OUR WEEKLY CAUSERIE.

AN OLD MAN'S MUSINGS.

OUR OWN COUNTRY.

It is astonishing how little the mass of Irish people know about their own country. Not merely does the Munster man know naught of Ulster, and do Cork and Galway appear far more remote to the Derry or Belfast man, than do London and Liverpool and Glasgow, but there are amazingly large numbers even of the fairly well-to-do travelling classes, who have no knowledge whatsoever of the adjoining county, and often none of even parts of their own county. If, for example, a census was made of Derry City people, who had travelled fairly extensively, and yet had never been in South Derry—had never seen the "Three Spires" of Magherafelt or "Knockloughrim Plantin" or feasted their eyes on that wonderful panorama of fair corn land and beauteous plain and lovely wood and cosy hamlet, that breaks on the delighted gaze of the traveller, when he has climbed to the top of the mountain on the road from Dungiven to Maghera and sees stretched out for miles below him the lovely Valley of the Bann—the result would be surprising. So the number of people in County Derty to whom Donegal, with all its wild beauty and varied interests, is an absolutely **terra ignota** would be astonishing to a stranger, who knew nothing of Ireland's unhappy history and did not understand how thoroughly alien systems of education had taught us to despise everything that belongs to ourselves and of which any normal race would be especially proud. But one need not go to County Derry to find people who know nothing of the real charms of Donegal. There are large numbers of reasonably prosperous people in Inishowen and in East Donegal, who never saw the blue waters of Mulroy Bay glinting in the sun, or Errigal doffing its cap of grey to bid good-morrow to the rising day, or the glory of a sunset being Arranmore, or Slieve League towering in grandeur and majesty over the Atlantic that breaks itself in desperation at its feet, or the romantic glory of Glenveigh.

HOLIDAY RESORTS.

In particular, how very few people even in Donegal itself know anything about the number and the various attractions of Donegal's seaside and holiday resorts. I thought I knew the county fairly well, for example. Yet it was only last year that I visited Narin and Portnoo for the first time. But I found that district so attractive that I would like to urge the claims both of it and of the other Donegal watering places on the attention of those people who at this time of the year are wondering where they are going to spend their summer holidays. For the benefit of those who do not know the geography of the locality, I had better explain that Narin and Portnoo are practicaly one. The picturesque village of Portnoo, where there are a very excellent hotel, conducted by an enterprising and most efficient German gentleman, and Mr. M'Loone's up-to-date and well-stocked store, is situate within a mile or so of the famous Narin Strand. The place is easily accessible. One can travel to it by the Donegal Railway, over one of the most beautiful railway routes in Ireland, through Glenfinn and past Lough Finn, to Glenties, and then by bus to Portnoo; or if one wants to see a great deal of the southern end of County Donegal, passing through Barnesmore Gap, and along Donegal Bay to Killybegs, and thence over a picturesque mountain road to Ardara, he can bus right through from Foyle Street, Derry, to Narin and Portnoo on a very cheap ticket.

NARIN.

When some of the very ignorant people, whom we grow in great numbers, see a beautiful place like Narin for the first time, they exclaim: "If they had a place one-tenth part as nice as this across the water, they would make something of it!" They mean that they would build a picture house and a promenade and introduce a lot of vulgar pierots and have all the English Sunday "dirties" on sale in it, at least by Monday morning, and erect a number of garish dancing halls, and destroy the charm and obscure the beauty of even Narin and Portnoo. Well, thank God, Narin and Portnoo are not "across the water," and their charm is likely to remain. Those who cannot live without cinemas or whose souls are so vulgar that they delight in pierots should certainly go to Blackpool or Portrush. But for one who glories in the beauty of God's world, whose heart is made glad by seascape and mountain scenery, whose ears are attuned to the music of the observes, and who seeks above all things on a holiday health and peace and comfort and change, Narin has very special attractions.

SCENIC BEAUTY.

The scenic beauty of the place is wonderful. All around are the Donegal Highlands, and Narin is situate on a lovely bay that opens out into the broad Atlantic. No place could be more healthy or bracing. You have only to sit by an open window in one of the houses that front the sea, and breathe the life-giving ozone that blows in from the Seven Seas of the world; and if you climb any of the hills that stand behind Narin your eyes are filled with scenes of almost ethereal beauty—mountain and moor and lake and island and inlet and ocean—and your lungs with air that seems like the very breath of life. To sit on such a hill on a summer evening and watch the sun go down in a blaze of glory and sink into the red sea, that stretches beyond Arranmore into the great unknown, fills the soul with such a sense of beauty that is hushed almost into silence and can only exclaim: "Lord! It is good to be here!" There is a long stretch of white strand at Narin, that seems to extend for miles, and from any part of which it is a joy to bathe. There is an excellent golf course, and—rare instance of the enterprise of the local people—several free bathing boxes on the strand, of which visitors can have the use at any time without charge. There is plenty of excellent accommodation in the hotels and boarding houses, and there are some very fine furnished houses to let. The late Cardinal O'Donnell, when he was Bishop of Raphoe, used to spend his holidays practically every year in Narin; and no man was a better judge or had a finer appreciation of natural beauty. There are all sorts of interesting walks and excursions to be made all over the district.

MEMORIES.

But the place has more than scenery or golf links to recommend it. It is rich in memories, and any person with any feeling for our great past could not fail to find a holiday there very delightful. There are some very interesting pre-Christian ruins and traditions and tracks in the neighbourhood. But in particular I would like to draw attention to the Island of Inniskeel, its ruins, and its associations. The island derives its name from the agnomen of St. Conal Caol, who was a near relative of St. Colmcille, and died about the year 596. His name is associated in the Irish Annals with the **Gair Domnaigh**, a law forbidding servile works on Sunday, which the "Yellow Book of Lecan" says was brought to Ireland from Rome by St. Conal, who had got it when on a pilgrimage to the Eternal City. St. Conal had a very devoted friend, St. Dallan Forgail, who was the author of the famous "Amhra Coluim Cille." This was a poem written in praise of St. Colm, and the first version of it was composed to commemorate the great saint's success at the assembly of Drumceat. Dallan proceeded to read it at the breakup of that great convention; but as we are told by Colgan the slight feeling of vain-glory which the eulogy inspired in the saint's breast brought the demons in whirling crowds above Colm's head to the astonishment of his disciple and companion, St. Baithen. The demons must have a lot of other jobs to attend to nowadays or only saints are privileged to see them, because otherwise addresses and presentations to curates leaving for new missions, or civic welcomes to more highly placed ecclesiastics, would not be the very pleasant functions which they usually are! St. Colmcille we are told, saw the terrible portent himself, and at once stopped the recital. No entreaty could ever induce him to allow the publication of the poem in his lifetime; but by dint of importunity Colm was induced to promise St. Dallan that if he survived he might then compose a poem about his life. We are told that an angel brought the news of St. Colm's death to Dallan, who thereupon composed his panegyric, "Amhra Coluim Cille."

THE SAME GRAVE.

St. Dallan was blind; but we are told that when the "dan" in praise of St. Comcille was completed his sight was miraculously restored to him. He also composed a panegyric in praise of his friend St. Conal whose monastery was in Innskeel. Dallan had often been a visitor at the island sanctuary and so great was his attachment to his friend that he had often prayed God that they might share the same grave. The favour was granted him in this way. Once, when he was on Innskeel, a band of pirates raided the monastery, plundered all they could lay hands on, and cutting off Dallan's head cast it into the sea. The Abbot had managed to escape from their hands; but when the robbers had departed and he had returned to his despoiled priory, he found the headless trunk of what had been Dallan's body. Conal at once appealed to God, asking Him to reveal the whereabouts of the head of his martyred friend. His prayer was granted. The head was cast up by the waves, and we are told that when it was placed by reverent hands beside the body of the saint the parts re-united as if the pirate's cutlass had never done its bloody work. St. Dallan's body was then buried beneath the church walls. This took place about the year 594, and before the century had closed St. Conal's remains were buried in the same grave. The sacred island has ever been a place of pilgrimage since, and down the long centuries many miracles have been claimed for the hallowed spot. Innskeel can be reached at low tide on foot across the sand from Narin, and people are constantly making the **turas** on the island. The feast of St. Conal is on the 20th May, and the feast of St. Dallan on the 25th January. There is little Irish in Narin, because it has been a planted district and the old race have only pushed back into it within the last hundred years. But to those who are interested in the national language, as nearly all educated people are nowadays, a holiday in the district will furnish ample opportunities of improving their command of the tongue of Conal and Dallan. For the Glenfinn people have always regarded it as their favourite watering place; and there is no Irish in Donegal like the Glenfinn Irish.

PORTNOO.

Portnoo has been honoured by being praised in song by a former Bishop of Raphoe. The Most Rev. Dr. MacDevitt—in those simple, unsophisticated days of my youth, when even Bishops wrote books and verses—paid this graceful and tuneful tribute to a place that he loved passing well:—

A voyage dreary,
And coasting weary,
Bring me to anchor in sweet Portnoo
Above that harbour
There is an arbour
From storm's wild ardour
A refuge true;
I love to rest there,
With friendship blest there,
By friends caressed there,
With sorrows few.
'Tis a beacon seeming,
With beav'ns light gleaming,
For ever beaming
Above Portnoo.

Here some great giant,
A Fenian client,
Made a bed to lie on't,
For Finn MacCool,
The giant pillow
Above the billow
Here stands still, O,
'Tis wonderful.
From this granite boulder,
This huge upholder
Of the giant's shoulder,
I love to view,
With rapt devotion
The endless ocean
In endless motion
Beyond Portnoo.

Behold the Atlantic
By winds made frantic!
With strokes gigantic
It beats the land.
Behold them arching,
Those waves! then marching
In deep lines charging
On Narin strand.
I look and listen,
While they sparkle and glisten,
And swell e'er hissing
And roaring, too.
With anger groaning,
With hollow moaning,
Rush they, foaming,
Beyond Portnoo.

In that isle holy,
Where pilgrims slowly
Do tread, and lowly,
Do pray and kneel;
Their beads be telling,
In that ruined dwelling,
While waves are swelling
Round Innskeel;
These stones caressing,
I pray a blessing,
To the world's distressing
I bid adieu.
Nor skies that thunder,
Seas raging under,
Shall my cable sunder
From sweet Portnoo.

The good Bishop was not much of a poet; but at any rate these simple lines give a very faithful picture of the beauties of Portnoo and Narin, and I trust that as many as possible of those who read this article will determine that the summer of 1931 shall not pass before they have sent these beauties for themselves and knelt in prayer within the ruined walls where Conal and Dallan once prayed, and where they sleep side by side in their hallowed grave.

CORMAC MacAIRT.

GRIFFITH'S ECONOMIC POLICY.

CALLED "POLITICAL CHAUVINISM" BY COSGRAVE.

CUMANN NA NGAEDHEAL AND GAELTACHT.

POOR PROSPECTS FOR RELIEF.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Cumann na nGaedheal Party in Dublin, yesterday, Mr. Cosgrave said the policy of the Government on tariffs had been eminently the same.

"I have never been able to rid myself of the idea," he said, "that the tariff campaign is dictated more by political than by economic considerations, even by economics. Obsessed by the spectre of England, which occupies all their thoughts, in their anxiety to display their anti-English feeling they are frankly careless of the fate of the export trade in cattle which this country possesses at the moment.

"I take for granted that the wholesale imposition of tariffs means, however much attempts are made to hide it, an increase in the cost of living. Now, we have been asked on the one hand to impose tariffs to aid or establish industries. By such a policy we should lay an undue burden on the consumer and especially on the poorer sections, and the burden will be placed especially on agriculture in order to benefit industries in town.

"At the same time, owing to depressed condition of agriculture and owing to the burden that the farmers have to bear, we are faced with a very strong campaign in favour of agricultural de-rating. In other words, however people may try to disguise it, we are asked to put burdens on the people as a whole, especially on those in town, for the benefit of the rural community. In tariffs, as in politics, we have tried to avoid turning to the right or to the left.

"We have striven hard to keep—in the language of the late Vice-President (Mr. Kevin O'Higgins)—the middle of the road. We have done much for financial and economic stability and security for industry, and for the improvement of agriculture, which has enabled our country, in tumbling markets, to hold a some what enviable position. Instead of plunging into the wild policy of tariffing agricultural produce, we have assisted agriculture in same ways. One of these ways had been the diminution of overhead expenses.

"In the last few days we have put the Land Bill into force. Other measures will also be undertaken to decrease the overhead charges that weigh on agriculture. Looking at the situation of the country, on the whole we can re-echo the views of some observers who at the moment see a country, happy in comparison with other lands, with an attractive future, but threatened with a greater danger not merely from the political aim of the Fianna Fail Party, but quite as much from their economic policy."

THE GAELTACHT.

The problem of the Gaeltacht was not one that could be dealt with in terms of land. It must be solved by an extension of the available outlets for energy by way of fishing, kelp, and rural industries. Migration and the consequent provision of economic holdings would do something, but the possibilities in this direction were limited. Consequently they had turned attention to fostering the kelp industry, and to the development of the fishing and cottage industries. The fishing industry had fallen on comparatively difficult times, but the new Fisheries Association had power and opportunity for its reorganisation which had never previously been enjoyed by any body entrusted with the development of sea fishing.

The output of kelp was increased last year in quantity by about 40 per cent. and the value of the industry to the kelp maker was raised from £15,000 to £28,000. With the establishment of the iodine factory at Galway and the employment of the most satisfactory methods of selection further considerable development should take place in quantity, quality, and value of the output.

The neglect of the Gaeltacht, he said, was the standby of those whose sole political stock-in-trade consisted of destructive criticism of Government work. The grants given in days gone by were but a temporary expedient. The special efforts of the Government were being directed to fundamental improvements in conditions which would, it was hoped, in time render such grants unnecessary. He believed that in following this policy they were much closer to what the people of the Gaeltacht desired than their opponents, who sought to picture them as a perpetual object of charity.

The Department of External Affairs, he proceeded, was one of those which came in for a great deal of misinformed attack. Some who had attacked it were those who regarded any such progress as had been made internationally as being proof that the Treaty settlement which they opposed had in fact conferred upon the Irish people what Collins, Griffith, and O'Higgins had claimed it would. He found it very difficult to discover any element of nationality or any love of country or of pride in her people in the attitude of those critics. He could only conclude that they were opposed to the work which had been accomplished for the betterment of the country's international position and the recognition of its independence in the councils of the world.

PROFESSOR O'SULLIVAN'S SCARE TALK.

Professor O'Sullivan, Minister of Education, who presided, said a change of Government at the present moment would mean a profound change not merely in the theory underlying government in the country, but a revolutionary change in the practical policies of most departments. It was not only on the issue of the Treaty that their policy differed from their opponents', and it should be remembered that as long as the second largest political party in the State insisted on keeping a Republic as a practical issue before the people, the Treaty and its preservation would have to remain its fundamental plank of their policy and the most vital issue before them. It would be for criminal blindness for anyone to ignore that fact.

EDUCATION IN NORTH TYRONE

STRABANE TECHNICAL SCHOOL QUESTION.

MINISTRY AND GRANTS REDUCTION.

MEMBER ALLEGES "ORGANISED PREJUDICE."

"TO RUIN THE SCHOOL."

At a meeting of Strabane and Castlederg Regional Education Committee, held yesterday in Strabane,

The Ministry of Education, writing with reference to the committee's proposal to postpone for three years the suggested extension of Strabane Technical School, pointed out that the amounts of the attendance grants payable by them in respect of technical schools and classes were determined by the number of hours of attendances made by students. Consequently, the Ministry was not in a position to give any undertaking that the amount payable in respect of Strabane Technical School would not be affected by a decrease in the number of attendances. The Ministry would, however, be prepared to continue to recognise the school for purposes of the payment of attendance grants in the interval, provided steps were taken to reduce the excessive enrolment in classes. To this end it was expected that students of the day commercial school should be excluded from the evening classes. In order to facilitate the committee in attaining this object, the Ministry would not insist upon the inclusion of drawing in the programme of the day commercial school, so long as the services of a teacher of the subject were available only in the evenings.

The Chairman (Captain Herdman) said he had written to the Minister to see if he could arrange that the grants would not suffer with the postponement of the extension. The Minister replied that he preferred to take the middle course, that economy was the rule of the day, and could they not reduce the attendance on lines that would be submitted to the committee. He (the chairman) then asked what those lines would be, and how much savings would affect the grants—would it be materially or not. The Ministry had now written this letter, which was vague. He could not say how many would be struck off by not admitting day pupils to the night classes; the best thing would be to refer the matter to Mr. Carroll, the principal of the technical school, and ask him to give them facts and figures to show how much exactly it would reduce their enrolments and grants.

PROBABLE REDUCTION BY OVER £300.

Mr. T. Stewart, Co.C.—It will probably reduce your grant by over £300.

The Secretary (Mr. Mackey)—If you go according to the Ministry's previous report, about half the number at the school is all you could accommodate now in the building.

The Chairman—Mr. Carroll might submit an alternative scheme which would reduce the attendance by only 100, and that might satisfy the Ministry.

Mr. Stewart—It means depriving the day pupils of drawing and art.

Mr. Joseph Mills—But isn't the whole thing very unfair to Mr. Carroll. There practically has been a plot to deprive these pupils of the proper education.

The Chairman—We have not got the accommodation to enable him to give them the proper education.

Mr. Mills—You have means of providing suitable accommodation the same as any other area in Northern Ireland.

The Chairman—Yes, if we spend the money, but it has been shelved for three years.

"RUINATION OF THE SCHOOL."

Mr. Mills—The Minister seems to be still anxious to go on, yet some people here think otherwise. It will just mean the practical ruination of this school in Strabane. Mr. Carroll has been going on day after day trying to push ahead, and has been practically at the top of the tree and now this committee thinks proper to drag him down again.

The Chairman—I don't think it proper at all.

Referring to the suggestion that Mr. Carroll be asked to submit the figures, Mr. Mills said: "If I were Mr. Carroll I would not do that, because you have been dragging him about everywhere and treating him most unfairly as the principal of a technical school."

Mr. A. Gallagher, D.L.—It is not a matter of Mr. Carroll being treated unfairly. It is a matter of finance entirely. No member of this committee is trying to do anything on Mr. Carroll that is unfair. I am entirely in favour of getting the new school.

The Chairman—So am I.

Mr. Mills—What other school in Ireland is to be broken up in such a way?

Mr. Gallagher—It is the want of money.

Mr. Mills—It is not the want of money at all. It is organised prejudice to ruin the school.

Eventually it was decided, on the motion of Mr. Geo. Boyle, seconded by Mr. Stewart, to refer the matter to Mr. Carroll as suggested.

OTHER MATTERS.

The Ministry wrote that they noted the appointment of Mr. Gerald Maguire as part-time school attendance officer, in place of Mr. Sinclair, resigned, at £50 per annum, and said they would be glad to be informed of the date on which Mr. Maguire took up duty.

The Chairman suggested that Mr. Maguire should be placed on a probationary period of twelve months; he was doing the work very well at present.

It was decided to reply that he took up duty on 10th April.

With reference to the suggested amalgamation of Aughnahoe and Ganvaughan P.E. Schools,

Mr. R. Thompson protested against the amalgamation, stating that children of tender years would have to walk three or more miles.

It was decided not to amalgamate the schools.

The Ministry approved of the amended specification for Ballylaw proposed new P.E. school.

They also wrote that in view of the committee's inability to secure the services of a qualified person as principal teacher of Tullywhisker P.E.S., the appointment of Mr. N. T. M'Clure, B.A., was provisionally approved subject to his obtaining his diploma at the completion of two years' service.

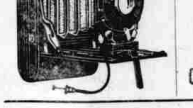
The Ministry asked for observations on the application of Rev. T. Baird, manager, for a grant towards the installation of a heating apparatus in Abercorn voluntary P.E.S.; and on the application of Captain Herdman, manager, for a grant for installing a low-pressure water system in Sion Mills voluntary P.E.S.

The committee took no action, the matter being outside their discretion.

The school nurse, Miss K. Moody, in her monthly report said she visited 9 schools, made 215 inspections, and visited 21 homes. She attended 6 schools with the medical officer, and also attended 3 dental clinics.

There were also present—Lady Herdman, Miss Ballantine, J.P., John Perry, J.P., Robert Stevenson, Wm. Rankin, J.P., Matthew Verner, J.P., and Robert Lyons, J.P.

The Camera House



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GLENVAR TRAGEDY.

(Continued from Page 5.)

not going to fire."

Did you hear him say anything to Annie Tinney?—I heard him ask her if she had enough.

What did he do next?—He turned away and left her and came up the laneway.

Had you a conversation with him then?—He turned back to where she was again, and I saw him looking down at her face, and catch her by the hand. He said to her, "Good-bye, Nancy; me and you have to go to-day."

Did he then come up again to where you were?—Yes, he passed me by and didn't stop at all, but went towards his own house.

Had you any conversation with Herety at any time later?—Yes.

Where?—It took place in a laneway leading to my house.

Who spoke first?—I spoke, and asked him what came on him at all, and he said: "There came nothing on me; I couldn't get over this. I had to do it to-day." I then advised him to leave the gun in the house, and told him he had done enough. I couldn't get any satisfaction from him whether he would or not.

Did you hear him say anything about any of the other Tinneys?—Yes, he said if he had two more of them—Dan or Paddy—he would be satisfied. He also said he was going to do the same with himself. I advised him not to do himself any harm, and he replied that it would be as well to do it himself, as it would be done anyway.

Where did he go then?—He turned his face towards the shore, and said—"Good-bye; I will not come back this road any more."

He said something else?—He said: "I am going to do away with myself, and perhaps when I do it I might be got and I might not."

The witness added that the accused then proceeded shorewards after passing the remark already quoted in witness's daughter's evidence.

After making their statements in English, some of the witnesses, at the Justice's request, repeated the evidence in Irish, in which language it was recorded where the original conversations had taken place in the vernacular.

The Justice said it was marvellous how intelligently these people translated their statements from English to Irish, and vice versa. They did it much more quickly and accurately than he or the solicitors could do it.

GARDA EVIDENCE.

Sergeant Carroll, Rathmullan, said he visited the scene of the shooting at one p.m. on this date, and found the body lying about 50 yards from the road. About 10 yards from where the body lay he found a cartridge used. He then went in search of Herety, whom he later saw in a boat about 100 yards from the shore, in Lough Swilly. Herety came about 50 yards nearer, and witness asked him to land, but he refused. He had a shot gun in his possession. On the following day he was with Sergeant Fleming, Kerrykeel, when the latter picked up a stick (produced) from the place where the deceased's body had been lying. The stick bore pellet marks and marks of blood.

Guard Diffley, Rathmullan, said he accompanied Sergeant Carroll on the date of the shooting. Witness saw the accused out in the Lough. Herety pulled nearer to the shore, and, in reply to their requests to come ashore, he said he would pull alongside, but would not come in. He asked witness if Annie Tinney was dead, and added that he would go to the scaffold content if he had Dan Tinney shot.

Mr. MacMenamin—Did he blame anyone for what happened that day? He said it was the Tinneys' own fault for this to happen.

Did he make any reference to his proposed marriage with the girl that was shot? Yes, he said he was to get married to her about twelve months before, and that he had all arrangements made for the marriage. On the night before it was to come off, Herety continued to visit her, he went to Tinney's house and would not be admitted.

Witness added that Herety informed him that he and the Tinneys were on bad terms since. He also added that he had up that day that if he did not marry the deceased no other man would. He said he was still willing to marry her.

Did he say anything about the shooting? He said: "I am after putting the contents of two cartridges in her."

Sergeant Fleming, Kerrykeel, deposed that on the day after the shooting Sergeant Carroll pointed out to him the spot where the deceased was shot. Witness found the stick already referred to, and shotgun pellets, and 15 yards from the same spot, on the right hand side of the field he discovered two empty cartridge cases (produced).

The Justice said that he did not think the evidence about the stick was important.

Mr. MacMenamin—We have to submit all the results of our investigations.

The Justice—Quite right, but I hope the State will not bring all these witnesses to Dublin.

The witness added that he found an empty jam pot containing a quantity of mixed shot, in the kitchen of the deceased's house.

THE SHOOTING ON LOUGH SWILLY.

Sergeant B. Meehan, C.I.D., Letterkenny, said when he went to the scene he found prisoner out in the boat. He shouted to him to come ashore. Herety shouted back: "You can shoot me; I won't come in." Witness then proceed a boat, and went out with other Gards and civilians. They got to within forty yards of Herety, and again requested him to surrender. Herety then fired two shots, injuring four of the party. He was eventually captured and handed over to witness. On coming ashore he said to witness: "It is a pity I hadn't a machine gun, I would have given the fellows some fun for the evening." He also asked: "Can I see her face for the last time? She was tempting me for a long time."

Supt. Cronin said he arrested the accused at his own house and charged him with the murder of Annie Tinney. He said: "I am making no statement against the thing." Accused possessed a licence for the gun, issued by witness.

Mr. MacMenamin intimated that that concluded the evidence, and he applied to have the prisoner returned for trial to the Central Criminal Court, Dublin.

The Justice, addressing the accused in Irish, pointed out that he was going to return him for trial, and asked him if he had any statement to make.

Mr. Malseed—My own opinion is that the prisoner is unable to plead. He is making no statement. The defence will be reserved.

The Justice returned Herety for trial in custody to the Central Criminal Court. Before the hearing there he said the prisoner's mental condition would, of course, be enquired into.

When the Court rose, Herety was immediately escorted from his seat and taken to the bar-room, where he was interviewed by his solicitor. As he moved slowly through the Court, he was the cynosure of all eyes many women folk rushing forward to look at him. Herety, however, appeared completely oblivious of all the attention that was being bestowed on him, and hardly ever lifted his eyes.

At the resumption of the Court after lunch, he failed to even notice the entry of Justice Murnaghan with his cap on until it was removed by his guard.

He was later removed to Sligo Prison.

MONEY SENT TO LABOUR EXCHANGE.

ALLEGATION AGAINST BELFAST CORPORATION OFFICIAL.

QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

On the motion for the adjournment of the Northern House of Commons last night,

Mr. T. Henderson (Ind., Shankhill) asked the Minister for Home Affairs if his attention had been directed to statements made by a member of the Belfast Corporation that money had been sent by an official of the Corporation to an official of the Labour Exchange in regard to certain men to be sent out. He said he did not think that this statement was correct, but at the same time he thought the Minister should have an inquiry into the matter to see if it were really true.

The Minister of Labour, in reply, said —This information was conveyed to me by the newspapers, and my Department thoroughly investigated the matter.

It is true that an official of the Ministry of Labour was offered on several occasions money. It was sent to him by mistake, and returned by him, which was his obvious duty to do, and, therefore, no reflection can be brought against the Labour Exchange officials. Further, the chairman of the Corporation committee has been acquainted with the circumstances in connection with the case, and it is up to the Corporation to settle with its own junior official in the way it considers right and proper.

Mr. Henderson thanked the Minister for the information he had given.

SPIRITUAL RETREATS IN OMAGH.

CROWDED CONGREGATIONS.

Crowded congregations attended the annual Retreat, conducted by Fathers Brady and Russell, of the Redemptorist Congregation, which was opened in the Sacred Heart Church, Omagh, on Sunday. Masses are celebrated each morning at 7, 8 and 9 o'clock, the first Mass being followed by a short instruction. The sermons following the devotions each evening are very impressive. The rev. preachers lay particular emphasis on present day evils, warning the people against the dangers which beset the young, and stressing the great necessity for care and vigilance on the part of parents in relation to their children.

Mrs. Annie M'Comb, Carrickue (21), was admitted to Derry Infirmary yesterday suffering from a dislocation of her elbow, sustained through slipping and falling when attending to fowl.

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