DIARY FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

2nd United Ireland Association Dance.
9th Meath Association
13th Comhaltas
16th Dublin Association Bacon & Cabbage.
23rd Clare Association
27th Comhaltas
30th Irish Centre Dance.

EVERY MONDAY - BALLADS
EVERY THURSDAY & SATURDAY - COUNTRY & WESTERN
EVERY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY & SUNDAY - BINGO

THE IRISH CENTRE - NEWS LETTER

As a nation, I suppose it is true to say we remember our country in song and in story, as much as any in the world, if not more. It would seem that out of the fifty-two weeks of the year we spend fifty of them singing about Ireland. As for the other two we usually spend in Ireland. Every Irishman and woman just loves going back there, firstly because it is home and secondly its great to get away from the noise and fuss of city life. The reason why I say all that is simply to wish you a very happy holiday. I hope you find all belonging to you in the best of health; I hope you meet some of your neighbours from other parts of the globe and I hope too that the weather is kind to you.

I your conversations with your friends, you are bound to bring up something about the Irish Centre. A few facts with regard to the welfare side of it may be of use to you.

The Irish Centre was founded in 1955. Its purpose was to assist Irish boys and girls coming to London for the first time. As you all know the first two or three weeks are often the most crucial for the simple reason that all landlords want advance payment for a flat, and more often than not employees have to work a week in hand. To help some wasting time lookinig for a job, the Marian Employment Agency helps them, if there is no immediate flat to be got we help with hostel accommodation.

That generally is the purpose, but you know as well as I do, that it involves much more than that. Since the Irish Centre opened it has accommodated just over 17,000 people, and sent them on their way to victory.
This all costs money and perhaps you can do a lot here. For instance we had a charity walk this year. It realised 1,300 pounds so far. Could you tell your friends that they should be sponsors next year to one of our walkers? Tell them you will be on to them shortly after Christmas and you want a shilling per mile for a walker in our charity walk next year. I feel we would do an awful lot better next time.

As I said above the charity walk realised 1,300 pounds. Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped, but above all to our walkers.

All through the Summer our Ballad Sessions are going ahead. One has only to look at the numbers coming to see that the people love it. If your friends are over you can take them to the Douglas Hyde Lounge every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday nights, and have the best Irish atmosphere you can find in London. Treat them to a night out at the Irish Centre.

The Autumn fare this year will be held in the Regent Rooms Camden Town. This takes place on 30th, Sept., more about that after you have returned from your holiday.

God bless you all,

Fr. P. Sheridan, O.M.I.