

# Con Cregan Papers P115

## P115 Box List

### Introduction

Cornelius Cregan was best known as editor of the *Limerick Leader* from 1910 to 1960. This collection contains numerous newspapers and cut-outs, along with many letters addressed to Con Cregan which he had carefully kept and stored in a suitcase in his family home. He had put together a number of scrapbooks which contain numerous newspaper clippings ranging from 1890 upwards to 1989. There are letters from John Redmond, addressed to Cregan to thank him and the Limerick City regiment of the Irish Volunteers for their support in his leadership. There are some photographs included of Cregan himself with colleagues.

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| 1 | <b>1915-1917</b> | <p>File of letters to Cregan mainly acknowledging the receipt of Cregan's letter with a copy of a resolution showing support and confidence in John Redmond as leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party. Includes a telegram from Redmond in Dublin to Cregan in Limerick, 19 December 1914, which says 'resolution all right will arrive this evening and remain until Monday morning'. An later letter from Redmond, dated 28 May 1915 acknowledges the cheques sent by Cregan for purchasing rifles. Redmond advises that he will not cash the cheques until the rifles have been received. Includes another letter from Redmond expressing his thanks for the support of the Limerick City Regiment of the National Volunteers.( 6 October 1916). Includes a letter from Michael MacDonagh, National Liberal Club in London (3 January 1936). Includes a letter from Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer in the <i>Irish Independent</i> which is in response to a letter which had featured in the <i>Freeman's Journal</i> entitled, 'The Bishop of Limerick. His title to speak for Irish Nationalism. Interesting Retrospect'. (from 25 May 1917 ). At the end of the letter is a typed note signed off from the editor of the <i>Irish Independent</i> which says 'the above letter is self-explanatory. Further comment is absolutely unnecessary'. Also contains a pamphlet by J. E. Redmond, M.P, the Chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party on 'Ireland and the War: Extracts from Speeches made in the House of Commons and in Ireland since the outbreak of the war'.</p> |
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c.30 items

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| 2 | <b>1918-1928</b> | <p>Photo album titled 'The Emerald Isle Album' of St. Patrick's Purgatory in Lough Derg, Co. Donegal. A pamphlet for the Golden Jubilee of the Arch. Confraternity of the Holy Family at Mount St. Alphonsus in Limerick, 1868-1918 which contains an introduction by Denis Hallinan, Bishop of Limerick, dated 21 May 1918. A souvenir booklet on the Diamond Jubilee of the Arch. Confraternity of the Holy Family at Mount St. Alphonsus in Limerick which was celebrated on 22 July 1928. Like the Golden Jubilee pamphlet, this booklet contains pictures and articles.</p> |
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- 3      1936 - 1949.      Photograph of Con Cregan with the Michael Hogan Memorial Committee, 1936. Includes a copy of an address given by Cregan at the second annual Congress of the Irish Journalists Association, 1939; Includes a document which listing some of the recipients of the 'Freedom of Limerick' including Charles Stewart Parnell in 1880. An English translated pamphlet 'The State and the Language' which was the presidential address given by Ernest Blythe to *Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge* on 3 December 1949. A dirge of Parnell entitled 'Call off the Dogs'. Also contains a cut-out which discusses the case for a Register of Journalists.

**c.12 items**

- 4      1938-1939      A collection of letters from 1938. Earlier letters concern the proposed formation of a trade union for journalists to be called the 'Irish Journalist Association'. Many of the letters discuss meetings and agendas with letters from 1939 reflecting that the trade union had been formed. Many of the letters are from the *The Kerry Championship* discussing the 'Irish Journalist Association' in Munster.

**c.20 items**

- 5      1955 - 1960      File congratulating Con Cregan on his fifty years in journalism in 1955 and 1956 with many wishing him many more happy years of work. Includes letters from 1960 are wishing him a happy retirement from organisations such as the Irish Farmer's Association and the Limerick University Project Committee, the *Irish Independent* and Chamber of Commerce Limerick. Also contains a hand-written document by Cregan outlining his views on the Irish language-that Irish should be Ireland's main language. Along with these letters are a newspaper cut-out which is entitled, 'Teaching through Irish, No Constructive Suggestion, says Mr. Southgate'. Includes a photograph of Eamon de Valera at a event.

**c.50 items.**

- 6      1901-1936      File of newspaper including an article discussing Charles Stuart Parnell's position in the Irish Party in the *Freeman* staff, a cut-out on the history of the Limerick mayoral chain and John Daly who brought the chain to America on one of his visits as mayor. Includes a publication on the history of St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, written by Rev. James Dowd, B.A and revised by Rev. Canon T. F. Abbott, B. D and a bundle of cut-outs from *The Munster News and Limerick and Clare Advocate* on the death of journalist Michael MacDonagh, on 21 December 1901. Includes features a cut-out of a piece written by Frank MacDonagh about Ralahine on 12 September 1912.

c.30 items

- 7      1 November 1890 - 1 December 1890.      File of newspaper clippings mainly concerned with Charles Stewart Parnell, questions over his leaderships as well as the O'Shea divorce scandal, correspondence from America concerning the O'Shea divorce scandal and discussions about various bills and acts which were being proposed at Parliament.

c.20 items

- 8      1890      A collection of *The Freeman's Journal* from various dates in December 1890. They include the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 24 and 25 of December and centre on Parnell and the Irish Parliamentary Party. A piece published on 8 December 1890 discusses Parnell's visit to Cork where he received a splendid reception and was shown an 'unparalleled demonstration of welcome'. However, in Mallow, there was cheering for William O'Brien and groaning for Parnell. At one stage, someone managed to make their way onto the train carriage where Parnell was sat and threatened to assault him. Also includes a manifesto from Irish delegates in America.

c.8 items

- 9      5 May 1916 -24 February 1917.      File of newspapers including *The Weekly Freeman* dated 24 February 1917 with the front page providing a vivid account of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Royal Munster Fusiliers in August 1914 written by Rev. F. A. Gleeson. There is also a piece on the potato crisis which was spreading across Ireland at the time. There is a front page of the special edition of *The Freeman's Journal* printed on 6 May 1916. The *Irish Independent* printed on 5 May 1916 contains a number of articles and pieces on the 1916 Rising in Dublin including a piece on the four leaders who were shot the day previous, one of which was Edward 'Ned' Daly. It mentions the wedding of the doomed leader, Joseph Mary Plunkett and Grace Gifford and gives an account of Gifford purchasing her wedding ring the day before Plunkett was due to be shot. There is also a piece which discusses the executions of Thomas Clarke, Padraig Pearse and Thomas MacDonagh.

c.5 items

- 10      25 May 1917-7 December 1918      File of newspaper cuttings including *The Freeman's Journal* dated 25 May 1917 with articles discussing athletic events, the GAA and market prices. Includes the *Weekly Freeman's Christmas Journal* dated 7 December 1918 .

## c.3 items

- 11      1938-1946      A piece from the *Irish Independent* printed on the 24 March 1938 which discusses John Daly, 'A famous trail of the 'eighties'' written by Michael MacDonagh. A newspaper cut-out of the *Irish Press* dated 1 July 1946 which includes a speech from Taoiseach Eamon de Valera at the Parnell centenary celebrations at Avondale, Co. Wicklow. Another cut-out from the *Irish Independent* regarding the Mayoral chain and the history of its links. A newspaper photograph of the *Limerick Leader* staff including Con Cregan, 13 October 1956. *The Statist*, 23 February 1957 which discusses Europe and the great ships. *Limerick Leader*, 25 October 1958, printed a lecture by Rev. Dom Bernard O'Dea, O.S.B, Glenstal Abbey entitled 'True Patriotism as contrasted with a distorted form of that great virtue'.

- 12      1965-1989      Copies of the *Limerick Leader* including a souvenir supplement which shows the personnel of the *Limerick Leader* including directors and various editors Includes an article by Cregan entitled 'the "leaders" early days were tough'. The edition is dated 1 May 1965. Another supplement printed 30 September 1989 is a centenary special of the *Limerick Leader* and contains a copy of the very first edition of the paper in 1889. There is also an interview with Terry Wogan and news pieces from the day including a message from President Patrick Hillery.

## c.6 items

- 13      1989      Extracts of the centenary edition of the *Limerick Leader* with various pull-outs and local news.

- 14      24 January 1945 up until 26 March 1960      Set of 3 scrapbooks containing numerous cut-outs from the *Limerick Leader* entitled 'Things that Matter'. Also features a piece on the Limerick Mayoral chain, the state of the Irish Party and possible partition and an appreciation of John Redmond. Articles written by Cregan himself regarding the Irish language are included in the scrapbook. There is a photograph and newspaper cut-out of the same photograph showing Cregan alongside Michael Hartney and Joseph O'Shaughnessy and acknowledges their long service to the *Limerick Leader*. A scrapbook entitled, 'Random Recollections: An Old Limerick Journalist Takes a Look Back' by C. C. Cregan containing newspaper cut-outs from 1960 and 1961. This is a collection of 30 articles written by Cregan who gives his recollections of his experiences as a journalist.

Two scrapbooks containing newspaper cuttings from various newspapers across Ireland such as the *Irish Examiner*, *Evening Herald* and *Irish Times* dating from 1939 up until 1956. One of the scrapbooks contains stamps which were especially issued to commemorate the

inauguration of the new constitution in Ireland and a piece on Roger Casement entitled 'Casement's Catholic Death – the full story'. Includes A book entitled 'The Southern El Dorado' by A.N. Homer F.R.G.S. which is stamped by Riordan's Shipping Agency preceded by a note which reads 'with the compliments of'. The book includes various images and text which describes trips by a ship called the S.S. Highland Rover to places such as Buenos Aires and Mendoza.

3 items

- 15      1891-1960      Scrapbook with 'Cornelius Cregan, 4 Shelbourne Avenue, Limerick. October 1937' inscribed on the inside cover. Includes many cut-outs from newspapers with handwritten notes by Con Cregan, the first of which is from the *Limerick Echo* 1 August 1911 announcing the wedding of Cregan to Miss Mary Agnes Lyons. Includes a number of cut outs on the unveiling on a memorial to the Bard of Thomond, Michael Hogan (1933) Includes a ms letter from Pádraig Mac Piarasigh, Scoil Eanna, Rathfarnham acknowledging the receipt of expenses in travelling to Limerick 'I am glad to hear you have as many recruits and I hope that the future of the meeting in Limerick will be worthy of its splendid start', p1. (2pp); includes a letter from John Redmond, Aughavanagh, Aughrim, Co Wicklow, 25 December 1914 congratulating Cregan on the 'great success of the Limerick demonstration'.p1 (30 January 1914, 2pp) Includes a bill undertaking to pay the National Bank a sum o £300 signed by Michael J.Keating, John McEnerny and Charles Stuart Parnell (9 July 1891) The last cut-out is from the *Limerick Leader* is dated 21 April 1945 and is regarding the Co. Limerick evictions in Cloncurry and O'Grady estate in the 1880's.

c.30pp