

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JULY, 1928.

CLERGY :

Rev. Canon Archer, B.D., The Rectory, Seagoe, Portadown.

Rev. W. A. Henry, 21 Edward St., Portadown.

LAY READER (Bishop's Licence) :

Mr. Robt. Gracey, Edengarth, Bridge St., Edenderry.

CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's—Robert M'Clements.

People's—William Dermott.

Confirmation at Seagoe.

On Friday, June 8th, at 8 p.m., a Confirmation was held in Seagoe Parish Church by the Right Rev. C. T. P. Grierson, D.D., Lord Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore. The candidates assembled in the Parochial School and walked in procession to the Church, the boys first and the girls following. During the Service the Bishop gave two addresses, one before and one after the Confirmation. He spoke of the solemn nature of the Rite of Confirmation, which had come down to us from the days of the Apostles. He enjoined on the young people present the blessedness of making an early choice in the following of Jesus Christ and spoke of the duty incumbent on them of a daily recourse to prayer, a diligent study of the Bible and a frequent attendance at Holy Communion in obedience to their Lord's command. The candidates were then presented for Confirmation, kneeling two at a time before the Bishop at the chancel steps. As he laid his hands on the head of each candidate he offered up the beautiful Prayer of Confirmation—"Defend, O Lord, this Thy child with Thy Heavenly Grace that he may continue Thine for ever, and daily increase in Thy Holy Spirit more and more until he come unto Thy everlasting Kingdom. Amen."

After the Confirmation the hymn "Thine for ever" was sung, the whole congregation kneeling. The service was most impressive and the large congregation joined reverently in it. The following clergy were present—The Rector (Rev. Canon Archer), the Rev. W. A. Henry, curate, and the Rev. T. G. Moore, curate of Shankill, who acted as Bishop's Chaplain. Two candidates from Shankill Parish were confirmed. The following is a list of the names of those confirmed from Seagoe Parish, arranged alphabetically—

BOYS (36).

David Allen, Ernest Allen, James Allen, George Brownlee, Reginald Elliott, George Ellis, Henry Ellis, John England, James Girvan, Joseph Henry Girvan, Thomas Victor Gracey, Thomas Ernest Guy, Joseph Harrison, Harry Hynes, James Lavery, George Alexander Magee, Samuel Abraham Mayes, Alfred M'Dowell, Samuel A. M'Dowell, Harold M'Loughlin, Arthur M'Keown, David Phillips, Joseph Preston, Cecil Rehill, Richard Robb, Norman Roney, Samuel Ruddell, Foster Shanks, William Sinnamon, Frank

Trainor, Dynes Turkington, James Twinem, Sidney Walker, Thomas Watson, Thomas Henry Webb, Robert White.

GIRLS (44).

Margaret Abraham, Margaret Best, Kathleen Boyce, Elizabeth Cordner, Hannah Coulter, Mary Frances Coulter, Elsie Dunlop, Gertrude Fletcher, Bella Freeburn, Mary Freeburn, Sarah Jane Freeburn, Margaret Gracey, Mary Winifred Eliza Gracey, Minnie Hewitt, Henrietta Hoy, Rhoda Hoy, Susanna Jane Jackson, Sophia Jennett, Kathleen Maud Livingstone, Margaret Major, Hannah Elizabeth Martin, Margaret Mathers, Adeline Mayes, Emily Mayes, Lily M'Kee, Edith M'Keown, Sarah Mary M'Keown, Mary Jane M'Neill, Eveline Millar, Sarah Neill, Sophia Nesbitt Porter, Emily Reid, Grace Robinson, Anne Ruddell, Martha Jane Russell, Margaret Emma Sherman, Mabel Agatha Stanfield, Margaret Trainor, Rebecca Jane Turkington, Elizabeth Vennard, Hilda Walker, Jane Watters, Elizabeth Webb, Sarah Lavinia Webb.

Total Confirmed—80.

July 1st, 1916.

Sunday, July 1st, will be the 12th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, where so many of our brave Seagoe men made the supreme sacrifice for God and King and Country. It is fitting that we should reverently celebrate this sad but glorious chapter in our history. The Services on Sunday will therefore take the form of Memorial Services, when in our worship we will bear in mind those who went forth from our midst regardless of self to uphold the honour and safety of the Empire and to defend the cause of Truth and Righteousness. The names of the fallen from Seagoe Parish will be read out during the Services.

The collections at both Services will be on behalf of the County Armagh Protestant Orphan Society.

Seagoe P.E. School.

The School will break up for the summer holidays on Wednesday, July 4th, and (p.v.) resume work again on Monday, August 13th, at 9-15 a.m. The School has had a most successful term and the attendance of the children has beaten any previous record. Two important examinations were held, one in the course prescribed by the Irish Temperance Alliance and one by the Rev. J. Armstrong, Diocesan Inspector in Religious Knowledge, on Tuesday, June 12th. The answering at both examinations was very satisfactory.

Seagoe Prize-Winners.

At Portadown Show on Thursday, June 7th, the only two entrants from Seagoe P.E. School succeeded in winning first and second prizes in the needlework competition. Lily Ruddell won first prize and Hannah Coulter the second prize.

Excursion to Newcastle.

The excursion proved a great success and everybody was delighted with Newcastle. The morning of Thursday, June 21st, did not look promising. Rain was falling and thick clouds obscured the sun. Only a few of the excursionists gathered at the Church, most of them went direct to the Station. A short service was held in the Church at 8 a.m., and then we walked to the Station. Fortunately the rain had stopped before we left the Church. The The Edenderry and Hacknahay children joined up with us in Edenderry. There was a great crowd at the Station. At 9 a.m. Bob Callison, the guard in charge of the Seagoe train, blew his whistle and off we started. The run to Newcastle was made in good time. It was raining heavily when we arrived in the Station and a rush was made to the Station Pavilion. Mr. McClements and his good helpers had the tea ready and the hampers full of appetising sandwiches and superfine buns were quickly opened and as quickly emptied. The arrangements were excellent and everything worked smoothly. When the first refreshment was over the clouds had cleared away and the sun came out. The excursionists scattered in various directions, some went to the shore and paddled, some walked through the town and some went up the mountain. It turned out a glorious day and the sea looked lovely with its long white waves. Slieve Donard was wreathed in fleecy clouds, and the white streams of mountain torrents coursed down its sides. The tide was coming in and the youngsters had great fun running away from the long waves. The second refreshment began at 4 p.m., and before long the pavilion was again filled with hungry excursionists. At 7-50 p.m. the return train left for home and at 9 drew up at Portadown platform. An enormous crowd of people and buses and motors were awaiting us. There were twelve big buses in the Station yard. The second train left Newcastle at 8-15 but between Castlewellan and Ballyronney a spring broke in the engine. The driver managed to get it into Ballyronney Station, where a fresh engine was sent for from Portadown. There was a delay of 1½ hours owing to the accident but all arrived safely in Portadown at 10-53 p.m.

The Seagoe excursionists numbered 578. No less than 950 separate refreshments were served. 488 children's tickets were sold. The Sunday Schools from the Parishes of Drumcree and the Dobbin also shared in the excursion. The two trains carried over 1,000 excursionists. Everybody returned home delighted with the day and are already making plans for next year's excursion.

Enterprise.

Messrs. T. J. Montgomery & Son are presenting their customers with a handsome tea caddy as a gift. It is of an attractive light blue colour and is decorated in black and gold. We recommend our readers to secure one without delay by purchasing 1 lb. of the famous Gold Medal Blend.

Seagoe in Manitoba.

[The Rector has received the following interesting letter from the Lay Reader at Somerset, Manitoba. Mr. Lewis has also most kindly sent a snapshot of the Church of the Redeemer at Norquay, which is attended by our Seagoe friends. We congratulate Mr. Lewis on the good work he is doing amongst the emigrants to Canada.]

Somerset, Manitoba, Canada.

June 4th, 1928.

Dear Canon Archer,—I was very glad to receive your letter and to know how you liked the snap I enclosed in my last letter. The Robinsons are doing well. Last year was a bad year for the farmers in this district, but this spring conditions have been ideal for putting the crop in.

The parish of Somerset is one of the largest parishes in the Diocese of Brandon, covering roughly about forty-five square miles. It consists of four points, St. Barnabas, Somerset; All Saints, Swan Lake; St. Christopher's, Rembina, and The Church of the Redeemer, Norquay. Of these four the two former are towns, and the latter school districts. The Robinsons and the Rea boys attend Norquay Church, which is located about nine miles from Somerset and near the old town of Norquay, the home of one of Manitoba's first premiers, John Norquay. They have about eight miles to come to Church, through hill and bush-land, over some very bad roads. As a rule in the winter, Jim Rea loads up the sleigh with the Robinson family, but in the summer, Jim, being the proud possessor of a Ford car, brings as many as the car will hold.

The work in a parish like this, and under the conditions which exist here is very exacting. One has to spend so much time on the road, and in the winter, with the intense cold and very heavy snow, it is a great strain on one. But there are compensations somehow. A country and conditions such as are found in this country brings out all the best in people.

There is also a very strong Roman Catholic community, there being a great many French and Belgians settled here.

Norquay Church, where the Reas and the Robinsons worship, is the smaller of the four Churches, seating about fifty-five people, but it is very prettily situated on a hill at the corner of four cross-roads and with pretty tree-land to the south.

I will be glad to hear from you, sir, whenever you can write me.—As ever, yours in the Faith,

ERNEST H. LEWIS.

The July Anniversary.

On Sunday evening, July 8, at 7 p.m., an Anniversary Service will be held in Seagoe Parish Church. The preacher will be the Rev. H. F. O. Egerton, M.A., Rector of Mullabrack. The collection will be on behalf of the Lord Enniskillen Orphan Fund. Places will be reserved for the Brethren attending the Service.

Legacy for Seagoe.

The late Mr. John McCann, of Ballyhannon, bequeathed a sum of £20 to the Select Vestry of Seagoe for any object which they may decide on.

Open-air Services.

Open-air Services are held on Wednesday evenings at some centre in Edenderry prior to the Service in the Parochial Hall. Such services have already been held in James St., Century St. and Foundry St. Next Wednesday evening the open-air Service will be held in Joseph Street. Open-air Services have also been held on Sunday afternoons or evenings at Church Lane, Balteagh and Seagoe Turns. A Service was also held at Kernan.

Seagoe Mothers' Union.

At the meeting of the Mothers' Union held on Tuesday, June 12th, Mrs. Henry, of Clones, kindly gave an address. Her subject was "the Garden of Life." There was a very large attendance of members, who greatly appreciated Mrs. Henry's helpful words. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 5th. The Rector has invited the members to tea in Seagoe School at 7-30 and to spend the evening at the Rectory. He hopes to see a full attendance of the members.

Bible Instruction in Schools

The recent discussion on Bible instruction in transferred Day Schools has been again brought to notice by the publication of the full correspondence between the Minister of Education (Viscount Charlemont) and the Armagh Regional Committee. It can be had in pamphlet form, price 6d. (per post 7d), from the Government Stationery Department, Donegall Square West, Belfast, or may be ordered through Mr. John Waugh, Bookseller, Portadown. We strongly recommend all our Parishioners to secure a copy without delay. The correspondence has arisen out of the fact that the Rectors of Shankill (Lurgan), Ardmore and of Seagoe refused to transfer the Schools of which they were managers unless they got a satisfactory guarantee (by the insertion of the rule as to Bible Instruction in the Deed of Transfer) for the permanence of Religious Instruction in the Schools. Their action has been amply justified by the Ministry of Education in this pamphlet. The Ministry administers a scathing rebuke to the members of the Armagh Regional Committee. Here are a few sentences from the pamphlet:—"Managers were naturally averse to parting with the control of the schools unless they had satisfactory legal assurances for the continuance of Bible teaching. The Minister of Education wishes to make a special appeal to your Committee to reconsider this question." In reply to this the Regional Committee wrote declining to re-open the matter. The Minister replied describing the action of the Committee as "incomprehensible," and he adds, "Your Committee must have no doubts of the legality of the insistence on the teaching of Bible Instruction

in the schools, seeing that it enforces this duty on its teachers, and yet it professes to make the existence of these doubts an excuse for refusing the legitimate requests of certain of the managers. The Minister of Education feels compelled to reiterate his opinion that the action of your Committee in this matter, unsupported as it is by that of any other Education Authority in Northern Ireland is unfortunate and calculated to imperil the harmonious and successful working of the new legislation." The "Belfast News-Letter" expressed the following opinion in a recent leading article: "The Armagh Regional Committee must come down off its pedestal and if it refuses to do so legislation must be introduced to compel it to do so." We hope the people of Seagoe will study the pamphlet for themselves.

Visit of Inspector.

The Rev. J. Armstrong, Diocesan Inspector in Religious Knowledge in P.E. Schools, examined the children attending Seagoe School on Tuesday, June 12th. The following obtained Certificates—full marks:—Senior Division—1st class, 100%—Harry Hynes, May Jones, Martha Girvan, Annie Whiteside, Dinah McCabe, John Fiddes, Lizzie Major, Eileen Dunlop, Mrytle Brown, Florrie Forsythe; 90 per cent.—Lily Ruddell, Hannah Coulter; 2nd class, 75 per cent.—Sophia Porter, Fred Walker, Sadie Harra, Alexander Heyburn, Maggie Ruddell; 3rd class, 60 per cent.—May Vennard, Maud Livingston, Emma Walker. Junior Division—James McCabe, Robert Livingston, Olive Coulter, Peggie Forde, Lily Magowan, Bertha McLoughlin, Florrie Hynes, Willie Donaldson, May Dickson, Lily Dickson, Ernest Gibson, Sarah Macaulay, Gertie Magowan, Irene Montgomery, Victor Porter.

Admission of Lay Reader.

On the evening of Friday, June 8th, just before the Confirmation Service, an interesting and impressive ceremony took place in Seagoe Church. Mr. Robert Gracey was then admitted by the Lord Bishop to the office of a Lay Reader for work in Seagoe Parish. Sir Frederick W. Moneyppenny, K.C.V.O., City Chamberlain of Belfast, and who also is President of the Diocesan Lay Readers' Association, attended the Service, having come from Belfast with the Bishop. Mr. Gracey was presented to the Bishop by the Rector and Sir F. W. Moneyppenny. The Bishop formally admitted Mr. Gracey to the office by handing to him as he knelt before the Bishop the licence for a Lay Reader. We congratulate Mr. Gracey on his admission to this responsible office. We are glad to have him as a member of the staff in this Parish.

Edenderry Parochial Hall.

The Wednesday evening Services now being held in the Parochial Hall are largely attended. A strong choir has been formed and the singing is very hearty. Miss Twinem presides at the harmonium and has given very valuable help all through the Mission Services.

Hymn Singing.

Every Sunday evening at 6-30 a large number of parishioners assemble in the Parish Church and for half-an-hour join in singing hymns from the Church Hymnal. The singing is very hearty and everyone joins in. Come and help in the singing next Sunday.

Sewage Tanks at Seagoe.

The Government Inquiry into the proposed main drainage scheme for Portadown was held in Portadown on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 5th and 6th, by Mr. Bates, the Government Inspector. Strong opposition was put forward against the placing of the sewage tanks at Seagoe. Mr. Warnock, B.L., and Mr. Menary, solicitor, presented the case for those who opposed the Seagoe tanks. The witnesses examined were the Rev. Canon Archer, Mr. R. Forsythe, of Seagoe Villa, Mr. Capel Reid, Mr. J. Greeves, of Fairacre, Mr. Clement Courtney and Mr. Peddie, sanitary engineer. The result of the Inquiry has not yet been declared. The Inquiry was conducted in a very good spirit and there was no loss of temper on either side, and everything was done in a straight and upright way.

Parish Register for June.

Baptism.

Henry—June 2nd, 1928, John, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Henry, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Mary Milligan, Elizabeth Henry.

Marriages.

M'Mullan and Webb—June 14th, 1928, Herbert M'Mullan, of Portadown, to Amelia Webb, of Lylo.

Lamb and Mayes—June 20th, 1928, James Lamb, of Edenderry, to Matilda Mayes, of Carrickblackler.

Burial.

Malcomson—June 5th, Hannah Malcomson, of Edenderry, aged 75 years.

Census of Seagoe.

The returns of the Census for the County of Armagh, which was taken at midnight of 18th—19th April, 1926, have just been published and contain many very interesting particulars about the Parish of Seagoe. It costs 5s and can be had from the Stationery Office, Belfast. Here are some of the returns for Seagoe Parish—Balteagh has a population of 98

persons—42 males and 56 females. This total is 24 less than in the Census of 1911. Bocombra has lost nine residents since 1911. Its total population is 43, consisting of 17 males and 26 females. Carne has also decreased in population. It had 111 residents in 1911 but now has only 97, made up of 44 males and 53 females. Clanrolla, another of our Seagoe townlands, has only lost one resident in fifteen years. In 1911 it had 47 residents and in 1926 it had 46, of whom 21 were males and 25 females. Derryvore, a small townland, numbered 48 residents in 1911 and has increased by one in the 15 years. It has now 49 inhabitants; the males outnumber the females by five. The returns are 27 males and 22 females. Drumnagoon has lost heavily during the 15 years between 1911 and 1926. In the former year it could boast of 146 inhabitants, but now it can only muster 92, a loss of 54, or a third of its population in that period. In this townland, as in Derryvore, the males outnumber the females by eight, the total being males 50, females 42. Kernan has done better, although it is somewhat down in numbers. In 1911 it has 166 people living within its borders but in 1926 only 151. It lost 15 people in 15 years, that is one a year. The sexes in Kernan are almost equally balanced—there are 75 males and 76 females. Knockmena lost six of its residents between 1911 and 1926. It had 48 in the former year and only 42 in the latter, of whom 19 were males and 23 females. In this townland the building of 12 new houses by Mr. James Twinem at "Twinem Terrace" will make a great difference at the next Census. It will possibly add 50 to the population of the townland. Lisniskey has not suffered any serious decline in its population. In 1911 it had 69 people and only diminished by six in the 15 years. In 1926 it numbered 63 inhabitants but the females outnumbered the males, the former being 38 to the latter's 25. Lylo increased by one in the fifteen years 1911—1926. It had 102 inhabitants in 1911 and 103 in 1926. Lylo has the distinction of possessing more than twice as many women as men, for of the 103 persons who lived within its bounds in 1926 there were only 34 men, while the women numbered 69. It is remarkable that Lower Seagoe increased in population during the fifteen years while Upper Seagoe declined. The figures are—Lower Seagoe in 1911 population 129, in 1926, 133, being 56 males and 77 females. The figures for Upper Seagoe are 142 in 1911, and 134 (68 males and 66 females) in 1926. It will be noticed that there is now only a difference of one between the population of Upper and Lower Seagoe.

MARRIAGES must be performed between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Licenses are issued by Rev Canon Hannon, Rectory, Lurgan. Due notice (48 hours) must be given to the Rector of intended weddings. **FEES**—By License—Labourers 5/-. Tradesmen 10/-. Merchants and Farmers 15/-. Professional £1. By Banns 5/-. **FUNERALS** will be attended by the Clergy if proper notice be given. **SICK CASES** should be notified to the Clergy without delay. **FEES FOR CERTIFICATES BAPTISM**, 3/7; Children (Factory), 1/- and 2/- (non-residents); **MARRIAGE**, 3/7. An extra search fee is chargeable in certain cases. It will be a help to the Clergy if they are notified of the arrival of new Church families in the Parish.

A copy of the Magazine will be sent post free to any subscriber for 3s per annum.