

Notes and Comments Of Irish Events.

Directory United Irish League.
Dublin, Jan. 24, 1908.

MR. REDMOND AT EDINBURGH.—On the 17th January, Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P., addressed a great Nationalist demonstration in connection with the East of Scotland branches of the United Irish League. The gathering took place in the Syon Hall, which is capable of holding an audience of about 3,000. The building was well filled. Mr. D. Donworth, the chairman of the branch, presided, and amongst others on the platform was Mr. D. Hope, M.P., and apologies were intimated from the Master of Elibank, M.P., and Mr. Arthur Dewar, ex-M.P. for South Edinburgh. On behalf of the branches an illuminated address was presented to Mr. Redmond. The address stated that since his acceptance of the office of leader of the Irish Party he had displayed an earnestness and determination which had stimulated his fellow-countrymen with renewed hope of ultimate success in the struggle for self-government. Reference was made to the Land Conference and to his services as leader of the Irish Party, and concluded by expressing confidence that when Ireland once again took its place among the nations she would have as her first constitutional leader the man whom that night they honored. A resolution was adopted expressing continued and unabated confidence in the Irish Parliamentary Party under the leadership of Mr. J. E. Redmond, hailing with satisfaction the recent friendly Conference between representatives of the landlords and the tenant farmers of Ireland, and expressing the hope that the result would be the passing of satisfactory Land Purchase Bill, and pledging the meeting to continue the struggle for self-government until it became an accomplished fact.

CARDINAL MORAN'S VISIT.—During his recent visit to Ireland His Eminence Cardinal Moran received the following letter:—
"Aughavanagh, Aughrim, County Wicklow,
Sept. 2, 1902.
"My Lord Cardinal,—Will you allow me, on behalf of the Irish Parliamentary Party, to send you an expression of our gratitude for your speech in Cork, a speech so full of sympathy with the cause of Ireland, and of encouragement to those who are engaged in the effort to win National Self-Government for their country. We know full well the absolute accuracy of your statement that the prosperity and contentment of the great Australasian Colonies are due entirely to the blessing of free institutions and the sympathy expressed for our efforts for Home Rule for Ireland, representing as we know it does the universal feeling of Australians, is of incalculable value to us in our arduous struggle.
"I beg, therefore, in the name of my colleagues, to thank you for this, the latest of your many great services to our country—I remain, my Lord Cardinal, with great respect, very truly yours,
JOHN E. REDMOND.
"His Eminence Cardinal Moran."

MEETINGS.—Two meetings were held on 18th January in South Cork—one at Toghur, and one at Dunmanway—under the auspices of the United Irish League, the meeting at Toghur being for the purpose of establishing a branch of the organization there. The meeting at Toghur was held at 11 o'clock, and was attended by a very large number of the people of the parish, while contingents were also present from the surrounding districts. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed throughout, and taken altogether there was plenty of evidence that the branch which was established there is likely to become one of the most active and strongest in the constituency. Regarding the hour fixed for the meeting, which was generally supposed to be three o'clock, there was a large attendance in the hall at the opening of the proceedings, and before the meeting concluded the spacious room was crowded.

On 18th January a large and enthusiastic public meeting was held at Cullyhanna shortly after last Mass, for the purpose of establishing a branch of the United Irish League. The attendance was extremely large.

A large and thoroughly representative meeting was held at Lackan on Jan. 18. The day was beautiful, fine, and large contingents from the Dumanway meeting were held at two o'clock in the Town Hall. Though there was a misapprehension Ballina attended the meeting.

Resolutions were adopted cordially approving of the unanimous report of the Land Conference, congratulating the tenants' representatives on the Conference, and urging the adoption of the recommendations of the report in any bill for the settlement of the Land Question.

ROSCOMMON CRIMELESS.—Judge O'Connor Morris opened the Boyle Quarter Sessions on 17th Jan., and addressing the Grand Jury, said:—I am happy to tell you that there is no necessity that you should be sworn. There is no business whatever to go before you. I have had the great pleasure of getting a pair of white gloves from the Sheriff. I intended to address you at some length, as I wished to address you; but I can only say that, with the exception of the unfortunate De Freyne and Murphy quarrel, of which I spoke at length before, and which I shall not repeat, I think the state of the County Roscommon is very satisfactory. So, good day, gentlemen.

BOYLE O'REILLY MEMORIAL.—Drogheda, 17th January.—A meeting of the John Boyle O'Reilly Memorial Committee was held to-day in the Mayor's House. The Mayor (Alderman Keeley) presided. A letter was read from Mr. T. H. Denman, sculptor, Glasnevin, stating that the memorial is now very far forward towards completion, and asking if the committee would have the bust of O'Reilly worked in the solid stone of the memorial (which is to be in white native limestone) or done in Carrara marble and inlaid in the limestone, as at first agreed on. The suggestion of altering the manner of the bust occurred to him, he stated, from reading in the Press recently how certain inlayings in the tomb of the ancestors of Robert Emmet had been removed from their settings by foreigners and carried away.

Mr. Casey reported that he had visited Mr. Denman's works on the previous Monday, and had been afforded an opportunity of inspecting the work, whose condition of forwardness he explained to the committee.

After lengthened consideration of the suggestion of the proposed change in the material of the bust, which is to form the most striking feature of the memorial, the committee decided to adhere to the original design and have the bust carved in Carrara marble.

The inscription to be engraved on the memorial was also under consideration, but a decision in the matter was adjourned until Father Anderson's views on the one before the meeting were obtained.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to make application to the Drogheda (Meath) District Council, who are the custodians of the Old Churchyard of Dowth, in which the memorial is to be erected, for permission to have the memorial erected therein on the site selected in his early years by the late John Boyle O'Reilly, as the place he desired to be interred, and communicated to Father Anderson by O'Reilly himself some years before his lamented death.

Having disposed of some routine business, the committee adjourned until Saturday, the 7th February.

organization, the following officers were elected for the year 1908:—Spiritual Director, Rev. Father Flynn, O.S.B.; Hon. President, Joseph Johnson; President, Robert Byrne; 1st Vice-President, J. E. Murray; 2nd Vice-President, John Harte; Treasurer, Thomas O'Connell; Collecting Treasurer, Robert Brown; Assistant Collecting Treasurer,

John Cullinan; Recording Secretary, Robert J. Hart; Assistant Recording Secretary, Owen McShane; Librarian, P. Fogarty; Assistant Librarian, E. Gannon; Marshal, J. McEntee; Assistant Marshal, J. Pojan; Honorary Councillors, P. J. Shea, James Martin, Thos. Dillon; Councillors, M. Casey, D. J. O'Neill, P. Pendergast, Jas. Finigan, P. Shanahan, M. J. O'Donnell, John Brown.

The first undertaking of the new executive will be a euchar party, which will take place in the hall of the Society on the evening of "Shrove Tuesday," Feb. 24. The members intend to spare no effort to make the euchar a grand success.

A EUCHRE PARTY.—The ladies of St. Patrick's parish will hold a euchar party in St. Patrick's Hall, on Wednesday, Feb. 12. Refreshments will be served.

PERSONAL.—Mr. M. J. Murphy, the energetic manager of the "Wild Rose Opera Company," who is now in Montreal, making arrangements for the production of that opera at the Academy of Music, has the distinction of being one of the most enthusiastic advocates of the Irish language revival in America. Mr. Murphy's contributions to the Catholic press of the United States, and some of his timely and graphic articles that have appeared in our columns, mark him as not only a fervent patriot, but also a deep student and careful writer. We decidedly wish Mr. Murphy every success in his enterprise of the present, and we trust that he and his family will enjoy their sojourn in our city.

St. Patrick's Cadets.

As we have already announced it is the intention of the newly-organized Cadet Corps of St. Patrick's parish, to hold a military and dramatic entertainment Monday next in the Monument National hall for the benefit of that most praiseworthy project. It is almost needless for us to dwell to any extent upon the importance and utility of Cadet companies in our various schools. If example is to be the test we have a number of them already in our midst. How often have we not had occasion to refer with legitimate pride and satisfaction to the different bodies of school-Cadets in this city? Nothing could be more inspiring and more delightful than to see the St. Ann's Cadets, or those of Mount St. Louis, or those of the Jesuit College, when on parade in our public streets. There is an air of solid discipline, of manliness, of strength, of promise about these young lads, as they march along, with all the glitter and pride of military attainment, and it is easy to see in their future citizens of worth and of utility to the whole country.

Of all the exercises in the physical training of the young none can equal, certainly none surpass, the military drill as a stimulus and a fortifying practice. Apart from the physical development, without the overtaking of the bodily strength there is another result that is of paramount importance. We refer to the habit of obedience, or rather of practical discipline, that is acquired, and acquired not by force, but rather in a most enjoyable manner. This is certainly an acquirement that will eventually stand the youth in good stead when, in after years, he enters upon the great battle of life. The manners and habits thus formed will have their effects very marked in every sphere of life. There is a moral as well as a physical training going on during these exercises, and, without feeling it a burden, or an imposed obligation, the boy discovers, later on, that while he was enjoying a most delightful form of recreation, he actually was being prepared for the mighty struggle that falls to the lot of each individual in this world.

Then that spirit of pride in military achievement, which is a reflection of the glory that befalls so many noble souls on to the field of actual battle, takes possession of almost every boy in the world. He is proud to be a member of the Cadets. Thus does he have ample opportunity of indulging his predilection and, at the same time, of acquiring that which can only benefit him, in every sense, hereafter.

We trust that the entertainment will be an unequalled success, and we do not hesitate to request of those of our readers, who are in a position to do so, to lend a helping hand in such a worthy cause.

Glances Through the Daily Press.

(By a Regular Contributor.)

The one who is obliged to glance over a score or more of newspapers each day has not the necessary time to carefully examine every little detail of their make up; he is obliged to content himself with the headings of articles in some papers with a hurried look at the principal items in others, and with a careful reading of only such subjects as are of paramount importance. He soon begins to understand his "exchanges," and, with practice, he gains time. For example, he comes to know the papers that are of no use to him, no matter how important they may be to others, and he frequently leaves them aside; then he sorts, in a few moments, the others, turning to the pages that he knows contain the matter that is of utility in his work and avoiding all the rest. It is thus that he finally reaches a point, in the practice of exchange reading, at which he can save a couple of hours of precious time.

However, there are days when he has a little more leisure, and when he can take a small amount of what we might call recreation, in reading more attentively some of the strange and striking items that are constantly cropping up in the daily press. If, on such occasions, he were to take his sissors in hand, and clip out some of the more unique articles, or paragraphs, he could easily present his readers with a crazy-patchwork of amusing, and possibly instructive items. This is exactly what we purpose doing, in a limited manner, this week. At hap-hazard we select a few brief articles from the exchanges of the week, and weave them together, adding a comment here and there, whenever it seems to us appropriate to do so.

AN UNFINISHED YARN.—"He was a red-faced, middle-aged Irishman, who had taken just enough to make him officious. He kept a wary eye on the conductor, and a sympathetic one on the unsteady entering passenger; to each "step lively," he would rejoin, "shiddy, shiddy, give them toime, give them toime." Opposite the Irishman sat a young man of the most pronounced Hebrew type. He watched Pat with a humorous twinkle in his black eyes.

"A good-natured negro got in, and took the seat next to the Irishman. Pat threw one haughty look at the black man; then, rising with great dignity, he said in tones of unutterable scorn—"a nager!" and sat down next to the young Hebrew. Quick as a flash his new neighbor, with an exact imitation of Pat's tone and manner, said—"an Irishman!" and took the vacant seat next to the negro. A titter went round the car, and one Irishman looked foolish."

This may seem a very funny story to some people, especially to the person who concocted it; but it is clearly an incomplete anecdote. The writer has omitted to tell us what became of the Hebrew after he had raised the laugh against the Irishman. That, we think, would be the most amusing part of the whole story.

NO DRINK BETWEEN MEALS.—It seems that Lord Roberts, like Mickey Free, "grown tired of glory at last," has turned temperance reformer and has accepted the presidency of an association, whose pledge not to drink between meals is receiving many thousand signatures. This species of temperance propaganda has the merit of novelty. It might as well advocate a pledge not to eat between drinks, which would naturally come to the same thing. Dr. Robert Hutcheson, one of the promoters of this association, claims that:—

"Alcohol in some instances is a good thing as a beverage. Taken in small quantities and properly diluted with water and with meals, it often assists digestion. The tendency of alcohol on an empty stomach is to produce gastric catarrh and congestion, but when the stomach is full of food alcohol in its stimulating action tends to quicken the beneficent churning process. He would never advise people to drink alcohol to help them in their work. It is a

popular fallacy to think that alcohol supplies mental energy. From one to one and a half ounces of pure alcohol should suffice daily. This is represented by one glass of spirits, two glasses of porter and one tumbler of claret or one pint of ale."

We have known men who have started on less than one and a half ounces of alcohol, and who wound up drunkards. We have very little faith in this system. Experience teaches that whenever there is the slightest alcoholic tendency in the constitution, the taking of strong drink while eating will inevitably lead to breaches of the rule, or pledge. We say "no alcohol, either between or at meals."

THE INCOME TAX.—Dr. W. J. Cass, in a correspondence says:—

"Mr. P. Cullman in the 'Battle Ground of Modern Thought,' a department in an American journal, raises a number of objections against the graduated form of income tax. In the first place he states that it would engender laziness and incompetency, because under it the man who would produce much wealth in order to increase his income would certainly be looked upon by his fellow-men as mentally unbalanced, because any same man would limit his production under such unfavorable conditions."

We have never been in a position to dread the increase of our income, consequently we may not be competent to judge in this matter. Our income has always been such that the country would not either miss or gain by the tax that might be imposed thereon. But if we saw a way of honestly increasing our income to an independence, we would gladly accept the condition of a corresponding tax. The man who would grow lazy, or cease to work, merely because he feared to accumulate too much, or to have too high an income, would be fit to go down the avenue of fame in the society of Carnegie, who is bent on dying poor. Just imagine a man refusing the gift of a valuable city property, simply because he would have to pay taxes on it.

NECESSITY OF POVERTY.—In the "Record-Herald's" "Battle Ground," we find the following from the pen of Mr. W. A. Croft:—

"If no man were poor—that is, if every head of a family were sure of having \$1,000 in his pocket at all times—no man would ever be able to buy another cup of coffee for 10 cents or another newspaper for 5 cents, or a banana for 3. If it were not for the absolute necessity of toil, electric roads would be so scarce that street car rides would cost \$1 each and shoemakers would be so few that shoes would cost \$25 a pair. In a very definite sense scarcity is the mother of plenty and want the mother of wages."

Here is an economist of no humble pretensions. Mr. Croft must have ransacked John Stuart Mill, Ricardo, Smith and all the other famed authorities to discover this wonderful "Truth of M. LaPalisse." He might have gone a step further and told us that were all the wealth of the world to be equally divided amongst the living members of the human family, in less than one hour there would be some richer than others. No two individuals would make the same use of the money in their hands. The one would hoard, the other would spend; and, in a brief time, the latter would have to work for the former.

A SCHOOL STRIKE.—"An extraordinary strike is reported from Creziers, near Poitiers, France, the school children of the elementary school having refused to attend their classes unless their head master, M. Cail, was dismissed from his position. The children allege that they have been harshly treated by the master. They are supported by their parents, who have petitioned the government to send down an official to inquire into the affair. This the government has agreed to."

This is not exactly a strike: the pupils do not abandon their school work, for higher remuneration. It is, more properly speaking, a protest against oppression. Nor is it an extraordinary event. We have seen, in some of the leading institutions of our own country, examples of like rebellion on the part of pupils. In the United States some of the principal universities have had, at different times, very pronounced protests, of a similar kind, from the students. If we are not mistaken the annals of McGill would reveal similar so-called "strikes." We do not say that these evidences of discontent are justified in all cases, that is another question. But there is nothing wonderful in the story told of the French school in

question. Mountains are made out of mole-hills so often!

A DELIGHTFUL JUMBLE.—We take special pleasure in following the correspondence, on European affairs, of certain writers whose columns of weekly news are to be found in the large American dailies. The New York "Herald's" Paris correspondent, "J. Cornely," has the happy faculty of sifting the political news of the day, of giving a color after his own mind, to that which he retains as the wheat, and of presenting the American public with pictures that may be viewed from a dozen different standpoints and in as many different lights. His latest, however, is a pretty successful attempt to show the contradictions between the Combes policy and the Combes practice—especially when there is question of having a departmental budget voted. We will take the principal passages from that correspondent's last letter—for were we to give it in full it would be too confusing. If ever evidence were wanted of the bad faith of Premier Combes, and of the horrid jumble that he is making, we have it in this account. We quote:—

"On Monday the Chamber discussed the budget of public worship. A Radical member demanded its suppression and the Premier, whom the subject especially concerns, because he is Minister of Public Worship as well as of the Interior, found it necessary to take part in the debate. He made a speech which quite paralyzed the majority. In order to defend the appropriations for public worship he maintained the necessity of religion as an indispensable bulwark of morality. He declared himself a spiritual philosopher. In short, he plunged into dismay his majority, which is composed of men who have been fighting in Parliament for twenty years for the principle of laicization and the idea that everything ought to be non-sectarian in a non-sectarian State, and that the latter ought to ignore all forms of worship and all religions."

Without following the correspondent through all the explanations that he gives of this extraordinary conduct of Combes, or through the comparisons instituted between the present Premier and Waldeck-Rousseau, we will take the following additional paragraph:—

"M. Combes also wanted to give himself the luxury of some general ideas. His attempt succeeded very poorly, for as much as he may please the Chamber when he dissolves religious congregations without giving explanations by just so much he displeased them by wishing to explain to them the higher motives of his conduct and to show how one may deny the usefulness of the Assumptionists without denying the utility of the idea of God. M. Combes was wrong to depart from his programme and seek to rise from the earthly domain of action to the heights of pure thought. He succeeded in saving the budget of public worship, which was voted, but lost his authority in the squabble and before long will lose his portfolio."

Now, the whole situation might be summed up in a few brief sentences. No need of columns of speculation and deductions to grasp the exact state of the case.

Premier Combes is a renegade to Catholicity.

As such he hates the mother that nurtured him.

As an avowed enemy of the Church he has imposed on himself the futile obligation of destroying her institutions.

He has expelled the religious orders, in the name of the state, from the country.

So far, so good!

But Mr. Combes is Minister of Public Worship, as well as Premier. As such he must have his departmental budget voted.

To secure the passing of his estimates he must show the necessity of public worship and for the expenditure required to support it.

To carry his budget he must advocate the very opposite of that which he advanced as ground work for the suppression of religious orders. Therefore, Mr. Combes, the anti-religious fanatic, demands the abolition of religion; and Mr. Combes, the Minister of Public Worship, demands a vote of money to support religion.

We are under the impression that France is the only country on earth that would tolerate such absurdities—and, yet, France is Catholic.

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Makes delicious coffee in a moment. No trouble, no waste. In small and large bottles. Free of quinine.
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LOCAL NOTES.

ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN held their annual election last Sunday, and after a campaign, perhaps on interesting and as handsomely conducted as any since the foundation of the