The XIV World Buiatrics Congress was held in Dublin, Ireland on August 26-29, 1986, in cooperation with the Irish Cattle Veterinary Association.

The July/August 1986 issue of the Irish Veterinary Journal stated, "The ambition to hold this prestigious international event in Ireland was hatched and promoted by the late Dr. Harry Greene." Dr. Greene died in January, 1986 following a heart transplant.

Dr. Michael Monaghan assumed the duties of Congress Secretary and Chairman, Scientific Program while Dr. Kevin O'Farrell was chairman, Organizing Committee. Dr. P. J. Hartigan, Editor and Dr. P. A. Murphy, a bovine practitioner were also members of the Organizing Committee.

The Congress was held at Trinity College, Ireland’s oldest university, established in 1591. Dr. J. Espinasse presided over the board meeting which unanimously accepted an invitation from AABP to hold the 1992 Congress in St. Paul-Minneapolis, Minnesota, in conjunction with the AABP’s 25th anniversary.

At the official Opening, Mr. Patrick Hegarty, Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture was the guest speaker. Over 250 papers were presented on a wide variety of subjects, with 30 posters on key areas of animal health and diseases.

Prof. Dr. G. Dirksen, University of Munich, Germany, Prof. Dr. J. Espinasse, France, Dr. Horst Leopold, USA and Dr. Otto Radostits, Canada, Dr. Gudbrand Bakken, Norway, Dr. Robert Whitlock, USA, Dr. Kirk Peterse, Holland, Dr. Maurice Allen, U.K., Prof. James Roche and Dr. Joe Sreenan, Dublin presented keynote papers.

Attendance at the Congress was severely curtailed in the aftermath of Hurricane Charley which hit Dublin the previous day, but 800 veterinarians and 200 accompanying persons from 35 countries were present.

The Congress Banquet, attended by 240 registrants, was held in the magnificent Dining Hall, Trinity College, with Dr. Kevin O'Farrell presiding. Mrs. Harry Greene was presented a bouquet in honor of her husband.

Tours visited Georgian Dublin, the Boyne Valley and the Curragh in Kildare.

The Dublin Congress will always be remembered as an exceptionally well-organized and conducted meeting in the face of many obstacles. Their mission was accomplished indeed in the true meaning of “Céad mile failte”—a hundred thousand welcomes (July issue, Irish News).

Pre-Congress Tour

A group of 23 bovine practitioners and their spouses traveled to Ireland early for a week’s tour of the west and southern region, organized by Mrs. Judy Samuelson, International Tours, Manhattan, Kansas, in collaboration with Passion Tours, Dublin. In addition to the beautiful scenery of the Emerald Island, the group enjoyed a medieval feast in a castle, a tour of the ring of Kerry, an impromptu visit to a clinic in Sligo and Kissing the Blarney Stone. There was also a visit to Moorepark Research Centre, Fermoy, with the main interest in the dairy husbandry department.

The group visited two of Ireland’s leading Friesian cattle herds—namely the Ballinahina Pedigree Friesian herd at Tree Tops farm owned by Mr. Michael Buckley and Listuff Farm operated by Mr. and Mrs. Saen O’Sullivan and their son, John.

A very enjoyable evening of Irish hospitality was spent with members of the Cork Veterinary Society and their spouses. The climax was a visit to the world famous horse stud at Coolmore, Fethard Co. Tipperary.

For more information on this wonderful tour and Congress please refer to the November, 1986 Bovine Practitioner, p. xxiii-xxvii.
Irish eyes are smiling!