

ADDITIONS, INTEGRATIONS, CORRECTIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS
TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ARNOLD JOSEPH TOYNBEE*

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Addition to Part I,
Works by Arnold J. Toynbee

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410) A. J. Toynbee, *Ireland's Place in the Sun. Exposed to Attack from Continent*, in «The Irish Weekly and Ulster Examiner» (Belfast), Saturday, July 14, 1951, p. 1. Text below.

NOTE

An account of a lecture on *Ireland's Place in Western Civilisation* given by Toynbee to the Dublin University Summer School, Trinity College, Dublin.

* *A Bibliography of Arnold J. Toynbee*, compiled by S. Fiona Morton, with a Foreword by Veronica M. Toynbee, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1980.

IRELAND PLACE IN WESTERN CIVILISATION

Ireland place in Western civilisation was the title of a lecture given by Professor Arnold Toynbee to the Dublin University Summer School in Trinity College. Dublin.

«Ireland is in the same boat as the rest of Western Europe», declared. «Though she is the most sheltered of all West European islands, except Iceland, on the present scale operations she is, nevertheless, almost as dangerously exposed as Norway or Italy is to attack from the Continent. What is she feeling about the question of closer union between our West European countries and the United States?».

Professor Toynbee said that if the Franks had been beaten by the Arabs in A.D. 737, one could imagine the survival of a Far Western Christendom, based on Ireland, while Gaul became a province of Islam.

Ireland had, however, the fate of being subordinated ecclesiastically to Rome, being devastated by the Vikings and eclipsed by England. Yet, he believed, he stated, that «Ireland has never ceased to be in some sense as *alter orbis*, a separate civilisation, distinct from the society that has eventually emerged out of the Roman See in other parts of Western Europe. Ireland has a distinctive culture, not just a distinctive nationality».

Within the last 100 years, Ireland had come to be the mother country of an important part of the population of the United States, Canada and Australia, while, since the 18th century, the Irish had made their mark in the Spanish-American countries.

«Thus, Ireland to-day is one of the links between the European and the overseas part of our Western World».

«But», said Professor Toynbee, «even with the New World redressing the balance of the Old, the Western peoples, all told, amount to only a small minority of mankind, and we are now once again a besieged city. We can hardly hope to hold our own unless we manage to crystallise into a political unity around a North American crystallization point.