

**William Patrick Ryan Papers**

**LA11**



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## CONTEXT

### Biographical history

William Patrick Ryan was born in Eliogarty, near Templemore, in county Tipperary on 26 October 1867 to Laurence Ryan and his wife Judy Dwyer. He was the eldest child in the family of three girls and ten boys. In his youth, Ryan became involved in Land League activities. After training locally as a national school teacher, he went to London in 1886 with hopes of becoming a journalist.

He first gained employment in the Pearl Assurance Company but pursued his journalistic ambitions by joining the Southwark Irish Literary Club. In 1891 he obtained a post with the short-lived *Irish National Press* in Liverpool, and published his first book, *The Heart of Tipperary*, the following year. In 1893 Ryan became private secretary to Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, who was at that time involved in the New Irish Library, whose aim was to publish Irish texts. This led to the publication of Ryan's *The Irish Literary Revival* in 1894. During the following years Ryan wrote for publications such as the *New Ireland Review*, *The Leader*, *Outlook*, and occupied posts as sub-editor of T.P. O'Connor's *Evening Sun* and as literary editor of the *Sunday Special*.

In 1899, Ryan joined the Gaelic League and was elected secretary of the London branch in 1902. He also became editor of *Inis Fáil*, a bilingual monthly published by the League. An admirer of Pádraig Pearse, Ryan sent his son Desmond to St. Enda's in Rathfarnham.

1905 saw Ryan move his family back to Ireland and settle in Navan, county Meath, after accepting the position of editor of *The Peasant*. The following year, Ryan found himself engaged in a confrontation with Cardinal Michael Logue on the subject of lay control of national schools. This confrontation led to the cessation of the official publication of *The Peasant*, but a resolute Ryan continued to publish the newspaper (later retitled *The Irish Nation and Peasant*) on his own in Dublin until its collapse in 1910.

During this period, Ryan had become involved in the social aspects of the nationalist struggle, with his newspaper supporting James Larkin's movement. In early 1911 he returned to London as assistant editor of the left-wing newspaper the *Daily Herald*. Here he became one of the foremost labour relations journalists of his time. Ryan personally wrote many of the editorials which brought the support of the English extreme-left to the Irish labour movement during the 1913 Lockout. After the Trade Union Council took over the *Daily Herald* he became night editor and his influence gradually waned, although he remained a member of staff until his death.

Throughout his journalistic career, Ryan wrote widely in both English and Irish, having a book published every two years. His correspondence reflects the extent of his writing, which encompassed themes such as theosophy and mythology as well as Irish nationalism and related matters. He wrote several versions of his

autobiography, none of which were published.

Ryan married Elizabeth Boyd in London in 1892. They had four children, two of whom died at birth. Although the couple was estranged for many years, the family continued to live together at 15 Kempshott Road, Streatham Common, London. William Patrick Ryan died on 29 December 1942, his wife having passed away the previous year. He was survived by his son Desmond and daughter Maeve.

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### **Archival history**

These papers were amongst those of Desmond Ryan, donated to UCD Archives by his widow Sarah in 1975.

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## **CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

### **Scope and Content**

Writings in both English and Irish, mainly unpublished; includes novels, autobiographical drafts, plays, poems and articles.

Correspondence, both personal and related to Ryan's professional career. Personal letters are holograph, unless stated otherwise at item level. Professional letters are typescript unless stated otherwise.

Personal material, including photographs, birth certificate and copy of will.

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**System of arrangement**

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## **CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE**

### **Access**

Available by appointment to holders of a UCDA reader's ticket. Produced for consultation in microform.

### **Language**

English and Irish, with some French and German

### **Finding Aid**

Descriptive catalogue

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## **DESCRIPTION CONTROL**

### **Archivist's Note**

This descriptive catalogue was prepared by Sarah Poutch in April 2010.

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## 1. WRITINGS

### 1.1 Autobiographies, novels and short stories

- LA11/1** Not dated  
229pp  
***Quests and Comrades***  
Copy of Ryan's autobiography, dealing with his journalistic career. Includes his reminiscences of working with T.P O'Connor and other contemporaries. Pages 210–214 are missing. Typescript.
- LA11/2** Not dated  
271pp  
***Draft of Quests and Comrades***  
Mainly typescript, but with several handwritten sections and annotations. There is a note on the front page, describing the manuscript as 'Incomplete Very rough draft'.
- LA11/3** Not dated  
182pp  
***Irish Quests and Comrades***  
Copy of the second volume of Ryan's autobiography, in which he recalls his early life in Tipperary and describes the beginnings of his career in journalism. Typescript with handwritten annotations. Chapters 13 and 20 are missing.
- LA11/4** Not dated  
202pp  
***Draft of Irish Quests and Comrades***  
Draft of *Irish Quests and Comrades*, mainly handwritten with some typed sections pasted in. This draft includes a contents page, listing the chapter titles, which the typed copy (LA11/3) lacks.

**LA11/5** Not dated

266pp

***Golden Decades***

An expanded version of LA11/1, subtitled 'Deeds and Quests among Authors, Pioneers and Pressmen'. Typescript with handwritten annotations. The contents are divided into two parts, each containing sixteen chapters. The autobiography includes Ryan's recollections of notable persons, such as George Russell, Arthur Griffith, James Larkin and James Connolly.

**LA11/6** [1939]

104pp

***Adventures of a Labour Pressman***

Manuscript copy of an autobiographical piece which is noted to have been originally intended for publication by the Labour Book Service, but was later incorporated into *Golden Decades*. Some typed sections are pasted in.

**LA11/7** Not dated

62pp

***The Second Life of Cyril Raybrook***

Bound typescript of a short ten chapter work based around a Fleet Street journalist of rural origins.

**LA11/8** Not dated

41pp

***The Rocky Road to Downing Street***

A fictitious account of political life in England. A note in pencil on the first page estimates the word count at 8080 words. Typescript.

**LA11/9** Not dated

75pp

***Untitled novel***

Typescript chapters five, six, eight, nine, fourteen, fifteen, seventeen, twenty and twenty nine of an untitled mystical novel about fictional

**LA11/9 contd** London characters, including Mr Baffin and Mr Blytheworld. Some handwritten annotations included.

**LA11/10** Not dated

146pp

***Rúna Fáil***

An Irish language manuscript novel based on contemporary national figures.

**LA11/11** August 1942

107pp

***Conaire Mór: Ard-Scéal Átha Cliath***

Bound copy of an Irish language novel. Also includes a typescript English translation (*From Etain to Conaire*), a short afterword ('Signposts and Secrets') in which Ryan explains the origins of the novel, and a letter (possibly to Colm O'Lochlainn) concerning the rewriting of the manuscript.

## 1.2 Plays

**LA11/12** Not dated

48pp

***Father Christmas in the Cave of the King***

Verse play in bound typescript form with many handwritten annotations and corrections.

**LA11/13** Not dated

38pp

***The Prisoners of Avalon***

Verse play, handwritten and typed. Includes a two page foreword which describes Avalon as 'the Celtic Paradise in the Western Sea'.

- LA11/14** Not dated  
50pp  
***King Arthur in Avalon***  
Typescript verse play featuring the characters King Cormac Mac Art and Merlin as well as the eponymous King Arthur.
- LA11/15** Not dated  
20pp  
***Guests of Uriel***  
Typescript verse play, subtitled 'A Little Mystery Play'.
- LA11/16** Not dated  
108pp  
***From Atlantis to Thames***  
Verse play in printed sections featuring the character of Aidan Delvin, the sub-editor of a London daily newspaper, who is described in the dramatis personae as a 'poet and publisher'.
- LA11/17** Not dated  
13pp  
***The Jug of Sorrow***  
Short typescript play set in rural Ireland.
- LA11/18** Not dated  
9pp  
***The Song of the Salmon God***  
Printed copy of a verse play, with handwritten corrections. Includes a four page foreword.

**LA11/19** Not dated  
104pp  
***Rúna Fáil***  
An Irish verse play concerning the Fianna and angels. Part printed, part handwritten. The pages are unbound but heavily pasted together in the top left corner. Includes three pages of related notes.

**LA11/20** [1917]  
49pp  
***Inghean Mhanannáin***  
Irish verse play, with a printed foreword pasted in. Manuscript

### **1.3 Poetry**

**LA11/21** Not dated  
39pp  
***From Avalon to Iona***  
Bound typescript collection of four poems with a foreword.

**LA11/22** Not dated  
56pp  
***Collection of poetry***  
An untitled manuscript containing thirty poems. The titles of the poems are listed.

**LA11/23** Not dated  
61pp  
***A Guild of Poets***  
Subtitled 'The Seekers of Sunrise Homestead', a narrative poem in blank verse which includes the same characters as **LA11/9**. Pages one to eighteen are typescript, the remainder being handwritten.

- LA11/24** Not dated  
29pp  
**Collection of poetry**  
Three poems, mainly typescript, with two handwritten pages.
- LA11/25** Not dated  
9pp  
***The Labour Leader and the Buddhist***  
Typescript poem with handwritten corrections.
- LA11/26** Not dated  
33pp  
***Dréachta Rúnda***  
Loosely bound manuscript consisting of five poems and one page of notes.
- LA11/27** Not dated  
13pp  
**Nine poems translated into Irish by W.P. Ryan**  
Handwritten. Includes poems by Goethe, Schiller and Dante.
- LA11/28** Not dated  
16pp  
***Deoch an Rí***  
Manuscript Irish poem with numerous corrections.
- LA11/29** Not dated  
7pp  
***Aonghus agus Diarmuid***  
Manuscript Irish poem with numerous corrections.

- LA11/30** Not dated  
6pp  
***Vergilius agus Eriugena***  
Manuscript Irish poem with numerous corrections. Includes two pages of notes.

#### **1.4 Articles**

- LA11/31** Not dated  
25pp  
**'Ireland's Voice in World Philosophy'**  
Typescript article, numbered from pages 57–82. Originally part of a larger work, the remainder of which is missing.

- LA11/32** Not dated  
4pp  
**Confucius and Lord Charles Beresford**  
Ryan discusses Beresford's book *The Break-Up of China*.

- LA11/33** Not dated  
23pp  
**Collection of articles**  
Five short articles on various topics, and two reviews, consisting of cuttings mounted on paper. The reviews are of Mrs Humphry Ward's book on Charlotte Bronte, and Frank Matthew's *Defender of the Faith*.

- LA11/34** 7 October–1 December 1939  
16pp  
**'With Gaels in Wartime'**  
Collection of three of Ryan's articles, clipped from the *Irish Press* and mounted on paper. They discuss Irish political issues.

**LA11/35** Not dated

73pp

**Articles and notes on spiritual matters**

Eight sets of manuscript notes and articles on topics such as 'Egyptian Mythe and Mysteries', 'Gnomes, Undines, Sylphs and Fire Beings', and 'The Four Seasons of the Year and their Ruling Archangels'.

**LA11/36** Not dated

c.238pp

**Exercise books and notebook**

Containing rough notes in German, Old Irish and French. The exercise books measure twenty centimeters by sixteen centimeters, the notebook being only slightly smaller.

**LA11/37** December 1906

11pp

**Account of feud between Cardinal Michael Logue and *The Peasant***

Explanation of the origins of the controversy, including copies of the correspondence involved. Ryan writes this piece under his Irish name, Liam P. O'Riain.

**LA11/38** Not dated

62pp

**'I Bhfochair na Bhfeallsamhan'**

Article written in Irish on the history of philosophy. Manuscript with printed excerpts pasted in. Published in *Féile na nGaedhal*.

**LA11/39** Not dated

169pp

**'Príomh Eigeas na hÉireann - Johannes Eriugena agus a Theagasc'**

Manuscript article discussing the teachings of Johannes Scotus Eriugena in Irish. Includes notes in English and Irish on Eriugena,



**LA11/39 contd** and a completed typescript of the corrected article.

**LA11/40** [1914]

27pp

**Press proofs of two articles in Irish**

'Dante agus na Gaedhil' and 'D'eis an Oireachtais'. The proofs are pasted in and handwritten corrections are added.

## **2. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **2.1 Personal Correspondence**

**LA11/41** September 1926–November 1936

4pp

**Letters from Almey [Adcock]**

Thanks Ryan for his review of her latest book in the *Daily Herald*, although she writes that ‘its many defects weigh heavily’ on her soul (27 September 1926). Requests his assistance on behalf of a family friend, Hermon Collins, who is a journalist hoping for a position at the *Herald*, and thanks him after he agrees to help (October–November 1936).

**LA11/42** July 1923–January 1928

5pp

**Letters from St John Adcock**

Believes Ryan to be ‘one of the best and honestest reviewers’ he has encountered (14 July 1923). Discusses the identity of the reviewer of *The Torch*, as the author wishes to thank them, although neither Adcock nor Ryan can recall writing it (16 February 1924).

**LA11/43** 12 September 1923

1p

**Letter from George Belt**

Sends Ryan two tickets to a reunion at the Holborn Hall on behalf of the ‘Herald’ League, requesting him to say a few words on the occasion. Typescript.

**LA11/44** 4–12 October 1921

3pp

**Letters from Labhras Breathnach**

Writing on behalf of the Ministry of Fine Arts, Breathnach invites Ryan to speak in Dublin on the occasion of a national celebration of the work of Dante (4 October). Thanks Ryan for his reply and accepts that it would be hard to expect him to come to Dublin for this

**LA11/44 contd** purpose (12 October 1921).

**LA11/45** Not dated

1p

**Letter from Shane Bullock**

Mentions 'Time's Ravages' and the 'good old days', before remarking that 'this is doleful stuff'. The first page of this letter is missing.

**LA11/46** Not dated

1p

**Letter from Casey**

Asks Ryan to come and 'hear some real Irish planxties and Munster jigs', and asks him to recommend a 'truly simple' Irish language text book.

**LA11/47** 27-30 August 1936

7pp

**Letters from K. Clayton**

Writes in connection with her aim of getting an autobiography of Power O'Malley, Irish artist, published. She has been advised to contact Ryan by Miss Flannery (27 August). Thanks him for his advice to contact a literary agent (30 August).

**LA11/48** March 1912-February 1924

9pp

**Letters from Conán Maol (Pádríag Ó Seaghda)**

Informs Ryan of his difficulties in having his work published, and comments that people thought the Dáil would make a difference to the Irish language, but that matters are in just as bad a way now, and opines further on the state of the country (24 December 1921, 2 August 1922). These four letters are all written in Irish.

**LA11/49** 21 April 1931

4pp

**Letter from Tomás Ua Concheanainn**

Thanks Ryan for his subscription to the Pádraig Ó Conaire memorial, and informs of the progress of the sculptor (Albert Power) in creating the memorial. Mentions that he often speaks of Ryan with Liam O'Brien and Seán MacGiollarnath. This letter is written in Irish.

**LA11/50** Not dated

1p

**Letter from A. de Blacam**

Makes arrangements to meet Ryan in London.

**LA11/51** 8 January

2pp

**Postcard from Aidan de Gernon**

Sent from Duleek, county Meath, which de Gernon describes as 'looking wonderfully green and pleasant'. The postcard is fronted with a sepia tone photograph of Athcarne Castle, Meath.

**LA11/52** 27 April 1926

1p

**Letter from F.C.R. Douglas**

The solicitor sends Ryan a cheque for three guineas, 'being your fee for attendance at Court to give evidence' in the case of Art O'Brien v Diamond and others. Typescript.

**LA11/53** 24 July 1939

1p

**Letter from Elliott and Fry**

Photographic studio requests a sitting with Ryan to update his portrait. Typescript.

**LA11/54** January 1926–March 1937

8pp

**Letters received in relation to Esperanto**

Correspondents include Emma L. Osmond, M.H. Rook (written in Esperanto), Francis McCormick (honorary secretary of Irlanda Esperanto Associo, written in Esperanto) and B.M. Barker (group secretary of the Streatham Esperanto Group). This item contains both manuscript and typescript letters.

**LA11/55** Not dated

2pp

**Note from G. Farrington**

Writes on behalf of Barry's Hotel of Great Denmark Street in Dublin to confirm a reservation Ryan had made.

**LA11/56** July 1939

1p

**Letter from the Folklore Society of Ireland**

A reminder for Ryan to send his annual subscription fee. Sent from University College Dublin, Earlsfort Terrace. Typescript.

**LA11/57** June 1913–March 1939

42pp

**Letters received in relation to Connradh na Gaedhilge (Conradh na Gaeilge; the Gaelic League)**

Correspondence from various parties relating specifically to Ryan's involvement in the organisation for promoting the use of the Irish language. Correspondents include Máire Nic Aodhchain, Máire Ní Dubhghaill, Hilda de Búit, Kathleen Lysaght, Liam Ó Lobhthaigh and Pádraig Ó Dálaigh. The letters mainly deal with requests for articles and lectures from Ryan. There is also a significant amount of correspondence (March 1934–March 1939) from Conchubar Ó Brosnacháin, which relates to the administration of the organisation. This item contains both manuscript and typescript letters.

**LA11/58** 4 May 1936

1p

**Letter from Liam S. Gógan**

Writes from the National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin, to thank Ryan for sending him his little books of poems. Typescript, in Irish.

**LA11/59** 14 November 1923

1p

**Letter from S.D. Green**

A group of his business students in a high school in Trenton, New Jersey, has selected Ryan as an individual 'whose life has made an especial appeal to them', and requests that Ryan write them 'a letter of kindly interest'. Typescript.

**LA11/60** 4 March 1924

2pp

**Letter from H.W. Hobart**

Thanks Ryan for sending a copy of *Fleet Street in Starlight* to him, and makes some suggestions for future editions.

**LA11/61** May 1933–April 1938

14pp

**Notes and postcards from Douglas Hyde**

Thanks Ryan for *Gaedhalchas i gCéin*, and mentions a long-ago party at Seirse Ó Mordha's (George Moore) which was also attended by Éamon de Valera and his future wife, Sinéad Ní Fhlannagáin, whom Hyde was very impressed by (29 May 1933). Send Ryan a copy of his play *Casadh an tSugáin* (12 September 1934). The remainder of the correspondence is Hyde's thanks for various article and other pieces sent to him by Ryan. The letters are in Irish, and signed 'An Craoibhín'.

- LA11/62** June 1934–May 1935  
5pp  
**Circulars from the Dr Douglas Hyde Compliment Committee**  
Relating to the organisation a dinner and presentation to Hyde at University College Dublin. In Irish.
- LA11/63** 30 April  
1p  
**Letter from F.W. Johnson**  
Requests a signed photograph of Ryan on behalf of The Library Collection, New Ulm, Minnesota.
- LA11/64** October–December 1926  
12pp  
**Letters from George Kaufman**  
Replies to a query from Ryan about the teachings of Rudolf Steiner, which he says have suffered from mistakes creeping into unrevised reports of them (9 October).
- LA11/65** 5 January 1922  
1p  
**Letter from Thomas Kelly**  
The honorary secretary of Aonach na nGaedhal invites Ryan to participate in a week long World Congress of the Irish Race in Paris. Typescript.
- LA11/66** 14 June 1933  
1p  
**Letter from T.J. Kiernan**  
Writes from the Office of the High Commissioner for the Irish Free State in London to say that he has read a third of *Gaedhalchas i gCéin* and thanks Ryan for ‘honouring’ him with a copy.

**LA11/67** 15 September 1921

1p

**Note from Seán MacCaoilte**

Writes that he is staying in the Jermyn Court Hotel. Written in Irish.

**LA11/68** 3 June 1937

2pp

**Letter from Fionán [MacColuim]**

Suggests that the Irish state ought to train five hundred men to get to work on improving the status of the Irish language, and goes on to say that with the exception of schools and examinations, the situation is not much better than it was under the English. Written in Irish.

**LA11/69** March–September 1922

7pp

**Letters from R. MacCothaigh**

Wonders if Ryan was in Ireland at Christmas and speaks of the political divisions in the country (21 March). Mentions two article in the *Theosophical Path* which he feels could be useful in rebuilding the nation (27 September). Three letters in total.

**LA11/70** 18 August 1920

2pp

**Letter from Seaghan MacEnrí**

Sends Ryan some questions from representatives of small nations concerning the state of languages before and after independence, as well as questions on technical terms and the language of education. Written in Irish.

**LA11/71** 9 February 1907

1p

**Letter from William MacGiolla Bhríde (William Gibson, Lord Ashbourne)**

Praises the last issue of the *Peasant* and mentions he must travel to



- LA11/71 contd** Paris on Monday, a city in which he believes Cardinal Logue would learn a great deal he didn't know before. Written in Irish.
- LA11/72** 26 May 1940  
1p  
**Letter from Frederick T. MacLeod**  
Thanks Ryan for subscribing to the Scottish Gaelic Texts Society.
- LA11/73** 21 January 1914  
2pp  
**Postcard from Ernest Manico**  
*Suantraighe agus Goltraidhe* will be published soon and they will forward a copy to Ryan.
- LA11/74** April–May 1927  
4pp  
**Letters from Ruth Melland**  
Informs Ryan of the formation of an Anthroposophical Study Group (22 April), and asks him to chair one of their meetings (18 May).
- LA11/75** September 1926–January 1936  
2pp  
**Letters from William Mellor**  
Sends a personal letter of appreciation for a review which Ryan wrote for the *Daily Herald* (22 September 1926), and writes a note of goodbye when he leaves the newspaper (22 January 1936).
- LA11/76** October 1933–April 1938  
23pp  
**Letters from Mairín Mitchell**  
Thanks Ryan for copies of his books which he sends her. Also asks if he could have an Irish reviewer look over her book *Traveller in Time*, and thanks him for doing so (21–24 November 1935). Discusses her

**LA11/76 contd** book about the Blueshirts' Spanish campaign (18–22 October 1937).  
Fourteen letters in total.

**LA11/77** 15 May 1936

1p

**Letter from Úna Ní Fhaircheallaigh**

Thanks him for sending her a book of poems. Written in Irish.

**LA11/78** November 1921–March 1940

25pp

**Letters from Máire Ní Fhlannghaile**

Thanks Ryan for various books he sends her throughout the years and updates him on her personal news. Mentions that she will pass on notes made by Ryan on a manuscript about her father's life (15 May 1938). Fifteen letters in total, mostly in Irish.

**LA11/79** 12 May 1923

1p

**Note from Lil Ní Fhoghairtaigh**

Thanks Ryan for a copy of *Fleet Street in Starlight*.

**LA11/80** 8 January 1937

4pp

**Letter from Edith Norman**

Updates Ryan on her and Harry's recent news.

**LA11/81** March 1916–July 1936

13pp

**Letters from Art O'Brien**

President de Valera is anxious to meet the chief officers of various Irish organizations in London and so O'Brien has arranged a dinner, to which Ryan is invited (19 July 1921). Mary MacSwiney has requested a copy of Ryan's play *Cuairt an Bainríoghna* for the

- LA11/81 contd** children of St Ita's to perform (30 May 1922). Asks Ryan to withdraw his resignation as Vice-President of the Gaelic League (1 June 1922). Eleven letters in total, mostly in Irish.
- LA11/82** 9 June 1937  
2pp  
**Letter from Kathleen O'Cathain (Caitlín Bean Uí Catháin)**  
Thanks Ryan for a paragraph in *Féile na nGaedhal* about her late husband Seán.
- LA11/83** 16–22 May 1922  
4pp  
**Letters from Cormac O'Cillín**  
Writes on behalf of Sheila Gallagher, about whom the *Daily Herald* printed an article, enquiring if she ought to have received a fee from the newspaper. Two letters, one in Irish. 6 May 1936
- LA11/84** May 1936–December 1939  
2pp  
**Letters from Muiris O'Conaill**  
Sends Ryan a poem inspired by *Feilm in Tobar Beannuighthe* (6 May 1936) and writes to accept Ryan's subscription to the Irish Texts Society (12 December 1939). Written in Irish.
- LA11/85** December 1927–June 1936  
5pp  
**Circular and postcards from Muiris O'Droighneán**  
Seeks information on living Irish writers for his MA (14 December 1927), and requests information from Ryan as to where he learned his Irish (11 January 1928). Thanks Ryan for *Feilm an Tobar Beannuighthe* (5 June 1936). Written in Irish.

- LA11/86** 14 January 1938  
1p  
**Letter from Proinsias O'Duinn**  
Is waiting for news from MacAonghusa, who is in Ireland. Written in Irish.
- LA11/87** 4 May 1936  
1p  
**Letter from Proinsias O'Fallamhain**  
Many people are hoping that Ryan will stay as Vice-President of the Gaelic League, and urges Ryan to send in the necessary form. Written in Irish.
- LA11/88** 13 January 1921  
2pp  
**Letter from Francis O'Fathaigh**  
Asks Ryan to return some materials he lent him while Ryan was writing *The Irish Literary Revival*. Written in Irish.
- LA11/89** 2 May 1936  
1p  
**Letter from Mathghamhan O'Mahghamhna**  
Thanks Ryan for a copy of *Feilm an Tobar Beannuighthe*. Written in Irish.
- LA11/90** April 1902–July 1904  
14pp  
**Letters from Michael O'Maoldomhnaigh**  
Requests that Ryan excuse him at the next committee meeting (16 April 1902). Three letters in total.

- LA11/91** 13 October 1935  
2pp  
**Postcard from T. O'Muireadhaigh**  
Informs Ryan that he is going around the schools and will send word to the *Examiner*. Written in Irish.
- LA11/92** 20 March 1935  
2pp  
**Letter from Proinsias O'Riain**  
He is looking for a copy of Ryan's play *Cuairt an Beanríoghna* but cannot find one, even in the National Library. He feels it very suitable for the new branch founded in Father Matthew Hall.
- LA11/93** [1922]  
2pp  
**Letter from Liam O'Rinn**  
He was so proud to receive Ryan's cheque that he kept it for a week before lodging it. O'Rinn feels that the political divisions in the current situation will only be bad news for the Irish language. Written in Irish.
- LA11/94** October 1913–May 1915  
18pp  
**Letters from Pádraig Pearse**  
Speaks of a forthcoming trip to America to lecture and raise funds for St Enda's school, which he feels is 'the only chance of placing the school on a sound financial basis'. Also asks Ryan to write a piece about him for the American papers as advance publicity (15 October 1913). Mentions that he is 'drifting more and more to politics' and that he feels 'we of the Gaelic League generation must be ready for strong political action, leading up to other action' (29 October 1913). Is keeping 'sane' by setting his literary affairs in order (5 March 1915). Writes that rather than buying poetry, 'Gaels are putting their money in guns', and that the 'Irish movement... is in danger of going out ingloriously: unless something terrific saves it' (18 March 1915). Mentions the arrest of Francis Sheehy-Skeffington (30 May 1915). Seven letters in total, and four receipts. Three of the letters are written in Irish.

**LA11/95** [1913]–February 1933

9pp

**Letters from George Russell (AE)**

He will not write an open letter to Larkin as he never intervenes in matters of this kind, but in his next letter says that by indeed doing so he has ‘enraged the employers’ [1913]. Turns down a poem by Ryan for the *Irish Statesman* stating that it is too pagan, and that he does ‘not intend to be driven out of Ireland if I can possibly help it’ (25 November 1924). Thanks him for sending *The Song of the Salmon God* and comments that Ireland today is ‘not at all mystical’ (5 September 1928).

**LA11/96** 5–12 February 1933

3pp

**Letters from Tessa Rosencrantz**

Asks for ten minutes of Ryan’s time to discuss an exhibition she is planning on ‘Work Done in Leisure Time’ (5 February) and thanks him for his offer to submit something about her work to his news editor (12 February).

**LA11/97** November 1926–May 1941

28pp

**Letters from Annie [Ryan]**

William Ryan’s sister writes to him with news of his family in Dublin from her address in the North Strand. Informs him of the death of his father (31 March 1927). Fifteen letters in total.

**LA11/98** November 1912–April 1941

351pp

**Letters and postcards from Desmond Ryan**

Considerable amount of correspondence from William Ryan’s son Desmond. The earliest letters are written in Irish and are sent from St Enda’s in Rathfarnham, discussing school matters. Desmond writes of political issues as well as personal, including his support for Jim Larkin (1913–14) and his work as Pádraig Pearse’s secretary (1913–16). His letters resume in October 1920 with his release from prison and the beginning of his journalistic career in Dublin. There is a break in correspondence between March 1922 and October 1932,

- LA11/98 contd** after which Desmond writes to inform his father of his personal news and his career. This includes work carried out on publishing three volumes of James Connolly's writings (July–August 1940). Mentions his marriage to Sally (Sarah) Hartley (25 August 1933), and later their fear for William during the air raids on London (15 September 1940). One hundred and thirty five pieces of correspondence in total, with approximately one hundred and five (from 1912–22) handwritten in Irish. Thereafter letters are in English, and often typescript.
- LA11/99** Not dated
- 2pp
- Letter from Elizabeth Ryan**  
William Ryan's wife describes an unpleasant crossing of the Irish Sea with their daughter Maeve.
- LA11/100** 22–25 July 1925
- 4pp
- Postcards from Maeve Ryan**  
Sent while on holidays at Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex. The postcards are fronted by black and white seaside photographs.
- LA11/101** 27 April
- 2pp
- Note from Katherine Shackleton**  
The editor of the *Bookman* would like her to sketch Ryan's head for him, and she requests a sitting with him.
- LA11/102** Not dated
- 1p
- Card from Swaine**  
Requests to take a photographic portrait of Ryan for his 'Authors' collection.

**LA11/103** 2 November 1927

2pp

**Letter from F.R. Swan**

Expresses his appreciation of Ryan's *Eden and Evolution*.

**LA11/104** 21 May 1936

1p

**Letter from Torna [Tadhg O'Donnachadha]**

A short eight line poem in honour of Ryan. Written in Irish.

**LA11/105** 8 November 1923

1p

**Letter from Clara Watts-Dunton**

Compliments Ryan's 'charming poem' and invites him to call on her.

**LA11/106** 3 November 1926

3p

**Letters from Sidney and Barbara Webb**

Both thank Ryan for the book he sent them, which they both enjoyed.

**LA11/107** 6 July 1940

1p

**Letter from James A. Whelan**

Of the Irish News Service and Information, Whelan sends Ryan a copy of the *Cork Weekly* in relation to the late Miss Boyd, and asks to be remembered to Desmond, who was always pleased to help him when he came to London.



**LA11/108** August 1915

2pp

**Postcard from T. White**

Postcard is fronted by a picture of 'Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, The Untameable', whose funeral White has just attended.

**LA11/109** 8 August 1921

1p

**Letter from James Wilkinson**

Acknowledges Ryan's donation of Lane's *Larger English-Irish Dictionary* to the Carnegie Free Library, county Cork.

## 2.2 Professional Correspondence

**LA11/110** 6–16 February 1937

3pp

**Letters from the African Missionary**

Reverend J.C. O’Flaherty requests ‘some literary alms’ for his magazine (6 February) and thanks Ryan for sending same (16 February).

**LA11/111** June 1933–November 1938

4pp

**Letters from the Anthroposophical Society**

Various editors thank Ryan for submissions made to the society’s *Quarterly* magazine. He is informed of the cessation of its publication (28 February 1934).

**LA11/112** January 1933–March 1937

5pp

**Letters from Arthur Barker**

The publisher thanks Ryan for sending him *Socrates in Surrey* (January–October 1933) and *Quests and Comrades* (February–March 1937) but feels unable to publish either. Five letters in total.

**LA11/113** 20 August 1941

1p

**Letter from the Bodley Head**

C.J. Greenwood thanks Ryan for sending them *Golden Decades*, but the wartime paper shortage makes publishing it impossible.

**LA11/114** April 1934–November 1942

6pp

**Letters from Browne and Nolan**

The publishing house acknowledges receipt of *The Prisoners of Avalon* (12 April 1934), *Irish Quests and Comrades* (5–26 May 1938) and a manuscript of verse (18 November 1942) but are unable to publish any of them. Six letters in total.

**LA11/115** 29 June 1938

1p

**Letter from Burns, Oats and Washbourne**

Denis Gwynn writes on behalf of the publishers to decline Ryan's *Irish Quests and Comrades*.

**LA11/116** 1 June 1937

1p

**Letter from Cassell and Company**

They have considered *Quests and Comrades* but cannot see their way to undertake publishing it.

**LA11/117** February 1923–April 1937

4pp

**Letters from Chapman and Hall**

Arthur Waugh informs Ryan that they do not publish poetry, only prose (26 February 1923), and expresses admiration of Ryan's writing and wishes it were more commercially viable (7 January 1924, 19 June 1933). Four letters in total, two of which are holograph.

**LA11/118** 23 August 1937

1p

**Letter from Chatto and Windus**

They return the manuscript of Ryan's autobiography, declining to publish it.

**LA11/119** 26 September 1915

1p

**Letter from the *Daily Chronicle***

James Milne lets Ryan know that his review arrived and will be published shortly. He assumes that Ryan will review the 'occasional book during the season which is now beginning'. Holograph.

**LA11/120** July 1915–October 1925

5pp

**Letters and postcard from *An Claidheamh Soluis***

Seán MacGiollarnath writes on behalf of Conradh na Gaeilge's journal. Informs Ryan that *Aonghas agus Diarmuid* will be published this week (21 July 1915), refers to Ryan's use of new Irish spellings (Saturday, not dated) and thanks him in a postcard for his words of praise and for sending a copy of *Féile na nGaedhal* (30 October 1925). Also includes an undated letter from Padraic O'Domhnaill, in which he lets Ryan know that *Einsteinachas* will be published in *Fáinne an Lae* this week. Three letters and one postcard, handwritten in Irish.

**LA11/121** May 1925–May 1926

6pp

**Letters from Conradh na Gaeilge**

Proinsias O'Fathaigh writes on behalf of the organisation. He discusses the need for propaganda pamphlets and the decision of the Executive to republish Pamphlet No. 25 and mentions the Czech struggle (22 May 1925). The Executive has decided to send proof copies of the pamphlet to the Department of Education in order to try to have it put in a history textbook (10 July 1925), and O'Fathaigh mentions that Padraig O'Dubhthaigh has put this matter to the inspectors (4 September 1925). The Executive has decided to publish the pamphlet themselves, and O'Fathaigh sends the manuscript back to Ryan for corrections, which he will be paid for (14 May 1926). Five letters in total, including one holograph, all written in Irish.

**LA11/122** February–May 1933

2pp

**Letters from Constable and Company**

They decline to publish *King Arthur in Avalon* (13 February) and *Socrates in Surrey* (15 May).

**LA11/123** October–November 1933

3pp

**Letters from Cuala Industries**

Elizabeth Yeats informs Ryan that she will take the manuscript of his poems which she has received home to Dundrum to read, but that her brother W.B. Yeats acts as editor and the decision on whether to print them or not will be his (12 October). Returns the manuscript with her apologies (21 November). The letters are holograph.

**LA11/124** 2 February 1938

1p

**Letter from Curtis Brown**

C.B. Sheldon writes on behalf of the company, thanking Ryan for sending them *Apostles and Pressmen*, but declining to publish it.

**LA11/125** February 1922–December 1935

11pp

**Letters from the *Daily Herald***

Gerald Gould says how sorry the staff are that Ryan is unwell (20 December 1921). Editor George Lansbury confirms Ryan's position as night editor (10 February 1922). New editor Hamilton Fyffe confirms Ryan's new position as assistant editor (2 January 1923). William Mellor offers Ryan the position of 'Libel-Catcher' at the newspaper, which he accepts (21–27 November 1929). Editorial director John Dunbar officially cuts Ryan's salary (12 January 1931), which is also later further gradually reduced by a guinea a week (3 December 1935). Eleven letters in total, one holograph.

**LA11/126** 16–23 December 1934

3pp

**Letters from E.R. Dodds**

Dodds is preparing a memoir of his friend Stephen MacKenna to accompany a selection of his writings, and requests Ryan's recollections of MacKenna (16 December). Thanks him for his reply (23 December).

**LA11/127** September 1925–January 1927

11pp

**Letters from Noel Douglas**

B.N. Langdon-Davies writes on behalf of the publishing company to discuss with Ryan a book he has written which Noel Douglas intend to publish. Ten letters in total, one holograph.

**LA11/128** 30 April 1942

1p

**Letter from the *Dublin Magazine***

Seamus O'Sullivan informs Ryan that he wishes he could print his poem *The Enkindling of Iona* but that current paper restrictions prevent it.

**LA11/129** July–September 1938

6pp

**Letters from James Duffy and Company**

Eoin O'Keefe communicates with Ryan regarding the possible publication of *Irish Quests and Comrades*. They ask Ryan to pay for some of the production costs (12 August) and offer further terms which Ryan notes on the letter as being 'quite unsatisfactory' (30 August). Six letters in total.

**LA11/130** December 1929–January 1936

30pp

**Letters from the Department of Education**

From Seán MacLellan, secretary of the Book Committee, discusses several manuscripts which Ryan sent for consideration for inclusion on the curriculum, including *Gaedhaleachas i gCéin* (which is accepted and published), *Feilm an Tobar Naomhtha*, *Mealbhoigin na Musaí*, *Johannes Eriugena agus a Theagasc*, *Seamroga Diaga*, and *I bhFochair na bhFeallsamhain*. MacLellan also sends a copy of the twelve new conditions of publication by the department. Ryan notes objections to conditions three and twelve (5 January 1931). Twenty eight letters in total, in Irish.

**LA11/131** September 1925–January 1926

2pp

**Letters from the Office of National Education**

Padraic O'Dubhthaigh replies to Ryan's request to place a booklet entitled 'Lessons from Modern Language Movements' on the primary school curriculum. O'Dubhthaigh says that it is not suitable for school-children (14 September 1925). Padraic O'Brolchain also writes to inform Ryan that the proofs of his booklet were sent back to the secretary of Conradh na Gaeilge (5 January 1926). Both letters are in Irish.

**LA11/132** October 1921–September 1941

5pp

**Letters from the Educational Company of Ireland**

Padraig O'Dálaigh writes to Ryan on a point of grammar (3 October 1921), and informs Ryan that he cannot recommend his book to the Treasurer as it would not pay its way, due to there being very few ordinary readers of Irish. He encloses a competition prospectus to show what types of book people want (2 January 1923). They have examined his manuscript *Conaire Mór* but cannot publish it at present due to lack of paper and their feeling that it would not meet with success (26 September 1941). Four letters in total, the earlier two from Padraig O'Dálaigh being written in Irish.

**LA11/133** [1926]–January 1938

4pp

**Letters from Fiachra Eilgeach**

Writes to Ryan concerning printing and correction of proofs [1926]. Seeks information from Ryan on missing issues of *Inis Fáil* on behalf of the National Library (17 January 1938).

**LA11/134** September 1935

16pp

**Letters from the Examiner Press**

Quotation from Seamus O'Neill for printing a booklet (26 September 1935). Apologies for delays and other discussions relation to its production. Twelve letters in total, most undated. Holograph and mostly in Irish.

**LA11/135** February–April 1938

3pp

**Letters from Joseph H. Fowler**

Writing on behalf of the St Giles Book Shop in London, Fowler asks Ryan to give a short notice to a series of pamphlets he has produced (17 February) and thanks him for doing so (23 February).

**LA11/136** August 1934–May 1938

14pp

**Letters from An Gaedhal**

From Eamonn de Barra. Is very grateful for Ryan's weekly help, and asks for something special for the Christmas issue (18 November 1934). He writes of the difficulties of running the newspaper (March–May 1935), and informs Ryan of its eventual cessation (11 May 1938), although he thanks Ryan, who has helped him for four years. Encloses a printed circular from the committee outlining the financial losses incurred by de Barra. Eight letters in total, holograph and in Irish.



**LA11/137** May 1922–June 1927

8pp

**Letters from *The Gael***

Eamon O'Duibhir intends to publish Ryan's *I bhFochair na bhFeallsamhain* in serial form and enquires as to what a decent fee for this would be (16 May 1922). Mentions the current political situation and the death of Arthur Griffith (1 August 1922). Informs Ryan he must suspend publication for at least six weeks due to the difficulty of making deliveries at present (1 September 1922). Returns to Ryan some manuscripts of his which he has had since *The Gael* went into liquidation and bemoans the current state of Ireland (10 June 1927). Seven letters in total.

**LA11/138** 20 July 1938

1p

**Letter from M.H. Gill and Son**

Decline to publish an unnamed manuscript of Ryan's due to heavy commitments elsewhere.

**LA11/139** 1 September 1941

1p

**Letter from *An Glór***

Roibáird A. Bramhan thanks Ryan for his subscription and encloses copies printed to date. Holograph, in Irish.

**LA11/140** 23 July 1923

1p

**Letter from *Green and Gold***

Alan Downey informs Ryan that should he like to submit a story to the magazine, 'the time is now ripe'.

**LA11/141** 5 March 1941

1p

**Letter from George G. Harrap and Company**

Writes that 'had it not been for the machinations of Mr Hitler' they might have decided to publish *Golden Decades*.

**LA11/142** February 1938–February 1939

3pp

**Letters from A.M. Heath and Company**

The authors' agents return Ryan's manuscripts *Apostles and Pressmen* (22 February 1938) and *The Second Life of Cyril Raybrook* (8 February 1939) as they do not feel they can place them with a publisher.

**LA11/143** January 1933–May 1934

2pp

**Letters from Heath Cranton**

E.E. Cranton declines to publish either *Socrates in Surrey* (11 January 1933) or *King Arthur in Avalon* (10 May 1934), despite admiring the writing.

**LA11/144** January–February 1924

4pp

**Letters from William Hill**

Ask permission to quote from *Fleet Street in Starlight* (27 January). Two letters in total, both holograph.

**LA11/145** 23 January 1934

1p

**Letter from Hodges Figgis**

William Figgis decline to publish *Prisoners of Avalon* as their 'view point must always be from the commercial angle'.

**LA11/146** 22 January 1940

2pp

**Letter from Reverend Matthew Hoehn**

Requests some data and a photograph of Ryan for a biography of Irish authors. Writes from Newark, New Jersey.

**LA11/147** 4 February 1916

2pp

**Letter from the Irish Book Company**

Margaret O'Reilly discusses the publishing of *The Táin* and its various delays.

**LA11/148** 1 February 1940

1p

**Letter from the *Irish Digest***

Request permission to condense Ryan's article, 'Scholars and the Nation' in the *Irish Press*.

**LA11/149** 5 June 1923

3pp

**Letters from the *Irish Monthly***

From Father Joseph Darlington, who apologises that Ryan's copies had not arrived and gives an account of the new editor, Father MacKenzie.

**LA11/150** February–April 1924

3pp

**Letters from Albert Kinross**

Thanks him for his review of *The Torch* (12 February) and makes arrangements to meet (29 April).

**LA11/151** September 1925–January 1926

2pp

**Letters from the Labour Publishing Company**

B.N. Langdon-Davies advises Ryan to send his unnamed manuscript to the Theosophical Publishing House (15 September 1925) and forwards to him the proofs of his book (7 January 1926).

**LA11/152** April–May 1941

3pp

**Letter and postcard from *The Leader***

From Nuala Moran, who is going to publish an article of his in the current issue. Both items are holograph.

**LA11/153** 23 May 1922

2pp

**Letter from Martin Lester Publishing**

From Bulmer Hobson. Due to poor trade they have decided not to publish any more books this year, and he suggests that Ryan adopt Gaelic type as those books are doing well. Holograph.

**LA11/154** 1 October 1941

5pp

**Letters from Michael MacDonagh**

Asks Ryan for information about the foundation of the Gaelic League of London, and Ryan's part in it (1 October) and later for some personal information (8 October), and thanks Ryan for same (20 October).

**LA11/155** 2 May 1925

1p

**Letter from the Macmillan Company**

They do not feel there would be a market for Ryan's *The Stone of Destiny*, although they 'found much of worth in it'. Signed by Ruth Bryant.

**LA11/156** February 1933–June 1937

2pp

**Letters from John Murray**

The publisher thanks Ryan for sending him *King Arthur in Avalon* (20 February 1933) and *The King's Crusaders* (21 June 1937) but declines to publish them.

**LA11/157** May 1936–October 1937

6pp

**Letters from Thomas Nelson and Sons**

John Hampden of the publishing company suggests that Ryan's *Quests and Comrades* would be improved by focusing on the reminiscences rather than 'the reflections and soliloquys' (13 May 1936). However, after the revisions are completed to Hampden's satisfaction (17 December 1936) he decides against publishing it anyway (2 February 1937) and suggests alternative publishers via his secretary Joan Huggins (11 February 1937). Six letters in total.

**LA11/158** 5 November 1915

1p

**Letter from New India**

[Kenneth] Cousins, literary editor, is putting the *Daily Herald* on the newspaper's exchange list and will quote from it on occasion. He asks Ryan to do the same. Mentions that the newspaper is 'running a strong crusade for "Home Rule in India"'. Holograph.

**LA11/159** November 1940–February 1941

16pp

**Letters from A. Ní Chnámhín**

Makes numerous requests of Ryan for information on Padraic O'Conaire, as they are writing a literary criticism and biography of him. Four letters in total, all holograph. Ní Chnámhín writes from county Limerick.

**LA11/160** 28 September 1935

2pp

**Letter from Sorcha Ní Ghuarim**

Thanks Ryan for subscribing to *An t-Éireannach*, which she describes as a great honour to them. Mentions how difficult it is to keep the readers satisfied with the newspaper. Holograph, in Irish.

**LA11/161** 17–31 July 1939

2pp

**Letters from S.D. O’Baoghail**

Writes on behalf of the Minister for Education, returning a manuscript to Ryan as they cannot consider such texts until they are first received by the Publishing Office of the Department of Education (17 July). Explains that the minister depends on the opinions of the readers and editors there of what texts are suitable for publication (31 July). Written in Irish.

**LA11/162** September 1921–June 1930

37pp

**Letters and booklet from Peadar O’Dubhda**

Encloses proofs but has a few corrections for Ryan, as he is not accustomed to Roman type rather than Gaelic (9 September 1921). Sends Ryan a booklet he has brought out, *Irish for Infants* (23 April 1923). Three letters in total, all of which are holograph and in Irish.

**LA11/163** 25 April 1934

1p

**Letter from Seán O’Faoláin**

He is writing a biography of Constance Markievicz, and asks Ryan’s permission to quote from *The Irish Labour Movement*. Holograph.

**LA22/164** 24 April

1p

**Letter from Donnchadh O'Fhlannagáin**

Thanks Ryan for sending him information as he requested for a published paragraph, 'Searching for the Irishman'. Mentions that if a few more would do the same, he would soon have a book. Holograph, in Irish.

**LA11/165** 2 September 1939

1p

**Letter from P. O'Meadhra**

O'Meadhra would like to include Ryan's poem *Sinn Féin* in an anthology of poems connected with county Tipperary.

**LA11/166** 14 June 1926

2pp

**Letter from Alfred O'Rahilly**

Discusses his hopes of reorganizing the *Tribune*. L.P. Byrne is no longer editor, but Daniel Corkery has been made literary editor. O'Rahilly apologises for the 'mangling' of Ryan's poem *Romantic Ireland*.

**LA11/167** 7 January 1942

1p

**Letter from Oliver and Boyd**

They cannot publish Ryan's *From Avalon to Iona*, and point out that the costs of producing volumes on behalf of the Scottish Gaelic Texts Society were met by the society, not by Oliver and Boyd.

**LA11/168** 8 November 1933

1p

**Letter from James B. Pinker**

Cannot publish a volume of essays which Ryan sent him, feeling that there is too much risk involved.

**LA11/169** October 1923–May 1941

2pp

**Letters from G.P. Putnam**

Decline to publish *The Isle of Rest and Revolution* (19 October 1923) and *Golden Decades* (22 May 1941).

**LA11/170** 12 March 1924

2pp

**Letter from *The Quest***

The editor, G.R.S. Mead, suggests that there are too many inversions in an article which he submitted for publication, and sends it back for revisions. Holograph.

**LA11/171** January 1934–April 1937

2pp

**Letters from Rich and Cowan**

Decline to publish *Kings Calling* (10 January 1934), and inform Ryan that his manuscript *Quests and Comrades* is being considered (5 April 1937).

**LA11/172** June 1925–June 1929

3pp

**Letters from Grant Richards**

Ryan's writing reminds him of John Davidson, but he fears that Ryan will be as commercially unsuccessful as Davidson (25 June 1925). Enquires if Ryan is the same W.P. Ryan whom he used to know thirty years ago, and who 'kept me – and Paternoster Row – amused by your literary excursions?' (4 June 1929). Would like to discuss Ryan's literary projects (11 June 1929).

**LA11/173** 21 September 1936

2pp

**Letter from A. Rivoallan**

He was given Ryan's name by Art O'Brien, who advised him that



- LA11/173**  
contd Ryan might be of assistance in writing his book *La Litterature Irlandais Contemporaine*.
- LA11/174** 8 November 1926  
1p  
**Letter from George Roberts**  
Informs Ryan that his wife, Máire Guiney, is submitting a novel, entitled *Fuel*, to the *Daily Herald* and he hopes that Ryan will like it. Mentions that Maunsell's publishing house is to be sold up.
- LA11/175** February–March 1940  
2pp  
**Letters from the Association of Secondary Teachers of Ireland**  
Michéal O'Geallabhain requests permission to reprint Ryan's article 'Scholars and the Nation' from the *Irish Press* (26 February) and thanks him for same (3 March).
- LA11/176** April 1936–April 1940  
2pp  
**Letters from Sheed and Ward**  
They do not feel that memoirs such as *Quests and Comrades*, which Ryan submitted for consideration, are suited to their publication lists (2 April 1936), and acknowledge receipt of *The Prisoners of Avalon* (17 April 1940).
- LA11/177** 20 August 1923  
1p  
**Letter from Clement Shorter**  
He will keep one of Ryan's verses on file and will pay him two guineas when it appears.

**LA11/178** December 1941–May 1942

2pp

**Letters from the Sign of the Three Candles**

Colm O'Lochlainn, director of the publishing company acknowledges receipt of a manuscript (10 December 1941) and offers some suggestions on it at a later date (19 May 1942).

**LA11/179** March–September 1934

7pp

**Letters from the Rudolf Steiner Book Centre and Publishing Company**

Discussion with Henry Collison about the possibility of publishing one of Ryan's works. Five letters in total, only two of which are typescript.

**LA11/180** May 1919–August 1941

7pp

**Letters from the Talbot Press**

From various employees of the publishing company, discussing various submissions to them from Ryan. These include *Flóis agus Féar Cúmhra* (11 January 1934) and other unnamed works. Seven letters in total.

**LA11/181** January 1926–May 1927

5pp

**Letters from the Theosophical Society in England**

TS.R. Bensusan is happy to print a verse sent to him by Ryan (13 January 1926) and sends him notes for the revision of *The Song of the Salmon God* (13 July 1926). Four letters in total, one of which is holograph.

**LA11/182** February–March 1926

2pp

**Letters from the Theosophical Publishing House**

B.N. Langdon-Davies writes regarding the company's decision not to publish *The Stone of Destiny*, despite their reader Mr Bensusan being very impressed by it (27 February). They are however happy to publish his drama *From Atlantis to Thames* (15 March).

**LA11/183** February–July 1927

3pp

**Letters from L. Tilden Smith**

The literary agent is hopeful of finding a publisher for *Labor and Lucifer* (2 February) and informs Ryan of the dissolution of his partnership with Ashley Gibson (20 July). He is amalgamating his business with that of Hughes Massie and Company, and believes it will of benefit to Ryan to allow Tilden Smith to continue to represent him.

**LA11/184** 3 January 1940

1p

**Letter from the Tipperary Star**

W. Myles thanks Ryan for an article, 'Old Friends and Firesides' which the newspaper recently published.

**LA11/185** February–June 1926

4pp

**Letters from the Tribune (Irish weekly newspaper)**

Laurence P. Byrne informs Ryan of the establishment of 'this new organ of Irish opinion' and mentions that (Alfred) O'Rahilly 'is anxious to have you as a contributor' (18 February). Thanks him for submissions (7 April, 14 May), and explains the circumstances of his departure from the newspaper (4 June).

**LA11/186** 6–11 January 1937

2pp

**Letters from the Tribune (British daily newspaper)**

William Mellor asks Ryan to write a review of an unnamed book (6 January), and thanks him for same (11 January).

**LA11/187** March 1926–August 1933

3pp

**Letters from the Voice of Labour**

Cathal O'Seanain would like to serialize Ryan's book but is unable to do so due to a prior commitment (30 March 1926, holograph). William O'Brien of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union informs Ryan that the *Voice of Labour* is being taken over by the Labour Party and will be known as *The Irishman* (6 May 1927). O'Seanain also writes to introduce James Clarke, a sub-editor who is looking for work (15 August 1933).

**LA11/188** June–July 1923

4pp

**Letters from the Waterford News**

Managing director E. Downey asks if Ryan can do anything for his son's fiction magazine *Green and Gold*. Mentions the difficult political situation in Ireland (20 June). Thanks Ryan for the 'kindly notice' and discusses the literary and political situation in Ireland and elements of censorship (10 July).

**LA11/189** 11 February 1925

1p

**Letter from the Weekly Westminster**

W.J. Sulley regrets that they cannot publish Ryan's poems as they are too long, but asks that he send them more examples of his work, especially something similar to his 'delightful songs of Fleet Street, which would be just what we should like to have'.

### **3. PERSONAL MATERIAL**

**LA11/190** 17 March 1942

2pp

**Copy of W.P. Ryan's last will**

In which he bequeaths his belongings between his children Desmond and Maeve, and appoints Maeve as executrix.

**LA11/191** February–August 1942

15pp

**Membership card of the National Union of Journalists**

Ryan's membership card for 1942, which also shows the dates of his subscription payments.

**LA11/192** c1906

2pp

**Memorial card of Eunice Ryan**

Ryan's daughter, who died at the age of eleven. The card is fronted with a black and white illustration of the Virgin Mary at a cross.

**LA11/193** Not dated

4pp

**Copy of W.P. Ryan's birth certificate**

Handwritten copy, noting Ryan's parents' names and other pertinent details. Also includes handwritten notes on Ryan's lineage, including a list of his siblings' names.

**LA11/194** 1 September 1918

3pp

**Contract for Trade Unionism and Labour**

Between Ryan and the Talbot Press.

**LA11/195** 6 November 1942

2pp

**Adjudicator's report**

From An tOireachtas, reporting on Ryan's *Deoch an Rí* and other poems. Signed by Seán Ó Dubhghaill. In Irish.

**LA11/196** January–February 1942

14pp

**Obituaries of W.P. Ryan**

Newspaper cuttings of obituaries of Ryan. Also includes a handwritten obituary by 'Sean Athair', who wrote for the *Irish Peasant* and the *Irish Nation*, and a telex copy of the obituary from *The Journalist*.

**LA11/197** Not dated

1 item

**Photographic plate of W.P. Ryan**

Mounted onto a wooden block.

**LA11/198** Not dated

1p

**Portrait photograph of W.P. Ryan**

Black and white print, the image of which is identical to that on the plate in the previous item. Ryan sits cross legged, looking to the left of the camera, clasping a partially opened book on his knee.

**LA11/199** Not dated

1p

**Group photograph**

Sepia-toned photograph of ten adults and five children against an exterior wall with two windows. Five adults stand while the rest are seated. The figure in the back row, third from the right, is possibly W.P. Ryan.

**LA11/200** Not dated

1p

**Photograph of the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin**

Presumably early twentieth century, the photograph shows the Rotunda Hospital and Rooms and the northwest corner of O'Connell Street. The Rotunda Rooms have an 'Oireachtas' banner hanging on the building. The photograph is somewhat degraded, and the image is of poor quality. Mounted on card.