

## The Insurance Institute of Ireland Members' Dramatic Society



### **15th May 1944 – President's message from the Souvenir Programme of the first production ;-**

For more than half-a-century the primary function of the Insurance Institute of Ireland has been the education of Members in the theory and practice of Insurance. The Council has, however, extended its activities of late years to promote the social interests of its Members, and two subsidiary groups were formed in the last fifteen years with that objective in view.

It is my pleasure now to welcome and to extend my sincere good wishes to a third group, the Insurance Dramatic Society, and to pay tribute to its founders, Mr Patrick A Cowman and Coyle & Co (Brokers) Ltd, and Mr Frank Prenton Jones of the Yorkshire Insurance Co Ltd. In the summer of 1943 they submitted plans to the Council of the Institute for the formation of a Dramatic Society under the aegis of the Institute.

The Council unhesitatingly and unanimously gave its sympathetic approval to the proposals submitted, and the Insurance Dramatic Society came into being as a permanent department to cater for the extended activities of Members of the Insurance Institute of Ireland. Mr James J Sargison ACII, who was then President of the Institute, inspired the project with that ardour which characterised his year of office, and the magnificent success of this first Production is due no less to him than to Mr Cowman and Mr Jones.

I congratulate the Society and its excellent Committee on the outstanding success of its first Production in the Peacock Theatre. It is sincerely hoped that in the very near future we may have a permanent Home for the Insurance Institute of Ireland, where all our expanding activities may be centralised, and the Insurance Dramatic Society may perform on our own stage, in our own theatre.

J. C. Wilkinson ACII  
President  
The Insurance Institute of Ireland