

# COLDS & FLU

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At the earliest sign of a cold or chill, always take Beecham's Powders.



**BEECHAM'S POWDERS**

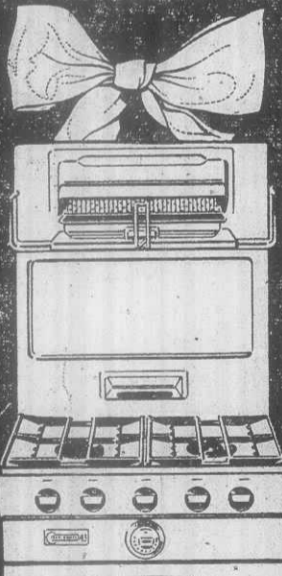
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# Kosangas

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**MAKE DECEMBER ROAD SAFETY MONTH DRIVE SAFELY—DRIVE SMOOTHLY**

Took part in many national movements

## Boherbuoy Band has proud traditions

RECENTLY, the Boherbuoy Band made its public expression of sympathy on the tragic death of President Kennedy by playing a selection of solemn music outside the Town Hall, Limerick. For the many hundreds of citizens who assembled with the Band on the occasion, it was a memorable and moving experience. By this act of respect to the memory of one of the century's greatest men the Band was living up to its high traditions in the civic life of Limerick. And they are long traditions, for did it not pay a similar tribute to another great American leader almost a century before, when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated?

Limerick's Boherbuoy Band has a record of which itself and the city can be proud. As a musical combination it has consistently maintained a very high standard, and its services in the national cause down through the years have been equally marked and valuable.

The more recent history of the band was comprehensively dealt with in the "Limerick Leader" earlier this year, and now it may be of some interest to recall the formative years of this great musical combination, and some of the men who were responsible in establishing its great traditions.

Many years ago an ex-secretary of the band, Mr. L. Reddan, wrote its history. He had a long and unselfish association with its activities, dating from the early 1880's, and this brief history is based on the information he accumulated.

### "THE CASTLE OF COMFORTS"

The bandroom where the Boherbuoy Band was located for a long period has now gone for some 60 years. It was a very large house, and the band occupied the second floor. Underneath was a shop and room occupied by Ned Foley and his son, Michael, boot-makers, who had a very keen interest in the band.

Ned was a life-long member of St. Michael's Temperance Society, and died at a ripe old

age, as also did his son, Michael. Opposite this big house the band later took their second headquarters, and on account of its large size it was familiarly called "The Castle of Comforts."

The Boherbuoy Band first saw the light in a stable in Hille's Bow, between 15 and 16 Parnell Street, in 1850, just when the '48 movement was in full swing, and the band took its part in that movement.

Later came the '67 movement, and the band, as it continued its work in the cause of Ireland, was now situated in "The Castle of Comforts." At this period, its members were nearly all tradesmen, and all lived in the locality of Boherbuoy. A quarter of the band then was made up of a stone-cutter family, the Clohesseys.

A story of the time tells how a proclamation was posted "forbidding" bands to play in the streets. Ned Bushie, a stonecutter by trade who played the euphonium in the Band, walked to the railway station and played a march up and down the street to the bandroom, fearlessly treating the proclamation with the contempt it deserved.

### ISAAC BUTT

On Easter Monday, 1877, Isaac Butt convened a meeting at O'Connell Monument. The Boherbuoy Band led from Bank Place all the trades bodies who were in favour of Butt's policies. An opposing party was at the monument, and a melee ensued in which some of the band were injured and instruments broken, but the assailants were eventually beaten off. Rev. Fr. O'Dwyer, C.C. St. Michael's, who afterwards was Lord Bishop of Limerick, was very conspicuous that day in bringing the conflict to an end.

The band also attended the ceremony of unveiling the O'Connell Statue in Dublin in 1882.

The year 1879 saw them in the Land League days, during which Parnell and Davitt fought strenuously for the people's rights. And with them in the fight was the band, which invariably played them to and from the Limerick terminus.

At this period there were in Limerick six brass and reed bands—the Boherbuoy, the Mechanics' Institute, the Pork Butchers, the League of the Cross, the St. Munchin's and the Irish National Foresters.

### ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS

In 1885 a contest for All-Ireland bands was opened in Dublin. Thirteen bands competed, and first prize, a silver-plated five valve euphonium—went to the Boherbuoy. Ambrose Hall presented the band with inscribed silver medals, and a gold one to the indefatigable handmaster and celebrated cornet player, Thomas O'Brien, father of the late Gus O'Brien, who was conductor of the Cello Band at the Technical Institute, Limerick.

The conductor of the band at that time was Harry Stewart, a fitter. He was a cornet player in the Mechanics' Band. The band was then composed of:

First rank—P. Doherty; circular bass, Jim Mullins; bass trombone, Jim O'Brien (Brins); tenor trombone, Bob Leslie; tenor trombone, Michael Sheahan.  
Second rank—Baritone: William Prendergast; Sar Horns, Michael Nash, Jack Flynn, Michael Ditchburne; euphonium, George Dillon.  
Third rank—Cornet, Thomas O'Brien, Band Master; T. J. Prendergast, Jim Godsell, Patsy Considine, Thomas Airey.

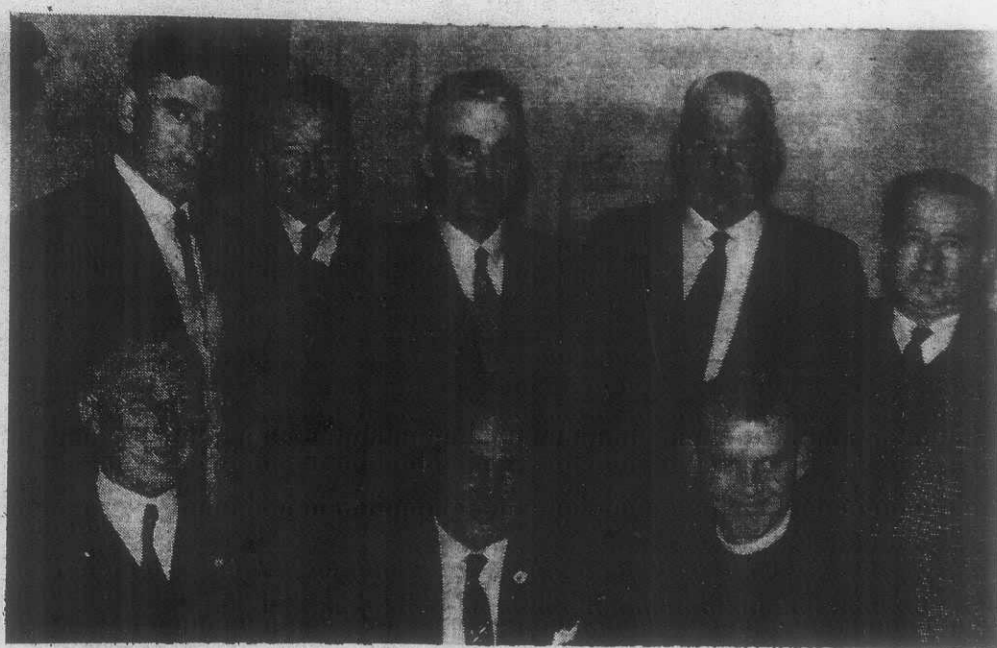
Fourth rank—Clarinets, Charles Male and Mick O'Connell.

In 1886 a contest was held in Limerick. The competitors were: Boherbuoy, Limerick; Barrack St., Cork; Francis Meagher, Waterford; Newcastle West, Co. Limerick; Pork Butchers, Limerick.

Again the Boherbuoy Band won first prize, and Tom O'Brien, Band Master, won a silver-plated cornet, presented by Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick. Harry Stewart conducted in this contest.

In 1887 they again took first prize in Dublin, and William Tronsaell conducted. He was a stone cutter, and a euphonium player in the Foresters' Band, and also a member of the old Corporation.

The autumn of 1889 saw the



Group taken at Municipal Technical Institute, O'Connell Avenue, Limerick, on the occasion of visit of Mr. John A. Ahern, General Manager of the Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Association. In front of group are seated: Mr. Liam Forde, Chairman; John A. Ahern, General Secretary, Irish Beekeepers' Association, and Rev. Brother Colman, O.S.B., Columba's Abbey, Glenstal, Murroe, Co. Limerick.

band at the Crystal Palace, London. There, for a week, they represented the Irish exhibition, and, although numerically small they were commended for the manner in which they played a piece called "Pot Pourri."

### RE-ORGANISED

From then until October of the following year the band ceased to practise. But though it slept, it never died and Thomas O'Gorman, better known in those days as Tom Gorman, a young man of 40 years, full of energy and honest of purpose, with John Crowe and a few others, revived the band for the Amnesty Movement. About 13 young lads, all of them living in the locality of the bandroom, "The Castle of Comforts," were added to the 19 old members, brought the band up to 32.

The instruments, however, were in a bad state and a deal was made to buy the St. Munchin's Band. Tom Gorman, from his private purse, gave the money, which was repaid in due course.

And now a word about Tom Gorman, who was a great advocate of the Amnesty Movement. He owned the premises in Gerald Griffin Street (later Looneys) and was in business as a butter buyer. He died at the age of 45 at No. 22 Thomas Street, in 1894.

In 1892 and the years following, the band was always present at the Parnell Anniversaries in Dublin.

### NEW UNIFORM PRESENTED

In 1894 Bryan O'Donnell, Mayor, and Patrick McDonnell, father of Dr. C. McDonnell, together with dentist Joseph McDonnell, presented the band with a beautiful uniform. This, by the way, was made at Carey's.

An incident worth relating occurred on the day the uniform was first worn in public. The date was St. Patrick's Eve, 1894, and the 32-member band, resident in their new attire, marched through the streets. The route was: Boherbuoy, Nelson (now Parnell) Street, Wickham Street, High Street, Mungret St., Errod St., Assembly Mall, Rutlan St., Patrick St., George (now O'Connell) Street, Collooney (now Wolfe Tone) Street and Lord Edward Street. Then, as they rounded Clohessey's corner, they were met with a fusillade of stones from Barrington's Mall. The attackers were supporters of the Healyite Party. The Parnellites attempted to rush Baal's Bridge, but they were stopped by the police. They made a further attempt to rush Matthew Bridge, and were again repulsed. Eventually the band reached the safety of their headquarters.

At the Parnell anniversaries in Dublin the new uniform of the band was much admired.

On a few occasions, band parades were proclaimed during the days of the Parnellite split. Not much notice was taken of this, however, by the Boherbuoy Band. Tom O'Brien, bandmaster, with his cornet and George Dillon, with his euphonium, would seat themselves on a side car and head the party from Cruise's Hotel to the O'Connell Monument, where speech-making took place to a dense crowd.

Previous to 1899, the band did its part when required in the carvass which established the Corporation, headed by John Daly, Mayor.

### EARLY BANDROOMS

The band were in "The Castle of Comforts" until 1903, when the building was demolished to make way for the street (St. Joseph's Street) which connects Edward Street with O'Connell Avenue.

They moved to a room in King's Lane, off Boherbuoy, for a short time, and thence to a site later occupied by the Rangers' Club. The next shift was to Carey's Road, and afterwards to Browne's Place, off Edward Street. These were some of the early locations of the band before they moved to their present premises.

Since 1850, the Boherbuoy Band has served faithfully the cause of Ireland and Limerick, and has brought many musical honours to our city.

Some caps of the band are on exhibition in the Museum, together with their history. They were made in Limerick and presented to the Mechanics Institute Band by Sir Peter Taft during his Mayoralty.

## NEW E.S.B. POWER STATION

Work begins next year

THE new E.S.B. power station which will be built on Tarbert Island, at a cost of £9m., will be the first of its kind in Ireland. Work will commence early in 1964, and it is expected that the station will be completed by 1970.

New jetties will be at Tarbert to berth oil tankers of up to 100,000 tons, because the electricity will be generated by oil.

A spokesman for the E.S.B. told a "Limerick Leader" reporter that the station would be 80 megawatt with 220,000 volt lines.

The construction work would employ 300 and when completed will have a permanent staff of 80.

The spokesman said that they had acquired a lot of land in the area and they were negotiating for some more. The reason why Tarbert was chosen, he said, was because it would be the most economical site from the point of view of transport. Tankers up to 100,000 tons would be able to berth at the new jetties which would be built there and the station would bring much-needed prosperity to the area.

The new station would help to implement supplies throughout the country. Asked if the E.S.B. were considering the erection of a nuclear power station, he said that it would not be an economic proposition at the moment.

They were, however, keeping in touch with the latest developments but he did not think there would be any possibility of such a power station for a number of years yet.

### Priest's house burgled charge

Cornelius Shanahan, 70, fixed abode, but a native of the hospital area of Co. Limerick was remanded for a week in custody at the City Court when he appeared on a charge of breaking into the house of Rev. M. O'Connor, C.C., Arlagh and stealing £49 and a transistor radio, value £13.

Det. Serg. G. O'Sullivan, asking for the remand, said that he had further inquiries to make and he had already made a deposition in which he said that when charged defendant replied "guilty."

## German Society dinner-dance

THERE was an exceptional large attendance at the German Society held annual dinner-dance. The occasion was easily the most standing since the formation of the society and the increasing popularity of the language was very apparent for lengthy speeches present conversed in the man language.

Secretary of the Limerick German Society, Mr. Noel told me that more and more people in the city are learning the German language and the classes held by the society were packed to capacity. He added that, not less, beginners were always coming, and stressed the importance of becoming a bilingual particularly for womenfolk.

Mr. G. Denton, Press A German Embassy, stressed the value of the German language and encouraged all to learn more freely.

Mr. Frank Glasgow, Mayor for the Mayor, County Council, and Mr. O'Sullivan, president, Limerick German Society, also spoke. The attendance included Mrs. M. Mahon and Bedford (vice-president), J. McDonnell and Mr. P. C. (Treasurer), Mr. J. G. (German Consul), Mrs. Quinn (French Consul), Mrs. (Secretary), Miss (Treasurer), and Dr. and Mrs. Moloney (Mrs. Moloney was first president of the Limerick German Society), and more.

A dance followed. Tommy Cleary provided music, and over-all a night to be remembered. Organisers are deserving the highest praise for their



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