

IRISH GROUP'S ENJOYABLE TRIP TO ARDMORE

A most enjoyable outing to Ardmore, Co. Waterford, was had by the members of Cumann Gaelach Múir, last Sunday. The trip from Limerick was a most enjoyable session of community singing. After lunch, the members went on a tour of Ardmore, and saw the local church, Ardmore Castle, as well as the Duke of Devonshire's Ardmore Tower, St. Declan's Bed and St. Declan's Well.

The parish priest of Ardmore very kindly left the Declan Hall at the disposal of the members. They had their evening meal in the hall and later got together for an enjoyable interlude of Irish dancing. A walk through the hills and an inspection of some historic ruins completed the day's activities.

THE JOURNEY HOME

Coming home, solo singing was more in evidence and among the many songs and singers were "While, Yellow and Green" (Anne Kennedy), "The Harp and Shamrock" (Chris O'Connell), "Roddy McCorry" (Sean O'Leary), "The Boys of Cloughan" (Jimmy Hannon and Connie Sheehan), "Merrily" (Brian Sheehan), "Sean Mire na Gaol Go Deo" (Molly Murphy and Ita Donnellan), "Ireland Boys Murrah" (Hamon Hannon), "Ned of the Hill" (Dinny Mox), and "The Old Bog Road" (Paddy Mulehany).

The day's activities ended with the members reciting the Rosary and afterwards all joined together to sing Anraí na bhFiann.

The Queen's Highway

BY MOTHER MARY POTTER
D.J. Murphy (Publishers) Ltd., 19
Charing Cross Road, London,
W.C. 2. Price 12/6.

It is many years since the nuns of The Little Company of Mary founded their well-known hospital of St. John's in Limerick and by now their Madonna-blue veil has become symbolic of the spirit of charity and solicitude for the sick that pervades their every activity. Indeed, no matter what be the effort or how long the hours they never falter in their devotion to the great ideal of their foundress' dedication to the Heart of the Mother of God at the Foot of the Cross. Thus, whilst caring for the sick and the suffering, their other main work consists in prayer and constant intercession for souls in their last agony. Many have been those on the threshold of eternity into whose hands the good nuns have placed the Crucifix and whose eyes were closed on earth only to see the Madonna of the blue veil in heaven.

The gently foundress of the Blue Sisters, Mother Mary Potter, has, indeed, imbued her gallant band of followers with the fervour of her spirit. Her own life is the story of an unflinching fortitude in the face of failures and frustrations. She herself was an invalid for many years but bore all with that heroic zeal which is so typical of those who give their lives unselfishly to God. Her writings speak of the fundamentals that animated her spirit, for even amongst her many occupations, she found time to pen some of her thoughts and meditations, thus leaving us a treasure of wisdom.

The Queen's Highway is a collection made from various writings of Mother Mary Potter and is compiled in such a way as to give a page a day to the reader on every day in the year. As such it forms a wonderful book for meditation and reflection. The faithful in general would do well to have this book and read its daily lesson, for by doing so they will turn their lives towards God. It will be as a good counsellor in difficult days and come a peaceful consolation to those in suffering. To all it will give hope in trial and help to bring a hum-drum daily life into line with the things that are eternal.

In these rush and hurry days of ours a book such as this is almost essential in order to keep true permanent values in mind. A pagan atmosphere envelopes modern life and far too often we find

Staff Appointments To Regional Hospital Submitted To County Council

A LIST of appointments to the Regional Hospital staff was submitted by the County Manager, Mr. P. J. Meghan, B.E., to last Saturday's meeting of the Limerick County Council. The appointments are not yet completed.

The Interview Board set up to recommend appointments was severely criticised by Mr. G. Hayes.

The Co. Manager, in submitting the list of appointments, said that they had been gradually making the appointments to the staff and it was hoped to get the staff in the hospital by the end of the month. He knew that the members were finding it difficult to keep track of the various appointments made and for that reason the list of appointments to date had been set out. Some of these appointments had been made by the Appointments Commissioners. One surgeon, one physician, several specialists in eye, ear, nose and throat and a gynaecologist had yet to be appointed. Many hundreds of applications had been received for the various posts and in that respect he would like to pay a very special tribute to the Co. Secretary, Mr. D. F. Donovan, for the efficient manner in which he dealt with the job.

MANY DISAPPOINTED.
"Many applicants will be disappointed because they have not been selected," he said. "Unfortunately I had the task of making the selections and I did the best I could. I hope that at our first meeting in October to be able to say that we have taken in patients and that we are getting to work."

Mr. G. Hayes asked what qualifications generally candidates had to have before being appointed. It seemed to him that at least one or two very worthy applicants, married men with families had been ruled out.

YOUNG MEN FAVOURED.
The Co. Manager said that it was difficult to define any particular grade, but they were looking for younger men who would be active and who would take a general interest in the work of the hospital. Applicants had to fill in an application form in which they stated their qualifications. A list was compiled and the interview board interviewed candidates on the strength of their applications and they were appointed according to their suitability for a particular job.

Mr. G. Hayes said he considered that the interview board was a waste of time and a waste of public money. He knew one applicant who lived about a mile from the hospital and who a married man with five children. He was unemployed. He (Mr. Hayes) had made strong representations to the Co. Manager on this man's behalf, but he had been ruled out on the score that he was too old, notwithstanding the fact that a single man had been appointed. He had no quarrel with the man who had been appointed, but he considered that the interview board which interviewed men for a minute or two, should be abolished in the interest of the ratepayers. "It all boils down whom you knew and not what you knew," he added.

DID NOT LIKE INFERENCE.
The Co. Manager said he did not like Mr. Hayes' inference. He did not know the individuals at all, although the responsibility of making the appointments rested with him. The appointments were made on the recommendation of the Interview Board, who had no particular axe to grind. It was a very unpopular and a very difficult job to make the appointments. He did not think he would have a friend left in the county when all the vacancies had been filled.

Mr. G. Hayes—I would like to know why this man from Patrickswell was ruled out? Was it on

the score of age, lack of education or was there something against his character?

Manager—Character was not in question at the time. The selection board marked him failed.

Mr. Hayes—Why was he failed? The whole thing is bluff, blarney and boloney. I would also like to know who decides about the qualities of personality.

The Chairman said he had little confidence in the Interview Board. He knew of one man who applied for the job of engineering foreman and who had been practically assured by one of the most important men on the interview board the night before that he had got the job. Despite the fact he had been associated with the Co. Council for a long number of years, a Galwayman got the job instead of him.

Mr. G. Hayes asked if the appointments were final. He understood that under new legislation the Co. Manager had to submit the list of appointments to the Council.

The Chairman pointed out that the posts were advertised by the Manager before the new legislation came into operation. The appointments were, therefore, retrospective.

Mr. Hayes The only man I recommended did not get the job.

SEVERAL HUNDRED APPLICANTS.

Manager—There were several hundred applicants, some of who were interviewed. If I could not make the appointments made then I might as well not make any appointments at all. If that system did not operate a lot of people would be writing to the papers asking the reasons why so-and-so was appointed. The scope of appointments is widened by interviewing and it is not my intention to evade any responsibility in the matter. Two or three responsible people did the interviewing and they only interviewed candidates who they thought were worthy of an interview. They then sent me their decision. I have no reason to go behind that.

Mr. S. Hayes said that some of the applicants knew they had got jobs before the views of the appointments board were made known.

Mr. D. Naughton: I heard of people getting jobs, but I don't see their names in the list.

The Co. Manager said that the interview board consisted of officials of the staff and he had full confidence in their selection.

Mr. G. Hayes—Confidence whatever in their findings.

Mr. J. McNamara—What is the alternative to the interview board?

Mr. P. Donegan I agree with Mr. Hayes. The interview board has not been impartial and the sooner they are abolished, in the interests of the ratepayers, the better.

Chairman (Mr. J. J. Collins, T.D.) They are all strangers to me I don't know one of them.

DONE A GOOD JOB.

Senator S. Hartney said that taking everything into account he thought the interview board had done a good job. They had picked a good staff.

Mr. D. P. Quirk—Selection boards are only human and they are susceptible to a whisper in the right place. It is always done. There was no further discussion.

A FIRST-CLASS Busy Spectator JOB

AS attractive and entertaining a journal as ever has been issued by Bord Fáilte Éireann is "Ireland of the Welcomes." And the Bord's September/October issue has exceeded past standards and is well worth its price of 1/6. Well laid out, and printed on first-class paper, it contains some very interesting articles by Ireland's leading authors. It contains, as well, a most informative diary of September/October events throughout the country for tourists and vacationists.

Philip Rooney of "Captain Boycott" fame leads the parade with an article on Bray which would make anyone who has not already visited the Co. Wicklow resort mark it as a "must" for their next holiday.

Richard Hayward writing on "The Irish Harp," gives a detailed history of the instrument which has been associated with the Arms of Ireland since the time of Henry the Eighth. He goes even further, dealing with the technique of playing and the harps of other countries.

Music also comes into the contribution from playwright and critic, Pádraic MacLennan. He writes briefly but efficiently on Wexford's famous Festival of Music and the Arts, which holds the stage from October 30th to November 6th.

The sporting aspect of Irish life is dealt with by no other than well-known sports writer, P. J. Mahigan, who takes for his "text" the sport of coursing. No more capable writer could be got on this subject, for "P.J." has been "covering" open and park meetings in the four provinces for more years than he probably cares to remember. In fact, Clonanna would not be Clonanna at Irish Cup time without Mr. Mahigan in the "Press" Box.

"Eating in Ireland" is the title of Josephine MacSorley's article, and she certainly covers it right up to cheese and biscuits, while Sean O'Sullivan's "Writers' Conquest" outlines the growth of Irish literature. Final article is by Sean O'Sullivan, who writes on the beautiful Healy Pass, high up on the border between Cork and Kerry.

The illustrations in the magazine are in keeping with high standard of the writing, and the diary of coming events clinches a really fine production.

K. J. B.

Fined £15 Each At Special Court In Six Counties

At a Special Crimes Court in Enniscliffon to-day, four men from Clones were fined on charges arising out of disturbances at Newtownbutler on July 24th last. They were fined £10 each for organising a procession contrary to the Order of the Minister for Home Affairs and £5 each for assaulting the police.

They were also bound to the peace for 12 months in their own bond of £25 and one surety each of £25.

The four men pleaded guilty to the charges.

The disturbances took place when a Feis was held at Newtownbutler on July 24th. Clashes took place in which the police drew their batons and turned a loose on the crowd.

The solicitors for the defendants said that their clients believed that the Feis had no political significance and none of them believed in political force.

Attack On Sentry Was A "Hoax"

The alleged attack by three men on a sentry at St. George's Barracks, Gosport (Hants) was today described as a "hoax and a made-up story."

DOCKERS continue port, which is s periods since pre-w

At present the dockers' unloading timber and coals, and they will continue to be busy during the week a cargo of iron arrive from North Africa. The Limerick ship's vessels, the "Clarine" and the "Star" also be loading grain this week, and the "Star" will load a cargo of p (Bartonport, Co. Donegal).

HABBOUR MASTER PROBLEM

All this activity is in ingenuity of the Limerick Master, Capt. C. Harri the full. His problem is and berth for all the calling at the Port. At with the Port Development in full swing, only one the dockers is open to Despite this, however, Clonanna has managed to date all vessels satisfactorily, ensuring that the Port to be run in its usual efficient manner.

Emphatic De In Larceny

"I don't accept every defendant swears but asant seems to have waited before he made his up will dismiss the case," said C. S. Kenny at West Court on Friday. Timothy Browder, House agent, was charged with two hay forks value £23 property of Thomas B. (between the 16th and 18th 1954. The case had been from the previous Court attendance of defendant.

Defendant, in reply to the two forks after his Barrett had been saving years. Witness was not saving hay at all as mentioned in the Court bought one of the forks at a store in Newes about 1950 and paid other at a sale of for Co. Council yard at West after the emergence Cross-examined by Su Kenna, who prosecuted and said he had no id marks on the forks. Guard called on him to he had no statement of the forks found in his were his property. Pre of witness's own forks in the bog but he did Barrett of taking it.

The Justice, as stated the charge.

Where Sc Publicans Always La

That was the only which, year after year of publicans were always their applications for their certificates, comtee C. S. Kenny, at West Court on Friday, newed all the licensees publicans in the Court. The Justice was informed by the Court C. Ambrose) that six of (from for renewal were Mr. R. J. Cussen, as on behalf of four of the concerned, explained a hay was inadvertently came as illness or a home.

Justice. This is the in which there is a year after year. I have four other licensing my area and they time.

Supt. McKenna, of chance this year, of Justice Very well, again. In future any