

Patriotic Pastor

Funeral of Rev Father Hayes, Ardagh

There was an immense attendance on Monday at the funeral of the Rev Father Hayes, P.P., Ardagh, Co Limerick, which took place after Solemn Office and High Mass of Requiem at the Parish Church, Ardagh, and at which over 100 priests from all parts of the diocese attended.

The celebrant of the Mass was Rev Fr Ruddle, C.C. Abbeyfeale; deacon, Rev Fr Wall, P.P., Stonehall; sub-deacon, Rev J O'Kelly, P.P., Templeglantine, and master of ceremonies, Rev Fr Brasil, C.C., St John's, Limerick.

Right Rev Monsignor O'Donnell, P.P., Rathkeale, presided.

The chief mourners were—Dr Richard Hayes, ex-T.D.; Messrs Joseph Hayes, N.T., and P Hayes, N.T. (brothers); Miss Mary Hayes (sister); Miss Hayes (aunt).

There was a large attendance of the general public, including Mr Sean McEntee, Minister for Finance (representing President de Valera); Mr Cosgrave, T.D.; Messrs D Fitzgerald, T.D.; D O'Brien, T.D.; Seamus Colbert, ex T.D.; and the members of the local public bodies, including members of the Limerick County Council.

At the meeting of the County Committee of Agriculture on Wednesday, Mr Sean Hartney (chairman) presiding,

Mr J Quaide proposed that the sympathy of the Committee be extended to his Lordship the Bishop on the death of Rev M Hayes, P.P., Ardagh. Father Hayes was one of the outstanding priests in the Diocese, and his untimely death had created a profound shock.

Mr Sean Carroll seconded the vote, and said that during the fight for independence Father Hayes proved to be a fearless Irishman.

Mr Quinlan said that he wished to be associated with the vote. He desired to say that as one who took opposite sides to Fr. Hayes at one time a great friendship had sprung up between them. He deeply regretted the death of a great priest and Irishman.

The Secretary—I desire to be associated with the vote on behalf of the officials, and to express my personal sympathy with the Bishop; also to bereaved family.

The Chairman, declaring the vote passed, said Father Hayes played a noble part in the fight for independence, and services he rendered the country at that time would never be forgotten.