

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

MARCH, 1934.

CLERGY :

Rev. Chancellor Archer, B.D., The Rectory, Seagoe.

Rev. W. F. Hayes, B.A., The Bungalow, Lower Seagoe, Portadown.

CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's—Mr. James Twinem.

People's—Mr. Wm. White.

The Confirmation.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese has altered the date of the Confirmation in Seagoe. It will be held (D.V.) on Friday, June 22nd, at 8 p.m. Classes for the candidates will be held from the beginning of May, and the dates and hours of the classes will be announced in a later issue of the Magazine. Candidates must be 14 years of age or over.

Consecration of the New Burial Ground.

The Lord Bishop has arranged to consecrate the new burial ground at Seagoe Church on the afternoon of June 22nd, at 4 p.m., the day on which he holds the Confirmation in Seagoe. New rules and regulations for the management of the new burial ground are being arranged by the members of the Select Vestry. A special meeting of the Vestry is to be held on Tuesday, March 6th, for this purpose. The paths on the new ground have been improved, and a new path has been made through the old ground near the Church gate to the new ground. It is hoped that the boundary walls will be cemented and completed before the day of consecration. When the Bishop consecrates the new ground he will also consecrate the old ground round the Church. Although burials have taken place in it since 1874 it was never consecrated. Parishioners should read the beautiful service for the consecration of a churchyard or other burial ground in the Book of Common Prayer. The Psalm (16 or 31 or 143) is followed by four collects. The first refers to the practice followed by Christians in all ages of "assigning peculiar places where the bodies of Thy people may rest in peace and be preserved from all indignities." The second collect prays that those who bring forth their dead to this place may be comforted and strengthened. The third collect prays that the mourners may realise here the fellowship of the Saints. The fourth collect prays that those who in this place call upon the name of God may be raised from a death of sin unto a life of righteousness.

Special Services.

During Holy Week, which begins on Sunday, March 25th, special Services will be held each evening in the Parish Church at 8 p.m. On each evening, beginning on Monday, March 26th, an address will be given on "The Cross and Passion of our Blessed Lord."

Good Friday.

On Good Friday, March 30th, the following Services will be held:—

11.30 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Litany.

8 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon.

The offerings on Good Friday will be on behalf of Missions to the Jews.

Easter Day.

This year the Festival of Easter falls on April 1st. 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 and Sermon.

The offerings on Easter Day will be on behalf of our Parochial Sunday Schools. There are nine large Sunday Schools in the Parish—two, Seagoe and Edenderry, held at 10 o'clock on each Sunday morning, and seven on each Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. The seven afternoon Sunday Schools are—Bocombra, Carne, Drumgor, Edenderry, Hacknahay, Levaghery and Seagoe.

The Easter Vestry.

The Easter Vestry will be held (D.V.) on Thursday, April 5th, in Seagoe School at 8 p.m. It will be preceded by a meeting of the Select Vestry at 7.30 p.m. At the Easter Vestry the Churchwardens for the ensuing year are nominated and elected, and also the members of the Select Vestry.

The Guest Tea.

The "Guest Tea" will be held in Seagoe School on Thursday, March 8th, at 7.30 p.m. It promises to be a great success. Each of our Sunday Schools has a table, and the Superintendent and Teachers act as the inviters of the guests. Each guest is expected to pay *at least* one shilling, but many will, of course, give more. After tea, a musical programme will be given. The proceeds of the entertainment will go towards wiping out the debt on the last Sunday School excursion. Mr. R. Scott is Hon. Sec., and Mr. R. M'Clements, Hon. Treasurer.

Missionary Boxes.

Please remember that all who have Missionary Boxes or cards for the C.M.S., S.A.M.S. or Jews' Society should send them in during March. See that the boxes and cards are well filled. The work of the faithful Missionaries abroad is very much hampered through lack of funds.

A Noteworthy Record.

Mr. T. H. Wilson completes his sixtieth year as Organist of Seagoe.

Our readers will join with us in heartily congratulating Mr. T. H. Wilson on the completion of his 60th year as Organist of Seagoe. On Sunday, February 4th, of this year he had held the post for no less than 60 years. In February, 1924, when Mr. Wilson had completed 50 years as Organist it was considered an eventful record, but now he has exceeded it by no less than ten years. He was appointed Organist by the Select Vestry in February, 1874. Archdeacon Saurin presided at the meeting. We copy here some facts which were recorded in Seagoe Parish Magazine for February, 1924. From the year 1816, when the present Church was built, the Choir occupied places in the gallery, which at that time and until the Church was restored in 1890, reached half-way down the Church to where the Font is now placed. In those days there were no such things as harmoniums or organs, and the singing was accompanied by violins or flutes. Sometimes there was no accompaniment. The Rector has in his possession a square wooden pipe or flute with a moveable inset of wood which was used in those days to give the starting note to the Choir. It is 18 inches long and 1½ inches wide. A harmonium was first introduced into Seagoe Church in 1863. The harmonium with which the choir used to practise in the hall of the Rectory and which Mrs. Saurin played, is still in existence and is in the possession of Mrs. Robinson, of Lisniskey, Lurgan Road. In 1873 Mr. Charles Wilson, a brother of Mr. T. H. Wilson, was appointed Organist, a post which he held until February, 1874, when his brother was appointed. Mr. Wilson was a member of the choir in the sixties, and remembers well the practices which Mrs. Saurin held at the Rectory. The last occasion on which the Choir sat at a service in the old gallery was at Evening Service (7 p.m.) Sexagesima Sunday, February 9th, 1890. The Rev. Robert Quirk, then Curate of Seagoe, preached the sermon. During the Restoration of the Church services were held in Seagoe School until Friday, August 7th, 1891, at 3 p.m., when the re-opening Service was held. The present organ was dedicated by Bishop Welland on Thursday,

April 19th, 1900. It was erected as a memorial to the Baroness Von Stieglitz, who died on January 23rd, 1899. The organ was built by Messrs. Foster and Andrews, of Hull, and cost £350. Mr. A. Macoun had kindly lent an American organ which had been used from 1891 to 1900. We hope next month to give further particulars about Mr. Wilson and the history of Seagoe Choir.

Seagoe in the States.

The following letter has been received by Mrs. James Twinem from Mrs. Bella Ruddell and Mrs. Charlotte Guy, members of the Seagoe Mothers' Union, who recently went to the United States. It is very pleasant to receive so nice and kind a letter. Although oceans roll between, yet the ties of true friendship and affection are not broken.

"63½ Lafayette St., Jersey City,

"New Jersey, U.S.A.,

"Dec. 19th, 1933.

"Dear Mrs. Twinem, and Members of the Mothers' Union,—Now at the coming of a New Year, Mrs. Guy and I want to wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. I am visiting Mrs. Guy to-night, and we have been talking about the Mothers' Union, and we miss our friendly cup of tea with you all. We want to keep our dues up, so we are enclosing 2 Dollars. I receive the Magazine every month from home, and we always see by it that the Mothers' Union is still to the fore. We have had a terrible snow-storm this past week; it is 15 inches deep, and at the present time it is about 5 below zero, so you can guess how cold it is. I like Jersey City, and am only one hour's journey from Mrs. Guy's. Yvonne has not started school yet, but I hope to get her started in February. I trust that we will all be spared to meet again in Seagoe Mothers' Union, and listen to our Rector's helpful talks. I hope this will be a very successful year for you all, and may you all have God's Blessing.—I remain, yours sincerely, BELLA RUDDELL and CHARLOTTE GUY."

The Weather.

During February the weather has been abnormally fine but very dry. On the 14th the barometer touched 31 degrees, which has scarcely ever been reached before. The highest pressure ever recorded in the British Isles was at Ochertyre, in Perthshire, Scotland, on January 9th, 1896, when a reading of 31.108 was observed. The lowest reading ever recorded also came from the same station on January 26th, 1884, when the pressure fell to 27.333 inches. The want of rain is causing serious inconvenience in many places.

Seagoe Mothers' Union.

A very pleasant musical evening was held in connection with the Mother's Union on Tuesday, Feb. 13th, in Seagoe School, at 7.30 p.m. There was a crowded attendance of the members and their friends. Tea was handed round, and after an attractive programme of music and recitations was given. Every item was very good and encores were frequently demanded. At the close of the meeting the Rector, who presided, thanked all who had so kindly helped, especially Miss T. Wilson and Mr. Sydney Robinson. No meeting will be held this month but the members have arranged to attend in a body the service in the Parish Church on Wednesday, March 4th, at 8 p.m.

Our Sunday Schools.

During the past month Prize Distributions took place in several of our Sunday Schools. **Carne** held its festive evening on Monday, February 5th, at 7.30. The school was crowded and all justice was done to the splendid supply of pastry and tea provided. After tea, games were enjoyed and at intervals songs and recitations were given. Later in the evening prizes were distributed to the best attenders. The Rector presided, and the Rev. W. F. Hayes was also present. On Tuesday, February 6th, the annual distribution of Prizes took place in **Levaghery** school. There was a large attendance. The Rev. W. F. Hayes presided, and after a splendid tea there were games and recitations. A feature of the gathering was a splendid Christmas Tree, from which each child received a gift. At the close the prizes were distributed to the successful children. Monday, February 12th, was the evening fixed for the Prize Distribution at **Edenderry** Parochial Hall. This is always a great event, and the Hall was crowded. The children were arranged according to their classes, and a plentiful supply of tea and cake was provided for them. A long and most enjoyable programme followed. Every item was good and was loudly applauded. The Distribution of Prizes then began. There were no less than 180 books given to the Morning and Afternoon Sunday Schools. The prizes were handed to the children by the Rector, Rev. W. F. Hayes, Mrs. Magee, Mr. R. Clements and Mr. H. Hynes. Many parents of the children were present. The gathering closed with the singing of the Doxology and the reading of the Benediction.

Hacknahay held its Distribution of Prizes on Friday, Feb. 23rd, at 7 p.m. The room was crowded even more so, we think, than in other years. The Rev. W. F. Hayes presided. After tea, a very varied and attractive programme was given by the children and some grown-ups. The

singing of the children was very good and showed careful training. Quite long pieces were recited by very small children, who displayed great powers of memory. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Bunbury Atkinson, of Gleneyre, who also very kindly gave prizes to nine children who had not missed a Sunday during 1933. At the close the Rector thanked all who had helped, especially Mr. T. E. Maginnis, the Superintendent, Miss Calvert and Mr. Sydney Robinson, who had played the accompaniments. The Rev. W. F. Hayes also spoke and congratulated Mr. Maginnis on the efficiency of the Sunday School. As the children passed out Miss Calvert kindly presented each child with an orange.

**Parish Register for February—
Baptisms.**

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on 3rd February, 1934:—

M'Neill—Douglas Mervyn, son of Samuel Geo. and Elizabeth Anna M'Neill, of Ballymacrandle.

Sponsors—Anne Jane Neill, Sarah Ellen Gray.
Robinson—Lorna Elizabeth, daughter of John and Ethel Marjorie Robinson, of Upper Seagoe.

Sponsors—Anne Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, Ethel Marjorie Robinson.

Henry—Doreen Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Henry, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Eva White, Elizabeth Henry.

Campbell—Margaret, daughter of William Jas. and Jean Anna Campbell, of Balteagh.

Sponsors—Elizabeth Hunniford, Jean Anna Campbell.

Brown—Charles, son of Francis and Sarah Brown, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Elizabeth Myrtle Brown, Sarah Brown.

Dickie—Thomas, son of Francis Henry and Rachel Dickie, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Wilhelmina Gracey, Rachel Dickie.

Marriage.

Webb and M'Elroy—March, 2nd, 1934, William James Webb, of Clanrolla, to Elizabeth Jane M'Elroy, of Dromart, Parish of Ballymore.

Burials.

Mawhinney—February 3rd, 1934, Elizabeth Mawhinney, of Levaghery, aged 77 years. Interred at Maralin.

Teggart—February 25th, 1934, Jane Teggart, of Belfast, aged 60 years.

Weir—March 3rd, 1934, Margaret Weir of Edenderry, aged 65 years.

Seagoe Electrified.

Seagoe has been electrified during the past month. Practically every householder has agreed to have his house fitted up with electrical installation. We congratulate the parishioners on their up-to-dateness. A good supply of light and heat is essential to comfort, and these are provided through the medium of electricity without the accompaniment of noxious fumes which are injurious to health.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

MARCH, 1909.

The issue of the Magazine for March, 1909, contains a long and interesting account of "Seagoe Sixty Years Ago." These notes are the reminiscences of Mrs. Annie Wolseley, widow of Major Wolseley and daughter of the Rev. Capel Wolseley, who was Curate of Seagoe in the fifties of the last century. She tells of the class for Sunday School Teachers which he held in Seagoe Cottage, where he lived, on each Tuesday evening. Every Sunday the Church was filled for the Sunday School, the old square pews making excellent little classrooms. She remembers the children singing the hymn "Oh, that will be joyful." Three times a year rewards were given. Punctual attendance for 4 months, without a break, gained first prize, either a Bible or Prayer Book, one miss meant second prize, twice absent or late, a third prize, after that nothing; She was very fond of her dear teacher, Miss Jane Corner, afterwards Mrs. H. Atkinson, of Bannfoot. Other matters referred to in this issue are a race in Belfast by the Seagoe Harriers, when Sam Currie came in the first of the Seagoe team. Eight Baptisms are recorded, also one marriage and two burials. One of the burials is that of William Smart, of Kernan, aged 80 years, on Feb. 7th, 1906.

Old Seagoe Notes.

The Cunningham and Kirk Families in Seagoe Parish.—The Rev. Cunningham Farwell, of Salem, Massachusetts, U.S.A., is a descendant of the Cunningham family who resided in the Parish of Seagoe during the 17th and 18th centuries. They lived in the townland of Tully-

galley and inter-married with the Kirk family, whose representatives are still in the Parish. The first of the Kirk family who came to Tullygalley was named Dinah. She was a member of the Society of Friends. The Cunningham and Kirk families also intermarried with the family of Halliday. A remarkable example of the continuity of Christian names in a family is illustrated by the fact that a son of the Kirk family was baptized by the name Alfonsus in the year 1658. The settlement of members of the Society of Friends in Seagoe Parish in the townland of Moyraverty in the middle of the 17th century is an interesting episode in the history of the Parish. The old burial ground at Moyraverty is a testimony to the quaint simplicity of the followers of George Fox. We hope in next issue of the Magazine to publish in more detail the records of the families of Cunningham and Kirk.

ITEMS.

We greatly regret the serious illness of Miss Eva Conolly, of Carne, but are glad to know that the latest reports are more reassuring.

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The fixing of the electric standards and wires in Upper Seagoe is now completed and seems to have been very efficiently done.

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Will Distributors and Subscribers to the Magazine please pay in their accounts for 1909 at the earliest possible moment. Some accounts are still outstanding.

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Lough Neagh is now at a lower level than it has ever been known to be, owing to the prolonged dry weather. At one time, up to the year 1765, Seagoe Parish extended to the shores of the Lough.

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The Irish Free State is threatening to put a tax on "Religious Books." This may affect the supply of Hymn Books and Prayer Books which are published by the Association for Promoting Christian Knowledge in Dublin. The Books are at present printed in Oxford and bound in Dublin. If a tax is imposed it is possible that in future a large proportion of the books will be bound in Northern Ireland.