As a former colony and small dependent nation with durable democratic institutions, the Republic of Ireland shares many of the economic problems of the Third World, and the political structures of the First World. This book investigates the political causes and consequences of the economic policy choices made in Ireland, and addresses many key debates in political economy and development studies. Ireland, like many Latin American and East Asian nations, abandoned autarky in the late 1950s in favor of free trade and “industrialization by invitation,” but by the 1980s was seeking a new developmental arrangement as the costs of this strategy became apparent.

The author applies a modified dependency perspective sensitive to internal power struggles to examine how domestic actors employ external forces in the domestic arena to protect their interests and achieve their aims. He also explains how ideological factors came into play in state strategies for industrial development and in the politics of adjustment. The book addresses questions of corporatism and the politics of debt, and is a contribution to the analysis of the role of the state in the international economy.

“This is an intelligent analysis of industrial policy in Ireland, fluently written and persuasively presented. It is, from the point of view of style alone, a rewarding read. But its merits rest on more than style. Showing an impressive familiarity with a wide range of international literature, Jacobsen probes perceptively the strengths and weaknesses of the main theoretical approaches towards underdevelopment. [His] study skilfully blends intellectual history and economic analysis. It is an impressive performance... a book that deserves close attention from both students of Irish economic development and of dependency theory.”

Joseph Lee, University College, Cork
CHASING PROGRESS IN THE IRISH REPUBLIC

_Ideology, democracy and dependent development_
CHASING PROGRESS IN
THE IRISH REPUBLIC

Ideology, democracy and dependent development

JOHN KURT JACOBSEN

Program in International Politics, Economics, and Security.
Department of Political Science University of Chicago
To the memory of my mother
Helen Rose Jacobsen
Where are our twenty millions of Irish, should be here today instead of four, our lost Tribes? And our pottery and textiles, the finest in the whole world! And our wool that was sold in Rome in the time of Juvenal and our flax and our damask from the looms of Antrim and our Limerick lace, our tanneries and our white flint glass down there by Ballybough and our Huguenot poplin that we have since Jacquard de Lyon and our woven silk and our Foxford tweeds and ivory raised point from the Carmelite convent in New Ross, nothing like it in the whole wide world! Where are the Greek merchants that came through the pillars of Hercules, the Gibraltar now grabbed by the foe of all mankind, with gold and Tyrolian purple to sell in Wexford at the fair of Cornmen. Read Tacitus and Ptolemy, even Giraldus Cambrensis. Wine, Peltries, Connemara marble, silver from Tipperary, second to none, our far-famed horses even today, the Irish hobbies, with King Philip of Spain offering to pay customs duties for the right to fish in our waters. What do the yellow-johns of Anglia owe us for our ruined trade and our ruined hearths? And the beds of the Barrow and the Shannon they won’t deepen with millions of acres of marsh and bog to make us all die of consumption.

—As treeless as Portugal we’ll be soon, says John Wyse, or Heligoland with its one tree if something is not done to reforest the land. Larches, firs, all the trees of the conifer family are going fast. I was reading a report of lord Castletown’s . . .

—Save them, says the citizen, the giant Ash of Galway and the chieftain elm of Kildare with forty-foot bole and an acre of foliage. Save the trees of Ireland for the future men of Ireland on the fair hills of Eire, O.

—Europe has its eyes on you, says Lenihan.

James Joyce, Ulysses
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