

LIMERICK'S MARTYRS HONoured

By LEADER STAFF REPORTER

LIMERICK FITTINGLY and honourably paid dignified tribute to its murdered Mayors and other martyrs of 50 years ago on Sunday when various ceremonies were held in different parts of the city.

President de Valera attended a special Mass celebrated in Irish by the Bishop of Limerick, Most Rev. Dr. Henry Murphy, in St. John's Cathedral.

The President motored to Limerick, having stayed overnight in Nenagh, and on arrival at the Cathedral was greeted by the Mayor of Limerick, Clr. J. P. Liddy; Col. Thomas McDonald, O.C. 3rd Brigade, and Very Rev. D. Gallagher, Adm. St. John's.

Before Mass, at which full military honours were accorded, the President inspected a guard of honour.

After Mass, the President spent more than half an hour in the Presbytery of the Cathedral where he spoke to most of the 165 relatives present of those whom the ceremonies commemorated, Mayor Seirae Clancy, Mayor Michael O'Callaghan, Volunteer Joseph O'Donoghue, all of whom were shot on March 7th, 1921. Brigadier Sean Wall, former chairman of the County Council, who died two months later when in action with the East Limerick Brigade at Annacarty, and others who gave their lives for Ireland at that period.

Departed

After greeting the relatives the President departed for Dublin.

Before doing so, he was surrounded in the square of St. John's Cathedral by a big group of women, most of whom he shook hands with and many of whom stood back and chanted "Up Dev" as he passed to them from his car.

The President also spoke to Dr. Hilda O'Malley, widow of Donogh O'Malley, who led outside the Cathedral thousands lined up to take part in a parade to O'Callaghan Strand—site of the memorial to those murdered.

Ten bands and 29 voluntary organisations took part in the march as well as members of the general public.

Ministers, Mr. Gerard Collins, T.D., and Des O'Malley, T.D., were amongst the seven Dail deputies from Limerick East and West who walked in the parade as did members of the City Council in their robes of office.

Colourful

It was a most colourful parade with the ten bands performing a non-stop musical selection. The band of the Southern Command had rendered the Presidential salute earlier to mark the arrival of the President.

On the bridge, a small group of Maoists gathered and sold literature, including the little red book of Mao Tse Tung.

During the speeches at the ceremony, the Maoists raised their little Red books but did not interfere in any way.

The memorial was unveiled by Rev. Gerard Wall, C.C., Broadford, Co. Limerick, who during the course of his address said it was unique that they were commemorating civic leaders rather than the fighting men themselves.

"Beginning with Thomas Mac Curtain, our civic leaders were struck at by the British," he said.

During the Mass in Irish Very Rev. M. J. Talbot, Dean of Limerick, occupied a special place in the sanctuary, where he represented the Bishop of Limerick, Andrew McNamara was chaplain to the President.

Dr. Murphy, in a special address, during the Mass, said that today there was a need for men and women in every sphere of Irish life in the category of those whom they were commemorating.

"We have still a long way to go if all our people were to have the opportunity of living full, contented, peaceful lives in their own country."

Crossroads

"Today, in certain respects, we are at a crossroads. Where are we going as a people? How shall we develop in the years to come?", asked the Bishop, who went on to say that if we were to take the right road we needed a constant supply of good leaders at national and local level and also in the political, economic, social, cultural and religious fields.

Later in the evening a special Commemoration Service was held at St. Mary's Cathedral.

The Mayor and members of the City Council attended. They were welcomed by Dean Talbot. Very Rev. Canon J. S. Frazier conducted the Thanksgiving Service with Ven. Archdeacon G. Chambers performing the Blessing.

A message in Irish from the Bishop, Dr. Caird, was read by Rev. Rodney Shorten.

The Bishop said that the trouble in the country today was due to the division between North and South, which called for a re-introduction of the people from both sides.

With love and charity on each side, there could again be unity in the country.

Yesterday morning the Janesboro Sings Fein Cumann held a special commemoration ceremony to mark the death of Volunteer O'Donoghue.

A special parade was held to a memorial site after midday Mass in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church.

There, a memorial was unveiled by an old comrade, Mr. Patrick O'Callaghan.

Oration

Mr. Ruairi O'Bradaigh, President of Sinn Fein, in a special oration said that the people of Belfast, who were fighting in much the same way as the men of 50 years ago in Limerick, should not be forgotten or abandoned in their hour of need.

He said that grievously wounded Belfastmen were being removed from hospital to hospital in the 26 counties, by people who were not aware of the danger which they were placing their lives by pinpointing their location.

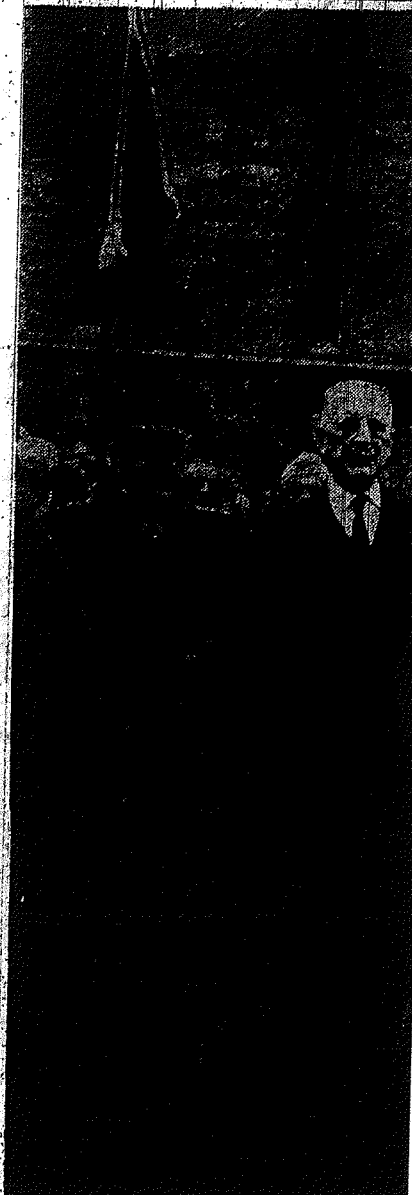
Amongst the relatives who were present at the afternoon ceremonies in St. John's, and at the site at O'Callaghan Strand were:

Mayor Clancy—J. G. Clancy, Doneraile, Co. Cork; P. Clancy, Limerick; E. Clancy, Grange; G. Bullin, Grange; T. Bullin, Grange; J. Bullin, Grange; and P. Bullin, Limerick (nephews); Mrs. Maureen English, Grange; Mrs. May Hayes, Limerick (nieces); Miss Katie Ryan (housekeeper for 42 years in the Clancy home).

Mayor O'Callaghan—Eugene O'Callaghan, Waterford; Arthur and Gerard McCoy, Limerick (nephews); Mrs. Nuala Keating and Mrs. Eileen Mooney, Dublin; Mrs. Maureen Johnston, Limerick (nieces); Miss Peg Murphy; Miss Ereda Murphy, Crossmahon, Lissarda, Macroom, Co. Cork (sisters-in-law); Brigadier Wall—Sr. Domitilla, St. John's Hospital, Limerick, and Miss Gohannat Wall, Bruff (daughters).

Vol. O'Donoghue—Jimmy O'Donoghue (68), Cabra, Dublin (brother); James, Michael and John O'Donoghue, Dublin (nephews).

It was truly a memorable day for Limerick and particularly for the Mayor, Clr. Liddy; Sen. G. E. Russell, who had been chairman of the memorial committee for 15 years, and other members of the organising committee.



President de Valera leaving St. John's Brennan, A.D.C. (left) and Rev. G. M.

Attempt new plays, says adjudicator

ADJUDICATING on the final night of Lullmi drama festival, Mr. Deagactor and producer, stated that if this was to continue the general standard and acting would have to be high. Players, Dublin, won the premier award dependent Cup—for their presentation of

A member of the cast, Terry Martin, was awarded the Tyrconnell Cup for best actor. He played the title role.

Tuam Theatre Guild were second best with 'A View From The Bridge,' and Cahire Dramatic Society came third with 'All the Kings Horses.'

The Dalcaasian Cup for one-act play went to Prales Castle Players for their presentation of 'Shadow of the Glen.'

Tuam Theatre Guild were awarded the May Hartney Memorial Trophy for the most artistic set in the festival.

Co-producers, Patricia King and Joe Dillon, were awarded the best producer trophy. For the first time in the festival, an award was given to the most promising young actor or actress.

choice of play urged them.

He said: "I'm turning out 1 year after yet no new plays."

The group serves at a choosing such.

Mr. Paddy man of the Committee, ti groups from Team, Cork taking part i

He paid Bridden for location. The music Cruise's Hot

FIELD ART Y

are Manor Golf Club

in, Mrs. K. Ryan; vice Miss B. Sheehan; sec Miss M. Hogan, Com Mrs. C. O'Farrell, Mr. M. N. Troy, Miss M. D. Teskey, Mrs. M. Maguire, Mrs. M. Clarke, of the Year—Miss Spoon—Miss B. Sheehan

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