

OBITUARY

MR. BERNARD JAMES MURPHY.

It is with deep and sincere regret that we chronicle the passing of Bernard James Murphy, which sad event occurred on the 17th Aug., when he was accidentally drowned at Corbally. A nephew of Thomas J. Murphy, Limerick Woollen Company, the deceased, who had been in his early thirties, had won for himself a high mark of esteem and respect with all those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Though a native of Fincarn, Castleblayney, "Benny" was as popular in his city of his adoption as he was in his own home town. Those who had the occasion to indulge in business dealings with him speak eloquently of his courtesy and other admirable traits of character.

Outside the sphere of his business activities, he associated himself with many influences for good. Noteworthy were the positions of Prefect of St. Christopher Section, which he held in the Arch-Confraternity of the Holy Family, and his attachment to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. In the recreative side, he was a member of the Castletroy Golf Club and the Brookfield Table Tennis Club, the members of which regret his loss.

On the morning of the 19th of August Solemn Requiem High Mass was celebrated in St. John's Cathedral, and the funeral took place afterwards to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery. The large attendance at Mass, and the removal of the remains and funeral, fully testified to the popularity in which he was held.

The members of the clergy who officiated at the Solemn Requiem Mass were:—Very Rev. Ed. Ryan, P.S.M., celebrant; Rev. Father O'Gorman, C.S.S.R., deacon; Rev. Father Corr, C.S.S.R., sub-deacon; Rev. Father Fee, C.C., St. John's, master of ceremonies.

In the choir were:—Very Rev. Father Brassil, Adm., St. John's; Rev. Father Creed, C.C., do.; Rev. A. Ryan, O.S.A.; Rev. P. Kehoe, O.S.A.

The chief mourners:—Thomas Murphy and James Murphy (uncles), Bernard and Nollie Murphy (cousins), Mrs. T. J. Murphy.

Mass cards were received from: Uncle Jimmy, Uncle Tom, Uncle James Keenan, Auntie Annie, Auntie Bridget, Aunt Mary, Auntie Sarah, Bernard, Mollie, Uncle Tom and Kitty, Kitty Murphy, Kitty Ryan (Abington), Pah, and Nellie Foley, Johnny, Mollie and Tadgh, Waterford; Ryan family, Abington; Michael and Mary Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. McGarrell, Castleblayney; Doherty family, Rev. Father Hannan, P.S.M., Thurles; Ellie McCabe, Castleblayney; Mr. and Mrs. Wallace; Murty Crawford, Miss T. Fogarty, Brendan Madigan, Keyes family, St. Patrick's Road; Lily Healy, Jerry McGrath, Mary Gleeson, Mrs. O'Keeffe and Irene, Louis Byrne, P. J. Hayes, the Sadler family, Sarsfield Street; his Card Friends, 15 Thomas Street; the Glynn family, The Crescent; Jim and Nora Clune, Dublin; Mrs. Hannan and Nancy, The Staff, McCormac's; the McCormac family, John and Lena Higgins, Eileen Higgins, P. Kearns and family, McMahon family, Wickham Street; his Card Friends, 18 Thomas Street; Maureen and Eugene McGovern, Ollie, Joan and Angela, Elsie O'Doherty, Brookfield Table Tennis Club, Mr. and Mrs. Cantillon and family; his Card Friends, Thomas Street; the Penny Family; Tom and Mrs. McGrath, Clonmel; the Ryan family, 52 Fairgreen; Breda Hanrahan and Agnes Devanney, Foney, E. Sammon, K. and Paddy Connellan, Auntie Bridgie, Michael Madden, Byrne family, Janesboro.

Wires were received from:—Stapleton family, Dublin; N. Mooney, Clune family, Dublin; Paddy Stundon, Lee Clothing Factory, Cork; Irene Bugler, John Ryan, Waterford; Tom Smyth, Cavan; Babs Lenihan, Tralee; J. A. Nolan, T. Lyons and Co., Ltd., Cork.

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A BALTIC ISLAND

With An Interesting Story

ITS WEALTH BRED ENVY

The Swedish island of Gotland, described as an idyl in the Baltic, has an interesting history. About 70 archaeologists from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and England, are to participate this year in the excavation of one of the most remarkable ancient villages in the Scandinavian countries—the village of Vailhagar, on the island, and dating back from the middle of the iron age.

Referring to this expedition of excavation the current issue of "Swedish News," published by the Swedish Legation in Dublin, says: Numerous finds—which have made Gotland known as a veritable paradise for archaeologists—tell their fascinating tale of the history of this island, situated far away in the Baltic. Not long after the end of the Great Ice Age, the first inhabitants settled on the island. During the bronze age they became a seafaring people, and these traditions were continued during the Viking era, when they extended their voyages right away to Byzantium via the Russian rivers. It is maintained that Vikings from Gotland strongly contributed towards creating the commercial route from the Orient to Western Europe that remained predominant for centuries.

PERIOD OF MIGHT AND PROSPERITY

It was Gotland's geographical situation on this route that made the island—and especially its capital, Visby—wealthy and powerful. There are but few written documents that have survived the disasters which the town subsequently suffered, but the mighty town wall, 3 1/2 km. long, which, with its numerous towers, still engirdles Visby, the merchants' step-gabled houses from the days of the Hansa League in the 13th and 14th centuries, and the numerous ivy-clad church ruins bear eloquent witness to that period of might and prosperity.

But wealth bred envy; the town and the surrounding country were ravaged and burnt by foreign invaders and international trade found other channels. However, after centuries of relative poverty the island is now again a prosperous part of Sweden with a considerable cement and lime stone industry, a well-developed agriculture and big tourist traffic. During the war the tourist traffic to this island, which forms a corner stone in the Swedish defence system, was more or less stopped, but already last year tourists were flocking in large numbers to this historical idyl in the Baltic. Comfortable ships and aeroplanes bring more than 50,000 tourists to Gotland every summer, which is about the same number as the total population of the island. The majority are, of course, Swedes, but the number of foreign visitors is considerable. Before the war ocean-going vessels were often anchored in the roads outside Visby while their passengers visited the historic sights and enjoyed the scenic beauty.

CITY OF RUINS AND ROSES.

When walking along the quite streets of Visby among the remarkable monuments of the Middle Ages, the visitor may think he has been brought 700 years back in time. The sunny insular climate and the rich vegetation—Visby is especially famed for its roses—also contribute towards giving a special atmosphere to the old city, beautifully situated on terraces close to the sea.

But there are also modern features. There are modern hotels and restaurants to serve the tourists, while dancing, concerts and theatrical performances in the ruins are arranged for their entertainment. Excellent bathing extend round practically the whole of the island, and the fashionable bathing resort, Snackgardbaderi, near Visby, has recently been provided with a large swimming pool, so that the visitors can enjoy a well-tempered bath even if Neptune should be in a bad humour and send cold currents along the shores of Gotland.

BRUEF AUGUST FAIR

GAELIC LEAGUE NOTES

(BY "AN CABACH RUADH.")

Coisde na bPaisde.

Fifty children known for the past month in the Gaeltacht as "Paisdi Luimnighe" returned on Friday last to their homes in various parts of Limerick and Clare. Sun-tanned, and looking very healthy after their holiday in the Irish-speaking district of West Cork, these children shed many tears of sorrow on their long journey from Coolea, via Killarney Abbeyfeale, Newcastle West and Shanagolden. At times they burst into song—songs they had learned in Coolea—to carry them back in spirit to their true Irish friends in the hills of West Cork. Coming into Limerick they sang (as if to impress the bystanders of the Irish spirit which had gripped them, and which I hope they have no intention of losing) a song composed by Domhnall O Ceochain, O.C., who had charge of the course in the Gaeltacht. Sung to the air of "An Maldirin Ruadh," it is:

"Gabhaimis a chlann o,
Nearf agus teann spirid,
Seasfaimid ar bonn le'n a cheille,
Glanfaimid an Gall amach ar
fad de'n Galltacht,
Is beidh Luimneach go teann fionn
—Gaedhalach.

Luimneach go teann idir cathair agus gleann,

Luimneach go teann fionn—Gaedhalach,

Luimneach go teann fionn—Gaedhalach,

Luimneach go teann fionn—Gaedhalach,

Is na taoisigh go fonnmhar

Is na Paisde a' labhairt na Gaedhilge.

Beidh Eire againn annsan,

Is gach einne ar a son,

Beidh Eire againn annsan faoi athas,

Beidh Eire againn annsan,

Ag gach n-aon uirthi cion

Sar na Paisdi a sheas san mbearnain.

A Little Girl's Appreciation.

A few days ago I was surprised to get a letter from one of these youngsters expressing her thanks to the Gaelic League for such a delightful holiday and asking me for some Irish songs composed in Coolea, as she intends to have as a hobby the collection of Irish songs. Here is her letter, and I hope it will encourage others to write to this column, c/o. "Limerick Leader" office:

"A ———, a chara—Do gheallas san mbus litir do chur cughat agus taim chun an geall sin thubhairt chun chriche anois. Ta ana ugneas orm tar eis Cuil Aodha. Ba mhaith liom go mor bheith ann anois ach bionn deire le gach deagh-rud. Ni dheanfadh dearmhad ar Muinntir Luasa i Screanthan (Cuil Aodha) go deo. Ni feidir liom a innsint duit a bhuidheach is ataim do Chonnradh na Gaedhilge a chuir ann me. An bhfuil aon amhran Gaedhilge agat a chum Muinntir Cuil Aodha no aop chun eile agat fein? Taim chun caith eamh aimsire do dheanamh as bheith ag bailiu na n-amhran san . . . Ba mhaith liom leitir d'fhag-hail uait mar do bheadh tusa annsan ar an chuid duine a scri chugham riam tre Gaedhilgh.—Mise.

"EIBHLIS NI CHADLA."

Bheul, Eiblis, ta suil agam go bhfuairis mo leitir cupla la o shoin.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of Limerick County Committee of the Gaelic League will be held early in September. Is there any hope of getting all our old and new friends together to make one more effort at re-union and to establish the Gaelic League on its old footing? What about it, national teachers? Beidh failte is fiche roimh gach n-aon, and if you think there is anything wrong with the present rules and regulations of the Gaelic League (I for one think there is) come along and say so and we will all make an effort to rectify it.

NO LICENCE

FOR WIRELESS SET

P. A. McInerney, Bindon Street, Ennis, was charged at Ennis District Court, on Friday, for having a wireless set without a licence. He was fined £1 by District Justice Gleeson (acting as Deputy for Dis-