

LIFETIME

Bishop Edwin Owen, Limerick and Killaloe

THE former Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, the Right Reverend Edwin Owen has died and will be buried in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin this Saturday.

His death Emma Riley and House, Rathmines, where he had been cared for for some time due to illness. He was 95.

He is survived by his son Christopher and daughter Dilys (Lindsay), by his grandsons Andrew and David and by the many friends he made throughout a long and productive life.

A man of many parts, he was described by former parishioners this week as a wonderful preacher, a marvellous musician, a very approachable bishop and a man very alive to the problems of the diocese. And he held dear his memories of living in Killaloe, even to revisiting the Cathedral there which he helped to restore within the last year of his life.

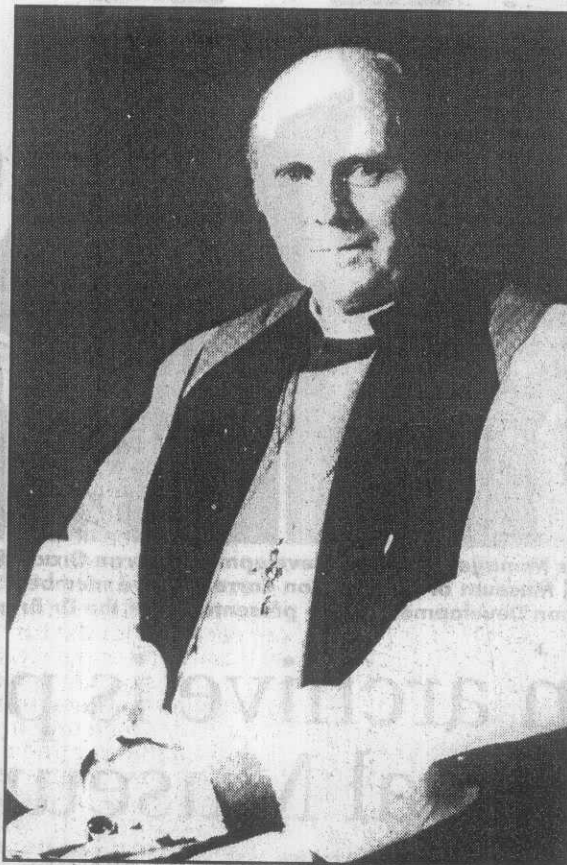
The present Bishop of Limerick & Killaloe, Bishop Michael Mayes paid

eloquent tribute to his late predecessor this week. "His service to the diocese is remembered with great gratitude and thanksgiving, and he played a key role in the unification of the Limerick and Killaloe dioceses," Bishop Mayes said.

Born in Armagh in 1910, Edwin was the younger son of William Rowland Owen and was educated at St Patrick's Cathedral Choir School and the Royal School, Armagh before going to Trinity College, Dublin where he graduated in Modern History and Political Science in 1932. He received his Divinity Testimonium in 1934 and was awarded an MA in 1941.

His first years of ministry saw him work as curate in a number of Dublin parishes and he was attached to St Patrick's Cathedral there from 1936 to 1942, first as Chancellor's Vicar and then as Succentor. From 1942 to 1957 he served as rector in Birr, Co Offaly and succeeded as Dean of Killaloe in 1957, holding that ministry along with the post of Diocesan Secretary until 1971.

He was elected Bishop of Killaloe, Kilfenora, Clonfert and Kilmacduagh in 1971 and was consecrated in St Flannan's Cathedral, Killaloe on January 25, 1972. Following the reorganisation of dioceses in 1976, he also became Bishop of Limerick, Ardferit and Aghadoue until his retirement in



The late Bishop Edwin Owen

1980.

During his years in Killaloe, he was closely associated with the annual Choral Festival and took a very active part in promoting music within the church. He sang and played the organ himself and in a return visit to Killaloe last year, played the re-built organ there. A hymn, composed by Bishop Owen, is included in the revised hymnal.

Edwin Owen married the late Margaret (Peggy) Williams of Rathgar in 1940 and they were blessed with twins, Christopher and Dilys.

The funeral service for Bishop Owen takes place in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin this Saturday followed by burial in the cathedral grounds. (Norma Prendiville)

Nora Hayes, Castletroy

NORA Hayes (late of Monaleen Road, Castletroy and formerly of the Ardh House Hotel, Limerick) died recently at the age of 100. From 1938 until 1967, Nora, together with her beloved late sister Mary, owned and successfully ran the Ardh House Hotel on the Ennis Road.

In 1938, Nora transformed what was then known as Revington House into the first Irish Country House Hotel, to her credit retaining the original features. The house was originally the family seat of Lord Revington, (ancestor of the renowned Barrister Joe Revington, S.C.).

Thereafter, the de Ross Rose family lived in the house for many years. The house itself was then, and remains to this day, a magnificent edifice, replete with wonderful architectural features including stucco ceilings and architraves and beautiful stained glass windows.

Today, some of the placenames in the area still resonate with the house's historical past (Revington Circle, Roses Avenue, etc.).

Nora was born in 1904, one of 13 children of a prosperous Limerick building family.

Her father, Henry Hayes had built many of the pub-

lic buildings and Edwardian terraces that are still a feature of the city today. She was pre-deceased by all her sisters and brothers, four of whom, John, George, Tom and James, had run the Hayes Brothers Engineering firm which had been situated originally in Mulgrave Street, and subsequently based in Davis Street.

In an age when women had not yet attained equal status in the world of commerce, Nora was renowned for her business acumen and managed to make her mark as a hotelier, through a combination of determination, tenacity and sheer feistiness, the very traits that undoubtedly contributed to Nora's remarkable longevity.

Indeed, as Nora's nurses will attest, these very qualities were still very much in evidence until relatively recently. Last December, her nurses gave her a 100th birthday present of an imitation furry tiger, a treasured gift that very much mirrored aspects of Nora's own unique personality.

After her retirement, Nora lived in Castletroy for many years, and was greatly valued by the community. She was a founder member of the Monaleen Bridge Club (whose members, to Nora's obvious delight, joined with Nora and her family and friends at her 100th birthday celebration last December).

She was a great golfer, and was still winning tournaments well into her eighties. In her latter years, Nora was given great support by her wonderful neighbours in Monaleen Road, particularly Mrs Mary Quinn who was both a marvellous neighbour and friend to Nora in very many ways.

As her health declined, Nora was lovingly and compassionately cared for by her nurses and doctors, whose kindness was greatly appreciated by Nora and her family.

In what has become an

increasingly pretentious and materialistic society, Nora's principal virtues of spirituality and humility, though much appreciated by all that knew and loved her, were in many ways those of a bygone era.

In mourning her passing, we also mourn the loss of her entire generation whose values have, sadly, been largely eschewed in our post-modern world.

In a poignant moment just a few months ago, whilst reminiscing about old times, Nora recalled the inscription in the famous "love window" on the mezzanine floor at the old Ardh House. It reads: "Man buildeth this house but he that buildeth all things in God".

(A.M.H.)

(Castletroy)

Fr Benedict Michael Hackett, Birmingham and Limerick

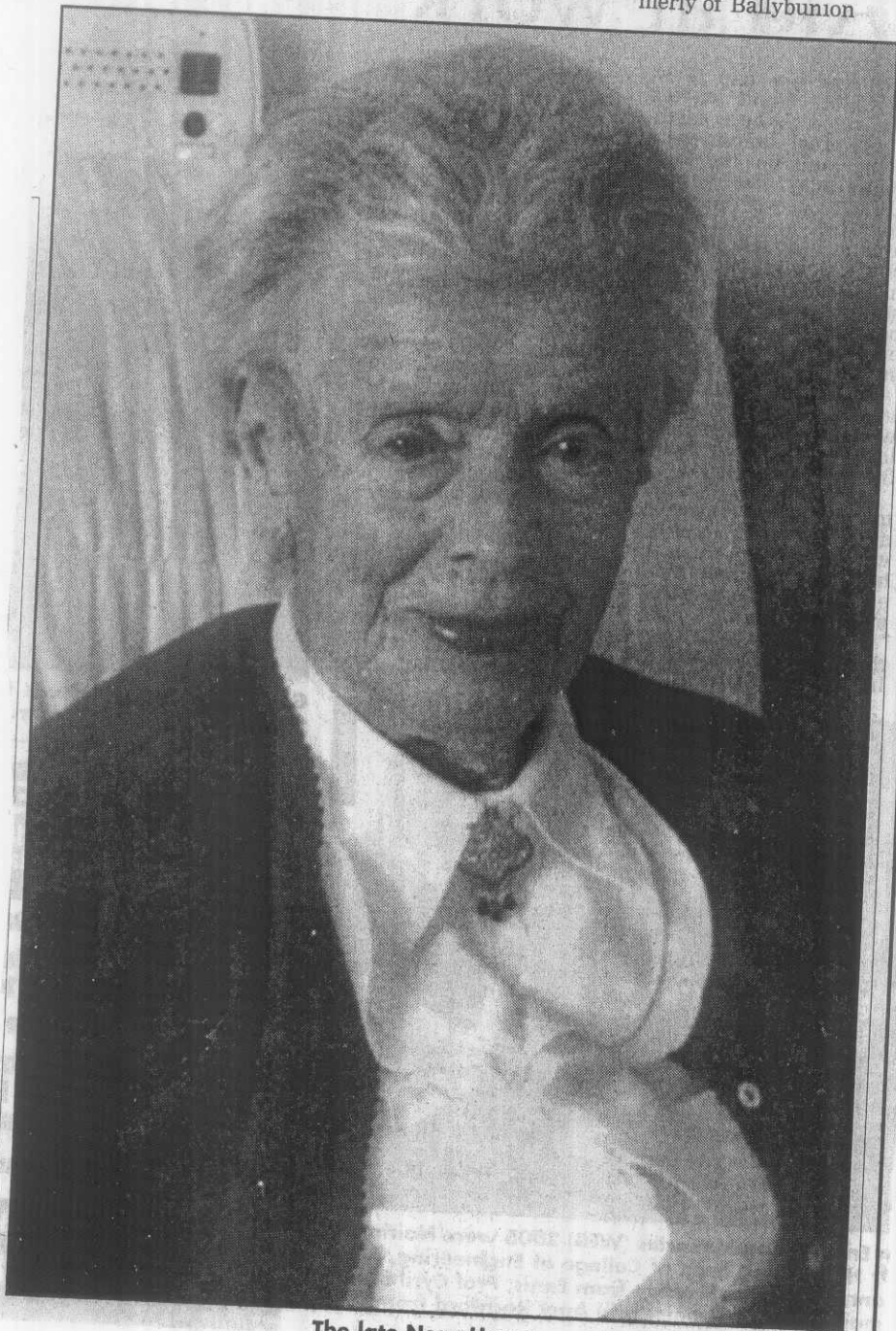
DEEPEST sympathy is extended to Sean Hackett of Carrig on the recent death of his brother, Rev Fr Benedict Michael Hackett, who died in Birmingham following a long illness.

Born in Limerick 83 years ago, Fr Hackett was an Augustinian priest and served the order in many leadership positions, including Assistant General and Superior of the Anglo-Scottish Province.

He was a brilliant writer and historian and enjoyed frequent visits to his native city. Fr Hackett was buried in Birmingham last week. May he rest in peace.

(Clarina)

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The late Nora Hayes