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built in 1902 thanks to the generosity of Margarita Morgan (née Mooney).

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Eamon Bulfin [Eduardo, Ned] (1892-1968)
Irish republican and diplomatist

By Edmundo Murray



Eamon Bulfin (1892-1968)
(*The Southern Cross*, 12 May 1916)

Bulfin, Eamon [Eduardo, Ned] (1892-1968), Irish republican and diplomatist, was born in Argentina, the first of five children of William Bulfin (1864-1910) of Birr, Co. Offaly, and Ann *née* O'Rourke of Ballymore, Co. Westmeath. An Irish nationalist and enthusiastic supporter of Irish language and sports, William Bulfin was a well-known journalist, editor of the *Southern Cross* weekly paper of Buenos Aires, and author of short stories and travel books. Ann O'Rourke's sister Elsa was married to the republican Pádraig MacManus (1864-1929), editor of the anti-British *Fianna* journal also of Buenos Aires. In a family environment of Irish nationalism, the eldest son Eamon received a decisive influence in his formative years.

At sixteen, the Bulfin family returned to Ireland and Eamon was sent to study with Patrick Pearse at St. Enda's school. In 1910 he entered University College Dublin, and enrolled as lieutenant in the Irish Volunteers (Pearse's Own battalion). In 1915 Eamon Bulfin led the UCD team to win the hurling College championship (Fitzgibbon Cup). He also was appointed captain of the Irish Volunteer company at UCD.

During the preparation and planning of Easter Rising in 1916 Eamon Bulfin worked Pearse's aide and helped with the stock of arms and ammunition in St. Enda's school. When the General Post Office (GPO) was seized together with other strategic buildings in Dublin, James Connolly, head of the Irish Citizen Army asked Sean O'Kelly to fetch two flags from Liberty Hall. When the flags arrived, Connolly asked Bulfin to hoist them up on the flag poles on either end of the roof. The tricolour was hoisted at the right corner of Henry Street while a green flag with the inscription 'Irish Republic' was hoisted at the left corner at Princess Street.

After the defeat, Eamon Bulfin was courtmartialled by the British judges, but saved his life thanks to the Argentine passport (the Argentine ambassador interceded). Under the provisions of the Aliens Restriction Act of 1914, Bulfin was deported from the United Kingdom on 21 March 1917.

He arrived in Buenos Aires and was convicted by the Argentine authorities for deserting from the military service. Once freed in 1919, Bulfin was appointed by Eamon de Valera as the first representative of the Ireland Republic to Argentina. Among the aims of his mission were 'to inaugurate direct trade between Ireland and the Argentine Republic, [...] to co-ordinate Irish opinion in the Argentine, and to bring it into line with the Irish demand for a republic' [De Valera to Bulfin 6 May 1919]. From this position, and working together with Laurenc Ginnell (1852-1923), Bulfin established a contact network with govern-

ment officials and Irish-Argentine leaders, launched the Irish Fund and negotiated shipments of ammunition for the IRA.

Eamon Bulfin was a tall, good-looking young man, famous for his charm and athletic prowess. He was extremely popular among the fellow students at St. Enda's school and at the university, and represented a natural leader in republican activism. A member of the Gaelic League, Bulfin spoke Irish fluently.

In 1922 he went back to Ireland and settled at Derrinlough House, Birr, Co. Offaly. Eamon Bulfin was appointed chairman of the Co. Offaly republican council (elected in absence, when he was in Argentina). He died in Ireland. Among his four sisters - María, Ana, Elena and Catalina - Catalina Bulfin (1901-1976) was secretary to the Irish revolutionary Austin Stack and married Amnesty International founder member and Nobel prize winner Seán MacBride.

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Eduardo Aquilio Coghlan (1912-1997)

Judge and genealogist

By Edmundo Murray



Eduardo A. Coghlan (1912-1997)
(*The Southern Cross, Número del Centenario*)

Coghlan, Eduardo Aquilio (1912-1997), judge and genealogist, was born on 29 October 1912 in the province of Corrientes, Argentina, the son of Patricio Coghlan (1883-1952) and María Dolores, daughter of Miguel Jantus and Arcelia Baigorri. Patricio Coghlan, the only son of Joseph Coghlan (1853-1892) of Ballylarkin, Co. Wicklow, and Elisa Byrne (d. 1884), was a notary public and landowner. Joseph Coghlan's father Patrick was first cousin to John Coghlan (1824-1890), civil engineer who built the drinking water and sewage systems of Buenos Aires.

Eduardo Coghlan graduated in 1937 at the school of law in the university of Buenos Aires. After a career in the public service he was appointed to the Federal Court of Buenos Aires in 1957. He retired as a judge in 1978. President of the Argentine Genealogical Institute in 1979-1980. He was vice-president of the Irish Argentine Federation and member of the Irish Catholic Association. On 20 December 1945 Eduardo Coghlan married Margarita, daughter of José Jaime O'Farrell and his wife Margarita Imelda Duggan. "He never had the opportunity to visit Ireland but many Irish Argentines who did are in his debt as his researches enabled them to pinpoint their Irish relations and often the very farm and house from which their great-grandparents left for Argentina. Eduardo Coghlan did not engage in self-promotion although he made himself generously available to all who wished to call on his knowledge of the Irish in Argentina. He cooperated closely with Bill Meek of RTE who, in 1987, visited Argentina and who made a successful radio documentary series on the Irish Argentines. [...] We are all in Eduardo's debt for the detailed and painstaking research he did over a life-time on thousands of Irish emigrants and their descendants from the date of their arrival in Argentina through the succeeding generations. His work will ensure that the Latin-American component of the Irish Diaspora is recorded for posterity" (obituary in the *Irish Times*, 2 March 1998). Eduardo Coghlan died on 1 August 1997 in Buenos Aires.

Eduardo Coghlan published *Fundadores de la Segunda Epoca: los irlandeses* (Buenos Aires, 1967), *Los irlandeses* (Buenos Aires, 1970), *Orígenes y evolución de la colectividad hiberno-argentina* in: 'The Southern Cross', Número del Centenario (Buenos Aires, 1975), *Andanzas de un Irlandés en el Campo Porteño 1845-1864* (Buenos Aires: Ediciones Culturales Argentinas, 1981), *El Aporte de los Irlandeses a la Formación de la Nación Argentina* (Buenos Aires, 1982), and *Los Irlandeses en la Argentina: Su Actuación y Descendencia* (Buenos Aires, 1987). In 1987 the Irish Ministry of Foreign Affairs approved the purchase of copies of Eduardo Coghlan's catalogue 'to be distributed to institutions abroad' (Dáil Éireann 1988).

Coghlan's *Los Irlandeses en la Argentina* (1987) is a 963-pages genealogical catalogue of the Irish-Argentine community, including 4,349 Irish-born emigrants to Argentina and most of their families up to the third

and sometimes fourth and fifth generations. The book includes an alphabetical index, two introductory articles, the genealogies, cattle brands of Irish ranchers, an essay on genealogy by Félix F. Martín y Herrera, and depictions of Irish family arms. Sometimes there is a tendency to select landowners and professionals, disregarding less fortunate Irish settlers like cattle hands and labourers. For this reason there is little information about return migration and re-emigration to other countries. However, it is a unique piece of research throughout the Irish Diaspora and an indispensable source for students of the Irish in Argentina. Several entries of this *Dictionary of Irish Latin American Biography* include Coghlan's catalogue as one of their references.

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Matthew Gaughren (1843-1914)
Roman Catholic priest and bishop in South Africa

Gaughren, Matthew (1843-1914), Roman Catholic priest and bishop in South Africa, was born in 1843 in Dublin. He was one of three brothers who became Roman Catholic priests. Two of these, Matthew and Anthony (1849-1901), became bishops in the same vicariate. Their only sister was a Holy Faith Sister in Ireland.

Matthew Gaughren joined the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (O.M.I.) and was ordained priest in 1867. He had appointments successively in Holy Cross Liverpool, St. Kevin's Reformatory in Glencree (Ireland) and Tower Hill, London, before becoming provincial. After his term of office as provincial he became superior in Leith, Scotland.

Fr. Gaughren visited Argentina to collect funds for lessening the debt upon the church of Our Lady of Grace at Tower Hill. In February 1889, Matthew Gaughren met the Irish emigrants of the steamer *City of Dresden* when she called at Montevideo, Uruguay. He went onboard and shared the distresses experienced by the emigrants in Buenos Aires and later in the Irish Colony of Napostá, near Bahía Blanca. He discontinued his fund-raising, travelled to Napostá and lived during months among the poor colonists attending their spiritual needs.

Gaughren returned to Europe and was appointed provincial in Ireland, and in 1892 established the Oblates in Australia. Matthew Gaughren remained as parish priest of Fremantle for a year. After serving as provincial he became Vicar Apostolic of Orange River Colony in South Africa. On 16 March 1902 Gaughren was consecrated bishop in the parish church of Leith, Scotland, where he succeeded his brother. At the same time he was appointed Administrator of the Vicariate of Transvaal. Fr. Gaughren died on 1 June 1914 in Cape Town, and was buried at Kimberley.

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Patrick Fitzsimons (1802-1872)
Headmaster and educationist

By Edmundo Murray

Fitzsimons, Patrick (1802-1872), headmaster and educationist, was born in Co. Down. His family established in Ennis, Co. Clare. In 1843 Patrick Fitzsimons founded, together with Cuthbert Collingwood Power, the Springfield College in Ennis, where he was the headmaster for about twenty years. The school was a success from 1846, on account of the support from the local bishop. In c.1845, Fitzsimons married Bidelia Kelly. They had five children, John (d.1871), Cuthbert, Edward (d.1886), James (1849-1944), William (b.1851), Jane (d.1863) and Emily (d.1862).

Due to debts owed to several creditors, Power, Fitzsimons and family left Ireland sailing in the *Raymond*, and arrived in Buenos Aires on 1 October 1862. Patrick Fitzsimons settled in Lobos, where he opened the Irish School. He then was involved in the opening of two other schools, one in Flores and the other in Paraná. Although Fitzsimons' credentials included a diploma from the University of Oxford, it has been recently argued that he never left Ireland before going to South America. Nevertheless, when the National School was established in Corrientes on 2 August 1869, Fitzsimons was appointed its headmaster by the Argentine president Domingo F. Sarmiento. In a short time, Fitzsimons added an elementary section and a model school for elementary teachers based in the national education system he had known in Ireland, as well as a normal school for teacher education. Furthermore, Fitzsimons organised night courses for workers and a special school for soldiers in the army. His sons James and William taught and held diverse responsibilities in the schools. By the early decades of the twentieth century, *Los Tres Fitzsimons* were recognised as leading figures in the city of Corrientes. In 1891 James Fitzsimons - a pioneer football player and boxer - was appointed director of the Commerce School in Buenos Aires. Other son, Edward Fitzsimons, was the British vice-consul in Corrientes by 1884.

Patrick Fitzsimons, his wife Bidelia and a son died during an outbreak of yellow fever in April 1872.

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Rodolfo Jorge Walsh (1927-1977)
Journalist and novelist

By Edmundo Murray



Rodolfo Walsh (1927-1977)
(Página 12, 27 October 2005)

Walsh, Rodolfo Jorge (1927-1977), journalist and novelist, was born in Choele-Choel, province of Río Negro, the third son of Miguel Esteban Walsh (1894-1947) and his wife, Dora Gill. Miguel Esteban Walsh was the second son of Miguel Walsh (1866-1910) and Catalina Dillon. Rodolfo Walsh's brother Carlos Walsh was a navy officer, and his sister Patricia was a Catholic nun.

In his early age, Rodolfo Walsh was sent to the Irish school in Capilla del Señor and then to the Fahy Institute in Moreno. Walsh started his career as a journalist. From 1959 to 1961 he worked for the agency Prensa Latina in Cuba. Back in Buenos Aires, he wrote for *Panorama*, *La Opinión* and *Confirmado*. His political activity led him to the hard-line Montoneros group, where he acted as intelligence officer. Walsh played a key role in the bombing of the cafeteria at the police headquarters in 2 July 1976. "On the first anniversary of Jorge Rafael Videla's dictatorship, 24 March 1977, he committed the unforgivable crime of accusing the dictatorship in an open letter [...] considered by Gabriel García Márquez 'one of the jewels of universal literature'. But 'the day after Walsh decried these atrocities', wrote US historian, Donald C. Hodges, 'three army tanks demolished his home in the capital's suburb of San Vicente and disappeared him as well'. He was murdered in broad daylight in downtown Buenos Aires by a military death squad whose instructions were to capture him alive, but had to kill him when he pulled a gun to return their fire. His dead body was dumped into the boot of a car, taken to the notorious Navy Mechanics' School (ESMA), gloated over, desecrated and never seen again" (Geraghty 2002).

Rodolfo Walsh pioneered the investigative journalism in Argentina. In *Operación Masacre*, the account of a summary execution of thirty-four Peronists, Walsh combined detective suspense with non-fiction narrative techniques. Among his published works are *Diez cuentos policiales* (1953), *Cuentos para tabúes*, *Variaciones en rojo* (1953), *Antología del cuento extraño* (1956), *Operación Masacre* (1957), *Secuencia Final*, the plays *La granada* and *La batalla* (1965), *Los oficios terrestres* (1965), *Un kilo de oro* (1967), *¿Quién mató a Rosendo?* (1969), *Un oscuro día de justicia* (1973), and *El caso Satanovsky* (1973).

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