

ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE AISLING SOCIETY OF SYDNEY

1961

The Annual Meeting of the Aisling Society of Sydney was held in the Library of the I.N.A. Cultural Centre on Thursday, 23rd February, 1961 at 8 p.m. The Election of Office-Bearers for the year resulted as follows :-

PRESIDENT	:	Mr. Vincent Pike
VICE-PRESIDENTS	:	Mr. James A. Meagher His Hon. Judge G.B. Thomas Mrs. Fedra Hearne
HON. SECRETARY	:	Miss Mary M. Hegarty
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	:	Mrs. Max Campbell
HON. TREASURER	:	Miss Ena Sullivan
LIBRARIAN	:	Mr. Denis Kevans
PUBLICITY OFFICER	:	Mr. John Joyce
COUNCILLORS	:	Mr. William Baggott, Mr. Patrick Flannery, Mr. Alex Mitchell, Miss Gwen Gilligan.

On the motion of Mr. James A. Meagher the Meeting unanimously elected Rev. Fr. N. McNally, B.A., Patron and Life Member of the Society. The Annual Report and Treasurer's Statement were taken as read, (all members having copies), and adopted.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated by about 80 members and friends at a Dinner at the Hotel Clovelly, when fitting toasts were given by Vincent Pike, President of Aisling; Hon. Ray Maher, Speaker of the House; Rev. Fr. T. Dunlea, and James A. Meagher.

In April John Joyce, a graduate in law of V.C.D. gave an interesting and provocative talk on "Irish News". James A. Meagher in May spoke on "James Joyce's Dublin" with intimate knowledge of Joyce and of Dublin.

In June members of Aisling joined with the Irish National Association and numerous other friends in a whole-hearted tribute to Rev. Fr. N. McNally on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of his ordination. Rt. Rev. Mgr. W. Fahy in July gave us a vivid talk, illustrated by slides, on his recent visit to Ireland and Bavaria.

Mrs. Pat Longstaff, in August arranged a fine Concert, enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic audience. In September Mr. Sean Kennan, Charge d'Affaires of the Irish Embassy, Canberra, gave us a closely reasoned and lucidly stated address on "Irish Realities".

In October the "Ireland Sings" Company, led by famous Juninie O'Dea, were in Sydney, and an Aisling theatre party of 40 members was arranged. Our harbour excursion in November had to be abandoned owing to bad weather, but the Christmas Party was as usual a great success.

We welcome seven new members in 1961 : : Rev. Fr. T. Dunlea, Miss L. Develin, Mrs. C. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Gallagher, Mrs. K. Holness and Mrs. L.T. O'Brien. Welcome home from overseas to May Hannigan and Mrs. M.E. McCloskey. Mr. P.J. O'Loughlin is still in Ireland.

Council Meetings have been held regularly. We record with pleasure the elevation to the bench of Councillor and founding member, Mr., now His Hon. Judge G.B. Thomas. Mrs. Max Campbell (Eithne Bridgland) had to leave us when her husband was appointed to Goulburn. We miss Eithne, and wish her and Max a happy future. John Joyce invited members of Council to a cheerful midnight party at his home for the "Ireland Sings" artists. To the different speakers and artists who have contributed to our year's programme we offer sincere thanks, and hope all members will agree this has been a good year.

The death in June 1961 of Rev. Dr. Leonard, D.S.S., D.D., of Manly College, should not go unrecorded. He was a noted scholar, a delightful person, and an Irishman who gave us over the years some inspiring talks.

Please study the Treasurer's Statement. It will be seen that financial membership is 71 - a good number, but 100 would be better.

With best wishes to all members for a pleasant and prosperous 1962.

On behalf of the President and Council,

MARY M. HEGARTY.

HON. SECRETARY.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

31 st December 1960 to 31 December 1961

RECEIPTS

Credit balance	24 6. 3
Membership subs (71)	157.10. 0
Bank Interest	10. 7
St. Patrick's Day Dinner subs (76)	152. 0. 0
Concert Party (Ireland Sings)	45. 0. 0
Christmas Party subs (74)	74. 0. 0

£ 453. 6.10

EXPENDITURE

Rent of Rooms	37.16. 0
Printing	43. 7. 5
Postage and Stationery	26.17. 6
St. Patrick's Day Dinner	141 114.18. 0
Concert Party (Ireland Sings)	43. 4. 0
Christmas Party	87.10. 0
Donation (Welcome to Irish Singers)	10. 0. 0
Deposit on launch	10. 0. 0
Supper Charges	1.13. 6
Telephone (Honorarium to Hon. Sec.)	10. 0. 0
Sundries	3.13. 6
Credit Balance	37. 6.11

£ 453. 6.10

Statement prepared by Ena Sullivan, Hon Treasurer.