

## IRISH NEWS

## GENERAL.

The O'Connor Don declares in the *Roscommon Messenger* that he is a "moderate" Sinn Feiner. He is lineal representative of Roderick (Rory) O'Connor,

Some time since the New Zealand papers were full of particulars of a Sinn Fein "plot" for the destruction of London. The latest Home papers show the plot to have been the invention of the *Daily Express*, which was fined £500 for contempt of court in publishing it.

Speaking at Ennis (Co. Clare) Quarter Sessions, his Honor Judge Bodkin said: "I should be false to my position if I did not publicly condemn the outrages committed at Lahinch, Ennistymon, and elsewhere by the servants of the Crown, the appointed guardians of law and order." "These outrages are called 'reprisals': their true legal names are arson and murder. It is madness to suggest that by arson and murder law and order can be maintained or restored."

A report from Tralee states that the creamery at Abbeydorney, some five or six miles from Tralee, was set on fire and burned. The creamery at Lixnaw was destroyed by fire. The co-operative creamery at Kildimo, Co. Limerick, was also destroyed. In all cases the military were responsible for the outrages.

Mr. M. Harrington, Limerick, was recently sentenced to 12 months, with hard labor. The evidence was that on July 19 on searching the house in which he lived there were two copies of *An t-Oglach* and a note-book in which was M. Harrington, Sec. Com. and Co. Adjutant. Accused denied he had any copy of *An t-Oglach* in his house on that date. The "planting" of evidence is by no means a new device. It is as old as the English government in Ireland.

Arising out of the recent "reprisals" in Ballaghadereen on September 2 last, when the leading business concerns were wrecked by uniformed men, claims amounting to over £100,000, including interest and expenses, were awarded by Judge Wakely at Boyle Quarter Sessions. Co. Roscommon at large is the area of charge. The business interests of Mr. John Dillon, ex-M.P., suffered very seriously.

Extraordinary scenes of frightfulness were witnessed in Corofin and Cummer, two villages near Tuam, where men were stripped and beaten by uniformed men. At Cummer 20 men who were on the street were stripped one by one, flogged, and sent home without clothes. Michael Welby, who tried to escape, was fired at and dangerously wounded.

When Alderman MacSweeney was elected Lord Mayor of Cork he promised to pay portion of the salary attached to the office to the fund for the widow and orphans of his murdered predecessor. The following letter which appears in the Irish papers speaks for itself:—"A Chara.—The Lord Mayor sends you the enclosed £125, his salary for the last quarter, endorsed for the MacCurtain Memorial Fund. This, with the £125 already subscribed, completes the £250 promised. Kindly acknowledge receipt by return.—Le meas, (Signed) Maire Ni Suibhne." This letter was written towards the end of October, so it appears Mr. MacSweeney never drew any money for his own benefit.

## GALWAY TRAGEDY.

No grimmer story has been told than that of the circumstances surrounding the shooting of Mr. Michael Walsh, a member of Galway Urban Council and proprietor of the Old Matt House, whose body was found on October 20 by the quayside at the Long Walk, where the Corrib joins the sea.

Mr. Walsh's premises were cleared a few minutes before 10 at night by five partially disguised civilians, who carried revolvers. Having closed the door, they searched the shop. One man said to Mr. Walsh: "You have shot a lot of police." Mr. Walsh said if he was as free of anything as the shooting of police-

men he would be all right. Prior to this they told him he would be dead within an hour.

Leaving with the apprentice, a civilian, who said they were English secret service men and knew what they were doing, they took Mr. Walsh away in the direction of the docks. He was never seen alive again.

For two hours that night Very Rev. Father Duffy, O.S.A., Prior, and another Augustinian priest, unsuccessfully searched the precincts of the docks for him. Next morning men going early to work from Long Walk saw a man's hat lying beside the river bank. On closer examination it was found to be stained with blood. Two large pools of blood were also found beside the quay wall.

Looking into the river they were horrified to see a human hand just beneath the surface of the water. About eight o'clock the dead body of Mr. Walsh was taken out and conveyed to his home amid scenes of general grief.

The hair on one side was clotted with blood and there was a jagged wound into which a finger could be inserted. The shot had apparently been fired into the temple from a pistol. There was a small exit wound on the opposite side. An empty cartridge was found near the scene. Dr. Kinkead, who examined the body, expressed the opinion that death must have been instantaneous.

Only one shot appears to have been fired, but residents of the Long Walk state that at 10.20 p.m. two shots were heard. It is assumed that these were discharged in order to clear people away before the gruesome tragedy was enacted. Whether the body fell or was thrown into the river when the fatal shot was fired is not clear, but as there are two pools of blood, it is assumed that he fell when shot and either rolled or was thrown into the water.

Mr. Walsh was 39 years of age, and was a native of Headford. He started in business in Galway 14 years ago as a general grocer and publican. Recently he purchased a farm at Lavally, Clarenbridge. Deceased leaves a widow and seven children ranging from 12 to two years old. At the last election he was elected an Urban Councillor in Sinn Fein interests. All through the day streams of mourners from the neighborhood visited the house to express their sorrow.

## THE "WELL-DISPOSED" ORANGEMEN.

The Orangemen have again indulged in outbreaks in Belfast and Derry, and lives have been lost in both cities. To equip them thoroughly and to make the lot of Catholics unendurable it is proposed (says the *Independent*) to organise these "well-disposed persons" as part of the machinery of the British Government. The *Irish News* is informed that the names of 37,000 "special constables" have already been written down and that 10,000 more are to be noted within a week. As to the type of men who will compose this force Lisburn provides an object lesson. Recently "special constables" were enrolled in the town. On charges connected with the looting of Catholic houses during the Orange outbreak five persons were sentenced by the magistrates to three months' imprisonment each. The sequel is illuminating. No fewer than 300 of the "special constables" resigned as a protest. "Well-disposed" persons, indeed! They are well-disposed towards the looter and incendiary. The recognition they want is a licence to maltreat, persecute, and exterminate Catholics.

"Not the side which can do most will win, but the side which can endure most."—Lord Mayor MacSweeney.

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