inis Fáil" fund. *1 sheet.*

1939 Oct. 8: Arrangements for installation of "Inis Fáil" statue. *1 sheet + cover.*

1943 July 22: Appreciation of current Abbey Theatre production. *1 sheet + cover.*

Undated [late 1950s]: His poor health. Larry Morrow's "Profile" article in the Sunday Press. Discomfort caused by house repairs. *1 sheet.*

1949 Dec. 22: Recent production of play by Murray; family visitors; acquisition of Robinson portrait by the Cork Gallery. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,107(1)

O'Brien, Dermot

1938 Jan. 12: Subscribing to "Inis Fáil" fund. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,107(2-4)

Ó Buachalla, Domhnall

3 items:

1938 Mar. 7: In Irish. On subscription for Oliver Sheppard's statue "Inis Fáil". *1 sheet.*

1940 Feb. 24: On speaking and writing in Irish. *1 sheet + cover.*

1940 Mar. 22: Thanking JLB for photographs. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,107(5)

O'Hegarty, P. S.

1948 Jan. 23: Listing duplicates of works by W.B. Yeats and prices for same to JLB. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,108(1-14)

O'Kelly, Sean T.

1945, 1947-1949, 1951-1952 Dec.: Christmas cards. *6 items.*

8 items:

1949 Jan. 10: Father Costelloe as neighbour of JLB. Death of sculptor Albert Power and gift of cast of Power's "De Valera" given by JLB to Sinead De Valera.

Proposed portrait of O'Kelly by Sean O'Sullivan – "However it is done there's no chance of his spoiling my beauty anyhow". *1 sheet.*

1949 Mar. 16: Thanking JLB for copy of Sean O'Sullivan's portrait of John A. Costello; also, work undertaken by O'Sullivan at Áras an Uachtaráin impeded by his drinking too much. *1 sheet+ cover.*

1949 May 14: Payment for bronze. Unhappy with sketch by Sean O'Sullivan. *1 sheet + cover.*

1954 Dec. 16: Christmas greetings. *1 sheet + cover.*

1955 Dec. 16: Christmas greetings. *1 sheet.*

1957 July 8: Need to keep letters of Sir Roger Casement in Ireland; O'Kelly's relationship with De Valera; death of former comrades. *1 sheet + cover.*

1957 Dec.: Christmas greetings. *1 sheet.*

1958 Dec.: Christmas greetings, *1 sheet.*

MS 36,109(1-6)

Robinson, Lennox

6 items:

Nov. 19: On difficulties with Bernard Shaw. *1 sheet.*

[1945 July] Sunday: Accompanying presentation copy of 1918 ed. of his *The Lost Leader*; with note from Mr. Carter to printers of a new ed. *2 items (2 sheets).*

For the presentation copy see below under Printed Material.

[1945 July] Tuesday: Sending books to JLB; praises JLB's art collection. *1 sheet.*

Undated [ca. 1954?]: On P.E.N. nomination for Nobel Prize. Encloses copy of new ed. of his *Lost Leader*. *1 sheet.*

[1956] Sept. 4: On postcard from China. *1 sheet.*

1956 Oct. 13: Thanking JLB for subscription to Irish Branch of Actors' Christian Union; sends copy of 1st ed of his *The Round Table*; suppression by *Irish Press* of his 3 articles on China – "I was told China should not be mentioned" – his salary at *Irish Press* to be halved and terminates his employment there. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,110(1-4)

Sheppard, Oliver

4 items:

1937 Mar. 14: Congratulating JLB on appointment as Governor of National Gallery. *1 sheet + cover.*

1938 Mar. 1: On delivery from Belgium of a bronze. *1 sheet.*

1939 Dec. 17: JLB's services to Irish art. Arrangements for inscription for pedestal of "Inis Fáil". *1 sheet + cover.*

1941 Feb. 20: Enclosing photograph of "Cuchulainn" and print of "La Jeunesse". With the print. *1 sheet + 1 photographic print.*

MS 36,110(5)

Van Hoek, Kees

1950 July 14: His visit to Sir Gerald Kelly. On verso of letter from Kelly to Van Hoek dated 1950 July 10. *1 sheet + cover.*

MS 36,110(6)

Walsh, Joseph, Abp. of Tuam

1940 Aug. 26: Thanking JLB for loan of book and suggesting to him best procedure for a visit to Aran Islands. *2 sheets + cover.*

MS 36,111(1-10)

Yeats, Jack B.

10 items:

1929 Jan. 2: Thanking JLB for sending Grace Gifford's "Twelve Nights at the Abbey Theatre". His new studio at Fitzwilliam Square. *1 sheet.*

1937 June 3: Will be at home in future on Thursdays. *1 sheet + cover.*

1937 Oct. 27: "It would be a fine thing for the nation to have Sheppard's "Inis Fáil"" and agrees to sit on committee to effect this. *1 sheet.*

1938 Jan. 24: Subscriptions to "Inis Fáil" fund, including Douglas Hyde's. *1 sheet.*

1938 Feb. 1: Addresses of subscribers to "Inis Fáil" fund. *1 sheet.*

1939 Jan. 21: On his appointment to Board of Guardians of National Gallery. *1 sheet.*

1939 Sept. 30: Unable to attend Committee meeting of "Inis Fáil" fund. *1 sheet.*

1939 Oct. 7: Arrangements for inauguration of "Inis Fáil" statue. *1 sheet + cover.*

1939 Nov. 3: Will not be able to attend meetings re "Inis Fáil" statue. *1 sheet.*

1944 Nov. 25: "Many thanks for sending me the cutting about the Croke Park which was so much more and is no more. And the Dark Rosaleen". *1 sheet.*

MS 36,112

Miscellaneous letters and covers. 1928-1957 and undated. *15 items.*

OTHER LETTERS

MS 36,113

Casement, Roger

1914 Apr. 5: To Joseph Mary Plunkett: Submitting Part 3 of *Coffin Ships* for publication in *Irish Review*; intends to have the work published shortly by Maunsel; "I don't think the *Review* can last. It is too irregular and has so small a circulation – no one knows when they can get it". *1 sheet.*

MS 36,114

De Valera, Eamon

1914 Oct. 7: To Joseph Mary Plunkett: Use of fields at Eglinton Road; "Sandymount Castle used to be the H.quarters of our Battalion. Mr. Kettle's Company has gone over to the new organisation I understand. On what terms could we obtain the use of the grounds and hall for Thursday evenings. ..." *1 sheet.*

MS 36,115

Joyce, James

1938 Aug. 24, Hotel de la Paix, Lausanne To Padraic Colum. Postcard: "Please tell Mrs Colum how sorry we were to hear of her mishap ...". *1 item.*
Photocopy; original in safe in Keeper's Office.

MS 36,116(1)

Logue, Michael, Cardinal

1900 Aug. 14: To James Jordan: Contributing to testimonial for Dr. Magennis. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,116(2)

MacBride, John

1912 July 17: To Grace Gifford thanking her for a portrait; "I'm in a savage mood today over the disgraceful reception to Asquith ..." *1 sheet.*

MS 36,116(3)

Mathew, Theobald

1847 May 30: To unidentified bishop: Recommending the bearer John Francis Hennessy. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,116(4)

O'Sullivan, Seumas

1949 May 24: To Joseph O'Neill: Sending copy of George Russell's *Deirdre*; requesting memoirs for publication in *Dublin Magazine*. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,117

Parnell, Charles Stewart

1883 Nov. 16: To Michael Davitt, Henry J. Gill and William E. Murphy: Subscribing 2 guineas to fund for Lord Mayor of Dublin, Charles Dawson. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,118

Pearse, Patrick

1912 Aug. 30: To Arthur Clery: Finances of St. Enda's College. *1 sheet.*

FUND FOR PURCHASE OF OLIVER SHEPPARD'S STATUE "INIS FÁIL"

The statue was purchased for the Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, Dublin (now the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art)

MS 36,119

Correspondence, mostly concerned with subscriptions, 1938-1939. *65 items, some with covers.*

*For additional letters from individual correspondents see above under:
Dulanty, John William; Holloway, Joseph; Murray, T. C.; O'Brien, Dermot;
Ó Buachalla, Domhnall; Sheppard, Oliver and Yeats, Jack B.*

MS 36,120

Receipts for work carried out in relation to the Fund, 1937-1939. *9 items.*

MS 36,121

Receipts issued by Oliver Sheppard for various payments made to him from the Fund by JLB, 1938. *6 items.*

MS 36,122

Printed publicity material with MS and typescript drafts; also, newsclipping. *14 items.*

MS 36,123

Accounts. *4 items.*

PRINTED MATERIAL

MS 34,246

Bodkin, Thomas

Hugh Lane and his pictures. [London] : Pegasus Press for the Government of the Irish Free State, [1932]. Signed presentation copy from Eamon De Valera to JLB.

MS 36,124(1)

Ceannt, Eamonn

Ireland over all. Words by Eamonn Ceannt ; air:-“Deutschland über alles. [Dublin] : Eamonn Ceannt, [1914?]. *1 sheet.*

MS 36,124(2)

Hennessy, Patrick

[Catalogue of] Exhibition of paintings by Patrick Hennessy R.H.A. Dublin : Dublin Painters' Gallery, [n.d.].

MS 36,124(3)

Ierse schilders der 19e en 20e eeuw. [Catalogue of exhibition of Irish 19th and 20th century paintings held at the Stedelijk Muesum, Amsterdam, 1951].

MS 36,124(4)

Ireland. President. 1933-1937 : De Valera

Invitation from the President, on behalf of the Government of the Irish Free State, to attend the unveiling of Oliver Sheppard's statue "The Death of Cuchulainn" at the General Post Office, Dublin, on Easter Sunday, 1935 Apr. 21. *1 printed item with name added in MS.*

MS 36,124(5)

John, Augustus

Exhibition of works by Augustus John, 1954. 2nd ed. London : Royal Academy of Arts, [1954].

MS 36,124(6)

Labern, M. J.

The poems of M.J. Labern. Offprint from *Capuchin Annual*, 1942, pp. 167-190.

MS 36,124(7)

O'Donovan Rossa Funeral Committee

Pass to grave side, Glasnevin Cemetery; with autograph signature of Thomas J. Clarke, [1915 Sept.]. *1 item.*

MS 36,124(8)

O'Higgins, Brian

Gáir-chatha Gaedheal : Sinn Fein and freedom. Dublin : Sinn Fein Bureau, [1933?].

MS 36,124(9)

Ó Lochlainn, Colm

"William Butler Yeats". Offprint of obituary in *British Annual of Literature*. Author's signed presentation copy to JLB.

MS 36,124(10)

The Prime Minister's meeting in the Theatre Royal, Dublin, July 19th 1912. Chairman John E. Redmond. [Invitation to Edmund Lupton to attend Asquith's address on 3rd Home Rule Bill].

MS 34,247

Robinson, Lennox

The lost leader : a play in three acts / by Lennox Robinson. Dublin : printed at the Eigeas Press by Thomas Kiersey, 1918. Author's presentation copy to JLB dated 1945 July.

For related letter from Robinson see above under LETTERS TO JOHN L. BURKE.

MS 34,248

Two plays : Harvest ; The Clancy name / by Lennox Robinson. Dublin : Maunsel, 1911. Author's presentation copy to JLB dated July 1945.

For related letter from Robinson see above under LETTERS TO JOHN L. BURKE.

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

MS 34,249

Scrapbook of newscuttings mostly concerned with Charles Dawson (1842-1917), particularly with reference to his period as Lord Mayor of Dublin, 1882-1883; also material relating to other members of the Dawson family and to the death of Professor Arthur Clery. *1 vol.*

MS 36,125(1)

Photograph of portrait of Oliver Sheppard presented by him to JLB; with newsclipping of obituary of Sheppard [1941]. *2 items.*

MS 36,125(2)

List of subscribers to the F.J. McCormick Memorial Fund, [ca 1948?]. *Duplicated typescript + supplementary MS fragment. 21 sheets.*

MS 36,125(3)

- (1): Hire – Purchase. With apologies to Padraic Colum. [By JLB. A parody of Colum's "An Old Woman of the Roads"]. *Typescript (1 sheet).*
- (2): Printed cartoon portrait with verse by Joseph Holloway, 1940 June 16. *1 sheet.*
- (3): Empty envelope addressed to JLB and postmarked 1939 Jan. 21. *1 item.*

MS 36,125(4)

Biographical note on JLB by Robert Tracy, 2000. *6 sheets.*

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