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Notes and Comments Of Irish Events.

Directory United Irish League. Dublin, Jan. 10, 1908.

LEAGUE ROOMS INVADED.—At a meeting of the North Leitrim Executive, held on New Year's Day in Manorhamilton, an unusual scene took place. Mr. Denis Johnson, organizer, who has already served five months, three of them with hard labor, under the Crimes Act, was arrested under a warrant charging him with alleged intimidation at Knockroghery, Co. Roscommon, in conjunction with Mr. John Roche, M.P., and others who are undergoing a month's imprisonment for the same offence. When the meeting was about half through, at 4.30 o'clock, and while Mr. Johnson was addressing the delegates, Head Constable M'Mahon and a sergeant came into the room. Mr. Johnson at once ordered them out, stating they had no business there. Mr. Johnson walked towards the policeman, with the intention of enforcing this order, when Head Constable M'Mahon said:—"I have a warrant for your arrest." Mr. Johnson—"On what charge?" Head Constable M'Mahon—"On a charge of intimidation at Knockroghery meeting." Mr. Johnson—"Are you aware that the summons has been withdrawn by the Crown Solicitor?" Head Constable M'Mahon said he knew nothing about that. His instructions were to execute the warrant. There was then a scene of wild excitement, and but for Mr. Johnson's influence the police would have been badly treated. Mr. Johnson asked to be brought before a magistrate, and on the Head Constable consenting, Mr. Johnson went outside with the policeman. Here there was a car of policemen armed with rifles. They took Mr. Johnson in charge, drove him a roundabout way avoiding the town of Manorhamilton, a distance of nine miles, to Iromahair, where he was detained for the night. The incident provoked the most intense indignation amongst the people, especially as Mr. Johnson was in his own home in Dromahair on Wednesday night, and had been in Manorhamilton several hours previous to that of the meeting.

LAND WAR IN THE WEST, P. 12.—The evictions on the Murphy estate were resumed on Saturday, when three more tenants and their families were dispossessed. The tenants evicted were John M'Cormack (Kiltybranks) Thomas Corrigan (Kiltomaine), and James Corrigan (Creery). The holdings of the parties concerned varied in extent from seven to twenty acres, a large portion of each holding being at present under water, and the land being of very poor quality. This, the second day's proceedings, like those on the previous day, passed off practically without any incident of note occurring beyond the fact that some twenty or more persons were thrown upon the roadside to experience the rigors of a raw January morning in the West of Ireland before being rescued—temporarily at least—by their neighbors. The evictions were at work at an unusually early hour, the party being some ten or twelve miles out of country from Castlerea, by nine o'clock in the morning. The Sub-Sheriff, Mr. Burrows Shiel, carried out the evictions, assisted by a force of police under the command of the County Inspector, Mr. Pearsons. In this connection there were two facts worthy of note. In the first instance the force of police who looked after the interests of the evictors was much smaller than that which was put on the preceding day. In the next place the agent, Mr. Quinn, was not present, having gone away the evening before, leaving behind a member of his staff to represent him. The evictions were witnessed by a number of parties on the Murphy estate, and there were also some visitors from the adjoining Dillon estate, where, as is well known, a widely different state of affairs prevails. The crowd made no demonstration beyond groaning the evicting party. Messrs. John Fitzgibbon, of Castlerea, and Patrick Webb, of Loughlyn, were again present and watched the evictions from start to finish in the interest of the tenants. Mr. J. Crean, M.P., and Mr. Denis Johnson were also on the scene during the day. The first tenant to be put out was

John M'Cormack, who had a holding in Kiltybranks, and who owed two years' rent. Profiting by his knowledge of impending events, M'Cormack, who by the way is a District Councillor and represents the district of Artagh (North) in the County Council, had taken the precaution to remove his furniture in advance. When the evicting party arrived they had practically nothing to do but take over formal possession. In this case the tenant was proceeded against under a writ of summons specially endorsed, so far back as 12th November, 1901, at which date he owed two years' rent. Last March he was further proceeded against by civil bill process. On the 6th of October next following his holding was put up for sale, under writ of "fa. fa." in Roscommon, when it was knocked down to the Sheriff for the sum of £10. The final incident in this more or less complicated chain of legal procedure was witnessed today, when the tenant and his wife and family (the latter numbering five) were dispossessed in due form, two years' rent being claimed, and no move being made on the part of the tenant to seek a settlement. The next holding visited was that of Thos. Corrigan, at Kiltomaine. Corrigan held a small dwelling-house and seven acres, by courtesy designated a farm, but in reality a mass of swampy land, for the possession of which he was charged £6 per annum. This tenant, who was also sued for two years' rent due, expressed considerable indignation at being proceeded against and dispossessed, with his family. Addressing the crowd, he asked them to look around and see the class of land upon which he had lived and brought up a family. An impartial observer, following the drift of the man's remarks, and gazing around, could not but agree with him that his case was a particularly hard one. All the same, the decree was enforced and Corrigan was put out. Just as the last articles of his household effects were thrown out by the bailiffs Corrigan made an attempt to approach the house, from which he had been standing some distance away during the earlier stages of his eviction. This he was prevented from doing by a couple of the police cordon which was drawn around the premises to prevent the further approach of any but the evicting party. A minute or two later his wife tried to enter the house, but a constable on duty at the entrance barred any such intention on her part, and after a slight show of resistance she was compelled to desist. A long journey across the country brought the evictors to the scene of the third, and final, eviction for the day. This was the holding of James Corrigan, at Creery. The holding is slightly over twenty acres, and is in quality on a par with all the other holdings on the estate. The greater part of it is at present under water, and the tenant estates that such is the case regularly, not alone in winter, but also during other portions of the year. The annual rent on this holding is £7 10s, and, in reply to a query put to him as to how he managed to pay a rent for a place which appeared to be of little or no use all the year round, he said he had hitherto managed to live by going to England year by year and working there as a harvestman. On his holding eight persons lived—himself, his wife, and six children. In this case the effects had been removed from the house in anticipation of the visit of the Sheriff's party, and nothing remained for them to do but to take over formal possession. HOUSES FOR THE EVICTED.—About twelve o'clock on Monday a crowd of several thousand people assembled at Killobrack to build a house for John M'Cormack, Co. C., one of the victims of the land war. The house is built directly beside the old homestead, now occupied by police, and is of a substantial kind. The Murphy tenantry, all of whom were present on Monday, are determined to continue the struggle until victory is theirs. The band of Derryvocarta U. L. L. with beautiful banner, discoursed lively airs during the proceedings, which lasted from twelve o'clock till five, when the house was completed. Mr. Denis Johnson was present in charge of the building, and with him were Messrs. Webb, Casey, and John Fitzgibbon. DEATH OF A PATRIOT, Clonmel, Jan. 23.—A widespread regret is

felt at the death of Mr. James Sullivan, who passed away at his residence, Lisronagh, Clonmel, at 11 o'clock last night after a lengthened illness, patiently and resignedly borne. The deceased, who was aged 64, was identified with every National movement for the past forty years, and took a leading part in the '67 rising. He was an energetic member of the Land League, the National Federation, and the United Irish League, and was a representative of the local branch of the latter on the East Tipperary Executive. He suffered four months' imprisonment in Clonmel Jail under the Balfour regime.

MAYO'S RALLY.—All Mayor poured into Claremorris on 6th Jan., and the result was a meeting of vast proportions and unbounded enthusiasm. Within the present generation such a meeting has not been seen in Mayo—that place par excellence of big meetings.

The people came on foot from districts many miles apart, and the attendance was supplemented by parties who came by train from places so distant as Castlebar, Westport and Ballina. The contingents which marched in were from Kiltinagh, Ballinrobe, Ballyhaunis, Kilkelly, Swinford, Charlestown, Balla, Aughnamore, Roheen, Roundfort, Foxford, Ballyvary, and Manulla. Some of the districts had their bands and banners, and at the commencement of the meeting the whole space in the centre of the town, at the point where the chief thoroughfares intersect, was densely packed. It was an assemblage which to one who knew the West in the early days of the Land League agitation seemed remarkable for the large proportion of young men—and indeed of young women—who clustered round the platform. The suggestion seemed to be that, given a fair chance, the denudation difficulty by process of depopulation could be speedily arrested. Then it was the fathers of the villages who trudged in to hear and understand, and afterwards expound the tidings from the platform. The staple of this big meeting was formed of material more expectant, more alert, and there can be no question about this, more intelligently critical.

Yet, let this be made a bit plain: Mr. O'Brien's speech was a calculated deliverance. It was followed with the greatest attention. Relatively, the meeting was a silent one. Mr. O'Brien appeared to note his points, but there were few "voices." The tone of the meeting was wholeheartedly and thankfully in sympathy with the message of good prospects which the member for Cork City had naturally enough elected to deliver to a Mayo audience, since the congested districts problem had, in his opinion, served so largely to concentrate attention upon the urgency of the land question as a whole.

Mr. O'Brien had personally a magnificent reception. Fresh from his necessarily arduous labors on behalf of the agricultural interests of Ireland, and more especially of Connaught, the warmth of the welcome he received must have convinced him, if he needed convincing, that this was a people, in point of intellect and resoluteness, worth fighting for. It was, as has been said, a great and relatively silent gathering. There was nothing flamboyant in any of the speeches, which were businesslike, and concentrated on the question of all-absorbing interest.

The Ven. Archdeacon Kilkenny, P. D.D., presided at the meeting. The following districts were represented:—Kiltinagh, Kilkelly and Glann, Castlebar, Roheen, Barnacarrow, Cloonfad, Ballindine, Irish-town, Bekan, East Mayo Executive, South Mayo Executive, Caherlistrane, County Galway, Charlestown and Bushfield, Swinford, Foxford, Ballinasloe, Ballyhaunis, Kilmommon, Logboe, Tangheen, Crossboyne, Knock.

SOME MEETINGS, Cork, 5th January.—A large and enthusiastic public meeting, organized for the purpose of strengthening and extending the work of the United Irish League in the parish, was held on Sunday at Kildorrery. The meeting was addressed from the local dispensary, and the proceedings gave evidence of the sturdy spirit of Nationality which has characterized the district since the inception of the movement there.

On New Year's Day, shortly after last Mass, a most successful public meeting was held at Drumiskin for the purpose of establishing a branch of the United Irish League.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Nationalists of the parish of Derrygonnelly was held Jan. 3, for the purpose of re-organizing the local branch of the United Irish League. The Rev. P. Hackett, C.C., presided. Mr. P. O'Brien, M.P., assisted by Messrs. T. Harrington, member of the National Directory, North Kil-

kenny, Michael Meagher, president of the North Kilkenny Executive, and E. T. Keane ("Kilkenny People.") member of the National Directory, Kilkenny city, addressed a series of meetings in North Kilkenny on 4th January.

At a meeting at Crosspatrick Rev. Father Lowry presided. He dwelt forcibly on the necessity for organization, and said he was proud to confess that nowhere in Ireland was there a more patriotic spirit shown than in that district of Crosspatrick. He appealed to every man in the parish to join the United Irish League.

On Sunday, a splendid demonstration, under the auspices of the local branch of the League, was held at Couraganeen, about four miles from Templemore. Before the meeting took place, a force of 50 policemen, under District Inspector Preston, Roscrea, arrived, and posted themselves adjacent to where the meeting was announced to be held.

EMIGRATION.—The emigration statistics for 1902 are now available, and are even more serious than the figures for the previous year. In 1901 the total number of emigrants from Ireland was 39,210, whereas last year they numbered 42,252, of whom 37,885 went to the United States, 1,498 to British North America, 1,190 to Australasia, 1,444 to South Africa, and 235 to other places. No other country in the world presents the sad spectacle of losing such a percentage of her strongest sons and daughters year after year.

The Blue Book containing the census and other statistics states the number of emigrants from the county or city of Cork during the ten years ending 31st March, 1901, amounted to 77,072 (36,772 males and 40,302 females); the number for the decade ending 31st March, 1891, was 83,533 for that ending 31st March, 1881, 74,209, for that ending with March, 1871, 118,669, and for that ending with March, 1861, 148,009, making a total of 501,492 for the 50 years. When over half a million people had to emigrate from one county in Ireland in 50 years it would indicate that the system of Government which necessitated such emigration was defective. And of those who remained behind in the county and city of Cork 13,565, or one in every 30 of the population, was either in a workhouse or obtaining outdoor relief.

The total population of the county and city of Cork in 1881 was 495,607, in 1891 the number was reduced to 438,432, while in 1901 a further reduction to 404,611 took place. During the past 50 years 501,492 persons emigrated—in other words, the number of persons who left the county and city of Cork was considerably more than the entire present population!

The number of persons in the city of Cork in 1901 speaking Irish as well as English was 7,735. In the same year in the county of Cork the number speaking Irish and English 104,649. Ten years previously the figures were 117,447.

NOTES.—Colonel Saunderson has resigned the Grand Mastership of the Belfast Orangemen. As a result of the recent proceedings instituted by the Local Government Board for Ireland against the Middleton Board of Guardians for allowing their boardroom to be used for the United Irish League East Cork Executive meetings, Chancery injunctions were on Tuesday and Wednesday week served on several members of the Board, restraining them perpetually from granting in future the boardroom for such meetings, and also on the board generally, including their servants and agents.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL.

Bishop O'Connell, of Portland, Me., mindful of the faithful labors of his beloved predecessor, the Right Rev. James A. Healey, D.D., has sent a circular letter to the pastors of the diocese setting forth the fitness of erecting suitable memorial to the lamented prelate whose episcopate as Bishop of Portland covered a period of a quarter of a century.

A MARK OF RESPECT.

On the occasion of the funeral of the late Rev. Edward Hannin, for forty years pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Toledo, Ohio, it is stated that the public schools were ordered to close for the first time on the occasion of a funeral in Toledo; Mayor Jones issued a proclamation requesting the stores to close during the time of the obsequies.

SCIENCE NOTES.

ALCOHOL AND CANCER.—In a recent lecture on cancer before the medical society of the District of Columbia the dean of the medical department of Harvard University at Washington, Dr. Robert Reyburn, had the following to say regarding its cause: The first, and probably the most powerful predisposing cause of cancer, is senility, or old age of the tissues and organs of the body. An apparently formidable objection will at once be made to the above statement by citing the well known fact that cancer is found in young persons. While this is perfectly true, yet it should be remembered that senility is only a comparative term. Many persons are practically as old in their tissues at twenty or thirty years of age as others are at sixty. The real test of old age is not the number of years the person has lived, but the condition of the various body tissues. When we see the atherosclerosis in the eye of a patient, or note that his arteries are hard and wiry, and see as well the other signs of tissue decay, we at once know that the person's body is an old body, no matter what his or her age may be. This same degeneration of the tissues is often inherited, and this is probably the reason why the offspring of syphilitics, consumptives and drunkards often suffer from cancer at an early age. The two chief causes of cancer Dr. Reyburn stated to be the habitual use of the various forms of alcohol as an article of diet, and the consumption of too much meat and nitrogenized food. He sums up his conclusions as follows:

First—Cancer is a disease of senility or decay of the tissues, or at least occurs at the time when the retrograde metamorphosis of the tissues is taking place. Second—Cancer is comparatively rare in hot climates, and especially where the diet of the inhabitants is composed chiefly of rice and other starchy foods. Third—Cancer at the present time is very prevalent where animal food is largely consumed; the number of cases of cancer has been found to increase in proportion to the increase in the consumption of nitrogenous or animal foods. Fourth—The theory of Gaylord that cancer is caused by a protozoan (a germ) seems to be disproved by later investigations, and the probability is that cancer is simply an epithelium, which has taken on an abnormal growth and development. A writer in the "Medical Magazine" for June gives statistics gathered in connection with the Scottish widows' fund, indicating a great increase of cancer in England. In the period from 1881 to 1890 the mortality from the disease was nearly twice as great as during the decade from 1861 to 1870.

BLOOD POISONING.—Under the caption "Have We a Cure for Blood Poisoning?" the New York "Herald" says:—

The remarkable recovery of the female colored patient of Bellevue Hospital from blood poisoning as the result of an intravenous injection of formalin will doubtless be hailed with great satisfaction by the medical fraternity. So far as one case may prove a point there appears to be no doubt regarding the direct relations of cause and effect. The alleged remedy needs now only to be tried and proved in other and similar conditions of disease to give it a leading place in the treatment of one of the most intractable of human ailments.

Puerperal fever in its more serious forms is almost invariably fatal. From such a point of view the result in question appears little short of a miracle. A most promising feature in the outlook is the simplicity of the measures adopted. Furthermore, the theory—not a new one in itself—is founded on the rational and intelligible basis of directly attacking the primary cause of trouble. Heretofore all efforts to apply it to practice have failed.

Although blood poisoning is a complex process, having many phases of manifestation, according to the character and degree of infection, it is initiatively due to the entrance of certain poisonous bacteria into the circulation. How to kill these micro-organisms without harming the patient has always been a problem. Hence the present departure from the usual course of treatment is as radical as it seems promising.

So far as a single trial goes there appears to be no doubt that the bacteria were actually destroyed by the antiseptic, as proved by bacteriological examinations before and after injection. The patient was evidently dying from septic intoxication due to toxins secreted by the disease germs. This form of chemical poisoning was

neutralized evidently by the formalin at the same time that the producing agents were destroyed, such a theory is reasonable enough under the circumstances. The only thing that now remains is to prove its application to a sufficient number of other cases.

While hoping for the best, however, it is quite probable that the new remedy will be limited in its usefulness to those less advanced cases of blood poisoning in which multiple abscesses have not appeared and in which the system is not so broken organically as to make recovery an impossibility with any form of germicide.

In any event, Dr. Barrows has done a signal service to his profession and to humanity by advocating the new procedure and in adding such a practical indorsement of its tenability. If his methods are duly accepted after further experience it is not at all unlikely that the principles of treatment of the various toxic diseases may be much modified and improved and their applications extended over broader lines and with more hopeful issues.

So far the purely serum treatment has done little or nothing in helping to cure puerperal cases, and if a simple chemical substance, readily procured and easily administered, can effect the object much time and trouble can be spared in making the numerous useless antitoxins that flood the laboratory market.

Missions to Mormons.

Divine services were held Sunday, October 12, in the hotel at McCammon, a great crowd being present. The same day evening services were held fifty miles from McCammon, in American Falls. The school-house was crowded to the doors. Very interesting questions, especially on Mormonism, were answered.

On Sunday, October 26, the opera house of Montpelier was filled by a large, appreciative audience. For two hours the missionary addressed the crowd, and then answered a number of questions. One prominent gentleman, a non-Catholic, is now learning the catechism. His example will be followed by others.

Among many other questions the following were answered: "You as a Catholic priest preach that whisky is our greatest enemy; you also preach that we should love our enemies. How is this?" Answer: Yes, I preach that whisky is our greatest enemy and also that we should love our enemies; but I never preach that you should swallow them. The man that asked this question came up and shook hands with the priest.

"Is it allowed for a priest to draw blood by chopping off the head of a chicken?" Yes, it is allowed, and only forbidden in one case; when the chicken belongs to somebody else.

"Is it not true that the true gospel of Joseph Smith was dug from the ground at the command of the Angel Horoni?" The true gospel was never dug out of the ground, as potatoes and turnips, but came from above. The name of Horoni as an angel is a fabrication, unknown in Scripture.

St. Paul says: "In the last times some shall depart from the faith (I. Time. iv. 1). Does this not prove the truth of Mormonism as the Latter Day Saints?" Not at all. It proves the contrary—that the true faith of St. Paul was going to exist in the latter days, otherwise some could not be said (Mormons and others) to depart from it.

"How old is the Devil?" I never kept the family record of that fellow. "Our Lord said that all that goes into the mouth, goes into the stomach. How can Catholics commit sin by eating meat on Fridays, as the meat goes into the stomach, not into the soul?" The sin does not consist in the meat itself, but in the act of disobedience to the laws of the Church. Adam's apple went also into his stomach.

The lecture on Immortality, and how to make it a blessed one, was well appreciated, and much good is expected from it.

On November 12 we went to Shoshone, Lincoln Co., where the church was packed to the doors. From there we lectured in Hagerman, thirty miles from Shoshone, the Baptist minister being present in the audience. He manifested a great interest in the proceedings.

In Bench, Gentle Valley, we addressed a large crowd of Mormons on November 18. The result was three more converts, among whom was a man eighty-three years old. The prospect for the conversion of these deluded Mormons is very favorable, and next year will prove to be, with God's grace and mercy, one of the best.—W. J. Hendricks, of the Missionary Union.