

Irish News

IRELAND AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS—IRELAND'S GIFT TO LOURDES—MAYNOOTH CLERICAL COLLEGE SUCCESSES—DEATH OF IRELAND'S OLDEST PRIEST—DEATH OF CARDINAL LOGUE: A NATION'S TRIBUTE OF SORROW—OBSEQUIES OF CARDINAL LOGUE. THE C.T.S. CONFERENCE.

The League of Nations Secretariat has issued the text of a letter received from the British Foreign Office on November 27, in connection with the registration of the Anglo-Irish Treaty of December, 1921, at the request of the Irish Free State Government. The letter reiterates that the Government consistently held that neither the Covenant of the League nor any conventions concluded under the League auspices are intended to govern Empire relations. It adds: "We, therefore, consider that Article 18 of the Covenant of the League does not apply to the document under notice."

The Dublin correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* reports that the Irish Free State has issued a statement pointing out that it was the Free State's duty as a member of the League to register the treaty, inasmuch as failure would have meant repudiation of the Covenant.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Daily Express* states that some quarters regard the British action as a move to prevent an appeal to the League on the boundary question.

London newspapers suggest that the British letter raises a delicate question affecting the Dominions within the League. It is believed that the League will now be forced to take a ruling on the interpretation of Article 18.

A notable and historic event in connection with the Irish pilgrimage to Lourdes was the presentation of a Cross and Crown, the gift of the Irish nation, to the Holy Rosary Church at Lourdes.

Both religious emblems are described as beautiful pieces of work, and stand out conspicuously—the cross in the centre surrounded by the crown which in broad and minute detail is perfectly wrought. The ceremony of the presentation was witnessed by a large crowd, the pilgrims forming a considerable It has succeeded in abolishing all political was worthy of the best traditions of the Catholic spirit of the people proper of France and the Irish present.

His Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Armagh (Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell), delivered an address which made a deep impression, and which in its purview was as complete as could be desired.

The great gathering sent a greeting to his Holiness the Pope.

No fewer than 74 students of Maynooth Clerical College have won the B.A. degree at the National University this year. The awards include one first and two second class honors in Ancient Classics, nine first class and one second class in Celtic studies; two firsts in English, and two seconds in mental and moral Philosophy.

Maynooth College is affiliated with the University. The University department of the College is well filled every year. All Maynooth students are now obliged to obtain a University degree before they are ordained.

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Father John James Roche, O.F.M., who was said to be Ireland's oldest priest, has just died at the Franciscan Friary at Wexford in his 100th year. Father Roche was ordained in Wexford 76 years ago.

The late Father Roche lived through the Pontificates of no fewer than eight Popes. Leo XII was the reigning Pontiff when he was born, who was succeeded by Pius VIII in 1830. It was during the next year that Father Roche first went to Rome, and in that year Gregory XVI was elected Pope. After that Pontificate, Father Roche lived to see no fewer than five successors of Gregory XVI ascend the Papal Throne—Pius IX, Leo XIII, Pius X, Benedict XV, and Pius XI.

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With all that could most fully show forth the sorrow and affection of the Irish Church and the Irish nation, the mortal remains of Cardinal Logue were on Tuesday laid to rest (says the *Irish Catholic* for November 29). The Irish Church was represented at the interment by our Archbishops and Bishops; by a host of the clergy of all ranks, regular and secular; by Brothers of the various Orders and Institutes. The Irish Free State was represented by the Governor-General and by chiefs of the Ministry, and by members and officials of the various public bodies, as well as by an immense number of private citizens. It was a not unbecoming tribute to the great Prince of the Holy Roman Church, the great Primate of the Irish Church, the great patriot, the humble, kindly, tolerant, just, wise, lovable man of whom we have been bereaved. Most gratifying, too, as testimony to his Eminence's outstanding personal qualities, was the sympathy on the occasion so touchingly voiced by eminent men not of his creed and not of his nationality. Ireland will ever treasure the memory of her first Cardinal Primate, and, unforgetful of his long life of fruitful service to God, the Church, and our country, will not fail to remember his great soul in her prayers.

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Scenes unparalleled in the history of the ancient city of Armagh were witnessed in connection with the obsequies of the late Cardinal Logue. Not in history has there been recorded such a universal manifestation of sorrow as that shown by the many thousands who joined in the mournful cortege as

it passed from the magnificent Cathedral to St. Patrick's Cemetery, where, side by side with his illustrious predecessor, was laid the earthly remains of Ireland's dearly beloved Cardinal.

The ancient city went into deep mourning, and as a tribute of respect to his memory its commercial life was completely suspended.

Banking institutions, professional offices, and places of business, irrespective of the denomination of their proprietors, were closed down, whilst the city markets were also closed, and the large Square, which in the ordinary course of events would have been on Tuesday the centre of much commercial activity, was reserved for the purpose of parking the numerous motor cars which conveyed visitors to the city.

Long before 11 o'clock, the hour fixed for celebration of the Pontifical High Mass and obsequies, the spacious Cathedral was crowded to congestion, many thousands being unable to gain admission, whilst thousands were still pouring into the city on every kind of conveyance. Every avenue in the vicinity of the Cathedral and the streets of the city were thronged with a vast concourse of people.

Never-to-be-forgotten scenes were witnessed as the funeral cortege passed from the Cathedral to St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Thousands thronged the entire route, and on all sides there were outward demonstrations of deep sorrow by all sections of the community. The first part of the procession had entered the consecrated ground, which was to receive the remains of his Eminence, prior to the last part of the procession leaving the Cathedral, the distance being close on a mile.

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Now that the annual Conference of the Catholic Truth Society, with all its accompaniments, has concluded, one can view it as a whole (writes the Dublin correspondent of the *Universe*). The dominant impression is of the large part which the Society has come to fill in the Catholic life of Ireland. It has never lacked promoters with the foresight to see its great possibilities. But to many it has always appeared as a small body endeavoring to accomplish the meritorious task of replacing bad literature by good, and its chief—as it was its most widespread—manifestation was the presence in most church porches of its bench of pamphlets. The recent Conference enabled us to realise how much wider is its scope and opportunity of service to the Faith. It afforded a meeting ground for Catholics of every shade of opinion, and of every grade in social life, and united them in a common purpose with a common sense of effort for its attainment. It has succeeded in abolishing all political and class distinctions among its supporters.

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