

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

FEBRUARY, 1920.

LENT, 1920.

LENT will begin this year on Wednesday (Ash Wednesday) February 18th. Lent and Advent are the Two Special Mission Seasons in the Church's year. Advent leads up to Christmas, and Lent is the season of preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

Special Services will be held as follows in the Parish Church:—

Ash Wednesday, February 18th—

11-30—Morning Prayer, Litany,
and Communion Service.

8—Evening Prayer and Sermon.

1st Sunday in Lent, February 22nd, special Sermons will be preached on "Temperance," and the offerings at Morning and Evening Prayer will be on behalf of the Diocesan Temperance Society. Many of our people are in favour of Local Option and some approve of Total Prohibition such as is now in force by public opinion and legal enactment in the United States and in Canada. There is still a great deal of Drunkenness prevalent in this neighbourhood, notwithstanding the war-time restrictions on the sale of strong drink. We hope all who recognize the evil and waste caused by strong Drink will combine against it. February 22nd will be a useful opportunity for special prayer and effort in that direction.

On the remaining Sunday Mornings in Lent a Series of Four Sermons will be preached on the "Church Catechism," the subjects being—"The Creed," "The Lord's Prayer," "The Ten Commandments," and "The Sacraments."

The Rev. J. Taylor, M.A., Rector of St. Jude's, Belfast, will (p.v.) preach in Seagoe Parish Church, on Sunday, March 28th, at Morning and Evening Prayer. We will be glad to have Mr Taylor amongst us once again. His good work done in the Parish when Curate of Seagoe will be long remembered.

On Sunday Evenings during Lent a course of Four Sermons will be preached on "How we got our Bible," and on the Wednesday evenings the subject will be Modern Missions in India, China, Japan, and South America.

The New Church Hymnal.

It is hoped that the new Church Hymnal will be on sale in the middle of February. Its publication has been delayed by disputes in the Printing trade and by the scarcity of paper. The price of the Hymnal with Music will be 4/6, but words only can be had in 1/-, 2/-, 3/- and 4/- editions. The Hymnal is a great improvement on that now in use. It contains 721 Hymns and 16 Christmas Carols. The Hymns have been arranged in new groups and a number of cross-references will make the selection of Hymns bearing on Special subjects very wide. Many old Hymns, about 150 in number, have been omitted, but practi-

cally all those which are familiar to us have been retained. Great care has been taken in the musical arrangement of the Hymns. Two of our best Irish Musicians, Dr. Kitson and Mr. Marchant, were entrusted with the compilation and revision of the Music for the Hymns.

A matter of special interest for us in Seagoe is that two of the Tunes—those for Hymns 340 and 628—have been called after Seagoe Parish. The tune to the former was written by Dr. Kitson and was given the name "Seagoe" out of compliment to this Parish and the Tune to 628 arranged by the Rev. Canon David Wilson was called "Peacefield," after the house in Ballinacor where his mother's family--the Ruddell's—lived for many generations. The Hymnal contains a fine selection of Mission Hymns, Hymns for Children, and Old Irish Hymns. We hope to have the Hymnal introduced into Seagoe Parish Church as soon as copies are available.

Our Sunday Schools.

This is the season of the year when our Sunday School Societies are held, and we hope that as many as possible will be held within the next few weeks. It has been decided to have the Prize Distributions at a later date so that the children will have the opportunity of getting the New Hymnal for a Prize. The Hymnals are not yet on sale in number sufficient for Prizes. Levaghery has arranged its "Social" for Thursday, February 5th, and the Tickets (1/- each) are now on sale. Carne will hold its "Social" on Thursday, February 6th, at 7-30.

We hope all our Sunday School Teachers have secured a copy of the Notes for Teachers. The price is 1/- and if any Teacher wishes for a copy on application to the Superintendent it can at once be obtained. It is impossible for a Teacher to teach the Lesson without previously studying these most useful notes.

Organ Recital.

Mr. Hardcastle, the Organist of St. Mark's Church, will (p.v.) give an Organ Recital in Seagoe Church, on Thursday, February 12th, at 8 p.m. The Recital is intended to illustrate the Development of Church Music from the earliest times. At intervals during the Recital sacred solos will be sung. A collection will be made, and after the payment of necessary expenses, the Balance will be forwarded to St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers.

"The Tighest Corner I was In."

We would like to print each month a record from some one or other of our Fighting men as to "the Tighest Corner" he was in during the war. Everyone had narrow escapes, some narrower than others. Please write down in your own words your experience of the "Tighest Corner" and send it on to the Rector, and he will print it in the Magazine. Be sure to add your name and regiment.

The Magazine.

We would be greatly obliged to the Magazine Distributors if they would kindly remit their accounts and whatever sums are due for the past year to the Rector. Owing to the high prices for printing now prevailing a prompt settlement of accounts is very necessary.

By a printer's error in the January number the price of the Magazine was put down as "One Penny." But no change has been made. The Price still continues at Twopence. Prices of Paper and cost of Printing are still going up, but the Price of the Magazine will not be raised.

Bible Class Social.

Mr. and Mrs. Rennix very kindly entertained the members of Seagoe Bible Class to tea in Seagoe School, on Friday evening, January 23rd. There was a full attendance of members and a most pleasant evening was spent. Amongst those present were the Rector, the Rev. H. G. de L. Singleton, and Mr. and Mrs. James Twinem. During the evening the members presented Mr. Rennix with a handsome set of Carvers to show their appreciation of his efforts. The Class meets on every Sunday morning at 10 in Seagoe School. The present course of study is the Book of the Acts of the Apostles..

PARISH REGISTER for JANUARY.

Baptism.

Rowan—3rd January, 1920, Thomas Andrew, son of David Samuel and Sophia Rowan, of Portadown.

Sponsors—Mary Stewart, Sophia Rowan.

Marriages.

Gardiner and Jamison—7th January, 1920, Thos. Gardiner, of Moyraverty, to Anne Isabel Jamison, of Lurgan.

Grimason and Haire—22nd January, 1920, Thos. Miller Grimason, of Portadown, to Emily Haire, of Edenderry.

Burials.

Quaile—13th January, Samuel Quaile, of Balteagh, aged 60. Interred in Shankill Graveyard,

Porter—24th January, Richard Porter, of Lower Seagoe, aged 94 years.

Concert in Edenderry.

A very enjoyable Concert was given in Edenderry Parochial Hall on Thursday, January 8th. The Hall was well filled and the Programme was one of the best ever provided in the Parish. Solos were sung by Mrs. Johnston, Miss Sarah Martin, and Mr. Wright. A brass and string Band gave selections under the direction of Mr. Pallett. Mr. Doherty, from Belfast, sang and recited with fine effect, and a little Scotch lassie on a visit to Portadown gave a splendid exhibition of step dancing which delighted the audience. She wore a shield of medals which she had won in Scotland. At the close of the evening an

entertaining "Coon" sketch was given by a juvenile party from Edenderry. It was well done and loudly applauded. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to all who had helped to make the evening a success. Mrs. Pallett with her usual skill presided at the piano. The proceeds were in aid of Seagoe Day School and Edenderry Parochial Hall.

Mission Collection Boxes.

The Boxes will be collected (D.V.) early in March. Collectors are asked to make a special effort to have them quite full, if not flowing over, this year. Give yourself, ask your friends to give, keep the box moving, and you will be surprised how much you can get in. See that your box is quite full when the collector calls for it.

The Sustentation Fund.

The collections for the Sustentation Fund are now almost complete and they will be published at an early date in the Annual Report. There is an increase on last year in most of the districts, but nothing like what is required to render the Finances of the Parish secure under the altered conditions due to the war and the rise in prices. The familiar 2/6 subscription still appears in the list, but is decidedly rarer than in former days.

Nature Notes.

The very bright star rising in the East and visible throughout the night is the planet Jupiter. Perhaps some of the parishioners who have extra good sight could see on some clear nights one or more of the satellites or small moons which circle round him. The Constellation Orion with the 3 conspicuous stars forming his "belt" is very conspicuous just now in the Southern sky each night. The Royal Meteorological Society of Great Britain has a number of observers in each part of the United Kingdom whose duty each year is to record the Dates of the Flowering of the following Plants, the number added here to each plant is the number of the day of the year on which they are usually observed to come into flower in the neighbourhood of Seagoe—Hazel, 49; Coltsfoot, 69; Wood Anemone, 87; Blackthorn, 101; Garlic Hedge Mustard, 116; Horse Chestnut, 130; Hawthorn, 139; White Ox-Eye, 155; Dog Rose, 165; Black Knapweed, 199; Harebell, 195; Greater Bindweed, 205; Ivy, 277. Some of our readers who are interested in Plant life may see if by their local observations they can verify these figures. The figures given are the averages deduced from observations during the past 25 years.

ITEM.

Joshua Caddell has returned to his home in Tarson after some years in the United States. He joined up with the American Army when America declared war, and was trained in two American camps, but had not the good fortune to be sent to France.

Chota Nagpur Missions.

In addition to the sum of £3 5s 5d acknowledged in last month's Magazine, we have since received the following Card Collections—Lily Cordner, 7/6; Charlotte Clayton, 5/-; Martha Glassey, 5/-; bringing the total up to £4 2s 11d. In the list published last month the sum of 10/8 acknowledged, should have been credited to Emily Cox.

The needs of Foreign Missions are just now greater than ever, and we hope all our Missionary workers will redouble their efforts in this greatest of all causes.

ITEMS.

Accounts for Parochial Hall Concert—Receipts, £11 10s 0d. Expenses £2 19s 3d. Balance, £8 10s 9d.

Joshua Caddell had a unique experience recently. On a Sunday towards the close of 1919 he was engaged teaching a Sunday school class in the States, and on that Sunday fortnight was teaching a class in Seagoe Sunday School.

February will this year have five Sundays, an occurrence which can only happen once in every 28 years.

The reason why February has fewer days than any other month is because the Roman Emperor Augustus wished August, the month named after himself to have not less than 31 days in it, and to accomplish this took one day away from February.

The Bann floods just now are said to be higher than at any other time in living memory.

Several families on the Drumcree side of the Bann have been flooded out of their houses.

Richard Porter, of Lower Seagoe, has passed away at the great age of 94 years, after a brief illness. A month before his death he visited his sister, Mrs. Lutton, in Edenderry, who is now in her 100th year.

Owing to the floods Derryvore is now only accessible by boat.

In Ardmore Parish the Bannfoot is isolated by the floods.

Some of the carved woodwork of the Choir Stalls in the Parish Church has been injured by the ravages of boring insects.

An unusual succession of heavy storms have been experienced during the past few weeks. They have blown mostly from south or south-west.

Sergeant Jackson, of Edenderry R.I.C. Barracks, is on special duty in a disturbed part of Tipperary. We hope he will escape the attention of the Sinn Feiners.

316 Copies of Seagoe Calendar were sold off in a few days. We regret it was impossible to print off any more.

Last year the Parish subscribed £21 19s 7d to the Co. Armagh Protestant Orphan Society.

Mrs. Rennix, wife of the Principal of Seagoe N.S., has been appointed Assistant in succession to Miss Bailey who has retired.

The Annual Report of Seagoe Parish for 1919 will shortly be published.

The Municipal Elections under the new system of Voting created some excitement in Edenderry. We congratulate Mr. David Rock and Mr W. J. Moffett on their election. They are both very useful members of the Council.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson very kindly entertained the Choir at a Social last month. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

Cottage Services have been held during the month in several districts of the Parish and have been largely attended. We thank Mr. Major, Mr. Graham, Mr. W. J. Caddell, and Mr. J. Conolly, who have kindly lent their houses for the services.

We are glad to see the steam roller at work in Seagoe. The roads badly needed repairing.

Young men should join Mr. David Guy's Gymnastic Class which meets in Edenderry Parochial H.H. every Thursday at 8.

A few copies of Seagoe Parish Almanac may yet be had price 2d each from the Sunday School Superintendents, or at Mr. Kyle's Grocery Stores, Bridge Street.

The Rev. J. Taylor, Rector of St. Jude's, Belfast, will (p.v.) preach in Seagoe Church on Sunday, March 28th.

OLD SEAGOE NOTES.

The Original Plans of Seagoe Parish Church, 1816.—The original Plans for the building of the present Church can be seen at the offices of the Representative Church Body in Dublin. They are signed by the Architect. The Church is in the early English style of Architecture. In the plans there are some variations from the present Church. The tower as originally designed was wider, and a lancet window was to be inserted at each side of the front entrance door. Small entrance halls were provided opening off the present hall to right and left, which seems to suggest that there were to have been two inner entrance doors to the Church. This would have been a great improvement on the present arrangement as there is no shelter now from the draught which blows through the west door.

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A Curate's Endowment Fund for Seagoe Parish, 1879.—At a meeting of the Select Vestry held on 10th November, 1879, it was proposed that portion of the sum of £6865 10s 4d invested towards the endowment of Seagoe Parish should be set apart for a Curate's Endowment Fund. This was based on the ground that the larger portion of it was derived from the Curate's Composition Balances at Disestablishment, the Vestry desired that the sum of £200 per annum as endowment should be available for the Rector's income, and £75 for the Curate's. They also desired the Archdeacon of Dromore and Colonel Waring to convey to Major Blacker this fact that although these proposed schemes are somewhat different from his ideas, they feel that both he and they have the one common object in view "the placing of Seagoe Parish on an equal level with the neighbouring Parishes," and they trust that a proper understanding may now be arrived at, so that provision for present and future may be made, and that the Parish may know what is required of them.

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Ten Townlands taken from Seagoe Parish, 1878.—At a meeting of Select Vestry held in Seagoe Vestry-room on the 16th October, 1878, Major Blacker in the chair. Major Blacker reported that yesterday, the 15th inst., at the Diocesan Synod, held in Belfast, the 10 Townlands belonging to Lord Lurgan were ordered to be transferred from the Parish of Seagoe to the Parish of Shankill, and that he, on the part of Seagoe, had seconded the proposition of Rev. Theophilus Campbell to that effect.

[The Townlands were Aghacmmon, Annaloist, Ballynamoney, Boconnel, Drumnakelly, Kinnego, Knockramer, Silverwood, Tannaghmore West, Turmoira. They had formed part of the Parish since the year 1444.]

Seagoe Rectory 100 years ago.—In continuance of our reference to Seagoe Rectory in our last issue the following particulars may be of interest. In 1809 the glebe lands were surrounded by a number of large Elms, which had been planted early in the 18th century. They were much admired for their size and beauty up to the year 1810, when owing to the death of the Rector, the Rev. George Blacker, the Rectory was uninhabited and neglected for some years. Dean Blacker who succeeded the Rev. George Blacker as Rector and Vicar did not take much interest in the house, and about 1817, when timber had become very scarce and dear, sold the trees to timber merchants, so that in the year 1819 there were no large trees on the Rectory lands. Considerable dissatisfaction resulted from the Dean's action. In the year 1828 the trees were planted which surround the glebe lands. A complete list of all the trees, and the price paid for them, is still to be seen in the Rectory papers in the Record office, Four Courts, Dublin. The site of the Rectory is exposed to strong winds, and the trees were planted for shelter. The planting was done under the direction of Archdeacon Saurin, who was appointed Vicar in 1826.

Another improvement effected by Archdeacon Saurin was the formation of the inner walled garden. This had been up to his time an enclosed paved yard. He got the pavement removed and the yard transformed into a handsome garden, in which fruit trees of all kinds, also figs, peaches, and the mulberry tree (still there) were planted. All the paths in the garden were relaid, and a path was made through what is called the lawn at its north side, towards the Bann. This path is now grown over.

A path was also made from the Rectory door across the Rectory grounds to a gate opposite to the gates of the present church. This path still exists. It was fenced by a holly hedge and cost £7 4s 0d to make.

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Rectory Repairs in 1828.—Inner Garden, Iron gate and hanging it £1 1s 0d.

Part of old garden now, formerly a shrubbery, trenched 2 ft. deep, 17 square perches at 2/6 a perch £2 3s 6d.

Gravelled all the walks in old garden and made them in the new part. £5 0s 0d.

Two old orchards, of about 160 trees, and little orchard piped, fence from gate up, gripe piped, fenced and levelled, £5 4s.

Planting trees round lawn £18 12s 4d.

The following trees were planted in the inner garden—18 Espalier apple trees, round beds £13 10s; 4 plumb trees at 3/6; 6 cherry trees on walls £1 4s; 1 fig tree 8/-; 7 peach trees £2 16s; 1 apricot 2/6; 5 pear trees £3 2s 6d; 1 mulberry tree at 4/-; four pear trees in corner of beds £3 4s.