

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JUNE, 1924.

Whitsuntide.

On Whitsunday, June 8th, the following Services will be held in the Parish Church.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11.30 a.m.—Morning Prayer, Sermon, and Holy Communion.

7 p.m.—Evening Prayer.

At Whitsuntide we commemorate the great fact of Pentecost when the gift of the Holy Spirit was bestowed upon the expectant Church. It is one of the great Christian Festivals.

Trinity Sunday.

On Trinity Sunday, June 15th, there will be a Celebration of Holy Communion after Morning Prayer.

Free Gardeners' Service.

On Sunday evening, June 22nd, at 7 p.m., a Service will (D.V.) be held in Seagoe Parish Church. It will be attended by the Free Gardeners of Portadown and neighbourhood. The Free Gardeners are a flourishing Benefit Society, and deserve the support of all who value thrift and brotherhood.

"With the Ninth in France."

The long series of Letters which have been appearing from month to month in our columns since June, 1921, came to an end last month with the letter dated March 13th, 1917. These Letters, written almost daily from the Front, were sent by Lieut.-Colonel Blacker to Mrs. Blacker. We are greatly indebted to Colonel Blacker for so kindly allowing us to publish them. They form a unique record of the part played by our Ninth Battalion during the most stirring events which have ever occurred in the history of the world. They possess the additional advantage of having been penned by the Colonel of the Battalion, and they present us with a day-to-day picture of the life of our Battalion at the Front. Still further interest is imparted to them from a Parochial point of view because of the fact that they have been written by a member of a family who for at least 250 years, if not for a much longer period, has been associated very closely with Seagoe Parish. History records that in the year 1666 the Church of Seagoe, which had been destroyed in the Rebellion of 1641, was rebuilt by Valentine Blacker, who then resided at the Manor House, where Blacker's Mill now stands, and who was a direct ancestor of the Carrick-Blacker family.

Those of our readers who have kept the copies

of the Magazine containing Colonel Blacker's Letters possess a splendid record of what Seagoe men did in the war—a record which will increase in interest and importance as time goes by. We hope in a short time from other sources to continue the record of the Ninth Battalion's War Service up to the close of the war. Colonel Blacker returned home from active service in March, 1917, having commanded the Battalion with great efficiency and success from August, 1914. Colonel Blacker is at present residing in France with his family, but we hope that before long he will return to Carrick Blacker, the residence so long associated with his family.

We reprint here the "Foreword" written by Lieut.-Colonel Blacker and published in our issue of June, 1920—

FOREWORD .

I have been asked by the Rector to write something for the Seagoe Magazine on the doings of the "Ninth" in France. I have come to the conclusion that Extracts from letters written home from day to day would be perhaps the best record of the doings of the Battalion.

These letters cover the period from October, 1915, till March, 1917, and are just a daily record of our life out there. They were written under various circumstances and conditions, and of course without any idea of publication.

Naturally there are many abbreviations and allusions which will puzzle the ordinary reader, but I think any of my old comrades in the 9th will be able to understand them, and I hope they may serve to call to their mind memories and recollections of our life in France and Flanders.

I would ask the indulgence of all in publishing these somewhat egotistical records, but would ask you to bear in mind the conditions under which they were written.

S. W. B.

The Letters extend from October 3rd, 1915, to March 13th, 1917. The first extract under the former date is—"Battalion moved out with no prisoners, no absentees, and no one drunk." This good record which marked the beginning of the campaign was continued by the Battalion to the end.

The Finances of the Parish.

During the past month the Select Vestry have given special attention to the Finances of the Parish. The appointment of a Second Curate which has been made possible by the very generous grant of £150 a year for five years by the Representative

Church Body, will entail the raising of a sum of £70 per annum by the Parishioners. The Weekly Freewill Offering Scheme, which has now been in operation for three years, has done much to help our Sustentation Fund, but at the present time we are just paying our way and no more. We appeal to all who have taken the sets of Envelopes to bring them in with regularity. Only in this way will we be able to keep things going. We also ask those who have the Envelopes to increase their Weekly Subscriptions. No less than fifty of our Subscribers are giving only 1d per week, a sum which does little more than pay for the envelope in which it is placed. We hope in future from month to month to give a statement as to the condition and results of the Weekly Offering Scheme in the various Districts. A new Finance Committee was appointed by the Select Vestry at their meeting held on Monday, May 19th, to supervise the organisation of the Weekly Offerings and to make the scheme more efficient.

The Rev. W. R. Crichton.

Our old friend and former Curate, the Rev. W. R. Crichton, paid a brief visit to the Parish last week. He was looking very well and strong. The Indian climate agrees well with him. He is a Government Chaplain in the Diocese of Madras, and has been stationed at Secunderabad Malabar and Octacamund. Mr. Crichton hopes to return to India on July 11th, and will arrive at Bombay in August on his way to Madras. It may be possible for Mr. Crichton to pay another visit to Seagoë before he sails for India, but as his time is very limited he may not be able. He would have liked if it had been possible to have seen his many friends in Seagoë. Mr. Crichton became Curate of Seagoë in 1907, and left the Parish to become Curate of Hillsborough in 1911.

A Call for Help.

A much-needed improvement is being made in Edenderry Parochial Hall. The heating arrangements there were never satisfactory, as the stove was insufficient to heat the Hall properly. A few months ago the stove and chimney-pipe needed repair, but when the attempt to repair them was made repairs were found to be impossible. The Committee of the Hall decided that the only satisfactory solution of the difficulty was to instal a proper heating apparatus. An estimate was got from Messrs. Musgrave, Ltd., Belfast, for their narrow-bore high pressure system. The cost of the furnace house and installation will amount to over £100. An excavation was made last week in the grounds of the Hall for the purpose of building the Furnace House. When the workmen reached the required depth of 7 feet they touched several springs of water, which poured into the opening.

This has created a fresh and unexpected difficulty. After consulting with the builder and others the Committee felt that the only solution was to run a shore at a depth of seven feet from the furnace house to the main sewer in Bridge St. This is now being done, but it will entail an extra expenditure of a considerable amount, and the Committee feel that they are justified in calling on the Parish at large to help them. Edenderry has subscribed and is subscribing liberally to the improvement of the Hall, and we feel sure that others throughout the Parish will be kind enough to help them. The Hall is now more than ever before used for general Parish purposes, and so the whole Parish benefits by it. Subscriptions will be received by Miss Atkinson, Eden Villa, on behalf of the Committee.

The Care of Graves.

We would be greatly obliged if those who own grave plots in Seagoë Churchyard would kindly clear them of weeds so that the ground may be made neat and tidy as a graveyard ought to be. A few flowers planted now will keep the graves bright and fresh for the rest of the summer. Tombstones that have got green and discoloured by exposure to the weather should now be cleaned and washed. Attention to these matters will make a great improvement in the surroundings of the Church.

Mr. W. E. Dickson.

Mr. W. E. Dickson, who has been Assistant Teacher in Seagoë School since January, 1918, has been appointed Principal of the Maze N.S., Hillsborough. We congratulate Mr. Dickson on his appointment. He has done good work in Seagoë School for the past six years, and has made many friends in the Parish and neighbourhood. He is highly esteemed in football circles and has played for Edenderry in many matches. He has always played a straight game, and is consequently much esteemed by all who value true sport. Mr. Dickson has acted as Superintendent of Seagoë Afternoon Sunday School since he came to the Parish. There is a note of sadness associated with Mr. Dickson's appointment, as he succeeds to his father's place, who passed away with tragic suddenness on May 20th. While we offer our congratulations and good wishes to Mr. Dickson, we sympathise also with him and his family in their bereavement.

Mothers' Union.

The Mothers' Union will not meet on Tuesday, June 3rd, but at a later date, which will be announced to the members.

S. A. M. S.

The Report of the Box and Card collections will appear in our next issue.

The Sunday School Excursion.

This popular event takes place (D.V.) on Thursday, June 19th, to Warrenpoint. At this season of the year everyone loves a day at the seaside. Parents and children are looking forward with delight and expectation to the time when they will once again hear the waves breaking on the shore, or climb up through the woods to Fiddler's Green or the Big Stone.

The following Prices of Tickets have been arranged by the Committee—

Return Fare to Warrenpoint and Two Refreshments

Children under 8	...	...	1s.
Children 8 to 14	...	...	1s. 6d.
Children over 14	...	...	1s. 9d.
Outsider's Ticket (Refreshments not included)	...	...	2s. 6d.
3s if bought on morning of Excursion.			

The Tickets will be on Sale at the various Schools through the Parish on Tuesday evening, June 17th, at 7.30.

The children will assemble at the Parish Church at 8 a.m. The train will leave Portadown at 9 a.m. The Return train will leave Warrenpoint at 7 p.m. The Refreshments will be distributed in the Town Hall at Warrenpoint.

Tickets for the Excursion—price 2s 6d each—are now on Sale at the following places—Vance's, Bridge St.; Wilson's, corner of Joseph St; Rainey's, Bridge St.; T. J. Montgomery's, High St.; Wallace's, High St.; Twinem's Factory, Edenderry; J. H. Twinem's, High St.; and from the Sunday School Superintendents. Outsiders should secure their Tickets at once as the supply is limited.

Advice to Emigrants.

In every part of the world a welcome awaits you as a member of the Church of Ireland, if you will but ask for it. Wherever you determine to settle in our Colonial Empire, or in the United States, you will find there services similar to those that you have been accustomed to at home. The first point to note is that you should obtain letters of introduction and commendation from your Clergy and others at home, to the Clergy and Laity of the place to which you are going. These should be sent on two or three weeks in advance, so that your arrival may be expected. You should also carry duplicates of these, which you may present in person. The second point is to get in touch with the Chaplain at the port of departure. He will then be on the look-out for you, and give you many useful hints regarding the voyage. When you get to sea, you should inquire for the Chaplain of the ship, and

make yourself known to him. There are many ways in which lay people can render real service to a Chaplain during the voyage. If it should happen that you are not provided with any commendatory letter, the Chaplain of the ship will gladly give this to you. When you disembark, look out for the port Chaplain, who usually meets the ship, and seek his counsel and advice.

When you reach your destination be sure to call upon the Clergy or Laity to whom you have introductions, and to whom commendations have been already sent. If for any reason your plans are unsettled, or should be so changed that eventually you go to some place for which you have no introduction, ask to see the Clergyman-in-Charge and present your letter to him.

Prayers for Those Emigrating.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Who didst call Abraham from the home of his fathers and bring him to the promised land, prosper, we beseech Thee, our going out and coming in.

Show us, we pray Thee, what has been amiss in our past lives, and for Thy dear Son's sake forgive all our sins, negligences and ignorances.

Set us free from the bondage of sinful habit that we may do Thy will on earth, and at length be found worthy to serve Thee in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for Daily Use.

O God, the protector of all that trust in Thee, without Whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; Increase and multiply upon us Thy mercy; that, Thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal; Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord. Amen.

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That it may please Thee to preserve all that travel by land, by air, or by water; We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

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Our Father, Which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

A Midday Prayer.

Blessed Saviour, Who at this hour didst hang upon the Cross, stretching forth Thy loving arms: Grant that all mankind may look up to Thee and be saved. Amen.

A Prayer for King and Empire.

Bless, we beseech Thee, merciful Lord, our Country and all its colonies and dependencies. Give Thine abundant grace to our King and to all who bear office throughout the Realm, that in all things we may be governed righteously and in Thy fear. Grant to us not only such outward prosperity as is according to Thy will, but above all things such virtue and true religion, that Thy Holy Name may be ever glorified in the midst of us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Register for May. Baptisms.

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on May 3rd, 1924—

M'Cabe—Thomas, son of Thomas and Mary M'Cabe, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Emma Jane Lavery, Mary M'Cabe.

Wright—Samuel James, son of Samuel James and Emma Wright, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Mary Jane Hall, Emma Wright.

Simpson—Myrtle Elizabeth, daughter of George and Susanna Jane Simpson, of Bocombra.

Sponsors—Frances Edith Livingston, Elizabeth Simpson.

Marriages.

Ruddell and Gilliland—May 14th, 1924, Joseph Ruddell, of Lisniskey, to Tilly Gilliland, of Edenderry.

Metcalf and Costello—May 27th, 1924, Thomas Henry Metcalfe, of Lower Seagoe, to Margaret Costello, of Tammficarbeth.

Burial.

Walker—May 13th, Thomas Walker, of Levaghery, aged 70 years.

Examination in Religious Knowledge.

The Annual Examination in Religious Knowledge was held in Seagoe School on Friday, May 30th. The Rev. J. Martin, Rector of Loughbrickland, acted as Examiner. The following Certificates were awarded—

Senior Division—Special (Green) Certificates—William Livingston, John Reid.

First Certificates (Red)—John Hill, Wolsey White, Robert M'Reynolds, Maud Coulter, Annie Ruddell, Margaret Coulter, Letitia Preston, Norman Guy.

Middle Division.—Certificates—Pearl Best, Isa Walker, Eileen M'Loughlin, Margaret Duke, Elsie Dunlop, Evelyn Magee, Mamie Coulter, Henrietta Sweeney, Eileen M'Murray, James Allen, Robert White, Charles Magowan, Israel M'Crdeady, James Walker, Sam Johnston, George Brownlee, Ernest Allen.

The Infant Division sang and answered very satisfactorily.

ITEMS.

The General Synod held in Dublin last month was attended by the Rector and by Mr. James Twinem, who is a representative of this Diocese in the General Synod

The Choral Festival this year will be held on Saturday, September 6th. It is usually held on an earlier date.

A large number of young people are emigrating to Canada and the States at present. Two whole families are leaving us in July.

The new railings round Edenderry Parochial Hall are much admired.

The Annual Appeal for the Protestant Orphan Society will (D.V.) be made in the Parish Church on Sunday, June 29th, at Morning and Evening Prayer. The Society deserves our special help.

The Prayers printed in this issue are for the special use of Emigrants.

Tickets for the Excursion are on Sale at Dawson's, Fruiterers, Portadown, and other centres.

Please study our advertising columns, it will be to your advantage.

Shankill (Lurgan) Parish has started a Parish Magazine. It is well got up and full of useful Parish news. The Rev. J. T. Belton is the capable Editor.

Are you bringing in your Weekly Envelopes regularly? It will help us much in our work if you do so.

Seagoe School pupils are exhibiting some of their work at the forthcoming Portadown Show on June 5th.

Drumgor has decided to renovate the Church Hall. It has postponed to a future date the building of a new one.

Canadian Visitors.

We expect a great many visitors this year from Canada and the States. They will come to see Wembley, and will no doubt visit Seagoe also. Mr Jack Stoops, of Toronto, has been here on a business holiday. He left here 11 years ago when a lad at Seagoe School, where he was very popular with all his schoolmates. He has done well in Toronto, and now represents a firm in the wool trade. He is much interested in Church work, and attends St. Monica's Parish Church, Toronto. His many friends were glad to see him once again. He sails shortly for Canada.