

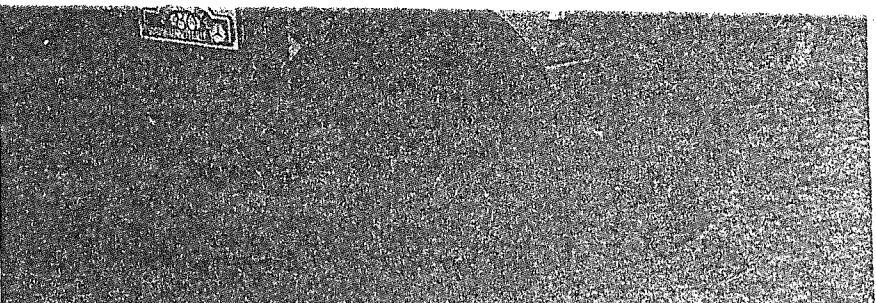
It was found in the Garden Fields area of the town about a year ago and handed in to him, Gerry said this week. "It is a poor quality medal," he added, "because it was during the war years."

Gerry himself holds a 1943 medal for playing with St Patrick's against Abbeyfeale and he considers it a privilege to have it. "Anyone at all that won a county medal would be happy to have one," he believes.

Anyone who knows or thinks they might know anything about the rightful owner should contact Gerry Keyes.



You're working too hard... Des O'Malley, Minister for Industry and Commerce, has his blood pressure taken by nurse Maureen Seery, Mungret.



William Davern, Hospital, and co-driver Joe O'Callaghan, Knockainey, with their 1929 Model A Ford, which has won the Gorden Bennett Rally on two occasions, at the Milford Hospice Harvest Festival.

LIMERICK OF JOYCE BROTHERS LIVES ON

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THIS YEAR'S Scoil na Seoigheach, of Joyce Brothers School, held in the Education Centre, Kilfinane, during the weekend 6th to 8th September, was an outstanding success. The school, held annually to honour the memory of two distinguished brothers of the last century, P. W. Joyce and R. D. Joyce, was formally opened on the evening of Friday, 6th, by Donncha Ó Dúlaing of RTE.

Donncha, who was introduced by Councillor Michael Barry, chairman of the Organising Committee of the School, said, that from his knowledge of it, Co. Limerick today was in essence the same Co. Limerick as that which the Joyce brothers knew 150 years ago, a county where hospitality, tradition and Irish music were still very much part of the life of the people. It was a county of vibrant humanity. And he recalled P. W. Joyce's statement that his home in Glensheen, in the heart of the Ballahoura mountains, was a home of music and song.

Following the formal opening of the School, Ms Mary O'Mara of the Organising Committee, introduced Dr. Kieran R. Byrne, head of Education, Mary Immaculate College of Education, Limerick, who declared open a very fine exhibition depicting the Story of the National School System in Ireland from 1831 to 1924.

Then came the first lecture of the weekend, the speaker being Dr. Micheline Kerney Walsh, former Deputy Director of Overseas Archives, UCD, who was introduced by Dr. Mainchin Seoighe, organising secretary of the Joyce Brothers School. The subject of Dr. Kerney Walsh's lecture was "Limerick Wild Geese in France and Spain." It was a fascinating lecture. The lecturer spoke not only of the Limerick soldiers who won high rank and distinction in their adopted countries, but also of Limerick men who rose to prominence as ambassadors and medical men, and also in the field of commerce.

Spain fame

She threw much light on one Toby Burke of the barony of Shanid, who, as Don Tobias de Burgo, achieved fame in Spain; and she had much to say about Ricardo de Val (Wall), whose father was born in Kilmallock. Ricardo served as soldier and ambassador, and eventually in 1754, became Spanish Secretary of State, which virtually made him Premier of Spain. And

there was William de Lacy, of Balyteigue, Bruree, who became a General in the Spanish Army, was made a Knight of the very exclusive Order of Santiago, and also made a member of the Supreme Council of War, an honour very rarely accorded to somebody not of Spanish birth.

Timothy Scanlan of Newcastle West was a doctor who pioneered methods of inoculation against small pox; he was married to a lady of the illustrious de Lacy family. The Terrys of Limerick went into the wine business, producing the famous brand of Spanish cognac which still bears their name.

Following the lecture a memorable recital by the Limerick Treaty 300 Choir delighted the large audience present, and the day's programme ended with an informal session of music and song.

On Saturday morning there was a lecture by Dr. Breandán Ó Madagáin, Professor of Irish, UCG, on "Dáibhidh Ó Bruadair and Irish Culture in Co. Limerick 1691." Professor Ó Madagáin, who was introduced by Seán Ó hUrmolaigh, recalled how a branch of the great Ó Dálaigh family, perhaps the most learned family in Ireland, was brought to Munster by the Fitzgerald Earls of Desmond. In the course of the centuries descendants of these Ó Dálaighs were granted lands by the Fitzgeralds in various parts of their territories, and we find them holding lands in West Limerick in the 16th century, being described by the English as "rhymers" (poets). On lands they held at Tullaha, near Broadford, they had a bardic school; and in his lecture Professor Ó Madagáin suggested that it was to attend this bardic school that the youthful Dáibhidh Ó Bruadair came from his native East Cork to Southwest Limerick. The Tullaha school continued to flourish until the death of its chief Ollamh, or professor, Cuchonnacht Ó Dálaigh, in 1642.

There was a branch of the Fitzgeralds living at Gort na Tiobraid Castle (now called Springfield) near Broadford. They were the lords of the territory known as Claonghlais, and they became patrons of Ó Bruadair. When Sir Eamon Mac Gearailt (Fitzgerald) died Ó Bruadair wrote a long elegy for him. From this elegy said Professor Ó Madagáin, Sir Eamon emerges as the traditional Irish chief-patron of Irish learning, poetry and music. Ó Bruadair would have been a regular visitor at Gort na Tiobraid Castle, in the great hall of which he'd recite his poems and the great Fiannafocht tales for the family and their guests.

Professor Ó Madagáin, who



Left to right: Mainchin Seoighe, organising secretary, Dr Micheline Kerney Walsh, lecturer, Sean O hUrmolaigh, manager, Hamilton High School, Mary O'Meara, Hospital Vocational School, and Michael Barry, at the Joyce School



Joyce School: Donal O'Connor, principal, Cappamore, Jim O'Riordan, VEC, Michael Cremmins, principal, Hospital, Michael Barry, chairman, organising committee, Donal Crosby, manager, Education Centre, Sean Bourke, C.E.O., V.E.C.



Michael Cremmins, Michael de Barra, Brendan O Madagain, Mainchin Seoighe, Michael Barry, Donal O'Connor, at the Joyce School

read extracts from several of Ó Bruadair's poems, together with English translations, said he believed all Irish poetry, even the learned poetry of Ó Bruadair — the greatest poet to write in Irish in his opinion — was intended to be sung. And to illustrate his point he sang, in his own fine singing voice, a stanza from one of the poems.

Wild Geese

In the afternoon, after an excellent lunch served in the Education Centre, there was a bus outing to the ancient Fitzgerald castle at Gort na Tiobraid (Springfield) led by Professor Ó Madagáin; and there in the great hall he recited more extracts from Ó Bruadair, and concluded by singing a couple of stanzas from the poet's great elegy for Sir Eamon Mac Gearailt, whose son, Sir Seán — himself a very good poet in Irish — succeeded to Gort na Tiobraid, only later to leave lands and castle behind and sail with the Wild Geese to France. Hearing the poems sung and recited in the ruined hall where Ó Bruadair had recited them for his Fitzgerald patrons 300 years ago was a memorable experience.

On the return from Gort na Tiobraid the bus tour party visited the creamery museum in Dromcollogher and the grave of the Gaelic poet, Seán Clárach Mac Domhnaill, in Ráthloirc.

On Saturday evening there was the third lecture of the weekend, given by Dr. Tom Bartlett, a Belfast man lecturing

in history in UCG, who spoke on "Protestant Nationalism in the 18th Century 1691-1800." Dr. Bartlett, who was introduced by Pádraig Ó Riain, said that after the defeat of the Catholic Irish at the Boyne and Aughrim the Protestants in Ireland believed that God was with them, and that their destiny from now on was to rule Ireland. This gave them great confidence. Catholic Ireland was in disarray, without leaders, without an army, without power, without land. Protestant confidence at this time stemmed from the destruction of Catholic Ireland.

The Protestants now believed themselves to be the Irish nation — this in itself was the beginning of a form of nationalism. Their objective was to Anglicise and evangelise Ireland. They felt that they were not a colony but a sister nation of England. But gradually it became evident that they — the Irish nation as they would have it — were being treated as inferiors by England. All the highest posts in the Protestant church and in the army went to Englishmen. The post of primate of Armagh invariably was an English preserve. The matter of Irish peerages, which were distributed willy-nilly, was another cause of grievance to Irish Protestants.

The Irish parliament could not act independently of the English parliament. Irish Protestants felt that they were not being treated as equals by the English but as subordinates, who were regarded as inferior, socially and politically.

Protestant grievances ultimately saw the formation of the Irish Volunteers of the 1770s, and the establishment of a much more independent parliament in 1782. As a counter blow to this the English parliament began to relax some of the Penal Laws against Catholics, this reintroducing the Catholic question which the Protestants thought had been finally settled at the Boyne and Aughrim. The English Parliament now seemed anxious to woo the Irish Catholics, who greatly outnumbered the Protestants. Protestants began to fear the consequence of this. According to the lecturer, two strands of Protestant thinking now began to emerge. One strand of Protestant nationalism became Protestant Unionism; the other strand, under Wolfe Tone, took the opposite direction.

After the lecture, there was the usual informal session of music and song, and a cúirt éigse (poetry reading), conducted by Fr Micheál Liston.

Mass in Irish was celebrated in Kilfinane church on Sunday by Fr. P. O'Sullivan, C.C. The church choir, under Charlie Reynolds, sang at the Mass. Then, in the afternoon, there was an aeraíocht, or open air concert, in Glensheen, the little village nestling at the foot of Seefin mountain that was native place of the Joyces. In glorious warm sunshine, and in an incomparable lovely setting, with seating for everybody, the aeraíocht at the crossroads of Glensheen was one of the highlights of the weekend.

There was a feast of music and song and dance, including a set danced by the Kilfinane set dancers at the crossroads. Ciarán Mac Mathúna, that man with the gentle and well loved voice known and loved all over Ireland, acted as M.C.

At the end of the aeraíocht the Joyce Brothers School 1991 was formally closed by Mainchin Seoighe, who announced that the 1992 School will be held from the 11th to 13th September, this being the second weekend in September, the weekend when the School is always held.

Among the quiet workers behind the scenes who played a very important part in making the 1991 School the success that it was, was Seán Burke, CEO, Limerick County Vocational Education Committee.

Consideration missing

A fine of £30 was imposed at Kilmallock court on Sharon McInerney, of 15 Fieldbrook, Parteen, who pleaded guilty to driving without due consideration for others under Section 51 of the Road Traffic Act. The court was told by Supt John Geary that the defendant drove into a tractor which was taking a right turn at Bruree.

There were two other cars between the two vehicles. Tax summonses against the tractor driver and owner David and Dominic Cotter of St Claires, Rockhill, Bruree were adjourned to the next court.

LIMERICK LEADER EXTRA
SEPT 14 TH 1991

APPLICATION TO PLANNING AUTHORITY
Ballylanders, Co. Limerick
— Application to Limerick County Council for outline planning permission for dwelling house, septic tank, entrance gates and boundary walls. — D. O'Sullivan. (f14/7298)

To: The Superintendent, Garda Síochána, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.
To: Sergeant in Charge, Garda Síochána, Adare, Co. Limerick.

Order to ensure publication of advertisements in Limerick Leader, copy should be received not later than 11 a.m. on Tuesday. Display Advertisements, including Appearances, in Memoriams and Motors Section, and 1.00 m. for Auction Pages.

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