

Wrexham. Denbs. Wales. G.B.

30th. October 1968.

Dear Jack,

It was so kind and considerate of you to let us know the very sad news of the death of Mr. Henry T. Jones. I have just written a letter of genuine sympathy to Mrs. Jones. The Association has truly suffered a loss. Next to his own immediate interests I think that his deep love for the N.G.G.A. came next. It is wonderful that he had a little reprieve after his previous severe illness as this gave us the joy of seeing him again. He was a true friend to me and he gave me encouragement when I needed it. He was so appreciative. You, too, have lost a friend and Trefor and I sympathise not only with the Association but with you personally.

Trefor and I spent two days last week in Cardiff attending Committees. The first took place at an informal lunch at the Park Hotel, on Thursday. This was followed by a meeting at the City Hall when Mr. Lyn Howell, a close personal friend of ours and Secretary of the Wales Tourist Board, took the Chair. The Secretary Mrs. Wynn Lones, before her marraige, was on his staff. Mr. Keri Harris-Hughes, retired Bank Manager and a family friend of ours is the excellent choice as Treasurer. Also present at the meeting were.-

Councillor Currie Jones.

Councillor Hallinan representing the Lord Mayor of the City of Cardiff.

Mr. D. J. Davies, Chairman, Wales Tourist Board. Mr. Arwyn Jones, Musical Director - Cardiff City. Rev. Emlyn Jenkins, Representing Free Church Council. Mr. Elwyn Griffiths " Undeb Cymry ar Wasgar.

Unable to be present on account of official business was Mr. George Thomas, Secretary of State for Wales, and also Mr. Meirion Lewis, Developement Corporation of Wales, who was on business in Germany.

I feel certain that Mr. Lyn Howell has sent a report to you. This was a preliminary Committee to let all present know the set-up and all present were most helpful in making good suggestions.

Councillor Hallinan will do his best by using his

influence to let us have the prestige City Hall main Ballroom for our Banquet. Everything pertaining to this elegant building has such graciousness.

Mr. Howell intended submitting some suggestions to you and Lewis Edwzrds.

On the Friday Trefor and I met the Chairman Mr. Lyn Howell, Mr. D. J. Davies and the Treasurer, at the Tourist Board Office to discuss in more detail matters that were mentioned in the Committee the previous day. We are most anxious to see that the Gymanfa will be planned according to our normal custom and directives. We informed them that we wished to visit The Angel Hotel, which is suggested as Headquarters and also Sophia Gardens. This we did on the Friday afternoon.

The Angel Hotel has recently been decorated and refurnished at a cost of £1,500,000. It is not over large like the Hotels we are used to, but it is adequate, most attractive and gracious. The Executive of the Sponsoring Committee will see the Hotel Management hoping to book the Ballroom and reception room as a general meeting place. The reception room we think will be ideal for Registration purposes.

We then went on to Sophia Gardens Pavilion across the Bridge about a couple of blocks walk from the Angel Hotel. We had already been warned that at the moment the place was a little austere and it was so because it was set up for a wrestling However, with a face-lift which we are assured it is to receive and some flower arrangements on the stage we think it will be as good as anywhere for the Gymanfa. All of the large concerts, singing festivals and endless other affairs are held here; it belongs to the City and the Council has agreed to let us have it free of charge which is a big concessation. The setting and approach in June should be very attractive. The interior is spacious and airy and we are informed that the accoustics are good also the P.A system.

From what we have seen and heard during our visit we can now foresee the basis for a very successful Festival. Please do not hesitate to write and ask any questions which may pass through your mind.

Have you any idea as to how many planes are chartered

to date? We are deeply interested in these details.

Of course the newspapers overseas wallow in adverse news of the Investiture. They must create some sensation and excitement. There may be some protests from time to time by a few cranks but we do not think any physical harm will come to anyone.

Trefor and I send our warm remembrances to you and we will continue to do our best this end.

Yours ever sincerely,

Anghamad.