

ADVERTISERS

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LIMERICK CHRONICLE

PUBLISHED 1766
FEBRUARY 3, 1920

IRISH QUESTION

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LIMERICK SENSATION.

Police Sergeant Shot.

On Saturday night as Sergeant Richard Welwood, Royal Irish Constabulary, was going from his lodgings in Church-street to William-street Police Barrack, where he is stationed, he was fired at about thirty yards from the station and seriously wounded. The sergeant, it appears, was alone at the time, and there were not many people in the thoroughfare, as the business houses were all closed at 7 o'clock. It is stated that when passing Chapel Lane, which opens on to William street, two men standing at the corner fired at him with revolvers. People living in the vicinity say that two shots rang out, one of which struck Sergeant Welwood at the base of the right jaw, the bullet finding an exit through the left cheek close to the eye. At the spot where the attempt on the sergeant's life was made the public lighting is defective, and in the darkness the assailants effected their escape. The injured man, who lost a quantity of blood, managed to reach the barrack, and when he got inside the gate he was in a very weak condition. Medical aid was promptly summoned, and Doctors Graham and Roberts were quickly in attendance on the patient, who never lost consciousness. He was subsequently removed by ambulance to the Military Hospital at the New Barracks, where he is making progress towards recovery. After the report of the firing, many people were attracted to William-street, and the place where the sergeant was shot was visited. There were bloodstains on the pavement, and a search was subsequently made for the bullets, but none were, it is stated, found. Sergeant Welwood is a married man with a family.

A Red Cross car, after Sergeant Welwood had been seen by the medical men, conveyed him to the Military Hospital at the New Barracks, the car being followed by an escort of constabulary. Passing Roche's-street corner, where a group of men were standing, after the Red Cross car was some distance ahead, shots were fired at the constabulary car, but as the occupants were anxious regarding the safety of the patient they proceeded quickly after, and without stopping. The Red Cross car was not hit, nor were any bullet marks found on the vehicle. An armed party of constabulary proceeding to the Post Office were also fired at, and, it is alleged, returned the fire, nobody, as far as can be ascertained, receiving injury.

Two men arrested on suspicion were brought before Colonel Williamson, R.M., on Sunday, and discharged, there being no evidence to connect them with the occurrence.

At night an armed force of constabulary and military patrolled the principal thoroughfares of the city. All was quiet.

Most Rev Dr Hallinan Condemns the Outrage.

On Sunday, at St Michael's Parish Church, the Most Rev Dr Hallinan officiated, and referred to the shooting of Sergeant Welwood. His Lordship condemned the outrage, and said that those who committed it did no good to Ireland. They were not connected with the national movement. The primary cause for the present trouble in Ireland was the system of government under which people lived, and those outsiders who counselled such outrages for purposes of revenge were in the wrong. They only afforded the Government an excuse for their action. His Lordship invited the prayers of the people for the cessation of violence and the realisation of peace and happiness for the country.

KILFINANE INCIDENT.

Telegraph Wires Cut—Two Arrest.

It appears that on Sunday evening the telegraph wires at Kilfinane were cut, and the constabulary sent forth rockets, presumably for reinforcements. Rumours of a somewhat sensational nature were in circulation after subsequent occurrences in the district. But while they are confirmed by some they are denied by others, and up to the time of writing it was impossible to ascertain what actually took place. Two men have been arrested. They were on Sunday conveyed to Limerick, it is believed, by a force of military and police.

DUBLIN RUMOURS.

The special correspondent of the "Daily Mail," telegraphing on Monday from Dublin says—Mr Macpherson's resignation from the post of Chief Secretary is again being freely discussed here, and rumour is also busy with the name of Lord French. Whitehall and Dublin Castle are not pulling together at present. The dismissal of General Byrne as Chief of the Royal Irish Constabulary is by no means pigeon-holed and forgotten. There is some talk of his being reinstated and afterwards transferred to another post, and Lord French's visit to London is probably not connected with the Royal Irish Constabulary problem.

MAYORALTY OF LIMERICK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.
SIR,—In your report of the proceedings of the recently elected Corporation, the Mayor, Mr O'Callaghan, is stated to have said that his grandfather was the first Catholic Mayor of Limerick. A reference to the list of his predecessors in

FATAL CITY DISTURBANCES

LAST NIGHT.

Man Shot Dead.

Girl Dangerously Wounded.

Limerick was last night the scene of sensational and very regrettable developments, involving the shooting of two inoffensive citizens, one of whom, Richard O'Dwyer, a licensed publican, was shot dead in his shop in Catherine street, and the other, Lena Johnson, Thomondgate, whose life is despaired of. Since the shooting of Sergeant Welwood on Saturday night the authorities have been active in the city, the military having been called out to assist the police in patrolling the streets.

Last night, at about twenty minutes past ten, a party of soldiers and a few police in charge of a military officer were on patrol in George street. When they got as far as the corner of Roche's street they were booed and jeered at by a number of youths. This was the beginning of the trouble, which rapidly developed into a tragic sequel. The patrol charged the youths, who ran up Roche's street, and with a view to frightening them blank shots were fired. In the confusion, it is stated, stones were thrown at the patrol, and it is also alleged that revolver shots were discharged at the military and police. Whatever occurred, and it is almost impossible to get a connected account of it, the military fired down Augustine lane, where some of their assailants ran. This was the storm centre of the entire trouble, and whether the attack was kept up on the patrol or not nobody appears to have any idea. In the firing the house of Mr C Thompson, undertaker, Roche's street, was riddled with rifle bullets, and it was while this fusillade was in progress that Mr O'Dwyer met his death. His licensed premises stands at the opposite side of Catherine street, and it is presumed that he was at the counter when he was killed by a bullet. Prior to that he closed his door and two shots entered the shop. One struck the fan light and shattered a mirror at the end of the counter the other, and fatal one, pierced the door and struck the unfortunate man on the head. It was evident that he was killed instantaneously. His wife and others were attracted by the shots, and when they entered the shop they found Mr O'Dwyer lying prone on the ground. Medical aid was summoned, but life was then extinct. In Catherine-street the patrol kept up a fusillade, and people ran terror-stricken in all directions for safety. Subsequently the military debouched into William-street, where shots were also discharged, while armoured cars and tanks were also moving about the streets. In William-street the firing was continuous and simultaneous. A volley of two was fired in George-street, and the window of Mr Fine, jeweller, was pierced by a bullet. Fortunately no one was injured in this street, but in the firing down Barshfield-street, and while crossing the swing bridge, Miss Johnson was shot in the abdomen, at the left side, the bullet finding an exit at the back. She was at the time coming from the Coliseum Picturedrome, where she is engaged as an attendant. Her moans attracted the attention of members of the Shannon Rowing Club. Half a dozen of them ran to her assistance, and helped her into the Club, where she was attended by Dr Kelly, and subsequently removed in the Fire Brigade Ambulance to Barrington's Hospital, where her condition is precarious. While crossing Patrick street a man named Laurence Murphy, a worker living in Barrington's Mall, was shot in the left leg, and was taken to Barrington's Hospital, where he is progressing favourably. In the alarm that prevailed people, especially those coming from the Theatre Royal and picture houses, and who did not know what was going on, ran for shelter. There were many narrow escapes from flying bullets, and people passing through the real danger zone had an anxious time. In William street, opposite the police barracks, the windows in the drapery premises of Mr C Kearney, were struck with bullets, one of which tore a rent in a suit of tweed. About eleven o'clock all was quiet, and the troops returned with their impediments to quarters later. While on his way to the central police station Sergeant Conroy, R.I.C., was fired at, the bullet whizzing past his head.

INQUEST OPENED.

The Mayor's Request.

Inquiry Adjourned.

Mr J F Barry, J.P., City Coroner, opened an inquest to-day on the body of Mr Richard O'Dwyer at Mrs Collins' licensed premises, Catherine-street.

The following were sworn on the jury—Alfred Woodhouse, John Hogan, William O'Neill, Christopher Thompson, Maurice Ellison, Louis Nestor, E Christy, Edward Lloyd, J J Stewart, James Gleeson, James Downing, and Denis O'Malley.

Mr J S Gaffney, Crown Solicitor, and District Inspector Craig represented the authorities; Mr J J Dundon, and Mr H O'B Moran, solicitors, appeared for the next-of-kin.

Mr P Conlan, Assistant Town Clerk, intimated to the Coroner that it was the wish of the Mayor that the enquiry would be adjourned, in order that the whole circumstances might be fully and

HAVOC OF THE SHANNON FLOODS.

Sad Scenes.

Heartrending scenes were witnessed on the outskirts of Athlone, when the poor people in the water-flooded areas of the middle Shannon were forced to seek temporary accommodation. Kind-hearted people supplied them with warm meals and shake-downs on the floors on which to rest. Up to this they had managed to live in their heavily-storated cabins by a contrivance of chairs and tables, on which they raised their beds above the flooded apartments. The terrible rains and storms of the past few days, especially on Saturday, drove them from their homes, and at very great risk they set out for the town. The storms were so violent and the river so dangerous during the early week that they could not venture into the town for provisions, and were obliged to live on turnips and potatoes. The worst flooding was further down than Athlone, where the Suak river enters the Shannon, and this place is reported as one great volume of water enveloping all the villages from which the inhabitants could escape only with great risk. A good deal of the live stock was got off within the last few days in large open boats and on improvised rafts. One of the hardships attending this unusual flooding is that the mill races providing the water power for the small mills on the river have been put out of action. The people who had left their homes state that the force of the water in many instances burst up the concrete kitchen floors, and they fear that their cabins will collapse, with the loss of the furniture left behind. The condition of the inhabitants of the Black Islands in Lough Ree is described as even worse, as they are completely cut off from the mainland. A slight subsidence in the swollen condition of the river was noticed some little time ago, but the flooding to-day is more extensive than anything in living memory, and most of the families out of their homes do not expect they will be able to return to them before April. An area of about 50 miles of countryside, taking in all the middle and western counties bordering the Shannon, is affected.

IRISH ARRESTS.

Names of Detained.

Official Statement.

Dublin, Monday Night.

The following statement was issued from Dublin Castle to-night:—

The following persons, many of whom are known to be members of the so-called Irish Republican Army, have been detained under the Defence of the Realm Regulations as members of illegal organisations:—

- Byrne, Thomas, 30 Eccles-street, Dublin
- McGrath, Joseph, 13 Rutledge Terrace, Dublin
- Lawless, J V, 25 Botanic-avenue, Dublin
- O'Hanrahan, H, 384 North Circular-road, Dublin
- Brennan, J, 392 North Circular-road, Dublin
- Henderson, Leo, 5 Windoor Villas, Dublin
- Tobin, W, 24 Munster-street, Dublin
- Collins, M J, 65 Parnell-street, Dublin
- Donoghue, Thomas, Knockane, Co Tipperary
- McGrath, Frank, Castle street, Nenagh, Co Tipperary
- Morgan, Denis, Thurles, Co Tipperary
- Waleh, John, Cleakill, Co Tipperary
- Hayes, Edmund, Thurles, Co Tipperary
- Brett, John, Drombane, Co Tipperary
- Cronin, Felix, Lorrha, Co Tipperary
- Harty, John, Clonales, Co Tipperary
- Cuthane, Charles, Thurles, Co Tipperary
- Estace, Michael, Thurles, Co Tipperary
- Duane, Peter, Limerick
- Doyle, Michael, Limerick
- Gallagher, Frank, Parteen, Co Clare
- Ryan, Patrick, Limerick
- Gubbins, James, Limerick
- Rea, John, Limerick
- Madden, William, Limerick
- Kelleher, Garrett, Limerick
- Whelan, Patrick, Limerick
- Hartney, Michael, Limerick
- Foley, Charles, Limerick
- Foley, Frank, Limerick
- McSwenny, Joseph, Limerick
- McCormack, John, Limerick
- Mehigan, Michael, Blackrock, Co Cork
- Stack, Edward, Queenstown, Co Cork
- Stack, John, Queenstown, Co Cork
- O' Shea, Thomas, Queenstown, Co Cork
- Reid, Charles, Queenstown, Co Cork
- O'Brien, David, Queenstown, Co Cork
- Galvin, Denis, Meanekey, Co Cork
- Clancy, John, Clontycomade, Co Cork
- Donovan, Patrick, Lyre, Co Cork
- Mahony, Matthew, Lyre, Co Cork
- Joyce, Vartley, Cronohill, Co Cork
- Kenna, John, Mitchelstown, Co Cork
- Ryan, Wm, Mitchelstown, Co Cork
- Danne, James, 14 Mary street, Co Cork
- Sullivan, Michael, Ca tlemartyr, Co Cork
- Begley, Florence, Bandon, Co Cork
- Crowley, Denis, Kilbrittan, Co Cork
- Keyes, Ralph, Bantry, Co Cork
- Aherne, Cornelius, Dunmanway, Co Cork
- Clancy, Joseph, Kilkeshen, Co Clare
- Dillon, Thomas, Broadford, Co Clare
- McNamara, Martin, Kilkishen, Co Clare
- Wall, Thomas, Scariff, Co Clare
- Quinn, Michael, Ennis, Co Clare
- Keidy, Michael, Inagh, Co Clare

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