

IRISH LANGUAGE SUBCOMMITTEE.

Of the 15 entrants who sat the Institute of Linguists Exams in May all but 2 passed with Distinctions. The general standard of the language was exceptionally high which indicates a definite need to continue with these exams.

The Newsletter was published and sent to teachers and to individuals / institutions both in Britain and Ireland. As a result of the publicity from this, "BORD NA GAEILGE" sent us a parcel of books and magazines free of charge. There were also a lot of queries about Irish Language Classes in this country.

The first of the two inservice courses arranged for the Autumn term took place in Manchester on Sunday 15th September when the presenter was Máire Uí Iarnáin from "Áras Uí Chadhain" in Carraroe. A small but enthusiastic group from Wales and the Midlands benefitted from this worthwhile and well presented seminar.

The second course was held at "Áras na nGael" in London on October 5th and 6th when the presenters were Peadar Mac An Iomaire of University College, Galway and Máire Uí Iarnáin again. The large group - from places as far afield as Cardiff, Liverpool, Yorkshire and Birmingham - enjoyed two days in which they learnt basic and progressive teaching methods by using various resources and techniques. Peadar and Máire demonstrated their expertise as they are both specialists at presenting and arranging such courses in an informal, worthwhile manner.

A lot of progress has been made towards obtaining funding from LINGUA for the work of the language in this country. GAEL LINN have offered to produce a course for teachers of Irish in Britain and it is hoped to obtain money to send teachers on courses in Ireland next year.

Several new classes have started throughout Britain this Autumn as people are becoming aware of the growing interest and enthusiasm for the Irish Language in Britain.