

EIGHT INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMPETITION

Modena, Italy, 1959.

The following countries competed in the above competition:-

Italy, Spain, Germany, England, Portugal, Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg and Ireland.

The following table shows the list of first places for the different countries:-

Spain	10
Italy	10
England	5 (two joint first places)
Ireland	4 (two joint first places)
West Germany	4 (one joint first place)
Belgium	2
Luxembourg	1 (a joint first place)
Portugal	1
Switzerland	0

The large number of first places obtained by Italy and Spain is accounted for by the fact that they had more entries for the different tests than the other countries e.g. Italy 31; Spain 28.

It is interesting to note that England had 23 candidates, Belgium 19, Germany 15 as against 14 for Ireland.

All the Irish Competitors completed their tests and the final result was very satisfactory.

In comparing our results with those of other countries it should be remembered that the metric system of measurement and machines, such as lathes, that are graduated in the metric system must be used by all competitors. Electricians must work with Bergman and plastic tubing whereas in Ireland steel tubing only is used in that trade. Considering these handicaps the Irish team deserve commendation for the excellent results obtained.

It should also be remembered that in most of the continent continental countries extensive tests of apprentices are held on a national scale before the representatives of the country are selected. It is understood that selection was made from more than 20,000 apprentices in Spain for the 1959 competition. The organisation of apprenticeship in West Germany and in Portugal is such that a very wide selection of talent is available. The results must, therefore be viewed against the very restricted field from which apprentices can be selected in Ireland.

Summary of results for Ireland

Places	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th
No.	4	3	2	3	2	-	-	-	-

Analysis of Results

Candidate	V.E.C.	Employer	Place	Subject	Stage
Sean O'Driscoll	Co. Cork	Murray & Sons, Youghal	1st ✓	Cabinet- making	A.
Peter Walsh	Galway City	T. Higgins, Galway	1st Joint ✓	Joinery	A.
John Butler	Dublin City	Gunning & Son, Fleet Street	1st Joint	Silver- smiths	A.
Patrick O'Toole	Dublin City	C.I.E.	1st	Brickwork	B.
John Quinn	Donegal	E.S.B.	2nd	Fitting	B.
Thomas Reilly	Longford	E.S.B.	2nd	Elect. Inst. Work	B.
Patrick Coates	Dublin City	Nt. City Milling Co. Phibsboro	2nd	Carpentry	B.
John Ownsworth	Cavan	John Hallon, Kilnaleck	3rd	Joinery	B.
Eugene Cussen	Tipp. S.R.	E.S.B.	3rd	Fitting	A.
William Murphy	Dublin City	E.S.B.	4th	Turning	B.
Patrick Gahan	Dublin City	Dublin Corporation	4th	Brickwork	A.
Michael Byrne	Kildare	E.S.B.	4th	Elect. Inst. Work	A.
John Osbourne	Cultural Rel. Committee	His father (Henry St., Dublin)	5th	Jewellery	A.
James Kidney	Co. Cork	Cork Dockyard Cobh	5th	Turning	A.

Note Stage A = Senior Test for candidates between 18 and 21 years of age.

Stage B = Junior Test " " under 18 years of age.