

Irish News

GENERAL.

Damage to the extent of £6000 was done by a fire which broke out at Galvin and Son's Kerry Knitting Co. and Oil Stores, Bridge street, Tralee, on the morning of July 20.

The libel action brought by Mr. Guiney, M.P. for North Cork, against Mr. M. Barry ended at the Cork Assizes in a verdict for the plaintiff. The jury assessed the damages at half a crown. The libel complained of was that the plaintiff offered to sell his seat for £1000.

On July 17 the death occurred of Rev. Father John Moran, Ballyduff Upper, Co. Waterford, in his sixty-fifth year. He was a native of Ballybrophy, Tipperary, and was ordained forty years ago. Prior to his appointment as pastor of Ballyduff, he labored as curate in the parishes of Knockamore, Portlaw, Cahir, and Carrickbeg.

Mrs. Cousins, a leading Irish Suffragette, writes to the press declaring that the Irish Women's Franchise League was entirely unaware of the presence in Ireland of the English 'militant' Suffragettes who threw the hatchet at Mr. Asquith and endeavoured to fire the Theatre Royal. She adds that the league has no sympathy with such action.

Sincere regret was felt at the death of Rev. Father Kenny, S.J., St. Ignatius College, Galway, which occurred at a private hospital in Dublin on July 19. Deceased was a distinguished member of his Order. His fame as a pulpit orator was widespread, and his kindness of disposition and exalted character endeared him to everyone with whom he came in contact.

It would be difficult to cite a more glaring instance of bigotry and intolerance on the part of a professedly learned body than that afforded by the action of a majority of the Senate of Queen's University, Belfast, in handing back a cheque to the Gaelic League for £1000, generously collected in the Province of Ulster for the purpose of raising the status of the lectureship held by Canon O'Connell, who is a Protestant, to a professorship in the University. The original objection to the proposed professorship was based on the cost it would entail. When the money was subscribed by all creeds and classes, the Senate declined to reopen the question. It is not difficult to see where the real objection lay.

LABORERS' COTTAGES.

Parliamentary returns just issued show that 39,241 labourers' cottages have been built in Ireland, and that 3439 are in course of construction. The loans sanctioned for the erection of these cottages amounted to £7,906,273, of which £7,077,297 was received. £242,250 is required to be raised annually to repay these loans, a sum which represents a rate of 5.14d in the £. During the year ended March 31 last the Exchequer contributed £30,311 towards the costs of erection of laborers' cottages, and during the same period the rent received from the tenants amounted to £107,682.

IMPROVING SECONDARY EDUCATION.

Mr. Thomas O'Donnell raised in the House of Commons the other day the question of improving secondary education in Ireland. They had no such thing, he said, as a system of public secondary education in Ireland, whereas in Scotland there was a system which made Scotchmen the marvellously successful race they were all over the world. Mr. Birrell gave Mr. O'Donnell and the other Irish members the assurance that in October when the House reassembled he would introduce a short Bill which would enable the Intermediate Board to apply their money in such a way as would be an improvement.

AN IRISH JUDGE HONORED.

The unusual procedure of inviting a judge from Ireland to assist in an adjudication in England brings

forward the high esteem in which Chief Baron Palles is held by his confreres in London. The case in point had reference to the mixed marriage problem in Canada, and the question which the judicial committee had to answer was whether the Dominion Parliament has power to pass a Bill enacting that every marriage performed according to local law shall be held as valid throughout Canada, notwithstanding the religious faiths of the contracting parties, and without regard to the religion of the minister performing the ceremony. The profound legal knowledge of Chief Baron Palles, and his unique experience in professional matters in this category, brought him the special honor referred to. His lordship is a past pupil of Clongowes.

MR. ASQUITH'S IMPRESSIONS.

In a speech to the Liberals of Wirral on his return to England, Mr. Asquith made some appreciative references to his Irish visit. He said: 'I am returning, as we have just been reminded, from a mission of peace and goodwill to Ireland, and I can assure you that no description that you can read can possibly do justice to the welcome we received from the Irish people in their ancient and historic capital. They believe, as you and I believe, that they are about to attain the end which they have so long pursued and the attainment of which they believe, as you and I believe to be essential not only to the good government of Ireland but to the best interests of the United Kingdom.'

In a later speech at Port Sunlight, Mr. Asquith said: 'I have just come from the other side of St. George's Channel, where I was privileged to witness one of the most marvellous demonstrations of popular enthusiasm which I suppose there is on record. The Irish people, a warm-hearted people, and they have within them to a degree at least as great as any of the other races that make up this gigantic Empire all that constitutes patriotic loyalty, and no one who was present in Dublin yesterday and the day before and witnessed the scenes there can doubt that they have begun to grasp the hand stretched out to them by the democracy of Great Britain. When this great measure is placed upon the Statute-book of the realm a new chapter will be opened in the history of these two peoples. This estrangement will give way to affection, and you will find that we have added immensely to the strength and stability of the Empire. That is a great and inspiring object.'

The Prime Minister sent the following letters to Mr. John Redmond and Mr. John Dillon:—

'Dear Mr. Redmond,—I do not wish any more time to elapse before writing to express my appreciation of the wonderful welcome given to me in Dublin. No one who was not an eye-witness will be able to form any adequate conception of the combined order and enthusiasm of the immense crowds that greeted us, while at the meeting itself we received fresh proofs of the warmth and character and political instinct inherent in the Irish people. I believe that in the new volume which we are now opening will be found a fresh chapter of Irish and British history in which that genius and instinct will have new and extended scope to work for the reconciliation, advancement, and happiness of the two races united throughout the Empire.'

'Dear Mr. Dillon,—Please allow me to send you, as one of the veterans of the Irish Party, a word of gratitude for the magnificent reception that greeted us on our arrival in Ireland. You have seen the cause of Irish Nationalism live through a good deal of political weather, both fair and foul. We believe now that the worst of the storms are behind us and that we are seeing the first gleams of a brighter day for both countries.'

ROMANCE OF AN IRISH ESTATE.

Some time ago a former resident of the Western District mentioned to an Irish gentleman that, in his experience of life, there was an idea prevalent that a large number of Irish people should at present be in possession of land and home in Ireland now occupied by others. The difficulty was to prove their claim and title. Now and again that is done and it is pleasing to hear of it. In other cases a person is enabled to purchase property which formerly belonged to his family,