

Irish News

ANTRIM—Shipbuilding in Belfast

During the year 1910 Messrs. Harland and Wolff, Queen's Island, Belfast, launched eight steamers, with a gross tonnage of 115,861 and indicated horse-power of 100,130. The output by Messrs. Workman and Clark is officially stated at eight vessels, of 49,993 tons gross tonnage and 36,300 indicated horse-power.

ARMAGH—A Youthful Voter

One of the voters in South Armagh—where Dr. O'Neill was returned with a three-to-one majority—was a boy aged six years, whose name appeared on the voters' roll. The very youthful voter is Master Peter McCone, of Cashel.

CORK—Mr. O'Brien and Tolerance

Nothing (writes a Dublin correspondent) could be more ludicrous than Mr. O'Brien's pretence that his organisation is necessary to safeguard the minority under Home Rule. In pursuance of his self-imposed mission he commenced by hunting Mr. William Abraham, the Protestant Home Ruler, out of his old constituency, and he had him replaced by a Catholic. The people of Dublin Harbor Division, the most Catholic constituency in Ireland, who are not in the habit of parading their tolerance, elected Mr. Abraham as their member. Mr. O'Brien's next move was to have himself nominated against Captain Donelan, another Protestant Home Ruler. The vigorous protest from the Bishop of Cloyne showed where true toleration was to be found. So much for Mr. O'Brien's sham toleration. If evidence were required of the friendship shown by Catholics to their Protestant fellow-countrymen, there is abundance of it. It is only some rabid Orangeman and misguided politicians who glibly talk of Catholic intolerance.

The Lord Mayor

The office of Lord Mayor of Cork was declared vacant in the King's Bench Division at Dublin on December 20. The present occupant, Mr. Donovan, after a tie for the office, gave a casting vote for himself, which, as there are emoluments attaching to the office, the court decided he had no right to do.

A Just Punishment

The Rev. M. B. Kennedy, Fermoy, speaking at a meeting held in that town to celebrate the victory of Captain Donelan in East Cork, said that Captain Donelan had not only won a triumph over factionism, but he had made a proclamation to England and to the world that Irish Nationalists were not only tolerant towards Protestants, but that they coveted alliance with them whenever a man of them was found ready to lift his arm in the cause of the land. Whilst they in Fermoy rejoiced over the victories won elsewhere, they had cause to be ashamed at the position in which North-East Cork, their own constituency, now stood before all Ireland. Mr. William O'Brien, on the eve of the nomination, had stealthily handed them over to a gentleman of wandering habitation and dubious political fame—a Sussex Californian. It was a lamentable thing to reflect that their constituency was cut away from the National Party at a time when the concession of Home Rule was almost certain, but it was a just punishment for their desertion of the Irish Party in the interests of faction.

DOWN—Nationalist Victory

Speaking at a meeting in Newcastle to celebrate the Nationalist success at the South Down election, Mr. McVeagh, M.P., said that their opponents had spent plenty of money, had deluged the constituency with literature, had employed paid agents in every polling district, and had at their service a regiment of landlords' motor-cars and landlords' carriages. The Nationalists had spent practically nothing beyond the sheriff's fees. They had no paid agents; they had issued no literature—they had not even sent out polling cards to the electors; they had lost heavily on the register by deaths and by emigration, and yet at the end of it all the Unionists had only reduced their (the Nationalist) majority by seven votes. To secure that result they had spent nearly £100 for each of the seven votes. At the same rate—viz., seven votes in twelve months—the Unionists might hope to win South Down in about 100 years. The last South Down election, so far as the Nationalists were concerned, was the cheapest election fought in the three kingdoms, the average expenditure per vote being only 11d, including the sheriff's fees, whilst other candidates had spent on an average twenty times as much. Despite all the advantages which they had left with the Unionists in the contest, the result proved that they might as well try to move Slieve Donard from its base as to move South Down from Irish Nationalism. The only explanation the Tories could offer for their failure to reduce the Nationalist poll was that scores of Protestant voters (in addition to those who had previously supported the Nationalist candidate) had also followed such example, and had refused to be again cajoled or humbugged by appeals to bigotry and sectarian passions. He was grateful for the support of those independent Protestants, and their number, he was proud to say, was increasing from election to election.

GALWAY—Probable Vacancy

Mr. Farrell McDonnell, Dunmore, County Galway, has intimated his intention of becoming a candidate for the vacancy which will be caused by the resignation from the representation of North Galway of Mr. Richard Hazleton, who, it is expected, will sit in Parliament for North Louth.

As a Port of Call

The importance of the letter which Mr. M. Sullivan has received from the Prime Minister of Newfoundland in relation to more rapid steamship communication between these countries and Canada will not be underrated (says the *Freeman's Journal*). During the discussion at the meeting of the proprietors of the Midland Great Western Railway, Mr. Sullivan pointed out that Trepassy, on the south coast of Newfoundland, is nearer to Ireland than Halifax, and now the Prime Minister states that next August the port will be connected by railway with St. John's and the whole American railway system, and that his Government would be glad to discuss the subsidising of a line of steamers between Newfoundland and Ireland. Mr. Sullivan lays stress on the fact that the position of the two islands enables them to facilitate the passage from the Old World to the New, and he contends that such a project would conflict in no way with the scheme for connecting Halifax and Galway.

KERRY—Kenmare Copper Mine

Workmen are busy preparing the famous copper mine near Kenmare, County Kerry, with a view to its being reopened. A syndicate has been formed, and it is expected that the mine will be in working order in the course of the current year.

LIMERICK—Women's Suffrage

The Limerick Corporation, at the request of the local branch of the Women's Suffrage Association, of which Mrs. Dodds, B.A., is hon. secretary, unanimously passed a resolution calling on the Government to give special facilities for the consideration of a Bill giving women equal franchise rights with men.

QUEEN'S COUNTY—Division of Untenanted Land

Mr. Campbell, Estates Commissioner's Inspector, attended at Ballacolla, Queen's County, recently, for the purpose of dividing the untenanted land on the Caldbeck estate. These lands, comprising some 247 acres, have been the subject of a prolonged struggle extending over six and a half years. When the Act of 1909 became law it was arranged to treat the estate as a congested estate within the meaning of the Act, and Mr. Booth was superseded in the division of the untenanted land and Mr. Campbell appointed as inspector in his stead, with the result that the final stage in the struggle was enacted on December 16, when sixteen laborers and small farmers received possession of allotments varying from 29 acres to 4 acres, which, together with six laborers' cottages erected during the past two years, makes a total of 22 people planted on these 247 acres of untenanted land since the struggle began.

TYRONE—Venerable Voters

The polling in East Tyrone this year brought out the usual contingent of centenarians. John Charlton, aged 108; William Quinn, aged 103; and Owen Hughes, aged 95, voted in the Stewartstown district for Mr. W. A. Redmond, the successful candidate.

WICKLOW—Fishing Disaster

Under most distressing circumstances six fishermen belonging to Arklow lost their lives in Arklow harbor on the night of December 15. The names of the victims are Patrick Brown, William Kavanagh, Larry Brien, Daniel Donovan, William Clancy, and William Forde. It appears that two boats, the Mary Immaculate and the Fisher Lad, were leaving for the herring fishing, when they were caught by a succession of tremendous seas, just outside the bar, which capsized both boats, throwing the crews into the sea. There was no wind at the time, and the boats were entirely at the mercy of the waves, being tossed about like pieces of corkwood. Three members only of the two crews were saved. The occurrence threw the town, naturally, into mourning, and the greatest sympathy for the relatives of the deceased fishermen was expressed. It is a peculiar coincidence that on the same date eight years ago four fishermen were drowned in the same place under exactly similar circumstances.

GENERAL

Sending Milk to England

An exchange states that 20,400 quarts of Irish milk are being imported into London every day. It is said that the purveyors who take the milk are buying it from the Irish farmers because certain Hants, Berks, and Wilts farmers considered the present price unremunerative.

The Dictator of England

Mr. William O'Brien, in an interview with the *Morning Post* correspondent, says that the action of the Unionist press in England was largely accountable for the success