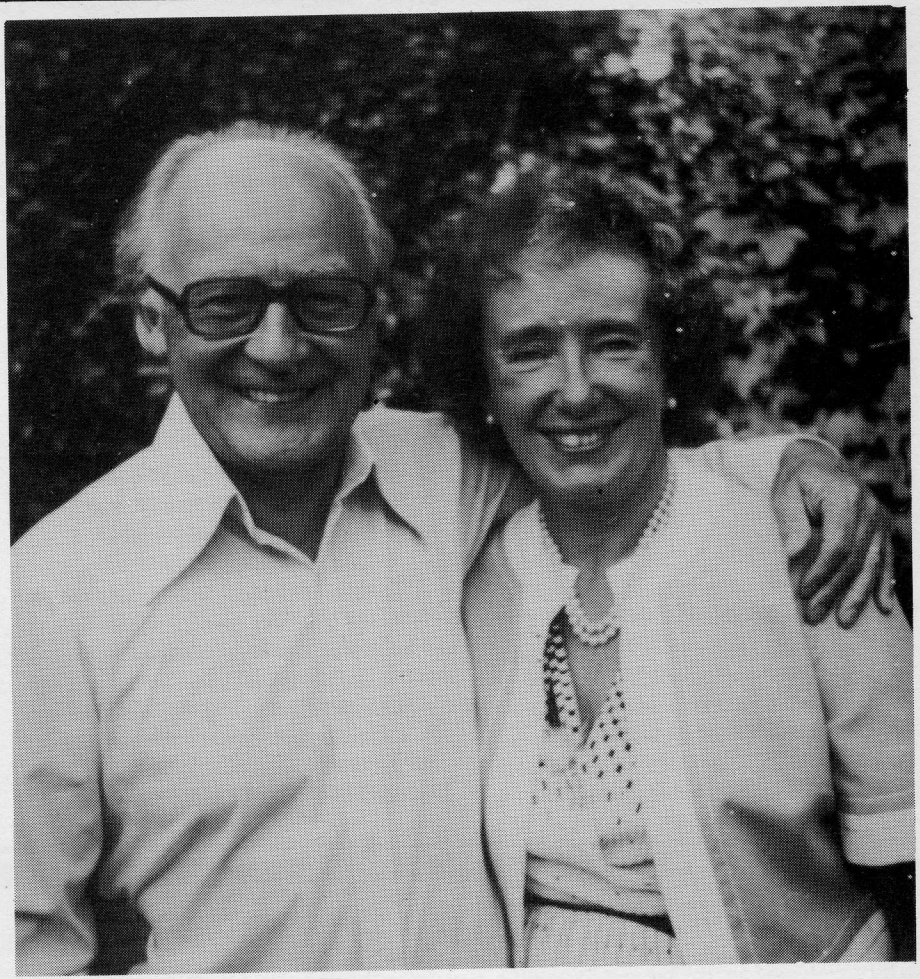
Micheal Mac an Breithiúin



IS MÓR an onóir domsa deis a bheith agam cúpla focal a scríobh thar cheann na n-iarscoláirí in ómós dár gcara, an tOllamh Mícheál Mac an Bhreithiún.

Although an tOllamh Mac an Bhreithiún was my Teacher of English I fear I haven't the eloquence to express adequately our appreciation of this great man. To others he is Michael Judge the playwright, Michael Judge the broadcaster – to us he is an tOllamh Mac an Bhreithiún our teacher – or more affectionately Micky Judge, our friend. And friend he was. He was always known for his fair play. He always gave you a fair break, and this above all was appreciated by us as students.

What we learned to appreciate later, when we matured, was his fine ability to make us think for ourselves. He didn't fill our minds with facts. Rather he enlightened our minds so that we could see for ourselves. His classes in Music, Art and English were always happy occasions – and I don't say this out of any nostalgia. We genuinely did enjoy them at the time, thanks to his sense of humour, his even-tempered patience and his broadminded view of life.

Mar sin ba mhaith liom tréaslú leis as ucht an méid a bhain sé amach le linn a thréimhse i gColáiste Mhuire agus ár míle buíochas a ghabháil leis as ucht a ndearna sé ar ár son. Gura fada buan é.

Focal ón Iar Leas-Uachtarán

MÍCHEÁL MAC AN BHREITHIÚN

Is léir go bhfuil cúrsaí oideachais na linne seo ag athrú ó lá go lá. Tá smaointe nua inár dtimpeall, modhanna nua á gcleachtadh, fadhbanna nua á sárú (agus á gcruthú, b'fhéidir) agus bealaí nua á dtaisteal.

Ba mhaith liomsa go rachadh sé amach ó Choláiste Mhuire go bhfuilimidne réidh ár bpáirt a ghlacadh go feidhmiúil sna gluaiseachtaí nua-aimseartha seo. Ní hamháin sin ach is féidir libh bheith cinnte de go mbeimid chun tosaigh san obair. Nuair a thugtar dúshlán don Ghaeilge (agus cé déarfadh nach ndearnadh a leithéid le déanaí) tá Coláiste Mhuire sásta seasamh le taobh na teanga, lán-tacaíocht a thabhairt di, agus ard-chéim a bhaint amach di i gcúrsaí oideachais san am atá le teacht mar bhí aici san am fadó.

Ach ní ag féachaint siar atáimid, ach ar aghaidh agus amach uainn ar an Eoraip agus ar an domhan mór. Bhíodh an-tionchur ag Eireannaigh ar Eorpaigh tráth; tá sé in am dúinn dul i gcaidreamh arís leo le súil go mbainimid araon tairbhe as an chomhoibriú agus go bhfeicimid amach anseo Eire lán-Ghaelach faoi ómós i measc tíortha na hEorpa.