

# **EOIN MacNEILL ADDITIONAL PAPERS**

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<b>A. PROMOTION OF THE IRISH LANGUAGE</b>	
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**b. Letters from An Craoibhin (Douglas Hyde)**

- 7** Undated Letter from An Craoibhin asking MacNeill to go to the next business meeting of the committee at which various motions are to be proposed against neighbour of Hyde's as a result of which Hyde does not wish to attend. 4pp
- 8** Undated Letter from An Craoibhin concerning MacNeill's decision to vacate the vice-presidency of Connradh na Gaedhilge. If MacNeill goes ahead with this, Hyde says that he himself will resign. He says that by resigning MacNeill is 'ag osgailt an doruis do gach sort eada agus uisge-fa-thalamh.' 4pp

**c. Letter from An Seabhac (Pádraig Ó Siochfhradha)**

- 9** 2 May 1935 Letter from An Seabhac informing Mac Neill of the details of a presentation that is to be made to An Craoibhin. MacNeill is to preside over the gathering. Eamon de Valera and Torna (Tadhg Ó Donnchadha) are to speak at the presentation which is to be broadcast on the radio. 2pp

**d. Reports of the Irish Language in the West & South-West**

- 10** 2 October 1913 Letter from Peadar Ó hAnuracháin to 'Pádraig' enclosing a report on the extent to which Irish is spoken by priests in Co. Kerry; the number of priests who give sermons in Irish; and the number of schools in which religious education is taught through Irish. 8pp
- 11** 3 October 1913 Letter from Seaghán MacEnrigh reporting on the extent to which Irish is spoken by priests in counties Galway and Mayo; the number of priests giving sermons in Irish; the number of schools in which religious education is taught through Irish. 4pp

**e. Feiseanna**

- 12** 10 May 1906 Letter from Enri Ua Muirgheosa asking MacNeill to be an examiner at a literary competition at a feis in Dundalk. 1p
- 13** 9 June 1911 Letter from Seamus Ó Dúirinne asking MacNeill on behalf of the priests of the order of Naomh Uibistin to open a feis in the Rotunda. 2pp

**f. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Connradh na Gaedhilge**

- 14** 12 April 1943 Letter from Ciaran Bairéad asking MacNeill for material that would be suitable for an exhibition in the National Museum. The exhibition was attempting to show the development of Connradh na Gaedhilge. 1p
- 15** 21 June 1943 Letter from Seán Breathnach, secretary of the Piaras MacCanna Thurles asking MacNeill to write a letter praising the work their branch had done to promote the Irish language. The letter was to be read at the branch's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. 1p
- 16** 1 July 1943 Letter from Conchubhar Ó Coileáin and Seamus MacConglinne, the honorary secretary respectively, of Connradh na Gaedhilge, 14 Parnell Square asking MacNeill to chair a lecture to be given by Father Caimneach Ó Maonaigh and called 'The Irish Question as it was fifty years ago.' 1p
- 17** 26 July 1943 Letter from Ó Coileáin enclosing a copy of Father Ó Maonaigh's lecture. 2pp

**g. Testimonials**

- 18** 'Dil eagra chun Eoin MacNeill, Uachdaran Connartha na Gaedhilge on gComhaltas na mBocht agus on gComhairle Cheantair Cille Airne.' 1p
- 19** Letter from Conchubhar Ó Liathain enclosing a testimonial on behalf of the Philo-Celtic Club for the work MacNeill had done in promoting the Irish language. 2pp

**II. Letters written by Eoin MacNeill**

- 20** 29 July 1904 Letter to 'a dochtuir chroidhe' on the philology of the word 'fulair.' 2pp
- 21** 8 April 1906 Letter to An Craoibhin concerning MacNeill's decision to vacate the vice-presidency. MacNeill would prefer to have no vice-presidency but he informs An Craoibhin that he has forwarded an tAthair Maithiu's name to be nominated by the Ard Fheis. MacNeill tells An Craoibhin that he will send on the remaining £270. 1p
- 23** 22 October 1908 Letter to Eamonn Ó Donnchadha informing him of the facts of an argument MacNeill had with an tAthair Peadar Ó Laoghaire. MacNeill says 'Ni dubhart acht go raibh mearbhall cuimhne deanta aige' and 'Ni hé an tAthair Peadar atá cionntach acht daoine atá roghlic do, agus duit-se is docha do reir deallraimh.' 4pp
- 24** 11 November 1908 Letter to Father P.E. Ó Lochlarin enclosing a copy of a lecture MacNeill had written on a manuscript. MacNeill apologises for not being able to find the actual manuscript. 1p



- 25** 20 March 1912 Letter to Doctor Micheal Ua  
Siothchain relating to the new  
spelling of the Irish language. MacNeill says 'ne hen tairbhe don  
Ghaedhilg a 3 no a 4 no a 5 no a 6 de litreachaibh do bheith le  
sgriobhadh, an ait nach labharthar acht en fhuaim amhain' but he  
says that Irish should continue to be spelled the same way until a  
better method is developed. 3pp

## B. EDUCATION 1908-39

### I. National University of Ireland

#### a. Appointment

- 26** 25 May 1910 Letter from Diarmuid Ó  
Cobhthaigh congratulating  
MacNeill on his reinstatement in National University. 1p

#### b. Requests for references

- 27** 23 October 1908 Letter from Pádraig Ó hAichir  
asking MacNeill to help Micheal Ó  
hAnnlaoin in his application for the post of Assistant Examiner in  
English at the National University. 2pp
- 28** 25 February 1913 Letter from Seaghan P. MacEnri  
asking for assistance in his  
application for the Professorship of Medicine in University College  
Galway. He asks MacNeill to point out to the Senate that they need  
not necessarily choose the applicant who got the most points from  
the authorities in UCG and he cites precedents. 2pp
- 29** 30 June 1914 Letter from Eithne Inglis asking for  
assistance in her application for a  
professorship in UCG. The authorities in UCG have already accepted  
her and the Senate will shortly be asked to agree with their decision.  
She adds she was the only applicant who promised to speak Irish to  
the students. 2pp

- 30**      11 July 1939      Letter from Cormac Breathnach asking MacNeill to help Michael Ó Geallabhain in his application for the post as assistant to the registrar, secretary and treasurer of University College Dublin.  
1p

**c. UCG (Irish Department)**

- 31**      1 February 1938      Letter from Cilian Ó Brolchain relating to the problem of the lack of staff in the Irish Department. Ó Brolchain says that since Tomas Ó Maille died the problem has become more acute and that he has written to the Taoiseach on this matter. He asks MacNeill to speak to the Taoiseach and reinforce his appeal for extra staff.  
3pp
- 32**      23 March 1938      Letter from Donn Sigerson asking MacNeill for a reference to help him in his application for the Professorship of Irish which he feels will be vacant shortly in UCG.  
3pp

**II. Establishment of Irish Colleges**

Letters from Seosamh de Cuipeir, secretary of Colaiste Naoimh Chomhghail, Belfast, relating to the speech MacNeill agreed to make at the opening of the college. He asks MacNeill to stress to teachers present at the opening the importance of teaching the Irish language in schools.

- 33**      23 September 1907      3pp
- 34**      Undated      2pp
- 35**      17 August 1912      Letters to MacNeill and 'muintir Collaiste Brighde' praising the opening of the Irish college in Omeath.      2 items.

- 36** 4 September 1912-  
20 August 1913 Letters to MacNeill Ard-Ollamh Colaiste Brighde from teachers saying that they are available to work in the college.  
2 items.
- 37** Undated Copy of a speech made at the opening of the Irish college in Spideal. 6pp

### C. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES 1912-37

#### I. Minister for Education

- 38** 1912 Letter from Domhnall Ó Tuathail enclosing 'Modh Gleanna Airimh' which he feels might be useful to MacNeill when discussing with the authorities the methods for teaching Irish. Ó Tuathail says that the children of Gleann Aireamh have better Irish than those from Belfast as the former are taught Ulster Irish in the correct manner.  
4pp
- 39** 16 October 1923 Letter from Seamus MacLeanachain, Colaiste Mhaolmhaodhog, Belfast expressing amazement that the President Liam Cosgrave was ignorant on this question of financing secondary schools. He encloses a cutting from *The Irish News and Belfast Morning News*, 15 October 1923, containing letters to the Editor about the Declaration issued by the Ministry of Education.  
2pp
- 40** 30 May 1924-  
12 November 1925 Letters to MacNeill, Minister for Education with copy replies covering various topics such as requests for help with promotion and job applications; requests for money to publish books; letters praising his work for the Irish language; invitations to meetings and requests for appointments; letters concerning the legal rights of Irish teachers; requests for information about the procedures for applying for jobs in Local Government.  
25 items.

**II. Draft of the Constitution**

- 41**      17 May 1937      Letter from An Seabhac (Pádraig Ó Siochfhradha) relating to the wording of the Constitution. He lists changes that he wants made in the list for the President and asks MacNeill to notify the committee of these as he is unable to attend the meeting himself.  
4pp

**D. SCHOLARLY AND LITERARY ACTIVITIES 1897-1944****I. Irish Manuscripts Commission**

- 42**      8 June 1931      Letter from An Seabhac (Pádraig Ó Siochfhradha) enclosing a rough proof of *Nennius* printed by Falconers Publishing Works for his approval before printing of the rest of the work is commenced.  
2pp
- 43**      8 May      Letter from Enri Ó hAnluain informing MacNeill he sent an essay on ogham stones to the IMC and asking him not to ignore it.  
1p

**II. Letters from Clubs and Societies**

- 44**      7 July 1902-  
11 March 1941      Letters from the auditors and secretaries of various clubs and societies such as An Cumann Seanchais UCD, a branch of Connradh na Gaeildhge in Glasgow and the Ivernian Society asking MacNeill if he will chair and preside over meetings.  
5 items.
- 45**      10 February 1903-  
13 December 1940      Letters from secretaries of various societies and organisations such as The Institute of Higher Education and branches of Connradh na Gaeildhge around the country inviting MacNeill to be present at meetings.  
11 items.

- 46**      3 June 1903-  
9 March 1940      Letters and circulars from the  
organisers of clubs and societies  
such as An Comhar Dramaiochta  
and Connradh na Gaeilghge asking for his support and financial  
assistance. Includes letter from Peadar Ua Dubhuidhe, secretary of  
Coiste Cuimhneachain Airt Ui Neill asking for a subscription towards  
the cross the committee is erecting in memory of Art Ó Neill in Co.  
Wicklow.      8 items.
- 47**      15 September 1923      Letter from Robert [Dominey],  
secretary of the Club International  
Geneve informing MacNeill he has been elected as external member.  
1p
- 48**      4 March 1937      Letter from Gearoid MacOscair  
Honorary Secretary of An Cumann  
Gaedhealach, Queens University, Belfast informing MacNeill he has  
been elected vice-president.      1p

### III. Broadcasts

- 49**      30 September 1937      Letter from Mairtin Ua  
Flaithbheartaigh, UCG, praising  
MacNeill for the manner in which he conducted interviews with  
young Irish-speaking children on the radio and for his work in the  
promotion of the Irish language in general.      1p
- 50**      26 August 1939      Letter from R. Ó Farochain, Talks  
Officer, Broadcasting Station, GPO,  
asking MacNeill if he would broadcast a talk '770 Years Ago: The  
Synod of Cashel.' He would be paid £2:2:0.      1p
- 51**      4 September 1941      Letter from Seamus MacConglinne,  
secretary of Connradh na Gaeilge,  
14, Parnell Square, asking MacNeill is he would make a broadcast  
on behalf on Connradh na Gaeilge.      1p

**IV. Lectures**

- 52** 7 January 1905-  
September 1939 Letters from the secretaries of 6 clubs, societies and colleges such as Cumann Da Teangach na hEireann, Spideal; Colaiste Muinteoireachta Laighean, Colaiste Chomhghall, Belfast and branches of Connradh na Gaeilge, asking MacNeill to give lectures on various subjects such as the Life of St. Patrick, the history and organisation of Connradh na Gaeilge and the history of Scots Gaelic. 22 items.
- 53** 14 May 1914-  
6 May 1915 Letters requesting copies of lectures MacNeill had given on 'Ireland before St. Patrick' and of a lecture where MacNeill attempted to prove that the people of the British Isles all evolved from the same race. 2 items.
- 54** 21 November 1930 Letter from Michael Ó [Chanaigh] Colaiste Muinteoireachta Laighean thanking MacNeill for putting such interest in a question he asked him at a lecture. 1p
- 55** 18 December 1930 Letter from Domhnall Ó Leochain enclosing £20 for a course of lectures he gave Cumann na Muinteori. 1p
- 56** Incomplete lecture notes outlining plans for the revival of the Irish language. 2pp

**V. Publications**

- 57** 19 May 1899 Postcard from Norma Bhortuic, Connradh na Gaeildhge asking MacNeill to write an article and give it to Falconers Printing Works the following day. 1p

4 letters from Seán MacGiollanain and Ua Rathghaille of *An Claidheamh Soluis* asking MacNeill to write various articles and columns for the magazine such as a weekly chess column and an article on the Gaelic spoken by Scottish people in Ulster.

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|--|-------------------|--|
| <b>58</b>  | 10 January 1913   | 1p   |
| <b>59</b>  | 12 September 1913 | 1p   |
| <b>60</b>  | 16 September 1913 | 1p   |
| <b>61</b>  | 18 February 1914  | 1p   |
| <b>62</b>  | 3 October 1917    | Letter from M.S. Ó Leannan asking MacNeill to write an essay for the first edition of the new series of <i>Eire Og</i> . 1p      |
| <b>63</b>  | 19 July 1922      | Letter from Enri M.S. Ua hAnluain enclosing an improved copy of the introduction to <i>An Introduction to Ogham Letters</i> . 1p |
| 7 letters from Father Seoirse MacCluin concerning the introduction he asked MacNeill to write to his book <i>Roisin Fiain na Mara</i> , a collection of short stories. He asks MacNeill's opinion on how many copies should be printed. He feels the work would be suitable for people with good Irish and suggests it could be used at the summer training school for Irish teachers. |                   |  |
| <b>64</b>  | 14 January 1924   | 3pp  |
| <b>65</b>  | 4 February 1924   | Includes a summary of 10 stories from <i>Roisin Fiain na Mara</i> and a criticism of the work by Padraign Breathnach. 12pp       |
| <b>66</b>  | 28 February 1924  | 2pp  |
| <b>67</b>  | 29 February 1924  | 1p   |
| <b>68</b>  | 19 March 1924     | 2pp  |
| <b>69</b>  | 23 April 1924     | 1p   |

- 70** 17 May 1924 2pp
- 71** 25 January 1933 Letter from Eigneachan Lamport enclosing a copy of *Teachdaire na Gaidheal*, a by-lingual newspaper published by Scottish immigrants in Nova Scotia. He asks MacNeill to write an essay for the newspaper and to pay an annual subscription. 1p
- 72** 30 January 1933 Letter from P. Ó Suilleabhain asking MacNeill's permission to print his essay from *Saorstát Éireann Official Handbook* in a textbook he is compiling for national schools.
- 73** Plans for the layout of an Irish book containing 20 essays concerning the history and literature of Ireland. The work was to be called *Measgra Mhichil Uí Chleirigh*. The first essay was to be written by Dr. Dudley Edwards and called 'Chursai eaglaise agus stait le linn *Annála na hÉireann* do scriobh ag Michael Ó Cleirigh.' 2pp
- VI. Letter from Authors and Writers**
- 2 letters from Risteard J. Ó Maoilbhreadain relating to corrections MacNeill made in his article. Ó Maoilbhreadain was not satisfied with some changes MacNeill made and he also wanted the printers mistakes corrected.
- 74** 6 December 1897 1p
- 75** 13 January 1898 1p
- 76** 1 March 1906-30 June 1944 Letters from authors enclosing copies of books they wrote on subjects such as the history of Ulster and text books for school children. 4 items.
- 77** 19 August 1913 Letter from Seaghan Ó [Cathara] asking MacNeill to return his manuscript as soon as possible. He informs MacNeill that the rest of the book is already in print and that he is delaying progress by not returning the manuscript. 3pp



- 78** 14 October 1936 Letter from G. Cerbeland Salgnac thanking MacNeill for helping him with his research on St. Patrick. He says he was particularly well received by the people MacNeill advised him to go to, by Mr. O'Cleary in the Department of Antiquities in the National Museum and James MacCarthy in the National Library. He says he found MacNeill's *Life of St. Patrick* very useful and that it solved many controversies. (In French) 4pp
- 79** 5 May 1941 Letter from Seamus Ó Neill enclosing an essay and asking MacNeill if he thinks the work is worthwhile continuing. 2pp
- 80** Letter from Aodmaiu MacGregor asking MacNeill to meet him in Dublin in order to discuss a collection of short stories relating to Inis Meán he is compiling. 5pp

### VII. Poetry and Prose

- 81** Poem beginning 'Is a ndrommullach thall la dream de ghlanchineadh Gheadheal.' 1p
- 82** Poem beginning 'La agus me agtaisteal am aonor.' 2pp
- 83** Poem beginning 'Tri bliadhna blaithe gan bhrath.' 2pp
- 84** 'Puinc d'ar gCairdibh.' 2pp
- 85** 'An Toirneach' – an account of a thunderstorm in Dublin in August 1899 by An Fainne Fionn. 3pp

- 86** Fenian story (incomplete).  
2pp
- 87** Fenian story (first page missing).  
11pp
- 88** 'Sgheal na Caorthannaige.'  
11pp
- 89** Story recounting the deeds of  
Alasdair MacDonald (Colla Ciotach)  
and Lord James Graham 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Montrose (incomplete).  
2pp

## E. REQUESTS 1895-1956

### I. References

- 90** 16 April 1910-  
6 March 1941 Letters asking for assistance in job  
applications mainly jobs with  
government bodies such as the  
National Health Insurance Commission and the IMC. Includes letter  
from Peadar MacNeill (6<sup>th</sup> March 1941) asking for work of any kind  
as his child died the previous day and his wife is still in Holles  
Street Hospital. 17 items.
- 91** 28 January 1902-  
12 April 1922 Letters on behalf of job applicants  
asking for help in securing  
positions, mainly in the Civil  
Service, the Post Office and local Government. 10 items.
- 92** 23 August 1902-  
26 April 1926 Letters from school teachers asking  
for help with promotion and job  
applications in various schools and  
colleges around the country. 8 items.
- 93** 17 July 1912-  
3 June 1937 Letters thanking MacNeill for  
references he wrote for them.  
3 items.

3 letters from Tomas Ó Ceallaigh, An Colaiste Sligeach, asking for assistance in becoming a member of the Royal Irish Academy.

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|-----------|------------------|-----|
| <b>94</b> | 3 November 1908  | 2pp |
| <b>95</b> | 15 November 1908 | 1p  |
| <b>96</b> | 9 January 1911   | 2pp |

3 letters from Father Seoirse MacCluin asking for assistance in becoming a member of the R.I.A. and in having a Doctorate of Literature conferred on him. MacCluin has sent 2 of his works *An Litriocht* and *Reiltini Oir* to the National University and he asks MacNeill to speak on his behalf to the people who read the books.

- |           |                  |     |
|-----------|------------------|-----|
| <b>97</b> | 13 November 1926 | 4pp |
| <b>98</b> | 17 November 1926 | 2pp |
| <b>99</b> | 19 November 1926 | 1p  |

## II. Inquiries

### a. Written in Irish

- |            |                                      |  |
|------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>100</b> | 1895-1956                            | Letters inquiring the spelling, meaning and translation of Irish words and clarification about points of grammar.<br>9 items.  |
| <b>101</b> | 16 February 1901-<br>19 July 1901    | Letter and postcard inquiring about the meaning and spelling of Irish Christian names and surnames.<br>2 items.  |
| <b>102</b> | 16 September 1907-<br>7 January 1913 | Letters from Irish teachers and people setting up centres for learning Irish history and the Irish language, asking MacNeill's advice on what text books to use. Includes letter from Seaghan MacAlastair (16 September 1907) asking MacNeill to send him a series of pictures for use in teaching Irish to a class of young children.<br>5 items. |

- 103** 1 July 1908 Letter from Adhamh Mac an Bhaird sending a sketch of inscriptions on an ogham stone near Hawkinstown, Co. Meath and inquiring their meaning. 2pp
- 104** 4 September 1911 Postcard showing a sketch of an ogham stone near Cul na Sane, Co. Derry. 1p
- 4 letters from Seamus P. Ó Domhnallain, Cill-Einne, Arainn Co. na Gaillimhe inquiring about the age and meaning of the inscriptions on an ogham stone on the Aran Islands. Ó Domhnallain discovered the ogham stone when he cleared out sand from the ruins of St. Enda's chapel.
- 105** 16 November 1937 1p
- 106** 10 December 1937 2pp
- 107** 14 January 1938 1p
- 108** 8 May 1938 Includes notes from the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquities*. Ó Domhnallain thanks MacNeill for the article he wrote on the ogham stone. 2pp
- 2 letters from L. Ó Caoimh inquiring about the meaning of the place-name 'Lismire' in Co. Cork.
- 109** 4 November 1940 1p
- 110** 11 November 1940 1p
- 111** [1896-] 1944 Letters asking for information and advice on various topics such as what subjects to take in college, the exact meaning or function of the 'Professorship of Irish Language and Literature in Cork College' and requesting information about the Presidents of Connradh na Gaeilge. 12 items.



- 117** 18 August 1922 Letter from Feargus Ó Nuallain enclosing a letter he received from a widow of a Unionist family. He wishes MacNeill to forward the letter to General Richard Mulcahy and to write a few words on it 'go bhfeadainn rud a dheanamh oirrthi I n-a cruadhchas.'  
2pp
- 118** 26 March 1931 Letter from H.E.G. Rope, England asking MacNeill to assist George Nobel Count Plunkett as 'his house has been raided times without number, the ladies bedroom searched minutely, his private correspondence read and jeered at, seemingly by unmannerly members of the civic guard and by employers of the Saorstat.' Rope feels that neither MacNeill nor President Cosgrave would sanction this behaviour if they knew about it. 4pp

#### F. LETTERS IN OTHER LANGUAGES 1914-28

- 119** 3 May 1914 Letter from Palarich John, Starigrad (in an Indo-European language). 3pp
- 120** 10 October 1918 Letter from J. Lloyd-Jones, U.C.D. with annotations of topographical names in Irish. (In Welsh)  
3pp
- 121** 24 May 1928 Letter from Seosamh Laoide and 'Feneguss Oc Meicc Nou,' mentions 'Soer-Staitt Indei hEreonn' and 'hAccadeimeí Indei hEreonn.'  
(In Old Irish) 2pp

**G. PERSONAL LETTERS 1911-24**

- 122**      October 1911      Letter from John J. Horgan inviting MacNeill to come and stay in Cork to discuss 'the past, the present and the future.'  
1p
- 123**      13 November 1918      Letter from Una Nic Fualain, school teacher, Inis Mean giving MacNeill general news from the island, such as they have a new teacher in the boys' school and giving him information about an island woman who emigrated to America. She says she is sorry to hear of MacNeill's ill health and advises him not to return to college work until he is completely recovered.  
2pp
- 124**      27 July 1924      Letter from MacNeill's son, Niall giving him an account of a family holiday in Donegal. He discusses the fishing in the area and asks his father to send him various fishing hooks of which he draws sketches. He tells his father he is enjoying the holiday immensely and that 'Nil acht rud amhain amu agus se sin nach bhfuilis fein anseo linn.'  
6pp