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AND SOUTHERN DEMOCRAT

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BEHIND THE SPOTLIGHT

with PENSMAN

DAIL NA MUMHAN

I am indebted to Liam Ua O'Liadhna, Secretary of the County Executive Committee of Connaught Gaelle for the synopsis of the lectures given at the meetings of the Gaelic Society at Coláiste na Ríne last month. I intend to record these in this and subsequent columns.

The gathering was attended by priests, nuns, doctors, lawyers, professors and teachers acting as delegates from all parts of Ireland, and their deliberations were concerned with the examination of the progress made in the revival of the Irish language and Irish culture, and the future steps to be taken to save Ireland from the present modern evils attempting now to destroy our Motherland and rob her of everything most dear to us as a race and a nation.

An Athair Athanas OFM President of An Dall, appealed for more vision in the discussions conducted at An Dall. He said that 100,000 people in Ireland speak Irish and from this solid foundation future progress should be built.

Mr. J. G. McGowan, Principal, Coláiste na Ríne spoke on the early work done by the muintir na hOileáine in their own time. He also related the early history of Coláiste na Ríne and showed how the language of early Irish lessons and print.

In this regard special interest was displayed in the works of Philip Barron, a Waterford man who devoted his life to the cause of the Irish language. He established one of the first Irish Colleges, was incessantly attacked by the enemies of the language, was driven out of Ireland and as a result many of Ireland's faithful sons and daughters who laboured to save her rests in an unknown grave.

Places of local interest including St. Declan's well, were visited and there on "Pattern" Day the delegates recited the Rosary in Irish and listened to a lecture on the connections between the Faith and the language.

This article will be continued next week.

SVEN JOFFS AND THE ATEA

Great interest centred at Dungarvan's quayside on Tuesday evening 17th August when a small, neat white yacht (she could not have been more than six tons) bearing the name "Atena" was launched.

On her stern was written "Atena, New York" — her name and port of registration.

Atena is the 33-year-old sailor who has just attained his lifetime ambition of crossing the cruel-headed Atlantic Ocean. This he did on his 18-year-old 35-foot cutter. His first landfall six weeks after leaving New York was Cobb when he rested for sometime after his terrible ordeal and where he was joined by his 67-year-old father, Raff Joffs who came from Finland to join his adventurous son.

The small craft made her way along the southern Irish coast and put in at Helvic Pier on Tuesday morning. Later in the evening the Atea with Joffs Senior and Junior, aboard and accompanied by Mrs. E. Mulcahy, a well known Dungarvan yachtswoman and Mr. William Carey sailed up to Dungarvan.

Here young Joffs was fulfilling a promise made to his friend Mr. Gerry Hone, a now resident in New York and who at an earlier stage of the planning had decided to accompany Joffs on the trip (for personal reasons he had to later withdraw) to visit his mother and step-father Mr. and Mrs. William Carey Murphy Place, Abbeyside.

Mrs. Carey had previously gone to Cobb with her step-son, Mr. Joffs, but never intended to go to Dungarvan.

On Tuesday night both were entertained at the Carey household.

When he stepped ashore from his craft at Dungarvan, He told me that he had been favoured with fine weather and fair winds for the greater portion of his long sea voyage. For days he said that he had been on the same tack and the toughest problem was the lack of sleep. He had to remain awake and alert for long stretches and averaged only three hours sleep each day during the course of his journey. He ran into bad weather when about 300 miles off the Irish coast, but his courage and his craft coupled with his seamanship saw him through.

While in Dungarvan he took stores and water aboard sufficient to take him the rest of the long journey to Helsinki in Finland his final objective. Early on the morning of Wednesday, 18th August the two Joffs sailed out the harbour in fair weather—their route via Land's End to the French coast, through the Kiel Canal and into the Baltic and thence to Helsinki.

I wished them bon voyage. A well-known Ring fisherman who has a lifetime of sailing experience behind him summed up Joffs's achievement laconically by saying "he's a brave man, I am sure we must all agree with that."

LOCAL AFFAIRS

During the past few weeks Waterford's parent administrative body, the County Council, has been hitting the headlines as the cause of the trouble—due to its expenditure on the effort to curtail expenditure as much as possible. A solution has not so far been found and the members will have another go at a later date. The clash is caused by two extreme schools of thought within the Council—one section which believes that the ratepayers are just there to provide money for any feasible scheme which any section conservative in outlook, which wants to curtail expenditure to the minimum.

No one wants to be unreasonable. I know that the ratepayers are not small rich and poor (they all comprise this unfortunate section) but the local expenditure has gone completely out of bounds. The ratepayers are being asked to pay for a scheme of accommodation caused gasps of consternation when it was read. I believe that the people are being pushed too far—there are too many monstrous schemes, all swallowing up money. There must be a slow down or else there will be a blow-up. Let first things come first and gradually everything will be extended to, but if money is to be provided eventually it is clamoured for, then there's bound to be a smash.

The motion at the last meeting not to provide any further expenditure was defeated by the Council and that they could not allow the Council to be hog-tied by such a resolution.

Mr. Dan Leahy keeps a man who has favoured always the rates down as much as possible, voicing his objection to the motion said that if it was passed the Council would have no business in holding any further meetings.

Perhaps he unwittingly the Councilor hit on the solution to the problem. If the Council did not hold so many meetings there would be so many less ward schemes costing money. Quarterly meetings were sufficient one time but now there are meetings held almost every month and they all cost extra money and as I say give the opportunities to spend more.

THE SONG THAT REACHED MY HEART

I sat amidst a mighty throng in a city far beyond the sea in a distant foreign land. I listened to the grandest strain my ear had ever heard. Enraptured charm'd amaz'd I listened my inmost soul was stirred.

That night I shall never forget that night with its pleasure and pain. I think of the singer I think of the song and I wish I could live it again.

In fancy again I recall the scene with its splendour bright. The mighty throng the palace grand Oh, the memory of that night.

My fancy it may have been, but never had I heard a song like this so strangely stirred. The members of that night of bliss will never from me part. She sang a song of "Home Sweet Home" the song that reached my heart.

"Home Home sweet, sweet Home" she sang a song of "Home Sweet Home" the song that reached my heart.

While in Dungarvan he took stores and water aboard sufficient to take him the rest of the long journey to Helsinki in Finland.

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WATERFORD BOARD OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

"Only A Rubber Stamp"

100 Beds Extra Needed in County Hospital

Mr T. Gallagher, Vice-Chairman, presided at the monthly meeting of the Waterford Board of Public Assistance, held in Dungarvan, on Monday, August 16th. Also present were Messrs D. Heskin, F. Roche, Senator Butler, N. Kelly, W. Keenally, T.D. and P. J. Ryan, T.D.

Mr J. Glavin, Acting Secretary, was in attendance.

"Only A Rubber Stamp"

When the Acting Secretary stated that there were no further developments with regard to the question of repairs to the Charity Homes in Waterford City the Chairman referred to a portion of the County Hospital which was presently being used as a fuel store. It would be better, he said, to spend whatever money was to be spent on this and keep all their patients there, than to go spending money in places like the Fanning House.

Deputy Keenally said that the building referred to by the Chairman was incorporated in the general scheme of repairs for the Co. Hospital.

Mr. P. J. Ryan, Superintendent, Assistant Officer, said that if the money was spent on the Fanning House it would be there after it required, but money spent now on the County Hospital would be wasted as it would be knocked down later on.

Mr. Heskin said that while the Fanning House might be there later it might prove a white elephant for them and he felt it would take a lot of money to bring it up to the Department's standard.

Mr. Roche—What about the old Workhouse buildings in Kilmacomas? They are still too bad now, but they'll fall down in a few years.

The Secretary stated that they were leased to Messrs. Fitzhugh's, Kilmacomas, who were at present using them as stores.

Senator Butler said that this was the first he heard of this and added that it was remarkable that such a contract had been entered into without any intimation to the Board.

The Secretary said that nothing final had been arranged. Mr. Roche—The Board is only a rubber stamp.

Mr. Butler—Are they in possession of the building?

Secretary—Yes, under a caretakers agreement.

Mr. Roche—it's better to see it occupied by someone rather than going derelict.

The discussion ended.

Clinic

Mr. Heskin complained that when a Lismore to attend child from Lismore to attend an eye clinic in Dungarvan, they had to go back home again. The mother had been obliged to bring the child to the clinic, he said, and it was a great hardship that they had to go home again without the doctor seeing the child.

The Secretary said that he would inquire into the matter.

WATERFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

AFFANE-TOURIN WATER EXTENSIONS

Discussion On Increased Water Charges

Mr M. Moutissey, Chairman, presided at the afternoon session of the adjourned quarterly meeting of the above held in Dungarvan, on Tuesday 17th August.

Deputations

Arising from a letter from the Department concerning the proposed Sanitary conveniences at Tramore which stated that a combined conveniences for men and women should be erected, and the existing structures demolished, the Council decided to send a deputation to the Minister to discuss the matter with him.

Scavenging At Passage East

A report from the Health Inspector stated that the indiscriminate dumping of refuse on the foreshore at Passage East should be stopped as it constituted a danger to public health. He recommended the erection of three warning notices, but added that since he called on the residents there there had been an improvement in the matter.

The Engineer estimated that the cost of erecting the three notices would be £15.

Water Power—You'd get illuminated addresses for the improvement in the position to defer the matter to the next meeting.

Affane Tourin Water Extensions

A letter from the Department gave details of the visit of the deputation to the Minister on the above. The letter stated that the Minister had agreed to the extensions immediately after the main scheme had been tested. No objection would be raised to going ahead with the extensions forthwith.

The County Manager said that before committing themselves to the scheme they would be prepared to get written agreements from those who would take the water in each area.

It was big underground, he said, and they would want to estimate what their income from it would be.

Mr. Walsh said that they should get an estimate and invite tenders for the work at once. The Manager said that they would have to wait to see if the main scheme was satisfactory.

It would take about 18 months to complete this and as the extensions would not be commenced until it had been tested, tenders which would be out of the question.

Both Mr. Walsh and Mr. Fitzgerald held that the Minister had informed the deputation that tenders could be invited as soon as the Council agreed to the extension.

The Manager said that his interpretation of the Department's letter was that they should wait until the main scheme was completed and then they could do so.

Mr. Walsh, in connection with this, and proposed that the Council advertise for tenders at once.

Mr. Fitzgerald seconded the motion as to the need for a committee to report to the members of the Department's letter, but Mr. Walsh and Mr. Fitzgerald, both stated that they were quite clear on the matter and pressed their resolution.

The Chairman then put Mr. Walsh's motion to the meeting and it was passed unanimously.

Water Supplies

The Engineer reported that two fountains at Knockducks would cost £220.

It was agreed to ask Clonmel Corporation for permission to connect with their main and to extend what their charges would be.

With regard to the Ballinacorney supply the Engineer said that they would have a report by the end of the month for the November session.

The Engineer also told Mr. Fahy, that the erection of a pump at Derrinlaure was on the priority list.

Increased Water Charges

Arising from a letter from Mr. Frank Roche, on behalf of a number of ratepayers and others in the Portlaoine area, protesting strongly against the recent increases in water rents, Mr. Roche said that in the case of the ordinary householder the water rent had been increased by about 50 per cent. The old rent had been 5/- a year, but now they were being charged 7/6 per week. While no one would object to a reasonable increase he said that they had to protest against the extent to which the increase had gone. As a result grave dissatisfaction had been felt by all, and he could not for a moment agree that such a steep increase was justified. He added that it was the poorer section, old age pensioners, and others who would be hardest hit by the increase.

The County Manager stated that a resolution had been passed last March agreeing to a minimum charge of 26/- a year for water.

Mr. Heskin held that ed. a week was not an unreasonable amount to ask anyone to pay for

Reclamation Of Dungarvan's Western Bay

DUTCH ENGINEERS TO BE ASKED FOR COST OF SCHEME

A joint meeting of the Dungarvan Urban District Council and representatives of the County Council was held at the Town Hall, Dungarvan, on last Saturday evening to consider reports from the preliminary report of the Dutch Engineers on the Western Bay Reclamation Project (see last week's issue for Urban Council report).

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Urban District Council, Mr. P. A. Casey, presided.

Members of the Urban District Council present were Messrs J. Keane, T.D., P. Lec, T. McCarthy, and R. Walsh.

Members of the County Council present were Messrs J. Mansfield, M. McGrath, and M. Harty.

Officials in attendance were Messrs J. J. Moyhan, County Manager, J. Sneydy, County Surveyor, J. O'Connell, Chief Assistant Engineer, J. G. Dowling, County Secretary, P. Walsh, Borough Surveyor, G. Lardner, Council's Legal Adviser, J. Curran, Harbour Master, and M. O'Meara, Acting Town Clerk.

Property Of State

Opening the discussion Deputy Keenally said that if the scheme were proved feasible one of the first things that would have to be decided would be whose property the land would become when reclaimed.

Mr. Lardner, Borough Surveyor, stated that the position was that the foreshore was the bed of the sea and every tidal water below high water mark of ordinary tides out to the three mile limit and the State claimed ownership of the foreshore.

The Minister for Industry and Commerce he added, had power to grant leases of the foreshore to anyone, but for not longer than 99 years and in that lease was contained in the Act for the renewal of such leases the right of reversion to the State.

Deputy Keenally said that this cleared the point that the land reclaimed would become private property. He then pointed out the advantages to the town of Dungarvan and the area around it, the scheme which would be carried out and said besides these advantages it was good national work.

A discussion then followed as to the cost of such a scheme and the County Surveyor said that in his opinion it would cost well over £300,000. The County Manager pointed out that an advertisement for a Consulting Engineer should be issued to submit a full report and cost of the scheme and perhaps applications could be made to the Dutch Engineers who he said were industry experts at this work, and these should be considered with the other. Deputy Keenally said that the cost could be financed equally by the Urban and County Councils and possibly the Department.

Mr. O'Connell said that he had been with the Dutch Engineers for a few hours when they visited Dungarvan and they had been optimistic about the scheme.

Harbour Improvements

With reference to the proposed grant of £50 to carry out exploratory work in the harbour in connection with the proposed scheme of improvements in the harbour the County Council members and officials had withdrawn from the meeting to the next Harbour Board meeting that £350 as estimated by the Engineer to do the requisite work to the sewer outfalls and walls at the quay, be expended in order to qualify for the grant.

The County Manager said that the people to give further details and cost of the scheme were the Dutch Engineers who had been here before and he said that the Department should be asked to supply their names and addresses. They could then be written to, to supply the required information.

Deputy Keenally proposed this and the resolution was passed.

It was further agreed that when this information was available that the Minister be approached as to the financing of the scheme.

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Dancing 10 p.m. to 4 a.m.

Admission ——— 6/-

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Tallow and Round About

Edward Lee, popular Philadelphia U.S.A. Commercial Broadcasting Agent, who was recently interviewed "over the air" from Radio Eireann, paid a short visit to Frank Ryan...

Tallow Minor Hurlers—On Sunday September 27th, Tallow minor hurling met in Tipperary in the Western Final at Lisnane...

The Bride's Side Team claim to have some fine minor hurlers. Roger Ryan, Paul Curley and Declan Flynn have mixed it with some of the toughest juniors in the county...

The Horse Fair—Tallow's Great Annual Fair and Party will be held on Friday September 24th. This will be the last fair...

New Vet—We learn that Mr. Tubridy, M.R.C.V.s who visits Tallow on Fridays is a cousin of the late Captain Tubridy of Irish Army Jumping fame...

Shamrocks Win At Conna—Shamrocks, 4-1, St. Catherine's, 5-1. On Sunday last August 22nd, Shamrocks met St. Catherine's in the Conna Medal Tournament...

Harrier Club Dance—The Killwatermy Blazers Harriers are holding a Grand Dance in the Arch Ballroom Tallow on Wednesday night Sept 22nd...

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NEXT WEDNESDAY



Special new printing plants will go into action all over Ireland to bring you really up-to-the-minute news and sports results in your Evening Press. To be sure of your copy, YOU should order it—NOW.



BRENNAN ON THE MOOR

I am pleased to say that I have traced the story of Brennan the Highwayman as requested by a Conna reader. In response to my request for the words of the song two readers responded—Mr Laurence Galvin, Killwatermy, sent me the heavy cavalry type and Mr Collins Coolowen wrote out the complete ballad...

Why man that the place was surrounded by cavalry and infantry. Brennan was captured and his fate would be if captured, they prepared to sell their lives dearly. They were well armed having both muskets and pistols and plenty of powder and shot...

ARMORE GOSSIP

The Sympathy of Our Readers is extended to our highly esteemed and popular friend Lady Coghlan Anson, and the other members of the family on the occasion of the rather serious injuries sustained by her cousin Lady Waterford of Curraghmore, Portlaur and mother-in-law of the Marquis of Waterford...

HORSES AND JOCKEYS

I am going to take a great liberty this week. This story of Horses and Jockeys was to be confined to local men and mounts. I want to tell of an adventure which I had at one of the first meetings I attended at the old Barmley course...

NEWS FROM YOUGHAL

The News That The U.D.C. had passed a resolution at a recent meeting requesting the Government to grant a licence to Republic to start to run an Air Taxi Service...

The farmer pleaded forgiveness but one of the guests rushed up to him and hit him several times in the face. Order was restored after a while and he believed it or believe it not, the wounded man played the melodeon and we all spent a jolly night dancing, singing and feasting. The drink, however, was safely locked away in the bar by a shrewd woman.

From that day forward the Mayor had but one object in life—to hang Willie Brennan. Brennan said will put the rope around his neck. Rewards were doubled and no expense was spared to obtain evidence of Brennan's hiding place. At last a traitor was found who knew of a proposed "hold up" Brennan another man was hiding out in a small quarry or hollow on the Galtees on the Killworth side of Mitchelstown...

At the trial Willie Brennan was called by the prosecution to prove that he had even on a single occasion used a firearm except in self-defence. It is said that an attempt was made to shoot Brennan one morning as he was being brought to the courthouse. This seemingly was done to save Brennan from the ignominy of the scaffold. He was executed in public on a scaffold which could be seen up to a few years ago at the old military barracks at Clonmel. His body is reputed to lie in the family vault at Old Killrumper graveyard near Fermoyle.

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Five Years in Nigeria has been the Missionary and interesting work of a young Irish priest Rev Fr Conlon who has just returned for holidays to Ardmore. A place to where he has ever come since he was a boy. In an interview Fr Conlon related his work in that far off Primitive Colony. His position there is of a two fold nature. He is a priest of course looking after their spiritual needs but as a Clerical Official in Government service he has to deal with the health section. He stated that they 400 of the sufferers have been partially cured. He concluded the interesting interview by stating how glad he was to be back in Ardmore once more, and to renew the acquaintances of his many old friends. We wish Rev Fr Conlon, a very happy holiday.

Admirers of Willie Brennan will be pleased to know that the Mayor of Cashel was not present at the execution, having had to retire to his room suffering from a severe attack of lumbago.

The bounds met at the top of Moorehill and a fox was put out on the sandpits. On through the sandpits across to Kiltail down to Killmore on him to Glenaboy then across to Mount Fair down again to the Grange, back to Mount Prospect, and finally down the road known as the Mill Hill. At a gateway there, the exhausted fox lay down and the dogs were upon him as the few sportsmen who had stood the hard ride, came up. In all this run those in the kil never opened a gate. (To Be Continued)

GIVE YOUR PIGS PORKATINE. CURES WORMS CRAMPS RHEUMATISM. FATTENS PIGS FASTER.