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BELFAST SCENES

Execution Of Youth

CROWDS ATTACK POLICE

LIVELY INCIDENTS IN DUBLIN

Scenes of violence occurred in Belfast this morning when the sentence of death by hanging was carried out in Belfast Prison at 8 a.m. on Thomas J. Williams, aged 19.

The executioner was Pierpont, who had two assistants.

The approaches to the prison were cordoned off by police and no person was allowed within a hundred yards of the gate.

Shortly before 8 o'clock several hundred people, mostly women and young girls, gathered in Crumlin Road and in the surrounding districts.

Some of them knelt on the streets and prayed.

A few minutes after 8 a warder appeared at the prison gates and posted up the following notice:

"We, the undersigned, hereby declare that the judgment of death was this day executed on Thomas Joseph Williams in His Majesty's Prison, Belfast, in our presence.

"September 2nd, 1942.
Signed, R. Henderson, Sheriff; G. Stewart, J.P.; Thomas Moore Stuart, Governor; Patrick McAllister, Chaplain."

Ugly scenes developed when a mob of women from the adjoining Unionist quarters came out of their houses jeering and singing: "The sash my father wore," and other Orange tunes.

Police were forced to clear the streets in the vicinity. Meanwhile on the Crumlin Road a procession comprising young girls waving black scarves and singing wildly marched to the city.

ARMoured CARS ON DUTY.

On the Falls Road several armoured cars patrolled the streets from an early hour and crowds of people who gathered were dispersed.

Mill-workers on the Falls Road staged a stay-out strike, together with 500 dockers.

Arrests were made when the police drew their batons and charged women demonstrators near the City Hall.

Missiles were thrown and one Head Constable's head was cut as well as his face and hands.

Two men and one woman were brought to Queen Street barracks.

A party of Pressmen who arrived at Belfast Prison to attend the inquest at 11 o'clock were informed by a prison warder that they were not to be admitted.

The Pressmen sent in a protest to the Governor, Capt. Stewart, and shortly afterwards he appeared at the gate with the City Coroner, Dr. H. Lowe.

They both apologised to the Pressmen and said that they received instructions that morning from the Minister for Home Affairs that the Press were not to be admitted.

This is an unprecedented occurrence in connection with an execution in Belfast.

Shops and business premises closed their doors in Dublin to-day from 11 o'clock until noon.

Large groups in the streets demonstrated where some shops had not been closed and in O'Connell Street a large plate-glass window was broken.

A GREAT PRIEST

Loss To American Church

BORN IN COUNTY LIMERICK

American exchanges to hand contain news of the death of the Right Rev. Monsignor Patrick J. Coffey, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Dubuque, Iowa, following a heart attack.

Born in Kiltelly, County Limerick, September 8, 1878, Monsignor Coffey was educated in the Jesuit College, Limerick. His theological studies were made in St. Patrick's Seminary, Carlow. He was ordained in Carlow, June 15, 1898, by the Most Rev. Patrick Foley, D.D.

Monsignor Coffey came to America following his ordination. He began his priestly duties as assistant pastor at St. Patrick's Church, Dubuque, and ended his work as irremovable Rector of St. Patrick's Church, Dubuque, being appointed in 1937 to succeed the late Right Rev. Monsignor J. J. Hanley.

The intervening years were spent as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Church, Clinton, and in other parishes. From 1902 to 1923, Monsignor Coffey was pastor of St. Peter's Church, Garryowen. His next pastorate was St. Joseph's Church, Farley, and in 1937 he left Farley to take charge of St. Patrick's Church, Dubuque.

For many years Monsignor Coffey was State Chaplain to the Knights of Columbus and prominently identified with the national organisation of the Knights.

At the time of his death Monsignor Coffey was a member of the Board of Consultants and the Archdiocesan Building Committee.

In 1923 Monsignor Coffey directed the pilgrimage to the International Eucharistic Congress at Dublin, and in 1935 he was Archdiocesan Director of the pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress at Cleveland, Ohio.

Pope Pius XI made Monsignor Coffey a domestic prelate on April 13, 1939, and bestowed upon him the title of Monsignor.

A GREAT WORKER.

Monsignor Coffey will be remembered by the people of Dubuque and the surrounding territory, Catholic and non-Catholic, for inaugurating the Perpetual Novena to Our Sorrowful Mother in St. Patrick's Church. The novena was opened April 8, 1938, and since then thousands of persons attend the seven services held each Friday.

Over two hundred clergy were present at the Solmen Requiem High Mass, at which the Most Rev. Dr. Heelan, Bishop of Sioux City, a native of Knockainey, County Limerick, presided.

The Archbishop of Dubuque, Most Rev. Dr. Beckman, who was conducting a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre, Canada, was unable to be present. In a telegram to the Vicar-General the Archbishop said—"I was shocked to learn of good Monsignor Coffey's death. I regret very much that I cannot get to the funeral in time, nor break away from the pilgrimage which I sponsored and am heading. I must preach and broadcast the principal sermon for all the English-speaking pilgrims.

"Kindly explain my deep regrets and inability to attend the funeral. Also extend my sincerest sympathy to the congregation and all the bereaved. Our pilgrims will join me in prayers for Monsignor Coffey and the bereaved at all the shrines of this holy country."

LIMERICK BOY INJURED

Patrick Rainsford, Knockbrack, Lisnagry, a boy of 14 years, was

CORBALLY BATHS

What Might Be Done

SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader")

Dear Sir—I notice that on Monday night's issue of your paper a certain amount of criticism is passed about the "pathway" leading from the end of the Red Walk to the former footbridge and its condition at last Sunday's gala.

It was also stated that "a few planks or stepping stones would have given some measure of comfort to the public but such a consideration did not enter the minds of the promoters of the gala."

The Swimming Association is fully aware of the regular quagmire existing but to cover the path to the gala according to a local builder's estimate would cost £15 for the hire of timber for the day. It would be a very good idea if the Corporation made a grant to the Association yearly and then on gala day conditions would be better.

As it is the Association is not well off financially owing to the fact that in previous years the outlay on a gala was over £40 and bad weather hit it badly on those occasions. This year, to cut down expense, no prizes were given for a lot of the events, a decision which was accepted by the winners, without exception.

Swimming can claim to have the biggest summer following in the city, and parents are beginning to appreciate the value of this healthy sport for their children.

I am writing this letter to explain to patrons of the gala that it was not possible to have first class facilities. We have again been promised a baths by a member of the Corporation. We are wide enough awake to realise that with the shortage of cement and steel, this project will have to fade on the horizon of post-war schemes, but we are not complaining as we see that the Prospect housing scheme, etc., etc., are also held up. What we would ask the City Manager and Corporation, however, is this:—

1. Clear Corbally of the weeds, which are growing right across the river. It is no use in trimming the tops and leaving the roots underneath as has been done.
2. Take away the debris at Corbally Mill and erect a sluice to govern the flow. There are times when the water tends to become stagnant.
3. Finish the foot-bridge.
4. Blast a hole and erect diving boards and put up a few more shelters.

Do not think that the swimming clubs alone are being catered for. It would be in the interests of the city and well worth while to spend £1,000 on Corbally, which is a natural outdoor baths in itself.—Yours faithfully,

"SANTA LUCIA."

(The writer of this letter is a prominent member of the Limerick Swimming Association.—Ed. "L.L.")

"AND SOME DAY"

BOY SINGS TO CREW

"Come on, now. Let it go." Across the water came the deep-throated voice of a sailor as the Irish ship stood out from Limerick Docks. "But, I can't." It was a boy's voice almost plaintive in its denial of the request. Again came the voice of the sailor, urgent and pleading, as the vessel swung in the fast-running tide. There was a movement amongst the crowd,