

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

MAY, 1922.

Confirmation.

Special Sermons on "Confirmation" will be preached (D.V.) in the Parish Church at Morning and Evening Prayer on to-morrow (Sunday, April 30th). Candidates for Confirmation with their parents and Sponsors are specially invited to be present at these Services.

Change of Date.

The Lord Bishop has, at the suggestion of the Rector, kindly altered the date of the approaching Confirmation to Thursday, June 22nd, at 3.30 p.m. Candidates will please note. It was thought that the date previously arranged was not suitable owing to its nearness to the holidays in July.

The Easter Vestry.

This important meeting of the Registered General Vestrymen and Women of the Parish was held in Seagoe School on Thursday evening, April 21st, at 8.30. It was preceded by a meeting of the outgoing Select Vestry. The Rev. Canon Archer, Rector, presided. Prayer having been said by the Rev. A. O. Draper, Curate, the Hon. Secretary read the Minutes of the last General Vestry, which were confirmed and signed. The first business was the election of officers for the ensuing twelve months. The Rector nominated as his Churchwarden Mr. Robert M'Clements, of Edenderry. The election of the People's Churchwarden then followed. The only name proposed and seconded was that of Mr. Samuel Rennix, and he was declared duly elected. The voting for a new Select Vestry then took place, with the following result:—Messrs. John Montgomery, James Twinem, David W. Murray, Robert Price, Miss Isobel Atkinson, Messrs. John E. Lavery, Thomas Martin, Thomas E. Maginnis, William H. Atkinson, Joseph H. Stevenson, Moses Gilpin and Hugh Stoops. Sidesmen were elected as follows:—Messrs. T. Montgomery, John H. Twinem, Gilbert Price, Arthur Allen, John Montgomery, James Ford, James Sheppard, and W. Sherman. Mr. Joseph H. Stevenson was re-elected Hon. Sec., and Mr. Hugh Stoops Hon. Treasurer. During the meeting Mr. Hugh Stoops and Mr. James Twinem reported on the financial state of the Parish. Mr. Twinem stated that over 400 parishioners had joined the Weekly Envelope Scheme, and that all the Districts, with two exceptions, were contributing well. The Chairman, in reviewing the work of the Parish during the past year, noted an increase in the attendance at Public Worship on Sunday evenings, and also an improved attendance of children at the Sunday Schools.

Our New Churchwardens.

Mr. Robert M'Clements, the newly appointed Rector's Churchwarden, came to the Parish some years ago from Newry, of which town he is a native. He was a member of the Vestry of St. Patrick's, Newry, and he comes of an old and very loyal Church family, his father having been for many years a devoted Parishioner of St. Patrick's Church, Newry. Mr. M'Clements has already

done good service in Seagoe Parish. He has conducted the Thursday evening Bible Class in Levaghery School, and is Superintendent of Edenderry Morning Sunday School. His son, Mr. R. M'Clements, jun., is a member of the Choir and has given good help with his violin at entertainments on many occasions in the Parish. Mrs. M'Clements is a useful member of the Mothers' Union.

Mr. Samuel Rennix, the newly elected People's Churchwarden, occupies a very responsible position as Principal of Seagoe National School. He is not unfamiliar with the duties of Churchwarden, having held that office on eight occasions in the Parish of Knocknamuckley. Mr. Rennix has given valuable help in the Parish. He conducts Seagoe Girls' Morning Bible Class and Superintends Seagoe Afternoon Sunday School, the largest in the Parish. He is also a member of the Choir.

We are glad to have some new members in the Vestry. We welcome Mr. William H. Atkinson, of Clarisford, whose long experience of Vestry work in several parishes will be of great service. Mr. Hugh Stoops will be a most useful member, and his wide acquaintance with the keeping of Ledgers will enable him to keep our Parish Finance in perfect order. Mr. Moses Gilpin has given unstintedly of his time and attention to the working of the Weekly Envelope Scheme. He has been in touch with the Church on both sides of the Atlantic, and comes of a family long resident in Seagoe Parish.

The Past Month.

The Services in the Parish Church during Holy Week were well attended. The Rev. G. Bloomer was welcomed by his many friends in the Parish, and his solemn words on our Lord's Passion will be treasured by those who heard them. Easter Day was unfortunately very inclement, and the attendances at the Services were materially reduced. It was found impossible to fully decorate the Church owing to the continuous rain on Easter Eve.

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Mr. Wilson's Concert in the Town Hall on Tuesday, April 4th, was a great success. The Hall was crowded and the Programme was excellent. The Mayfair Glee Singers justified their high reputation. Mr. Wilson is to be congratulated on his energy and success. A substantial sum is available for the Choir and the Parish Piano.

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The Textile Concert in the Town Hall last month was a very creditable display of musical Talent by the employees in our local Textile Industries. There was a full and most appreciative audience who thoroughly enjoyed every item. The Conductor had his Choir well in hand. He is, we believe, a Station Master on the G.N.R. His musical signals are certainly carefully observed. Like an efficient Stationmaster he is always up to time, and his training is excellent. Several of our Seagoe singers were in the Choir, and we very heartily congratulate Miss Christina Flannigan, a member of Seagoe Choir, on her singing. She received a well deserved encore.

Sunday School Conference.

A Conference for the Sunday School Teachers of Seagoe Parish has been arranged to be held in Seagoe School on Thursday, May 18th. The Conference will begin at 4 p.m. The first Session will conclude at 5.30. Tea will be provided for the members at 5.45. The Conference will resume for the Second Session at 8 p.m. and continue until 10 p.m. Two papers will be read at each Session, and each paper will be followed by a discussion. A full programme will be issued immediately. Tickets 1s each (limited to the Teachers in the Parish Sunday Schools).

Parish Register for April. Baptisms.

M'Donald—April 1st, Sophia, daughter of William Henry and Mary M'Donald, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Charlotte Allen, Mary M'Donald.

Whiteside—April 1st, William James, son of Ferguson and Edith Whiteside, of Lower Seagoe.

Sponsors—Charlotte Guy, Edith Whiteside.

Pearson—April 19th, George Wellington, son of George and Helen Mary Pearson, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—George Pearson, Helen Mary Pearson.

Marriages.

Ruddell and Porter—April 5th, 1922, Frederick William Ruddell, of Lisniskey, to Mary Elizabeth Porter, of Lower Seagoe.

Palmer and Corder—April 24th, 1922, by Special License, Wesley George Palmer, of Portadown, to Mary Gertrude Corder, of Edenderry.

Burials.

Armstrong—March 8th, Sarah Armstrong, of Balteagh, aged 71 years

Chambers—March 10th, William Chambers, of Lurgan, aged 50 years.

M'Kane—April 3rd, George M'Kane, of Hacknahay, aged 74 years.

Montgomery—April 21st, Marianne Montgomery, of Kilkeel, aged 70 years.

Sherman—April 26th, Mary Jane Sherman, of Edenderry, aged 78 years.

M'Bride—April 28th, Alice M'Bride, of Killicomaine, aged 89 years.

Death of Miss Montgomery.

We record with sincere regret the death of Miss Marianne Montgomery, sister of Mr. T. J. Montgomery, which took place in Kilkeel on Tuesday, April 18th, after a brief illness. Miss Montgomery, though resident for many years in the Parish of Mourne, at all times showed the keenest interest in her native Parish of Seagoe. Her bright and happy disposition found a deep joy and satisfaction in the truth of Christianity. She was a devout member of the Church and loved the habitation of God's house. She rests in a very hallowed spot within the walls of the old Church at Seagoe. At the funeral, which was largely attended, the Service was taken by the Rector; assisted by the Rev. Canon Hayes, Rector of Kilkeel, and the Rev. G. N. Deane, Curate of Bangor. We offer our sympathy to her bereaved sister and brother and to all her relatives.

Easter Vestry, 1922.

CHURCHWARDENS.

MR. ROBERT M'CLEMENTS (Rector's).
MR. SAMUEL RENNIX (People's).

SELECT VESTRY.

Mr. John Montgomery.	Mr. Thomas Martin.
„ James Twinem.	„ Thomas E. Maginnis.
„ David W. Murray.	„ William H. Atkinson.
„ Robert Price.	„ Joseph H. Stevenson.
Miss Isobel Atkinson.	„ Moses Gilpin.
Mr. John E. Lavery.	„ Hugh Stoops.

SIDESMEN.

Mr. T. J. Montgomery.	Mr. John Montgomery.
„ John H. Twinem.	„ James Ford.
„ Gilbert Price.	„ James Sheppard.
„ Arthur Allen.	„ W. Sherman.

The Mothers' Union.

During the past month a branch of this useful organisation has been formed in the Parish. The first meeting was held on Monday, March 27th, at 3.30. It was then decided to form a branch, and that it should meet on Tuesdays, in Edenderry Parochial Hall, at 4 o'clock. At the meeting on Tuesday, April 4th, Miss Hartford, the Head of the Women's Settlement in Belfast, gave an address on "The Christian Home." A large number signified their intention of joining. On Tuesday, April 11th, the Rev. George Bloomer spoke to the mothers on "Responsibility." At this meeting the Rector formally admitted twenty members. Each member was presented with a Member's Card containing the Rules and the Special Prayer for the Members. On the Tuesday in Easter Week the members had tea together in Seagoe School at 3.30 and then enjoyed a walk through the grove and the Rectory grounds. Many also were interested in Seagoe School where they had sat in the Infants' Gallery in a bygone day. They also enjoyed to the full the mysteries of the Wishing Chair in the old Yew Tree in the Rectory garden. The weather was perfect. On last Tuesday Mrs. Hobson, of Armagh, brought Mrs. Coote with her, who gave an inspiring address to the large gathering present. A stall with interesting Mothers' Union Literature was a feature of the meeting. Miss Cullen, of Killycomain House, is acting as Secretary of the M.U., and Miss Georgie Atkinson, of Eden Villa, as Treasurer.

Our Summer Migrants.

The Corncrake and the Swallow have arrived. The Corncrake was first heard at Lower Seagoe on Saturday evening, April 22nd, and the Swallow was first seen on Sunday morning, April 23rd, at the same place. The Cuckoo has not yet made itself heard.

Three Questions for our Readers.

1. Where is Confirmation referred to in the Bible?
2. What does the Prayer Book say as to the proper use of the Apocrypha?
3. Why is the Synod of Kells an important event in the History of the Church of Ireland?

[The answers to these questions will appear in our next issue.]

Cake-Baking Competition.

Many of our readers will be interested in the Special Seed Cake Baking Competition promoted by Messrs. T. J. Montgomery & Son, the Live Grocers, of Portadown, to be held at Portadown Show on the 1st June. Nine valuable Prizes, amounting to Five Pounds, are offered, and we hope to see Seagoe well represented in the winning list. Full particulars and entry form may be obtained from Messrs. Montgomery, or from Aubrey Lewis, Esq., Show Secretary, 5 Erin Crescent, Portadown. Entries close on 20th May.

C. M. S.

C.M.S. BOXES—1921-1922.

The Total Collections amounted to £12 15s 6d.

S. American Missionary Society.

BOX AND CARD COLLECTION—1921-22.

BOXES.

Mrs. M. Walker	...	...	...	£0	3	1
Mrs. M'Dougall	...	...	...	0	6	0
Mrs. Lewie	...	...	...	0	5	10
Miss Sarah Montgomery	0	4	9
Miss Margretta Atkinson	0	0	10½
Mr. A. Smith	0	1	2½

CARD.

I. Atkinson	5	14	6
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Total £6 16 3

ITEMS.

Mr. John Montgomery, of Levaghery, who heads the list of the Vestry this year, has been elected to the Vestry no less than 33 times in as many years.

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One solitary crow's nest is to be seen in Seagoe Churchyard trees.

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Seagoe Churchyard has been greatly improved by the erection and renovation of some of the headstones.

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The Misses Dawson have gone to live in Bangor, Co. Down.

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The widened Bridge at Portadown is proving a great convenience.

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The General Synod meets in Dublin on Tuesday, May 9th.

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Canon Kernan, Assistant Sec. to the Representative Church Body, and a native of Portadown, has been on a visit to Seagoe lately and called at the Rectory.

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A Scouts' Jumble Sale will be held in the Parochial Hall on Friday evening, May 5th. Great bargains will be offered. Help the Scout camp.

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Lurgan Choral Union Festival will be held in Lurgan Parish Church on Saturday, May 27th, at 4 p.m. Seagoe Choir will take part. The Rev. Percy Marks, B.D., Rector of Cookstown, will preach.

WITH THE "NINTH" IN FRANCE.

By Lieut.-Col. S. W. BLACKER, D.S.O.

NOTE.

[Colonel Blacker's Letters printed this month make reference to the troubles in Ireland during the Rebellion of 1916. Casualties on the French Front become more numerous among the Ulster Division, but our 9th Battalion escapes fortunately with but few. A fishing expedition to the accompaniment of Whizz-Bangs is recorded. The Spring has arrived, a showery but warm season, and the leafy trees afford cover to friend and foe. The O.C. with Telephone in hand to 3 a.m., during an attack by the enemy, gives us an idea of an Officer's responsibility. A quaint service held by the Padre with 60 men packed into a small room is inspiring, we had almost said perspiring. The arrival of the Swallow and Cuckoo are noted. The unwanted Gunnery Inspector who was run in as a Spy is refreshing.]

1916.

(Continued from April Magazine.)

Tuesday, May 2nd.—Close heavy day, with thunder. Rumours about Ireland are numerous. We had a man, L/Corpl. Adams, accidentally shot through the hand yesterday evening. Wednesday, May 3rd.—Monday's "Times" has a long account of the whole show. It seems to be fairly scotched now. After very heavy thunder showers p.m., the evening turned out fine for the relief. We got in without casualty, but they dropped

about 5 small H.E's close to Flood's platoon just behind here, and I thought they were done for. Providentially not a man touched. Relief completed at 10.40 p.m. Very hot muggy day, but so growing. Have been round a good bit of the line. Of course mud and water again—pumping, baling and scraping going on. Am tied into the cellar now, as Cather has had to go to M— on a C.M. Little G is coming to see arrangements for evacuating wounded! He is responsible for such, and it's the first time he's been here to see about it. They are trying to charge the Battalion £46 barrack damages while at Bordon. I have written in a snorter, somewhat libellous, I think. I am quite prepared to refuse to pay and go to law. It's barefaced robbery of the absent, to cover up gross slackness in Barrack Dept. I've given them h—. The 12th had a fairly heavy doing on Monday night, for half an hour. They kept up a hot rifle fire in return (25,000 rounds), and prevented brother Bosche coming out. Only 4 men slightly wounded, perfectly marvellous. Numerous cases of life saved by steel helmets. Thursday, May 4th.—Yes, the poor police have had a bad time. The Meath affair was tragic. So glad you were able to see so many wives. Very heavy and warm to-night, more thunder about. A quiet afternoon. Sergeant Pollock, in "B" Coy, a splendid fellow, and one of the best Sergeants in the Battalion, was

Hit in the Shoulder by H.E.

this p.m., I'm sorry to say. Rather bad, I fear, as he

bled a lot, but he was cheery. I earnestly trust he will be all right. Large working parties on again to-night. Menaul out again on patrol, was caught by M.G. fire, and had to lie low. He brought back good information, and had no casualties. One letter opened by censor. The whole thing seems to have collapsed, but at a certain amount of cost. Still warm, but a slightly cooler breeze, but the Trenches are warm. Astonishing amount of wet when we are having it roasting. Quite a quiet night and day up to this, and no casualties so far (except Pollock). Had a long trek round the Trenches and visited the Battalion on our left. They gave us a slight spraying with Whizz-Bangs from 11.30-12.30, but did no damage. We had a fearful gunner in yesterday from Dundee, and fearfully common, and rather a fool to boot, and he snored! I had to strafe him heavily. He wandered round the Trenches by himself and asked stupid questions till he was

Run in as Suspected Spy!

The successful raid was by the Div. on our right, and the unsuccessful one by the Div. on our left. Menaul did a successful patrol last night. **Friday, May 5th.**—Another very warm, close day. Some Trench mortars were put in to our line between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m. No casualties, but one landed in a Trench and turned it up. I got the Hows on, which silenced it. It was lovely out at that time. They dropped some bombs near Bde H.Q. this a.m. It was a warm night, and the cellar felt stuffy with 4 sleeping in it, but it is delightfully cool in the day time. Rumour says many people from the North who went to Fairy House, all missing. They seem to have at last settled for Nat. Service. A somewhat lively artillery day on both sides; no damage to us any way, so far. **Saturday, May 6th.**—A heavy strafe from our guns 12.30-1.30 a.m. Considerable noise. Night dark and windy and some rain. Much cooler to-day, and wind. Practically no retaliation on us. Y.C.V.'s had about 25 casualties last night in the return strafe on the wood, in which 9 were killed. A fairly quiet day, but some Whizz-Bangs into the village this p.m., which wounded 2 R.A. We had no casualties, I'm thankful to say. A new Trench is being dug to-night joining up across a bend in our line and shortening it. 400 men on it in 2 reliefs. Menaul got in from patrol. Met nothing. Y.C.V.'s had 1 officer killed and 11 men, and some 20 wounded in last night's strafe. Rain held off all day, and it was pleasantly cool, a light shower about 9 p.m. Thank goodness, Nat. Service at last. Oh, that they may include Ireland. Wonder who succeeds Birrell? The "Times" has something in about calling in all arms. Wonder what about U.V.F. We are trying a service here in lines to-morrow. Did a lot of walking to-day, the weather was so delightful and cool and nice after the stifling heat. **2 p.m.**—Went for a long trek round with Pratt, round the whole line. Inspected the new Trench cut last night; ground hard and they only got down about 3 feet. Will want another 2 nights' work on it. Scott, R.A., came down again yesterday p.m. and we examined a house in Bosche lines, which seems fortified, but owing to the thickness of the leaves it's very hard to see, and, I fear, impossible to range on. The trees are nearly full out and give a lot of cover from view.

I Heard Cuckoo Easter Sunday.

One swallow April 16th. **Monday, May 8th.**—It has turned very cold again, very trying, and showers. A great strafe last night. Ricardo on our right had arranged a raid for 11.30 p.m. The Bosche arranged one just on his right for 11 p.m. He was desperately bombarded for 3 hours with Trench mortars and other missiles. He carried out his raid, and did great execution. His casualties for the night were heavy, 17 killed and 67 wounded. They put in a lot of stuff here from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m., but we got off lightly—1 killed (Sergt-Maj. Cross) I'm sorry to say, and 4 wounded. It was a noisy night. The men manned the Trenches and fired a certain amount, which kept their minds occupied, but they were splendid. Just heard from Ricardo, who says his men were magnificent. I was in touch with the 3 Coys in the line the whole time, as the wires were not cut, and sat with the 'phone in my hand till 3 a.m., thoroughly knowing the situation on our front. Gen. N. and G.S.O.I. arrived on their way to Ricardo, anxious to know what we saw from here, and our views. I told him it was asking for trouble doing the same thing each time on these raids, and that the Bosche knew exactly what to expect and when. The night's casualties must have been 200. We got 1 German Officer and some prisoners, and of course, cannot guess approximately what the Bosche casualties from our fire was, but it must have been equal to ours. Relief to-night. **Tuesday, May 9th.**—The relief went off all right, and we were in here by 11 p.m. Very quiet after the strafe. Still cold and showery. We had a quaint little Service, attended by about 60 men, in a small room in H— at 3.30 p.m. on Sunday. **Wednesday, May 10th.**—Weather turned warmer and finer after a wet night. Very quiet here since Sunday. A memo has just come in from G.H.Q. saying much leakage of information going home in letters, and especially Officers' letters; in future any one transgressing will be

Tried by Court Martial!

We have to find 200 men for working parties every night—infernal, and 50 men by day, and last night was very wet into the bargain. However, there is work that has to be done. **Thursday, May 11th.**—A great football match yesterday against the 1st Cameronians—rather a professional team. A good fast game ended in 2 goals all. The 'Downs' had some casualties last night—22 I hear. Some 7 more of Ricardo's wounded have died. A dull close day. The country is looking lovely, and the blossom in the orchard is lovely. H— is a very pretty place, with the river and the woods, and the undulating ground, notwithstanding its ruined look. Letters just in. Alas! no compulsion of Ireland. **Friday, May 12th.**—A dull close day, threatening thunder, but quite pleasant sitting out. We are still to do 6 day reliefs. The Huns put heavy stuff (5.9) over the village after lunch, but it was well behind us. They fire tremendously with M.G.'s at our aeroplanes. The Battery just behind us, which fires right over this house, has just opened, and there's a deafening noise going on. As far as I can make out there have been 10 killed, 35 wounded, and 3 accidentally wounded, so far; so we've escaped very lightly after 7 months out here (45 all told).

(To be continued.)