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# HIS EARLY LIFE GREAT IRISHMAN

## Career Of Major-Gen. Hurley Passes Away In New York

The following references to Major General Patrick J. Hurley, former U.S.A. Envoy to China, have been specially written for the *Limerick Leader* by a correspondent who had several communications from him from France, New York, Riga and Marseilles:—

The terms of the recent resignation of General Patrick J. Hurley, who replaced General Stilwell and has now been in turn replaced by General Marshall as U.S.A. Envoy to China, has irritated alike Imperialists and Communists who, while stressing what they style his hasty and ill-considered action, are constrained to admit that it brought to an issue the strained political situation in China. His was the difficult task of steering an even democratic keel between Charybdis of Communism and the Scylla of Imperialism, a task too difficult for his predecessor, General Hurley's resignation certainly hastened the drastic decision of President Truman as regards the U.S.A. attitude to the Chinese Civil War and probably helped towards the recent agreement of the Big Three that there should be a unified and democratic China under the National Government and for the ending of civil strife, all three re-affirming adherence to the policy of non-interference in China's internal affairs. To this ideal Major General Hurley appears to have sacrificed his position.

It may be of interest to recall the fact that General Hurley spent his early life in Callan, Co. Kilkenny, his mother being a native of that county, his father being from the Limerick-Cork border. From the United States, where he was born, he came, when four or five years old, with his widowed mother to Callan and left it in his early twenties for the U.S.A., where he became distinguished as a mining engineer. After being educated at Callan and St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, he spent some time as teacher with the Callan Christian Brothers. As a boy he was tall and slim but active and athletic, a good footballer but able to hold his own at most games. He was a quiet, steady young man, able, earnest and sincere, having few intimate associations. Among his school chums were: John Lynch, Pat Dooley, Ed. and Rd. Hennessy, Michael Grace and the late James Maher, all of whom had pleasant recollections of their school-fellow.

In the first World War he commanded K. Company, 152nd (Old 69th Irish) New York Regiment, which was almost wiped out in the 1918 battles in France. His men, almost all Irish born, had joined the National Guard to quell troubles on the Mexican Border, and were sent in the first draft to Europe. In the welfare of his men he took the keenest interest, which did not end with the war. Of one dangerously wounded, hailing from the Slievenamon district, he mentioned that he was one of the two bravest men he had ever met.

After the war Major-General Hurley became Consul, first at Riga, and on the opening of the second World War he was Consul at Marseilles, where he gave material help to many Irish who were stranded there. He visited Ireland in 1922, when he called to see some of his old friends in Callan. It may be noted that Mr. Patrick J. Shelly, also a Callan man, is Chief Probation Officer of the City of New York.

### WATERED HIS EMPLOYER'S MILK

When Joseph West, of Castle road, Ballincollig, Co. Cork, was charged at the local court yesterday with damaging milk, the property of his employer, Mrs. Ellen Down, the latter's son, Francis Down, said that on a number of occasions they had been prosecuted for selling deficient milk, and fines

Mr. John J. Sheahan, the brilliant Glin man who is Chairman of the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Celebration Committee of New York, has sent us an interesting account, written by himself, of the career of a prominent Co. Limerick man, Mr. W. F. Smithwick, a native of Oola, who died recently in New York, and whom he describes in his covering letter as a great Irishman. He writes:—

William F. Smithwick, one of the outstanding citizens of Bristol, Conn., and for many years Charity Commissioner in that city, died in the Bristol Hospital after a long illness. He was appointed a Charity Commissioner in 1917, and held that appointment up to the time of his death. In that position he was noted for his sympathy with the poor and afflicted, and was a great favourite with the down-trodden, whom he was ever willing and ready to help.

He was one of the legislators of the state representing Bristol, and as such served as chairman of the Humane Relations Committee. It was his deep interest on this committee that led Mayor Dutton to appoint him Charity Commissioner. At one time he was one of the principal merchants in the town, and in addition was engaged in the real estate and insurance business. He was also treasurer of the Volunteer Fire Department.

"Bill" Smithwick, as he was affectionately referred to by those who knew him intimately, was born in the town or parish of Oola, Co. Limerick, Ireland, on January 2nd, 1882. He was the son of John Smithwick. His mother, Katherine Bradshaw Smithwick, was from the same place, and both with a large family, of whom "Bill" was the youngest, came to the United States and settled in the State of Connecticut. He attended school in Grey-stone in that town, and about 47 years ago his family moved to Bristol.

Although leaving Ireland at a very early age, Bill was a great Irishman and intensely interested in everything that had for its object the welfare of the old land. He was at one time National Director of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and served as County and State President of the Order in his own State. For more than forty years he was an outstanding figure at national conventions, and was well known to those who were active in the Order. The late Pat Keane of Montreal was his close friend. So were John H. McNamara of Ansonia, and William Looney of New Haven, Conn., and Michael B. McGreal, Treasurer of the Friends of Irish Freedom, and many others throughout the country.

He was an outstanding Catholic and was an exemplary living man. In recent years, he rarely missed coming to New York on March 17th, to witness the St. Patrick's Day Parades, and was a very close personal friend of the Chairman of that Committee.

His funeral, on Saturday, November 17th, from St. Thomas Church, was attended by the largest gathering that has ever assembled there on a like occasion. Besides his widow, Josephine M. Fitzsimons Smithwick, and his daughter, Beatrice C. Smithwick, he is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Michael Hogan, of Waterbury, Mrs. Robert Welton, of Bristol, and Mrs. William G. Johnston, of Thomastown. Four brothers also survive, John of New Britain, Robert of Cheshire, Henry of Waterbury, and Joseph of Bristol. Bill always referred to his nephew, Hon. Frank Hogan, District Attorney of New York, and took a great pride in the latter's record.

### A LONELY CHRISTMAS

Alone at my Christmas dinner  
I think of that loving band

# Time for WOOL



There's a nip in the Air  
It's time to get into something warm and woolly. Our selection of Wool Frocks in smart styles and new shades is now at its best and remember Sheila frocks because of their good material, superior make and perfect detail are unquestionably the best of values.

G. 121. Tucks are a feature of many of the smart new frocks. Here they are used for the bodice of this pretty wool frock with its embroidered yoke, short sleeves and plain gored skirt. In Rose, Turquoise, Nigger, Emerald and Black. Hips 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 (17 47/6 Coupons)

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