

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Romantic drama enriched by sly humor of star Barry Fitzgerald</b>
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Publisher name not available</i>
Date	
Type	article
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	Fitzgerald, Barry (1888-1961), Dubin, Ireland
Film Subjects	The quiet man, Ford, John, 1952

# Romantic Drama Enriched By Sly Humor Of Star Barry Fitzgerald

## Actor Charms In Engaging Role Of Whimsical Marriage Broker

**R**EPUBLIC'S powerful romantic dramatization of the Maurice Walsh story, "The Quiet Man," filmed in Technicolor and starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara, is steeped in Irish tradition through its native Irish cast, but none is so rooted in the "auld sod" as that twinkly-eyed dean of the acting profession, Barry Fitzgerald.

Barry, appearing in the whimsical role of the marriage broker in "The Quiet Man," which opens a..... engagement at the..... Theatre on ....., never repeats a performance and in recent pictures has played a ship's cook, a tram conductor, an impecunious race track enthusiast, a grape grower, a wealthy playboy, a country doctor, a tombstone sculptor and a male nurse to a nitwit.

It was in 1944 that he won an Academy Award as the best supporting player of the year for his portrayal of a priest in "Going My Way."

### Dublin-Born

An easy-going, stocky man with twinkling blue eyes, light brown hair and a lantern jaw, Fitzgerald was born in Dublin, Ireland, on March 10, 1888. His real name is Shields and his father was a columnist on the Dublin Evening Telegraph. He attended the Merchant Tailors' and Skerrys College, and upon graduation from Skerrys, Barry entered the Irish Civil Service. But through a casual acquaintance, he saw his first play from the wings. That was the turning point in Barry's life.

He joined the Abbey Theatre, famed as a builder of stars of the stage and screen. Beginning as an after-hours volunteer, he later became a full-time performer and adopted the name Fitzgerald for his stage appearances. As a matter of fact, his brother, Arthur Shields, also appears in "The Quiet Man."



In 1931, Fitzgerald toured the United States with a repertory of Abbey plays. While well received by Broadway, he was ignored by Hollywood. Finally, in 1937, he was brought to the film capital by John Ford to repeat his stage role of Fluther Good in the picture version of "The Plough and the Stars."