

PENNY DINNERS

The Penny Dinners Committee will be grateful for gifts of cooked meats, confectionery, cigarettes, fruit and vegetables for the Christmas dinner given to the poor on Christmas Day. Helpers will be most welcome between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Parcels may be left by kind permission of Messrs. Stokes & McKiernan, Bedford Row, before 12 mid-day, Christmas Eve.

MACKSEES FOR GIFTS

Give her one of the new V neck Angoro Sweaters; lovely Knitwear; nylon slips from 12/11; outsize Skirts and X.O.S. Frocks; special "Hi-Fi" Nylons, 6/- and 9/11 pair—at 31 William Street. (f19c)

MAN, Mr. Quinn...
 torical development of his theme by recalling that China's artificial and stylised court life resulted in an emphasis of rank up to the actual veneration of the rulers. The Greeks aimed at the harmonious development of mind and body ambitious to produce a love of beauty in all things, and Rome sought after power for the few over the majority of mere serfs.

SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

From these three stemmed the patterns of social behaviour which were formed and reformed as history moved on. The age of chivalry leaned towards religion and manners of the court. The Crusades brought together the different values of East and West. The Renaissance, to a great extent, threw religious influences overboard, while the 17th century French court gave great power to

THE CONDITION IN IRELAND.
 Having dealt with several conditions in England, Mr. Quinlan continued:—
 In Ireland, we were desperately grasping after some distinct form of culture, but were reluctant to use all the advantages we had, and ignore the sources from which they stemmed. It was inevitable that, as a result of our history, many of our ideas and institutions should come from outside; but because of this alone, they should not be destroyed.

The barriers between nationalists and Anglo-Irish thinking were the black and white of indiscriminate labelling of false conceptions of good and bad, resulting in the death of individual talent. This resulted in a distraction of public opinion from realities, and the following of negative and obscure leads.

Booking for the Press Ball, to be held in Cruise's Hotel on Friday night, 26th February, 1960, will open in the Limerick Leader Office after Christmas and, as a matter of fact, many old patrons have already booked. Full details concerning a gigantic prize scheme will appear in our advertising columns in January.

It's Bigger And Better Value This Christmas At Macksees

Wonderful V neck Sweaters, brushed wool Jumpers and Lumbers; new mohair Skirts; Dancing Frocks and Skirts. Special Hi-Fi fully-fashioned Nylons, 5/11 pair—at 31 William Street. (19c)

STORY OF IRELAND'S YOUNGEST BAND



Rathkeale has the proud distinction of being the home of the most juvenile brass band in Ireland.

How did St. Mary's Boys' Band come into existence? Well, here is the story. Over fifty years ago the men of Rathkeale decided to form a brass band of their own, which flourished right up to the end of the last war, after which they made their appearance on certain occasions.

Several attempts were made to revive the band, which appeared on the streets of the town on the Feast of Corpus Christi. For a few nights afterwards the men would turn up for practice, but would then "fall away" again. The instruments were stored away for yet another year!

However, all was not yet lost. Last June teacher-conductor T. O'Shea got a brilliant idea. "What about the youth of the town?" he asked. Gathering an energetic com-

mittee around him, with Rev. Fr. Enright, C.C., as President, he approached the schools, where there was a ready response. That Committee which founded the new Boys' Band were as follows: Rev. Fr. Enright, C.C., President; Messrs. J. Hennessy, Chairman; J. H. Shire, Vice-Chairman; C. Noonan, Hon. Treasurer; N. Daly, Hon. Sec. P. Lynch, P. Roche, J. White, W. Steele, and J. McCrane.

So the start was made seven months ago. Thirty-seven youths — their ages ranging from seven to fifteen years old (only one member is 15 years old) — turned up for tutoring the first night. Drums rolled, trumpets sounded — all instruments went boom-boom-boom; even the short, shrill whistle of the piccolo could be heard in that first night's "crescendo."

But perfection was the "key-note" of the band. Teacher-conductor O'Shea insisted that all

members would have to read music and not play it "from ear."

The boys put their minds down to the job. For five nights every week they assembled in the local schoolhouse — permission being kindly granted by Very Rev. Canon Carroll, P.P. — to learn their various instruments. And after Mass on Sunday mornings they duly turned up for instruction.

Then came their great day — the Feast of Corpus Christi. They excelled themselves in the playing of "Ave Marie," "Bells of St. Mary's" and "Faith of Our Fathers."

Members of the band that day were: Thomas Lynch, John Doyle, Batt Collins, Michael Collins, Edward Doyle, Joseph Daly, David O'Grady, Vincent O'Brien, John Daly, Michael Guinane, Francis Carroll, Thomas O'Grady, Patrick Collins, Richard Lynch, Liam Dunne, Martin Mullane, John

Quinn and John Griffin. Next appearances of the band were G.A.A. matches and an F.C. parade.

So great was the enthusiasm aroused in the town over the band's achievements that several other young lads went "in training" — and among them were John Young, Michael Dunne, William Mulcair, Christy Lynch, Patrick Lynch, Patrick Dunne, John Magner and Patrick Magner.

Special uniforms have been tailored for the band and, Saturday night, at a Grand Concert in the City Theatre, Limerick, they will make their first city appearance.

We wish these Co. Limerick boys — the youngest brass band players in Ireland — every success in all their coming endeavours and congratulate Mr. T. O'Shea and his committee for the great job of work which they are doing.

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