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EVERYBODY
BY
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MALFIN'S
TEA
It's Rich in the Cup!

BEAGLES ON PARADE



Brien Kelly, solicitor, leading the Oakfield Foot Beagles in last Sunday's Tostal parade through Limerick.

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Reidy, brothers, whose mother came from Castleisland, and their father from Kanturk—were in Limerick on Sunday last. Without any hesitation they said that the Limerick carnival sports parade was definitely the best they had ever seen. For its variety alone, they added, no other parade could compare with it. Both paid a glowing tribute to the Irish people, whom they found so law-abiding.

PRaise FOR COUNTRY FOLK.

Americans from the Eire-Boston Society spoke very highly of the country. They praised, in a special way, the country folk, because of the decorative neatness and cleanliness of their homes.

Mr. Peter Mahon, tourist agent in Boston, who was paying his 32nd visit to this country, said he never before saw Ireland looking so bright and happy.

The Americans expressed the opinion that Limerick was the best decorated city of all those they visited during the festival. They also thought that An Tostal was a very good thing for Ireland. Travel agents, too, say that the introduction of off-season traffic to this country would be a great boon to the tourist trade in future years.

Mr. M. P. Riordan, principal of Riordan's Travel Agency, Limerick, also catered for tourists during the festival, and considered that An Tostal was a very good thing for the country generally.

Limerick's An Tostal Parade

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Dear Sir—I would like to add my name to the great many people who have been loud in their praise to the Limerick Tostal organisers, and especially to the people of Limerick who spared no expense in making An Tostal such a wonderful success in Limerick.

As I was watching the parade on last Sunday, which was to be the last one in the An Tostal period, a gentleman beside me said after the last of the parade had passed: "That was a wonderful turn-out; they had everything in it." I said that a very important item, as far as Limerick is concerned, was missing, the G.A.A. hurling teams, which have brought credit to the City and County Limerick on many occasions. I have an idea that we have two Constitutions in this country—one belongs to the State and the G.A.A. have the other one. I am a strong supporter of the G.A.A. and anything else that is Gaelic, but my contention is that who ever was responsible for the absence of the G.A.A. teams on last Sunday's parade made a terrible mistake.

After all, An Tostal was Irish, and the rugby and soccer teams in this country do not belong to the Mau Mau gang. I was a member of the Defence Forces in this country during the period of the Emergency, and the men who now play rugby, soccer, etc., were also in the Defence Forces with me, and we all had one principle, and it was: "Erin go Bragh." Wake up, G.A.A.; be ready for An Tostal, 1954!

Yours truly,
P. HARTY.
Ballynanty, Limerick.

This Breach Cost Publican £4

Michael J. Quirke, publican, of 2 Upper Gerald Griffin Street, Limerick, was fined £4 by Justice Gleeson in the City District Court to-day, when he was convicted for breach of the licensing laws at 7.40 p.m. on Sunday, April 19th last. Two men found on the premises were fined 10/- each; another two, who failed to appear, were each fined 15/-.

Guard Patrick Carroll said that when he passed the defendant's "pub." on the day of the offence, he saw the licensee and another man standing at the front door, which was wide open. Witness entered the premises and found approximately 20 people inside drinking. The defendant told him he could not clear

Surrender Of Arms By Volunteers In Limerick In 1916

IN the course of a book review in our columns last February a quotation was given from a letter written by Mr. Stephen J. Dinneen in reference to the surrender of arms by Limerick Volunteers in 1916. Below we publish an article from Mr. A. J. O'Halloran, Limerick, who was prominently associated with the movement, giving another version of what took place. Mr. O'Halloran writes:—

Some writers on matters historical are prone to attribute undue importance to what they term documentary evidence, that is, of course, providing it does not run counter to their own theories. By implication they argue that since it has been set down in writing, it must of necessity be true. With this preamble I will, with your kind permission, examine a document reviewed in your issue of February last under the heading "Another version of surrender of arms in Limerick in 1916" so as to let your readers judge as to how it will stand up to this test.

WRITTEN IN GOOD FAITH.

This review quotes extensively from a letter written by Stephen J. Dinneen to John Devoy in July, 1916, and which has been published in Vol. 2 of "Devoy's Post Bag." Since the writer was captain of one of the four companies of the Limerick City Battalion, Irish Volunteers, it would naturally be assumed that he had first-hand knowledge of all the matters dealt with in that letter, and especially having regard to the fact that it was written very soon after the Insurrection, that it must be factual in all its details. I propose to prove that such an assumption would be wrong, but before I proceed to do so I must state my conviction that it was written in all good faith, and without any ulterior motive whatever.

THE EASTER SUNDAY

To my own knowledge, Mr. Dinneen was on parade at the Fianna Hall on that Easter Sunday morning, and as I had a conversation with him then, I can state definitely that he came prepared to do his part, but I have been authoritatively informed that once it had been announced, as it was, on Easter Sunday evening, that the proposed Rising had been abandoned, he took no further "open" part in developments, and was not at any of the conferences at which it was decided not to take action, and to surrender the guns. Hence what he wrote about these matters was based on second-hand information, which is notoriously unreliable.

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS AND GUNS.

In dealing with the number of Volunteers on parade on Easter Sunday morning, and as regards the number of guns held by the Battalion, he is hopelessly inaccurate. Some years ago the surviving officers—of whom he was one—devoted a great deal of time to compiling a list of those who paraded, and could never make it more than 130. Including the band, many members of which were not actually Volunteers, and a few who may have been overlooked, certainly not more than 140 were at the Fianna Hall on that morning. He errs more grievously in stating that we had 180 rifles, and some shot guns. In Limerick's Fighting Story I estimated—with reserve—that we had 130 rifles but I have since heard asserted that we had no more than 120 guns, including shot-guns. This seems likely, because I have a distinct recollection of seeing some Volunteers carrying pikes. We can take his account of the number of guns held by the Castleconnell and Killonan Volunteers as a yard-stick to measure his accuracy. According to him the

number of rifles held by Castleconnell was 50, and by Killonan, 30. But Sean Carroll and Tom Brennan say the former had only 7, and Willy Fitzgerald informs me that in Killonan they had only 10 "Howth" and 5 Martinis!

BRITISH DEMAND FOR SURRENDER.

Now take the account as to the British demand for the surrender of arms. Mr. Dinneen states: "Colonel Weldon, through the Mayor, opened negotiations with us about the surrender of some of our arms. We refused to surrender any. We exchanged several notes on the subject, and still refused to surrender. Our Colonel, through the Mayor, offered Weldon, if he gave the women and children permission to leave the city, we would fight him for the city, or if he allowed us to go outside the city, we would fight him inside the city, whatever the odds were."

WHAT MR. COLIVET HAS TO SAY.

This offer as it appears in the letter seems rather fatuous. But now read what Colonel Colivet has to say about it:

"As regards offer re women and children, too much has been made of that, in ignorance of the circumstances in which it was made. During the talks with the Mayor, who sent for me, he laid great stress on the fate of the women and children, and the citizens generally, if we did not surrender to Weldon's demand. In reply, I said, why not send the women and children out of the city, or let us assemble and march out with an hour's grace, and then let him come and take them if he could. The offer was made not with any hope that Weldon would agree, but mainly to resist the Mayor's arguments. It must be remembered that at that time we had no idea of giving up the arms, and in the main were hoping for a second batch of arms from Germany arriving. Now, of course, everyone knows there was no such chance."

DIFFERENT COMPLEXION

This, I imagine puts a different complexion on the offer, because obviously it was made with the object of stalling action on the part of the British, and of gaining time.

Comparisons are, it is said, odious, but a great deal of unmerited censure has been lavished on the leaders of the Limerick Volunteers, while the fact is that in the hope of further developments they held on to the guns until the 3rd of May, while the arms of the Cork Volunteers were surrendered while yet the fight was on in Dublin.

Mr. Dinneen states: "Our orders to our men at this time were that if the officers were arrested, or any attempt made to arrest them, or if the police or military tried to disarm Volunteers, they were to resist and suffer death sooner than surrender anything."

"NO SUCH ORDER."

No such order, as far as it related to the officers, was ever issued, but it was and had been a standing order since the Volunteers got the guns that they were to resist any attempt by enemy forces to seize them.

I have only dealt with points raised in your review, but there are many other equally incorrect statements in the letter as it appears in the "Post Bag."

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For almost six months Cornelius Fogarty, of 39 Moylish Road, Ballynantybeg, has owed 4/7 to C.I.E., and unless he pays them that sum within seven days he will spend one week in jail, Justice D. R. Gleeson decided in the Limerick District Court to-day.

Fogarty, who failed to appear, was charged with failing to pay his bus fare for a journey he made from Foynes to Limerick on the 21st of November last.

Sylvester Bowe, conductor of the bus at the time, said in evidence that Fogarty came to him and told