

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JULY, 1933.

July Anniversary Service.

An Anniversary Service will be held (D.V.) in the Parish Church on Sunday, July 9th, at 7 p.m. The preacher will be the Rev. F. W. McCullough, M.A., Rector of Aghalee. Places will be reserved for the lodges attending the Service. The collection will be on behalf of the Lord Enniskillen Memorial Orphan Fund.

The Excursion.

Everyone in Seagoe was looking forward with eager anticipation to Thursday, June 22nd, which had been fixed for our annual Sunday School Excursion. There is always a certain amount of anxiety about the weather. We in Seagoe cannot complain for we are generally fortunate in this matter. Without boasting, we can say that our excursion days have been usually fine. In fact "Seagoe weather" has become almost a proverb in the neighbourhood. A large gathering of our Sunday School children assembled in the Church at 8.30 a.m. for a short service. Then a procession was formed, headed by the Seagoe C.L.B. Pipers' Band. Bocombra Sunday School, the youngest of our nine Sunday schools, came next to the Pipers. Other schools followed in at the Parochial Hall. The march to the station was made in good time and soon the first train was full up and left the station. Ten minutes later another train followed. Arrived at Warrenpoint a move was made to the Station Pavilion, where an ample supply of tea and strawberry was supplied. The excursionists then scattered in all directions. The day was perfect and the sea and mountains looked their best. Many went by boat and car to Rostrevor. The Big Stone is a favourite climb. Some of the older elderly could only get

As far as Fiddler's Green.

The toy shops in Warrenpoint must have reaped fortune. We were sorry to see two gambling halls in the Square. They should not be allowed there, especially where so many young people gather together. At 5 o'clock the excursionists made their way back to the Pavilion, where they enjoyed a splendid tea. About 6.30 the rain began to fall but it did not last very long and when the return train started it was quite fine again. We were soon back in Portlarn. The station square was crowded with people and vehicles of all kinds. The C.L.B. Pipers' Band headed the procession back to the Parish Church, where the Rector thanked the Band for their kind and most efficient help. The Band played the National Anthem, and a hearty cheer was given for the King and for Seagoe. Everyone felt that they had had a delightful day. Drumcree and several other

parishes in the Diocese of Armagh had their excursion to Warrenpoint on the same day.

A Day at Summerhill.

Seagoe Mothers' Union had a most enjoyable day on Thursday, June 8th. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson had most kindly invited the members to spend the afternoon at their house, on the Killylea road, outside Armagh. Two large buses left the Parochial Hall at 2.30. The first halt was made at Armagh, where the members made their way to the Cathedral. They were shown over it by the verger. Some of them climbed to the Tower, from which a splendid view is obtained. They then continued the drive through the lovely country to Summerhill. They were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Wilson. A splendid tea was enjoyed on the verandah of the house. They then walked through the gardens and over the lawn and played games. Later there were further refreshments, and shortly before leaving the Rev. W. F. Hayes expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson the hearty thanks of the members for their most enjoyable visit. The journey home in delightful weather was much enjoyed. The party numbered some seventy excursionists.

Seagoe School Sports.

This annual fixture has been arranged to be held at Seagoe on Friday, July 7th, at 6 p.m. The competitors are practising with great energy and some new records are likely to be made. The events will include jumping, 3-leg race, spoon race, and many other items. Seagoe has always been famous for its prowess in jumping. The Brownes of Ballinacor were a famous family for jumping in former days. A field in Lower Seagoe was set apart 100 years ago for athletic contests of various kinds. A jumping test in olden days was to jump the water-cuts in Derryvore or to clear a five-barred gate.

Seagoe Mothers' Union.

The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will be held (D.V.) on Tuesday, July 18th. The Rector will entertain the members to tea in the Schoolhouse at 7.30 p.m., and afterwards they will spend the evening in the Rectory grounds.

Opening of Bocombra Hall.

On Thursday, June 29th, the new Church Hall at Bocombra was opened by Sir William Moore, Bart., Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland. There was a large attendance present. The Seagoe C.L.B. Cadets and Training Corps were drawn up on the road facing the Hall and were inspected by the Lord Chief Justice. Those present then adjourned to a platform at the rear of the Hall. The Rector took the chair. The hymn 424, "The Church's one Founda-

tion," was then sung and Prayer was offered by the Rev. W. F. Hayes. The Chairman having spoken briefly called on Mr. James Twinem to make a statement with regard to the origin and purpose of the Hall.

When Mr. Twinem had finished his speech, the Chairman invited the Lord Chief Justice to speak. Sir William Moore said how pleased he was to revisit Bocombra, where he had been so kindly received some 25 years ago. He was then a politician but now that is all passed away. He congratulated the Parish of Seagoe on having such a good worker as Mr. Twinem, who had brain as well as heart, and whose religion was practical, as was evidenced in a concrete form by the Hall which had been built. The Lord Chief Justice, accompanied by Lady Moore, then proceeded to the door of the Hall and turned the key. He and others then entered the Hall and the Rector in a few words declared the Hall dedicated to the glory of God and for the spiritual welfare of the people of the Parish. He then read Psalm 122. All present then had tea, kindly provided by the ladies of the Parish. After tea a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Lord Chief Justice and to Lady Moore. It was proposed by Mr. Moses Gilpin and seconded by Mr. R. M'Clements. The vote was acknowledged by Sir William Moore, who expressed his pleasure at being present. A vote of thanks to the lady helpers was proposed by Mr. T. E. Maginnis, seconded by Mr. J. H. Twinem, and passed unanimously. A third vote of thanks was passed to those who had given special help in the building of the Hall. It was proposed by Mr. Scott, seconded by Lieut. E. L. Mitchell.

C.L.B. Sports.

On Thursday, June 15th, the Seagoe C.L.B. held their sports in a field at Church Lane, Killicomaine, very kindly lent by Mrs. Wm. Best. The sports began at 7 o'clock, when a large number of people were present. Unfortunately the weather was very inclement but in spite of this a very interesting programme was carried through. Captain Metcalf and Lieut. Mitchell were present with the Band, Cadets and Training Corps. Some of the items had to be cancelled as the ground was very soft owing to the rain. Captain Ferry, from Belfast C.L.B. Headquarters, inspected the lads and was much pleased with their turn-out. A large number of tickets were sold for the meeting. The proceeds amounted to £6, which goes towards the Brigade Funds.

Jews' Society.

The following is a list of box collections and subscriptions sent in last March. We regret the delay in publishing it:—Boxes—The late Miss

H. Martin, 12s 4d; The Misses Montgomery 10s; Miss Gretta Atkinson, 10s 3d; Mr. Arthur Allen, 9s 4d; Mrs. Richard Hoy, 6s 8d; Miss Amy Cox, 5s 10d; Mr. Joe Hynes, 5s 9d; Mrs. J. Shanks, 4s 4d; Mrs. Flannigan, 3s 10d; Mrs. Arthur Allen, senr., 3s 7d; Mrs. Arthur Allen junr., 3s 7d; Mrs. Robert Magee, 3s 3d; Mr. Hynes, 3s; Mr. Harry Hynes, 3s; Miss Florrie Hynes, 3s; Mrs. W. Neill, 2s 8d; Mr. Jack Walker, 2s 1d. Subscriptions—A Friend, £1; A Friend, £1; Miss Halliday, £1; Miss E. Halliday, 10s. Total—£8 2s 6d.

Parish Register for June. Baptisms.

The following were baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on June 3rd, 1933:—

M'Cann—Doris, daughter of James and Minnie M'Cann, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Sarah Kane, Minnie M'Cann.

M'Clure—Elizabeth Joy, daughter of Herbert and Mary Jane M'Clure, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Susannah Liggett, Mary Jane M'Clure.

Lavery—Florence Louisa, daughter of John Emmanuel and Amy Louisa Lavery, of Kilvergan.

Sponsors—John Emmanuul Lavery, Florence Louisa Lavery.

Marriages.

Campbell and Watters—June 21st, 1933, Edward Campbell, of Portadown, and Rebecca Watters, of Edenderry.

Cully and Ruddell—June 28th, 1933, Norman Cully, of Portadown, to Anne Ruddell of Kernan.

Burials

M'Keown—June 3rd, Sarah Mary M'Keown, Killicomaine, aged 18 years.

Conolly—June 4th, Atkinson Conolly, of Carr, aged 35 years.

Jennett—June 22nd, Noel Jennett, of Edenderry, aged 1½ years.

Brown—June 23rd, Jane Brown, of Lylo, aged 84 years.

Pierson—June 28th, John Pierson, of Edenderry, aged 74 years.

Our Losses.

It is with deep regret that we announce our losses by death during the past month. Sarah M'Keown was called away after a long illness which she bore with great patience. Atkinson Conolly passed away after a brief time of suffering. Little Noel Jennett had suffered much from his early infancy. The death of Mrs. Brown of Lylo, and of John Pierson, of Edenderry, came after a long period of weakness. We mourn the loss of those so familiar to many amongst us. We offer to the bereaved relatives our deepest sympathy.

Seagoe in Egypt.

The Rector has received the following interesting letter from Dr. F. J. Harpur, M.D., who has spent his life in Cairo, Egypt, as a Medical Missionary under the Church Missionary Society. Dr. Harpur is a son of the late Rev. J. Harpur, Rector of Ardmore, and is a brother of the Rev. Canon Harpur, former Rector of Moira. We would be very glad to find out the name of the family in Seagoe Parish to whom Dr. Harpur refers. There have been many changes in the parish since 1895. The book-case to which Dr. Harpur refers has certainly done its bit well as an agent of the Gospel in the hands of faithful workers. The parents who gave their small savings to the cause of Missions will have reason to be thankful to the Divine Lord of Missions for the results of their gift.

C/o Miss Fitzgerald, Mountmellick,
Leix, 2nd June, 1933.

Dear Sir,—I hope you will be interested in the enclosed account of the result on 10/- sent to me about 1895 from Seagoe Parish. I hope you may be able to trace members of the family, they would, I am sure, be interested and may keep on praying for a blessing on the books sold at Old Cairo Hospital out patient Department from that book-case. I'm afraid I have not the art of writing things concisely and it will take you some time to read my long account. One of the remarkable things which has happened in the Old Cairo Hospital is that we have had quite a number of patients from Mecca and Jeddah, 1,000 miles away, and copies of the Bible or New Testament or other Scripture portions have been taken back to Mecca, where no Christian can yet go. One reason for this is that one of the consular agents of King Hussain had property in Egypt and when Hussain was deposed he settled in Egypt and bought a house from the C.M.S. in Cairo and whenever sick people from Jeddah or Mecca come to him in Cairo he sends them to the C.M.S. Hospital. Perhaps it would be wiser not to mention this publicly.—Yours sincerely, F. J. HARPUR.

Dear Sir,—About 40 years ago, when Dean Dawson was at Seagoe and my father was Rector of Ardmore, Co. Armagh, Dean Dawson sent 10/- to my father and enclosed a letter from one of his parishioners, asking him to forward them to me. This letter was from a poor man and his wife, who were weavers. I cannot now remember their name, but it told that when their first little boy was born they had made a money box to collect all the pennies they could spare to help to buy books for him when he was old enough to go to school. Another boy was

born, and when the eldest was about 4 years old, both children died from measles of a bad type. The parents looked on the money as sacred and opened the box. There was something less than 10/- in it and they sent the amount to Dean Dawson, explaining about it, and asking him if he could send the money to some Missionary to be used in God's service and praying that it might be used to bring even one soul to Christ. The Dean made the amount up to 10/-, and knowing that I was a missionary in Egypt asked my father to send the money and letter to me. My people wrote asking me to lay out the money in some way that I could afterwards write and tell the kind friends who sent the money what had been done with it. When I received the 10/- and read the letter I consulted with our workers at the Old Cairo Missionary Dispensary how best to lay it out. We wanted a book cupboard for the men's waiting room in which to keep Bibles, Testaments and other Scripture portions for sale to the out patients. Miss Crowther, the out-patient nurse, told me that she had just received £1 from the members of a Bible Class she used to teach before she came to Egypt, and proposed that I should get a book-case made for 10/-, and she would buy £1's worth of books from the Bible Society to put in it, and this was done. The B. and F. Bible Society gave us 25 per cent. reduction on the condition the books were to be sold at full price. As we sold books we increased our stock and at the end of a year I wrote to Dean Dawson telling him what we had done and how much we had gained by sales. The Dean sent my letter on to the family and they were very much pleased to hear what had been done. They called the book-case

"The Shop of the Boy that is in Heaven."

The grandfather said he wanted to be a partner in the shop and sent 10/- to add to our stock, but before the money reached me the grandfather had died also. The book account was kept separate and as well as I remember at one time we had a good stock of books and £15 besides. From time to time books and tracts were also bought, some of which were given away and some sold, and at Christmas a Gospel was given to each patient, and the hospital now buys books when they are required. Some years ago an Arab soldier came to the Hospital, and perhaps it was a year afterwards when another Arab came from Mecca suffering from the same complaint. He had heard of our hospital from the Arab soldier. He was a wealthy man and the Editor of the only newspaper in Mecca and owned a printing press. He brought his servant with him and they were given a small ward to themselves. This man, though a strong

Moslem was curious to know all we could tell him about Christ and one day he bought a Bible from the evangelist who come to read with him daily. When the evangelist left the room the servant followed him and asked him to get him a book like the one his master had bought but not to tell his master. Of course these books came from "The Shop of the Boy that is in Heaven." Some days after the same evangelist was reading from a pocket Testament to the Arab and he asked him afterwards to show him the book and asked him if he could sell him some like it so he went to the book-case and brought about half-a-dozen Testaments. The Arab then produced a small attache case and put them in it and asked for more as he wanted to bring them back to Mecca for his friends, so we had to send to the Bible Depot for them. I hope that he was able to get the books passed through the custom house at Jeddah. Since then there have been many patients from Mecca and Jeddah, and some of them have brought books back with them. We must pray for God's blessing on these books, which have been brought into Arabia, where Missionaries cannot go. I must, before I close, tell of a remarkable instance of how the reading of a New Testament brought a man to believe in Christ and seek for further instruction. I think it was in the year 1895 we had been itinerating along one of the large canals in the south of the Delta in a Dahabayah and had been so well received in some of the villages that I afterwards sent the Hospital Catechist to visit the district again. After a fortnight I joined him and together we visited some of his acquaintances. I had brought some Testaments with me in a handbag, and we sold one to the chief man of a small village.

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A young man in government service came to a Catechist in Cairo asking for instruction. He proved a genuine inquirer and after further instruction was baptized about 1909. He told how his grandfather had bought a New Testament years ago and he had read it, and when after his baptism he invited the Catechist to spend a day in his village he showed him the book which looked as if it had been well read. Yesterday I had a letter from the Catechist to whom I had written inquiring about him. He writes, "He is a real Christian. Please pray, as his wife and his children are not yet baptized. If I am right in fixing the date at which I sold the New Testament to this convert's grandfather as 1895, it must have been a year before I received the 10/- from parishioners of Seagoe Parish—but all the same it encourages us to pray that, out of the hundreds of portions of Scripture sold from "the Shop of the Boy

that is in Heaven," some may have learned to love Christ. I am sorry that I cannot remember the name of the people who sent the money to Dean Dawson, but perhaps you may be able to find the family and tell them that the book-case is still spreading in a small way the Gospel story. Some years ago an English lady who visited the Hospital was so much interested in the story that she wished me to have a few words written in Arabic put on a board fastened to the top of the book-case, explaining that the book-case was the gift of kind friends in Ireland for the purpose of spreading the good news of Christ to those who did not know it. I am anxious to let the friends in your Parish know a little of how useful this book-case has been. We left Egypt a year ago and I often tell this story when speaking about the C.M.S. Hospital in Old Cairo. Egypt.—Yours faithfully,

F. J. HARPUR, M.B.

Somme Memorial Service.

A Special Service of Remembrance was held in the Parish Church on Sunday, June 25th, at Morning Prayer. A large number of ex-Servicemen were present who marched from Portadown. Seagoe C.L.B. Band, Cadets and Training Corps were also present. The Rev. W. F. Hayes preached. After the service a wreath was laid at the Memorial Pillars by the C.L.B. The Rev. W. F. Hayes read the names of the fallen from Seagoe Parish. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded and the National Anthem was sung. The collection was on behalf of the Co. Armagh Protestant Orphan Society.

Jumble Sale.

A Jumble Sale was held in the Parochial Hall on Friday, June 9th. The proceeds were on behalf of our Parochial School Improvement Fund. There was a fine supply of all kinds of useful goods, also a vegetable and cake stall. The Mothers' Union very kindly gave many cakes. There was a good attendance of buyers. A sum of over £10 was realised by the sales. We thank everyone who helped so generously to make the sale a success. We hope in our next issue to publish a full statement of the account.

H.B.S.

Mrs. Martin, of Balteagh, has collected the following sums for the Bible Society and has forwarded them to the Secretary:—Miss Upchurch, 2s 6d; Miss Atkinson, 2s 6d; Mrs. Best, 1s; Mrs. J. Gracey, 1s; Thos. Dickson, 1s; Miss M'Clelland, 6d; Mrs. T. Russell, 1s; A. Ferguson, 1s; S. Rodney Malcomson, 6d; Thos. Martin, 1s; Miss M. Lavery, 1s; John Armstrong, 6d; Richard Courtney, 6d; Willie Gregson, 2d. Total—14s 2d.