

way of reviving these forgotten works. In 1924 he put on a complete novelty in "Der Evangelistemann" by Kienzi, which had a splendid "singing-acting" part for the great tenor. This work was a success when produced in Vienna in the 1890's and was sung a good deal on the Continent, but now seems forgotten. O'Mara produced it for several seasons, but like "The Jewess," a good part of its success was due to the singer's mastery art in the tenor role. The hero, "Mathias," had been given twenty years penal servitude for a crime he was innocent of. On his release he became an Evangelist and singer, a very lengthy narration, somewhat in form resembling Tannhauser after his return from Rome.

O'Mara billed his opera not as "Der Evangelistemann" but as "The Apostle of St. Otnas," and the story was supposed to have come from St. Otnas in Bavaria and to have been true to life.

**ON THE ROAD FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS.**

The O'Mara Company was on the road for over twenty years, always visiting Dublin, Cork and Belfast, and once or twice Limerick. After Mr. O'Mara retired in 1926 it was taken over by Cynlais Gibbs, who had been one of the principal tenors and was run under his name. Still later it reverted to "The O'Mara Opera Company," and as such made its last appearance in Eire at the Cork Opera House in 1934. Now both Opera House and Company are no more. O'Mara's fame is secure. As I said, he was a "singing actor," and had the gift of colouring his voice to suit different emotions and situations in opera—"acting with the voice," as it is called—and those who heard and remember him will not again hear a finer all-round operatic tenor. The great artist died on the 5th of August, 1927.

### LITURGY OF HOLY WEEK EXPLAINED

One of the current publications of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland is a booklet, entitled "Restored Rites and Ceremonies of Holy Week," of which the author is a member of the Benedictine community of Glenstal Abbey. Comprising 20 pages and sold at 3d. per copy, or 2/3 per dozen (postage extra), is a highly informative guide to the Holy Week ceremonies.

Its main purpose is to help the faithful to follow with some understanding, the altered liturgy of Holy Week, as it is carried out in the ordinary parish church. In view of the Holy Father's invitation to play a more active part in the annual commemoration of the Redemption, the booklet can be regarded as of great importance.

It has been compiled by an expert in liturgy, and can be easily followed by both young and old.

**REPARATION CONVENT BUILDING FUND.**

Needed **3,496,080 Pennies**

Subscribed This Week **6,280 "**

**3,489,800 "**

HAVE YOU SUBSCRIBED YOUR PENNY THIS WEEK?

D. NYHAN, Commons Road, Cork.



## Hats

to match the magic of Spring

It's in the air and in the fashion... the delightful TREND TOWARDS THE NEW PRETTINESS IN EVERYTHING YOU WEAR, AND IT STARTS WITH YOUR HAT. AND WE HAVE SCORES OF LOVELY, ATTRACTIVELY PRICED HATS AWAITING YOUR ENTHUSIASTIC CHOICE....

ALSO SEE OUR WONDERFUL SELECTION OF NEW SEASON'S HANDBAGS, GLOVES AND FOOTWEAR.

# Todd's

of Limerick

Picture taken at the Redemptorist Retreat House, North Circular Road, Limerick, on the occasion of the Retreat for members of the Gardal. Included in the picture are Rev. Father Clancy, C.S.S.R. (extreme left); Rev. Father Murphy, C.S.S.R. (extreme right), and Rev. Brother Ambrose, C.S.S.R.

### Redemptorist Retreat House CHASE AND ITS FAMILY ASSOCIATIONS

(BY ROBERT HERBERT).

**Redemptorist Retreat House**

To the Editor, "Limerick Leader." Dear Mr. Editor, Your recent publication of a letter from one of your readers desiring to know on whom responsibility rests for the discharge of the large debit balance due on the above, calls for a reply.

The idea of presenting the Redemptorist Order with a suitable house in Limerick for the conducting of enclosed retreats for laymen, to mark the centenary of their great work amongst us, emanated from the Secretaries of the Holy Family Confraternity. Because it was intended that every citizen should have an opportunity to subscribe the necessary funds, a representative Committee, headed by the then Mayor, Alderman John Carew, T.D., was set up. This Committee included the Secretaries and members of the Confraternity.

A general appeal for subscriptions was made to banks and business firms in the city and through the Confraternities of men and women at Mount St. Alphonsus.

Through these Confraternities there was also established a system of promoters, undertaking to collect subscriptions from those interested. Their valuable work still continues.

The total cost of the purchase, fitting and furnishing of the Retreat House, now known as Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Retreat House, North Circular Road, Limerick, was £21,981 0s. 7d. Of this debt there was outstanding on 31st December, 1936, the sum of £17,389 15s. 4d.

In these circumstances it will be clearly realised that subscriptions will be gratefully received by the Committee. In addition, the help of many more new promoters prepared to assist in the work will be most eagerly welcomed.

Signed on behalf of Executive Committee,

John Carew, Chairman, 55 William Street; Martin J. McDonnell, Hon. Sec., Ballykeefe, Limerick; J. C. Duggan, Hon. Treas., 14 William Street, Limerick.

### LIMERICK MEMORIAL TO MURDERED PATRIOTS

To the Editor, "Limerick Leader." Sir—Models of the Treaty Stone, carefully done, and of the 1916 Monument in Limerick could be sold and the proceeds handed over to the Monument Committee—those models would be especially welcome in America by the national organisations. Subscribers would be enthusiastic when given "something" for their money. Try it.

D. NYHAN, Commons Road, Cork.

### OTHER VENTURES.

Among Hunt's other ventures was the establishment of a coalmine on his property in Tipperary, and the building of a town there which he aptly named New Birmingham. He also bought, as a speculation, Lundy Island, off the coast of Devon, and endeavoured to establish there, in accordance with the ancient traditions of the island, an independent kingdom.

In further numbers of this series on the De Vere family, I hope to give some extracts from his diary showing his genuine love of the Irish country-side and of County Limerick in particular; his attention to and appreciation of a good service, and his interest in trees and afforestation which has to-day made Curragh Chase so worthy an addition to the lands of our forward Department of Forestry. As an apter I give the following this week:

**MASTER AND SERVANT.**

"3rd April, 1811. This morning at four o'clock departed this life, John Leahy, who lived for seventy

### HOME AFTER 50 YEARS IN AMERICA

TWO nuns of the Presentation Order in New York, an aunt and niece, who have not been home for 50 years and 30 years respectively, have just completed a short holiday in Limerick, their native city.

They are Sister Teresa, Presentation Convent, Grant's Field, Station Island, New York, and Sister Assumpta, St. Saviour's, Sylvia, 133 West 98th Street, New York.

Sister Teresa left Limerick on the 16th March, 1907, and was professed in 1909. She will celebrate her Golden Jubilee in religion in two years time.

Sister Teresa is a sister of Mr. Jack Prendergast, plumbing contractor, Janesboro; of Mrs. Bowles, Weston Terrace, Rosbrien; Mrs. Grubb, 8 Weston Terrace. She is an aunt of Sister Assumpta, Mrs. J. Browne, 8 Weston Terrace; Mrs. S. Mulcahy, Dublin Road, and Mrs. Jim Barry, Janesboro, and sister-in-law of Mrs. Eileen Prendergast. Mrs. Grubb is mother of Sister Assumpta.

Sister Assumpta, who left home in 1927, was professed on August 15th, 1931. She is a niece of Sister Teresa and celebrated her Silver Jubilee last year, and is an aunt of Catherine Marie and Nancy Browne, of 8 Weston Terrace. The latter left Ireland to take up a business appointment in New York four years ago.

Both sisters told a "Limerick Leader" reporter that they were amazed at the changes that had taken place in Limerick, and indeed, of the whole country. They were particularly impressed with the magnificent new housing schemes which were a credit to the people. Sister Teresa expressed some disappointment that there was not more tillage in the country.

Questioned about the progress of the Faith in New York, Sister Teresa described it as very good. Their only handicap there at the moment was the lack of schools and Catholic parents were reluctantly compelled to send their children to public schools. There were over 100 sisters in the Order, the majority of whom were Irish-Americans.

They both expressed their happiness at being home after such a long sojourn away. They were not due for a holiday for another two months, but due to the illness of Mrs. Grubb they decided to come earlier.

A gesture they appreciated very much was a visit from the Mayor, Ald. G. E. Russell, T.D., and Ald. J. Carew, T.D., during the week. Both sisters left Cobh to-day for New York.

### SIR VERE HUNT, THE DIARIST.

We now jump a hundred years and come to the first outstanding member of the family—the first with any literary pretensions, Sir Vere Hunt, the diarist. It was probably he who instilled into his own son, Sir Aubrey de Vere, and into his two grandsons, Aubrey and Sir Stephen, poets all three, their devotion to Curragh as well as their love of literature. He has himself left us a diary of the last twenty-two years of his life; and, in addition, has given us a summary of his first thirty-three years. His style is very much of the period, flowery and often verbose. However, in addition to a magnificent picture of rural life in County Limerick in the first quarter of the 19th century, we get many vivid flashes of public life in Ireland, with all the cynicism and disillusionment which followed the passing of the Union Act.

Sir Vere was a son of Anne Browne, County Clare, and he married Elinor Pery, a daughter of the Earl Bishop of Limerick. To these two women, and Mary Spring Rice, a daughter of the first Lord Monteagle, who married Sir Aubrey, must also be given a due acknowledgment of their share in the shaping of Limerick's—in fact, Ireland's—most famous literary family.

### COARSE AND CORRUPT AGE.

The age in which Hunt lived was, according to modern standards, both coarse and corrupt. Judged against this background, he emerged well, either as landlord, politician or private citizen. He was a restless spirit and took part in activities which few gentlemen of the period would have touched. In younger days he conducted a professional theatrical company in the south of Ireland. He also attempted to establish a provincial newspaper, and to re-print, for the first time, the *Patrician* and other famous historical works.

In middle life he was Sheriff of the County Limerick, raised three Regiments for the Government Service, and, at the time of the Union, was Member of Parliament for the Borough of Askeaton. He voted for the Union and obtained as recompense, after much haggling, the weigh-mastership of Cork, a sinecure worth £600 per annum. It must be stated, however, in fairness to Hunt, that he had paid £5,000 for the seat, a rotten borough, just one year previously. Incidentally, he is not referred to by Jonah Barrington in his famous "Rise and Fall of the Irish Nation," exposing Union corruption; and we discover, in his papers, that he was a friend of Barrington and backed the bill for the latter's work and the engraved portraits of the country's betrayers. Jonah Barrington was, as we already know, no plaster saint himself, and lived according to the general standards of public morality of that venal day.

### WINNER OF CUPS AND SILVER MEDALS



Eighteen-years-old Miss Carmel Sheeran, No. 9 Treaty Terrace, Thomondgate, Limerick, who won the Treaty Cup for Dramatic Opera and Silver Medal for Solo Soprano at Felle Luimnighe recently. She also won the McCarthy Cup in 1935 and a Silver Medal in 1933. Mr. Julian Herbage, well-known Adjudicator from Enang, said: "She is an exceptional dramatic soprano and should have a marvellous future."

or eighty years with my father and me; and who lived as a pensioner with me for the last twenty years. His honesty and fidelity were great, and I sincerely lament the departure of so old, tried and valuable a domestic. Order for a coffin to be made for him of the old elm-tree, coeval with himself, or rather antecedent to him, which was blown down last winter. Kill a lamb and dine on a forequarter of it, fish, etc., Dr. Lee, the parish priest of Adare with me. After dinner, he and I go to Leahy's house, where I give directions for his wake, funeral, etc. Father Lee sleeps here.

### Pope Receives Winner Of "Ideal Woman" Contest

The Holy Father has set a historic precedent by receiving the winner of a beauty contest (says "Catholic Notebook," published by the Catholic Library Information Bureau, Dublin).

The Pope gave his blessing at a brief audience to 19-year-old Maria Paola Carletti, who won a contest for the "ideal woman" in Macerata, Italy, through her culture and cooking abilities as well as her beauty.

It was the first time in the history of the Church that a Pope has received a winner of a beauty contest as such. Vatican sources said, however, that the audience was not a departure from the Church's traditional disapproval of contests based only on physical beauty.

They said the Pope agreed to receive Signorina Carletti because the Macerata jury took into account culture, morality and housekeeping gifts more than mere beauty.

### Limerick Dockers And Shannon Steamship Company

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader")

Dear Sir—With reference to recent correspondence in your paper regarding the attitude of the Limerick Dockers in refusing to handle such traffic as cement from Coras Iompair Elreann for shipment by the Shannon Steamship Company to Killrush, I wish to point out that the position in this matter remains unchanged since my last letter in your issue of the 23rd ultimo.

Is the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union prepared to explain the inconsistency of its members in refusing to perform this work for the Shannon Steamship Co., with whom they had no dispute, whilst they accept employment from C.I.E. and Cement, Ltd., with whom they are in dispute?

Yours faithfully,  
F. P. HERRIOTT,  
Secretary Limerick Employers' Federation.  
18th April, 1937.

### RESULT OF RED TERROR AMONG RELIGIOUS IN CHINA

According to authentic figures regarding the persecution of the Church in China, the numbers of ecclesiastical personnel in that country before Mao Tse-tung took over in 1948 were: Foreigners—Bishops, 75; priests, 3,015; sisters, 2,351; brothers, 475, making a total of 5,916. Chinese—Bishops, 22; priests, 2,676; sisters, 5,112; brothers, 632, giving a total of 8,442. Thus, the aggregate was 14,358. Foreign missionaries in China at present are: 1 bishop; 10 priests (6 in prison) and 11 sisters.

### WINNER OF CUPS AND SILVER MEDALS

Four-engined Shackletons of the British R.A.F. Coastal Command are carrying out meteorological flights from Christmas Island, a Pacific atoll and springboard for Britain's nuclear tests this year. Among those engaged in the enterprise is Flying Officer William McNamara, 26-year-old navigator, of 41 Coleraine Road, Porthrush, Co. Antrim, whose parents live at "West View," Corbally Road, Limerick. In civil life Mr. McNamara was an accountant. He was educated in St. Joseph's School, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.

### FILM ON THE LIFE OF ST. IGNATIUS

The shooting of the first scenes of a film based on the life of St. Ignatius of Loyola will begin soon in Rome. The role of St. Ignatius will be played by the American actor, Jose Ferrer. The film, an American-Spanish production, will be filmed partly in Italy and partly in Spain.

Mr. Ferrer is also directing the picture, with a Jesuit priest acting as advisor.

### PETROL A PENNY CHEAPER

The prices of petrol and fuel oil in the Republic have been reduced by 1d. a gallon. The reduction operates from to-day.

Reason for the reduction is stated to be the easing of the Suez situation. Petrol prices were increased by 3½d. per gallon last December after the Suez Canal had been blocked and a further increase of 1½d. a gallon was imposed last month.

(Ald. John Carew, T.D.) summoned a representative conference in Chamber of Commerce on Monday. It was decided at this meeting to send the following delegate to Dublin for the purpose of ascertaining the ultimate intentions Messrs. Murray in regard to the Limerick factory—The Dep. Mayor, Ald. Carew, T.D.; Sen. D. B. O'Malley, T.D.; Sen. James Reidy, Mr. M. MacE.B.A., City Manager; Mr. J. Lyons, solicitor, Vice-Pres. Chamber of Commerce; and E. O'Neill, Limerick Branch I.T. & G.W.U.

**LAST WORD NOT YET SAID.**

A "Limerick Leader" representative learned to-day that delegation had long discussions with Mr. G. Bartley, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry and Commerce, and other executive heads. While no definite factory assurances, it is gathered were forthcoming as to the future of Spillanes, the last word has yet been said.

**FURTHER DISCUSSIONS TO TAKE PLACE.**

Further discussions are expected to take place in the near future, and in the meantime the Parliamentary Secretary undertook to keep the delegation fully informed as to the trend of events.

### NEW DIRECTOR OF ARCH-CONFRATERNITY

Rev. Fr. John Corbett, C.S. appointed Spiritual Director of Arch-Confraternity in succession to the late Rev. Fr. T. Ru.C.S.S.R., will be introduced at next week's meetings of the men by Very Rev. Fr. G. McDonnell, C.S.S.R., Rector.

Rev. Fathers McDonnell and will conduct the forthcoming annual Retreat.

### MISHAP AT PUNCH CROSS

Nobody was injured when tractor slipped off a lorry at Punch's Cross this morning. tractor came to rest in an "unsafe" position on the road.

### Spray Milk At Limerick

PLANT of the most modern world has been installed at Limerick, at a big capital cost.

The plant, the installation of which has been in progress since Christmas, is now on trial run and will be working normally in course of a week. The plant was installed by the regular at Lansdowne.

A "Limerick Leader" reporter was told to-day that the machinery will be capable of dealing approximately 3,000,000 gallons of milk from April to October in manufacture of spray powder.

An export market for this product, it was added, was available. The hope was expressed that the new development would result in the employment of extra hands in the future.

### FOR A HOME

TRY HOME BY YOURSELF

PUT AN END TO DRUDGERY

Washing Machine

A WIDE RANGE You are CORPORA

Showroom