

BIRTHS. MARRIAGES. DEATHS

CONNOR—May 16, 1910, at Bournemouth, the wife of Colonel W. D. Connor, late Royal Engineers, of a son.

WALLIS—May 13, 1910, at 38, Hereford-road, Southport, Lancashire, the wife of Cyril Frank Wallis, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CONWAY and McDONAGH—May 12, 1910, at the Parish Church, Dunmore, by the Rev. Paul McLoughlin, assisted by the Rev. T. Neary, C.C., Dr. T. W. Conway, Castlegarrott, Sligo, and 21, North Frederick-street, Dublin, Alys Bermingham, daughter of Stephen McDonagh, St. Mary's, Dunmore, Galway.

SPENCE and LAW—May 10, 1910, at Ballywilliam Presbyterian Church, Portrush, by Rev. G. W. D. Rea, B.A., assisted by Revs. R. M. Ker and W. G. Davis, Rev. John N. Spence, of Belfast, eldest son of Thomas Spence, Maralin, Lurgan, to Jenny, eldest daughter of Dr. W. K. and Mrs. Law, New Row, Coleraine.

DEATHS.

BOURKE—May 17th, at Dunkitt House, Waterford, John Ulick Bourke, Resident Magistrate of Thornfields, Lisnagry, county Limerick. Aged 65.

DILLON—May 18, 1910, at her residence, The Square, Listowel, Anna Margaret, the beloved wife of John T. Dillon, M.D., and younger daughter of the late Henry Gould De Courcy, Esq., of Doncaba Lodge, Tarbert, county Kerry. Aged 56 years. R.I.P.

O'CALLAGHAN—May 15, 1910, at Queen Alexandra's Hospital, Millbank, Francis Reginald Powell-O'Callaghan, Captain R. E., only son of the late Sir Francis O'Callaghan, K.C.M.G., C.S.I., C.I.E. Aged 29.

STUDDERT—May 16, 1910, at Clonsilla, Thomas Julian, youngest son of Major C. W. Studdert, of Cragmoher, Corofin, county Clare. Aged 40 years. Funeral private.

WREATHS	SPLENDID NEW DESIGNS MADE UP IN CHOICEST CUT FLOWERS PROMPT DESPATCH EDWARD KIDD & CO - ART FLORISTS - 4 GEORGE ST. LIMERICK ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST FREE
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BOUQUETS	
CUT FLOWERS	

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

BREADSTUFFS—Retail patents, 34s 0d per sack ; Bakers' patent, 34s 0d per sack ; Whites, 31s 0d per sack ; Specials, 32s 0d per sack ; Fines, 30s 0d per sack ; Oatmeal, 28s 0d per sack ; Flake Ot. Meal, 12s 9d per cwt ; W. Bran, £7 10s 0d per ton ; Special Bran, £6 5s 0d per ton ; W. Pollard, £6

THE BACON FAMINE.

A correspondent of the *Scotsman* writes:—At no time in the history of agriculture has there been such a crisis as exists at the present moment in connection with pig breeding. All over the world, wherever reliable statistics are available, it is evident that there is a huge shortage in the pig supplies and a constant scarcity of bacon. The conditions which have brought about this crisis are not very plain, and it is only in the United States of America that any good reason is advanced for the scarcity. The population there has increased so rapidly that within the last ten years it has gone up 20 per cent, hence the home demand for pig products has been so much greater as to discourage export. As we have been paying some fourteen million pounds per annum for bacon alone to the United States, it will be seen that a sudden stoppage of such supplies would be bound to dislocate British markets. As a matter of fact, this has happened, and at the present moment there is a wild scramble for bacon at prices hitherto unknown. The shopkeepers' prices are anything from 1s. to 1s. 4d. per lb. for rashers of good quality, and such famine prices make quite a serious difference in the expenses of a household. Bacon is a commodity which is associated with breakfast in the United Kingdom, as is coffee or tea, and any serious diminution in its sources of supply is at once felt in millions of homes. As if it were not bad enough to have a short supply from America, there is also a falling away in the numbers of pigs bred at home, and in Ireland the prices paid for the live pig are the highest on record, but it is questionable if anyone but the farmers is making anything thereby. The bacon curers, while being compelled to give the high prices, only realize high prices in return on the bacon and hams. The subsidiary products do not advance in price in sympathy with the main products. Apparently, therefore, the farmer is the master of the situation.

Unhappily, however, the inclination to breed pigs for bacon curing is dying out. The Board of Agriculture has pretty nearly "inspected" the pig out of agriculture in the vain attempt to extinguish swine fever ; hence the average farmer cannot be persuaded to take the risk of having his stocks condemned, and consequently leaves this profitable branch of agriculture alone. Not so, however, do foreign nations view the situation. It is well known in all pig-breeding countries that there is continued scarcity of bacon in England, and that the total stock of 4,000,000 pigs in the whole country is rapidly diminishing ; hence, keen efforts are being made by new countries to get a footing here. At the present moment bacon factories are being built in China, Russia, France, and Argentine, in order to utilise the resources of these countries for the British market, and we may confidently anticipate that if we want to buy foreign bacon there will be plenty of it presently. In the meantime, it seems deplorable that such a splendid opportunity should be thrown away by British agriculturists. It is true that a Commission has been appointed to inquire into the question of swine breeding, but in the meantime the sources of our supplies are shifting, and we are offering every possible opportunity to others to produce the bacon we will not produce ourselves, and which we must have.

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