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Rev. J. T. Rhys (Margaret Lloyd George) Papers

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Crynodeb o wybodaeth | Summary of information

Lleoliad Repository:	Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru = The National Library of Wales
Teitl Title:	Rev. J. T. Rhys (Margaret Lloyd George) Papers
Cod cyfeirnod Reference code:	NLW Facs 1092
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Dyddiad Date:	1918-2019 (dyddiad creu date of creation)
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Dyddiadau creu, golygu a dileu Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	May 2023.
Nodyn Note [generalNote]:	Copies of additional speeches by Margaret Lloyd George were received in September 2019.

Hanes gweinyddol / Braslun bywgraffyddol | Administrative history | Biographical sketch

Nodyn | Note

John Thomas Rhys (also known as JT or JTR) (1867-1938) was a Welsh Congregational Minister, chapel builder, fund-raiser, journalist, and private secretary to Dame Margaret Lloyd-George (1917-1922), wife of David Lloyd George (1863-1945), Prime Minister.

Born John Rees on 9th December 1867, in Llanybydder, Cardiganshire, the third son of Mary Thomas, dressmaker (1839-1922) and George Rees (1836-1903), nurseryman. Originally trained as a draper in Ebbw Vale, South Wales, and in London, JTR found his calling to the ministry and trained for the church, later being ordained as a Congregational Minister in South Wales. It was around this time he adopted the traditional Welsh spelling of Rhys and at some point added Thomas as a middle name. He then built a church in both Swansea and Pontycymer.

During the First World War and seeking to contribute more to the war effort, in 1917 he left the ministry and became Metropolitan Secretary of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society. It was during this period

he worked with Viscountess Sybil Rhondda for fundraising efforts, and shortly afterward he was invited to join the staff at David Lloyd George's No.10, thus becoming the private secretary of Mrs. Margaret Lloyd George. He subsequently became responsible for writing Mrs. Lloyd George's speeches, as well as overseeing the day-to-day running of her correspondence, itinerary, and fundraising causes. After his tenure at No.10, JTR returned to the ministry as pastor of Twickenham Congregational Church in 1923. He remained an active journalist, temperance campaigner, and preacher on the Congregationalist circuits, writing many articles, columns, and letters. He died in London on 6th July 1938, aged 70.

Natur a chynnwys | Scope and content

Copies of 22 speeches given by Dame Margaret Lloyd George (1918-1921) relating to politics, charity functions, social work for the poor and the war wounded, the opening of schools, exhibitions, bazaars, an unveiling of a war memorial, presentations of awards, and addresses to major conventions. Also contains transcribed copies of the speeches, and also contains notes by the donor (grandson of Rev J.T Rhys) providing additional contextual information (2019). A booklet titled 'Mrs. Lloyd George Goes to Lampeter: 17th June 1919, A Rhys/Rees Story in Three Parts ' (see JTR MLG SP4 Lampeter Cardiganshire Liberals 17th June 1919) written by the donor is also included; originally a supplement to an exhibition in Lampeter Museum and a prior publication 'A Lampeter Family Story 1870-1971'. Also contains copies of four letters from Viscountess Nancy Astor, 3 of which are to Mrs Lloyd-George, and 1 to JTR. Notes regarding the information and context of the letters from the donor are included.

Each speech has been referenced as follows:

- JTR MLG SP1: Free Church Council Women, Social Rescue, Bloomsbury Central Church March 1918;
- JTR MLG SP2 National Federation of Women's Institutes Exhibition, Caxton Hall, November 1918;
- JTR MLG SP3 Garreglwyd, Holyhead, 14th June 1919;
- JTR MLG SP4 Lampeter Cardiganshire Liberals 17th June 1919;
- JTR MLG SP5 Women and peace on earth, 'Liverpool Courier' article 30th June 1919;
- JTR MLG SP6 Bangor, Opening of the new Hostel for the Normal College, 21 October 1919;
- JTR MLG SP7 Royal Dental Hospital, Roll of Honour and Prize Giving, 5th November 1919;
- JTR MLG SP8 Plymouth in support of Lady Astor, afternoon of 14th November 1919;
- JTR MLG SP9 YWCA Bazaar Opening Remarks, Central Hall Westminster, 4th December 1919;
- JTR MLG SP10 On Temperance, notes written by MLG at Melchet Court, early March 1920;
- JTR MLG SP11 Stockport Women's groups, 25th March 1920;
- JTR MLG SP12 Camberwell Women's Rally for Dr Macnamara, 26th March 1920 by-election;
- JTR MLG SP13 World Women's Temperance Conference, Central Hall Westminster, April 1920;
- JTR MLG SP14 Browns of Chester, 28th October 1920;
- JTR MLG SP15 Llandudno Women's Liberal Association, probably early 1921;
- JTR MLG SP16 Baptist Women's League, Bloomsbury Central Church, London, 27th April 1921;
- JTR MLG SP17 Sunday School Bloomsbury Central Church, London, May 1921?;
- JTR MLG SP18 Llanfairfechan, circa May 1921;
- JTR MLG SP19 Carnarvon Boroughs, May 1921;
- JTR MLG SP20 On Temperance, Purity and Religion, Welsh Presbyterians, Porthmadog, 13th June 1921;
- JTR MLG SP21 Milton Mount College 23rd June 1921;
- JTR MLG SP22 Liverpool, British and Foreign Bible Society, The Sub Hall, Liverpool, 29th June 1921.

Nodiadau | Notes

Nodiadau teitl | Title notes

Ffynhonnell | Immediate source of acquisition

Mr. Richard Rhys O'Brien (grandson of Rev. J. T. Rhys); London; Donation; June and September 2019; 99915432102419.

Cyfyngiadau ar fynediad | Restrictions on access

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Nodiadau eraill | Other notes

- **Dynodwr sefydliad | Institution identifier**: Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru = National Library of Wales

Pwyntiau mynediad | Access points

- Lloyd George, David, 1863-1945 (pwnc) | (subject)
- Lloyd George, Margaret, 1866-1941 (pwnc) | (subject)
- Astor, Nancy, 1879-1964 (pwnc) | (subject)