

The Welsh National Gymnastfa Ganu Association, Inc.

Page 2.

41ST AVENUE
LACHINE, QUEBEC
H8T 2H1

14th September, 1982

Mr. Jack Meadows,
[redacted], Southern Blvd.,
Youngstown, Ohio 44512.

Dear Mr. Meadows,

You may recall that I spoke to you for a little while before the annual meeting of the N.G.G.A. about sponsoring a National in Montreal. I realize it was not an opportune time for me to speak to you, as you were so busy, but you did tell me the first thing to do is to write to the Secretary.

Well here I am. I would like to put in a bid on behalf of the St. David's Society of Montreal to sponsor the 1985 National Gymnastfa Ganu in our fair city. It has been an ambition of mine for the past few years but now, after seeing the successes and problems in Vancouver, Utica and Toronto, I am confident that we can hold a successful and profitable Gymnastfa here.

Montreal is a natural; it is one of the most beautiful cities in North America, it is unique in that it is 60% French, it has all the amenities we require and I am confident that it could be arranged on a far less expensive manner than was done in Toronto.

Cont'd...

However, now is not the time to make a pitch, a formal presentation could be made wherever and whenever necessary. At the moment it would be very much appreciated if you would let me know what the next steps are. You did mention to me that 1985 was open but that there were two bids for 1984, perhaps you would not mind mentioning what the result of the Trustees' meeting was in that regard. In any event, even if there is a bid for 1985, I presume there is nothing in the by-laws which would prevent you from entertaining another bid for the same year.

You probably do not remember, but I was introduced to you in Vancouver by Mr. Owen Roberts and it was wonderful to see you looking so well this year.

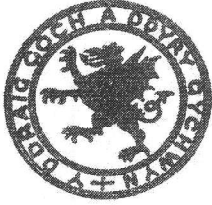
Please let me know what I should do next.

Sincerely,



T.D. Pearce.

Received: 10 a.m., 11-18-82



Saint David's Society of Montreal

12th November, 1982.

Jack Meadows, Esq.,
Secretary,
The W.N.G.G.A. Inc.,

Youngstown,
Ohio, 44512.

Dear Mr. Meadows,

I would like to refer to the recent communication between yourself and Mr. Owen C. Roberts regarding my letter to you dated 14th September, 1982. We have formed a very strong committee of local business men and women to prepare a presentation to have the 1985 meeting of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association held at Montreal and, Mr. Roberts is a member of that committee.

At a recent meeting (our first) Mr. Roberts advised that I should write to you officially applying for the hosting of the Gymanfa. I had thought my previous letter was an application but I would now like to state that I have been appointed by the St. David's Society of Montreal to officially apply on their behalf. I would be very much obliged, if you would register this application with the Trustees.

We realize the responsibility we are undertaking but I have no doubt at all that we can organize a very successful but inexpensive Gymanfa in this, the most beautiful and interesting city in North America.

Please acknowledge receipt and confirm that we will have the opportunity to present our application before the Trustees in Wilkes-Barre next September.

Sincerely,

T.D. Pearce.

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc.

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1982 Sponsoring Committee

DEUWCH, CANWN I'R ARGLWYDD

(Come, Sing to the Lord)



Y DDRAIG GOCH
A DDYRY CYCHWYN

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DEWI SANT WELSH UNITED CHURCH, TORONTO,

invites you to attend the 51st Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu on September 3, 4 and 5, 1982

11-23-82

Mr T.D.Pearce
● 41st, Ave
Lachine, Quebec.
Canada. H8T-2H1.

Dear Mr Pearce.

Your letter of the 12th recieved on the 18th and copies mailed to all concerned on the 19th thank you very much.

With Mr Owen Roberts on your committee I'm sure will be a great help, having President he will know most of the answers but in any case don't hesitate to ask as I will be more than happy to answer any questions that you may have.

This letter will act as your invitation to attend the B.O.T, meeting on Friday afternoon at 2:00P.M, Sept 2nd to present your bid.

There is no doubt you have all the facilities needed to sponsor a successful National Gymanfa Ganu.

Very sincerely yours

Jack Meadows, secretary.
W.N.G.C.A.

montreal
1985

MONTREAL 1985

The St. David's Society of Montreal extends the warmest invitation to the Trustees of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association to hold it's annual convention in Montreal, Canada in 1985.

The City of Montreal is an ideal venue in so many ways. It is easily accessible, by all the major autoroutes, it has two international airports, and it is a mere 40 miles from the New York State border.

It has many hotels large enough to host a Gymanfa, Churches able to create the traditional atmosphere of the Welsh expression of religion through music and it has all the other facilities necessary for a successful festival.

Montreal is one of the cleanest and most beautiful cities in North America, a charming mixture of old and new. It is predominately French, and the U.S. dollar is at a premium of 20% or more. It is one of the gourmet cities of the world with good eating to suit everyone; from exquisite French cuisine to the famous hot smoked-meat sandwich at Ben's, across the road from the convention hotel.

Some of the city's attractions are the Olympic Stadium, Man and His World, Mount Royal with it panoramic view of the City, a Saturday afternoon stroll through Old Montreal or through the underground city where several miles of boutiques, stores and restaurants are connected by air-conditioned arcades.

Let us now look more specifically at what we have to offer you.

THE CONVENTION CENTRE

In the opinion of the Hotel Selection Committee, the Mount Royal Hotel would be an excellent headquarters hotel for the 1985 National Gymanfa Ganu Festival.

The advantages of this hotel are its excellent location in the heart of downtown Montreal, and its proximity to Saint James United Church. The hotel lobby is large and spacious, comfortably furnished where the attending delegates can relax and socialize. There are three restaurants in the hotel. The coffee shop is large and well-equipped to handle the many delegates who like quick service. The entrance to

THE CONVENTION CENTRE (CONTD.)

the public Metro underground transportation system is from the lower lobby. The hotel is very well equipped with the function rooms necessary for this type of convention, and it is the second largest hotel in Montreal, having over 1,000 rooms which are in the process of being refurbished and redecorated.

Parking facilities for hotel guests are across the street, run by Safeway Parking for a fee of \$5.50 for a 24-hour period. The room Convention rates for 1983 are \$48.00 single and \$58.00 double and 1985 would have an approximate increase of \$3.00 more or less per year. The Director of Marketing intimated that a room rate of \$55.00 double or single might be available in 1985. No room taxes would be levied and the hotel will make available one complimentary unit for every 50 rooms rented.

An advantage for the American delegates would be the very favorable exchange rate of converting their American dollars. At the present time the quoted room rate of \$55.00 would be \$44.00 U.S. with no added taxes.

The Committee is happy to recommend the Mount Royal Hotel as an ideal venue for the delegates.



55 (Canadian)

THE ENTERTAINMENT

In addition to the usual *Awr y Plant* and *WAY* luncheon, present plans are for a banquet with musical items and a concert or *Noson Lawen* with local and international artists.

A tentative approach has been made to the National Museum of Wales concerning the feasibility of staging an exhibition of Welsh costumes and arts in Montreal during the *Gymanfa* weekend. The response has been encouraging and we have reason to believe that such an exhibition would be possible.

WHY MONTREAL ?

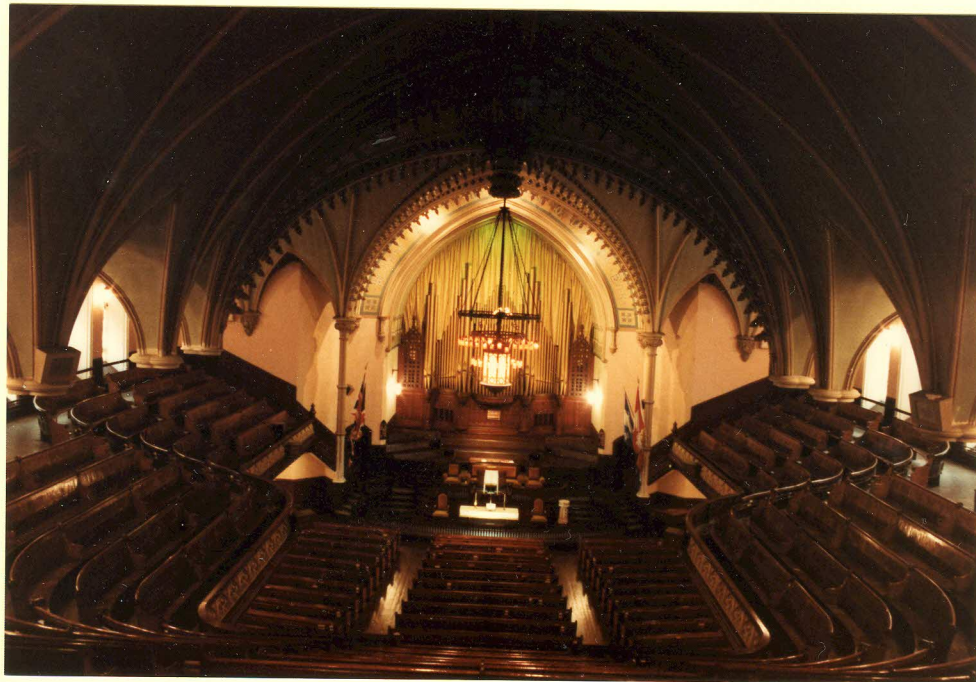
The St. David's Society of Montreal has a proud history since its inception at the turn of the century. Unfortunately, over the past few years there has been a general trend of commerce and industry away from Montreal to the West. To host the *Gymanfa* in Montreal would invigorate the Society and it would encourage those families of Welsh ancestry still in the city to participate once more in the Society.

You can help to ensure that the culture and traditions of Wales are kept alive in Montreal.

We are confident in our ability to organize such a large undertaking. We already have a planning committee of men and women accomplished in business and the arts. We have successfully organized several international choral exchanges and cultural events of some magnitude. You can have confidence in us.

We want to show you Montreal and we want to welcome you. We want to show our French friends and neighbours that we have a culture, a sense of identity, a quiet pride in our ancestry and we can sing spontaneously better than anyone else in the world.

The National *Gymanfa* has never in its history been held in Montreal; surely it is our turn? You can go abroad in 1985 without crossing the ocean and you can hold an exciting and beautiful *Gymanfa* at a very reasonable cost. We are waiting to say *Bienvenue* and *Croeso* to Montreal. We want to host the 1985 *Gymanfa*.



THE GYMANFA

The Gymanfa would be held at St. James United Church, 463 St. Catherine Street West, in the downtown core of the city. The Church is within easy walking distance of the Mount Royal Hotel (8 short blocks), and city transportation is very convenient (bus or metro). The Church faces onto St. Catherine Street which is the main shopping thoroughfare and there are many restaurants nearby to suit every taste and budget.

St. James United Church is ideally suited to the needs of a successful Gymanfa. Structurally and acoustically it resembles the traditional large Welsh chapel in that it has a large floor-space and a balcony which extends along three of the four walls. The seating capacity is 2,000. The pulpit is high and is situated in the front-centre of the church so that the conductor would have excellent eye-contact with his congregation. The organ (3 manual Cassavant) is immediately behind the pulpit and it is elevated slightly so that there would be excellent communication between the conductor and the organist. There are choir stalls behind the organ with room for 80 singers. It is proposed that a mixed choir of 80 voices and a male choir of 35 voices will participate in the Gymanfa sessions, leading the hymns and singing some of the best-loved anthems of the Welsh liturgy.