

## Seventh biennial report (fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh years) of the Irish Committee of Historical Sciences June 1993 – May 1995

1. The biennial general Conference of Irish Historians was held on 28 May 1993 at the Queen's University of Belfast.
2. The sixth biennial report of the Irish Committee of Historical Sciences (for fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth years) and the minutes of the previous conference were approved and signed.
3. The Irish Committee of Historical Sciences for 1993–5 was constituted as follows: Dr Ciaran Brady, Dr James Kelly and James McGuire (representing the Irish Historical Society); Professor David Harkness, Dr Alvin Jackson and Dr Mary O'Dowd (representing the Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies); Dr David Craig, Dr Gerard Moran and Dr Tim O'Neill (representing the Economic and Social History Society of Ireland); Professor Nicholas Canny, Dr Keith Jeffery and Dr Colm Lennon (representing the Conference of Irish Historians); Dr Judith Devlin, Professor Ronan Fanning, Dr John Logan, Dr Eunan O'Hallpin and Dr Pauric Travers (co-opted). Dr Michael Kennedy replaced Dr Jackson in 1995.
4. The officers elected by the committee were: Professor Nicholas Canny (chairman); Dr Keith Jeffery (deputy chairman); Dr Mary O'Dowd (secretary); Dr Colm Lennon (treasurer).
5. Nine meetings of the committee were held during the two years. Attendance was as follows (with number for which members were eligible in brackets): Dr Brady 7 (9); Professor Canny 8 (9); Dr Craig 4 (9); Dr Devlin 5 (6); Professor Fanning 3 (9); Professor Harkness 5 (9); Dr Jackson 3 (8); Dr Jeffery 6 (9); Dr Kelly 3 (9); Dr Kennedy 1 (1); Dr Lennon 8 (9); Dr Logan 4 (6); J. I. McGuire 2 (9); Dr Moran 7 (9); Dr O'Dowd 9 (9); Dr O'Hallpin 9 (9); Dr O'Neill 1 (9); Dr Travers 7 (9).
6. Regular communication was maintained with the Comité International des Sciences Historiques. The committee will be sponsoring five delegates to the eighteenth International History Congress to be held in Montreal from 27 August to 3 September 1995.
7. The committee continued to liaise with the History Teachers' Association in connexion with the proposed new history syllabus for the Senior Cycle. In November 1993 the committee organised a one-day seminar on the topic in St Patrick's College, Drumcondra. The programme included speakers from the H.T.A., the Department of Education, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and the Department of Education in Northern Ireland.
8. The committee continued to correspond with the Director of the National Library concerning facilities for researchers in the library. Regrettably there has been no change in the opening hours of the library during the two-year period.

9. The twenty-first Irish Conference of Historians was held at the Queen's University of Belfast, 27–29 May 1993. The theme was the history of women. The conference attracted a record attendance of over 350 registered delegates. The proceedings of the conference, edited by Mary O'Dowd and Sabine Wichert, have been published as *Chattel, servant or citizen: women's status in church, state and society: Historical Studies XX* by the Institute of Irish Studies, Belfast.
10. The programme for the twenty-second Irish Conference of Historians to be held in University College, Dublin, in May 1995 was decided. The conference theme will be religion, politics and society, and the organisers are Dr Judith Devlin and Professor Ronan Fanning.
11. The committee agreed to hold a one-day conference on alternate years between the biennial Conference of Irish Historians. The first one-day conference will be organised by Dublin City University and St Patrick's College, D.C.U., in 1996.
12. The Irish Historical Society held a full programme of lectures during the two-year period.
13. The Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies held a full programme of lectures during the two-year period.
14. The Economic and Social History Society of Ireland held its 1994 conference at the Queen's University of Belfast.
15. The bibliographical sub-committee met and liaised with the committee concerning the future of *Writings on Irish history*.
16. The committee is grateful to the Irish government for continued financial support. It is also grateful to the Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies for bearing a share of the travel expenses of committee members.
17. The committee wishes to express its thanks to Mr Pearse Colbert for his services as honorary auditor.

18 May 1995

MARY O'DOWD  
*Secretary*