

BALLYAGRAN NOTES

(From Our Correspondent).

An Outstanding Success.

The concert and variety entertainment staged at Ballyagran Hall on Sunday night last under the patronage of the local Group, L.D.F. and L.S.F., in aid of the schools' fund, was an outstanding success. Following quickly on the last entertainment organised by the Group and which was universally voted as the best yet produced here, last Sunday night's performance even went one better, which certainly says much for the initiative and organising capabilities of the promoters. It was a first class programme, excellently produced, and enjoyed to the full by an appreciative audience of record dimensions.

Visiting Artistes.

A number of visiting artistes from Limerick City contributed a splendid assembly of varied and attractive concert items—song, music, comedy and dance. They included the Misses Peggy O'Halloran, Elsie Mooney and Peggy Fielding, Trooper Murphy, Private Kiely, Paddy O'Halloran and Master Paddy Fielding, a group of talented artistes, most of whom have been "on the air" on various occasions recently from Radio Eireann. Their respective performances were enthusiastically greeted with continued rounds of applause and recalls, the audience being particularly insistent as regards the latter. A number of request items were also very kindly acceded to.

Local Talent Shines.

Other items on the bill were supplied by local talent, which at the moment is of a very high order, and the favourable impression which these performers made on the guest artistes is perhaps the most praiseworthy tribute that could be paid to them. A comedy sketch in which Adjutant M. Griffin, Section Leader D. Clifford and Vol. D. Hartnett took part was one of the most outstanding and brilliant features of the entire programme. Artists who contributed were:—Assistant Group Leader T. O'Riordan, Vol. P. Boyce, Vol. J. Quinlivan, Squad Leader M. Chawke, Vol. P. O'Gorman, Vol. W. Geary and Mr. Matt Ryan. New-

Carroll—*Incognito.*
 Grand Central—"The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex."
 Thomond—"Saps at Sea."
 Coliseum—"The Captain is a Lady."
 Savoy—"Meet The Wildcat" and "Carolina Moon."
 On Stage—"Say It With Music."

HOSPITAL ECHOES

(From Our Correspondent).

Death of Postman.

Sincerest sympathy was manifested throughout the district with the widow and young family of the late Mr. Ed. Cleere, whose death took place at the end of last week in the Co. Infirmary, Limerick. Replacing Charlie Davern about ten years ago as mail-car driver and postman from Knocklong to Hospital and Herbertstown, he became quickly popular in the district, and in his unswerving devotion to duty in all weathers showed a high example in the virtues of punctuality, loyalty and uprightness. An ex-soldier of the British Army, he had been through all the war in France from 1914 to 1918. His unfailing courtesy, genial temperament and characteristic good humour won for him the popularity of all classes and his familiar figure will be regretfully missed in the district for a long time.

In An Accident.

A few months ago, while setting out on his morning's round, his car was struck by a motor car leaving the town after a dance, the pony being killed. His remains were conveyed on last Saturday to his native Kilkenny for interment. In their poignantly sad bereavement, Mrs. Cleere and her family will be comforted by the assurance of the condolences of every one in the parish where he was highly and deservedly esteemed.

Children of Mary Retreat.

The annual spiritual Retreat for the Sodality of the Children of Mary was held in the Presentation Convent School during Easter Week, being conducted by Rev. Father Power, C.S.S.R., Limerick. There was an excellent attendance at all the exercises of the Retreat.

Eastertide Dance.

The petrol restrictions are beginning to show their effects on social events and on none more so than on dances, which are being detrimentally affected by the limited number of private motor cars on the road. The cinderella dance held in the Hall on Easter Sunday

of a distinctive Irish culture annual Oireachtas is of outstanding value and importance. It gives a fine stimulus to the Gaelic movement, and makes clear to intelligent observers that Irish land stands for objectives that are eminently worthy, admirable and desirable. Through certain circumstances this great hosting of native culture lapsed some years ago and remained so for a regrettably protracted period. A welcome and hearty revival came in 1939, however, and the fresh start made that year proved in every respect a magnificent success, and had effects which have since been producing good fruit in a variety of directions.

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That the revival was not a flash in the pan was demonstrated by the 1940 Oireachtas, which was even much more successful, as well as being on a far more ambitious scale. This event not only attracted a most encouraging number of entrants in the several departments but was well attended and well appreciated by the general public. It had some important new features, one of them being La na nOg Young People's Day, which attracted hundreds of school children and students from the secondary schools. It was a happy idea to introduce this particular section, because from the youths of to-day will come the driving force of the future endeavour and activities.

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The Oireachtas is an intellectual and social as well as a national institution. Our people as a whole, therefore, should give much support and encouragement as they can. It is fulfilling a mission that is as truly commendable as it is necessary. It is helping a very substantial way to create a better spirit and a nobler outlook in Ireland and is giving the people a fuller appreciation of the rich heritages handed down to them from the past.

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The marked successes achieved last year and in 1939 have inspired the promoters of the Oireachtas