

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

MAY, 1924.

Easter Vestry.

The Annual Meeting of the General Vestry of Seagoe Parish was held in Seagoe School on Thursday, April 24th, at 8 p.m. The Rev. Canon Archer, Rector, presided, and the Rev. W. T. Wilson, Curate-Assistant, was also present. After prayer the Minutes of the last General Vestry were read by the Hon. Sec., Mr. Hugh Stoops, and signed. The members of the outgoing Select Vestry added their signatures to the Minutes according to the ancient custom of the Parish. The Rector in his opening statement referred to progress made in many directions during the past year—the appointment of a second Curate, the buying out of the Rectory at a cost of £950, improvements at the Parochial Hall in Edenderry, and a Sale of Work in aid of the renovation of Drumgor Church Hall. The Weekly Envelope system had proved very successful, but a greater financial effort would be required in the future to meet the increased financial needs of the Parish. The following appointments were then made:—

CHURCHWARDENS :

Thomas H. Wilson, Rector's.
John E. Lavery, People's.

PAROCHIAL NOMINATORS :

Lt.-Col. Blacker, D.S.O.
T. E. Maginnis.
J. G. Gracey.

DIOCESAN SYNODSMEN :

M. Gilpin.
J. G. Gracey.
T. Martin.
J. Twinem.
J. H. Twinem.
R. Price.

SELECT VESTRY :

Miss Atkinson.
Miss Collen.
M. Gilpin.
J. G. Gracey.
R. Hoy.
T. E. Maginnis.
T. Martin.
J. Montgomery.
R. Price.
H. Stoops.
J. Twinem.
J. H. Twinem.

SYDESMEN :

J. Carson, I. Dickson, J. Ford, J. G. Gracey, R. Hoy,
R. McClements, D. W. Murray, S. Rennix, J. Sands,
J. Twinem.

Hon. Sec.—Moses Gilpin, Drumnagoon.

Hon. Treas.—Hugh Stoops, Killycomaine Road, Portadown.

Holy Week and Easter.

The Services during Holy Week and Easter were well attended. Special addresses were given by visiting clergy. On Easter Day, especially at Morning Prayer, the congregations were large, and the Services were very bright and hearty. The Easter Anthem, "Christ is risen," was well sung by a full choir. The solo was sung with fine expression by Mr. David Murray. The Church was tastefully decorated with palms and cut flowers.

Jumble Sale

The recent Jumble Sale in the Parochial Hall realised a total sum of £15 19s 10d. The expenses amounted to 10s 6d, leaving a nett balance of £15 9s 4d for the Scouts and Guides.

Drumgor Sale of Work.

The outstanding event in the Parish during the past month was the Sale of Work and Sports which came off at Drumgor on Easter Tuesday, April 22nd. Everything passed off with great success, and a considerable sum of money has been raised towards the renovation of the Hall where the Sunday School and other gatherings are held. The final financial statement is not yet completed, but the gross total reaches something over £100, about £70 being from the Sale and £30 from the Sports. Everyone worked with hearty goodwill. Mrs. Watson Walker very kindly consented to open the Sale at very short notice. Mrs. Waring, who was to have done so, was unable to attend through illness, but kindly sent a subscription of £3. Mrs. James Johnston, of Lurgan, also very kindly sent a subscription of £2. The following names of helpers were accidentally omitted from the Press report—Mrs. McCullough, Miss Minnie Bullick, and Messrs Johnston Robinson and Thomas George Robinson. Our special thanks are due to the Tamnificarbet Flute Band, who helped greatly by their presence to make the Sale and Sports such a success. We also owe our very sincere thanks to Captain and Mrs. Andrews and to the "B" Specials for their kind help. The Irish Wedding Party was a splendid success, and created great amusement. The Hon. Secs. of the Sale were Miss Agnes Guy and Mr. M. Gilpin. The Hon. Treasurers were Miss Collen for the Sale, and Mr. McClements for the Sports.

C.M.S. Boxes.

The following names and amounts were by accident omitted from last month's list of Boxes returned—Miss Minnie McCormick, 3s 2d; Mrs. Henry Neill, 6s 8d; Miss Minnie England, 7s 6d; Miss Sophia McMurray, 1s 6d.

A Curious Find.

The following letter has been received from Mr. C. S. Kirk, per Mrs. John Reid, relating to the curious find of glass jars or bottles which were unearthed from a subterranean chamber when the workmen were excavating for the making of the Railway through Seagoe about the year 1837. Mr. Kirk most kindly enclosed a fine photograph of the bottle in his possession—

Will you kindly hand enclosed photograph to Canon Archer with my compliments.

I know but little of the circumstances surrounding the history of the bottle, which was the property of my grandfather, Daniel Sinclair, who was resident for many years in Seagoe. I remember my grandfather telling me that at the time they were cutting the Railway from Belfast to Portadown a number of these bottles were found somewhere in the neighbourhood of the level crossing at Seagoe Gates, and that Archdeacon Saurin got several of them.

The bottles when found were securely sealed, and all contained liquor—wine of some sort, I think.

The bottle itself is of thick dark glass, similar in substance to the ordinary porter bottle of to-day, and of somewhat similar density. The photographer has tried to convey this, but with somewhat doubtful success in the accompanying photograph. It is his endeavour to do so that accounts for the white splash and the apparent band that runs round the base of the bottle.

If this photograph will serve Canon Archer's purpose I will be very pleased that I have been able to supply him with it.

G.F.S.

Eight new members were admitted to the Hacknahay Branch of the G.F.S. by the Rector at a recent meeting of the Branch held at Miss Calvert's house in Breagh. The names of the new members are—Misses Emily Neill, Sophia M'Murray, Ethel M'Murray, Gertrude Fowler, May Quinn, May Bell, Fanny Davidson, Sophia Davidson.

Our Summer Migrants.

The Cuckoo was heard by Mr. M'Clements, of Edenderry, at Seagoe on April 1st. This is a very early record. The Corncrakes were heard by many on the evening of Monday, April 28th. We have not yet heard of the Swallow's re-appearance, but it is long overdue.

The Parochial Hall.

The splendid new iron railings are now in position round the Hall, and are much admired. A Social meeting was held in the Hall on Friday, April 25th, and it was decided to start a Penny-a-week Fund to provide money for the new Musgrave Heating apparatus for the Hall. It will cost about £100, so please pay in your pennies and the thing will soon be done.

Rev. W. R. Crichton.

Our old friend, the Rev. W. R. Crichton, hopes to spend a day or two in Seagoe this month. We will all be glad to see him once again after his six years in India.

Parish Register for April.**Baptisms.**

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on April 5th, 1924—

Stanfield—Robert Weir, son of Thomas Edward and Mary Jane Stanfield, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Annie Weir, Mary Jane Stanfield.

Johnston—David Charles, son of James and Elizabeth Johnston, of Kernan.

Sponsors—Margaret Sommerville, Elizabeth Johnston.

Best—William David, son of William David and Sarah Anne Best, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Margaretta Pentland, Sarah Anne Best.

Montgomery—Edna Emily Jane, daughter of Thomas John and Martha Montgomery, of Kernan.

Sponsors—Jemima Porter, Martha Montgomery.

M'Donald—Helen, daughter of William Henry and Mary M'Donald, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Lucy Henry, Mary M'Donald.

Abraham—Absalom, son of George and Margaret Abraham, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—George Abraham, Margaret Abraham.

RECEIVED INTO THE CONGREGATION.

Porter—April 18th, Richard Joseph, son of David and Sarah Mary Porter, of Kernan.

Sponsors—Anne Jane Patton, Sarah Mary Porter.

Marriages.

M'Kerr and Livingston—April 17th, 1924, William George M'Kerr, of Drumgor, to Sarah Livingston, of Edenderry.

Warnock and Hughes—April 23rd, 1924, at St. Mark's Church, Portadown, by the Rev. Canon Archer, assisted by the Rev. H. F. O. Egerton, Joseph Warnock, of Edenderry, to Sarah Hughes, of Portadown.

Rankin and Preston—April 23rd, 1924, Albert John Rankin, of Castlecaulfield, Co. Tyrone, to Anne Elizabeth Preston, of Killycomaine.

Burials.

Livingston—April 8th, Annie Livingston, of Edenderry, aged 43.

Hughes—April 10th, Ellen Hughes, of Knockmena, aged 52.

Finnegan—April 22nd, Mary Finnegan, of Ballyhannon, aged 72.

M'Nulty—April 25th, Margaret M'Nulty, of Drumgor, aged 21.

Congratulations.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Warnock on their marriage. Mr. Warnock has been a lifelong resident of Edenderry, and has always taken a practical interest in the welfare of Seagoe Parish. Much of the success which has attended the Parish Magazine has been due to the attention devoted by Mr. Warnock and the staff of the "Portadown News" to its publication ever since it was first published in January, 1906. He has always been most courteous, willing and ready to help in every possible way, and since Mrs. Young recently relinquished her control of the Printing Office Mr. Warnock has reached a position of still greater responsibility. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Warnock much happiness and prosperity in their future life.

In our last issue we announced the marriage of Mr. William M'Dowell to Miss Annie Black. The hearty congratulations of Mrs. M'Dowell's fellow-parishioners in Seagoe will follow her in her new sphere of life. Mrs. M'Dowell was for many years head Nurse in the Fever Hospital at Lurgan Infirmary, and her kind care of the patients in her charge brought many a sick and suffering one back to health and strength. Mr. and Mrs. M'Dowell will in future reside in Bangor.

Seagoe Children's Choir.

Seagoe Children have again succeeded in carrying off the Challenge Shield at the Musical Festival held in Portadown this week. This is their second win, so if they succeed next year the Shield comes permanently to Seagoe. The Judge, Sir Richard

Terry, was loud in his praise of the singing. He said—"Their utterance was remarkably clear, they had a beautiful easy lilt, their intonation and diction were excellent, and their nuances or lights and shades were very satisfactory." We congratulate Mr. Rennix and the Choir on their great success, which has brought much honour to Seagoe School.

ITEMS.

Much regret has been caused to the Teaching Staff and pupils of Seagoe National School by the sudden death of little Willie Macaulay, of Lower Seagoe. He was at the school up to the Thursday before Easter apparently as bright and happy as ever, but passed away a few days after. We express our sympathy with his bereaved relatives.

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The Rector would be obliged if any who have sold Tickets for the recent Lecture on "Lough Neagh" would kindly remit him the amount without delay.

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Radical improvements are being made on the Lurgan Road. For long stretches the surface is being covered with large quarry stones and over that a new asphaltic surface is rolled in.

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Mr. Robert W. Johnston, L.Th. Durham, who has been appointed to the second Curacy of Seagoe, will (D.V.) be ordained on Sunday, June 29th, and will enter on his work as Curate on July 1st.

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Seagoe Sunday School Excursion to Warrenpoint on Thursday, June 19th.

WITH THE "NINTH" IN FRANCE.

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

(Continued from April Magazine.)

TUESDAY, MARCH 6th.

Sunny day after a white frost. A strafe of our heavies all the morn'g. Went to Bde Office and spent half an hour with Gen. settling things. My recommendations had not gone on, but have now. Two for M. Medal for stretcher bearers, who did good work in bringing in wounded from a neighbouring Div. I hear the Canadians did a big raid the other night. A whole Brigade went over and did a lot of damage. I wrote to Padre's father to-day (he is 94), telling him what we all thought of his son, and sent

him the copy of the recommendations I had sent in for the M.C. for him for the third time.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7th.

Frosty again and a bitter N.E. wind to-day. Another strafe this a.m. by our guns; all sorts. Our snipers got to work last tour and fairly silenced the Bosche ones. Up to that we lost a man a day from them, and last tour they never even fired. We had 4 pairs of ours at work, 1 with telescope observing (only 80 yards off) and one with telescopic rifle. Result was we outed quite a lot of Bosche. Young Shill. is extraordinarily accurate and reliable. Wonderful good head on such young shoulders. A howl-

ing bitter N.E. blast that cuts one in two. The 12th had a few casualties from I.M.'s to-day. And her strafe of our heavies on to-morrow p.m. This hard weather seems prevalent everywhere. I still don't see how the war will last beyond this year. Stronge is busy ploughing and is well forward. We found 2 old derelict ploughs and a barrow. Bde mess was only 6 fcs. a day last month. My strictures on liqueurs had some effect.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8th.

Snow early and continuing at intervals all a.m. Sun out now and melting it fast, but wind still N.E. and bitter. I had a reply from Nugent about Padre. "Thanks for your recommendation for Halahan I quite agree. You may be sure he will not be overlooked." So that's satisfactory. Yes, so far Griffith has kept to my alterations. Of course, crabbed them, but found all C.O.'s supporting me, so left it. They are all very nice about me, far more than, of course, I deserve.

I have no idea about big things in the future. This retirement of the Germans alters things somewhat. We are short-handed again. We had to send 50 men and an Officer away for a fortnight's duty in back areas, and have had 40 cases of scabies, who will be away for a similar period, reducing us by 100, just when men are wanted for work.

10 p.m.—The p.m. turned out better, though cloudy. No snow fell and the glass is rising. The Bosche put up a heavy strafe on 12th front between 3 and 4 p.m. Caused some casualties. He also threw some shells about back areas, promiscuous like, but did no damage. We only go in for 4 days this time, and then out to another place further back, where the Battalion will be together again. To promote entente between Infantry and Heavy Artillery I am to be attached, on 14th and 15th, to a heavy group, about 3 miles off. As they can't put me up I have to ride over each day from 10 to 4—rather ridiculous.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9th.

Fine morning, now threatening snow again. March seems a snorter out here. Sorry to say there's a move on, only a side step N., I believe, but it will entail more Transport lines, and stores, and being rather crowded. However, we can't complain—we've been 8 months without a move. Another strafe about 4 a.m., and the 12th had a few casualties. They have had a bad time this tour. The trenches were knocked about rather.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10th.

Foggy day, frost gone, mild, and springlike. Fear the line is in a bad way, and will want a lot of work. Pleasant dinner last night with the gunners. Thompson, who commands this group, a very nice

fellow. Wonderful the entente between us. All his Officers practically know all the Officers of the two Batsns., and are extremely pally with one another. Everyone at Bde H.Q. impressed by pessimism of Friday's London papers. I hope people at last are beginning to realise the seriousness of the outlook. The new Government are doing well, and judging from the proceedings of D. Comm. it was about time the old lot went. Such happy-go-lucky methods. Plumer told Nugent that this Div. was the best in the 2nd Army.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11th.

Rumour strong here that there is a Rebellion on again in Ireland. If such be the case it will give the Government a grand opportunity to have Nat. Service in Ireland. Fine spring-like day and mild. Much mud about everywhere, and movement very fatiguing. According to latest we retire to back areas shortly. Wandered up the line last night and found everything very quiet, and the morning the same. A busy afternoon, all sorts to settle, and arrange about moves and temporary shifts, etc. I read your ration statement to H.Q. Mess, and they were astounded at the small amount, especially of bread, flour and sugar. We have numerous moves on in the next 10 days, so after Wednesday letters will be scrappy and irregular. I expect much aerial activity on both sides to-day, as the weather is fine. There is a good deal of wind about in the higher strata.

MONDAY, MARCH 12th.

Such a rush; no time to write. Quiet night, but heavy rain and river in flood. 9.30 p.m.—A mild day, heavy rain early and again in p.m., river flooding. At last got orders out for move, very complicated, but young Shill such a clear head and great help. A quiet day. Water in one place in the trenches was waist deep. We managed, however, to drain it off. March 17th seems a probable date for another rising in S. and W. I'm sure Dillon will commit the Irish Parliamentary Party. They are fast losing all influence in Ireland, I think. Holt looked in this evening. Bob Maxwell away for a week at 2nd Army School. I was to have gone to Heavy Artillery group for a few days, but that is cancelled.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13th.

Wire in that I am to proceed to England and report in writing to W.O. Wonder what it means. Will see Battalion out of the line and leave Thursday or Friday. Am trying to wire to you.