



The Minister for Education, Mr. Burke, with Senor Jose Luis Messia, director general of the Cultural Relations section at the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, when the Minister opened the first Spanish Cultural Institute in Ireland at Northumberland Road, Dublin, last night. Speaking in Irish, English and Spanish, Mr. Burke recalled the traditional links between the countries since Spain was a "distant haven of hope for oppressed Irishmen." — Photograph: Pat Langan).

THE IRISH PRESS

The attached cutting appeared in our issue of FEBRUARY 12, 1974.....

Minister opens Spanish Institute

The Minister for Education, Mr. Burke, officially opened the first Spanish Cultural Institute in Ireland yesterday at 58, Northumberland Road, Dublin. Senor Messia, Director-general of Cultural Relations in the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, travelled from Spain for the ceremony. The primary object of the Institute is for the diffusion of Spanish culture particularly the language. It has a staff of six and five teachers. The director is Don Antonio Sierra.

There is always some item of interest to you in "THE IRISH PRESS"

ON BEHALF OF	THAR CEANN
Department of Education, Marlborough Street, Dublin, I. Tel. (01) 717101.	An Roinn Oideachais, Sráid Maoilbhríde, Baile Átha Cliath, I. Tel. (01) 717101.

Óráid an Aire Oideachais, an tUasal Risteard de Búrca, T.D.,
ar ócáid oscailte an Instituto Cultural De Espana i mBaile
Átha Cliath, ar 11 Feabhra, 1974 ag 6.30 p.m. i 68 Bóthar
Northumberland.

A Shoillse, a Phríomhstiúrthóir agus a uaisle go léir, is mór agam an
onóir a bheith anseo inniu chun Institiúid Chultúrtha na Spáinne a
oscailt go hoifigiúil. Cuireann an ócáid seo séala leis an
dlúthcheangal stairiúil atá idir an Spáinn agus an tír seo.

It is perhaps surprising that we have had to wait until 1974 to witness
the official opening of a Spanish Cultural Institute in Dublin. The
traditional links between Spain and Ireland have been so strong and
enduring that one might have expected Dublin to possess a Spanish
Cultural Institute of very long standing.

In the past, Spain was a distant haven of hope for oppressed Irishmen
and gave many thousands of them the opportunity to make their way in
life as free men. It is fair to say that Ireland's loss was Spain's
gain because those exiles were young, enterprising and courageous
and made a significant contribution to the life of their adopted
country. They also helped to enhance the goodwill that existed
between Spain and Ireland.

To-day, thanks to air transport, Spain is no longer a distant country.
But it is more than ever a haven for Irish people who now annually

enjoy the unfailing sunshine and hospitality of Spain. To-day too, many hundreds of Spaniards come to Ireland. These are mostly young people who want to perfect their knowledge of English and who find Ireland the most congenial place in which to do so. We are delighted to have these guests among us and, if our skies are not of the Mediterranean variety, we hope the warmth of our welcome will compensate to some extent for any deficiencies in our climate. I am sure, however, that the visitors who come to improve their knowledge of the language derive incomparably more benefit from their stay, in terms of personal enrichment, than do the tourists who go abroad merely to soak up the sunshine.

I feel that the linguistic dimension is all-important in exchanges between our two countries because it provides direct access to the minds and hearts of the people. Civilisations and cultures take on a profound new meaning when approached through the medium of the languages which enshrine them. I am very glad then, that the Spanish cultural Institute is providing courses in Spanish for Irish students. Contact with living Spanish, spoken by native Spaniards, is an invaluable experience for our people for, despite the widespread use of records and tapes, the disembodied voices on them can never have the same impact or provide the same motivation as the human presence.

Desde hace varios años ha venido creciendo grandemente en Irlanda el interés por la lengua y cultura españolas. Ha aumentado mucho también el número de estudiantes de español. Los alumnos reciben una iniciación en la lengua que puede servirles de estímulo para ampliar sus conocimientos y despertar su curiosidad por la lectura de obras de escritores actuales. Se dan cuenta de que la lengua española no es meramente una asignatura de la escuela de segunda enseñanza, sino un instrumento por el cual millones de personas se comunican día tras día en muchas partes del mundo. Ya saben que el español ha

venido a ser la lengua romance que ha logrado mayor difusión y que el conocimiento del idioma español les revelará el pensar, la vida, la cultura y las costumbres de los españoles y les descubrirá el secreto de su intimidad.

Aprender una lengua extranjera significa adquirir el hábito de comprenderla, de hablarla, de leerla y de escribirla, creando automatismos y moldes adecuados. El alumno adelanta en la medida en que practique. En último caso es el grado de actividad del alumno el que determina la eficacia de su aprendizaje y todo lo que se pueda hacer para que ese aprendizaje resulte más satisfactorio bien vale la pena intentarlo. No existe, ciertamente, una sola modalidad de instrucción que se puede aplicar a todas las situaciones. Sin embargo, gracias a la magia de la era electrónica, existe gran variedad de ayudas auditivas y visuales que facilitan y aceleran el aprendizaje. De este modo, el profesor puede situar al alumno en un ambiente de habla española en el que, con algo de imaginación, pueda verse a sí mismo en diversas situaciones de la vida cotidiana española.

Pero el número de horas de clase de que generalmente disponemos crea un problema primordial. De ordinario, en nuestras escuelas de segunda enseñanza, se dedican solamente tres horas por semana al español. Resulta muy difícil adquirir soltura en el idioma.

En efecto, en el terreno de la educación, el Instituto Cultural viene realizando desde hace ya años una labor considerable y meritoria para alumnos que todavía no dominan el idioma español, para estudiantes más adelantados y para profesores que quieren refrescar su conocimiento del español y estar al día en cuanto a nuevas expresiones y palabras.

Es preciso felicitar a todos los que han participado en la elaboración y desarrollo de esos cursos y, especialmente, a Don José Antonio Sierra cuyos joven y fervoroso entusiasmo y ingente labor han establecido el

puente con España que es el Instituto Cultural de España en
Dublín.

I hope the Institute will prosper and continue to bring the people
of Spain and Ireland closer together in friendship, understanding and
goodwill. It is with the greatest pleasure that I now declare the
Spanish Cultural Institute in Dublin formally open.

The Ambassador of Spain

requests the honour of the company of

at the

Official Opening of the Spanish Cultural Institute

on

11th February, 1974, at 6.30 p.m.

R.S.V.P.
Tel. 61829

58 Northumberland Road,
Dublin 4.

D-128 ⁴⁴⁵

19 de agosto de 1971

ESCUELA ESPAÑOLA

JOSE ANTONIO SIERRA, DIRECTOR DEL INSTITUTO DE ESPAÑA EN DUBLIN

Nuestro colaborador José Antonio Sierra, cuya firma es ampliamente conocida por los lectores del suplemento pedagógico "La Vida en la Escuela", ha sido nombrado director del Instituto de España en Dublin, que ha sido recientemente creado por la Dirección General

de Relaciones Culturales del Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, que tendrá una función social, docente y cultural.

José Antonio Sierra ocupaba hasta hace poco el cargo de lector de español en el Trinity College de la Universidad nacional de Dublin.

A B C. MARTES 12 DE FEBRERO DE 1974.

VIDA CULTURAL

INAUGURADO EL INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL EN DUBLIN

Dublin 11. El Instituto Español en Dublin ha sido inaugurado hoy con una ceremonia presidida por el ministro de Educación, Richard Burke.

El director general de Relaciones Culturales del Ministerio español de Asuntos Exteriores, don José Luis Messia, se trasladó expresamente desde Madrid a la capital irlandesa para asistir a esta inauguración, en la que estuvieron también presentes el embajador de España en Dublin, don Joaquín Justa; el director del Instituto inaugurado, don José Antonio Sierra, y numerosos representantes de la vida cultural y artística irlandesa, así como miembros de la colonia española.

El Instituto Cultural Español tiene un amplio programa de tareas divulgadoras de la cultura y arte españoles, así como un Departamento docente.—Efe.

Trilingual Minister

Irish Independent Reporter

THE MINISTER for Education, Mr. R. Burke, addressed a reception in three languages in Dublin last night, drawing on his expert knowledge of Spanish to augment his accomplished Irish and well-spoken English.

The occasion was the opening of the Spanish Cultural Institute in Northumberland Road, Ballsbridge. The Institute is helping to improve contacts of a cultural, educational as well as social nature between the peoples of Spain and Ireland.

Speaking in Irish, Mr. Burke expressed his pleasure at attending the opening which put a seal on the historical contacts between the two countries. In English he explained Ireland's lengthy connections with that country. In Spanish, he spoke of the cultural value of such contacts.

Irish Independent, Tuesday, February 12, 1974 5

PANORAMA DE LA EMIGRACION

INAUGURADO EL INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL EN DUBLIN

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CARTA DE ESPAÑA N.º 171 MARZO, 1974

15-8-71

LA VANGUARDIA 17

CREACION DE UN INSTITUTO DE ESPAÑA EN DUBLIN

Madrid, 14. — La Dirección General de Relaciones Culturales, del Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, acaba de aprobar un proyecto de nueva creación de un Instituto de España en Dublin, que tendrá una función social, docente y cultural.

Ha sido nombrado director del mismo don José Antonio Sierra Lumbreras, licenciado en Filosofía y Letras por la Universidad de Madrid, y que hasta hace poco tiempo ocupaba el cargo de lector de español del «Trinity College» de la Universidad Nacional de Dublin. — Cifra

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THE IRISH PRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1974

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Y A . MADRID . 12 febrero 1974

ABC

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Se inaugura en Dublín el Instituto Cultural Español

DUBLIN (República de Irlanda), 11. (Efe.)—El Instituto Cultural Español en Dublín ha sido inaugurado hoy en una ceremonia presidida por el ministro de Educación del Eire, Richard Burke.

El director general de Relaciones Culturales del Ministerio español de Asuntos Exteriores, don José Luis Messia, se trasladó expresamente desde Madrid a la capital irlandesa para asistir a esta inauguración, en la que estuvieron también presentes el embajador de España en Dublín, don Joaquín Justa; el director del Instituto inaugurado, don José Antonio Sierra, y numerosos representantes de la vida cultural y artística del Eire, así como miembros de la colonia española.

YA 12-2-74

Spanish Cultural Institute to open in Dublin soon

THE Spanish Government is officially opening a Spanish Cultural Institute at 58 Northumberland Road, in the near future. This will enable many Irish people to not alone learn the Spanish language, but also enjoy the cultural events which will be held there.

One of the aims of the new Institute will be to strengthen the links between Ireland, and not only Spain, but all the Spanish speaking countries of the world. The Institute will also make available literature, covering a diverse range of subjects from all these countries. It is hoped to initiate the Institute early in April, with classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students of the language.

DUBLIN POST 15 FEB 23 1974

Inauguración oficial del Instituto Cultural Español en Dublín

Crece en Irlanda el interés por la lengua española

«Desde hace varios años ha venido creciendo grandemente en Irlanda el interés por la lengua y cultura españolas», declaró Mr. Burke, ministro irlandés de Educación y Ciencia, en el curso del acto de inauguración oficial del Instituto Cultural Español en Dublín, presidido entre otras autoridades por el director del Instituto, don José Antonio Sierra.

El ministro dijo también durante su discurso en el que varias veces se expresó en castellano correcto: «Ha aumentado mucho también el número de estudiantes de español. Los alumnos reciben una iniciación en la lengua que puede servirles de estímulo para ampliar sus conocimientos y despertar su curiosidad por la lectura de obras de escritores actuales. Se dan cuenta de que la lengua española no es meramente una asignatura de la escuela de segunda enseñanza, sino un instrumento por el cual millones de personas se comunican día tras día en muchas partes del mundo. Ya saben que el español ha venido a ser la lengua romance que ha logrado mayor difusión y que el conocimiento del idioma español

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Alm, 1974

EL LIBRO ESPAÑOL



At last night's opening of the first Spanish Cultural Institute in Ireland, at Northumberland Rd., from left, Carmen Concejo, Foxrock; Carmen Macias, South Circular Rd., and Judith Avenell, Baggot St.

By Terry O'Sullivan

Pictures: Austin Finn



Helena Eertman, left, Ballsbridge, and Gloria Millan, Raheny, at last night's official opening of the first Spanish Cultural Institute in Ireland, at 58 Northumberland Rd.



Carmen Macias (left) from Barcelona, with Casilda Jauregui, Bilbao, at the Spanish reception.

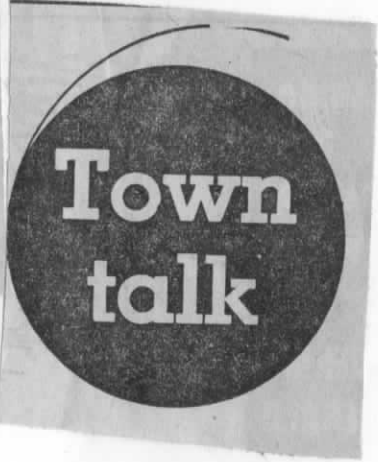
Pictures: John O'Neill

Viva Espana!

DICK BURKE, Minister for Education, made a sweet impact when, at 48 Northumberland Road last evening he declared open the Spanish Cultural Centre. He spoke in Spanish, to everyone's delight.

The Spanish Cultural Centre though open for a year or two, has never made anything like the impact of the German or French or Italian counterparts. The house was so packed that we are as wise now as when we came in about what it was all about . . . but no doubt we shall learn.

It was nice to feel nice towards someone



"JANEY MACK!" we said to ourselves in our best Dublinese when we heard Dick Burke, T.D., open the Spanish Cultural Institute in fluent Irish, English and liquid-smooth Castilian. When you add to this the man's good looks, his fluent knowledge of German and French with a working knowledge of a few other languages, you can see what an image of the Irish he can project. More, his voice is like the soft wonder of our landscapes. It was nice to feel nice towards someone after last week's Town Talk nastiness to sundry and all.

Senor Jose Louis Messia, Director-General of Spain's Cultural Relations, had made his speech earlier and he mentioned our contribution to his country. He spoke of the Irish regiments which helped to win the Battle of Almansa—the Irlandia, the Hibernia and the Ultonia. Even today the Ultonia (Ulster) regiment is stationed at Gerona.

We were delighted to learn that engineers of the Board of Works took courses in Spanish at the Institute. It will give heart to all involved in national drainage to know this. Senor Messia, by the way, was genuinely impressed with Dick Burke's Spanish.

Congratulating the ambassador His Excellency, Don Joaq

Juste on the Institute we also had praise for its energetic Director, Don Antonia Sierra. Remembering that Spanish ale was Dark Rosaleen's no-skin-off-your-nose brew we asked for it but had to settle for sherry. On the way out we met a senior United States diplomat and urged him to press his government to give us something similar so that the unfair and distorted image of his country which is projected here might be corrected. Diplomatically he didn't say yea or nay but we gathered that yea is possible in the future. Let's hope so with the Russkis on their way.

You can write or call to the lovely Spanish Cultural Institute at 58 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. The library is excellent and language teaching has a special place in its activities.



Helena Eertmann, Secretary of the Spanish Embassy, at last night's reception.

Callista Alonso (right), Blanchardstown, with Marianne Renedo-Klein, Erlangen, Germany, at the Spanish reception last night.

EVENING HERALD
FEBRUARY, 12, 1974



Deirdre

Aibreán 5p

DIARMUID IS GRÁINNE ARÍS! - AN SPÁINN



thír a neartú, go mór mór ó thaobh an amharclainn de, leis an chuairt anuraidh don chéad uair ó Chomhlacht Náisiúnta Amharclann na Spáinne.

Níl anseo ach tús le h-obair na hInstitiúide. Is é mo dhóchas pearsanta go gcothóidh an oscailt seo san am atá le theacht tuiscint níos fearr agus gaol cultúrtha níos doimhne idir Éire agus an Spáinn.

Grianghrafaithe ar oscailt Institiúid Chultúrtha na Spáinne ar 11 Feabhra. Ó chlé: Senor Sierra (Stiúrthóir na hInstitiúide), Senor Messia, Risteárd de Búrca, an tAire Oideachais is taidhleoir na Spáinne Senor Joaquim Juste.

Labhair Risteárd de Búrca ar feadh i bhfad i Spáinnis. Is trua gur labhair sé i mBéarla ar chor ar bith.

DEIRDRE
11 FEABHRA, 1974

NA CEANGAIL STAIRI ÚLA LEIS AN SPÁINN

In Éireann agus sa Spáinn taitníonn linn tagairt do na ceangail stairiúla a aontaíonn an dá tír le chéile. I ndáiríre, agus ar aon nós ó ré Philip II, d'fhéadfadh Éireannaigh a bheith cinnte de fáilte sa Spáinn. Níorbh é amháin toisc dhíograis a gcreidimh Chaitlicigh ná na deachrachaí a bhí rompú san am a rinne muintir na Spáinne fabharach dóibh, de réir bhéaloideas na ndaoine shíolraigh áitreabhaigh Hibernia agus muintir na leathnise Iberigh ón chine céanna. Thug saighdiúirí na hÉireann clú breise do arm na

Cuid den chaint a rinne Senor Messia, Ard-stiúrthóir Cúrsaí Cultúrtha i Roinn Gnóthaí Éachtracha na Spáinne, a tháinig go hAth Cliath chun Institiúid Chultúrtha na Spáinne ag 58 Bóthar Northumberland a oscailt go h-oifigiúil ar 11 Feabhra.

Spáinne ón am ar bhuaigh an Diúc de Berwick an cath ag Almansa le n-a gcúnamh i 1707; bhuaigh trí reisimintí de chuid na hÉireann — Irlandia, Hibernia agus Ultonia — áit thábhachtach dóibh féin mar chuid de arm na Spáinne. Fiú sa lá atá inniu ann tug-

tar an Ultonia ar an reisimint atá lonnaithe i mbaile Gerona.

Dá mba rud é gurbh fearr le hÉireannaigh óga thréitheacha gairm shibhialtach, bhíodh seans acu staidéar a dhéanamh ag cúpla coláistí Éireannacha a bunaíodh ar mhaithe leo, an ceann ba stairiúla díobh Ollscoil Shalamanca.

Bhíodar saor chun a bheith páirteach i dtráchtáil nó fiú i riarachán stáit. De réir "cédula" riuil de 1680 bhí sé de cheart acu na ceartanna saoránachta céanna a bheith acu is a bhí ag na Spáinnigh agus iad ag baint amach postanna oifigiúla a bhí tuillte acu, sna blianta i ndiaidh sin rinneadh na pribhléidí seo a dearbhú agus a mhéadú tré roinnt achtanna eile.

Féachaimse ar oscailt na hInstitiúide mar chéim mhór ar aghaidh agus im thuairimse léiríonn sé fás agus forbairt ar ár gceangal le n-a chéile. Tá an teanga Spáinneach ag glacadh páirte níos tábhachtaí i gcóras oideachais na hÉireann; déanann timpeall 15,000 staidéar uirthi idir an bhunscoil, an cheardscoil, an mheán-scoil agus suas chuig leibhéal na h-Ollscoile. Sílímse gur gort an thábhachtach é seo don Institiúid a bhfuilimid á h-oscailt go h-oifigiúil anocht; d'fhéadfadh sé bheith mar chúnadh iontach do oideachasóirí na hÉireann.

Ach seo é an tarna pointe ar mhaith liom a dhéanamh — foghlumtear Spáinnis in Éireann, ní ar mhaithe le cúrsaí acadúla amháin ach freisin i gcóir cúiseanna níos táigiúla. Cuir i gcás go luath i ndiaidh a bunaithe rinne an Institiúid cúrsa speisialta a eagrú i Spáinnis i gcóir innealtóirí sinsearach a Bhord na nOibreacha Poiblí.

Ceann de phríomh-aidhmeanna na h-Institiúide leabharlann chuimsitheach thagartha a sholáthar ní amháin do bhaill ach do dhuine ar bith a bhfuil suim aige in aon ghné de shaol na Spáinne.

Taobh amuigh den 4,000 leabhar atá mar bhun don leabharlann, gheibhtear 100 iris-leabhair gach mí. Níor rinne an Institiúid dearmad faill a thabhairt do léitheoirí scríbhneoireacht chlasaiceach i mBascais, Catalanais agus i dteanga Gh Galicia a bhlaiseadh — na teangacha eile a labharthar san Spáinn mar aon leis an Chaistilis.

Agus gan í ann aon bhliain amháin chabhair an Institiúid ceangail ealaíonta an dá

FEES:**MEMBERSHIP**

£2 per year

	1st Term	2nd Term	3rd Term
Ordinary 1½ hour Course	£4.00	£5.00	£3.00
Intensive 1½ hour Course	£7.00	£8.00	£5.00
Ordinary 2 hour Course	£5.50	£6.50	£4.00
Intensive 2 hour Course	£9.00	£10.50	£6.50

NOTE:

To attend courses it is necessary to be a member of the Institute.

PAYMENT:

- (1) By post: Cheques payable to Instituto Cultural Español.
- (2) At Office: Hours 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
(Monday to Friday)

If the number of the students fall, the Institute reserves the right to close the class or combine one class with another.

Fees are not refunded under any circumstances.

ENROLMENT will take place during the two weeks prior to the commencement date of each term.

LIBRARY The library will be open for lending purposes from 5—7.30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

NOTE Given sufficient demand, the Institute will establish afternoon classes, from 3—5 p.m.

HOLIDAYS:

Institute closes on all Bank and Church Holidays.

**INSTITUTO CULTURAL ESPAÑOL**

58 NORTHUMBERLAND ROAD

DUBLIN 4

Telephone: 61829

COURSES**ON****SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

ACADEMIC YEAR 1973-74

1 October—14 December

7 January—5 April

22 April—14 June

LANGUAGE COURSES

BEGINNERS 1st

1. Monday	6—7.30 p.m.
2. Monday	8—10 p.m.
3. Tuesday	6—7.30 p.m.
4. Wednesday	6—7.30 p.m.
5. Thursday	6—7.30 p.m.
6. Friday	8—10 p.m.

BEGINNERS 1st (INTENSIVE)

7. Monday/Wednesday	8—10 p.m.
8. Tuesday/Thursday	6—7.30 p.m.

BEGINNERS 2nd

9. Monday	6—7.30 p.m.
10. Monday	8—10 p.m.
11. Tuesday	6—7.30 p.m.
12. Wednesday	6—7.30 p.m.
13. Wednesday	8—10 p.m.
14. Thursday	6—7.30 p.m.
15. Friday	8—10 p.m.

INTERMEDIATE 1st

16. Wednesday	6—7.30 p.m.
17. Wednesday	8—10 p.m.
18. Friday	6—7.30 p.m.
19. Thursday	8—10 p.m.

INTERMEDIATE 1st (INTENSIVE)

20. Tuesday/Friday	8—10 p.m.
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INTERMEDIATE 2nd

21. Tuesday	8—10 p.m.
22. Friday	6—7.30 p.m.

ADVANCED

23. Tuesday	8—10 p.m.
24. Friday	6—7.30 p.m.

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SPECIAL COURSES

LEAVING CERTIFICATE

25. Monday	5—7 p.m.
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COMMERCIAL SPANISH

26. Thursday	8—10 p.m.
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COURIERS AND INTERPRETERS

27. Thursday	8—10 p.m.
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MORNING CLASSES

BEGINNERS 1st

28. Tuesday	10.30 a.m.—12 noon
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BEGINNERS 2nd

29. Thursday	10.30 a.m.—12 noon
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Ireland's Cultural Relations—by Michael Page

THE SPANISH Cultural Institute is less than one year old: it was founded in April 1972 with Señor Antonio Sierra as its first director. Much of its programme is still in the formative stage but, at the same time, a great deal has been planned and some of it is now taking shape.

The library is not due to open for another two months but already 4,000 volumes have been collected in the institute's headquarters at 58 Northumberland Road. Books on literature and the fine arts abound, naturally, but there are also works on economics, engineering and science, farming and sociology. The director intends to add a substantial number of books in English in order to reach a wider cross-section of the Irish public than merely those who can read Spanish.

Spanish is the second foreign language being taught in Irish schools, with 247 secondary schools having courses on the syllabus, and there are approximately 15,000 students at all levels. In Spain the teaching of English has recently been started in primary schools, so that now over five million children are learning English. This will provide great opportunities for Irish teachers with a knowledge of Spanish. A scheme is now in the pipeline that will give about 200 teachers of Spanish a working holiday during the summer in Spain. They will confer — at holiday resorts — with their Spanish colleagues on teaching methods and the use of audio-visual aids, etc.

Latin America

There are about thirty-five cultural institutes all over the world, under the direction of the Department of Foreign Affairs in Madrid. Many of these are in South America. A legacy from the days of Spanish exploration and conquest are the strong links between Latin America and the mother country. Spaniards enjoy dual citizenship with 12 Latin American nations.

Señor Sierra emphasises that the institute in Dublin exists not only to bring a knowledge of Spain to the Irish people but also the culture of countries like Peru, Chile and the Argentine. Already

SPAIN

among the 360 records available for lending to members are representative artists of countries south of the Caribbean. Latin-American poets and novelists will be found in the library and, naturally, films showing colourful aspects of life in the Spanish-speaking tropics may tempt the Irish tourists to venture a little further than the Costa Brava.

It would be difficult for any Dubliner not to notice the Spanish schoolchildren who visit here during the summer. As many as five thousand come here and stay with private families, as part of an exchange scheme which the institute helps to promote. Irish pupils have the opportunity to stay in Spain. At present there is no scholarship system operating for Irish students to study at Spanish universities, but there is an arrangement with the Irish Government to provide grants for the exchange of two from each country to spend a year in each other's land. These grants are not confined to students but could apply to graduates of any profession. It is hoped that this number will be increased by a mutual agreement between the two Governments who provide the necessary finance and facilities.

Broad scope

The Dublin Institute enjoys a great deal of autonomy, which means that the director is largely responsible for his programme of activities. This is in contrast to the Goethe Institute, for example, where Dublin is part of a worldwide network of concerts, lectures and theatrical activities planned in Munich. The director can, therefore, orient his programme to what he considers to be the special needs of the Irish people.

It is far too early to discern any trends that distinguish the policy of this Institute from the others but it is already evident that the intention is to present a programme broad, even popular, in its scope. It is not planned to appeal only to the intellectuals or to those with a knowledge of

the language. Films on sport, including bullfighting, will be shown. Since the success of the movie "Man of La Mancha" the exploits of Don Quixote have become familiar to many who never heard of Cervantes. This month the Institute will devote a week to La Mancha and its most noted citizen.

Before the Institute was founded here there was already a Spanish Circle, a purely private body operating in Dublin and in other towns. Naturally the Institute assumed many of its functions. Señor Sierra plans to open branches down the country and they are already closely co-operating with the Spanish Circle in Cork. In order to implement the policy of reaching the man in the street, they are contacting clubs, associations and Government institutions offering their services and asking how they may best serve the Irish community. However the limiting factor is, as always, money. The operating budget is only £16,000 (out of which the rent for premises must be paid) and there are only 350 members, mostly language students, who pay two pounds a year.

Strong links

Yet a full programme of events is scheduled. There will be concerts, lectures, film shows, conferences and dance groups. In co-operation with the Spanish Tourist Board, the famous guitarist Ismael will play and recite his poetry in the R.D.S. on the 27th and 28th of this month. Non-members are welcome.

Despite the fact that Spain is not in the E.E.C., there are strong historical connections between Ireland and Spain and the director hopes that his programme will strengthen the ties between the two countries.

Spanish Centre opened in Dublin

By Our Education Correspondent
A NEW Spanish Centre has just been opened in Dublin by a lecturer in Spanish at Trinity College, Dublin. It exists at the moment on a provisional basis, but is eventually to be incorporated into a Spanish Institute. The idea was first mooted at a conference of teachers of Spanish held in T.C.D. and in University College, Dublin, in March last year.

Senor Jose-Antonio Sieraa, whose idea this is, outlined the aims of the centre—which is currently housed at 5, Wilton place, Dublin 2—as follows:

"To establish a permanent collection of catalogues of all Spanish publications pertaining to Spanish language and literature. Also to be able to provide examples of the latest methods of teaching and studying Spanish. In this way to be in a position to be able to supply teachers of Spanish, and any others interested in the same field, with all the necessary information they might require on their subject.

"To have available for reference selected books, magazines, newspapers and audio-visual materials. These to provide general information about Spain not only on cultural topics but also on recent change and development in the social political and economic life of the nation.

"To organise evening classes in Spanish; also talks and lectures on cultural affairs and courses in language and literature given, if possible, by native speakers.

"To help those Irish people, in particular students at university studying Spanish, who need information about jobs, courses in Spanish or other related matters. To provide a reciprocal service for Spanish people in Ireland.

"To promote the interchange of teachers and students between Ireland and Spain. To investigate the possibilities of obtaining grants for this in either country, with the eventual aim of bringing about a cultural agreement between the two countries.

Cork Examiner, Thursday, April 2 1970
Spanish centre set up in Dublin

A Spanish Centre (a Centro Espanol) has been set up in Dublin on a provisional basis and is seeking official recognition by the Spanish Government.

Already Dublin has official German and Italian Institutes which cater for the languages and cultures of their countries.

Mr. Jose Antonio Sierra, a foreign languages assistant in Trinity College, Dublin is behind the move to set up a similar Spanish institute which was first mooted following a conference of teachers of Spanish held in Trinity College, Dublin and University College Dublin last March. A native of Avila, Mr. Sierra points out that Spanish in Irish schools is second to French and the number of those studying it is growing. It will grow in popularity in Ireland he says, because of the historical links between the two countries, the increasing number of Irish tourists visiting Spain and because of the growing importance of South America as a source of Irish exports.

Apart from encouraging the study of Spanish, the Institute would promote the interchange of teachers and students between Ireland and Spain. It is also hoped to promote a summer course in Avila for Irish school-children studying Spanish for the Leaving Certificate.

Spaniard's dream comes true

The greatest ambition of Jose-Antonio Sierra, a handsome young Spaniard teaching in Trinity College, Dublin, has been to start some kind of Spanish Centre in Dublin. Now, at his own expense and almost single-handed, he has opened Dublin's first Centro Espanol.

Since last month it has been rented rooms at 5 Wilton Place where bearded Jose-Antonio has an office and the beginnings of a library for students of Spanish language and literature.

Senor Sierra, who is an Assistant in T.C.D.'s Spanish Department, holds classes in Spanish once a week for about 10 people, mostly teachers and students. From publishers all over Spain he has collected catalogues of all Spanish language and literature publications. From these modest beginnings he hopes to see develop in Dublin a full-scale Spanish Cultural Institute under the direction of the Spanish Government.

THE IRISH PRESS,
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1970

DUBLIN POST VOL. 3 NO. 5
February 23rd 1972

Dublin Post Vol 3

Spanish Cultural Institute to open in Dublin soon

THE Spanish Government is officially opening a Spanish Cultural Institute at 58 Northumberland Road, in the near future. This will enable many Irish people to not alone learn the Spanish language, but also enjoy the cultural events which will be held there.

One of the aims of the new Institute will be to strengthen the links between Ireland, and not only Spain, but all the Spanish speaking countries of the world. The Institute will also make available literature, covering a diverse range of subjects from all these countries. It is hoped to initiate the Institute early in April, with classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students of the language.

Irish thief baffles Spaniards

If a Spanish thief steals your wallet, you're likely to get a letter from him returning personal items like letters or your driving licence, but he'll keep the money.

Guillermo de Reparaz (20) is surprised that whoever stole his wallet and diary in Dublin yesterday has not returned his personal belongings, which are so important to him, particularly as he goes to Paris next week for a holiday. Señor de Reparaz was out on a horse at a riding school between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. yesterday when his wallet disappeared.

TWO YEARS

"There was £7 in it, but that's not important," he said. "What matters is that I get back my identification papers and driving licence. I can't go anywhere without them."

Señor de Reparaz has been studying English in Ireland for the last two years. He is involved in the public relations section of a Spanish language centre which is opening in Dublin.

The Irish Press
Tuesday, March 5,
1970

SPANISH CENTRE

Sir,—With reference to reports in your issues of January 13th and 14th regarding the establishment of a Spanish Centre by Don Antonio Sierra Lumbreras of Trinity College, Dublin, my committee have requested me to clarify the situation of the Dublin Spanish Society which this year celebrates its silver jubilee.

The Dublin Spanish Society was founded in 1945. It is a voluntary society organised by Irish nationals for the purpose of encouraging friendly relations between Ireland and Spain. The society's activities include lectures which are given twice monthly from October to May by specially invited and distinguished lecturers. Classes in Spanish are held daily from Monday to Friday each week, and special classes in English are organised for students of Spanish nationality.

Over the years the society has had the support of Irish and Spaniards of all opinions. It is non-political, non-sectarian and enjoys the patronage of his Excellency, the Spanish Ambassador.—Yours, etc.,

ALFRED RHATIGAN,
Secretary, Dublin Spanish Society,
20, Lower Baggot street,
Dublin 2.

The Irish Times, Thursday, January 16,
1970

Move towards Spanish Institute

A MOVE which may lead eventually to the creation of a Spanish Institute in Dublin has been begun by a young Spanish lecturer in Trinity College.

Señor Antonio Sierra Lumbreras, from near Madrid, has set up, in the Language Centre, Dublin, a course in conversational Spanish at all levels, a guide to latest publications in the Spanish language, and information on the latest methods of teaching Spanish. He is seeking financial support from the Spanish Government, and hopes eventually to develop extensive cultural exchange programmes between Ireland and Spain.

Señor Lumbreras' centre, called Centro Español de Documentación e Intercambios Culturales, started this week. It is directed immediately at all Spanish teachers in Irish schools and at students of advanced Spanish.

Its instigator is concerned about the level of Spanish teaching in Irish schools. "I believe", he says, "that a complete reform is needed, both at university and at post-primary level. As long as students of Spanish in the universities continue to read, write and think in English, improvement in post-primary schools will always be necessary."

"There is also a need to introduce modern methods in all post-primary schools, and a compulsory oral examination."

"Unfortunately, I cannot change the system, I can only offer my experience to all those teachers, higher diploma students and final-year students who wish to maintain their present fluency or to improve it."

A meeting will be held on Thursday at 7.30 p.m. in the Dominican Convent, Eccles street, Dublin, to discuss details of the proposed conversation course.

The Irish Times, Monday,

January 13, 1970

Spanish Centre opened in Dublin

By Our Education Correspondent

A NEW Spanish Centre has just been opened in Dublin by a lecturer in Spanish at Trinity College, Dublin. It exists at the moment on a provisional basis, but is eventually to be incorporated into a Spanish Institute. The idea was first mooted at a conference of teachers of Spanish held in T.C.D. and in University College, Dublin, in March last year.

Señor Jose-Antonio Sierra, whose idea this is, outlined the aims of the centre—which is currently housed at 5, Wilton place, Dublin 2—as follows:

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"To promote the interchange of teachers and students between Ireland and Spain. To investigate the possibilities of obtaining grants for this in either country, with the eventual aim of bringing about a cultural agreement between the two countries."

THE IRISH TIMES, TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1970

STAFF MEMBER STARTS SPANISH INSTITUTE IN DUBLIN

A Trinity Foreign Language Assistant, Senor Jose-Antonio Sierra, has started a centre in Dublin for the promotion of cultural and educational relations between Ireland and Spain. The centre has received the support of various Spanish Government departments, the Irish Department of Education, teachers of Spanish in Ireland, the universities and many other bodies. Antonio Sierra hopes that his "Centro Espanol" will be the nucleus of a Spanish Institute comparable to the French, German and Italian Institutes already in Dublin.

Senor Sierra has already organised three language courses. Two are in Spanish—a crash course for third-level students and school teachers. The third is a course in English for Spanish au pair girls in Dublin to qualify them to teach English when they return to Spain. These girls often come from poor families, but now they will have a professional qualification they would not have gained under the Spanish educational system. The accent of the courses is on value for money and in addition, exchanges of teachers and students are being arranged between Ireland and Senor Sierra's home in Castile.

Although currently housed in temporary accommodation, the centre contains a collection of up-to-date catalogues of Spanish publications and a reference library of books on the language, literature, culture, socio-economic and political affairs of Spain and Latin America. It is already being used

as an information centre by the travel trade and journalists.

It may be surprising to learn that Spanish is the second most popular language in Irish schools. Senor Sierra says that the 12,000 students of Spanish in Ireland must benefit by the services offered by his institute. The growth of interest in Spanish here is reciprocated by the recent introduction of English into Spanish primary schools on a nation-wide scale.

Antonia Sierra hopes to be able to raise the standard of English in Spain and the standard of Spanish here by particularly concentrating on the teachers and potential teachers of the two languages. He has also proposed an exchange scheme between the children of workers and farmers of Spain and Ireland for the benefit of the children and for the tightening of the bonds between the ordinary people of both countries.

DAVID GILES.

Move towards Spanish Institute

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The Irish Times, Monday, January 13, 1970

TRINITY NEWS

The University Newspaper

February 2nd 1995

Spanish Institute celebrates 25th anniversary

THIS YEAR marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Spanish Institute in Dublin. It was organised by Senor Jose Antonio Sierra, a then Trinity College lecturer, as an attempt to promote cultural and educational relations between Ireland and Spain. Having experienced some initial difficulty in acquiring financial assistance from both the Spanish and Irish governments, Senor Sierra, at his own expenses, almost single-handedly opened Dublin's first Centro Espanol. The Centre now goes under the name of the Cervantes Institute and receives funding from both governments.

Barbara Collins

EL CLARÍN

PUBLISHED BY
THE SPANISH SOCIETY,
THE LIVERPOOL POLYTECHNIC
TITHEBARN STREET,
LIVERPOOL, L2 2ER.

June, 1970.

No.55

«CENTRO ESPAÑOL» IN DUBLIN

At the Conference of Teachers of Spanish held in Trinity College and University College, Dublin, in March last year, the idea was put forward of establishing a Spanish Institute in Dublin. Since then this idea has been considerably developed and a CENTRO ESPAÑOL DE DOCUMENTACIÓN E INTERCAMBIOS CULTURALES has now been set up and was officially opened on March 19th. The *Centro Español* exists at present on a provisional basis but is eventually to be incorporated into a Spanish Institute.

The aims of the *Centro Español* are as follows:

a) To establish a permanent collection of catalogues of all Spanish publications pertaining to Spanish language and literature. Also to be able to provide examples of the latest methods of teaching and studying Spanish. In this way to be in a position to be able to supply teachers of Spanish, and any others interested in the same field, with all the necessary information they might require on their subject.

b) To have available for reference selected books, magazines, newspapers and audio-visual materials. These to provide general information about Spain not only on cultural topics but also on recent change and development in the social,

political and economic life of the nation.

c) To organize evening classes in Spanish. Also talks and lectures on cultural affairs and courses in language and literature given, if possible, by native speakers.

d) To help those Irish people, in particular students at university studying Spanish, who need information about jobs, courses in Spanish or other related matters. To provide a reciprocal service for Spanish people in Ireland.

e) To promote the interchange of teachers and students between Ireland and Spain. To investigate the possibilities of obtaining grants for this in either country, with the eventual aim of bringing about a cultural agreement between the two countries.

The director of the scheme, Mr. Sierra of Trinity College, Dublin, says that the *Centro Español* has been set up solely as a result of his personal conviction of the great and pressing need that there is for an institution of this sort in Ireland.

Finally, it is his personal wish that the creation of a Spanish Institute in Ireland should lead to a greater understanding and fuller cultural relationship between the two countries.

Spanish Institute wanted

SPANISH students here to learn English, and Irish students of Spanish, are trying to influence the Spanish Government to establish a Cultural Institute in Dublin. An average of 3,000 Spaniards come here every year to learn English; some 30,000 Irish people go to Spain on holidays and an estimated 12,000 secondary students take Spanish as an examination subject in Ireland.

Senor Antonio Jose Sierra Lumbreras, an assistant lecturer in Spanish at Dublin University, said that the Spanish students both of Ireland and of Spain felt the lack of an Institute such as those set up in Dublin by the French and German Governments. He has established a Spanish Centre at Wilton Place but his aim is to make the centre a meeting place for Spaniards who come here. There were, for example, a pair of girls who found time heavy on their hands in Dublin because they could not contact one another.

El Centro Español Documentacion in Wilton Place may be the foundation for such an Institute and has the approval of some Departments of the Spanish Government. One of the features is the teaching of Spanish on a non-commercial basis and a novel experiment in teaching conversational Spanish for tourists is in progress.

Un abulense que triunfa en Irlanda

D. José Antonio Sierra Lumbreras, director del recién creado Instituto Español en Dublín

La Dirección General de Relaciones Culturales, del Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, acaba de aprobar un proyecto de creación de un Instituto de España en Dublín, que tendrá una función social, docente y cultural.

Ha sido nombrado director del mismo don José Antonio Sierra Lumbreras, que hasta hace poco ocupaba el cargo de lector de español en el Trinity College de la Universidad Nacional de Dublín. (Cifra).

Avila

José Antonio Sierra, un abulense en Irlanda

Avila. Antonio González.

El período de vacaciones, que numerosos abulenses aprovechan para salir de nuestra capital y provincia, supone también para otros la oportunidad de regresar a la tierra que les vio nacer y donde se criaron, hasta que, por los avatares de la vida, tuvieron que salir en busca de otros destinos.

Uno de estos abulenses emigrante, en este caso a Irlanda, es José Antonio Sierra, natural de Villanueva de Gómez y relacionado con Blasco Sancho y Hernansancho, que pasa el tiempo de verano, en nuestra capital.

José Antonio Sierra es desde hace 15 años director del Instituto Cultural Español de Dublín, uno de los 28 institutos que dependientes del Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores tiene España esparcidos por el mundo. Los objetivos de este instituto son la enseñanza del idioma castellano en los diversos países del mundo donde están enclavados; además, buscan la difusión de la cultura y la idiosincrasia del país en el mundo. A partir del normal curso docente tienen programados actividades suplementarias como el teatro, conciertos de intérpretes españoles, exposiciones de pintura y demás actividades culturales. Junto a estas actividades existen también el objetivo de la contribución al intercambio juvenil entre jóvenes españoles e irlandeses en un intento más de fortalecer los vínculos de amistad entre los dos pueblos.

El Instituto de Cultura Español es el promotor del periódico "Authentik" en colaboración con la Univer-

sidad irlandesa Trinity College. Este periódico, a base de artículos de prensa aparecidos recientemente en periódicos y revistas de todos los países castellanoparlantes, tiene como objetivo primordial el mostrar a todos los estudiantes de la lengua española la riqueza, variedad e importancia del idioma español. El motivo de la creación de este periódico es doble: de un lado, sirve como actividad complementaria al curso normal de castellano que siguen los diversos estudiantes, y de otro, la prensa y la radio puede venir muy bien para la enseñanza del idioma.

A nivel personal José Antonio Sierra busca la creación de la Asociación Española de profesores de español para extranjeros, unos 10.000 en total que tiene como fines básicos ayudar en el intercambio de experiencias didácticas con el profesorado español de otros países, organizar cursos de actualización, o perfeccionamiento para los profesores.

José Antonio Sierra es Lector de Español del Trinity College de la Universidad de Dublín y trata de crear un puente humano y cultural entre aquel país y España

Si en más de una ocasión hemos manifestado nuestra satisfacción al tener oportunidad de hablar en estas columnas de abulenses que triunfan fuera de la fronteras de nuestro país, otro tanto nos ocurre ahora, al tener conocimiento de las actividades (o algunas de las actividades) de un abulense en Irlanda.

José Antonio Sierra Lumberras es un joven abulense, nacido en Villanueva de Gómez, que pasó varios años durante su infancia en Blascosancho y Hernansancho. Es maestro nacional y licenciado en Filosofía y Letras.

José Antonio Sierra Lumberras es un hombre emprendedor y lleno de inquietudes. Hace diez años marchó al extranjero y en este tiempo ha recorrido quince países y desempeñado los más variados oficios.

Hemos tenido ocasión de hablar con él, aprovechando una corta estancia en Avila.

—Estoy haciendo unas gestiones aquí y en Madrid para llevar a cabo unos proyectos que tengo desde hace tiempo. Se trata de la organización de unos cursos de verano y de la creación de un Instituto de España en Dublín.

—¿Puedes hablarnos de ellos con detalle?

—Mi intención es celebrar durante el verano en Avila un curso de español para irlandeses pero con una diferencia esencial con respecto a los similares que, según mis noticias, se vienen celebrando. Este no sería un curso un tanto ajeno a la ciudad, porque estaría organizado conjuntamente y en estrecha colaboración por la Asociación de Profesores de Español de la República de Irlanda (que ya aceptó mi proposición) y las autoridades abulenses. Simultáneamente podría celebrarse uno de inglés para españoles. Sería muy barato, ya que los mismos profesores irlandeses que aquí perfeccionarían su español, darían las clases de inglés. Ya he hecho gestiones en el Colegio Diocesano con vistas a iniciar estos cursos en el próximo verano.

Entre los proyectos culturales de este abulense figura otro similar. Se trata de un curso de inglés para maestros nacionales, de un mes de duración, e impartido por profesores de español irlandeses. El primero de estos cursos iba a haberse celebrado ya en el verano que acaba de terminar, en colaboración con la Inspección de Enseñanza Primaria. Sin embargo, debido a unas circunstancias imprevistas, este año no fue posible.

cursos de literatura y lengua inglesa o cualquier aspecto relacionado con aquel país.

—¿Cuál es el estado actual de tus gestiones para la formación de ese Instituto de España?

—He presentado en el Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia una memoria de la labor realizada hasta ahora, sobre todo a través del Centro Español de Documentación, y mis proyectos. Mi pretensión es que se me adscriba al Instituto Español de Emigración, con objeto de poder llevar a cabo en Irlanda todos estos proyectos, que considero de una gran importancia.

Hacer un estudio de las necesidades socio-culturales, laborales y económicas de los emigrantes, sentar las bases del futuro Instituto de España, continuando las actividades que ya viene desarrollando el Centro Español de Documentación, ayudar a los emigrantes españoles con información y asesoramiento y colaborar con la Dirección General de Enseñanza Primaria en la organización de cursos de verano de lengua inglesa para maestros, son pues, por ahora, las metas inmediatas de José Antonio Sierra.

El estudio y preparación de estos proyectos han sido, junto con la atención del Centro Español de Documentación, el desempeño de su trabajo como Lector del Departamento de Español de Trinity College de la Universidad de Dublín y sus colaboraciones en los periódicos españoles «Informaciones» y Carta de España, son las actividades que han llenado los dos últimos años de permanencia en la capital irlandesa de este abulense, a quien únicamente nos resta desear el éxito que su entusiasmo y su firme voluntad merecen.

Javier LUMBRERAS

INSTITUTO DE ESPAÑA
EN DUBLIN

El proyecto, sin duda más interesante de este emprendedor abulense es el de la creación de un Instituto de Enseñanza en Dublín. Este Instituto tiene ya el antecedente de un Centro Español de Documentación, fundado por José Antonio Sierra Lumberras, sin ningún tipo de ayuda económica, con el fin de orientar, asesorar e informar a cuantos españoles vayan a Irlanda o soliciten información desde España, sobre trabajo.

de Avila



Un abulense en Irlanda

Lunes 26 de octubre 1970

DIARIO

LUNES, 26 de OCTUBRE, 1970



Sección de Pedagogía

Examinada su instancia por la Sección y a propuesta de la misma, el Ilmo. Sr. Decano ha designado, con esta fecha, al Catedrático

Dr. D. Anselmo Romero

Asesor del tema : "IMPORTANCIA Y PERSPECTIVAS DE LA LENGUA ESPAÑOLA EN LA REPÚBLICA DE IRLANDA",

propuesto por Vd. correspondiente a la Memoria de Licenciatura.

Lo que comunico a Vd. para su conocimiento y demás efectos.

Dios guarde a Vd. muchos años.

Madrid, 20 de Enero de 1960.

Me alegro tener noticias

de su siempre sea de

este modo. Un cordial saludo

El Profesor Adjunto,

W. Juan Latorre

Sr. D. José Antonio Sierra Lumbreras.-Hernani, 44.-MADRID-20