FREEDOM FIGHT INCIDENTS RECALLED

FORMATION OF THE FAMOUS FLYING COLUMN

WITH the War of Independence rapidly developing into a full fury in the summer of 1920, the West Limerick Brigade of the I.R.A. was formed into an active service unit, with Sean Finn, O.C., in command.

Less than twelve months later, this unit was stationed in the mountains near Ballyhullish, where it was engaged in battles against the English. A large body of enemy forces, consisting of the 1st Division, was occupying the area. The I.R.A. units were stationed in the dark of the night in the mountains, with about 100 members of the enemy force a mile away, each carrying a rifle. The I.R.A. men were equipped with rifles and were ordered to attack the enemy force at dawn.

In July 1920, the I.R.A. barracks at Ardfinnan, which was situated near the town of Limerick, were attacked by a force of over 1,000 men. The I.R.A. men fought bravely, and many of them were killed or wounded. The I.R.A. barracks were destroyed.

In the early hours of the morning, the I.R.A. men were surrounded by the enemy force and were forced to surrender. The I.R.A. men were taken prisoner and were marched to the town of Limerick, where they were held in custody for several days.

Knockaderry branch had successful year

THERE was a large attendance at the annual general meeting of the Knockaderry branch of the Feohenagh Drama Group held in the Library, Croomagh. The attendance was welcomed by the chairman of the branch, Denis Allin. The meeting was opened by Miss Kathleen Wall, who read the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes were accepted and the report of the treasurer, Mr. Eddie Lennard, was read. The report showed a balance of £15.25, which was carried forward to the next year. The committee was elected for the coming year, which was comprised of the following members:

Chairman: Denis Allin
Vice-Chairman: Eddie Lennard
Secretary: Brendan McGovern
Treasurer: Kathleen Wall
Auditors: Peggy Quaid and Terry Sheehan

Next week's instalment will deal with the historic engagement at Knockaderry, where the I.R.A. were victorious over a large body of enemy forces.

Members of the cast of the Knockaderry Drama Group who made a very successful presentation of "Knockaderry" at Feohenagh.

THE PRODUCER was Rev. J. J. Greene, C.C., Feohenagh (at extreme left, back row).