

etter expressing the very fullest sympathy and support for the teachers in their demands for increased financial assistance. His Lordship has made a life-long study of the Irish Education question, and few there are, if any, better qualified than he is to pronounce on the merits of Irish education and Ireland's teachers. For this reason the meeting will appreciate the value of his support; and for this reason you will overlook the inexperience of his substitute in this chair to-day. I will at once take you into my confidence. It is the very first occasion in my life that I have been called on to address a public meeting. I am glad that it is on behalf of the men and women whom I always regarded as the most deserving in the country—the National teachers of Ireland. Let us, then, come to the business of the meeting. Irish primary education has been deliberately starved. In April last year Mr Fisher, Minister of Education in England, introduced a supplementary estimate of £3,852,000 for English education, and Scotland received, without even asking, half-a-million, which was the equivalent for her on a basis of population. But Ireland—poor Ireland—had to go and beg her share. The claim submitted by the teachers' representatives was for £800,000—a very moderate one when we consider the present necessities of Irish Education, and the large amount of arrears—over two million one hundred thousand pounds—unjustly held by an unsympathetic Government. If I were allowed to give my personal opinion, I should unhesitatingly say that the teachers claimed too small an amount. But Mr Duke and the National Board of Education, instead of admitting the justice of the claim, inverted themselves into financial jugglers, and granted only a fraction of the sum required, and reduced that miserable abortion of English parsimony christened the "White Paper." You will be surprised to hear that two out of every three Irish teachers have a salary of only 24s a week. I believe the Commissioners of National Education have stated this in reference to the teachers' salaries. Why, the man who keeps our chimneys has four or five times that wage. It is not a "living wage." The cost of living has gone up 100 per cent. The purchasing power of the teachers' salaries is less than one-half of what it was. This 24s a week is worth less than 12s a week before the war. Many of the teachers are married men and women with large families. How can it be possible for them to subsist on this miserable pittance? But you might say this is only a teachers' question. I say that it is more than a teachers' question—it is a people's question; it is a national question of far greater importance than many others for the future of Ireland. If we want national efficiency and national progress we should have the very best teachers that money can command for our schools. If the State should not be willing to do its duty by Irish education, give us back some of the millions it has robbed us of by way of reparation and restitution. Irish children would not have the best teachers, and Ireland would be deprived of one of its greatest national assets—a teaching profession second to none in the wide world. Unless the teachers' position is made attractive the best brains of the country will be lost to that profession, and we shall have left only a very inferior and indifferent body of teachers, unfitted to prepare Irish children for successful competition in the struggle for existence. I will now read for you the teachers' demands. These are the teachers' demands, they are perfectly equitable. The great ship of Irish education is in danger of being shipwrecked. We are here to-day to send out a wireless message, O.S.—save our schools. (Applause).

CANON DUAN.

Rev Canon Duan, who was received with applause, proposed the following resolutions—(1) that we demand equitable financial treatment of Irish education and the immediate setting up of a Committee of Inquiry similar to the Craik Committee in Scotland, to draft a suitable scheme of salaries and promotions for the various grades of teachers in the British Isles.

be more of a power at home and in free America than they were at present. There was some talk of a Court of Appeal, but he would like to see how that Court would be constituted. Take the case of the land agitation. Would the farmers have agreed to an appeal court constituted of three landlords, and one of the three the worst of them. In this fight that the Central Executive were engaged in they looked to the workers and those representative men, present and elsewhere, to back them up in this fight, which was to go on to a finish. They recognised the action over a deputation to Mr Duke, but if they did not get what they asked for then they would commence afresh, after going to Mr Dinneen and those with him, to consult as to what would be the next step. (Applause).

MR M P O'SHAUGHNESSY, J.P.

Mr M P O'Shaughnessy, J.P., next addressed the meeting, and said that in any other country in the world the state of things which had arisen with regard to the teachers would not be allowed to drift into its present condition. The people should take up the matter, accept the responsibility, and he was glad to see that even at the eleventh hour how they were doing so. Public opinion should be focussed on the case of the teachers. He would say that the teachers should not allow their case to be side-tracked, and accept no issue but the one at present before them. The teachers should stand by the Central Executive and allow no bickerings whatever. (Heart, hear). Every member of the County Council would un-animously and whole-heartedly be with the teachers in their modest demands. (Applause).

Mr P Bourke also spoke.

The Dean having been moved to the second chair, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Father Dwane for presiding, on the motion of Mr R P O'Connor, seconded by Mr M Larkin.

Father Dwane acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings terminated.

THE LATE MR ANDREW KILLEEN.

The funeral of the late Mr Andrew Killeen, Assistant Town Clerk, took place on Saturday afternoon from St. Mary's R.C. Church for Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery, and was large and representative.

The chief mourners were—Masters Gerard, Andrew, Patrick, and Francis Killeen (sons), James and Timothy Killeen (brothers), Patrick Shanahan (brother-in-law), Master Denis Shanahan, James, and John Gilligan (nephews), Timothy Killeen (uncle). Other relatives—John Wixted, Messrs John, William, and Albert Wixted, M and John Hickey.

The clergy present were—Rev Fr O'Connor, P.P., St. Mary's (officiating); Rev Fr Carroll, C.C., do; Rev Fr O'Gorman, C.C., do.

The Mayor, the members of the Corporation, the officials, and all classes of the citizens were included in the cortege.

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SOUTH ARMAGH

The South Armagh election will be in the history of Ireland, declares "Daily Express." Sinn Fein has a crushing effect. That is important will be minimised by geographical facts, it is, of course, true that even the political agitations have temporary South Armagh's significance, however fact that Sinn Fein was defeated by Orangemen and Hibernians. The of Dr McCarty as the Sinn Fein has an open insult to the United States proof of the unbridled folly of the leaders. A nation that surrendered Spianard, De Valera, would quickly same degree of anarchy and chaos suffers in the hands of Lenin. Among the shrewdest of the European the fear of conscription is Sinn Fein asset. It is an unworthy fear, and apper with a scheme of self-government able to the reasonable Irish parties.

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CASE SETTLED.

On Saturday, in the Nisi Prius Dublin, the case of Wallis v. Kerr for trial by Mr Justice Moore, with Plaintiff, Mr T. H. G. Wallis, so claimed a sum of £106 alleged to be M J Kenny in respect of half of stated to have been incurred by a connection with the promotion by his Kenny, of the Limerick Junction Company. The defence was a traversal of action and a denial that any money settlement had been made, the terms were not disclosed in court.

For the plaintiff—Messrs H Han J F Moriarty, (instructed by Messrs