

BALLYBUNION

Old Memories

(By FAIRFAX)

Visiting Ballybunion seemed like renewing an old acquaintanceship. The things physically were about the same but the years have been digging their furrows, and even the sand cliffs show their scars from the whipping of the major gales. As ever, the crowds of visitors disappear, as butterflies do, with the rain, but a few hours of sunshine enables an observer to understand why it is sometimes so difficult to find "digs," if one may judge by the resurgence of the population under the sun's rays, or the numbers that seek the evening for recourse to prayer in the seaside's beautiful church, or to the music of Pat Crowley's band. The floating population appeared on the ascendent as July swept its way into the month of the autumn. I noted that few discussions took place without some reference to the rigours imposed by apparently unavoidable traffic regulations. Personally I had little to complain of, for I did get into a morning bus, but was permitted to breathe fresh air, and danced like an inmate of a dice box, as the motor vehicle hopped over the potholes between the sea road and the town, because the Co. Council had no time until mid-summer to remember the number of pot-holes on the road held in reserve for Dublin and Limerick visitors. On this topic it is only fair to hackney car drivers to pass credit for the more reasonable fares they accept against the wear and tear risks they incur over such miniature distances.

Once amidst those restful scenes beside the sea, the peace lover sinks into happy reveries, drawing his choice from out the mists of the memories of the old days. Few can recall the competitive stepping race that Paddy Carty's bagpipes called into the ring of spectators under the old castle ruin on "Pattern" Day, or the real Kerry dances that brought the rabbits to their hall doors to listen to the jig reels that Dan the Fiddler played in the valleys of the Sandys. Golf was then unknown here, when a walk to the mouth of the Feale, or a ramble up Doonbegh Castle, provided all that was necessary for a hearty luncheon on the return. At intervals, when "William O" was in the mood, we heard again of many a thrilling horse race, of Cissy's Fancy, and an evening Cup day at Clounanna, and the rest—long as Goldsmith's prior's tale, but none the less enchainning.

Many of the old-time notables

SOLDIER'S PLUCK

Brave Rescue Efforts

Well-deserved tributes have been paid to Private Patrick O'Callaghan, of the First Field Engineers, for his conspicuously brave efforts to save two girls from drowning in the Shannon at Limerick on Monday evening when one of the two, Catherine Donoghue, was drowned.

The evidence given at the inquest held on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. J. S. McNeice, solr., Deputy Coroner, was to the effect that while paddling at a spot known as "Sandy," Catherine Donoghue, aged 9, slipped into deep water and got into difficulties. Mary Braddish, aged 18, also a non-swimmer like the other girl, went to the latter's aid and got into difficulties herself.

Private O'Callaghan was quickly on the scene and dived in to try and effect the double rescue. He showed great bravery and certainly endangered his own life in his persistent attempts to save the two girls. He succeeded, after strenuous efforts, in bringing Mary Braddish to safety and then, although considerably exhausted himself, turned his special attention to Catherine Donoghue. This little girl, however, had unfortunately disappeared under the water and although Private O'Callaghan dived several times in search of her he failed to find her.

Private O'Callaghan, who is a native of Limerick, was home on leave at the time.

In the course of his remarks at the inquest, when a verdict was returned that Catherine Donoghue was accidentally drowned, Mr. McNeice referred to the great bravery displayed by Private O'Callaghan, whose plucky efforts to rescue the two girls, he said, was well worthy of all praise and suitable recognition.

Reference was also made at the inquest to the need for doing something to prevent loss of life at "Sandy." The view was expressed that the Corporation should place some life-saving apparatus at that spot or have a life-guard there during the summer months as the place is definitely dangerous.

PENSIONS ANOMALY

Drawing attention to what he described as a strange anomaly in the pensions regulations, Mr. B. Wallace, secretary, said at a meeting of the Clare Old Age Pensions Committee that a widow in receipt of a Widows and Orphans Pension drew it until she was 70 years of age. Then she filled a special form—not the regular one—which entitled her to draw the Old Age Pension of 10/- and in her case there was no means test. Two months afterwards if she became

LIMERICK'S PART BY-

In Marking Notable 50-Centenary

Limerick will play a fitting part next month in marking a notable centenary—that of the foundation of the Holy Family Confraternity specially associated with the Redemptorist Order.

This great body of Catholic laymen was established in Liege, Belgium, exactly a hundred years ago by Henri Belletable, a Lieutenant in the Belgian Army. The Association was given the name of the Holy Family, as best expressing its ideals. It was placed under the direction of Rev. Victor Deschamps, C.S.S.R., who was later to become Cardinal Archbishop of Malines and Primate of Belgium.

From this beginning the Confraternity spread throughout the world. It was taken up with zeal wherever the Redemptorist Order had a footing, and the centenary of its foundation will be marked with special ceremonies by the Redemptorist Fathers everywhere. In regard to these ceremonies Limerick will play a part befitting its glorious association with the Redemptorist Order.

The Arch-Confraternity of the Holy Family attached to the Redemptorist Church in Limerick is the largest organised body of Catholic laymen in the world. With a membership of upwards of 8,000—there are over 6,000 men and 2,000 boys—it has been divided into four divisions, and each division has its own weekly meeting and monthly Communion, with annual retreats.

The centenary celebrations will be held in Limerick during the month of September. There will be special meetings of the Divisions on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 13th, 14th and 15th September, and there will be a General Communion for all the Divisions on Sunday, 17th September.

On the afternoon of the same Sunday there will be a procession of the members through the city, and this will be followed by open-air Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The ceremonies will be brought to a close with a sermon preached by Most Rev. Dr. Lyons, Bishop of Kilmore.

The Arch-Confraternity in Limerick was founded in 1868. Of its foundation the then Bishop of the Diocese, Most Rev. Dr. Butler, said: "This is a miracle wrought by Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, surely a far greater miracle than the curing of a blind boy or the healing of a cripple."

Its present strength is truly remarkable, seeing that no fewer than 4,300 of its members have left the

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