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them. They are then spread on a piece of blotting or brown paper to dry, and then sown in the usual manner.

The soaking in the formalin solution will kill most of the spores of the fungus disease on the seed, and any plants that may be contaminated can be rogued out when being pricked off, but there will not be many if the formalin treatment has been carried out thoroughly.

It is not yet too late to sow main-crop celery seed, and the red and pink varieties are best for the late winter crops.

#### HOW TO GROW CELERY.

Many growers purchase their plants, and they should request them as grown from clean seed. In spite of this, there is always a likelihood of a late attack of the disease from airborne spores, therefore, spraying at least three times will have to be done, commencing soon after the plants have been finally planted out.

There are three kinds of celery, self blanching, trench celery and, turnip-rooted or celeriac.

The latter is not popular, as it is too difficult to grow tender roots, and unless it is tender nobody could cook, never mind eat it.

Self blanching celery is only a recent introduction to Co. Limerick, and I often think I was one of the first, if not the first to introduce it to the Limerick market in 1939. I remember the public did not know it then, and although the golden colour and the clean unblemished stems made it very attractive, many first purchasers were disappointed with its eating quality in the raw state and did not purchase again. Actually it has to be grown very quickly and richly on a bed of very decayed manure and never be allowed to become dry at the root if it is to be grown so tenderly that it will be brittle, crisp and juicy when eaten raw.

By the way, self-blanching celery should be grown on the "flat" in groups of, say, 100 plants set out at 8 inches apart each way, so that they will support and blanch one another as they grow. Some straw or boards should be put to the exposed sides of the outside lines of the square block, otherwise these plants will not be as white as is desirable.

The trench celery, white, pink and red, is set out in single or double rows in 8 inches deep trenches at the end of May. The trenches are well manured and the plants are set out at 8 inches to 10 inches apart, and when they are grown sufficiently, they are earthed up to blanch the stalks and protect them from hard frost.

By the way, self blanching celery is very tender and must be used before the first hard frost sets in.

#### USEFUL HINTS.

There are several tomato growers still using stakes to support their plants. Strings are best. Get any of the County Limerick Rural Science Teachers to show you how to string your tomatoes, and the proper way to "tie" the ends. This may save you hours of back-breaking work.

Not only is it more labourious to tie tomatoes to stakes, but the stakes when used more than once are likely to harbour insect pests such as red spider and carry it on from year to year in the house. Twine is much cheaper and easier to renew each year.

It is always a good plan to give the first ball watering of tomatoes with a solution of cheshunt compound to safeguard the plant from foot and root rots.

J. J. O'CARROLL, R.Sc.O.

PRINTING—When about to order printing of any kind, ask at the LIMERICK LEADER Office for Quotations. **Twill pay you to do so.**

## WAS ACTIVE IN FIGHTING DAYS

### OLD I.R.A. MAN PASSES

The death of Mr. John Heffernan, Shearin's Cross, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, which has occurred, removes a man who took a prominent part in national affairs and was actively identified with the fight for freedom (writes our Bruff correspondent). He was Captain of the Dromin Company of the Old I.R.A. during the most critical period of the war of independence. He was a key man in the district, where he was responsible for facilitating the Flying Column when passing through the area, which proved a safe refuge for many of those "on the run." He took part in all the engagements in East Limerick, including the burning of Elton Barracks, and was an outstanding patriot whose merit was well recognised by the Battalion at the Council meetings, at which he was always present to help considerably in all activities of the Battalion Council. He was a Magistrate in the old Sinn Féin Courts. He was father-in-law of Mr. J. O'Keeffe, Shearin's Cross, a well-known breeder, owner and trainer of greyhounds. Very popular and much esteemed throughout a wide area, his demise is deeply regretted.

A high tribute was paid to the memory of the deceased when his funeral took place from Dromin Church to Effin Cemetery, where the remains were interred. The coffin was draped in the Tricolour and as the remains were laid to rest, a firing party of old comrades, under Mr. John Morrissey, Brucee, fired a volley over the grave. The large and representative attendance at the interment bore testimony to the high regard in which the deceased was held.

The chief mourners were:—Mrs. J. Heffernan (widow); Mrs. J. O'Keeffe (daughter); Messrs. A. Heffernan and James Heffernan (brothers); Mrs. Raleigh and Mrs. Murphy, Cork (sisters); Mr. J. O'Keeffe (son-in-law); Miss N. O'Keeffe (grandchild); Mrs. A. Heffernan (sister-in-law); Mr. P. Murphy (brother-in-law); Messrs. Patrick, John and Matthew Raleigh (nephews); Mrs. O'Riordan, Mrs. McCarthy and Miss N. Murphy (nieces).

Officiating clergy were—Very Rev. S. O'Dea, P.P., Dromin; Rev. Michael Kennedy, C.C., do.

## TRANSFER OF POPULAR OFFICIAL

Mr. O'Hara, Agricultural Instructor, who has been working in the Scariff district for the last three years, has been transferred (writes our Killaloe correspondent). He was a most amiable and popular young man, and the farmers of the area deeply regret his departure, as he was a very capable official. In the Irish language movement he took a great interest, and will be a loss to the revival of Irish drama in Scariff. He is replaced by Mr. Seamus Hunt.

## PRODUCER TO CONSUMER

Dublin is to have in about four months time a market for supplying the people direct from producer to consumer. Permission to amend the existing relevant bye-laws so as to regularise the project has been granted to Dublin Corporation by the Minister.

Supt. E. O'Riordan, Pallasgreen, said that conditions in Caherconlish had been very disturbed for some time past. Two Guards had been beaten up, the Sergeant had his car maliciously burned and could not walk through the streets of the village without being jeered at. The occasion of the offences with which the accused were now charged was not the only time that the Gardai had been called in to restore order in the local hall in Caherconlish during the past number of months. Edward O'Shea worked as a casual labourer, while his brother operated as a book-maker's runner. Since the incident which precipitated the present charges, there was still another attack on the Gardai in Caherconlish, the District Court hearing of which was pending.

For the accused, Mr. Kenny said that on the night of the assault in the Hall, the two brothers had been drinking together, after Patrick O'Shea had come from Limerick to see his parents. Costello, he submitted initiated the argument by objecting to the accused's accompaniment of a singer on the stage. Edward O'Shea came worst out of the struggle which ensued, having been struck on the head by Guard Bennett's baton, which broke. At the time of his arrest, Edward O'Shea was preparing to go to a job in England, found for him by his uncle.

### EVIDENCE OF GOOD CHARACTER.

James Purcell, N.T., Caherconlish, said he knew the accused since they were children and could say they were of a most decent family. He always found them extremely honest.

Accused's father, Martin O'Shea, having given evidence as to their good character generally, said he and the previous witness were prepared to enter into bonds for his sons' future good behaviour. He was also prepared to make arrangements for compensating the injured parties.

Richard Ryan, shopkeeper, also gave evidence regarding the accused's honesty and general good character.

### BOTH SENT TO PRISON.

Addressing the accused, the Judge remarked that country life was sufficiently dull in Ireland without having persons like accused interfering with entertainers, who might make rural living more bright. He impressed on the two accused that they could easily be sent to a long term of penal servitude for the offences to which they had pleaded guilty. Nobody in Court, he thought, who had heard the circumstances of the case, had asked themselves anything except what term of imprisonment the accused should serve. He would have regard to the accused's plea of guilty, and, notwithstanding the previous convictions and the present state of affairs in Caherconlish, would only sentence the accused to twelve months imprisonment with hard labour.

## MUINTIR NA TIRE

### KILLALOE LADIES SECTION

On Friday night last, at a meeting held in the Killaloe Rowing Club, the following ladies were elected on the Ladies' Section of Muintir na Tíre:—Mrs. Murphy, the Misses P. Kiely, B. Higgins, B. Grimes, B. Flynn.

The election of officers for the coming year was deferred to the next meeting, to be held in the Kincora Hall after second Mass on Sunday next.



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