

FINE GAEL GENERAL ELECTION ARCHIVES

P39 / GE



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Content and Structure

Scope and Content

The general election material which is the subject of this descriptive catalogue is a record sub-group of the Fine Gael Archives deposited in 1978 at the time of the transfer of party headquarters from Hume Street to their present premises in Mount Street. The collection also contains a sub-group relating to presidential elections and constitutional referenda [P39/PR]; and to constituency matters P39/C

With the exception of party minutes [P39/MIN] all of the sub-groups within the collection begin in the early 1950s, material predating this having been destroyed in a fire in Hume Street at some time in the 1940s. With reference to this specific list, this means an almost complete absence of material relating to elections before 1951.

Six elections, 1951—69, are covered in reasonable if varying detail, while there are isolated items relating to the 1932, 1944 and 1948 elections and a single item concerning the 1973 election. It is a safe assumption that the party holds an additional significant amount of material relating to the 1973 election which may be transferred in due course. The item already transferred [P39/GE/169] is in the nature of a presentation item, put together to commemorate a successful election campaign. As such it would not have been kept with the files which were opened and maintained as the election campaign was underway.

The item, coincidentally, is directly comparable with a document from the 1927 election, a copy of which is in the Michael Hayes Papers [P53/232]. Both consist of reproductions of advertising and publicity material prepared by O’Kennedy-Brindley Ltd. and Arks Ltd., the public relations companies employed for the 1927 and 1973 election campaigns respectively, and gathered into a commemorative brochure in honour of a successful campaign.

In a more general context the absence of material for the period 1920s—40s within the Fine Gael Archives is counterbalanced to an extent by the existence of material relating to elections within private paper collections, and not only the private papers of Fine Gael figures such as Hayes and Mulcahy. The study of general election and referenda campaigns is greatly enhanced by the existence within the Sean MacEntee Papers of a significant body of material relating to elections throughout the period 1918—77, both from Fianna Fáil and from other parties. And within the Fine Gael Archives there are two instances of material from other parties being preserved

[P39/GE/112, 141]. While the material described in this list relates to all aspects of the six elections in question – the selection of candidates; fund-raising; organisation of directors, agents and volunteers; meetings and rallies; policy and publicity; and results – it must not be assumed that documentary coverage is comprehensive and consistent from one election to the next. Material relating to election results, for example, is particularly patchy but such material is readily available elsewhere, most obviously in contemporary newspapers.

The collection's strengths lie in the areas of candidate selection with material testifying to the tensions and controversies often generated within constituencies in this area, and between party headquarters and constituency organisations; in the specifics of individual campaigns and the issues on which there were fought; and in the presentation of policies through speeches, broadcasts, and posters and handbills.

Besides the posters and handbills which are among the most interesting types of document in the collection, one will find policy documents, texts of speeches, biographical information on candidates, and correspondence on a wide range of issues.

The arrangement of the material is straightforward by individual election, with lower arrangement levels based largely on function and document type. Headings from one election to the next are as consistent as the material has allowed.

John Duffy

June 1992

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A. GENERAL ELECTION 1932

- 1 10 February 1932 Election handbill promoting support for John J. Byrne, Mrs. Margaret Collins O'Driscoll, Patrick Leonard, General Richard Mulcahy, Sylvester O'Farrell, and Vincent Rice. Entitled 'The North Dublin Election News', it contains photographs and biographical information on each candidate. 1 item.

B. GENERAL ELECTION 1944

- 2 1944 Manuscript draft and typescript copy of text of biographical information on Dáil deputies elected in 1944 including the late Eamonn Coogan, former Deputy Commissioner of An Garda Síochána representative for Kilkenny Constituency. 7pp

C. GENERAL ELECTION 1948

I. Publicity Handbills

- 3 26 January 1948 Three handbills dealing with election issues on the economy. One is captioned 'Party Leaders on their programmes—Fine Gael' – by General Richard Mulcahy. Another promotes support for candidates James J. Croly, Peadar S. Doyle T.D., and counsellor Michael J. O'Higgins in the Dublin South West constituency. 3 items.

II. Press Cuttings

- 4 [1933—5]; 1947—8 Scrapbook containing press cuttings from *Irish Independent*, *Irish Times* and *Derry Journal* concerning election publicity by Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael. Also contains details of individual accounts under the names of party members including W.T. Cosgrave and T. F. O'Higgins (1933—5) 113pp

D. GENERAL ELECTION 1951**I. Party Electoral Organisation**

a. Electoral Register

- 5 27 October 1951—
29 November 1951 Memorandum arising from a Fine Gael conference held at 16 Hume Street during which the issue of changes made to the Dublin City register was discussed. The issue arose as a result of allegations made by a former temporary official of Dublin Corporation named George Lawlor. The city manager ordered an enquiry which resulted in changes being made to the administration of the registration department. Included are two manuscript letters and copy reply in respect of a query by Richard Barton, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin concerning his inclusion in the register.

b. Policy Correspondence

- 6 10—18 May 1951 Correspondence between Miss Kathleen Morris, secretary, Irish Ballroom Proprietors' Association, and Sean Lemass Fianna Fáil opposition spokesman on Industry and Commerce, on the issue of the abolition of the existing 'Dance Tax'. The letters would appear to have been sent to the Fine Gael general secretary, Colonel P.F. Dineen, at the instigation of Fine Gael counsellor, [Alderman John J. Morrissey, Clonmel]. In a copy reply to Alderman Morrissey, Dineen urges '...that you write to those people and point out to them that Fianna Fáil whatever promises it will make, will certainly repeal no tax...An Association which is non political cannot support a political party'. 5pp.

c. Letter of Appreciation

- 7 19 June 1915 Draft copy of letter signed by Dineen, on behalf of the Standing committee of the Party thanking party helpers for their assistance during the general election campaign. 1p.

II. Election Results and Analysis

a. Constituency Returns

- 8 June 1951 Voting statistics for each constituency, giving figures for the increase in first preference votes as compared with the figures in the general election of 1948. 39pp

III. Press Cuttings.

- 9 15 June 1915 Two scrapbooks containing cuttings from *Irish Times*, *Irish Independent* and *Irish Press* detailing electoral results. 191pp.
- 10 19 May 1951—21 June 1952 Scrapbook containing press cuttings from both national and provincial newspapers covering publicity by all parties on both the general election of 1951 and the budgetary provisions of 1952. 86pp.

E. GENERAL ELECTION 1954**I. Party Electoral Organisation**

a. Candidate Selection

- 11** 12 July 1953—5 May 1954 Correspondence concerning the holding of candidates' selection conventions in preparation for the general election. Included are lists of convention venues with details of chairmen selected, together with copy letters informing members of the holding of party conventions and confirmation of selection of individual candidates. Also includes a full nomination list from the *Irish Independent*.
130pp
- 12** 12 March—1 April 1954 Correspondence between Senator Michael Hayes, Pa O'Donnell T.D. and Dr. J.P. McGinley, Letterkenny Branch, Fine Gael and Colonel Dineen, concerning the selection of a third candidate in East Donegal. Includes a letter of March 28 to Dineen with a text of an editorial from the *Londonderry Sentinel* newspaper on the issue of Fine Gael objectives '...to oust (Mr. W.A.W. 'Willie' Sheldon T.D.) from the independent representation in the Dáil'; a reply from Senator Michael Hayes telling McGinley – 'We do not think it worthwhile to make a fuss about it in public'. Also included is a copy letter from Headquarters to Pa O'Donnell T.D. regarding the second Donegal convention on April 4, 1954.
11pp
- 13** 24 March—30 March 1954 Signed Party Pledge forms proposed by contenders for selection at Party conventions throughout the country.
9pp.
- 14** 1954 Copy text of biographical information on all Fine Gael candidates elected in the general election.
9pp.

b. Directors, agents and volunteers.

- 15** March—April 1954 Correspondence and lists of appointments of party directors of elections, transport, publicity, finance, personation agents and sub agents. Included is a list of persons seeking appointments as presiding officers and polling clerks in the election. 17 items.
- 16** March—April 1954 Correspondence and lists relating to transport available on polling day. 40pp.
- 17** 9 March—3 May 1954 Letters from party supporters offering their services as volunteers to assist in the election campaign. Included are letters from Colonel James C. Fitzmaurice stating ‘I want you to know that I am at the General’s (Mulcahy) complete disposal during the Campaign’ – also a letter from Brian O’Nolan [Myles Na Gopaleen] to James Dillon offering to help out in the campaign. 5 items.

c. Election results and statistics

- 18** 1954 Composite returns and constituency figures regarding the increase in the Fine Gael vote in the election. Comparative figures regarding changes in electoral strengths between 1951 and 1954 are included. 14pp.
- 19** 1954 Draft lists of polling stations in the Dublin constituencies giving table numbers, polling districts and electoral figures and totals. 20pp.

d. Letters of Appreciation

- 20** 4 May—16 September 1954 Letters of acknowledgement by Fine Gael headquarters to party officers, members and volunteers who assisted the party effort during the general election campaign. Appreciation was expressed to those who contributed both monetarily and actively as well as to those who wrote letters of congratulations. 34pp.

e. Electoral register

- 21 26 April—11 May 1954 Correspondence regarding queries by Fine Gael party supporters, many of whom had changed address and required information as to their position in obtaining votes in the general election.
48pp.

II. Party Policy and Speeches

a. Policy Memoranda

- 22 April—May 1954 Policy memorandum and copy letters on the issue of the boot trade. Memorandum entitled 'Points for Speakers' dealing with party policy on taxation, education and social welfare. Included, is a draft copy of reply from John A. Costello, S.C. T.D. to two questions submitted by Irish Times representative on economic issues as well as health, emigration and proportional representation.
47pp
- 23 10 May 1954 Letters and memorandum from Timothy Collins, a civil servant, at Werburgh Street Exchange, to Colonel Dineen concerning the withholding of a circular by the Department of Social Welfare until after the General Election, indicating reduced rates of benefit. Included is a draft copy of the circular with copy letter addressed 'Dear Liam' [Liam Cosgrave].
10pp.

b. Policy Correspondence

- 24 13 March—15 May 1954 Correspondence between party members, supporters, interest groups and the general public on issues relevant to the election campaign. A typical example is a letter from the Licensed Grocers and Vintners Association seeking the party's willingness to declare its policy on excise duties on spirits and beer as well as the revaluation of premises. Copy reply from Dineen indicates a policy of not giving specific undertakings to interest groups. Colonel Dineen indicated the party's commitment to an '...intelligent system of taxation', and to the fact that 'Deputies Morrissey and O'Higgins introduced a private Bill to amend the existing law concerning revaluation of premises...' 48pp.

- 25 29 April—3 May 1954 Letter from M. Olive Smith, Secretary, Concert and Assembly Hall Ltd., Dublin to General Richard Mulcahy on the issue of the provision of a National Concert Hall states that ‘Many People in Dublin deplore the fact that we are the only European Capital City without a Concert Hall and there is an increasing determination among music loving people to remove this slur’.
Colonel Dineen, in a reply on behalf of General Mulcahy, states that it would not be possible to make a specific promise before an election on such an issue ‘...this kind of issue will have every support from the new government’.

3 items.

c. Post-Election Analysis

- 26 June—July 1954 Copy text of ‘organisation notes’ by Colonel Dineen, with an introduction in praise of the party’s achievement in the election; detailed analysis of the party’s gains and losses, together with a six point programme concerning organisational issues to be dealt with. Included is a draft copy of a statement issued by both Fine Gael and Labour outlining a twelve point joint agreed programme for government.

6pp.

d. Speeches and Broadcasts

- 27 27 February—27 May 1954 Copy text of election speeches and broadcasts by the leader of Fine Gael, John A. Costello, S.C. T.D., Patrick McGilligan T.D., General Sean MacEoin T.D., Senator Michael J. O’Higgins, Thomas F. O’Higgins T.D., Liam Cosgrove T.D., Declan Costello T.D. as well as contributions by Dan Morrissey T.D., and John O’Donvan, candidates in Dublin South-East constituency. All speeches cover the central election issue of the economy in particular, taxation, agriculture and emigration. In a speech delivered by Morrissey in Nenagh on 7 May (shadow spokesman on Industry and Commerce), he states ‘...Mr. Lemass, at the request of the National Executive of Fianna Fáil, had written to Irish manufacturers requesting them to subscribe to the Fianna Fáil election fund...It was a form of political intimidation which should be stamped out ruthlessly at the beginning.

111pp.

III. Meetings and Rallies

- 28** 13 April—4 May 1954 Circular letter to party supporters and activists seeking their commitment to speak at election meetings. Completed returns on file together with details of venues with the names of Costellos, Mulcahy, Dillon, Morrissey, MacEoin and Cosgrave mentioned.
23pp.
- 29** 9 March—17 May 1954 Correspondence and lists of venues, times and speakers in general election campaign. The correspondence is extensive and covers arrangements for election meetings in towns, after-mass meetings, meetings to coincide with ‘fair days’. Included are detailed lists of tours by leading party members.
223pp.
- 30** 22 March—17 May 1954 Correspondence, lists of invited guests, and ceremonial order concerning the holding of the Fine Gael final rally at the G.P.O., 17 May 1954.
11 items.

IV. Publicity

a. Posters

- 31** May 1954 Election poster promoting candidacy of Denis J. O’Sullivan in North Cork. Caption reads ‘Electors! The Government we seek are representative of ...Farmers! Labourers! Businessmen!’
57cms X 44cms.
- 32** May 1954 Election poster depicting John A. Costello, S.C. T.D., Caption reads ‘Vote Fine Gael’.
49cms X 38cms.
- 33** May 1954 Election poster giving notice of an address by Costello at Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
75cms X 50 cms.

- 34 15—21 April 1954 Correspondence regarding a complaint from Dublin Corporation concerning the unauthorised erection of posters on public lighting standards around the city. In his reply Colonel Dineen states that they were not Fine Gael posters but he was aware ‘...that posters belonging to a party calling itself “Cine Gael” have been seen on public lighting standards...’ 11 items.

- 35 10 March—21 May 1954 Correspondence and distribution lists, concerning election publicity including posters, advertisements and handbills. 88pp.

b. Handbills

- 36 1951—1954 Series of assorted election handbills, leaflets, candidate publicity cards. One handbill contains comparative prices for consumer goods between the years 1951 and 1954. 21 items.

c. Magazines

- 37 April—May 1954 Policy advertisements by Fine Gael on economic issues in the election campaign and published in *The Irish Home*, *The Leader* and *The Landmark* magazines. 3 items.

- 38 1953—54 Copies of Fine Gael party publication *Blueprint for Prosperity* featuring speeches delivered at the Fine Gael Ard Fheis 1953, by John A. Costello, General Richard Mulcahy T.D. and others. Also copy of *Fine Gael Digest* covering the Fine Gael Ard Fheis 1954. 2 items.

V. Press Cuttings

- 39 14—15 May 1954 Press cuttings from *Irish Farmers Journal*, *The Standard* and *The Times Pictorial* publicising Fine Gael policy on the economy, in particular Agriculture. Advertisement in *Irish Farmers Journal* reads ‘Fine Gael policy will keep farmers prosperous...’ 3 items.

- 40 14 December 1953—
18 May 1954 Press cuttings of editorial comment in
The Cork Examiner on a variety of issues
relevant to the general election campaign.
One report, dated 15 May 1954, and headed 'General Mulcahy criticises
Fianna Fáil tactics – says government has planned cut in unemployment
benefits', relates to a circular withheld by the Department of Social Welfare
indicating cuts in benefit until after the election.
70pp.
- 41 26 April—18 May 1954 Press cuttings including editorial
comment from the *Irish Times* on issues
relevant to the General Election. In a
reference to 'a bitter' editorial in the *Irish Times* Patrick McGilligan T.D.,
states 'that the *Irish Times* hatred for the Fine Gael party was based on two
elements, antagonism to the Catholic hierarchy and antagonism to the people
who brought this country from servitude to the freedom we now had in the
twenty six counties'.
56pp.
- 42 15 December 1953—
18 May 1954 Press cuttings and editorial comment
from the Irish Press on issues relevant to
the election campaign. One article, dated
17 May, and headed 'Nothing about circular on benefits,' refers to the with-
holding of a circular on the reduction of unemployment benefit until after the
election. (See P39/GE/23 and 37)
132pp.
- 43 15 December 1953—
17 May 1954 Press cuttings and editorial comment
from the Irish Independent on general
election issues. In its editorial of 17 May
the editor states 'One party rule has not solved the nation's problem...It is
time to end it', calling for an all party national government.
70pp.
- 44 28 March—17 May 1954 Fine Gael party election advertisement in
the *Irish Independent*, *Evening Herald*,
Dublin Evening Mail and the *Cork*
Examiner.
25 items.
- 45 28 March—15 May 1954 Scrapbook of press cuttings mainly from
provincial news papers with examples of
publicity by all parties in the general election campaign.
144pp.

- 46 13 March—9 May 1954 Press cutting covering the Fianna Fáil campaign in the election including one item captioned ‘Fainna Fáil gets the work done’. 7 items.
- 47 May 1954 Scrapbook containing general election results published in the *Irish Times*.
9pp.

F. GENERAL ELECTION 1957

I. Party Electoral Organisation

a. Candidate selection

- 48 8 February—10 May 1957 Correspondence between party branches and Fine Gael head office on matters concerning the selection of candidates, the holding of conventions and a variety of issues related to the candidate selection procedure. Included are lists of ratified candidates.
46pp.

b. Biographical information

- 49 1956 Completed biographical forms by potential candidates for selection at the party conventions to be held before the election campaign. Each form contains details of name, date of birth, date when first elected to Dáil Éireann, educational achievements, occupation, local authority membership. Also included is a biography of John A. Costello S.C. the then Taoiseach. 49 items.

c. Directors, Agents and Volunteers

- 50 8 February—8 March 1957 Correspondence between party branches and Fine Gael head office on issues relating to the appointment, function and requirements of election directors, agents and related services. Included are

50 contd copies of circular letters, instruction for personation agents and presiding officers as well as lists of directors of elections and election rooms.
72pp.

51 February—March 1957 Correspondence between party headquarters and Fine Gael branches and supporters regarding the provision of transport on polling day. Included are a number of notes indicating messages received at party headquarters on the transport issue from volunteer party supporters and members.
41pp.

d. Fund raising

52 19 February 1957 Copy of circular letter issued on behalf of the East Limerick executive of Fine Gael to party supporters seeking funds to fight the election campaign.
1 item.

53 1957 Draft finance circular and two printed copies relating to a campaign by the party to raise necessary funds to fight the general election. Both printed copies express different approaches towards the collection of funds. One states that 'We have asked our representatives to call on you'. The second text simply states – 'subscriptions should be sent to us at 16 Hume Street, and will, if desired, be treated as confidential'.
3pp.

II. Policy and Speeches

a. Policy Memoranda

54 5 October 1956—
20 February 1957 A series of policy documents on electoral policy issues ranging from the economy to foreign policy. The documents are largely intended for use by candidates, canvassers, party speakers and party activists. Copy of *The Policy for Production* a policy booklet based on a statement by party leader, John A. Costello, is also included.
10 items.

- 55** December 1956— January 1957 Press releases on agricultural policy issued by the Public Relations Officer, Department of Agriculture. The documents deal with production matters relating to cattle, sheep and pigs. It also deals with milk and poultry production together with root crop issues.
3 items.

b. Policy correspondence

- 56** 8 February—30 March 1957 Correspondence on policy issues in the general election, as well as commitments being sought by groups and associations ranging from the control of bread prices which the Irish Association of Master Bakers raised, to the repair of a foot path in Beaumont, the concern of Elm Park Association.
20 items.
- 57** 27—28 February 1957 Correspondence between Professor R.A. Breathnach, Cork, and Colonel P.F. Dineen on the issue of subversive activity both in the twenty six and six counties. Breathnach asks – ‘Will the (Fine Gael) in the spirit of the Treaty and the 1925 agreement, tell these “ruthless men” that their actions and crimes are against our people for which they will pay the penalty of the law? ‘Breathnach further asks if the Fine Gael party were prepared to build on the Treaty and ‘work towards a united Ireland’. Dineen in his work assures Breathnach that ‘Fine Gael would be prepared to take a firm stand against the forces of disorder anywhere’. He continues his letter by stating that he has no answer, himself, to the united Ireland issue but states that the Taoiseach has declared quite clearly that he desires to recognise and maintain friendly relations with the Government and people of Northern Ireland.
2 items.
- 58** 19—27 February 1957 Correspondence between Mr Seamus Peyton, the Technical School, Carrick-on-Shannon, and Colonel Dineen on the issue of advising voters on how best to use proportional representation to the advantage of the party. Peyton is concerned that unless a proper voting strategy on ‘party lines’ is adopted, seats could be lost. Dineen in reply finishes up by saying ‘No remedy has so far been found for this stupid loyalty. Instruction in the proper use of P.R. should be given in the senior classes in all schools’.
2 items.

- 59** 15 May 1956— Correspondence between Dr. J.F.S. Ross,
30 September 1963 Conifers Avenue, Birkdale, Southport,
England and Colonel P.F. Dineen, on the
issue of Dr. Ross obtaining an understanding of the history, aims and
organisation of Fine Gael. Copies of information supplied to Dr. Ross on
elected members and policy issues are on file. 43pp.

c. Speeches and Broadcasts

- 60** February—March 1957 Speeches by An Taoiseach, a number of
Government Ministers, a Fine Gael
deputy and Senator in the lead-up to the
general election campaign proper. The issues raised range from major
economic issues concerning Agriculture, Industrial Development, Mining,
International Trade, Fishing and Capital Expenditure. Text of speeches in
respect of the following contributors are on file: John A. Costello S.C. T.D.,
An Taoiseach, General Richard Mulcahy T.D., President of Fine Gael,
Patrick McGilligan T.D., Attorney General, Gerard Sweetman T.D., Minister
for Finance, Liam Cosgrave T.D., Minister for Agriculture, Patrick J.
Lindsay T.D. S.C., Minister for the Gaeltacht, Patrick ‘Pa’ O’Donnell T.D.,
Minister for Local Government, Thomas A. Finlay T.D., Senator Michael
Hayes, James Everett T.D. (Labour), Minister for Justice.
179pp.
- 61** 14 February—1 March 1957 Copy of text of election broadcasts on
behalf of Fine Gael delivered by General
Sean MacEoin T.D., Minister for
Defence, James Dillon T.D., Minister for Agriculture, and Gerard Sweetman
T.D., Minister for Finance. Broadcast by General Sean MacEoin touched on
the issue of support by Fianna Fáil and Mr de Valera for the position of
Clann na Poblachta in opposing the Government by way of a Dáil motion on
its handling of those engaged in violence on both sides of the border.
MacEoin in a statement issued in response to de Valera’s criticism of his
broadcast challenged the opposition to oppose the Clann na Poblachta
motion. 7 items.
- 62** 18—20 February 1957 Correspondence between Mr. Alex
Bolster, 103 Rialto Cottages, South
Circular Road, Rialto, Dublin and
General Richard Mulcahy, President of Fine Gael, on the issue of policy
towards the concept of a ‘national Government’. Bolster had submitted a
policy document, copy of which is on file outlining proposals of how a
National Government would be constituted. General Mulcahy, in his

- 62 contd** election broadcast of 18 February, calls for a spirit of co-operation ‘in government between Irish political parties’ which he says has been opposed by Fianna Fáil. He further states ‘this does not mean their (parties) merging with one another, their identifying themselves with one another, it means working together as separate entities but bringing their own special contribution of thought and work to public affairs’. Bolster in a letter to General Mulcahy compliments him on his broadcast. Reply by Colonel Dineen, on behalf of General Mulcahy thanks him for his letter and remarks and also for his policy document. 13pp.

III. Meetings and Rallies

- 63** 5 January—15 March 1957 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters, constituency branches, and election meeting speakers to arrange dates, times and venues. List of election meetings including those covering itineraries of the Taoiseach, John A. Costello S.C. T.D., General Richard Mulcahy, Gerard Sweetman, Minister for Finance, James Dillon, Minister for Agriculture. 134pp.
- 64** February—March 1957 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters and the secretaries of a number of Pipe Bands to arrange for their attendance at the party’s final election rally at the G.P.O. on 4 March 1957. Included is correspondence between head office and Dublin Corporation, An Garda Síochána and other institutions and commercial entities on the issue of support services required for the rally. Includes notifications to invited guests, lists of speakers and directions to constituency contingents. 69pp.

IV. Publicity

a. Posters and handbills

- 65** February—March 1957 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters, commercial advertising agencies – Padbury Advertising Ltd., David Allen and Sons Ltd., and Easons Advertising Services on the issue of the national poster campaign by the party. Correspondence contains details of costs, locations, newspaper advertisements, lists of candidates, subjects of posters with a list of slogan options. Includes examples of two miniature posters. 103pp.

- 66** February—March 1957 Series of assorted election publicity material used by Fine Gael candidates in the election campaign. Included in the series are handbills, policy leaflets, candidate publicity cards. Some items of correspondence on the aforementioned material are also included.
40 items.
- 67** January—March 1957 Series of assorted election publicity material issued by opposition parties in the election campaign – Fianna Fáil, Labour, Clann na Poblachta, Sinn Féin and Independent candidates. Includes a two page typescript document headed ‘Fiann Fáil Election Statements’ containing quotations from election speeches by Sean Lemass, Eamon de Valera and Erskine Childers.
16 items.
- 68** 1957 Three election posters publicising the holding of a Fine Gael Church gate collection at three venues Lyre, Mellin and Ballydaly in the constituency of North Cork.
50cms X 33 cms.
- 69** 1957 Two election posters promoting the candidacy of James M. Hession T.D. in the constituency of North Galway. Caption reads ‘Vote Fine Gael and Inter Party for good government and prosperity’.
57 cms X 44 cms
38 cms X 25 cms.
- 70** 1957 Election poster depicting the then Minister for Agriculture, Mr James Dillon T.D., election candidate in the Monaghan constituency. Caption reads ‘It’s time for a change, for your future vote Fine Gael’.
57 cms X 40 cms.
- 71** 24 February 1957 Election poster announcing the holding of a collection to support the party’s campaign on Sunday 24 February. Slogan reads ‘Never was it more necessary for our supporters to stand together in their own interests and in the interests of the Nation’.
77 cms X 50 cms.

- | | | |
|-----------|------|---|
| 72 | 1957 | <p>Two election posters promoting the candidature of General Sean MacEoin T.D., Minister for Defence, Charles M Fagan T.D., Senator Joseph Sheridan and George Allen, candidates in the constituency of Longford/Westmeath. The following points are stated to appeal to the voter:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Maintain Rule and Law and support the Government in defending your rights;2. Secure and retain your markets;3. Support policy of Government. Agricultural production and land project. New credit facilities for small farmers;4. Speed Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication scheme, delayed for three years by Fianna Fáil. |
| | | <p>50 cms X 38 cms
76 cms X 50 cms.</p> |
| 73 | 1957 | <p>Three election posters promoting the candidature of Martin Collins, (Member of the County Council), Thomas Dunne, (Urban District Council), both election candidates in the constituency of North Tipperary. Caption on large poster reads 'Fine Gael, North Tipperary, Meet the challenge to the Nation's Progress...and give Ireland a chance. Support the Government!'.

</p> |
| | | <p>74 cms X 51 cms
28 cms X 44 cms
16 cms X 38 cms.</p> |
| 74 | 1957 | <p>Four election posters promoting the candidature of Denis Francis Jones in the constituency of Limerick West. Caption on three of the four posters reads – 'The policy of Fine Gael has been very definitely stated by An Taoiseach Mr. John A. Costello. If you wish to see this policy implemented – Vote 1. Jones!'

</p> |
| | | <p>56 cms X 45 cms
19 cms X 51 cms.</p> |
| 75 | 1957 | <p>Election poster promoting the candidature of Denis J. O'Sullivan T.D., in the constituency of North Cork. This poster is very much policy orientated and is captioned: 'Fine Gael has a policy and a definite programme which is actually being carried out!' It continues to outline the performance of Fine Gael in Government under two principal headings, Industry and Agriculture.</p> |
| | | <p>75 cms X 49 cms.</p> |

- 76** 17 February 1957 Election poster announcing the holding of a Fine Gael collection 'On Sunday' in Ennis, Co. Clare.
76 cms X 50 cms.
- 77** 24 February 1957 Election poster announcing the holding of a Fine Gael collection to finance the election campaign.
50 cms X 38 cms.
- 78** 1957 Election poster promoting the candidacy of Alderman John Carew, and Patrick H. Donegan (Member of the County Council) in the constituency of Limerick East. Caption reads '...The policy of Fine Gael has been very definitely stated by An Taoiseach, Mr John A. Costello...'
57 cms X 45 cms.
- 79** 1957 Two election posters promoting the candidacy of Maurice E. Dockrell T.D., Thomas A. Finlay, B.L. and Dr Edward D. Hosey in the constituency of Dublin South Central. The smaller poster carries photographs of all three candidates.
50 cms X 38 cms
45 cms X 15 cms.
- 80** 1957 Election poster promoting the candidacy of Richard Barry T.D., and Senator P.J. O'Gorman in the constituency of Cork East. Caption on poster concludes – 'Forward with Fine Gael'. Includes a small poster [Likely for use in the constituency of Cork East] with caption 'Vote Fine Gael'.
56 cms X 45 cms
28 cms X 44 cms
- 81** 27 February 1957 Election poster announcing the holding of a Fine Gael election meeting in Denny Street, Tralee, Co. Kerry. Caption reads '...An Taoiseach Mr. John A. Costello, S.C. T.D., and other prominent speakers will address the meeting. Forward with Fine Gael'.
76 cms X 51 cms.

- 82** 1957 Election poster promoting the candidature of Francis McGovern and Patrick O'Reilly. Caption reads 'Fine Gael guarantees Peace for our country, Prosperity for our people, fair play for all'.
50 cms X 38 cms.
- 83** 1957 Six election posters promoting the candidacy of Bernard Lynch and William Murphy in the Clare constituency. Caption concludes – 'Vote Fine Gael this time'.
98 cms X 76 cms
56 cms X 43 cms
50 cms X 38 cms
44 cms X 28 cms.
- 84** 1957 Election poster announcing the holding of an after Mass election meeting on Sunday [in the Clare constituency].
50 cms X 38 cms.
- 85** 4 March 1957 Election poster announcing the holding of the party's final rally at the General Post Office (G.P.O.) O'Connell Street, Dublin, on 4 March 1957 at 8.15 p.m. The names of Mulcahy, Costello, Cosgrave and McGilligan are mentioned in caption.
50 cms X 77 cms.

b. Press Statements

- 86** 26 January 1957 Statement issued by the Ard Comhairle of Clann na Poblachta outlining its intention not to continue supporting the Inter-Party Government. The statement expresses major dissatisfaction with Government policy on economic matters and with its policy on partition. It is on the latter issue that the decision to withdraw its support appears to have been taken in the light of ...'the Government ordering an investigation into the conduct of a member of Judiciary in regard to the discharge of his judicial functions in the hearing of a political charge'. Copy of the Dáil motion put down by Clann na Poblachta and bearing the names Sean McBride, John Tully, and Kathleen O'Connor is included.
1 item.

V. Press Cuttings

- 87** 18 February—2 March 1957 Copy letters to the editor, *Irish Times*, and to party branches in Donegal and Tipperary on press issues. In his letter to the editor, *Irish Times*, the then Attorney General, Mr Patrick McGilligan, under the heading ‘Merger’ refutes Fianna Fáil economic policy and points out inherent contradictions by Erskine Childers in the handling of the 1952 Budget. Also included are two statements entitled ‘Fine Gael looks to the future’ and ‘Reply for *The Times Pictorial*’, both items outline Fine Gael policy in the election. 5 items.
- 88** February—May 1957 Copies of newspaper publications ‘*Hibernia*’ with article by Ivor Kenny subtitled ‘Problems of Church and State’; Copy of ‘*Pictorial*’ giving a preview of the General election and respective party policies on page 9 under ‘Current Comment’; copy of *Sunday Dispatch* with a front page headline ‘General Election Forum – Party Chiefs give their policies’. The *Tuam Herald* carries a front page headline ‘All parties anxious for Heavy Poll’. 4 items

G. GENERAL ELECTION 1961**I. Party electoral Organisation****a. Candidate Selection**

- 89** November 1960—
September 1961 Correspondence between Fine Gael head office and party branches on matters relating to the selection of candidates, the holding of conventions, ratification by the standing committee of the national executive. Outgoing copy letters of confirmation of candidature by the standing committee to each selected candidate. Includes lists of all ratified candidates. 201pp.
- 90** January—September 1961 Series of completed party pledge forms by proposed candidates for selection at the respective general election conventions. 68pp.

b. Biographical Information

- 91 1961 Series of completed forms containing biographical information on candidates in the election. Includes lists of candidates by constituency giving their respective occupations and public service record. 88pp.

c. Directors, Agents and Volunteers.

- 92 September—October 1961 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters, party branches and activists on matters concerning the running of the election campaign, the appointment of presiding officers, polling clerks and other related operational matters such as the Duties of an Election Agent. The latter issue is the subject of correspondence between head office and Mr. P. Flynn, Boyle, Co. Roscommon. Includes – Lists of directors of election and election rooms by constituency. 73pp.
- 93 30 September—3 October 1961 Copy of outgoing letters relating to the issue of transport for party supporters on polling day. 5 items.

d. Election Review and Analysis

- 94 8 November 1961 Copy of election review memorandum, with statistical voting analysis by constituency, The review covers the following issues:
- 1 Constituency gains and losses;
 - 2 Vote increase in Dublin;
 - 3 Lost deposits;
 - 4 Constituencies where Fine Gael headed the poll;
 - 5 The vagaries of proportional representation;
 - 6 Comparative percentage vote for each of the parties Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael and the Labour party as they differed from the 1957 returns.
- The review concludes with a six point 'Lessons to be Learned' paragraph. Includes letter from Gerald F. Dodd, Director of Elections, Boyle, Co. Roscommon on the Roscommon constituency analysis. 42pp.

II. Policy and Speeches

a. Policy Memoranda

- 95** 1961 Series of policy documents issued by Fine Gael headquarters primarily to brief candidates, canvassers, election speakers on all aspects of Fine Gael policy in the election. Each policy document carries a distinct heading indicating its content. One document is headed 'Summary of Fine Gael policy'. Includes copy of large handbill with caption 'Change to a better team with a better policy'. It goes on to outline some twenty policy issues from Agriculture to Government Administration.
14 items.

b. Policy Correspondence

- 96** September 1961 Correspondence between Party supporters and Fine Gael headquarters arising from queries in relation to the electoral register. 7 items.
- 97** 29 September 1961 Letter from Mrs. Maureen Ahern, Corbally, Limerick to Mr. James Dillon, T.D. The letter is '...from a woman who takes her vote seriously. For the first time in my life I am thinking of voting Fine Gael...'
She outlines her reasons in detail and largely attributes her change of party allegiance to stem from '...the corruption of public life by nepotism and similar sins against distributive justice'. She concludes her letter – 'If Fine Gael is elected, I shall be watching my newspapers closely for fewer cases of skulduggery and I hope not to be disappointed'.
In answer to Mrs. Aherne, Colonel Dineen, General Secretary, assures the writer '...that Fine Gael firmly believes in giving jobs to those best qualified for them'. 3pp.
- 98** 26 April—4 May 1961 Letter from James Doherty, Member of Roscommon County Council, Cootehill, Boyle, to Mr. John J. McWeeney, auctioneer and member of the then national executive of Fine Gael on the issue of his receiving a nomination from Fine Gael to stand for the Roscommon constituency in the general election. The letter was forwarded by McWeeney to Colonel Dineen, General Secretary, Fine Gael, with a

- 98 contd** covering letter, and stated in the penultimate paragraph 'I had believed that the Dohertys were F.F. (Fianna Fáil). Mr. Dillon agreed to write to James Doherty explaining that candidate selection was a matter for the party convention to decide. 5pp.
- 99** August—October 1961 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters and party branch members on a variety of issues concerning the election campaign. Includes two letters from party branches seeking financial assistance. In both cases the party's standing committee was unable to sanction the financial support sought. 43pp.
- 100** 1 September—4 November 1961 Correspondence between interest groups and individuals on matters of policy with Fine Gael head office. Most letters relate to election policy issues and how such policy will effect individual groups and people. One query from the Irish Conference of Professional and Service Associations on the policy of Fine Gael if returned to power to honour any award made at arbitration. Colonel Dineen in his reply is happy to give such an assurance. 64pp
- c. Speeches and Broadcasts
- 101** May 1961— February 1962 Typescript copy of election speeches delivered by Mr James Dillon T.D., leader of Fine Gael. The principle theme running through all speeches is the question of economic preparation to meet the new challenges of membership of what was then referred to as the 'Common Market'. He placed great emphasis on agricultural development and the need to formulate necessary policies to meet the new situation. In his speech of 15 September, while campaigning in Carrickmacross, he mentions '...grave news reaches us from the Congo...' referring to the fatal ambush of Irish Army Personnel on United Nations duty in 1961. Likewise the death of Mr. Dag Hammarskjold was mentioned in speech of 18 September in Athlone. Other issues raised include the removal of compulsion for the learning of Irish in schools. Speeches cover both the campaign and the post-campaign period. 73pp.
- 102** May—October 1961 Typescript copies of election speeches delivered by General Richard Mulcahy, T.D., Liam Cosgrave T.D., Thomas F. O'Higgins T.D., and General Sean MacEoin T.D. Domestic economic

- 102 contd** matters is the dominant theme throughout all speeches – Agriculture, Health, Social Policy together with the necessity of developing policies conducive to benefiting from membership of the ‘Common Market’. ‘As we face the General Election today our greatest danger would appear to lie inside Ireland’ (General Mulcahy speaking in Tipperary on 30 September 1961). ‘I would advise Deputy Kennedy (Fianna Fáil T.D., Longford/Westmeath), to pass over the Economic War and certainly not boast of the scars and wounds imposed on the farmers of Ireland during that unnecessary and futile episode in Fianna Fáil history’...(General Sean MacEoin, Longford 13 August 1961) ‘...this country is facing a new era and that with developments in Europe conditions in the future will be quite different...’ (Liam Cosgrave T.D. speaking in Dalkey, Co. Dublin, 2 October 1961). 42pp.
- 103** May—October 1961 Typescript copies of election speeches delivered by Mr Gerard Sweetman T.D., Richie Ryan T.D., Senator Gerry L’Estrange, Senator Michael Hayes and others. All speeches cover economic issues and a failure to make proper preparation for our entry to the ‘Common Market’ and the issue of emigration ‘like the quarter of a million emigrants they put out during their present period of Government, the Fianna Fáil party are also on their way out’. (Richie Ryan T.D., Jury’s Hotel, 8 September, 1961). Election promises by Fianna Fáil which were not kept were attacked by Senator Gerry L’Estrange speaking in Templemore on 18 August 1961. ‘...the Fianna Fáil Government will be called to account by the electors for their blunders, follies and false promises’. 63pp.
- 104** September 1961 Typescript copies of election broadcasts by Mr James Dillon T.D., leader of Fine Gael, Gerard Sweetman T.D., Liam Cosgrave T.D., and General Sean MacEoin. Mr. Dillon’s broadcast was wide-ranging but largely concentrated on the economy, education, agriculture, social welfare, health and industry came in for special mention. T.F. O’Higgins broadcast concentrated on the issues of the health service and social policy. Gerard Sweetman Liam Cosgrave and General MacEoin concentrated on the domestic economy and the necessity for preparation for entry to the ‘Common Market’. 35pp.
- 105** 21—22 September 1961 Letter from E. O’Carroll, Booterstown, County Dublin to the General Secretary, Fine Gael, congratulating Liam Cosgrave on his election broadcast and proposing some changes in economic policies. Letter acknowledged with appreciation. 2 items.

III. Meetings and Rallies

- 106** September—October 1961 Correspondence between party headquarters and local branches concerning arrangements for the holding of election meetings and the attendance of prominent party speakers. Copy letters informing party members and speakers of the holding of election meetings giving times, venues and speakers together with a copy of itinerary of nationwide tour by Fine Gael leader, Mr. James Dillon T.D. Lists include 'fair day' and 'after Mass' meetings. 167pp.
- 107** September—October 1961 Correspondence between party headquarters, branches, secretaries of pipe bands, Dublin Corporation, An Garda Síochána, on issues relating to the holding of the party's final election rally at the general Post Office (G.P.O.) on 3 October 1961 at 8.20 pm. Copy letters to party members informing them of the rally and urging them to attend and arrange to send constituency contingents. Typescript copy of brief report entitled 'Attempted Disruption of the Fine Gael Final Rally'. It gives brief details of how a person wearing what appeared to be a steward's badge produced a wire cutter and severed the wires leading to the main public address system. The incident was rectified and the rally was not unduly disrupted. 62pp.

IV. Publicity

a. Publicity Committee

- 108** June—September 1961 Correspondence between members of the Fine Gael publicity Committee and party headquarters on issues of committee meetings and agendas. Lists of names of committee members together with publicity policy documents are on file. 44pp.
- 109** 19 April 1961 Letter from Patrick Byrne T.D. and member of the Publicity committee of Fine Gael, to Senator Michael Hayes. Byrne begins his letter – 'I have always regarded you as the specialist in Fine Gael publicity...' Finishes up by saying 'I believe that a couple of hundred

- 109** pounds judiciously spent on propaganda in Dublin during the next three
contd months would give better return for money than a much larger sum would
 produce during a hectic election campaign'.
 Copies passed to deputies Gerard Sweetman, Liam Cosgrave, Declan
 Costello and Richie Ryan. 1 item.

b. Posters and Advertising

- 110** April—September 1961 Correspondence between Fine Gael
 headquarters and Padbury Advertising
 Ltd. On the issue of the Fine Gael
 election advertising campaign. Draft advertisement formats together with
 listed sets of charges for newspaper advertisements and television advertising
 rates are on file. 50pp.
- 111** 4—15 September 1961 Correspondence between Fine Gael
 headquarters and commercial advertising
 companies David Allen & Sons Ltd., and
 Transport Subsidiary Ltd. On the issue of the party's poster campaign.
 Issues such as site location, slogan wording and costs are considered. In a
 reply to a query from Mr. Albert Cummins, solicitor, Tuam, County Galway,
 the general secretary, Colonel Dineen, gives certain advice on how best to
 approach the poster campaign at local level in a cost effective manner. Lists
 of poster formats and suggested slogan captions are included. 39pp.

c. Publicity—Other Parties

- 112** September—October 1961 Series of assorted election literature,
 candidate publicity cards, policy
 handbills, press statements by the Ard
 Comhairle of Clann na Poblachta, and economic and electoral policy
 literature from Fianna Fáil, Labour, National Progressive Democrats, Sinn
 Féin and the Communist Party are included. 31 items.

V. Press Cuttings

a. Correspondence with Press

- 113** 23 August—
21 September 1961 Outgoing copy letters from Fine Gael headquarters to the editors of *Sunday Review*, *Sunday Independent*, *Northern Standard* and *Dundalk Democrat*. All three letters deal with economic issues and the Irish language. 3 items.

b. Candidate selection cuttings

- 114** June—September 1961 Press reports on candidate selection and ratification for all parties in the general election. Reports taken from *Irish Times*, *Irish Press*, *Irish Independent*, *Cork Examiner*. 16pp.

c. Press advertising campaign

- 115** September—October 1961 Press cuttings from provincial papers covering the advertising campaign by Fine Gael. 84pp.
- 116** September—October 1961 Press cuttings from provincial papers covering the election advertising campaign by Fianna Fáil, Labour Party, Clann na Poblachta and Sinn Féin. 84pp.

d. Election Results

- 117** 5—7 October 1961 Press cuttings giving detailed results of voting by constituency in the general election. Some additional press comment is also included. The cuttings are from the *Irish Independent* and *Irish Press*. Manuscript copy of comparative results analysis with the 1957 election is also on file. 60pp.

e. Post Election Press Comment

- 118** 14 October 1961 Press cuttings from provincial papers covering reports from most constituencies in the aftermath of the election which resulted in a reduced majority for Fianna Fáil and an increase in Dáil representation by Fine Gael and Labour. 91pp.

H. GENERAL ELECTION 1965**I. Party Electoral Organisation**

a. Candidate Selection

- 119** February 1963—March 1965 Correspondence between party branches and Fine Gael head office on matters concerning the holding of selection conventions, nomination and selection of candidates, ratification procedures and policy. Included are lists of ratified candidates, convention venues and chairmen. 190pp.

b. Electoral Register

- 120** 16 March—1 July 1965 Correspondence from Party supporters on the issue of inclusion in the electoral register. Individual supporters who experience difficulty in obtaining their votes due to a change of address should contact party headquarters for assistance. 21pp.

c. Biographical information

- 121** 1965 Biographical lists of all Fine Gael candidates in the general election. Much of the material is duplicated due to the variety of copies compiled in different formats. 112pp

- 122** 1965 Series of completed party pledge forms duly signed by proposed candidates going forward for selection at their respective constituency conventions.
60pp

d. Directors, Agents and Volunteers

- 123** March 1965 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters and branch members on the issue of the appointment of Directors of Elections, personation agents, sub agents, electoral services and rooms. Included are some lists of directors of elections and election rooms.
78pp.

- 124** March—April 1965 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters, volunteer transport providers, garage proprietors on the issue of the provision of transport on polling day. Lists of available transport together with handwritten office notes relating to the same issue.
47pp.

e. Election Review and Analysis

- 125** 22 April—4 May 1965 Typescript reports drawn up by [Fine Gael headquarters] on the outcome of the general election. The analysis covers all deficiencies in the party's campaign. Comparative trends with the 1961 campaign are analysed, with observations on how the trend affected all other parties as well as fine Gael.
22pp

- 126** 1951—65 Detailed lists and comparative figures in respect of elections held between 1951 and 1965. Percentage of vote losses and gains together with voting numbers and patterns on a constituency basis is given. Included are thirty six blank copy forms by constituency to record results of election opposite names of candidates.
111pp.

II. Policy and Speeches

a. Policy Memoranda

- 127** March 1965 Memorandum entitled 'Points for Speakers and Canvassers'. The document deals with Fine Gael policy on a range of issues both economic and social finishing up with a paragraph on industrial relations in this country'. Included are two letters and copy replies requesting copies of the memorandum. 8pp.

b. Policy Correspondence

- 128** March—May 1965 Correspondence between members of the public, party supporters and fine Gael headquarters on the issue of obtaining copies of the policy document entitled 'Towards a Just Society'. Included are mailing lists to election rooms and individuals who requested copies. 170pp.
- 129** 29—30 March 1965 Correspondence between Don O'Higgins, his brother, Senator Michael O'Higgins and James Dillon, leader of Fine Gael, on the issue of combating the assertion by Fianna Fáil '...that Fine Gael could not win an overall majority ...therefore the people should vote for Fianna Fáil...'. 4pp
- 130** 17 June 1964 Letter from F. Geoghegan, secretary of the Appeals Board in the office of the Registrar of Political Parties, Leinster House, to James Dillon T.D., leader of Fine Gael, on the issue of an appeal by Padraig Kelly, Ballygar, Co, Roscommon to have the 'Republican Party' registered in the register of political parties. Included are handwritten notes relating to the same subject. 5pp.
- 131** 22 March—2 April 1965 Correspondence between Ernest Wood, Senior Council, and Fine Gael headquarters on the issue of the party's attitude to apartheid and its policy towards South Africa. In his reply to Ernest Wood, Dineen indicates that Fine Gael does not support the apartheid policy in South Africa and supports the United Nations resolutions adopted

- 131** on the issue. He further states that when in government, the party will seek
contd advice on the best means of implementing the U.N. resolutions.
 12pp.
- 132** March—April 1965 Correspondence between members of the
 Irish Medical Association, Irish
 Pharmaceutical Association and Fine Gael headquarters on the issue of
 remuneration for doctors (General Practitioners) and the supply of medicines
 as outlined in the party policy document ‘Towards a Just Society’. Letter
 from Dr. S. Ua Conchubhair (Dr S. O’Connor) Oranmore, Co. Galway is
 very critical of the medical policy overall. Other General Practitioners and
 the Irish Medical Association seek clarification on medical policy issues.
 Included are extracts from a memorandum to the select committee on the
 health services by Mr Tom O’Higgins T.D. 33pp.
- 133** March—April 1965 Correspondence between members of the
 public, party supporters and interested
 groups on general policy issues in the election. Included is a query from the
 Garda Síochána Pensioners’ Association on the issue of State Pensions.
 55pp.

c. Speeches and Broadcasts

- 134** 13—28 March 1965 Transcript copies of election speeches by
 General Sean MacEoin T.D., Liam
 Cosgrave T.D., Thomas F. O’Higgins
 T.D. and Senator Gerry L’Estrange.
 Economic issue dominate the central theme of all speeches. The question of
 the introduction of the Turnover Tax introduced in the 1963 Budget comes in
 for much criticism. Senator L’Estrange raises the question of honesty and
 integrity – ‘Fine Gael stands for honesty and integrity in public life and we
 have always put country before party, and we keep the past for pride, secure
 in the conviction that no party has less to fear from its record from impartial
 historians of the future’. 17pp.
- 135** 18 March—7 April 1965 Typescript copy of radio broadcast
 delivered by Senator Patrick J. Lindsay
 S.C. The speech concerns economic
 issues, in particular those of taxation, the plight of small farmers and those
 living in the Gaeltacht areas. Included are lists of broadcasts both on radio
 and television by Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, Labour and others.
 6pp.

III. Meetings and Rallies

- 136** 19—30 March 1965 Correspondence between constituency branch officers and Fine Gael headquarters on the issue of arranging speakers for election meetings during the campaign. 21pp
- 137** March 1965 Correspondence between party branch officers and Fine Gael headquarters on matters concerning the nationwide election tour by James Dillon T.D., leader of Fine Gael. Included are copy letters notifying branches of dates and times of the tour; also copy lists with similar detail. 50pp.
- 138** March—April 1965 Correspondence between party headquarters, rally organisers, managers of Pipe Bands, Engineering Department, Dublin Corporation and An Garda Síochána on the issue of support services for the final rally held at the G.P.O. on 8 April 1965. Copy letters to invited guests and constituency organisers seeking their attendance. Included is a list of speakers on the occasion. 42pp.

IV. Publicity

a. Press and Information Centre

- 139** 18 March—18 May 1965 Draft and copy circular letter to all deputies, Senators, candidates and party activists on the issue of the establishment of a Campaign Press and Information Centre to be located at Powers Hotel, Kildare Street, Dublin 2. Included are copy letters from Colonel Dineen on behalf of the standing committee of the party to all persons who assisted in the work of the centre during the campaign. 15pp.

b. Posters and Advertising

- 140** 12—26 March 1965 Correspondence between party headquarters, constituency officers, and advertising companies on the issue of the party's poster campaign.
Included are lists of poster distribution as well as draft formats for posters with suggested slogans. 40pp.

c. Publicity: Other Parties

- 141** 1965 Election literature comprising in the main policy handbills promoting the interests of Fianna Fáil, Labour, Clann na Poblachta, Sinn Féin and Independents. 13 items.

V. Press and Press Cuttings

a. Correspondence with the Press

- 142** 16 March 1965 Letter from Basil Clancy, Managing Editor of *Hibernia* newspaper to James Dillon, leader of Fine Gael requesting an article for publication in the end of March issue. Attached is a typescript copy of an article on the theme... 'The principal reason in support of the Party's campaign to be elected to form the next Government'. 4pp.
- 143** 15—30 March 1965 Correspondence between constituency officers, advertising agencies, newspapers and Fine Gael headquarters on the issue of press advertising in the election campaign. Included is a typescript copy of Fine Gael policy sent for approval to headquarters before submission for publication in the *Kerryman*. A list of costs for advertisements in national and provincial newspapers prepared by Padbury Advertising is also included. 35pp.

- 144 9 April 1965 Election results and analysis as published by *Irish Press*.
47pp.
- 145 April 1965 Press cutting from the *Irish Independent*, *Sunday Independent*, *Evening Herald* and *Cork Examiner* newspapers covering election advertising and election results and analysis.
40pp.
- 146 March—April 1965 Provincial newspaper coverage of the general election campaign. Cuttings are taken from the *Dundalk Democrat*, *Donegal Press*, *Meath Chronicle*, *Sligo Champion*, *Western People*, *Clonmel Nationalist*, *Longford Leader* and the *Anglo Celt*.

J. General Election 1969

I. Party Electoral Organisation

a. Candidate selection

- 147 March—June 1969 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters and party officers concerning the issues of the holding of election conventions and the selection of candidates, details of candidates for selection and information on those already selected is given. Included is a detailed list of selected candidates. 66pp
- 148 3 April 1969 Letter from Miss Mary Roche, Fine Gael supporter, Mallow Co. Cork, to Liam Cosgrave T.D., leader of Fine Gael protesting about the selection of Jerome O’Hanlon as a candidate in the constituency of Cork North East. ‘...is an uneducated nonentity...without savvy!’ The writer recommends the nomination of Michael Broderick as being the best man to take the seat for Fine Gael.
1 item.

- 149** November 1968—
May 1969 Correspondence regarding alleged interference with the candidate selection procedure in the Louth constituency involving Patrick (Paddy) Donegan. Included are lists of the youth branch of Fine Gael in the Louth constituency and also the ladies branch in Drogheda.
44pp
- 150** 21—22 April 1969 Letter from Colm O’Quigley Director of elections, Carlow/Kilkenny constituency, to Comdt. Sanfey outlining the problems posed by the withdrawal of the strong Labour Party candidate, John Moriarty, from the election race and its likely impact on the voting strategy in the general election. Included is a copy letter form John Alcock and Sean Whelan, joint honorary secretaries of Carlow Fine Gael County Executive to Comdt. Sanfey on the issue of the selection of a second candidate for the Carlow/Kilkenny constituency.
12pp.
- 151** April—June 1969 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters and constituency officers, elected members and candidates regarding candidates selection in the constituency of Dublin South Central. The central issue in this series of correspondence relates to the controversial decision by the party’s standing committee to reject the nomination of Maurice O’Connell as the party’s candidate in the general election. The rejection was largely based on remarks made on the Telefís Éireann programme, ‘Seven Days’, concerning the party leadership. ‘...Mr. Cosgrave is not going to be leader forever there is going to be somebody there soon, who will be more convincing’. Transcript of the programme televised on 4 June, 1968 is on file. 103pp.
- 152** 12 April—6 May 1969 Correspondence between Godfrey Walsh, Honorary Secretary, ‘W.T. Cosgrave’ Branch, Fine Gael, Palmerstown, Co. Dublin and Comdt. Sanfey on the apparent unhelpful manner adopted in the selection of candidates to run in the constituency of North County Dublin in the general election.
10pp.

- 153** 2 March—20 May 1969 Correspondence regarding irregularities in the voting procedure at the Dublin Central Constituency convention held in the Four Courts Hotel on 28 March 1968. Central to the controversy is a letter from Theresa Fennessy, member of the Dublin Central branch to Comdt. Sanfey, dated 4 April 1969, which gives an overall background to the events that allegedly took place before and during the convention and voting procedure. 21pp.
- 154** 27 May 1969 Copy letters to Patrick Cromwell, Finglas, L. Plunkett, Haddington Road, and Desmond Humphries, Nephin Road, from Comdt. Sanfey informing all three of the outcome of the standing committees decision not to ratify the candidature of Patrick Cromwell and to substitute for his name that of Michael Sweetman. 4pp.
- 155** May—June 1969 Series of completed party pledge forms by candidates for selection to run in the General Election. 56pp.

b. Biographical information

- 156** 10 March 1969 Handwritten biographical details of Louth constituency candidate, Bernard Markey, together with photograph of candidate. 1 item.

c. Directors, Agents and Volunteers

- 157** 18 April—9 June 1969 Incoming letters to Fine Gael headquarters giving details of people in charge of election rooms, lists of rooms and names of volunteer workers. 12pp.

II. Policy and Speeches

a. Policy Statements

- 158** 16—17 June 1969 Statement issued by Gerard Sweetman T.D., concerning the involvement of Charles Haughey in the disposal of development land. Sweetman in his statement asserts ‘I am not in anyway dealing with Mr. Haughey’s right to sell his own land...my sole concern was, and is, that when according to his own statement, he visualised for some time the certainty that his land would become ripe for development he did not disclose his personal position to the Dáil when he was asking it to relieve from possible liability (tax liability) cases such as his own’.
Copy of counsel’s opinion attached. 3pp

b. Speeches

- 159** May—June 1969 Typescript copies of speeches made by Fine Gael leader Liam Cosgrave T.D. In his final rally speech at the G.P.O. on 17 June 1969, Cosgrave asserted – ‘It is arrogantly claimed by Fianna Fáil that there is no alternative to them. It is well to remember that the institutions of this State were set up by this party, and defended by this party before Fianna Fáil was ever heard of. This party renewed and invigorated, is now prepared to govern!’
He went on to outline the party’s programme for Government in terms of policy based on the principle of a ‘Just Society’.
21 items.
- 160** May—June 1969 Typescript copies of election speeches delivered by Senator Garrett FitzGerald, candidate for the Dublin South-East constituency in the election. While covering election issues overall he dwells on an examination of political ideologies of both Fianna Fáil and the Labour Party. He is particularly critical of Fianna Fáil and in a speech of 12 June 1969 at Donnybrook, stated – ‘at least the Labour Party had produced their policies for public inspection’ though disappointed by ‘Labour’s totally negative attitude to the formation of a government’, he would ask Labour supporters to give their votes to Fine Gael on this occasion.
19 items.

- 161** May—June 1969 Typescript copies of speeches made by election candidates – Gerard Sweetman, Kildare and Michael Sweetman, Dublin North West. Both candidates emphasise the central economic issues in the election and recommend that adoption of the Fine Gael – ‘Just Society’ policy. Gerard Sweetman speaking in Wexford on 7 June 1969 made reference to ‘the sale of Mr. Haughey’s land, and the fact that in ... the absence of full and frank disclosure by him to the Oireachtas is something which he must explain now to the country and indeed something for which, in the absence of adequate explaining, the Taoiseach should demand his resignation’.
- 24 items.
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- 162** May—June 1969 Typescript copies of speeches delivered by Fine Gael candidates:
- Bruton, John (Meath/Kildare),
 Burke, Richard (Dick) (Dublin South County),
 Burke, Joan (Mrs.) (Roscommon/Leitrim),
 Byrne, Hugh (Dr.) (Dublin North West),
 Belton, Luke (Dublin North Central),
 Belton, Paddy (Dublin North East),
 Burton, Phil (Mid Cork),
 Costello, John A., S.C. (non-candidate – ex-leader),
 Cooney, Patrick (Longford/Westmeath),
 Clinton, Mark (Dublin North County),
 Conlon, John F. (Monaghan),
 Creed, Donal (Mid-Cork),
 O’Connor, Patrick (South Kerry),
- The speeches cover a wide area of Fine Gael policy to improve economic standards in areas of agriculture and industry. Issues such as education, industrial relations and transport are highlighted.
- 51 items.
-
- 163** May—June 1969 Typescript copies of speeches delivered by Fine Gael candidates:
- Morris, Pearse (Dublin South County),
 McLoughlin, Joe (Sligon/Leitrim),
 Mcshane, Michael (Dublin South Central),
 McMahan, James (Dr.) (Dublin South West),
 McDonald, Charles, Senator (Laois/Offaly),
 Naughton, Willie (Dublin Central),
 O’Brien, Fergus (Dublin South East),

- 163**
contd
- O'Donnell, Pa. (Donegal),
 O'Hanlon, J.G. (Cork North East),
 O'Leary, Sean (Councillor) (Cork City South East),
 Reynolds, P.J. (Pat Joe) (Roscommon/Leitrim),
 Ryan, Richard (Richie) (Dublin South Central),
 Smyth, James (Jimmie) (Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown) and (Director of
 Elections),
 Timmons, Godfrey (Wicklow),
 Wilson, Marcus (Dublin North East),

Speeches cover a wide area of policy in the election campaign.
 71 items.

- 164**
- May—June 1969
- Typescript copies of speeches delivered
 by candidates Thomas F. O'Higgins S.C.
 (Dublin South County) and Michael J.
 O'Higgins (Wicklow).
 Speeches concentrate on the necessity for change and long term economic
 planning. T.F. O'Higgins in a speech delivered in Shankill, Co. Dublin on 3
 June, tried to persuade voters not to vote for Labour as a protest against the
 outgoing government – 'The Labour Party having proclaimed its
 determination not to participate in government except in circumstances of
 make believe, offer the people nothing more than an opportunity to protest'.
 24 items.

- 165**
- May—June 1969
- Transcript copies of speeches delivered
 by Fine Gael candidates in the election
 Campaign:
- Dockrell, Percy (Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown),
 Donnellan, John (Galway North East),
 Dunne, Thomas (Tom) (North Tipperary),
 Esmonde, Anthony (Sir) (Wexford),
 Farrelly, Denis (Meath),
 Fitzpatrick, Tom (Cavan),
 Fox (William (Billy) (Monaghan),
 Gouerney, Desmond (Des) (Carlow/Kilkenny),
 Harte, Patrick (Paddy) (Donegal North East),
 Hayes, Liam (Dublin North West),
 Hogan O'Higgins, Bridget (Mrs.) (Clare/South Galway),
 Jones, Denis (Limerick West),
 Kilroy, Thomas (Tom) (Roscommon/Leitrim),
 Kelly, John (Professor)(Dublin South Central),
 Lindsay, Patrick J. S.C. (Dublin North Central),
 L'Estrange, Gerard (Gerry) (Longford/Westmeath),

Lowe, Harry (Dublin South West).

Speeches cover a wide range of party policy, and reasons why voters should support the Fine Gael candidates in the election. 76 items.

III. Meetings and Rallies

- 166** 31 May—17 June 1969 Photocopy of typescript list of the election tour by the Fine Gael leader, Liam Cosgrave T.D. It gives details under headings – date, place and time. Entries in a remarks column provide information regarding television and radio recording rehearsals. 1 item.
- 167** June 1969 Correspondence between Fine Gael headquarters party officers, commercial interests and An Garda Síochána on the issue of arrangements for the holding of the Fine Gael final rally at the General Post Office on 17 June 1969. 11pp.

IV. Publicity

- 168** 11—16 June 1969 Correspondence between party supporters and Fine Gael headquarters on the issue of party advertising on radio, television and in the newspapers. 4 items.

K. GENERAL ELECTION 1973

I. Publicity

- 169** 16 April 1973 Photograph album containing advertising and publicity material prepared by Arks Ltd. For the Fine Gael general election campaign. The album was presented to the newly elected Taoiseach, Liam Cosgrave T.D., on 16 April 1973. 1 item.