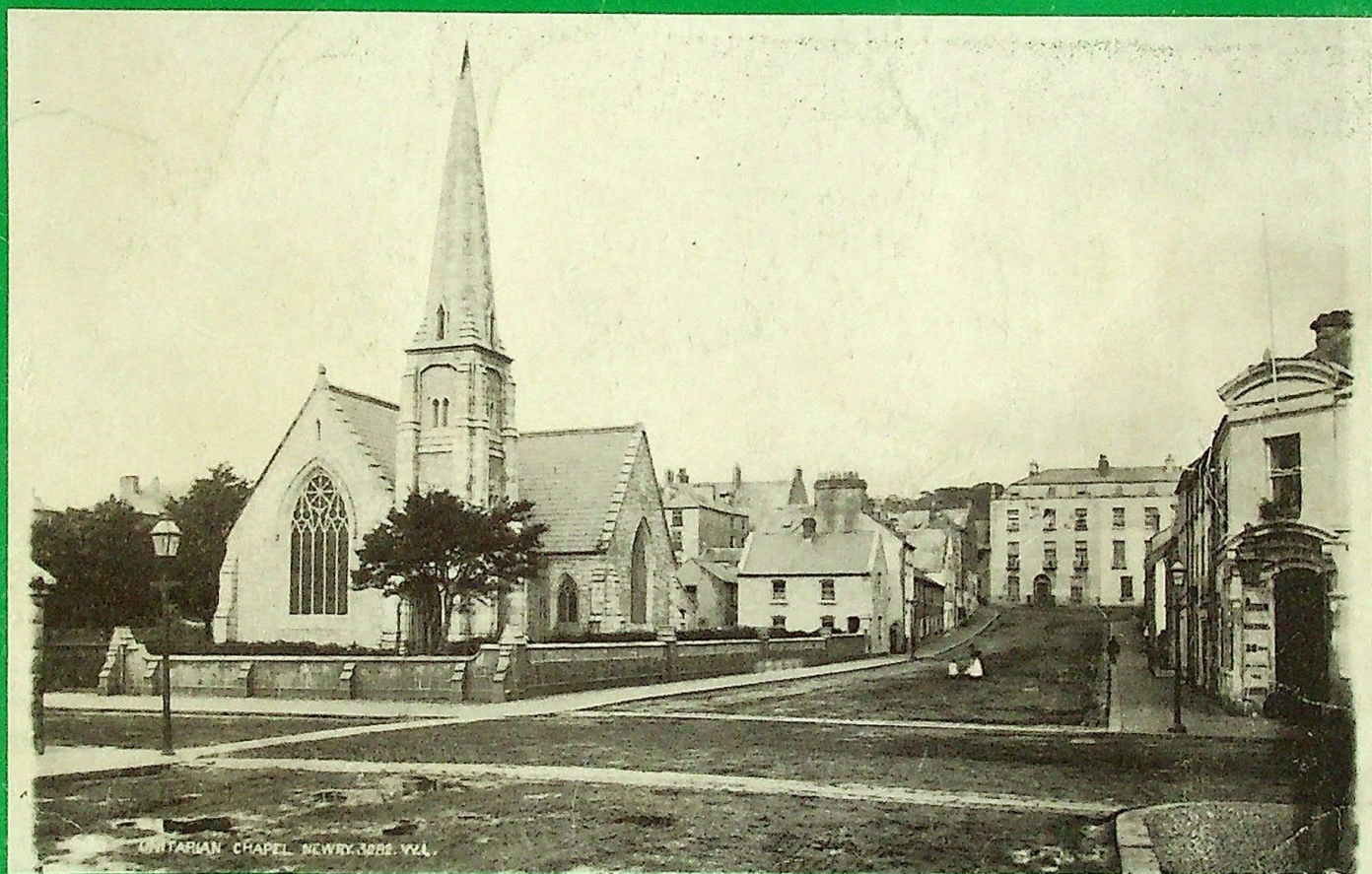


cuisle na nGael

1990

Uimhír 6



Annual Bilingual Journal
of
Newry Gaelic League

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Aithris cruinn go maireann Gaedhil
Tréis cleasa claon' na nGall ar Fad.

Pictiúr clúdaigh :
Leabharlann Náisiúnta
na hÉireann

Tá Bunscoil an Iúir ar oscailt ó bhí mí Mheán an Fhómhair 1989 ann agus mar a bhíomar ag dúil leis tá Gearóidín Ní Fhearail arais inár measc agus í ag múineadh sa scoil nua. Oideachas ar ard-chaighdeán a bheas ag na paistí óga cé gur trua nach bhfuil foirgneamh dá gcuid féin acu go fóill. Tá an rang lonnaithe faoi láthair i seomra i dteach Threasa Uí Chearúil agus tá beirt mhac dá cuid féin aici ar an scoil. Iontach an seiftiúlacht a bhaineann leis an bhean áirithe seo, agus go deimhin lena cairde atá ar choiste na scoile, mar nuair a fágadh gan seomra ranga iad ag tús na scoilbliana shocraigh siad úsáid shealadach a bhaint as seomra ti.

De réir a chéile atá lucht stiúrtha na scoile ag fáil a gcuid riachtanais agus tá feachtais éagsúla ceaptha acu le haghaidh airgead a bhailiú. Bhí siúlóid urraithe acu; fuair siad cead bailiúcháin a thógáil ag cluichí de chuid Chumann Lúthchleas Gael; tá 'T' léinte le díol acu agus "Gaelscoileanna an Iúir agus Mhorn" mar mhana orthu. Ach díograiseach uilig is atá siad tá tuilleadh tacaíochta de dhíobháil orthu agus, leoga, tuillte acu. Thar aon ní eile, tá airgead de dhíth. Chuige sin, b'fhiú don Coiste, dar linn, achainíocha a sheoladh chuig daoine sa limistéir a bhfuil clú an Ghaelachais orthu agus síntiúis a lorg. Ní dócha go mbéadh éinne sásta diúltú dá leithéid más dáiríribh atá siad faoi athghaelú na tíre. Níl aon amhras ná go bhfuil bunú na scoile seo ar an chéim is réabhlóidí i ndul chun cinn na Gaeilge faoi na compail seo ach b'fhéidir nach bhfuil go leor déanta ag an lucht bainisteoireachta tábhacht stairiúil na scoile a mhíniú don coitiantacht.

Ní leor ach oiread an méid tacaíochta atá/nach bhfuil ag teacht ó ghrúpaí áirithe fán bhaile. An dtig linne, mar shampla, Conraitheoirí an Iúir, a mhaíomh go macánta go raibh ár ndóthain déanta againn i mbunú na scoile agus thairis sin go bhfuil sé ar intinn againn ár ndícheall a dhéanamh le todhchaí na scoile a dheimhniú? Beidh constaicí móra roimh an scoil mar is iomadúil agus is cumhachtach na naimhde atá ag ár dteanga. Ní mór do Ghaeilgeoirí an Iúir mar sin féachaint chuige go mbéidh tacaíocht céad fán gcéad a thabhairt againn de na tuismitheoirí a raibh sé de mhisneach acu oideachas trí mheán na Gaeilge a sholáthar dá bpaistí.



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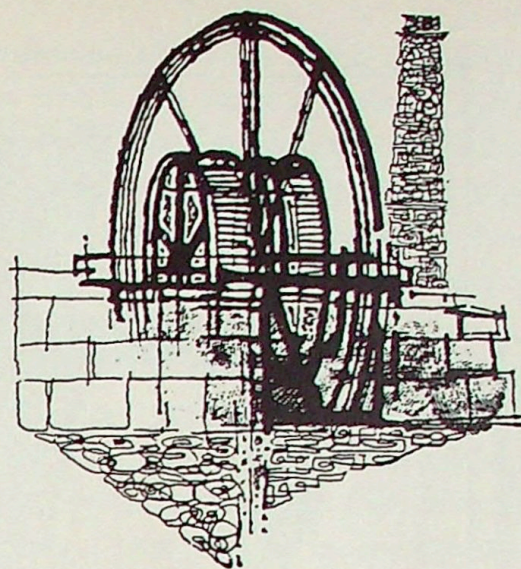


**DO
PHOTIGEIR
ÁITIÚIL**

*EXTENSIVE RANGE
OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS*

**Beannachtai
na Nollag**

"Saucer your tea girls, the mill-horn's blowing."



Our title comes from a collection of 'mill sayings' gathered during a reminiscence session which examined working conditions in Newry's mills. The session was organised by 'CUISLE NA nGAEL' researcher Gobnait Ní Mhuireagáin. When the mill-horn sounded for the resumption of work, the women operatives, apparently, used to pour their tea from their cups onto their saucers (very grand!) in an attempt to cool the beverage so that they might drink it more quickly and get back to work on time. The following article offers an outline of one period in the history of Newry's mills and in a future article we hope to assess the working conditions in the mills.

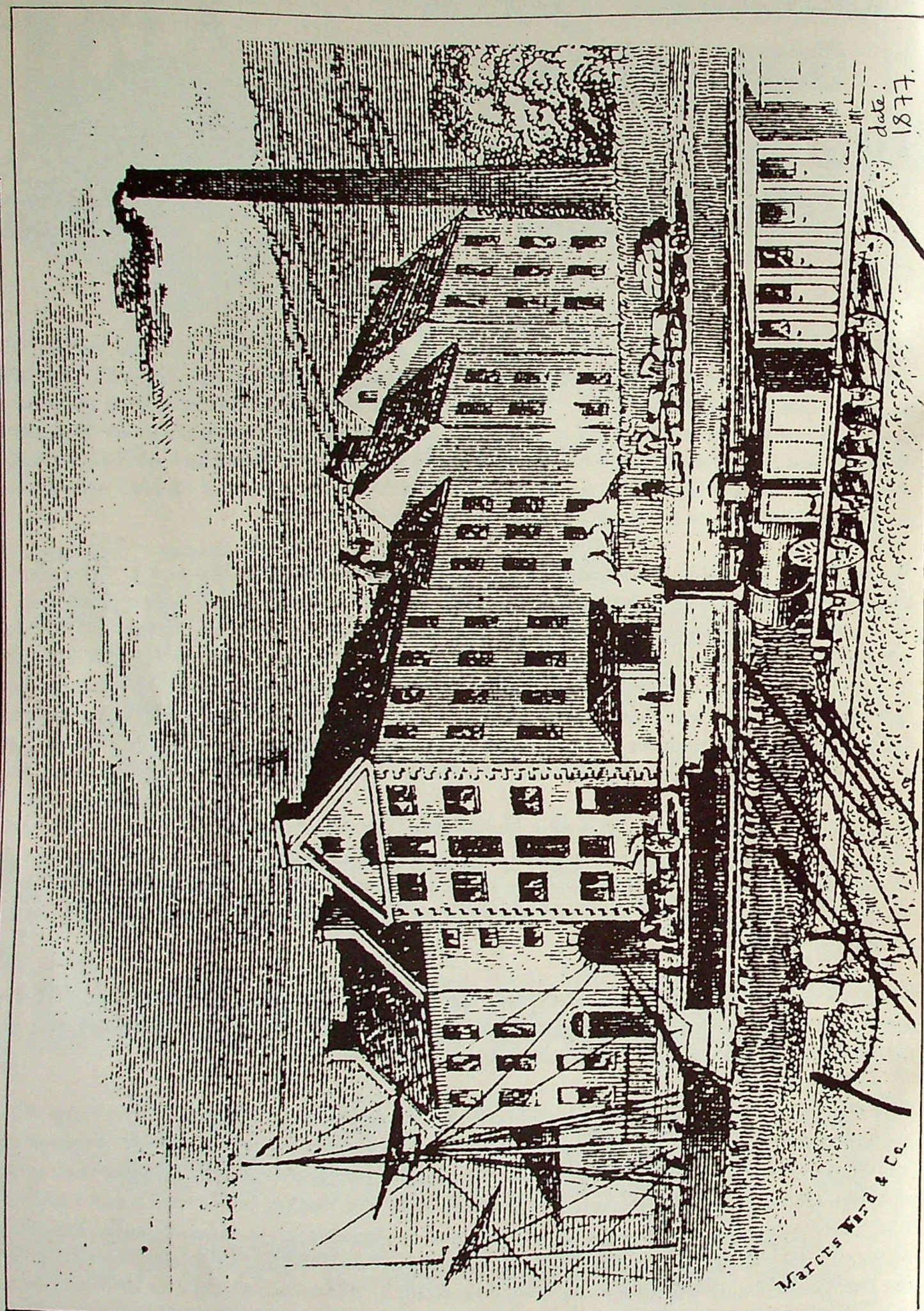
Newry in the later half of the nineteenth century was a bustling business centre. Three Railway Companies linked us with other Irish towns - The Newry and Warrenpoint Railway Company, The Newry and Greenore Company and The Newry and Armagh Railway Company. Meanwhile, the Newry Navigation Company and the Dundalk Steam Packet Company saw to promoting our trade with places further afield. Indeed, the importance of Newry as a trading centre with Europe was testified by the fact that Consuls and Vice-Consuls from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, France and Italy were based in the town. Usually one Consul looked after the interests of two countries. For example, Signor Mancini, residing at Hyde Terrace, saw to the French and Italian interests here during the early 1870s.

The chief manufactures of the town were oatmeal and Indian meal; coaches and carriages; ale; leather goods; steam engines; ship-building materials; rope and cordage. Mill furnishings, linen and linen yarn were also to the fore. Most industries were thriving, though some had ceased operating. In Edward Wyly's 'Directory of Newry, 1868' we encounter the witty account of the passing of two long-established industries:

"A few years ago the town possessed a distillery and glass manufactory; but the distillery rusted to death through idleness, and as a natural consequence the glass manufactory, for want of spirit, died also."

Not many sketches or photographs of Newry survive from the 19th century but in any that are available the sky-line is dominated by mill chimneys. Some commentators saw the chimneys as the 'round towers of modern times' and most viewed a particular town's prosperity by the number of mill chimneys reaching into the sky. Newry in the mid to late 19th century had at least a dozen mills and in the 1860s in particular we see a marked increase in employment in the local mills. The year 1862 witnessed the opening of Lupton's Mill in Queen Street (present Dominic Street). Most Ballybot folk are still familiar with the former site of Lupton's Mill at present day Cleary Crescent. Joseph Lupton erected an edifice five storeys high for storing grain and then transformed this into a flour mill. Eight pairs of stones were in daily operation though Lupton expected an increase in business and laid on

A RARE SKETCH OF DUBLIN BRIDGE STEAM MILLS



Sketch supplied by Mr. Hugh Mc Keown, Mary Street, Newry.

facilities for eight more pairs of stones should an upturn in trade demand them. The engine and boilers for the mills were made by a local firm, Newry Foundry Company which was based in Edward Street and which was managed at the time by Mr. John Glenney. The foundry itself employed two hundred men and turned out about 2,000 tons of completed work per annum. Co-operation, rather than competition, between local firms was the norm at this period and Lupton engaged local contractor John O'Hare to erect his mill chimney. The chimney stood a proud 120 ft. high and was deemed a credit to the workmanship of its builder.

Mr. A.R. Walker owned four mills in Newry. He had previously been in partnership in the older firm of Sinclair and Walker and ran successful flour mills which sold up to 3,000 sacks of meal and flour per week. Walker's mills employed about 100 workers and most of his business was conducted at his large mill situated, appropriately, in Mill Street. Again in the 1860s, Walker erected a 125 ft. high chimney. The chimney was seen as a symbol of success and mill-owners in general took pride in the maintenance of their chimneys. The figures '1867' were inlaid half way up Walker's chimney while his initials 'A.R.W.' were inlaid in white bricks at the chimney's base.

One of Newry's biggest employers was Dempster's Spinning Mills Company. Their mills in Corn Market and in Soho Place gave work to over 500 operatives. All materials supplied to Dempster's were home produced and the mills shipped their finished goods directly to England and Scotland. Another spinning mill was that in Dromalane. It was owned by Mr. Hill Irvine and an outline of its less than auspicious career has been given in an earlier edition of 'CUISLE NA nGAEL'. Hill Irvine also looked to local tradesmen to assist in the building of his mill. The metal beams which supported the floors of the mill were manufactured by the Soho Place Foundry of Lucas and Company. Lucas' had 70 men on their pay-roll and all were reported to earn high wages. Dromalane Mill's chimney stands now, as it did over a hundred years ago, 130 ft. high.

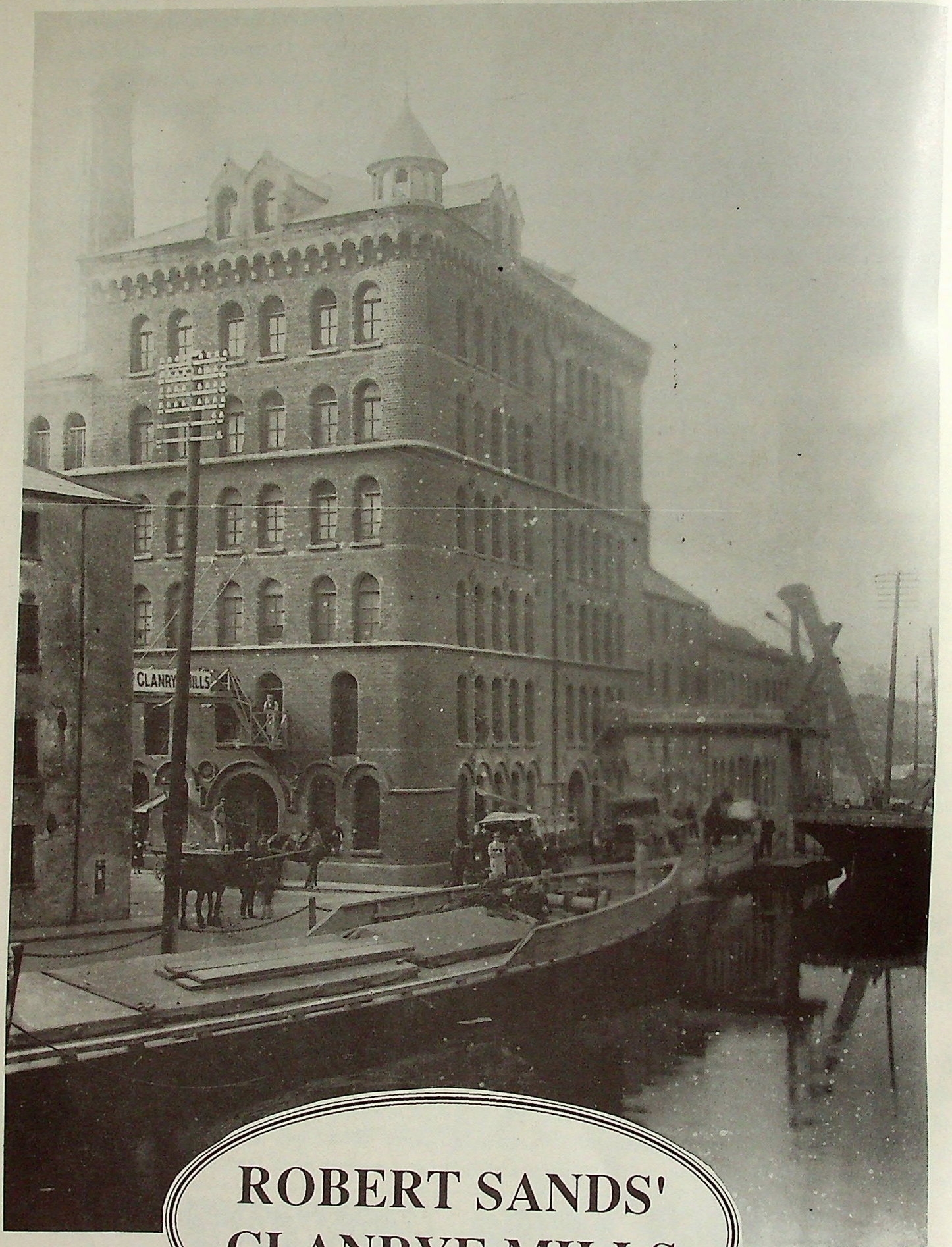
We have earlier alluded to A.R. Walker's link with the Sinclair family. The Sinclairs owned mills (now Sands Mill) on a prime position on Canal Quay and New Street. Their steam engine was also produced by the Newry Foundry Company and they had fifteen pairs of stones. This mill operated 24 hours a day and turned out on average 100 tons of flour and 180 tons of Indian corn per week. Another steam mill was the Hibernian Steam Mill of Catherine Street. Mr. Felix O'Hagan was the proprietor and in the 1860's he spent considerable sums of money in upgrading his machinery and building.

The two principal saw mills in Newry were Messrs. George Guy and Co. Saw Mills and the Newry Saw Mills Wood and Iron Company. The later company employed hundreds of men who engaged in landing, sawing and delivering wood goods, and in the manufacture of doors, windows and general builders' supplies. The premises of Newry Saw Mills Wood and Iron Company were situated on Butter Crane Quay and on Merchants' Quay.

No account of local mill history would be complete without at least a passing mention of the neighbouring Bessbrook Spinning Company. While Dempster's had 500 operatives, Bessbrook had over 3,000 in daily employment attending to 22,000 spindles. Safe to say, however, the Bessbrook Spinning Co. could not have functioned without the thousands of Newry 'hands' who travelled in the 1870s to the 'Brook to operate the company's 700 steam-power looms and seventy hand looms.

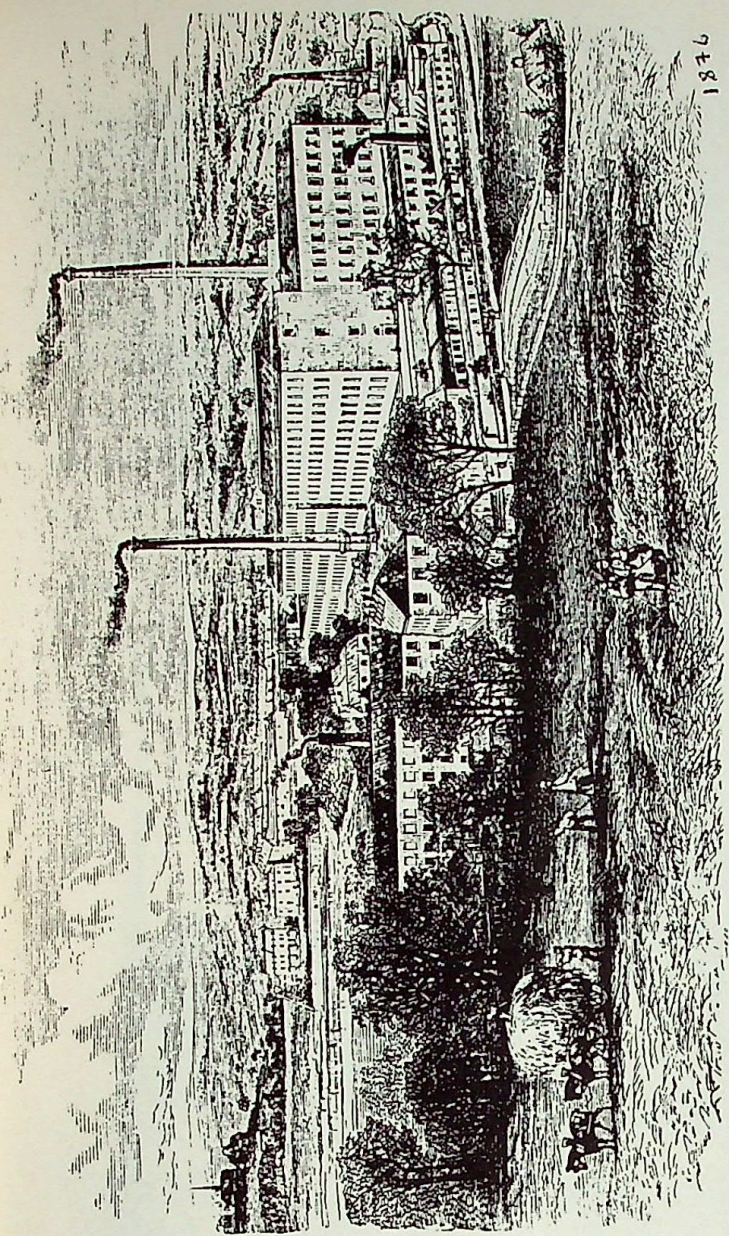
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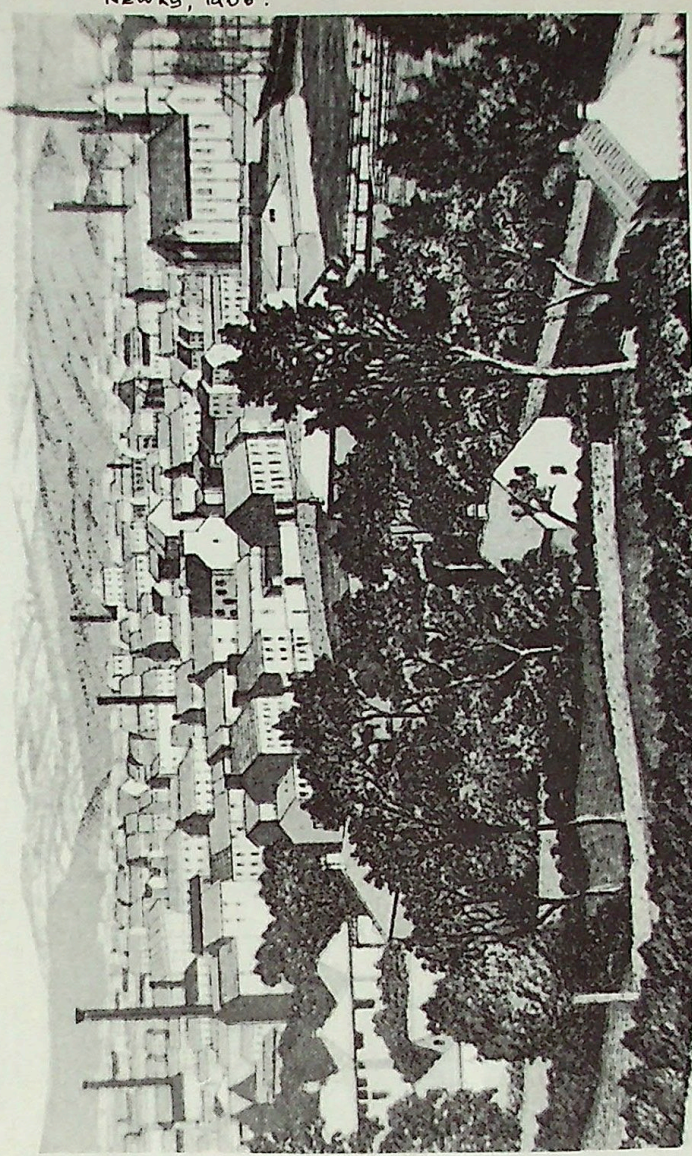


**ROBERT SANDS'
CLANRYE MILLS**

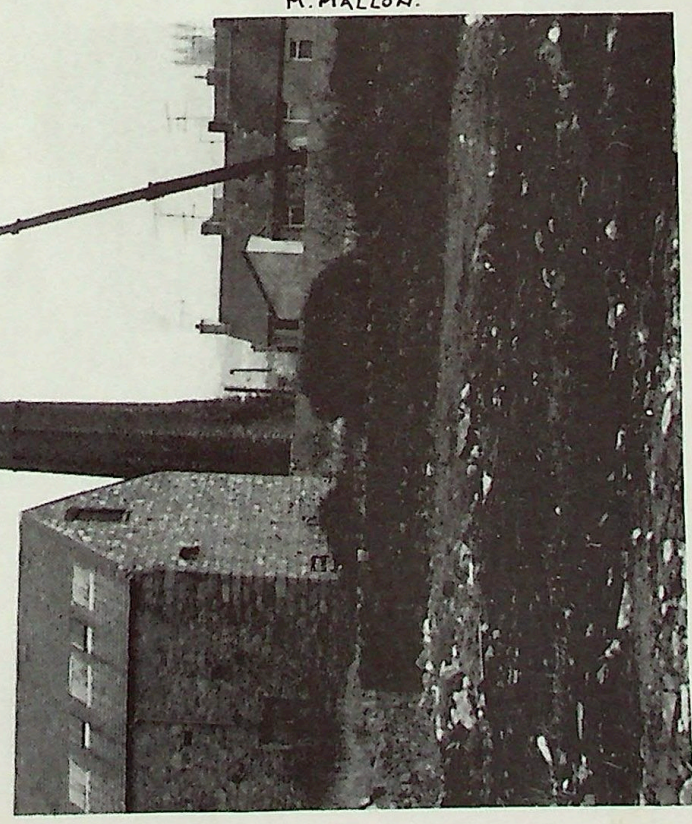
Bessbrook.



NEWAY, 1900.

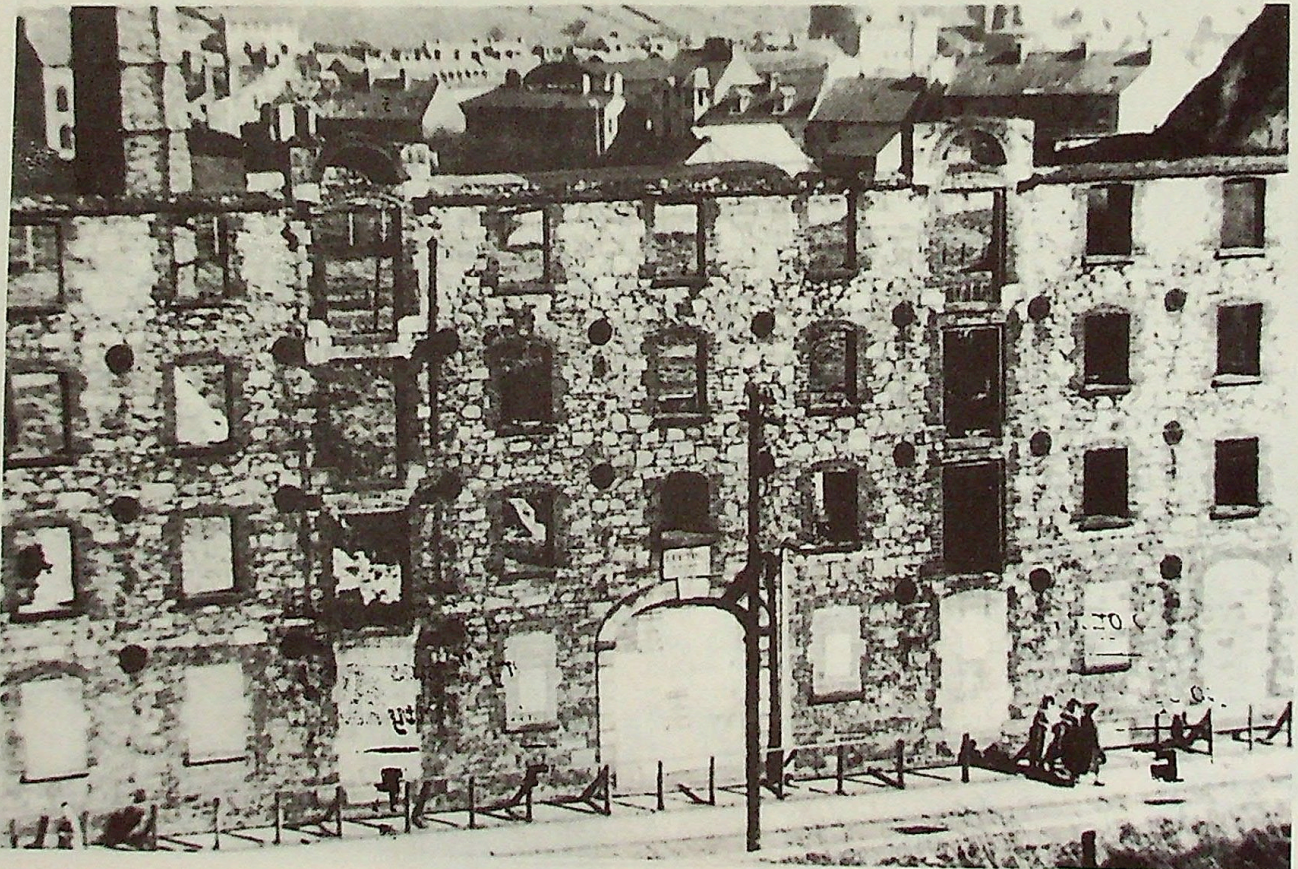
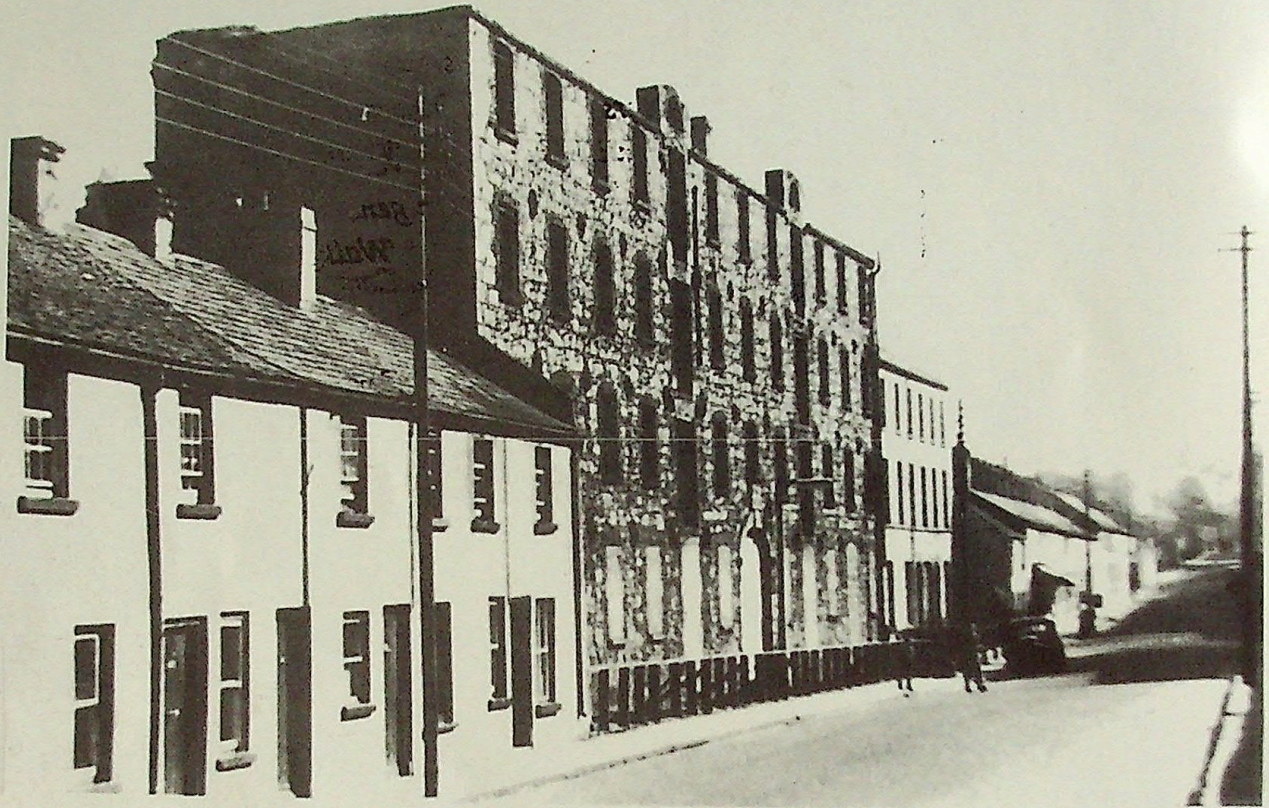


M. MALLON.

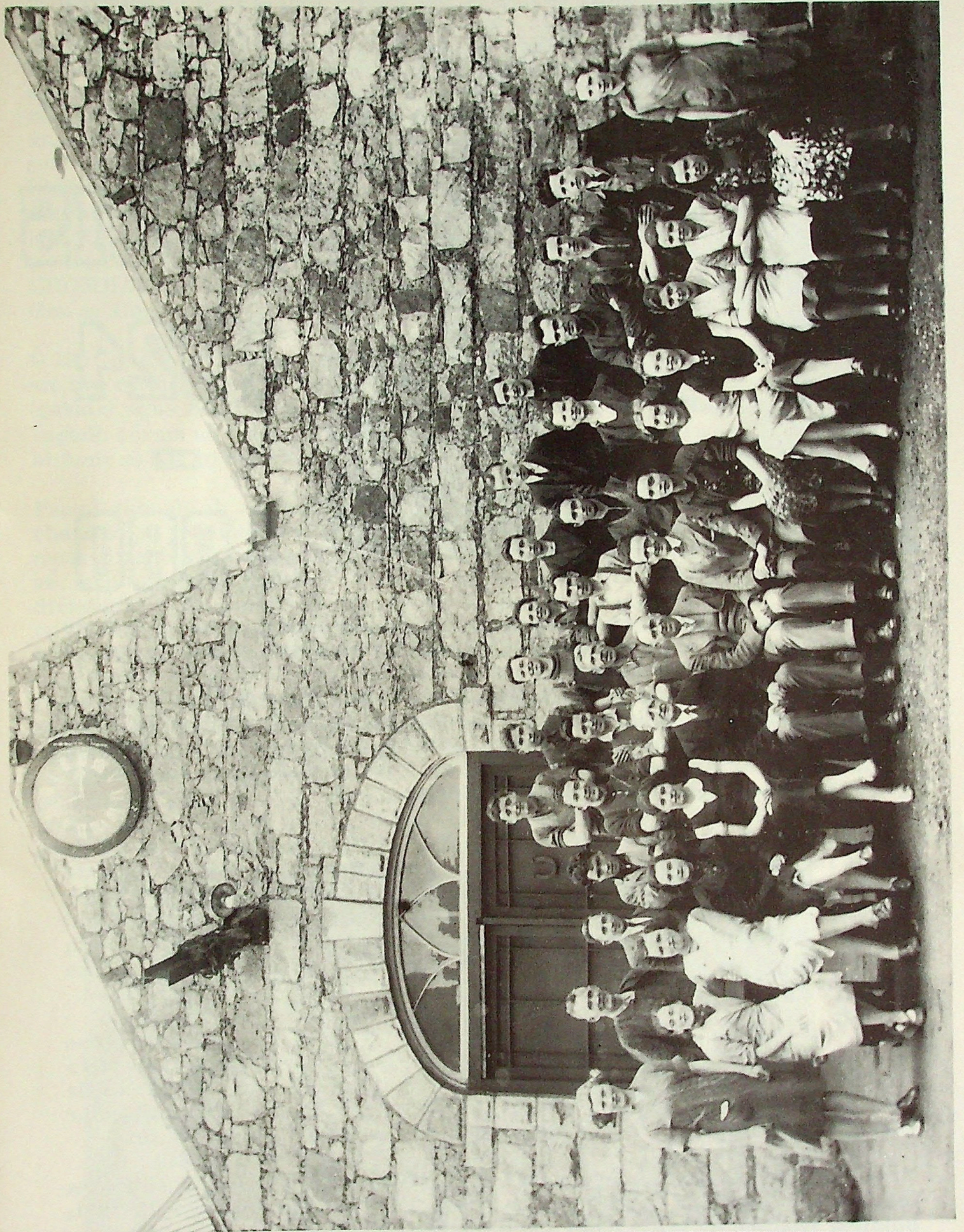


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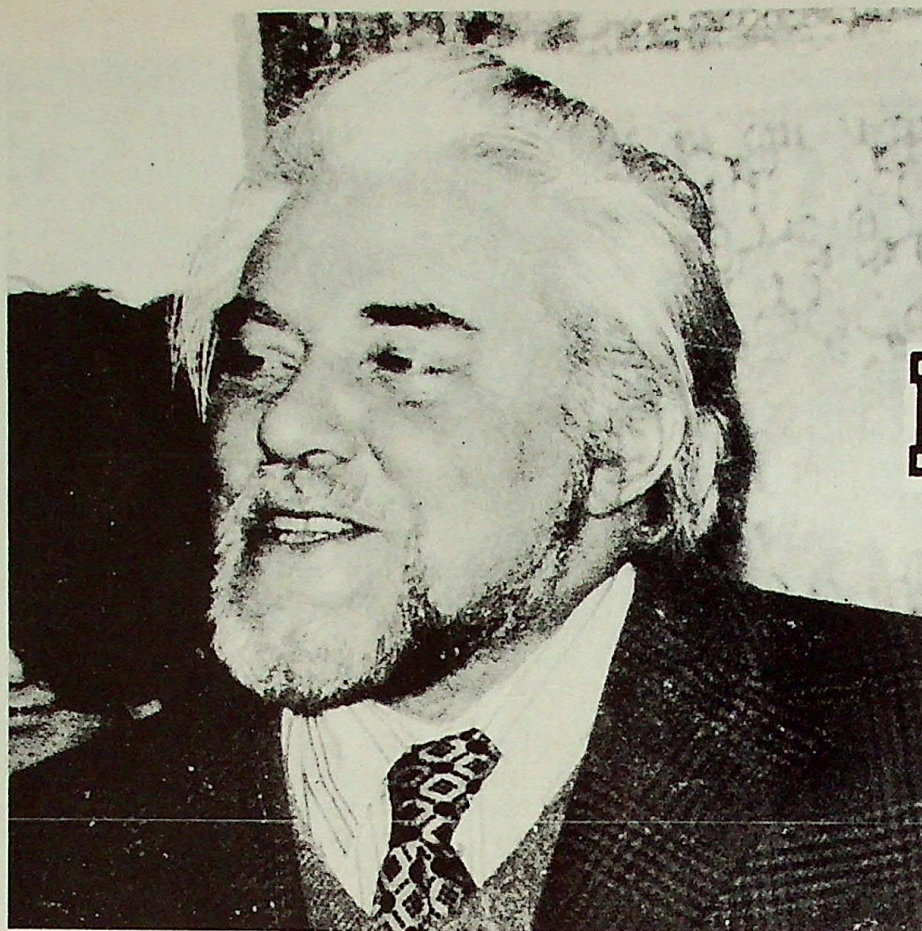
LUPTON'S MILL
SRÁID DOIMINIC
TWO PHOTOS FROM THE
CRONIN COLLECTION



DAMOLLY MILL, 1930's



Liam Blair a chuir an grianghraf ar fáil dúinn



AODH Ó LUAOIS

AODH Ó LUAOIS 1924 - 1980

Deich mbliana ó shin, ar an lá deireanach de mhí Iúil, 1980, a cailleadh Aodh Ó Luaois. Gael den scoth ab ea é, fear a d'oibir go díocasach ar son na Gaeilge agus ar son na tíre. Tá daoine fasta ann agus Gaeilge acu anois sa cheantar seo nár chuala iomrá ar Aodh riamh mar an tráth a d'éag Aodh ní raibh an oiread spéise insan Gaeilge is atá inti anois, in Iúr Chinn Trá ach go háirithe. Ba chóir, dar linn, go mbeadh eolas de shaghas inteacht ag daoine ar an méid a rinne Aodh ar son na teanga agus sin an tuige go bhfuilimid ag soláthar gearrchuntas ar a bheatha inár n-iris i mbliana.

Rugadh i gCúil Rathain Aodh ar an 22 Márta 1924, áit ina raibh a athair James Lewis ag obair ar an suirbhéireacht ordanais. Bhí James Lewis pósta ar Agnes Rafferty, as Hawick, Alban di. D'oibir Agnes i muilean i Hawick ach thaistil sí lena fear nuair a bhí air dhul ó áit go háit agus é i mbun a chuid dualgaís. Shocraigh siad dís síos i mBéal Feirste agus mar sin chaith Aodh roinnt blianta dá óige ina chónaí i gCearnóg Richmond, Bóthar Chnoc na hUaimhe.

Fuair Aodh a chuid oideachas foirmiúil ar fad i mBéal Feirste - bunoidéachas sa Holy Family; meánoideachas i gColáiste Mhaolmaodhog; oideachas tríú léibhéil ag Ollscoil na Banríona ó 1942-1945. Bhain sé céim amach le Fraincis agus le Stair. Chaith sé an bhliain acadúil 1945-1946 mar mhacléinn ar Choláiste N. Muire - an chéad bhliain a d'fhreastail fíor ar na cúrsaí ansin.

Ní raibh Aodh oilte ach go gairid nuair a fuair a athair bás agus chinn an teaghlach pilleadh ar Hawick, Alban. Theagasc Aodh i Hawick go dtí 1951, bliain a tháinig sé ar ais chun na hÉireann agus chuaigh chun cónaí ar Derrymore Road, an Sruthán, i dtús baire. Bhí sé pósta fán am seo ar Eileen Mc Naney. Pósadh in Eaglais N. Eoin iad i Muine Mór, Co. Dhoire, ar 3 Lúnasa 1949.

An sagart céimiúil Louis O'Kane a dúirt an t-Aifreann ar an lá úd i searmanas a bhí ceiliúrtha ar fad trí mheán na Gaeilge. Saolaíodh dosae fada de mhúirín ar an lánúin agus tógadh iad uilig agus meas acu ar an Ghaeilge - Ciarán, Róisín, Éamonn, Aodh, Breandán, Bríd, Eileen, Blinne, Bróna, Diarmaid, Colm agus Cormac. Más bisiúil a bhí Aodh i mbun cúrsaí clainne bhí an t-am aige go fóill laethanta a chaitheamh ar a shocúlacht ag scríobh, ag léamh, ag póistíneacht fán gairdín agus ag rothaíocht. I laethanta a óige ba nós leis dul ó Bhéal Feirste chun na Gaeltachta ar a rothar. Agus leoga, bhí an-luí aige leis an Ghaeltacht, go mór mór leis na Coláistí Samhraidh. Bhí sé seal ina Rúnaí ar Choláiste Uí Méith; ina Rúnaí fosta ar Choláiste Aodha Mhic Bhricne i dTeilinn agus nuair a bhí deacrachtaí ann le Coláiste Chróna in Arainn Mhór ar aghaidh leis lena sainchomhairle a thabhairt. Bhunaigh sé leis CRAOBH AGHAIS de CHOMHALTAS ULADH i gCamloch. Tugadh aitheantas sa chúige seo dó nuair a ceapadh é mar Uachtarán ar CHOMHALTAS ULADH. Ag an léibhéal náisiúnta bhí sé ina bhall de Choiste Gnó an Chonartha.

Ó 1951 go dtí 1970 theagasc Aodh i mBunscoil N. Mhaolmaodhog, an Sruthán, áit ina raibh sé ina Phríomhoide. Nuair a tháinig Scoil N. Mhaolmaodhog (gasúir) agus Scoil N. Iosef (cailíní) le chéile mar aon scoil amháin i 1970 tugadh cúram an leasphríomhoide dó. Lean sé leis ag saothrú ansin go dtí go bhfuair sé bás go tobann i 1980.

Fear ildánach ab ea Aodh. Bhí sé breá in ann véarsaí do "Níl sé ina Lá" a chanadh ag seisiún ceoil agus thaitin 'chuile chineál léitheoireachta leis. Bhí meas air mar ghuth neamhspleách ó thaobh cúrsaí polaitíochta de agus sheas sé mar iarrthóir "UNITY" i dtoghchán i gCo. Ard Mhacha ag tús "na dtrioblóidí". Ní raibh sé ceangailte le pairtí ar bith gidh go raibh an poblachtachas agus an sóisialachas go smior ann. Ba chás leis riamh na cimi, go speisialta nuair a cuireadh imtheorannú i bhfeidhm.

Chreid Aodh go laidir sna rudaí a bhí tábhachtach dó - an teanga agus an náisiún. Bhí sé daingean dushlánach ina chuid tuairimí, éifeachtach agus é ag comhlíonadh na ndualgas a ghlac sé chuige. An lá a shaothraigh sé bás bhí sé ar ti dhul chuig Coláiste Chomhaltas Uladh i Ros Goill le cúrsaí na gColáistí a phlé. Tháinig an bás gan rabhadh agus Aodh ina chistin féin sa bhaile. Má tá borradh faoi cúrsaí na Gaeilge i gCamloch inniu níl dabht ná go raibh Aodh Ó Luaois freagrach cuid mhaith as síol na teanga a athchur ansin.

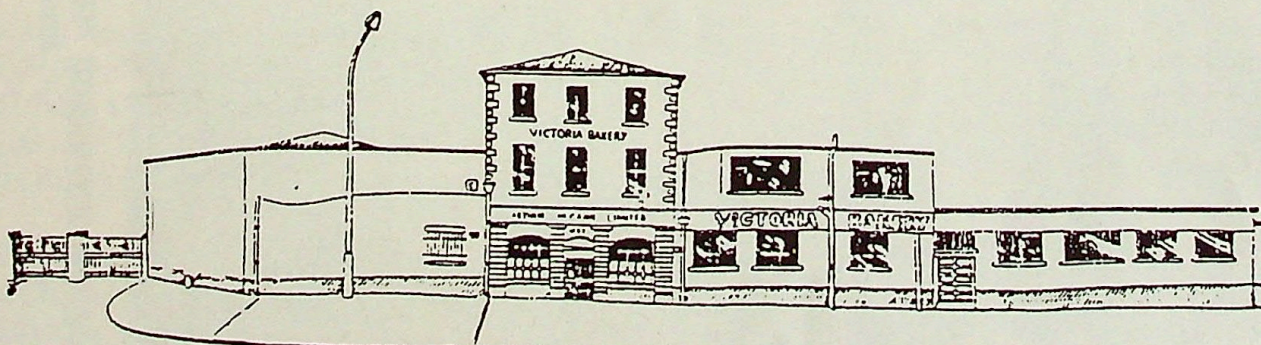


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Bhí an t-ádh orainn i mbliana mar bhí seans againn agallamh a chur ar bheirt charachtar ón Iúr atá sna hochtóidí, eadhon, John Casey ó na "beairicí" agus an duine uasal atá luaite sa trácht seo síos, James (Jim) Woods. Chaith Jim bunús a shaoil ag saothrú leis an ghréasaíocht - ceird atá i gcontúirt imeacht in éag.

Five generations of the Woods family have been associated with the shoe-making/cobbling trade in Newry. The family indeed still maintains a small shoe-repairs shop in Water Street. We had the good fortune to chat with Mr. Jim Woods, now in his eighties, a man who shed much light on the shoe-making/cobbling trade in Newry in his lifetime.

Jim Woods was born in Rostrevor and even though his father had been born in Coatbridge, Scotland, the Woods' are essentially Rostrevor and Newry folk. The shoe-making trade was no novelty to Jim as all his family was associated with the shoe-making/cobbling business. Those others who came to the trade upon leaving school had a five-year apprenticeship to serve and they were normally "bound" to a tradesman on a fixed wage for the period of their apprenticeship. Jim, though, had no formal five year training period and picked up the necessary skills throughout his early years. The Woods' workshop at that time was in North Street, next to the now deceased Mickey Devine's barber's shop. They later moved to premises next to the famous Ledlie's shop.

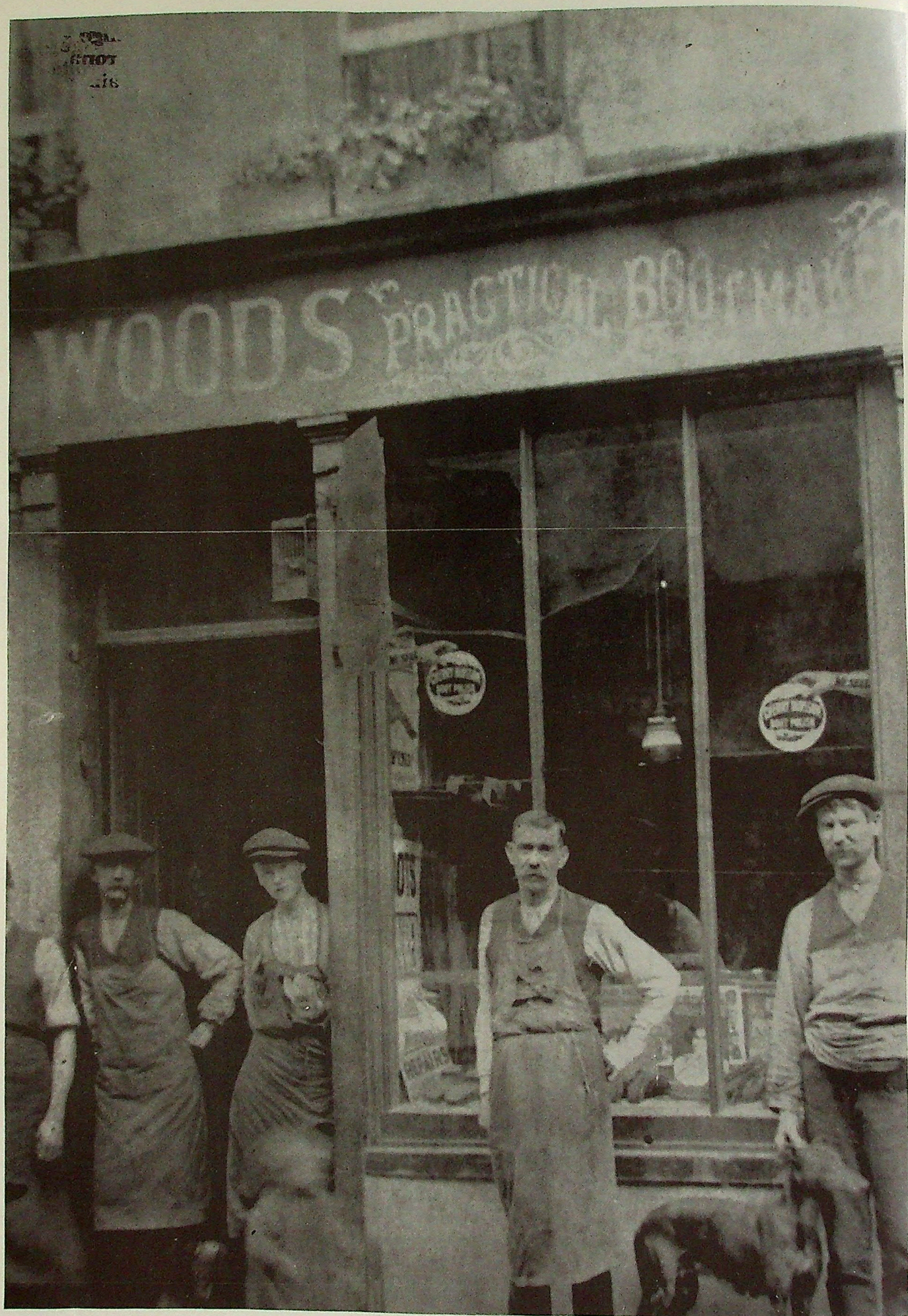
Jim Woods was in the fortunate position of being able to earn a wage while he was still at school. The six shillings pay he received helped him with his education. He had two brothers who worked at the trade with him, Peter and Barney. The brothers' weekly wage was 10s. a week each. Jim's father, Stephen Woods, also employed other tradesmen from time to time in his shop, two such being Paddy Campbell, who was partly disabled, and Dan Mc Veigh, a Protestant from Castlewellan who lodged in Castle Street.

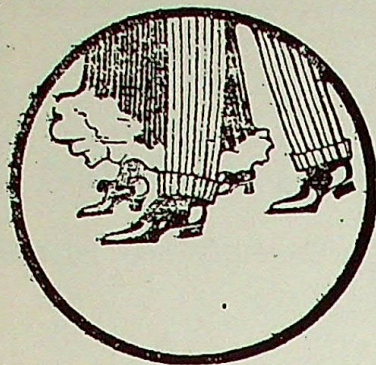
Shoe-makers usually fitted into one of three categories :- you were either a sewing-man, or a bench-man (sometimes called a "riveter"), or a finisher. When Jim Woods was young there was no shortage of shoe-makers'/cobblers' shops in Newry. Luke Hollywood was based in Mary Street; several Kean brothers had premises throughout the town; and the shoe-

shops themselves took in work, shops such as Evans', Tyler's, or Murray's in Mill Street. The leather merchants had their share of the shoe-making business also. The Woods' bought their leather either from Murray's or from Rigby's in Monaghan Street, the uppers often being purchased from Belfast. Other boot and shoe merchants at the time were James Byrne of Lower North Street; Cahill Brothers; P.Campbell, Upper Water Street; W.J. Donley, Sugar Island; M. Flanagan, Monaghan Street; C. & J. Forde, Upper North Street; Patrick Mc Loughlin, Mill Street; P. Rooney, Upper North Street and Edward Sheridan of St. Mary Street.

Leather was generally of three types ; dealing men wore box-calf; crone leather was for heavy working boots; and the more fashion-conscious plumped for the glossy kid. Leather, dyed in a choice of brown or black, was bought in "bends" and was sold by weight. A gents' bend weighed about 15 pounds and cost between £2. 5s. and £2. 7s. 6d. A ladies' bend weighed from seven to eight pounds. The bend firstly had to be trimmed. A three inch strip was cut from the bottom of the bend and this was used for toes and heels. The layers of leather used for building up heels were called "rises". Then nine-inch "ranges" were cut and they formed the soles. The "heart" of the bend was used for the top of shoes and this was reserved for good customers only. Parsimonious countrymen insisted on shods, toe-plates and hob-nails and like everyone else of the working classes of sixty and more years ago, their shoes were well-worn before they were brought in for repairs.

When we asked Jim about the types of customers who frequented the shop, he informed us that they came from all backgrounds. Mr. Fowler, an imposing-looking, moustacheoed, estate-agent who lived on the Belfast Road, was one of their more affluent customers. Another "well-healed" customer was Austie Spence who always bought brown elasticated boots. These boots were top quality and cost £2. Remember that all regular customers had their own individual lasts. The last had the customer's name on it and was shelved in the workshop. Jim recalls that the average price of made-to-measure shoes in the 1920's was 37 shillings and six pence. A pair of ladies' heels cost 9d. There was no demand for children's shoes then of course and the great bulk of the work done at Woods' was of a surgical nature. And Jim reveals that the "Repairs-while-U-wait" facility





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isn't a recent innovation. Aged Newry folk would get heels repaired while they waited at Woods' and young Jim had the responsibility of lacing up the repaired boots for the senior citizens. Jim's father was a patcher of some repute. A good customer could have "invisible" repairs done to his shoes - so deft was the craftsmanship. Uppers would be patched for between 3d. and 6d. The Woods' didn't use needles for repair work either. Jim's father was adept at the use of a "hair" with the thread attached. The "hair" came from a wild pig and unlike a needle, it was supple and proved especially useful when doing "blind-stitching", that is, working from inside the shoe. Once again, Jim boasts of his father's talent at blind-stitching.

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with
Patent toe cap.

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94 Hill St., NEWRY.



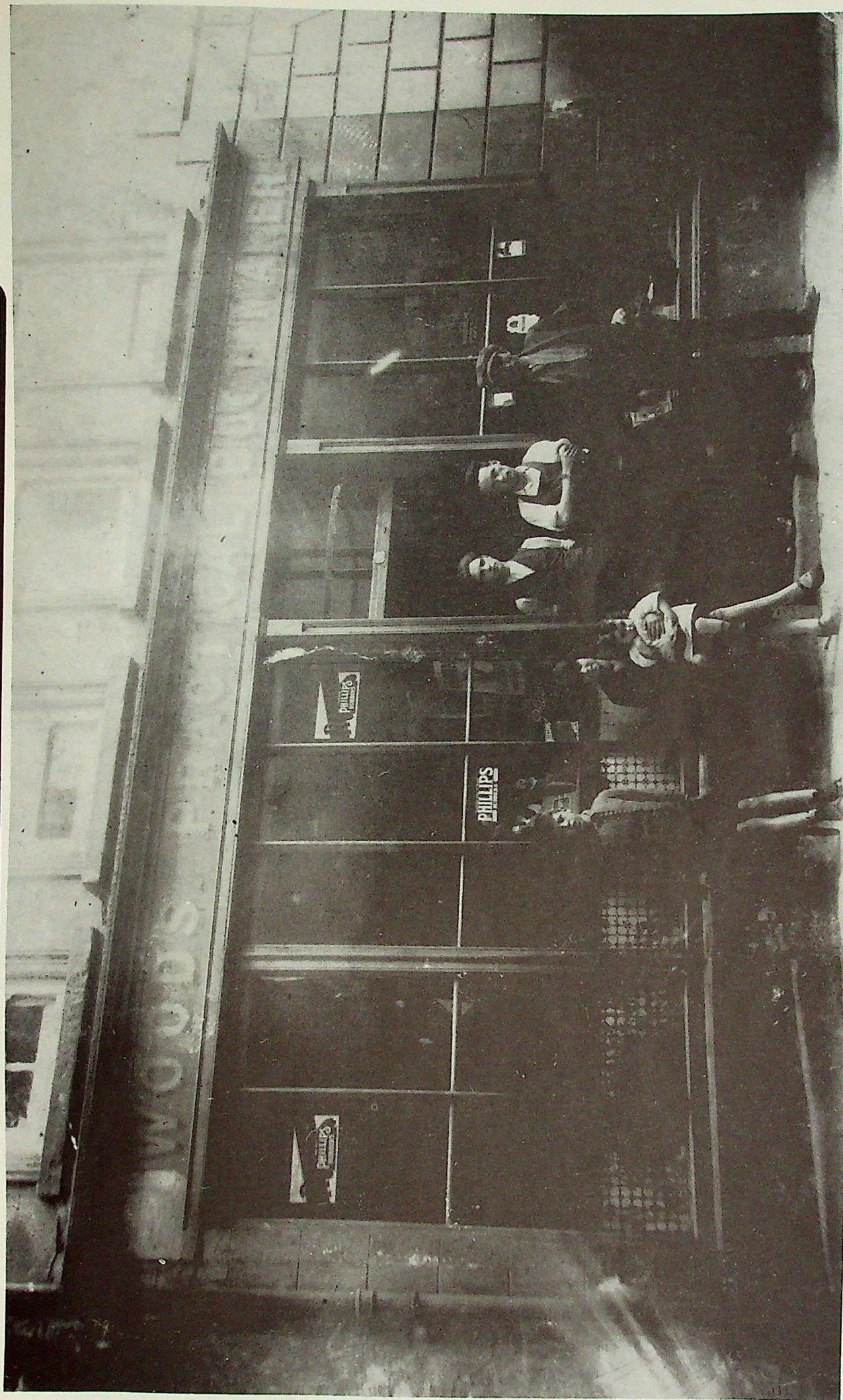
Jim's brother too, Barney, was a noted shoe-maker. He always sat and worked at the window of the shop in North Street. The window afforded him light and also gave locals the opportunity to see Barney at work. Barney used to line his lips with 1/2 " rivets (tingles/nails). Rivets were in sizes 3/8th, 7/16th, 1/2", 9/16th or 3/4", depending on the job. Barney worked remarkably fast and accurately, much to the amazement of the onlookers. Jim's father wouldn't allow the use of a hammer for tapping home the rivets - he insisted on a driving-file instead. Choosing an appropriate driving-file for each tradesman was very much like a hurler picking a camán. Weight and general feel were vital in the choice of a file. Barney worked as a shoe-maker in England as well and was such a talented benchman that he was put on a bonus rate rather than on a weekly wage. But Barney didn't stick to his trade for at times he'd go to sea. Jim's father used to be delighted when Barney returned to Newry after a voyage because Barney would resume his perch at the North Street window and the Woods' business moved again into top gear. Barney died of leukemia, aged 54.

Temporarily abandoning one's trade wasn't unusual in those days. Jim's father was very much a "seasonal" shoe-maker. He'd go off to Scotland or England to work at different occupations, depending on the time of year. Mr. Evans, who ran a workshop in Margaret Street (present McElroy's butcher's) took Jim's father back from Britain and gave him steady work in Newry. Jim, too, worked in bars in

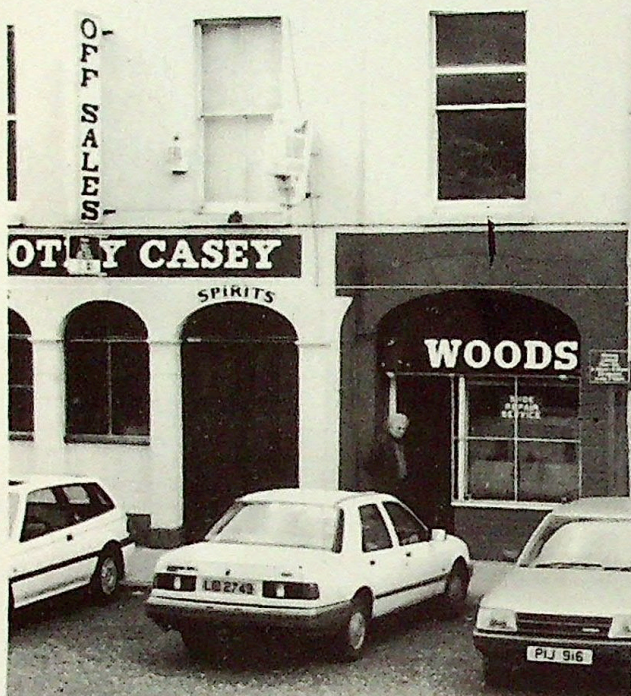
North Street, Newry c. 1959
Grianghraf a thug A. McAteer dúinn



OUTSIDE WOODS' SHOP IN NORTH STREET



England during the Second World War. He spent a while in an Austin Motor factory and even worked with the American forces in England. Jim returned to Newry in 1947/48 and subsequently kept at his trade until he retired at the age of 65. During that period he had built a workshop and house in North Street which was erected a mere ten years when the North Street re-development changed the whole appearance and character of that historic side of Newry. The Woods family moved to Water Street in 1969, Jim's son Stephen having acquired a small shop from Vincent Toner. Stephen is likely to be the last of the Woods' engaged in cobbling in Newry as none of his sons intend taking up the trade.



Jim Woods clearly enjoyed reminiscing on the cobbling trade in Newry. He could tell us of the three generations of Campbells in the cobbling business; of how John Duffy's father started the present "Shoe Hospital" in Monaghan Street; of how O'Hare's 'opened out' in North Street and closed after a couple of decades, and of how Dermie Rice served his time in Kean's. But the story he likes telling most is how his father's shop in Lower North Street got its sign "S. WOODS, PRACTICAL BOOTMAKER". When old Stephen Woods opened his shop initially he wasn't even thinking of a sign above the door but by chance Hannaford's (?) Circus came to Newry and the circus's sign-writer, with an eye to business, approached Stephen and got the job of painting the sign. The sense of business acumen wasn't reserved to this itinerant sign-writer either. A travelling rhymster frequented shops in the north of Ireland and for a modest payment would compose a jingle to help advertise the shops. The rhymes were printed on cards by Adams Printers, Newry, and were distributed by the shops themselves. One such of Woods' jingles comes readily to Jim's mind :

STOP !

*Here lives a man who won't refuse
To strongly mend your boots and shoes.
His work is good, repairs are quick,
Makes small profit but gives no tick.
He always uses the best of leather,
Recommended to stand all weather.*

CHEAP REPAIRS !

Another advertising card is still in the possession of young Stephen Woods, and reads :

STEPHEN WOODS.

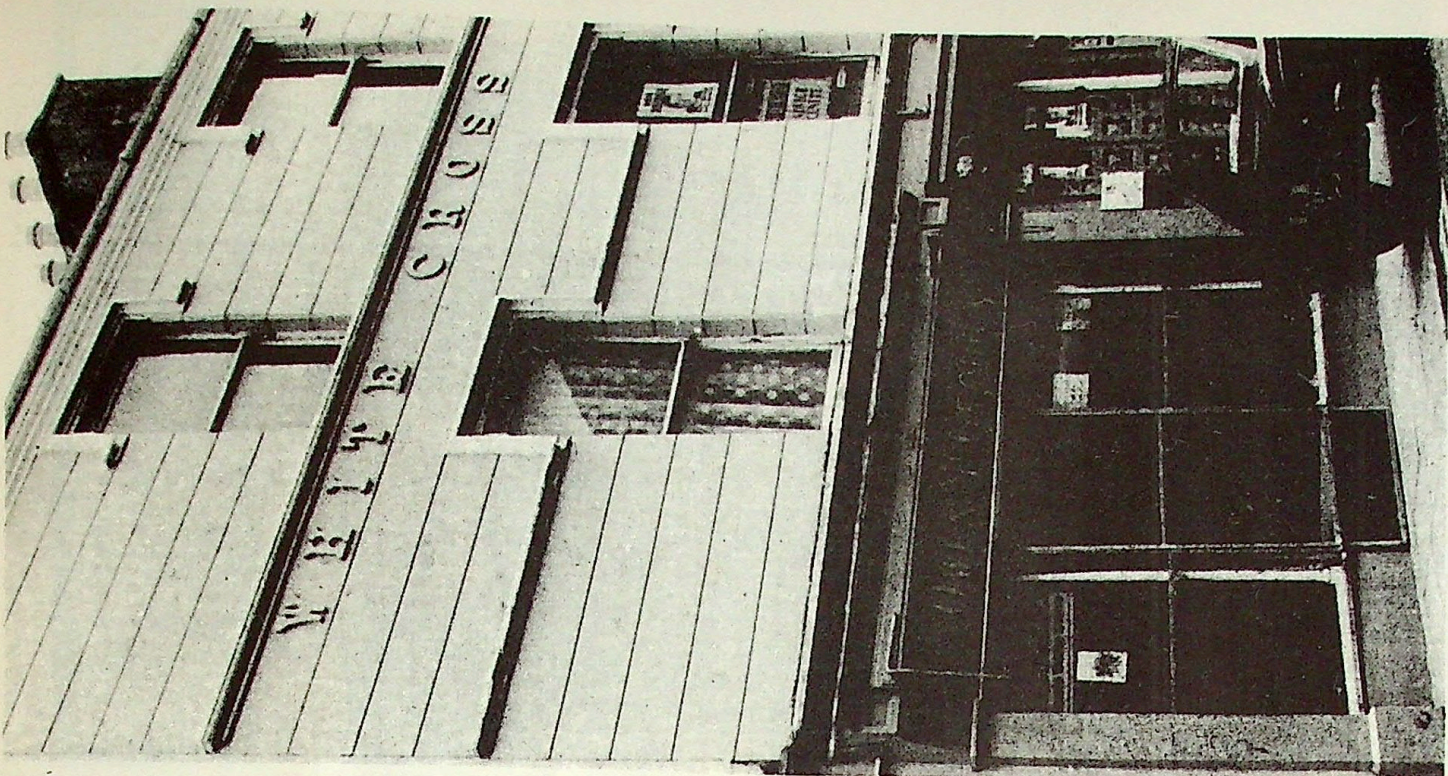
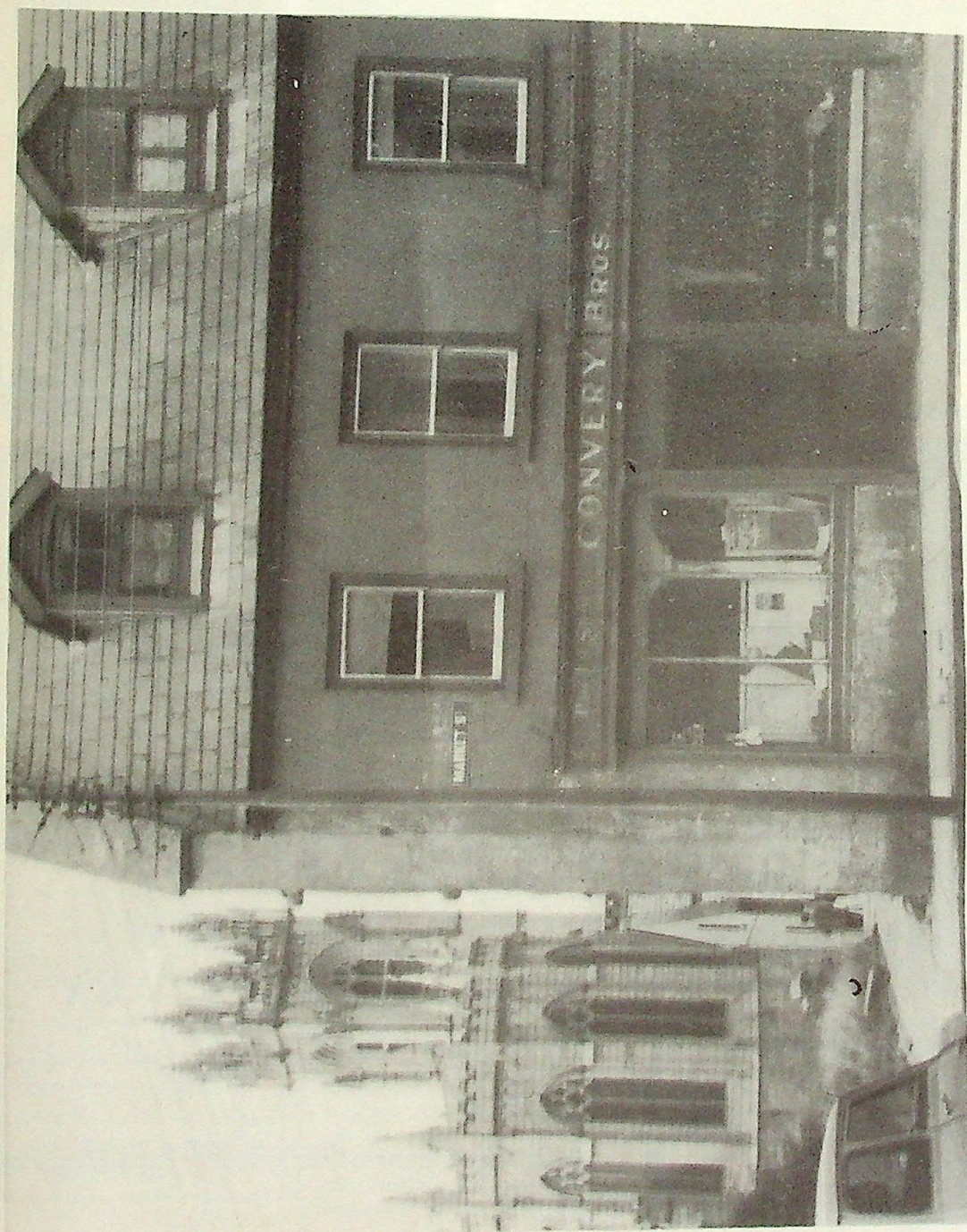
*My name is Stephen Woods and shoemaking is my trade,
Many boots I've mended and many boots I've made.
I'm pretty well established in this our good town,
My aim has always been to keep the prices down.
My work is always good and the leather is first grade
And each boot that leaves my premises is a credit to the trade.
You stand at drafty corners and you walk on down the street
And if the day is raining you're apt to get wet feet;
But if you come to me the remedy I'll supply,
You can walk about in comfort and your feet will then be dry.
So if your boots need mending keep WOODS within your brain,
If you visit him but once you're sure to come again.
And if you have your doubts and anything you want to know
Kindly pay a visit - my address is down below*

LOWER NORTH STREET, NEWRY

With the upsurge of business in Newry in recent years a number of shoe-selling chains have opened outlets in the town, Trueform, Tandem, McManus' etc.. Other long-established shoe-shops still do steady business. We finally asked Jim Woods what sort of shoes he'd buy today. He chose immediately a Hampton boot or shoe and deemed McCartan's of Sugar Island the best place for a selection of quality shoes. Not a bad recommendation for the manufacturer and the retailer.

Buíochoas

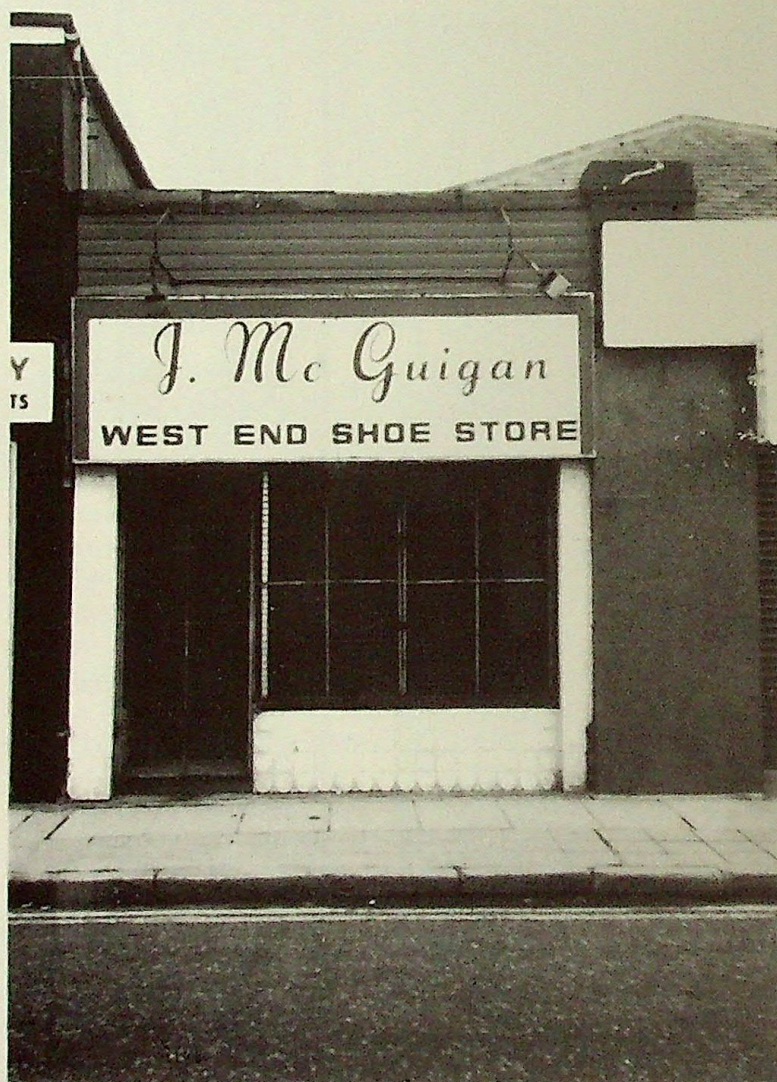
*We would like to thank
Dr. O'Hanlon from
Newtownhamilton who
subscribed to the publishing
costs of this year's
"CUISLE NA nGAEL".*



Two other shoe shops which are no longer trading : Convery Bros. in Market Street (picture taken by Paddy Trainor), and Owen McGeough's.



M. Flanagan's Boot and Shoe Shop, Monaghan Street, Newry. This sign is no longer visible since Oct. 1989.



Paddy Trainor's Shoe Shop, as was, Monaghan Street, Newry (owned formerly by Joseph Mc Guigan)

GO RAIBH

MAITH AGAIBH

Ba mhaith linn ár mbeirteas
a chur in iúl do Choiste na Gaeilge
de chuid Chomhairle an lúir agus
Odhorn as an deontas a thug siad dúinn a
bhí mar chuidiú againn
"CUISLE NA nGAEL" a eisiúint.

Many thanks to
C.A.R.S. OF NEWRY
for their support.

Féilire 1989

At a recent meeting of the Ulster Executive of Comhaltas Uladh (Gaelic League), grave concern was once more expressed regarding Mr. Brian Mawhinney's curriculum proposals and their potentially disastrous consequences for the Irish language in schools.

Newry representatives Séamus Mac Dhaibhéid and Thomas Lonergan attended the meeting in Dungannon, where it was decided to send a deputation to meet the Secretary of State for Education.

All delegates present were dismayed by Dr. Mawhinney's approach to Irish and viewed his proposals as another Government attempt at a "final solution" to the Irish language "problem."

Mr. Mac Dhaibhéid, a teacher in second level education, maintained that much damaged had already been done by Dr. Mawhinney even before his policies have been implemented. By casting aspersions on the value of the Irish language as a modern language, Dr. Mawhinney had clearly intimidated to parents and pupils that Irish was somehow an inferior tongue, continued the Newry delegate. Mr. Mac Dhaibhéid further stated that there was something sinister in the Government's general approach to Irish and that it was provocative of the British authorities to place Dr. Mawhinney, with his Northern Irish, non-Nationalist origins, in such a sensitive area as education.

The Gaelic League is clearly strongly committed to stepping up its campaign against the Mawhinney curriculum proposals. Mr. Gerry Downey, the Ulster General

Secretary of Comhaltas Uladh, concluding the Dungannon meeting, affirmed:—

"We are ultimately faced with a question of ethos. This is Ireland and Irish is a central part of our cultural heritage. It is not an exotic language studied for obscure reasons. The proposals made by the Minister seek to impose on Northern Ireland an educational ethos which reflects the culture of the English Home counties. This is something we will not accept."

Three Newry and Mourne Councillors have just returned a visit made to Newry and Mourne last year by Councillors and Officials of Comhairle nan Eilean, the Local Government body for the Outer Hebrides in Scotland. Comhairle nan Eilean is run bilingually in Gaelic and English.

During their three day visit Councillors P. J. Bradley, Brian Mulligna and Brendan Lewis visited new nursery and primary schools run through Gaelic, examined the translation system, fish farming, a crofting holiday scheme, education and museums in the area and examined the different Council structures.

Scottish and Irish Gaelic are no further removed than Cork and local English. When Councillor Lewis made a speech in Irish, there was a real need for translation. Both Scottish and Irish Councillors felt that they had a great deal in common in terms of Gaelic language, of the problems that affect tourism, fishing and small farmers in both areas, and in terms of the many links between Ireland and Scotland.

Newry Reporter

DOWN, ARMAGH AND LOUTH TIMES

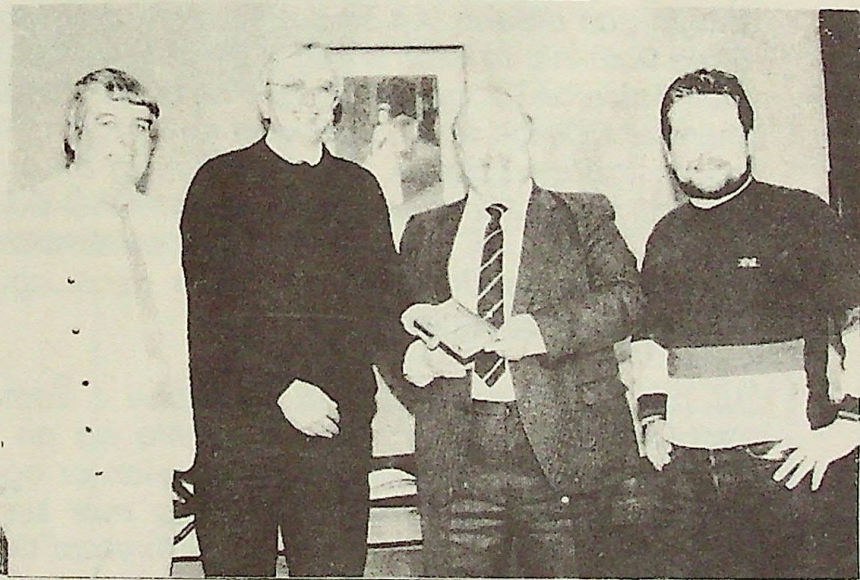
Price 32p

Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper

Thursday, 16th February, 1989

Gaelic League attacks Mawhinney Plan

FÁILTE



Councillor P. J. Bradley presents an Irish / English Newry and Mourne plaque to Councillor Alexander Mathieson, Governor (Chairman) of Comhairle nan Eilean. Also pictured are Councillor Brian Mulligan and Brendan Lewis.

A warm Gaelic welcome

The "Newry Reporter" now readily accepts material pertaining to the Irish Language.

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann



Ní raibh tinreamh ró-iontach ag cruinniú cinnbliana de Chraobh an Iúir de Chomhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann a bhí ar siúl ar 19 Eanáir 1989. Más dáréag a bhí i láthair b'shin an méid.

Agus is trua nach raibh freastal i bhfad níos líonmhaire ann mar na daoine atá ag stiúradh na Craoibhe, tá ard-mholadh agus tacaíocht níos fearr tuillte acu. Le blianta beaga aniar thit ualach na hoibre agus cúram na Craoibhe ar Réamonn Ó Cearúil agus ar a bhean Treasa. Faoina dtreoir, cuireadh béim ar na céilithe agus is dócha gur féidir a mhaíomh gur dearnadh neamart ar cúrsaí ceoil dá bharr. Ach ní ar an bheirt seo atá an locht. De réir dealraimh, is fearr le ceoltóirí an Iúir dul chuig áiteacha eile taobh amuigh d'Iúr Chinn Trá agus a ndíograis a chaitheamh ar son C.C.É. i bhFoirceall 7rl. Ní údar iontais nach mbíonn seisiún ar siúl áit ar bith i mbaile an Iúir féin. Ní cōir, i ndáiríribh, go mbeadh tallana uile an Iúir scaipthe agus an t-Iúr féin fágtha ar an trá fholamh.



Ina chuntas bliantiúil, dúirt Réamonn Ó Cearúil go raibh séasúr sách ciúin acu as siocair an Chraobh a bheith gan dídean. An áit a bhíodh ag an Chraobh i Sráid Doimínic ní raibh sí acu a thuilleamh mar chinn Comhairle an Iúir agus Mhór an chíos a ardú thar cuimse. Ní raibh sé ar acmhainn na Craoibhe íoc as na costaisí nua breise. Ritheadh rún ag an cruinniú seo dul chuig Rúnáil an Bosco, an tAth. P.Ó Doibhlín, le fáil amach an mbeadh coiste an Bosco sásta seomraí a sholáthar do ranganna ceoil agus do ranganna rince feasta.



Ní raibh Cathaoirleach na Craoibhe, Éamon Ó Gribín, i láthair agus bhí nod faighte ag an Rúnáil nach raibh Éamon toilteanach leanstan ar aghaidh san oifig seo. Toghadh oifigigh úra mar sin agus ceapadh Uinseann Mac Seáin ina Threoraí Gaeilge in athuair.

Ní raibh a dhath ar bith conspóideach ar an Clár agus chuaigh nithe ar aghaidh go réidh. Tugadh moladh d'Oifigeach na Gaeilge de chuid Chomhairle an Iúir; beartaíodh ar Céilí a reachtáil ar Lá Fhéile Pádraig; cinneadh ar níos mó a dhéanamh i dtaca le ceol de sa bhliain romhainn amach.

Am scoir ba léir go raibh CRAOBH AN IÚIR de C.C.É. beo, mura a raibh sí bríomhar.



Saothar Jim Connolly ar taispeáint sa Bhruiséal.

I mí Eanáir na bliana 1989 bhí an dealbhóir Jim Connolly, as Co. an Chláir dó, sa Bhruiséal agus dealbha chré-umha dá chuid ar taispeáint aige. Sa Ghailearaí Pleimeannach "Tabula Rasa" i lár na cathrach a bhí an taispeántas le feiscint.

Eamonn Lawlor, tuairisceoir le R.T.É. sa Bhruiséal a rinne an taispeántas a oscailt go hoifigiúil agus bhí corradh is caoga duine i láthair, Gearóid Ó Cléirigh (Ambasadóir na hÉireann) ina measc. Bhí bradán na hÉireann le hithe, seaimpéin na Fraince le hól agus ceol na hÉireann le cluinstit ag an lucht freastail. "DEORAÍOCHT" a d'eagraigh na himeachtaí.

Ina óráid, mhol Eamonn Lawlor obair "DEORAÍOCHT", go speisialta na hócáidí a chuir siad ar fáil d'fhonn cultúr na hÉireann a threisiú san Eorap. Indiaidh d'Eamonn a bheith ag caint, cuireadh tús le Céilí agus bhí sa bhreis ar 200 duine ag rinne go spraiúil leo. Gearóid Ó hAllumhrán, comhbhádóir le Jim Connolly as Co. an Chláir, a bhí i mbun ceoil.

Bhí an-spéis léirithe ag muintir na Mór-roinne in obair Jim Connolly. Bhí píosaí éagsúla aige a mheall an lucht féachana chucu - dealbha a bhain leis an ceol, an saol faoin tuath, cúrsaí polaitaíochta, ailleacht na coirpe 7rl.

Tá "DEORAÍOCHT" an-bhuíoch do "Allied Irish Banks" agus do "Ryanair Europe" as an cúnamh airgid a sholáthraigh siad leis an taispeántas a eagrú.

Frank Patterson

mála poist

CUIREADH
INVITATION



Generalitat de Catalunya
Departament de Cultura
Direcció General de Política Lingüística
SERVEI DE NORMALITZACIÓ
de l'ús oficial de la llengua catalana

GAELIC LEAGUE,
NEWRY,
Co. Down,
Ireland.

Dear Sirs,

A recent issue of your monthly bulletin has come to our notice. We have noticed with great satisfaction that you take an interest in "Modernist Art in Catalonia", and I am therefore writing you this short letter to encourage you in your efforts to achieve a Gaelic Ireland.

I wish you a merry Christmas : un Bon Nadal i Felicitat Any Nou.

Yours sincerely,

Miquel Strubell.

Newry Gaelic League intends to issue "Cuisle na nGael" at least until 1993 when the Gaelic League will have reached its centenary. We have already received material for next year's magazine and those others wishing to submit essays, articles, poems, photographs etc. are asked to forward materials before June 1990. This will allow the Editor time to type scripts, arrange lay-out and accrue the necessary finances.

Anyone intending to write for the special 1993 Commemorative Edition should intimate their intention to the Editor as soon as possible so that pecuniary considerations might be estimated. Newry Gaelic League would especially welcome articles from now retired women and men who have devoted many years of their lives to the promotion of the Irish language and Local Studies. Material in Irish or English is acceptable, preferably with a local flavour to it. Creative writing in Irish is particularly desired. All correspondence should be addressed to:

Séamus Mac Dhaibhéid,
St. Patrick's Grammar School,
Armagh.

MUIAIS MAC DHAIBHEID BUISTEIR

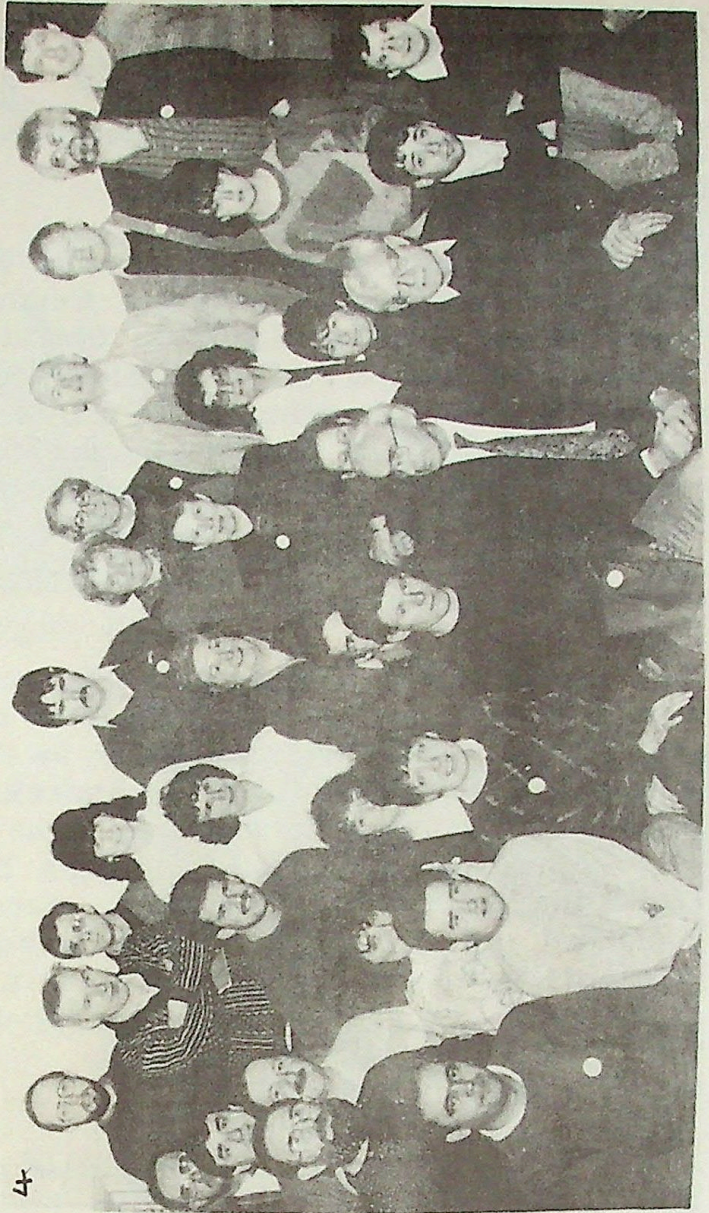
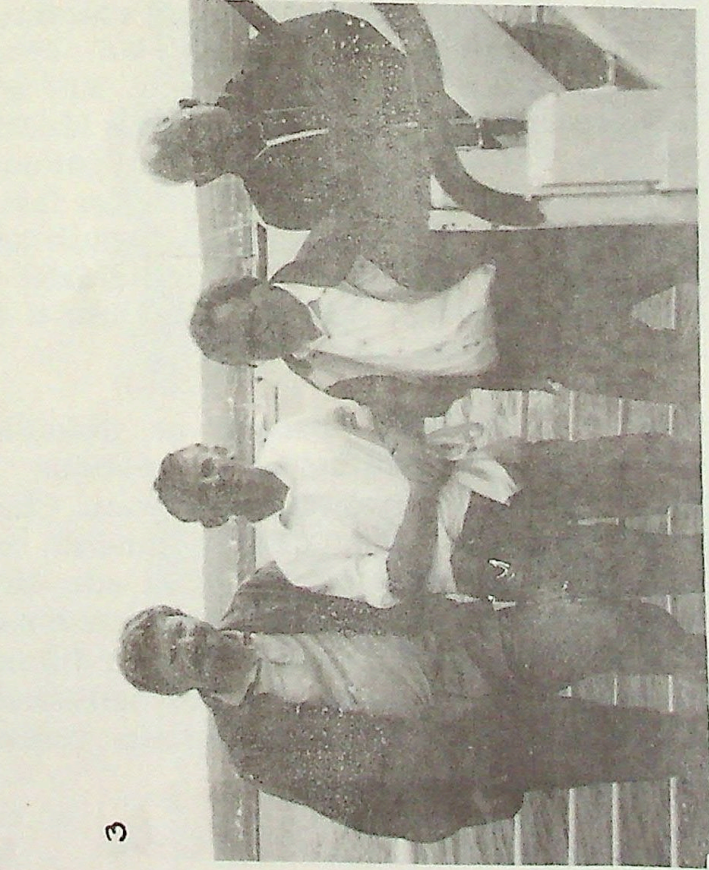
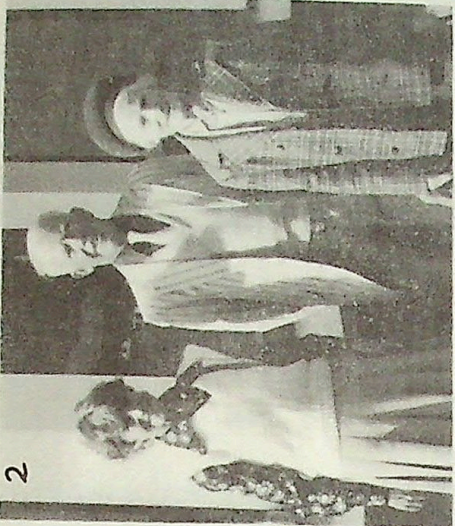


Sráid Kilmoreg
Iúr Chinn Trá.

THE AGOS

AGOS

1. Aifreann Gaeilge i gCaisleán Ruairí.
2. Clann Mhic Ardghail i nGleann Cholm Cille.
3. Baill Chraobh an Iúir sa Ghaeltacht.
4. Cúrsa Gaeilge i gCaisleán Ruairí.



❀ LÁ 'LE PÁDRAIG

Tá an-chreidiúint tuillte ag Malcolm Scott, Oifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge na Comhairle, agus ag an Chraobh áitiúil de Chomhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann as Paráid na Féile Pádraig a chur ar a bonnaí in athuair. Le blianta aniar ní raibh againn ach paráidí chonspóideacha agus ba shuarach an lucht tinrimh a bhí orthu. I mbliana tháinig na mílte ar ais ar shráideanna an Iúir agus bhain gach mac máthair acu sult as an lá.

Bhí mórshuíl fríd bhaile an Iúir ag a raibh bannaí ceoil, cumainn peile logánta de chuid C.L.G., damhsóirí, flótaí ón Naíonra, ón C.C.É. agus ó ghrúpaí nach iad. Bhí seó draíochta do pháistí ar phríomhshráid an Iúir agus lena chois léirigh Roma Tumelty Carnegie Tóstal N. Pádraig agus caoga duine ón cheantar máguaird ag cabhrú leis. Bhí an-réimse imeachtaí curtha ar fáil don lá, mar a bhí, taispeántais d'achan saghas - lasadóireacht, fíodóireacht, sníomhadóireacht, obair shnaithe, potaireacht 7rl.

Dóibh siúd a raibh spéis acu i gcúrsaí ceoil, bhí Píobairí Ard Mhacha agus Barnbrack le clos san ionad siopadóireachta nua, Buttercrane, agus bhí scaifte ag coimhead ar Rannairí Ard Mhacha agus iad i mbun geatsaíochta amuigh faoin spéir. Bhí aimsir an lae mar a d'iarrfadh do bhéal í a bheith. Ar ndóigh, bhí Conradh na Gaeilge gníomhach fosta mar bhí bailiúchán na Gaeilge faoi lánseoil. I rith seachtain na féile tugadh amach saor in aisce na céadta postaeir ildaite agus na mílte duilleoga fhaisnéise a chuir 6 Sráid Fhearchair chugainn.

Seoirse Ó Dufaigh, Cisteoir na Craoibhe, a d'eagraigh an bailiúchán i mbliana agus fuarthas níos mó ná sé chéad punt. Chuaigh trian don méid sin, mar is iondúil, chuig Coiste Fheis an Dúin agus trian eile díreach chuig ciste an Chomhaltais. Tá Craobh an Iúir buíoch de na daoine a thug síntiúis dúinn ach ba mhaith le Seoirse níos mó bailitheoirí a bheith ag na séipeil an bhliain romhainn amach.



Coiste na Gaeilge

Comhairle an Iúirí Mhór

Wish your friends a Good Day
on 17th — say

Bain Sult As An Lá

(Enjoy the Day)

TREASURE HUNT IN IRISH, HILL ST., 17th MARCH

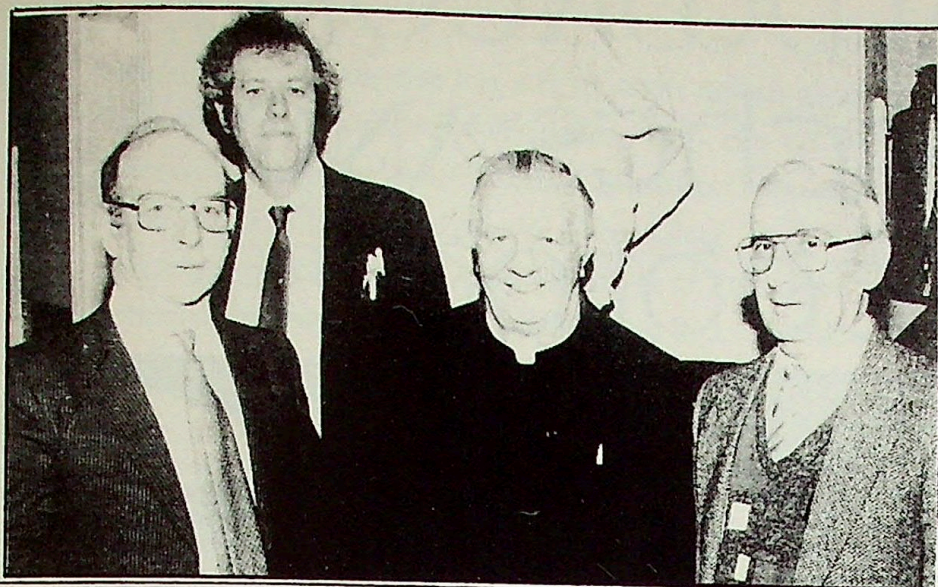
FREE DRAW — McATEER'S BRIDGE STREET

—if you use even a word of Irish

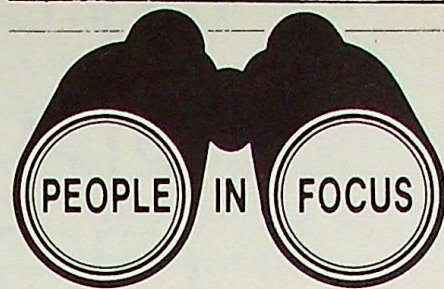
16th — 20th March

St. Patrick learned Irish too!

BAIN SULT AS AN LÁ



FÉILE DRÁMAÍOCHTA AN IÚIR 1989.
Larry Ryan, Pat Mooney, Bro. Beausang, Pat Aherne.



SÚIL THART

An mbeidh a mhacasamhail arís ann?

Ba bhrónach an nuacht, mheas mé, nuair a chuala mé go raibh teach tábhairne Mhic Giolla Átha i ngraibhaile Chamlocha le haistriú go dtí úinéireacht nua. B'áit ar leith an pub seo agus ní dócha go mbeidh atmaisféar mar a bhíodh ann faoin bainisteoireacht nua. Ach ní fios agus tá muid ábhairín dóchasach go mairfidh cáil an tí mar ionad gaelach.

Bhíodh fáilte riamh roimh Gaeilgeoirí i dteach tábhairne "Smokey's" agus faill ann pé uair a bhí mise i láthair Gaeilge a chleachtadh le muintir na háite. D'fhreastail mé ar chomórtas 'Tráth na gCeist' ansin, ar chruinnithe, ar ranganna Gaeilge agus ar seisiúin neamhfhoirmiúla. Ní bhfuair mé ach fáilte agus féile ann.

Ba ghnách le lucht radacach an cheantair a bheith tagtha le chéile ansin le haghaidh mór-eachtraí agus mion-eipeasóid an tsaoil a chíoradh. Ní mó ná sásta a bhí na péas faoi dhearcadh na cliantachta ar nós leo pionta a dhiúgadh i dteach Joe's agus ba mhinic an teach faoi léigear ag na "fórsaí slándala". Siarchiapadh mar seo faoi deara an sealúchas a bheith díolta ag Joe, tá mé ag déanamh, sin agus na blianta dhiomuana atá ag teannadh orainn ar fad.



BUÍOCHAS

Ba mhaith linn ár
mbuíochas a chur
in iúl don Br. Mac Diarmada
a thug síntiús dúinn
arís i mbliana.

INFLAMMACORg speeches AND EISTEDDŌFOD '89



Gorsedd na mhued.

Tá Eisteddfod na Breataine Bige ann ó dhlianta dheireannacha na 18ú aois, cé go raibh iomrá ar Fhéile mar seo sa Mheánaois. Eisteddfod na bliana seo dhí sé ar siúl i Llanrwst, cóngarach do Betwy-y-Coed i dtuaisceart na Breataine Bige. Caitheamh níos mó na milliún punt leis an Fhéile a reachtáil agus meastar go raibh tuairim is 160,000 duine ag freastal ar na himeachtaí. Ar ndóigh, tá Oireachtas na Gaeilge agus Mhod na hAibán múnlaíthe ar an Eisteddfod cé gur féidir a mhaíomh go dearfa nach bhfuil féile s'againne ach go háirithe baol chomh maith is atá féile mhór na Breataine Bige. Fath amháin go bhfuil an-ráchairt ar chomórtais an Eisteddfod ná nach bhfuil aon rud cosúil le Fleadh Ceoil na hÉireann ag na Breataiseoirí. Féile ilghnéitheach mar sin an Eisteddfod agus tá baint ag drámaí, cóir, cúrsaí ealaine, ceol pop 7rl. leí. Murab ionann is féile s'againne fosta, tá páirt nach beag ag daoine óga san Fhéile. Tá "Urdd Gobaith" (Ord an Dóchais), eagraíocht na n-óg, láidir, éifeachtach agus gníomhach sa Bhreatain Bheag.

Ba léir go raibh an-spiorad le mothú ag Eisteddfod 1989 i Llanrwst, ach daoine a raibh mé ag caint leofa, ní raibh siad iomlán sásta le caighdeán na gcomórtais i mbliana. Gidh go raibh 23 cór páirteach i gcomórtais Blue Riband na bhFear, líon nach raibh ann riamh, ghlac gach éinne leis nach raibh an caighdeán incurtha le

blianta eile. Mar aon leis sin, ní raibh dráma sásúil go leor le haghaidh Gradam na nDrámaí a dhuaicint. Ach ar an lámh eile de, bhí bliain iontach ag na mná sna comórtas éagsúla. Bhain Bean Chilton, atá ina múinteoir, an bonn i gcomhair próis lena scéal "Ochyn Gwydr" (The Glass Pig). Bean eile, Stell Farrar, aois 29, a dhuaigh an comórtas "Welsh Learner of the Year". Rugadh i Sasana í ach a tháinig chun cónaí i dtuaisceart na Breataine Bige. Bhí náire uirthi nach raibh Breatnais aici ach anois tá rún aici bitheolaíocht a theagasc trí mheán na Breatnaise.

Ní gan a sciar féin den conspóid atá Féile Mhór na Breatnaise, ámh. Tá brú ann le tamalt de bhlianta anuas sa Bhreatain Bheag fá choinne Acht Nua na Breatnaise ach tá Rialtas Thatcher ag diúltú aon aird a thabhairt don éileamh. Tá lucht an ráchmais ag tacú le BORD NA BREATNAISE, dream nach bhfuil toilteanach a dheannacht a thabhairt d'Acht Nua na Breatnaise. Ag Cisteddfod na bliana bhí teannas ann idir dóibh siúd a bhí ar aon intinn le dearcadh Rialtas na Breataine agus an grúpa a bhí i bhfách an Achta Nua. Táid ann freisin, sa Bhreatain Bheag, atá défhiúsach ina seasamh i leith 'forneart ar son na Breatnaise'. Tá feachtas ann le deich mbliana aniar i gcoinne lucht a' Bhéarla a tháinig isteach chun cónaí in áiteanna ina bhfuil an Breatnais mar phríomhtheanga an phobail. Go nuige seo, rinneadh ionsaithe ar 30 gníomhaire éastáit agus dódh breis is 150 tithe saoire de chuid na gcoimhthíoch. Admhaíonn an grúpa MEIBION GLYNDOR (The Sons of Glendower) gur bh iadsan atá freagrach as an bhfeachtas agus go bhfuil sé de chuspóir acu cur lena gcomhrac feasta. Shiúil comhaltaí Meibion Glyndor tríd sráideanna Abergele i dtuaisceart na Breataine Bige i mí Iúil 1989 agus iad gléasta i stíl mhíleata, cosúil le baill Óglaigh na hÉireann. Is 'sceimhlitheoirí' iad dar leis an Rialtas ach tá daoine eile ann atá idir dhá chomhairle fuzhu. Fiú daoine ar leith atá páirteach i "GORSEDD na mBARD", an conlán cumhachtach a bhfuil sé de chúram orthu an Breatnais a chaomhnú, tá siad i bhfách, de réir cosúlachta, le modus operandi Meibion Glyndor. Cuir i gcás, fad is a bhí comhaltaí Meibion Glyndor ag máirseáil tríd Abergele, dúirt Emyrs Roberts, a bhí ina Ard-Draoi ar an Gorsedd ag an am, nach raibh i mBord na Breatnaise ach struchtúr a bhí déanta as "adhmaid lochtach", agus i dtagairt eile a chuir alltach ar dhaoine áirithe, mhaigh sé nach raibh aon rud i ndán do phíosa adhmaid a bhí foirgthe agus gur b é an rud sin an adhmaid lofa a chur trí thine láithreach.

Bhí cuairteoirí, ar ndóigh, ag an Cisteddfod agus chan ar chúrsaí tromchúiseacha a bhí a n-aird ach ar rudaí níos bunúsá. Chuir an chaint seo fá bldhairí tinc spalladh orthu ach bhí mýchadh tarta daor orthu. I rith na Féile bhí an pionta fiche pingin níos costasí ná mar is ionduil sna tithe tabhairne i Llanrwst.

Labhair Gaeilge Gach Lá in Iúr Chinn Trá

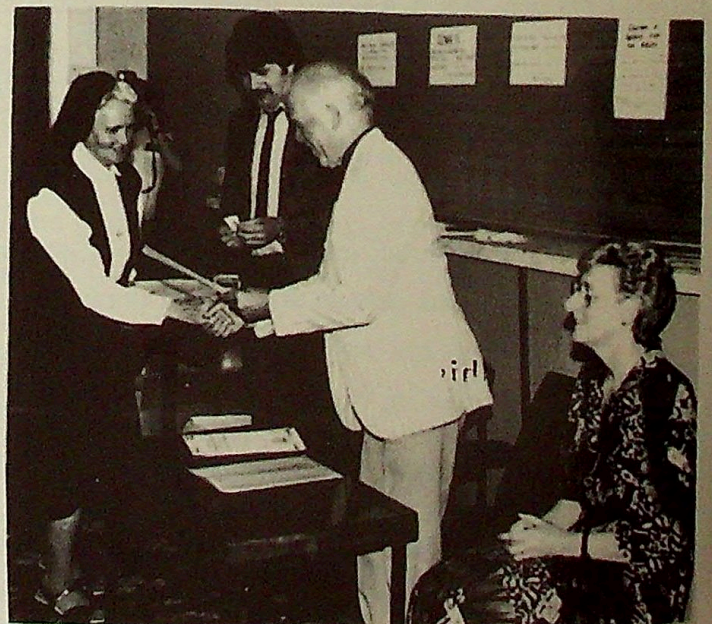
LANGUAGE PRESENTATIONS IN DEWRY I.N.F. CLUB

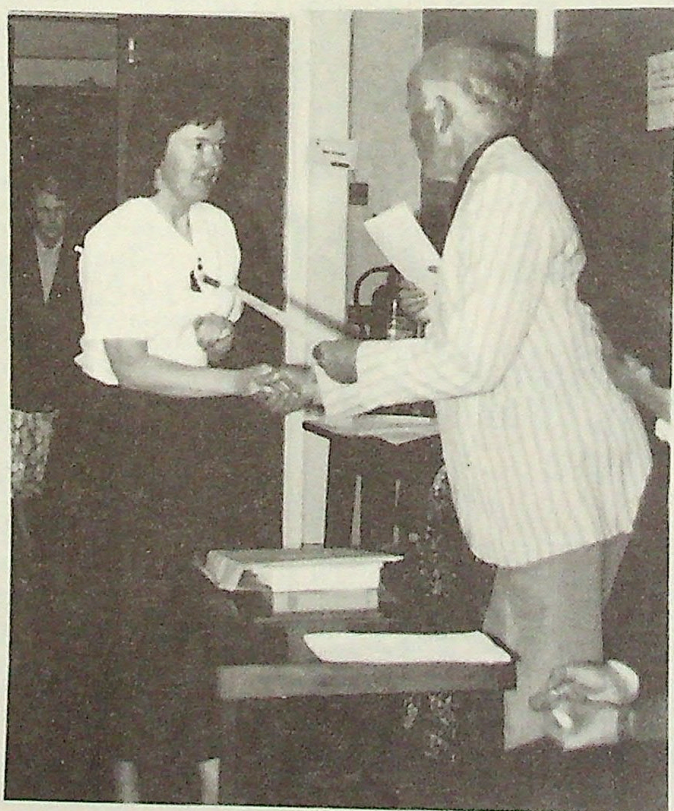
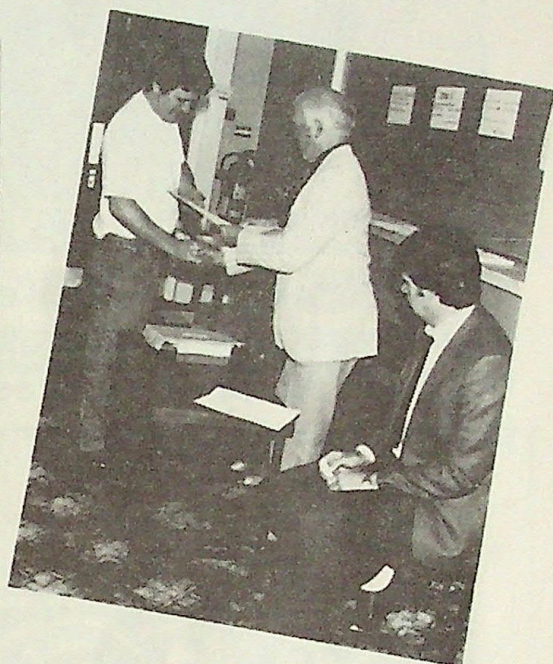
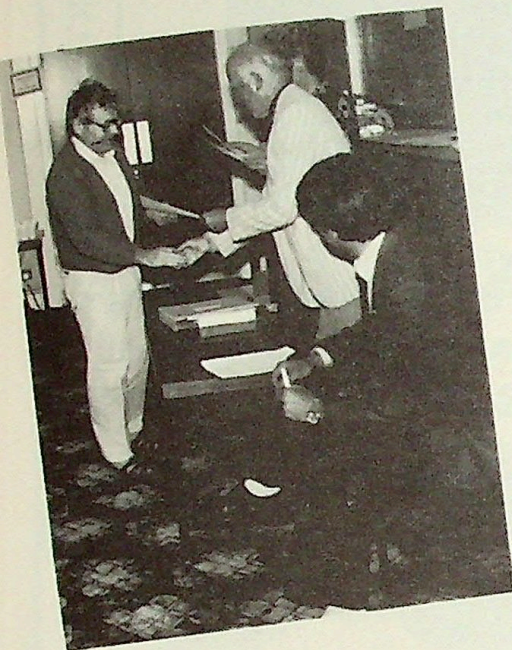
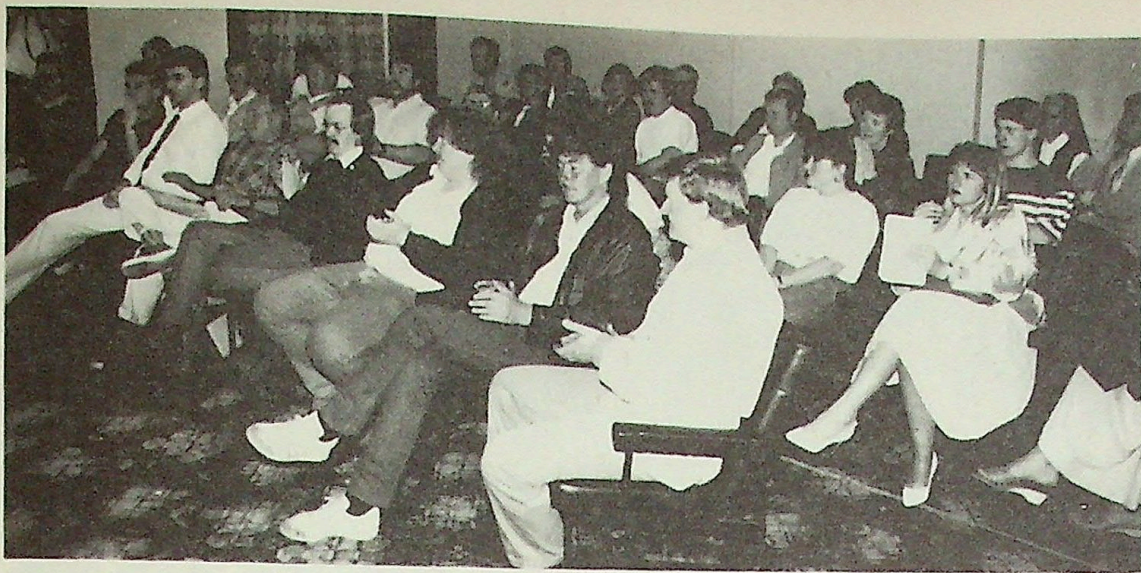


(ABOVE) Gold Fáinne Awards, 1989.

Ag an ócáid a ba mhó a bhí ag díograiseoirí na Gaeilge in Iúr Chinn Trá le scaitheadh anuas, tugadh amach Fáinní agus Teastais do bhreis is dhá scór daoine fasta ag pronnadh a bhí i gClub na bhForaiseoirí. Ag tús an tsamhraidh a tharla sé nuair a bhí plód i láthair i seomra na gceachtanna ar Sráid Hill. An fear cíocrach úd Seán Mac Dhaibhéid a bhí mar fhear a' ti - dualgas a chomhlíon sé go paiteanta. Ag cuidiú leis bhí Tomás Mac Árdghail, fear a bhfuil aithne mhaith ag léitheoirí na hirise seo air. Tomás, go deimhin, a phronn na gradaim ar an lucht freastail agus ba shoiléir do chách a bhí cruinn ann go raibh gliondar ar chroí Thomáis an oiread sin do Ghaeil an Iúir a bheith os a chomhair amach.

Leis an fhírinne a dhéanamh, ní raibh a leithéid de phronnadh ar an Iúr le ceithre scór bliain anuas. Thrácht Tomás ar an spiorad a bhí ar an Iúr ag tús an chéid agus an tAth. O'Reilly, bunaitheoir Chraobh an Iúir, beo bríomhar, agus mhaígh Tomás go raibh cosúlachtaí idir an tréimhse úd agus an lá atá inniu ann. Rinne sé comhghairdeas leis na foghlaimeoirí ar fad ach go speisialta leis an triúir a bhain Fáinne Óir amach - Philis Uí Dhufaigh, Róisín Uí Thréinfhir agus Gearóid Ó Maolchalann. Glactar leis go bhfuil an onóir seo rí-thuillte ag an triúir a bhain í mar ní go héasca a fhaigheann duine Fáinne Óir ó Chraobh an Iúir. B'fhiú an saothar, dar leis an triúir acu.







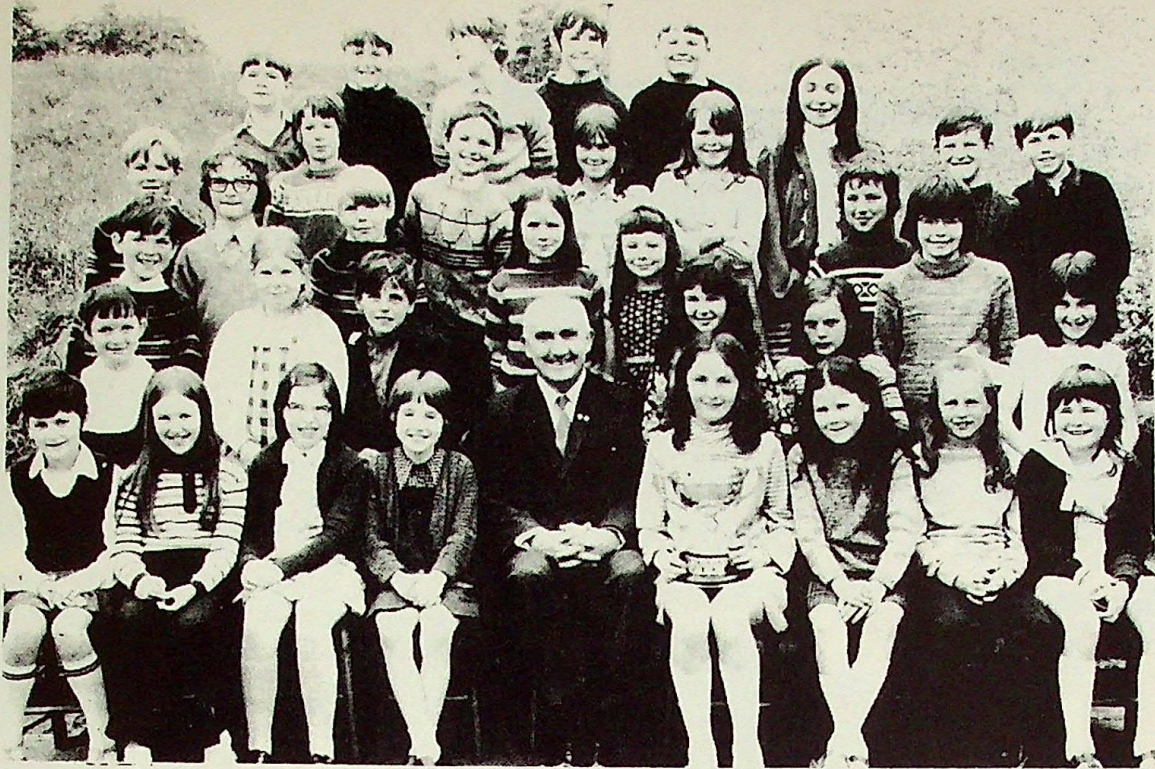
Pic. leis an "NEWRY REPORTER"

The Newry-based Irish Teachers' Panel present Mr. James Keating with a gift on the occasion of his retirement. Mr. Keating is well known in COMHALTAS ULADH circles and has pioneered the "Tús Maith" teaching pack for Ulster primary schools.

BUÍOCHAS

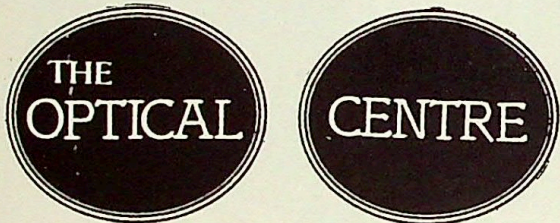
Nollaig Shona
agus
athbhliain faoi
mhaise
dár léitheoirí
go léir.

Fr. Cline and Grace, Ard Mhacha.
Liz Wasson, Ard Mhacha.
Mr. Walter Morgan, (taighde).
Séamus Mc Aleavey, (tacaíocht ó C. L.G.)
Liam Blair, (grianghraif).
Paddy Trainor, (grianghraif).
Tony Canavan, (Iarsmalann an Iúir).
Joe Canning, (Leabharlann Ard Mhacha).
"NEWRY REPORTER".
Mr. Andrew McAteer.
Mr. G. Cronin, (materials for next edition).
The Casey Family.
The Woods Family.
Mr. E. Rowland, (materials for next edition).
Seán Mac a'tSaoir.
Mr. D. Mc Cavitt.



**James Keating and
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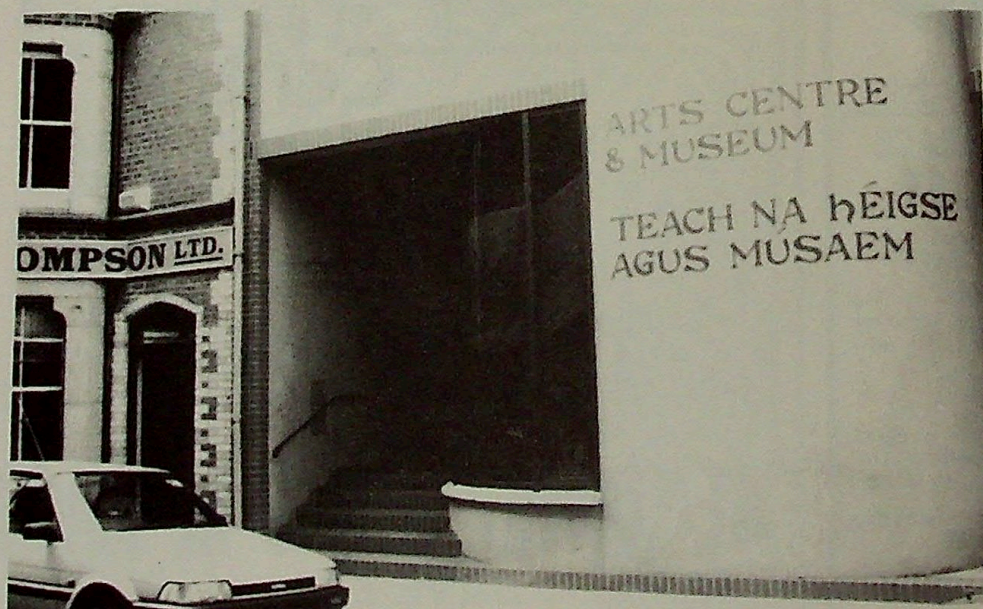
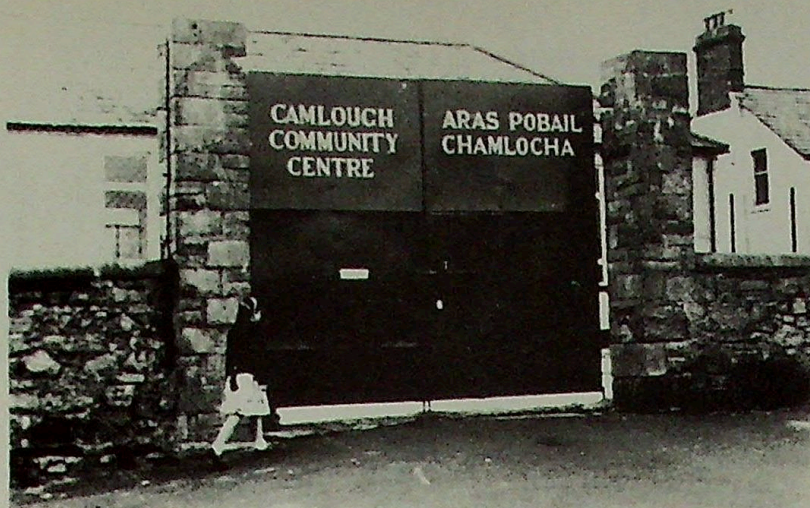
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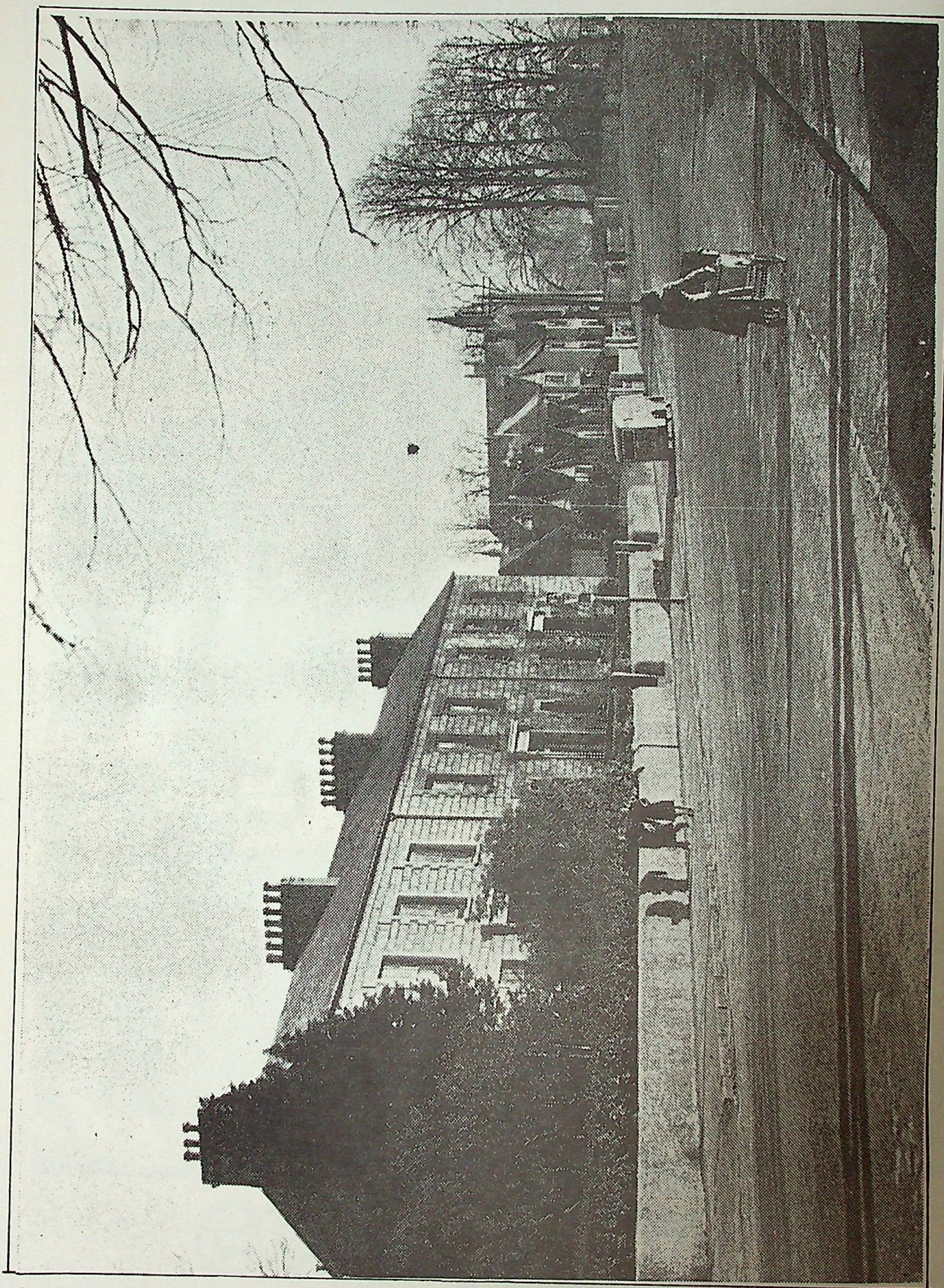
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Donn Byrne Commemoration

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TUESDAY, 21st NOVEMBER, 1989. 8.00 p.m.

LECTURE

Bernard Byrne (Barney Burns) - Brian Ó Beirne - Donn Byrne
by Tomás Mac Árdghall.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER, 1989. 8.00 p.m.

SYMPOSIUM

Some aspects of the Author's Works
SPEAKERS: CAINTEOIRÍ
Aodh Ó Murchú, Dr. John Mc Cavit, Fr. A. Valkenburg O.P.

OPEN FORUM

Memories of Donn Byrne in the Camlough District
An t-Údar mar is cuimhin le bunadh Chamlocha é

EXHIBITION OF BOOKS, PHOTOGRAPHS, DOCUMENTS Etc.

NEWRY I.L.F. ROOMS.

DE HADOME, 24 SAMHAIN, 1989. 8.00 p.m.

LEACHT

Brian Donn Ó Beirne - A Bheatha (1889-1989)
le Tomás Mac Árdghall.

Craobh an Iúir
Comhaltas Ulaadh

Craobh an Iúir
Comhaltas Ulaadh

Taispeántas:
Grianghraif an Iúir
agus Mhór.

Exhibition of
Old Newry & District
Photographs.

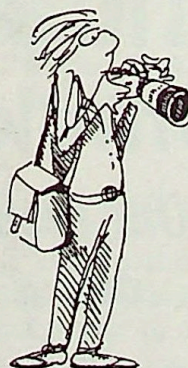


Seomraí na bhForaiseoirí
Sráid Hill,
Iúr Chinn Trá

8 Mí na Nollag, 1989



Newry Branch Gaelic League welcomes you to this our
first exhibition of Old Newry and District Photographs.
The photographs have been gathered by Séamus Mac
Dhaibhéid, editor of our annual bi-lingual journal
"CUISLE NA nGAEL". The collection reflects especially
aspects of the social and economic life of Newry in
times gone by.



D'fhoill spéis a spreagadh i stair
logánta atá an taispeántas a
reachtáil againn anocht. Má tá fóinn
ar éinne ailt, fótagraif n. a
sholáthar dár n-iris bhliantúil
bheadh fáilte is fiche rompa.

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mbaíochas a chur in iúl do Joe
Canning (Leabharlann Ard Mhacha),
a thug grianghraif ar lasacht dúinn.



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The Newry Docks Strike of 1907.

There is a widespread belief in labour circles in Newry that the Newry dockers participated in the historic Belfast dockers' and carters' strike of 1907. That, however, is an erroneous view, as that struggle ended with the return of the Belfast Steamship Company dockers on pre-strike conditions in a settlement negotiated by themselves - the Union having failed to secure recognition by this Company - after a strike lasting four months. The return to work on the part of these men in Belfast with Union approval occurred three weeks before the organising meeting was held in Newry at which the Newry dockers became members of the National Union of Dock Labourers of Great Britain and Ireland. James Larkin was the union's organiser and its local headquarters was in Belfast.

It is, however, understandable that this view has persisted for over eighty years as it was in consequence of taking sympathetic action with the Belfast Coal dockers employed by the several coal merchants on the Queen's Quay, Belfast, that the Newry dockers themselves became involved in a dispute with their employers.

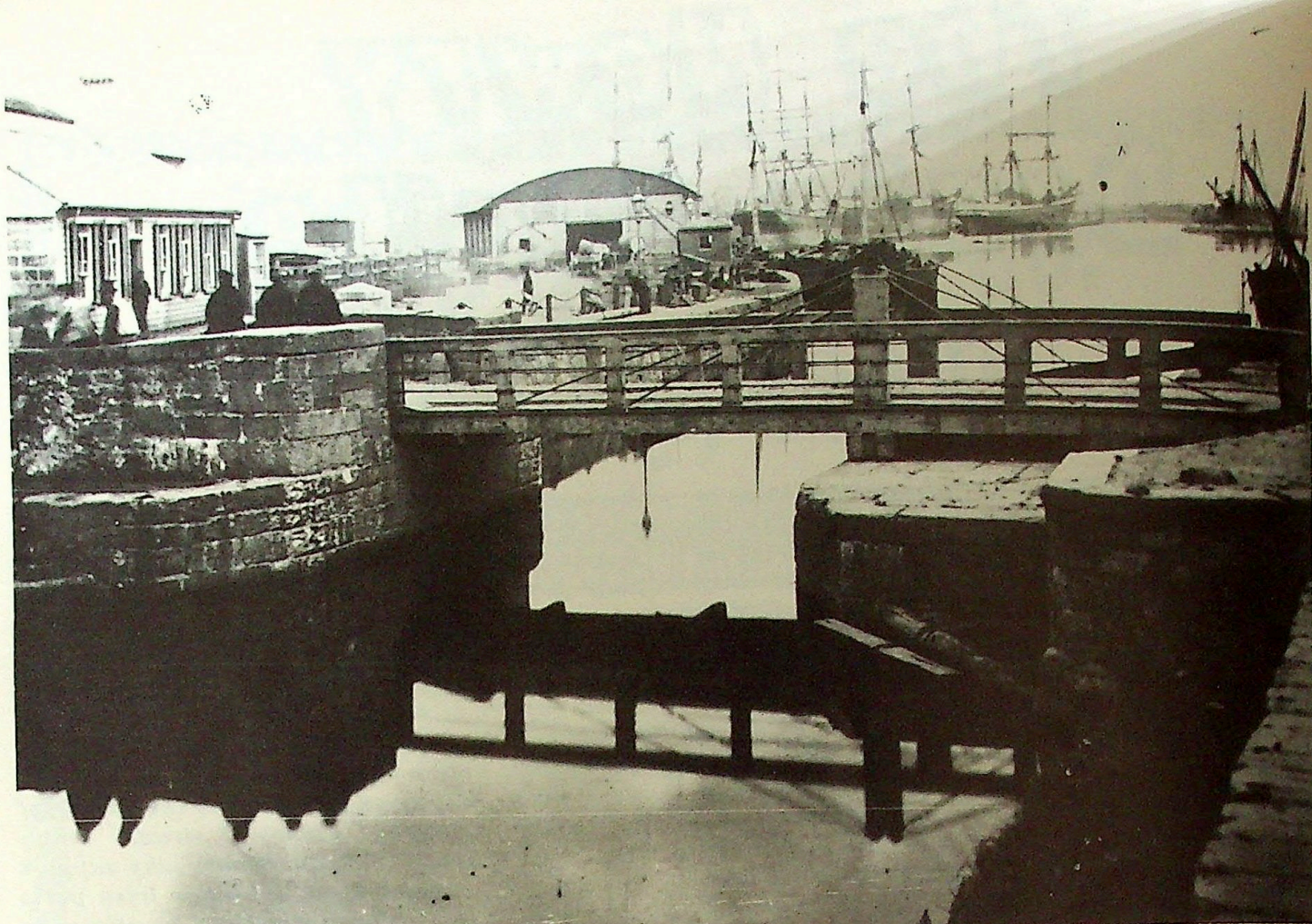
The strike on the Coal Quay in Belfast, where trouble had been endemic since the men had been organised in 1907, was a result of the starting of a rival union to the National Union of Dock Labourers. This organisation - The Belfast Coal Workers' and Carters' Benefit Society - was thought to be inspired by the employers to break the solidarity of the N.U.D.L.. The Union had managed to keep sectarianism in check during the four months of the wider and bigger struggle of the cross-channel dockers and carters, despite the most strenuous efforts of the employers and all the reactionary elements in Belfast. It even survived a most serious clash on the Falls Road between the military and R.I.C. on the one part and the civilian population on the other. During the conflict a young man and woman were killed and several others were maimed by the military. It was as a result of the arrival of three Belfast coal steamers at the port of Newry and the refusal by Newry dockers to discharge them, that a lock-out was decided upon by all the Newry employers.

It should be recorded, to get the setting in its proper focus, that the Belfast Dockers fought single-handedly throughout the course of their protracted four months' struggle without any physical assistance from the dockers in any other port in Great Britain or Ireland and it is to the credit of the Newry dockers that, apart from a token gesture of support from the Derry dockers, they were the first and only dockers to take sympathetic action with their Belfast colleagues, even though that was subsequent to the ending of the main struggle. Lack of trade union organisation was the main reason why support was not forthcoming from the other Irish ports although the same reason could not be offered in extenuation for the members of the same union and other docker organisations in Great Britain. On James Larkin's arrival in Belfast in early 1907 there was no organisation among the dock labourers in the north of Ireland and it is problematical if there was any organisation amongst these men in any other port in the country. Intermittent organisation there had been in Dublin but at this time it was quiescent if not indeed moribund. Fleeting visits, however, were made during the very few lulls there were during the Belfast strike to start trade union organisation in Derry, Dundalk, Dublin and Newry.

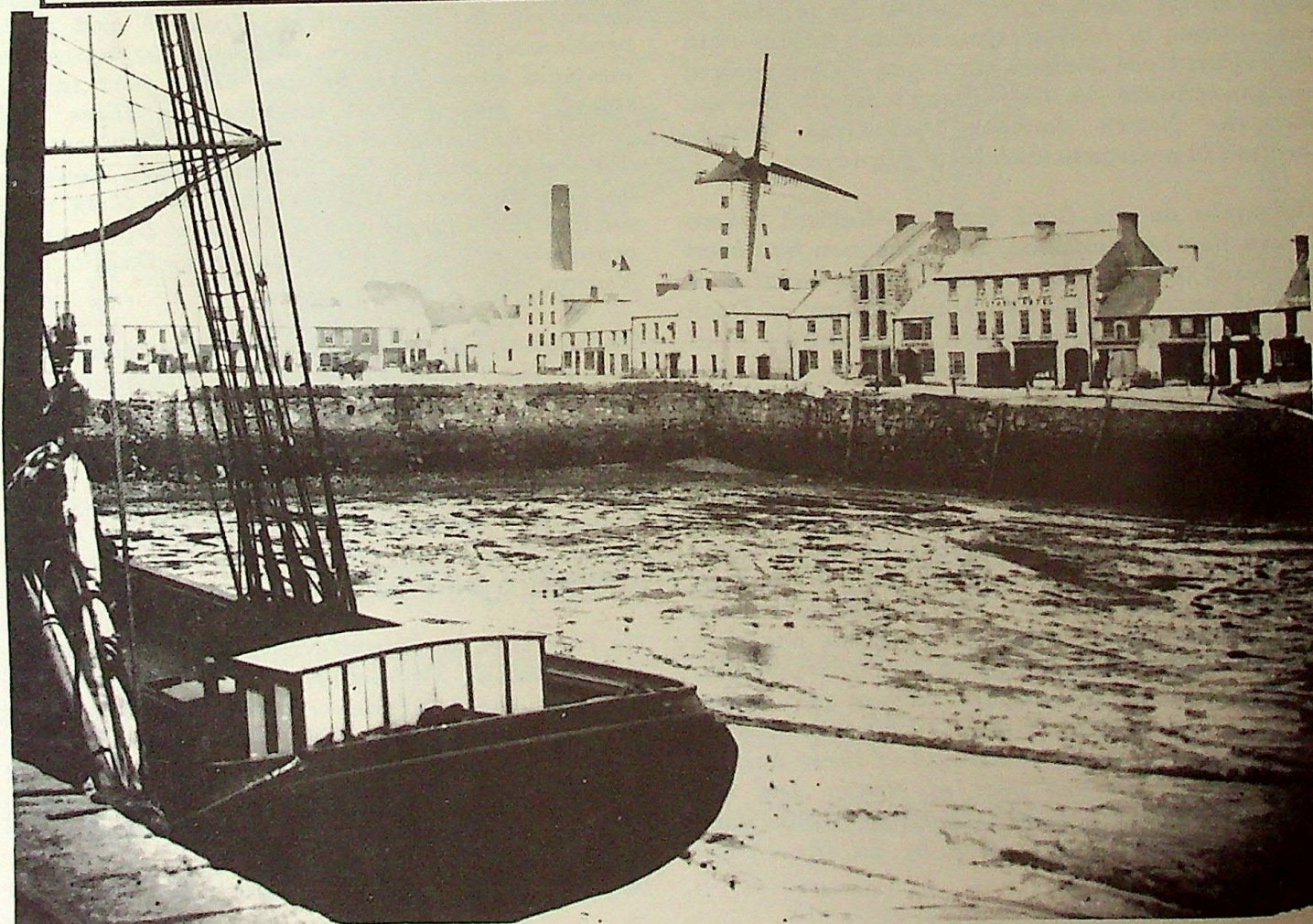
The organising meeting of the Newry dockers was held in the Town Hall on Friday, 27th September, 1907, at which it was decided to form a branch of the N.U.D.L.. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Michael Mc Keown, T.C., Secretary of the Belfast Branch of the union and nationalist City Councillor for Smithfield Ward, Belfast. James Larkin addressed the meeting at which the following resolutions were passed:

(1) That this meeting of Newry Dockers condemn the action of the Government of Ireland for allowing the Lord Mayor of Belfast (The Right Honourable the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.C.V.O.) an interested party, to bring British troops into that city for the purpose of intimidating the workers who were fighting for a living wage, and

(2) extending sympathy to the relatives of the



NEWRY AND WARRENPOINT PORTS



murdered girl (Miss M. Lennon) and youth (Charles Mc Mullan). [The girl and youth referred to were victims of the riots in the Falls district of Belfast having been shot by the military on the evening of Monday Aug. 12th, 1907].

The Belfast Coal Quay dispute which led to the strike of the Newry Dockers occurred on Saturday 26th October when a Mr. Davison, who was one of the Union delegates operating on that portion of the docks, noticed two members of the recently established Benefit Society working on the "S.S. Princess", a ship chartered by the firm of Messrs. Wright Ltd., Queen's Quay. When the firm refused to have the two men removed, the remainder of the Union members left the ship and went on strike. This action was followed by the recruitment of about a dozen members of the new Society to discharge the ship. They did this without incident. It soon became apparent that the members of the new society had infiltrated several other firms including Messrs. John Kelly and Company - the leading coal merchants in the City - and when these companies refused to dismiss them, strike action was taken and some 300 men ceased work.

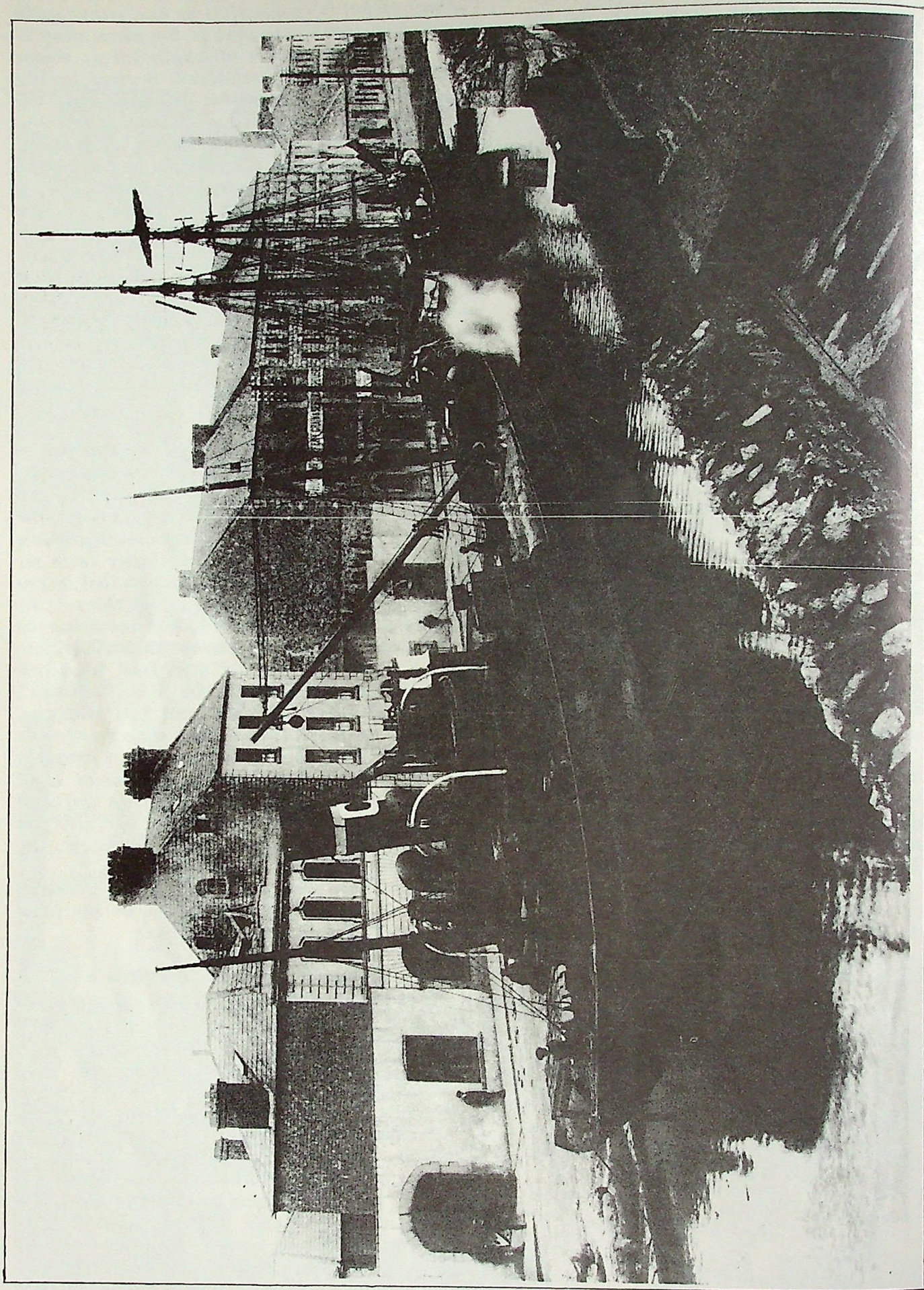
Meanwhile, locally, James "Round-the-Ring" Fearon had been appointed secretary of the Newry Branch of the N.U.D.L. and two months after the founding of the Newry Branch, a Dundalk Branch was set up on 28 November, 1907. Militancy being the key-note of trade union organisation at that juncture, it was not long before the newly organised Newry Branch got into its stride. On Wednesday 20th Nov. sympathetic action was decided upon by the Newry dockers to assist the Coal Quay workers in Belfast whom we have seen were on strike against the establishment of a new union on the coal quays in Belfast. On this date there arrived three steamers laden with coal, the "Helen T. Craig", the "Helen" and the "Seapark". These ships were stated to be Belfast owned and en route to Newry and had earlier called to the ports of Drogheda and Dundalk where the dockers had refused to unload them.



Having lain in Newry port for a number of days with fires out, closely watched by a strong and vigilant picket to ensure that no one, either local or stranger, would succumb to the temptation to start work, these vessels at length got up steam and left the port undischarged. Several locally owned ships were meantime discharged as the strike at that stage was directed against the Belfast Shipowners only. This action on the part of the men was, however, resented by the Newry Coal Importers who looked upon it as unwarrantable interference with their business which they made clear they did not intend to tolerate, least of all a strike which had its origin in another port. They intimated their intention that if this course of action was persisted in, they would transfer the discharge of their steamers to the adjacent port of Warrenpoint which was privately owned by Captain Hall of Narrowwater and where there was no trade union organisation.

To prepare for the eventuality of the transfer of all Newry shipping to Warrenpoint for discharge, the Union leaders attempted to counter this move by organising the dockers of Warrenpoint. A joint meeting of the Newry and Warrenpoint dockers was addressed by Larkin at the latter town on Saturday evening, Nov. 30th, and resulted in the organisation of some of the men there. In consequence of the dismissal of a crane-driver at Warrenpoint on the Monday following this meeting, a strike was declared and all work suspended on a large ship, the "S.S. Dalriada", owned by Messrs. Robinson and Co., Glasgow, which had arrived that day with a cargo of coals for the Great Northern Railway Co. in Armagh. Attempts were made to recruit sufficient local non-union labour to discharge this ship and with the inducement of a bounty of £1 per man in addition to the ordinary rate for discharge, the attempt would have succeeded but for the vigilance of a strong picket whose presence placed an intimidatory pressure on the local men who quickly departed the scene.

The situation did not remain static as a police-force fifty strong was drafted into Warrenpoint from Bangor, Comber, Donaghadee, Gilford, Newry and Rostrevor under the command of D.I. Irwin of Newry and were placed on duty immediately to guard the approaches to the docks. This was in preparation for the arrival of 35 blacklegs from Belfast recruited by the Shipping Federation. The Newry N.U.D.L. members had been informed by telegram from Belfast of just such a ploy by the employers and had taken all available striking dockers from Newry by train in order to augment the Warrenpoint picket. The imported blacklegs plus a few local men, did, however, under this formidable police protection, breach the strongly reinforced picket line and to the accompaniment of the derisive cheers of the large crowd of



spectators and strikers commenced the discharge of the vessel.

Secretary Fearon who claimed the right under the recently passed Trade Disputes Act, 1906, to peacefully persuade the blacklegs to discontinue work, was permitted by D.I. Irwin to approach them and have a conversation with them. He succeeded in inducing a crane-man and five others to cease work and join the strikers.

Other ships, including the "S.S.Olive" belonging to Messrs. Joseph Fisher and Sons, Newry, arrived at the 'Point' but the blackleg staff themselves, much less efficient than the men they replaced, were further handicapped by having a motor mechanic as crane-driver, and although they had the assistance of a few local men who had succeeded in running the gauntlet of the picket line, still they were incapable of dealing with more than one ship at a time. Things were made so difficult for the blacklegs that food and accommodation could not be provided for them in the town and in consequence beds were erected on a large shed on the docks and male cooks were engaged to prepare their meals.

Warrenpoint, normally a quiet seaside resort at this time of year, was shaken out of its winter recess while scenes reminiscent of those enacted in Belfast during the preceding months now characterised the proceedings there. Relations between the workers and their employers in Newry and Warrenpoint, usually unstrained, had so deteriorated to the point of bitterness that Mr. George Allen, Manager of Messrs. Fisher and Sons, was threatened. The threats just fell short of physical violence.

The struggle now being waged on two waterfronts shifted again to Newry. The majority of men working in Newry Gasworks had joined the N.U.D.L. (even though the union, by its constitution could only accept dock labourers as members). On the afternoon of Tuesday 10th December, Mr. Fearon the Secretary, accompanied by several of the Gaswork's employees, appeared at the works and informed the Manager that they had come to give verbal notice that the men belonging to the Union would cease work in a week's time. Mr. Brooke Gibson, the Manager, replied that he would not accept verbal notice, that the time to give notice was on Friday evening after the men had been paid. He added that if Mr. Fearon thought that he was entitled to give any notice he, the Manager, would take a written notice and submit it to the Gas Committee of the Urban Council.

Mr. Fearon having left, returned at 5.30 p.m. when the evening shift was due to start and attempted to persuade the men to stop work. In this he failed as the men, alive presumably to the consequences of a sudden stoppage of work to the

plant and to the town, resisted this advice. The Secretary then entered the yard accompanied by some of the men but the Manager drew his attention to the noticeboard prohibiting anyone, save those with business there, to be on the premises. Fearon left the premises and conducted a meeting from the canal wall. He reminded the men that they were underpaid; that wages generally would need to be increased and Stokers in particular be paid 30/- per week as in England against the prevailing rates of leading stoker 27/- per week, assistant stoker 23/- per week, fitters £1 per week, lamp-lighters 17/- per week and labourers 15/- per week. The sequel to the meeting was the delivery once more of a verbal notice to the Manager that the men would cease to work in a week's time. Wiser counsel, however, prevailed in this instance as there is no evidence of a strike having materialised as a result of the notice tendered.

The port of Newry, having been paralysed for some three weeks, saw the transfer of all shipping intended for Newry to Warrenpoint where the Shipping Federation blacklegs continued to discharge all ships - but very slowly it was reported. The repercussions of the strike became widespread affecting adversely many interests outside those of the protagonists. Notices had been posted in several of the local mills to the effect that short-time would be worked owing to the shortage of coal supplies. The Newry Port and Harbour Trust, deprived of its entire revenue because of the strike, was seriously perturbed at its continuance without any signs of the deadlock being broken. In an effort to resolve the dispute, it appointed Mr. Irwin and Mr. Loughran, Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, together with Mr. Mc Cann, Chairman of the Urban Council, as a "committee of intervention." Others, however, were actuated by the same motive and unofficial consultations were constantly taking place as to the respective attitude of each side. The deputation appointed by the Newry Port and Harbour Trust being apprised of this decided that intervention by them at this stage was unnecessary.

Rumours multiplied on rumours. It was stated that the views of the men had undergone some change, that the original issue in the strike, the refusal to discharge Belfast owned ships, no longer held. Instead it was suggested, that if the merchants agreed to the abolition of the position of Stevedore and appointed one who was described as an "Independent Person" to act as foreman, there would be a fairer distribution of the available work and all would be well. Moreover, it was reported that Mr. Terence Ruddy had an interview with two of the leading coal merchants, Messrs. F. Fisher and F. Ferris, at which he was informed that it was their intention to deliver an ultimatum to the men to return to work unconditionally within 24 hours or they



Pic. 1e Newry Museum

would be forced to apply to the Shipping Federation for men to discharge their ships in Newry and likewise request the military authorities to draft into the port four companies of infantry for the protection of those replacing the Newry strikers. Rumour also had it that at least half of the strikers were willing to return to work on the old terms but they dare not.

On Wednesday evening 11th December, the town was agog with excitement as it was learned that Mr. James Larkin would address a meeting that evening in Margaret Square. Some 1,500 people had assembled but up to 9.00p.m. the speaker had not put in an appearance. It became known subsequently that the Most Rev. Dr. O'Neill, Catholic Bishop of Dromore, had suggested that in view of the efforts being made to bring the dispute to an end it would be fatal to the chances of peace

to hold a meeting that evening as such a meeting would be calculated to further embitter feeling between the parties. It was presumed, in the absence of any explanation from the Union as to why the meeting was not held, that this was the cause of its abandonment.

Various attempts to effect a settlement floundered and their failure cast a veil of gloom over Newry. The situation was not allowed to harden however, as intervention by Bishop O'Neill followed quickly and resulted in an agreement being effected. A conference which took place in the Town Hall on Thursday 12th December was attended by a number of representative citizens as well as representatives of the men and the merchants and at 8.00 p.m. that evening it was announced that agreement had been reached. The following terms were agreed to :

1. The merchants employ at their own expense a responsible person who shall engage and have charge of the men without any interference whatsoever.

2. Men shall be engaged regardless of religion, political beliefs or union membership.

3. Members of trade unions agree that they will not display any button or emblem whilst at work.

4. The men will discharge any boats brought in by the merchants.

5. The merchants are to use their good offices to settle the docks dispute in Warrenpoint.

6. The men are to return to work forthwith.

7. A conciliation board be established consisting of two representatives of the Newry dock labourers and two representatives of the employers.. If this board cannot amicably settle disputes then an arbitrator is to be appointed

whose decision is to be final and during whose investigation the men are to continue to work.

8. Four weeks notice of future strikes or lock-outs must be given.

9. The terms of the agreement are absolutely binding for twelve months.

The settlement document was signed on behalf of the men by : B.Mc Ateer; P.Doyle; P.Bannon X; B. Mc Evoy; Patrick Mc Loughlin X; Arthur Meehan; Owen Cunningham X; James Mc Shane; Patrick Connolly; John Green; P. Woods; P. Carroll; A. Mc Loughlin; John Murray X; Owen McAnuff X; Robert Duffy; John McAteer and Patrick Burns.

Frank Fisher and Fred Ferris signed on behalf of the shipowners and merchants.

The witnesses were : Henry Loughran, J.P.; Thomas Irwin, Chairman of the Harbour Trust; James Hughes; J.J. McAnerney, J.P.; John Mackin; Terence Ruddy; John Fisher, Solicitor and Alex Fisher, Solicitor.

The settlement of the dispute came as a great relief to the people of the town, particularly to the wives and families of the dockers who were without income during its currency, as financial support was not forthcoming from the headquarters of the Union in Liverpool. This consideration, as well as others, should be kept in mind by anyone who would be over-critical at what appears to be a very one-sided agreement between employers and men. The men were unskilled in negotiations and with pressure from the Bishop and various public representatives on them to reach agreement, the men too hastily accepted the agreement.

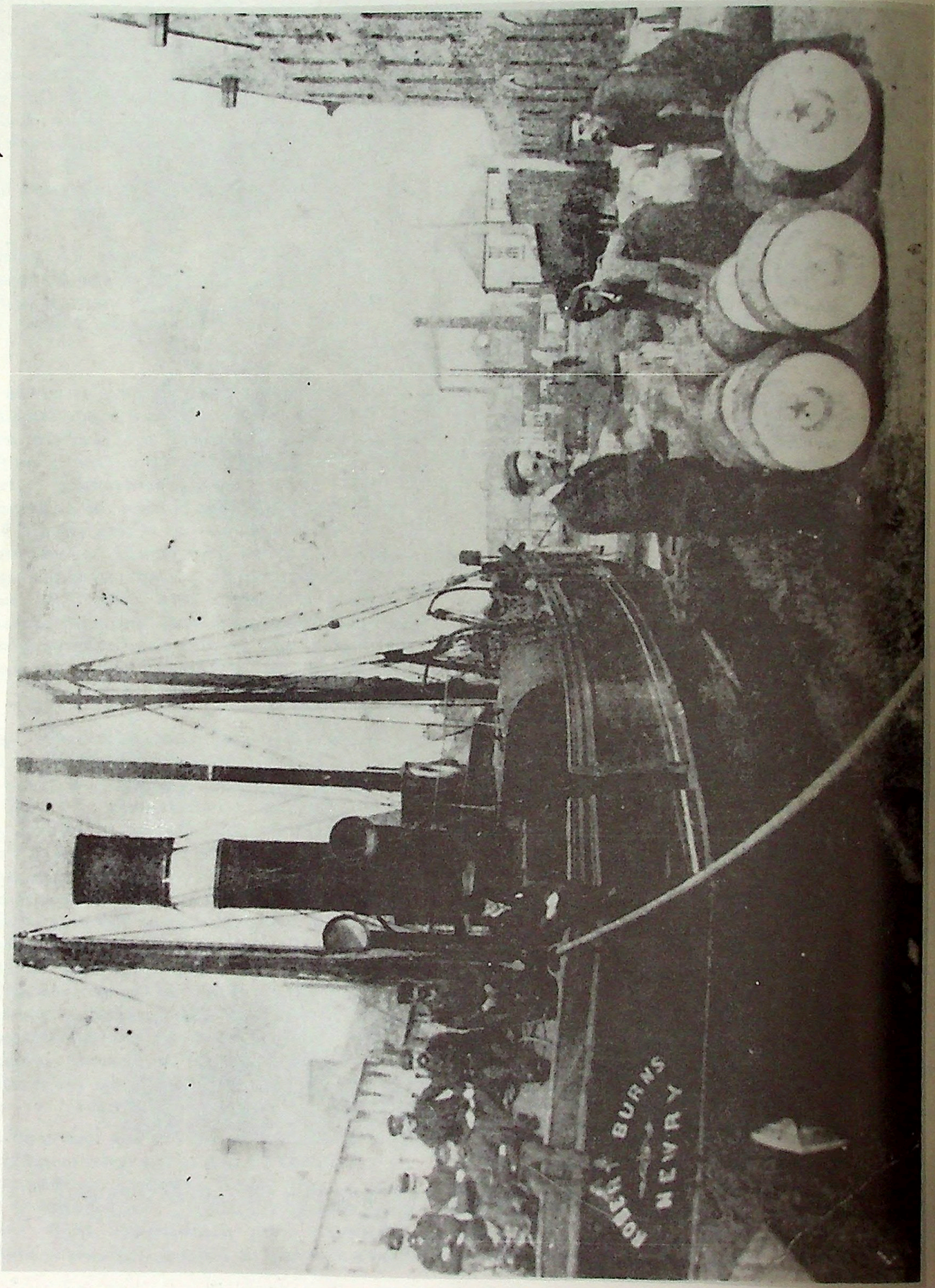
The general satisfaction which the agreement provoked was, however, short-lived, as two days later, on the 14th December, a fresh dispute occurred, the circumstances of which were as follows. During the dispute in Newry, the "S.S. Retriever", the property of the Newry Provincial Coal Company, arrived in Warrenpoint with a cargo of 500 tons of coal. The non-trade-unionists there had discharged some 300 tons of this cargo when the dispute in Newry ended whereupon it was decided to bring this ship to Newry to complete the discharge of the remaining 200 tons. The men, contrary to the provision of the recently concluded agreement - to refer all disputes to the conciliation board for settlement - decided that they would not work this ship unless they were paid for the full cargo of 500 tons.

This action on the part of the men was regarded as a flagrant breach of the agreement by Newry's coal, grain and timber merchants. They immediately retaliated by banning Union labourers from discharging their ships. The men's decision is, indeed, difficult to understand.

NEWRY C. 1900.

(Note the chimney on back right of Newry Salt
Pans)

**PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY
OF HUGH MC KEOWN**



A possible explanation is that local secretary of the Union, James Fearon, who had been ignored by both sides in the drawing up of the agreement, was so infuriated with the conditions of the agreement that the union men decided upon further action to show their loyalty to the union and its officers. Fearon was a charismatic leader and could easily have inspired the union members to break the agreement.

The employers, anxious to sap the will of the dockers, now further broke the agreement and appointed Stevedores in place of the "independent person" who had been preferred by the dockers. Things were looking up for the employers. At Warrenpoint, fourteen striking dockers had returned to work without the reinstatement of the crane-driver whose dismissal was the original cause of the dispute. Poverty forced these men back to work. In Newry, a School Attendance Officer reported that striking dockers' children were in a state of dire need. The Board of Guardians had refused outdoor relief as they maintained that the

dockers' hardship was self-imposed.

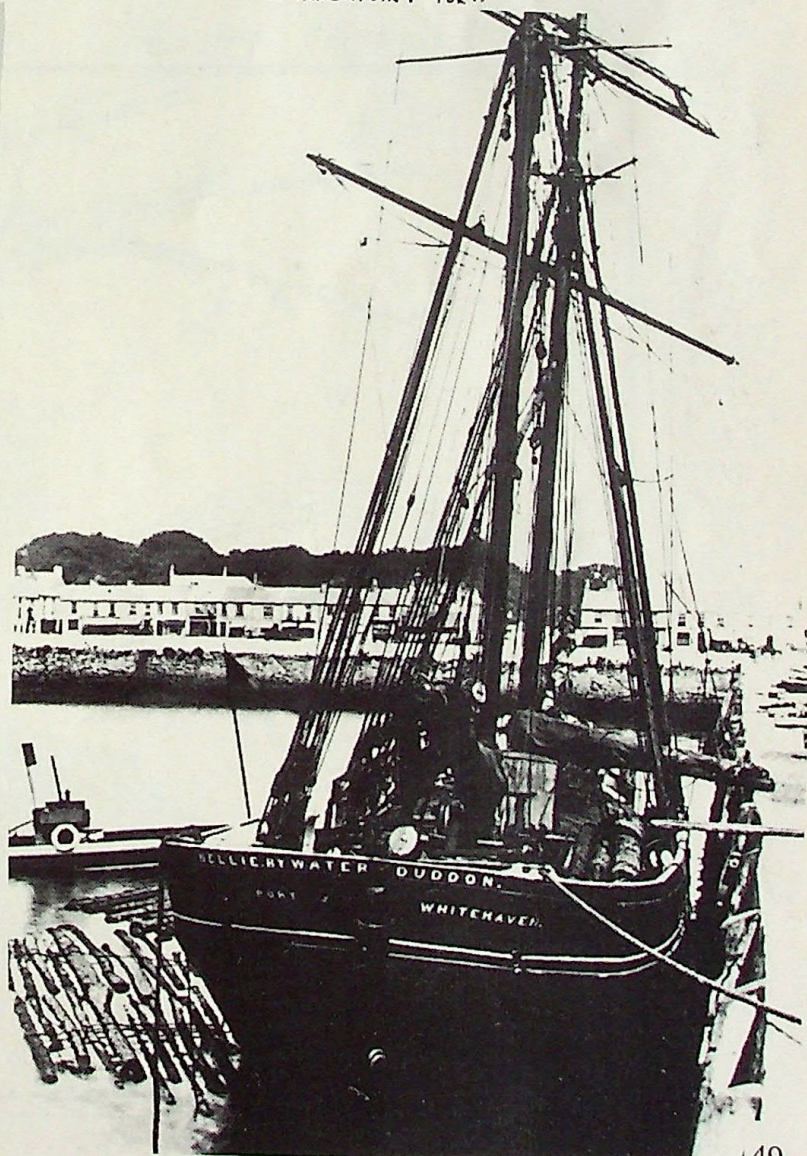
The deadlock in the conflict continued. Attempts by Fr. McGrath, James Larkin and even the Dundalk Harbour Board failed to move the Newry employers. Christmas passed with no easing of the plight of the dockers. The will to continue motivated some of the dockers but increasing numbers of them saw their families suffering immense hardships. A steady flow of striking dockers now approached the employers and sought their positions back. The employers insisted on non-union labour - and they got it. On the 29th December the "S.S. Slatemore" arrived with a cargo of coals for the gasworks and was discharged by a stevedore Maguire and his men. Next day, spokesmen for three of the leading firms, Fishers, Newry and Provincial Coal Co. and Sands, stated that 34 men, 21 men and 13 men respectively had signed agreements to return to work as non trade-unionists. A spokesman for Sands added: "I do not believe there will be a single one outside now." He was right.

Article supplied by Mr. James Mc Keyitt from an oral account given by his uncle, the late Paddy Mc Keyitt. Paddy Mc Keyitt was a life-long docker.

BISHOP O'NEILL.



WARRENPOINT PORT.



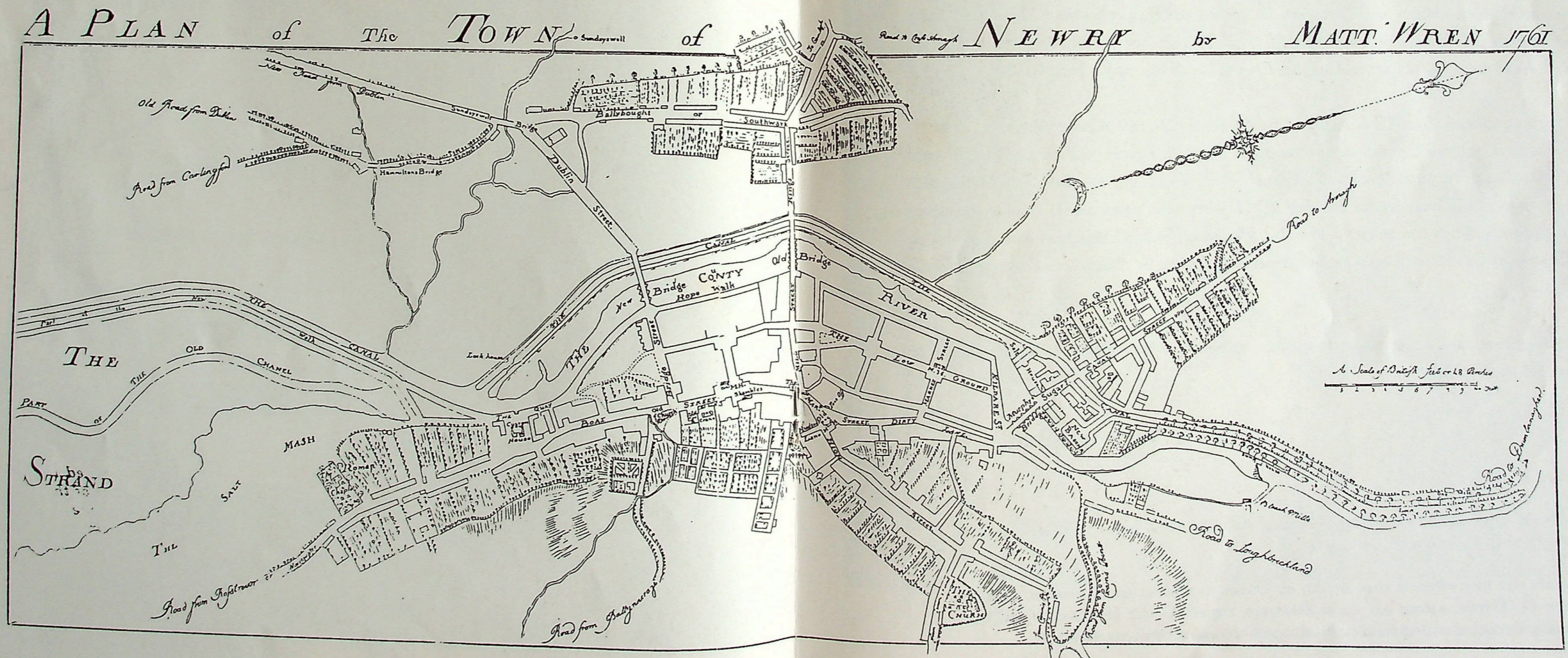
LÉARSCÁIL BAILE IÚR CHINN TRÁ (le Matthew Wren) 1761.

Is díol suime an léarscáil seo do mhuintir an lúir agus don saol fódhla, féadaim a rá, mar tugann sé léiriú iontach ar na hachairthe a tháinig ar an bhaile le breis agus dhá chéad bliain. Tá áiteanna agus ainmneacha (uaite nár chuala domús mhuintir an lúir fa' dtaobh daopa.

Má amharcaimid ar an taobh theas den abhainn agus den chanal, ar chlé, tá an Bóthar Nua ó Áth Cliath, agus, ag a dhun, tá Droichead Tobar an Domhnaigh (Sunday's Well Bridge). Tá an Seanbóthar ó Áth Cliath mar a bhfuil Drumalane ann anois, agus an Bóthar ó Chairlinn. Tá Droichead Hamilton cóngarach do láthair teach John Mitchel. Thuas ar chúl an Ghleanna (mar atá sé anois ann) tá Tobar an Domhnaigh marcáilte. Tá Baile Bocht (Ballybought) nó Southwark ag síneadh ó dhun bóthar Áth Cliath anois go Sráid Phroinsias - King Street ar an léarscáil. Téann an Bóthar go Camloch (Camlogh) suas Sráid na hAithe (Kiln Street) anois, agus bóthar uaidh sin a bhfuil Road to Cross Armagh breacaithe air.

Ar dheis na léarscála, taobh theas den abhainn, tá Sráid an Chanail agus an Bóthar go hArdmhacha. Sa limistéir seo tá Oilcán an tSiúcra, Teach an tSalainn (Salt House) mar a bhfuil Halla na hEigse (Arts Centre) ann anois. Níl droichead thar an chanal ag Oilcán an tSiúcra, ach tá Droichead Uí Mhurchú (Murphy's Bridge)* thar an abhainn - ionad Halla an Bhaile anois. Tá Duga Nua (New Bason I) ar dheis ón droichead seo. Amach feadh an Chanail tá Teach Umar Ola (Sump House) ar a dhruach agus Loc (Lock) ar an dhealach go Droim Beanchair - áit chónaí Teaghlach an Choirnéal Close. Cóngarach don Sump House, idir an Canal agus an Bóthar go Loch Bricreann (Loughbrickland) tá muilte tuartha (Bleach Mills).

Ag filleadh ar lár an bhaile ar an taobh thuaidh den abhainn arís, feicimid an Bóthar ó Crown's Point. An féidir gur Crown Mount atá i gceist, ar an Bóthar go Rath Fraolainn? Níl de ainm ar Shráid na Cille (Church Street anois) ach ó Crown's Point. Tá Teampall Phádraig (The Church) breacaithe anseo. Ag dul ar ais go dtí an tSráid ard (High Street) tá Lána Hudson san áit a raibh Market Street, tráth den tsaol. Tá an Sean Mhargadh (Old M.h. - 'sé sin Market House) ann. Bhí iarsmaí den tseantí sin ann seasca bliain ó shin. Ag triall ó thuaidh arís i dtreo Sráid Chilldara (Kildare St. ar an léarscáil), tá an Lána Salach (Dirty Lane) - North Street a bhí go dtí go dtáinig an Oe dhealach (Dual Carriageway). Tá 'An Caisleán' ar



choirnéal Sráid an Mhuilinn (Upper Mill St.) agus Sráid na mBád (Boat Street). Níl Castle Street mar ainm ar an chuid seo den tsráid. Tá Oifig an Phoist (Post Office) ar an lárthair seo - ceann Sráid Thuaidh. Ar aghaidh linn go Cearnóg na Mainistreach (Abbey Yard) - nach bhfuil luaite - feicimid foirgneamh a bhfuil M.h. (Market House) ceangáilte leis, cóngarach don áit a raibh seanhalla N. Cholmáin caoga bliain ó shin. Ar an taobh eile den tsráid tá Seamhas (Shamoles) - áit marfa callaigh. Tugtar Boat Street ar an tsráid ó dharr Sráid an Mhuilinn Uacht. go dtí Teach an Chustaim (Clochar na Trócaire). Óe réir cosúlachta tháinig an t-ainm Castle Street níos moille. Cén áit í seo a bhfuil "Crane" mar ainm air? Tá sé gar don áit a bhfuil sean teach cónaithe na mBráithre - Town House Dempster an Mhuilinn. Díreach ag Abbey Yard tá an tSean Eaglais (Old Church). Bhfuil cuimhne nó tuairisc ar bith ar an eaglais seo? San áit seo sna meán aoiscanna dhí Mainistir na Sistéirsinéach. An bhfuil baint ag an Old Church leis an tseán mhainistir? Tig Bóthar ó Bhaile na Creige (Road from Ballynacrage) anuas ag an lárthair seo.

Thíos ó Theach an Chustaim tá An Ce (The Quay) agus trasna na haóhann tá Lock House ar an chanal. Ar aghaidh príid Sráid an tSeipéil mar atá sí ann anois, ar thaobh na láimhe deise idir an tsráid seo agus An Riasc Salainn (The Salt Marsh) tá an Seipéal Rómhánach (The Roman Chapel). Seo an sean seipéal a dhí ann roimh Seipéal N. Muire a tógadh i 1789. Óe réir na léarscála tig an Bóthar ó Chaisleán Ruairí nó ón Chaol Uisce (Road from Rostrevor or Narrowwater) ar an talamh ard. Thíos idir an bóthar seo agus an aóhainn níl ach an Riasc Salainn agus an Trá (Strand). Ag sní príid an Trá tá Cuid den tSeanchainéal (Part of the Old Channel). Ar dhruach na haóhann tá Cuid den Chasan Nua (Part of the New Walk).

Níl de ainm ar aóhainn Gleann Rí (Clanrye) ach Aóhainn an Chondae (County River). Tugtar An Talamh Íscal (The Low Ground) ar an tsráid idir Sráid Uí Aghainn (O'Hagan Street) agus Sráid Chill Dara. An áit a bhfuil Margaret Street anois ann dhí Sráid an Mhargaidh (Market Street). Tá cearnóg ina lár agus M.h. i litreacha móra air. Is cuimhin le daoine Aonach Fostóidh dheich ann blianta ó shin. Níl Droichead Sráid Monacháin ann, agus idir an Sean Droichead, Soho Bridge, agus an Droichead Nua, Bridge St. Bridge, tá Casan an tSúgáin (Rope Walk).

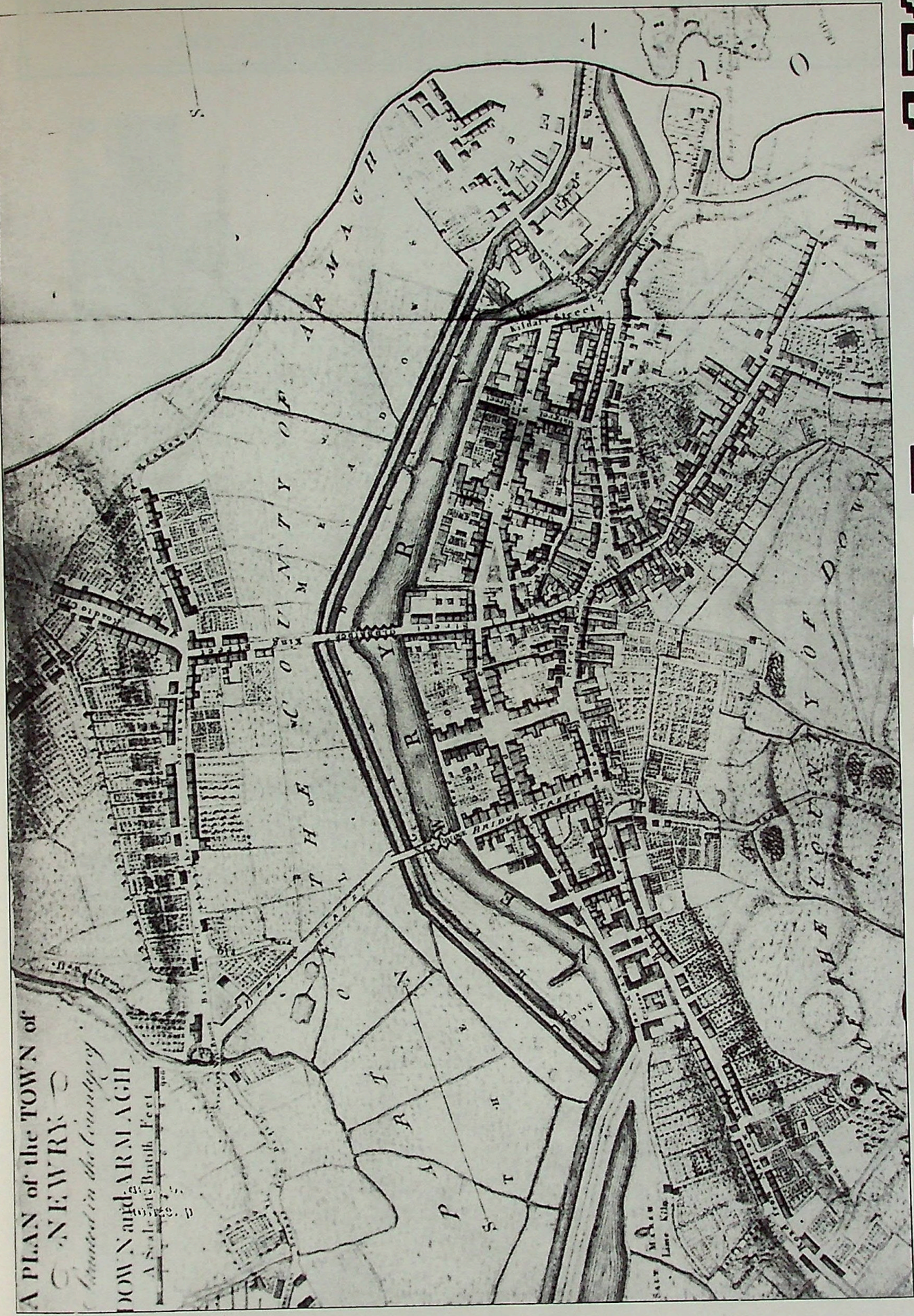
B'fhíú don scoláire tamall a chaitheamh ag fiosrú na n-athraithe a tháinig ar logainmneacha an luir idir 1761 agus 1990.

Tomás Mac Árdghail.

* AGÚISÍN

* I Bradshaw's General Directory of Newry, Armagh, 1820, tá an méid seo leanas fá Dhroichead Uí Mhurchú: -

Leagadh clár mór adhmaid thar an áth ag Oilcán an tSiúcra do na coisithe. Fear dar sloinne Ó Murchú a rinne seo. Ar an ábhar seo, tugadh "Maide Uí Mhurchú" (Mudda Murphy Bridge) ar an droichead cloch ar tógadh thar an aóhainn ina dhiaidh sin.



An t-Iúr ag athrú. Two photos taken by Noel Sloan. The top one depicts the old houses in Dominic Street and the bottom one shows the dismantling of the chimney behind Dominic Street.



GRIANGHRAF LE LIAM BLAIR



A photograph of the archway which used to exist at the entrance to Nicholson's Court.(Liam Blair works on the local magazine "BRASS TACKS").

RINN MHC GIOLLA

RUA MAR IONAD

SAOIRE

Is beag duine ó cheantar s'againne nar chaith tréimhse ar a sháimhín só i Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua. Bhí an tráth ann, b'fhéidir go dtí fiche bliain ó shin fiú, agus bhíodh an trá plódaithe le snámhóirí, le fir raice agus le daoine ag déanamh bolg le gréin. Ach druideadh port an Iúir agus tháinig na bádaí móra ar ais chuig cuan an Phointe agus thug siad leofa, monuar, truailliú na farraige. Ní bheadh ach corr dhuine sásta dhul ag snámh ansin sa lá atá inniu ann de thairbhe scim ola ina luí go brocach ar chraiceann na farraige. Sin ráite, agus an trá mhurógach chaidheach san áireamh, is dócha nach bhfuil ionad saoire in aon chearn cosúil le Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua i gcónaí. Bíonn an cuairteoir meallta ag rogha na ndioscóanna, bialanna 7rl. atá breactha fríd an bhaile.

I bhfoirceann na 18ú aois ní raibh ach leathdosaen tithe cois trá agus bhíodh cónaí ag iascairí iontu. Cad é a tharla mar sin gur leathnaigh clú na háite chomh fairsingeach mar spota saoire agus gur mhéadaigh thar cuimse líon na dturasóirí? Bhí aeráid shéimh i dtólamh ar an Rinn - nach bhfuil crainn pailme agus plándaí a gineadh sa teochrios le feiscint ag fás ansin go fóill? Thaitin an aimsir chineálta seo go speisialta le seandaoine agus le daoine breoite. Mhóthaigh comhlachtaí móra go raibh gealladh faoin áit agus fiú sular leagadh na hiarnróid chuig Caisleán Nua, nó Portrush, nó Beannchar, bhí seirbhís iarnróid ag feidhmiú go dtí Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua. Go deimhin, bhí tionchar nach beag ag comhlachtaí mar N.W.R.R. (Newry, Warrenpoint and Rostrevor Railway) ar dhuí chun cinn an limistéir go coitianta. Osclaíodh an N.W.R.R. ar an 9ú lá Bealtaine 1849 agus mhair sé go dtí an 1ú lá Iúil, 1886, nuair a ghlac an G.N.R. (Ireland) seilbh ar an comhlacht.

Roimh ré na ngalbhádaí bhí na bádaí seoil ag imeacht leofa ó chuan na Rinne agus aghaidh acu ar an Oileán Úr. De dheasca doinínne bhíodh ar taistealaithe go rialta seal a chaitheamh ar dídean ar an Rinn. Chuaigh na céadta saighdiúirí ó chuan na Rinne fosta chun dul i ngleic le Napoleon. Ba ghnách leo a bheith ag druileáil i gcearnóg an bhaile agus iad ag feitheamh ar na bádaí.

Ó thaobh cúrsaí geilleagair de, maíodh faoi Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua i gclár tíreolaíochta a cuireadh amach sa bhliain 1831:

"Here is also a large distillery, and the fishing is a very important avocation. A fair is held on the last Friday of each month. Population in 1831, 1856."

Tá le léamh i dtreoirleabhar eile "Handbook for Newry, Warrenpoint, Rostrevor, Kilkeel, Carlingford, Omeath" eisirthe ag Edward Wyley, an t-Iúr, 1868, go raibh méadú tagtha ar an daonra agus go raibh timpeall 2,000 duine ina gcónaí ar an Rinn sa bhliain áirithe sin. Bhí cearnóg an bhaile ar aon dul le Cearnóg Mhaighréad in Iúr Chinn Trá ag an am as siocair lampa mór gáis a bheith i lár baire:

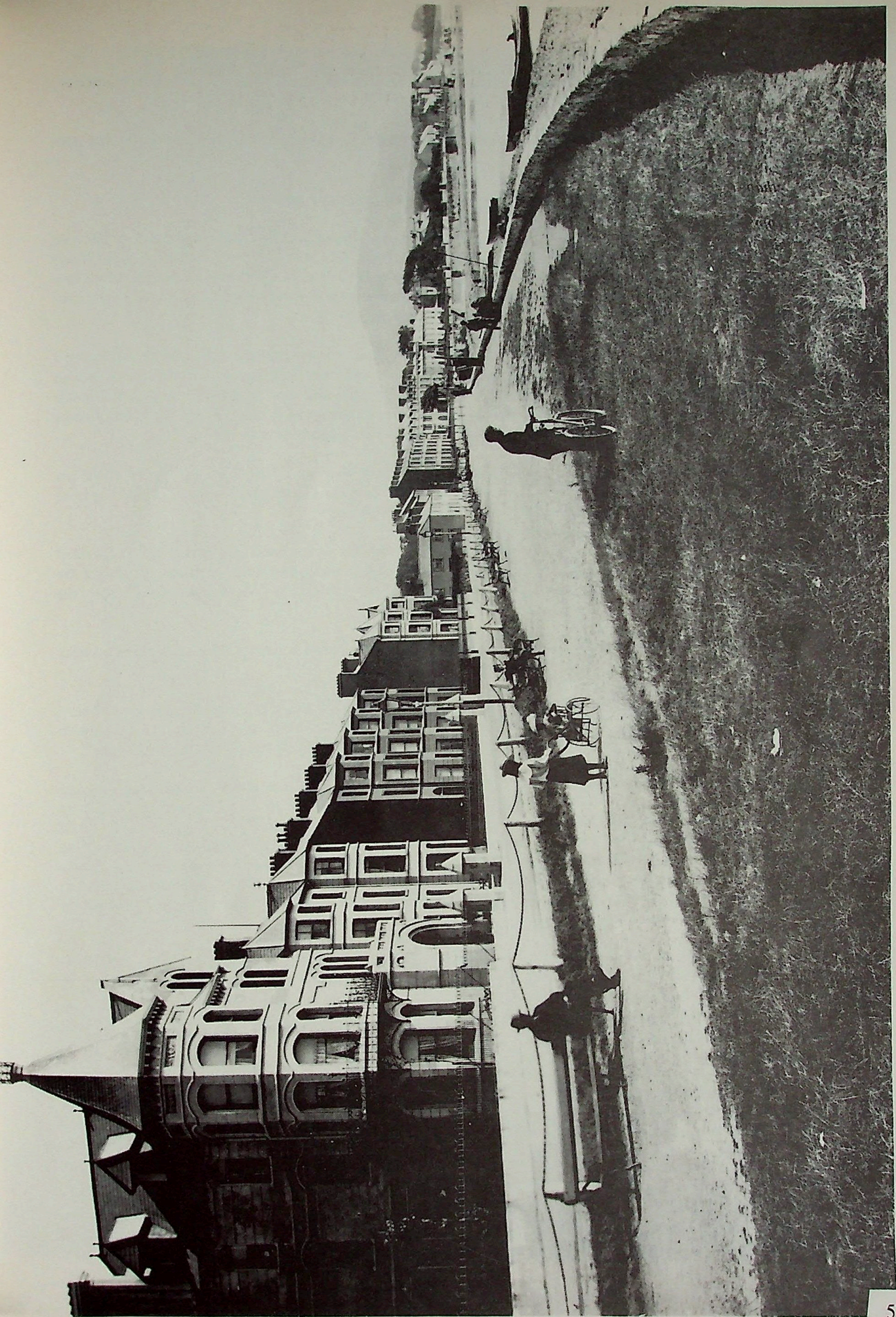
"In the centre of the square there is a huge lamp beneath which is a strong pump, which provides pure water for the general use of Warrenpoint."

Ag tabhairt fostaíochta do na daoine ag an tréimhse seo bhí monarcha gháis ach an rud aba shuntasáir ar an bhaile ná an muileann gaoithe. Bhí sé seo ina drioglan tamailín roimhe (luaite cheana) agus an tUas. Turner ina úinéir uirthi:

"In the centre of the town there is a very excellent and commodious wind-mill, which is, as we heard a lady express it, 'quite a feature of the neighbourhood' ". ("Handbook for Newry, Warrenpoint, 1868"). Sa treoirleabhar céanna rinneadh iarracht a mhíniú dúinn cén fáth go raibh an oiread ráchairte ag an lucht turasóireachta ar Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua:

"One other consideration is much in its favour and should be of paramount importance, especially to families; the morality of the town is of very high character and the pleasant beach is never haunted by such questionable characters as are often met with at very fashionable watering-places."

Rinne mé trácht cheana go raibh páirt a raibh tábacht mhór leis ag na hiarnróid i ndul chun tosaigh an bhaile. Ach chuidigh na modhanna taistil ar fad le tionscail na turasóireachta a fhorbairt. Tháinig na mílte ar chuairt ó Shasana agus bhí na famairí seo ag bráth ar bádaí, traenacha, tramanna agus níos déanaí ar ghluaisteáin nuair a tháinig ann dóibh. Sa leabhar "Handbook for Travellers in Ireland, 1902" le John Cooke, M.A., bhí mír amháin aige faoin teideal "Conveyances" i Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua:



"Rail to Newry, ferry-boat to Omeath. Steamer to Greenore. Tram to Rostrevor. Norton & Co.'s Cars thrice daily to Newcastle and five times to Kilkeel".

(San achoimre seo dhearmadaigh Cooke a lua na carranna cliathánacha a rith idir Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua agus Caisleán Ruairí).

Seacht mbliana níos déanaí scríobh M.J.B. Baddeley faoi cúrsaí iompair ar an Rinn :

"Warrenpoint is connected with Rostrevor Village and Quay by a Tramway which runs on the side of the road nearest the sea, and takes passengers on from the trains (4d. single, 6d. return); also by motor car (Irish Motor Co.) 3d. The cars for Kilkeel and Newcastle run independently of the tramcars. Cars through to Newcastle about four times a day; to Kilkeel only, six times a day. Fares: - Warrenpoint or Rostrevor to Kilkeel, 1s. 6d.; ret. (same day), 2s. 6d. To Newcastle, 3s. 6d.; ret. 5s. 6d. (season), 5s. (same day)."

Ceann de na buntáistí a bhíodh, is atá, ag Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua, ná gur port atá ann. Bhí na háiseanna i R.M.G.R. le bádaí sách mór a láimhseáil agus bhí spéis ag comhlachtaí i Sasana gnó a dhéanamh leis an calafort. Mar shampla, tá 'fhios againn go raibh seirbhís á reachtáil dhá uair in aghaidh na seachtaine idir Douglas, Oileán Mhanann, agus R.M.G.R. i rith an tsamhraidh sna blianta 1878 agus 1879. Cúig bliana roimhe bhí seirbhís á reachtáil ag an London and North Western Railway idir Holyhead agus R.M.G.R..

Bhí an-suim go deo ag an gnólacht London and North Western Railway i R.M.G.R.. Ag tús an chéid seo foilsíodh "Jones' Illustrated Guide to Warrenpoint, Rostrevor and the Carlingford Lough District" agus tá cuntas ann ar na bádaí pleisiúrtha a bhíodh ag obair ar Loch Chairlinn :

"The London and North Western Railway Company have a steamer which makes daily sailings at specified hours between Greenore, Greencastle, and Warrenpoint, affording a cheap and pleasant means of viewing the beautiful scenery of the mountain-girt Lough. There are also three fine Lough excursion steamers under the capable management of Capt. O'Neill."

(Bhí na táillí ar an truíp seo leis an London and North Western Railway Co. idir scilling agus toistiún , agus leath-choróin).

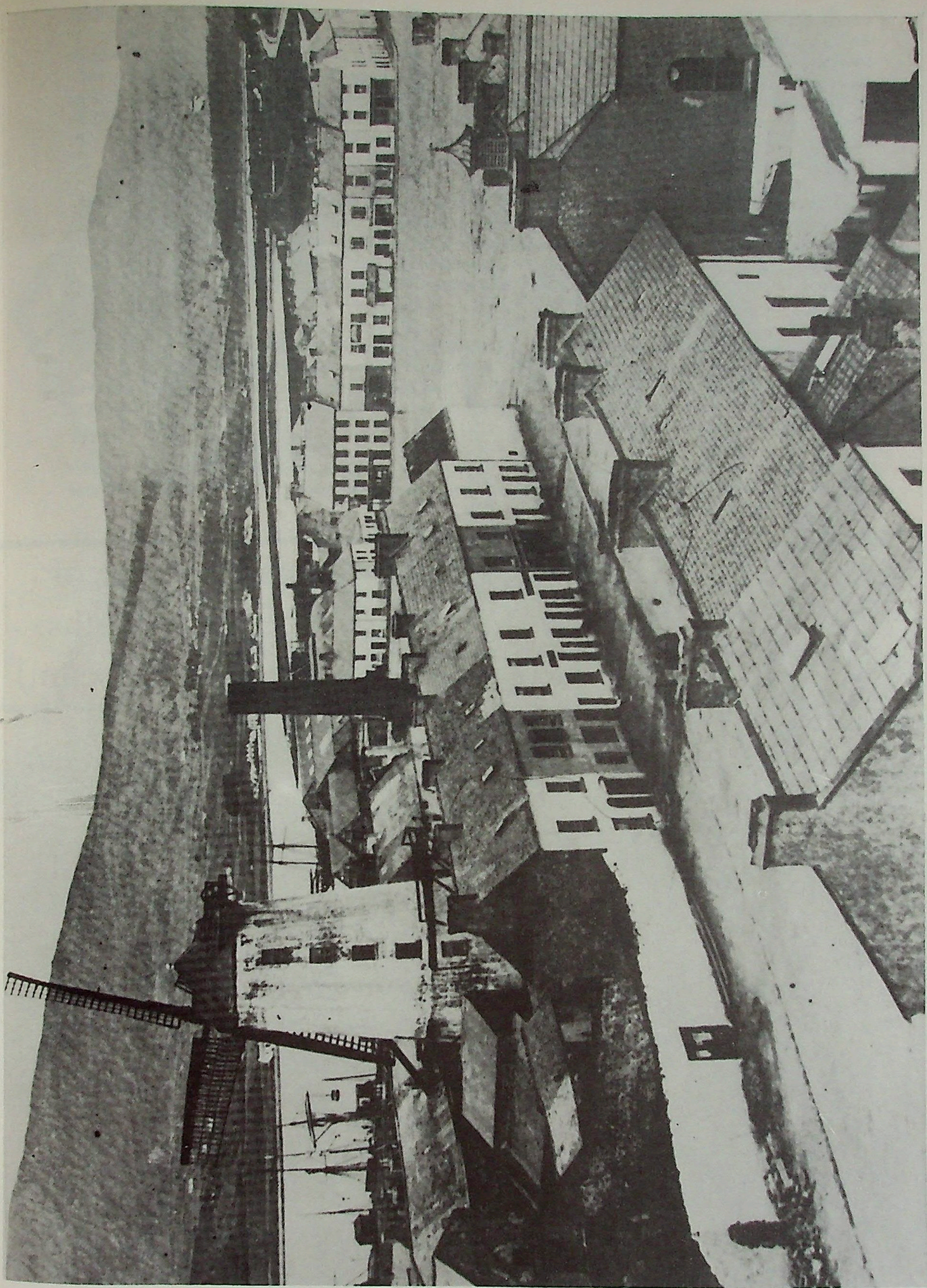
"P.S. Greenore" a ba an ghalbhád throitheáin dheireannach a bhí ag an L.&N.W.R.Co.. Tógadh an bád seo i 1896 agus d'oibir sé ar feadh ceithre bliana is fiche. As Greenore a d'oibir sé agus le linn an tsamhraidh rinneadh dhá thuras achan lá go dtí R.M.G.R.. Sa bhliain 1912 athbhaisteadh an bád mar "P.S. Cloghmore".

Bádaí eile a bhí ag obair ar an loch ná "TSS Pioneer" agus "SS Pilot". Bhí siad araon faoi stiúir ag Pleasure Steamers of Ireland Ltd.. Ba le Henry Barcroft ón Iúr an "Pioneer". Thosaigh an "Pioneer" ag seoladh ag R.M.G.R. sa bhliain 1896 agus mar chruthúnas ar cé chomh tarraingteach is a bhí R.M.G.R. ag an am, thaistéal breis is 13,000 paisinéirí ar an "Pioneer" sa chéad dhá mhí dá réim. Chuaigh an "Pilot" ar thurasanna um thráthnóna agus má bhí an aimsir foirsteanach bhí foireann ceoil ar bord leis na paisinéirí a thionlacan agus a gcoinneáil ar a suaimhneas. Ní gá a rá, ar ndóigh, go raibh an bád farantóireachta ag treabhadh leis idir an Caol Uisge agus Oméith feadh an ama. I 1909 gearradh scilling ar an turas seo - sé phingin an duine má bhí níos mó na beirt ag seoladh le chéile.

Bhí freastal cuimsitheach á dhéanamh ag Great Northern Railways ar R.M.G.R., mar a luaigh mé ó chianaibh. Dúradh go raibh sé doiligh orthu turasoirí a mhealladh chuig R.M.G.R. ó na ceantair "Protastúnacha" sa tuaisceart. Rinneadh neart poiblíochta, ámh, le muintir Bhéal Feirste a tharraingt i dtreo na Rinne agus bhí tairiscintí ar leith a n-ófráil ag an G.N.R.. Tá le léamh sa "Tourist and Excursion Programme, 1898" de chuid G.N.R. (Ireland) :

"A Through Carriage is run during the summer season between Belfast and Warrenpoint by 2.15 p.m. Up Train daily (Sundays excepted), returning by 7.45 a.m. train the following morning to Belfast (Sundays excepted). On each Saturday during the season, a Special Excursion Train runs from Belfast to Warrenpoint at 8.40 a.m., returning from Warrenpoint the same evening. A special fast Express Train runs on Saturdays from Belfast to Wp., at 12.00 noon, returning the same evening.

For the convenience of visitors staying at Wp. for a short time, arrangements have been made for the issue of combined Railway and Hotel Tickets, at reduced fares and Hotel tariff, from a no. of principal Stations in connection with the Great Northern Hotel, Wp., available from Friday to Monday, Saturday to Monday, and for one week; and also in connection with the Mourne, Woodside and Rostrevor Hotels, Rostrevor."



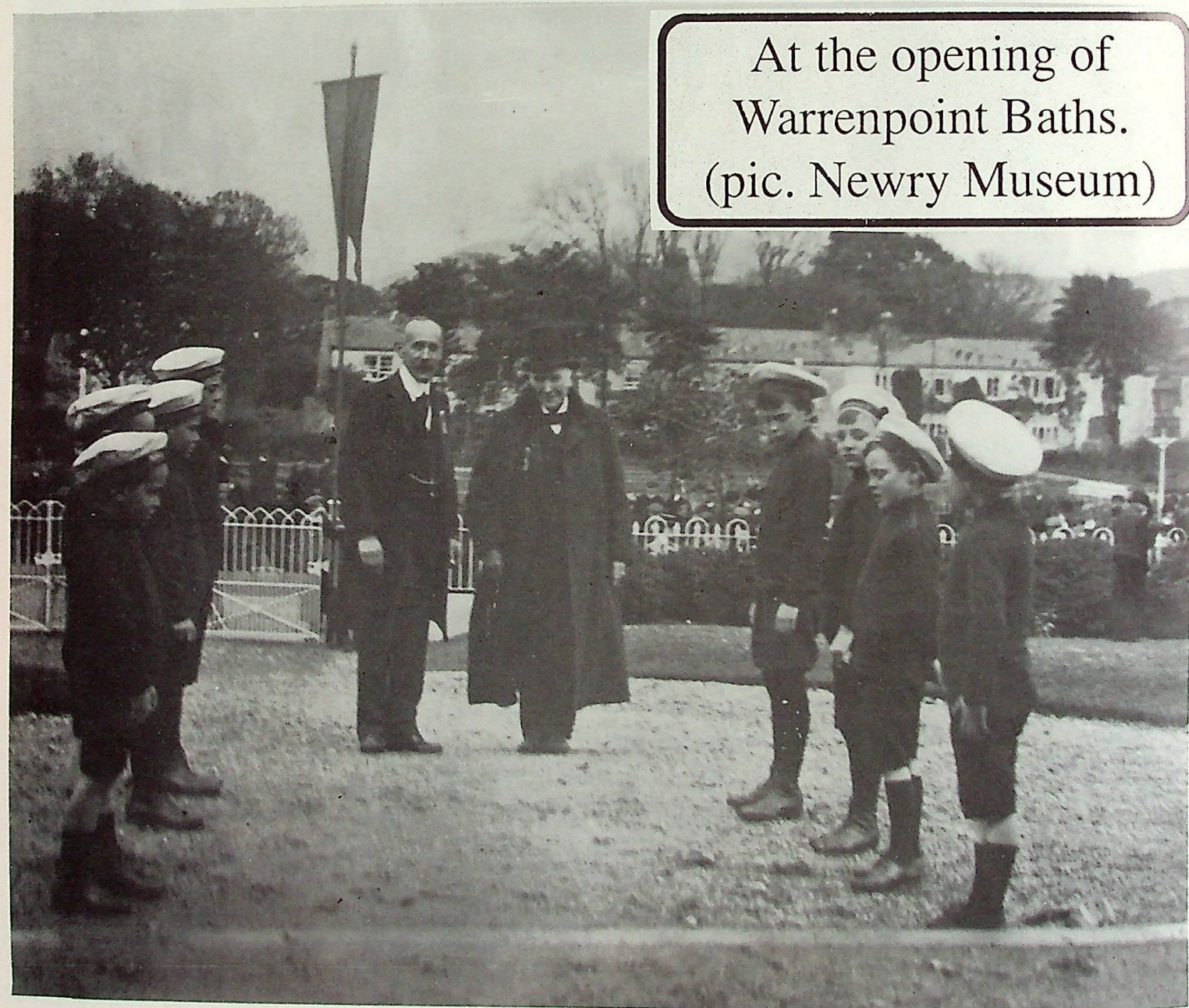
Chomh maith leis na hóstáin seo i R.M.G.R. bhí an "Imperial" agus an "Crown" - iad beirt ar ard-chaighdeán. Bhí "Harcourt's Temperance", "Ulster" agus "Victoria" ann fosta. Bhí a lán siopaí ar an bhaile; bhí na sráideanna glan agus iad soilsiú san oíche faoi lampaí gáis; agus bhí cumann gailf ag feidhmiú go héifeachtach. Ní raibh locht ar bith ar R.M.G.R. agus bhí Comhairleoirí an bhaile brea-toilteanach airgead a infheistiú leis an baile a fheabhsú a thuilleadh. Sa bhliain 1906, cuir i gcás, fuair siad ar léas an Capt. Hall, an phairc phoiblí atá againn go fóill i R.M.G.R.. Chaith an Chomhairle £1,200 leis an phairc a phleanáil, le plándaí a chur ag fás inti agus le ráillí a chur impi. Bhí na Comhairleoirí féin fial-flaithiúil. James Savage, J.P., Cathaoirleach na Comhlairle, a bhronn geafatí ornáideacha na pairce ar phobal na Rinne.

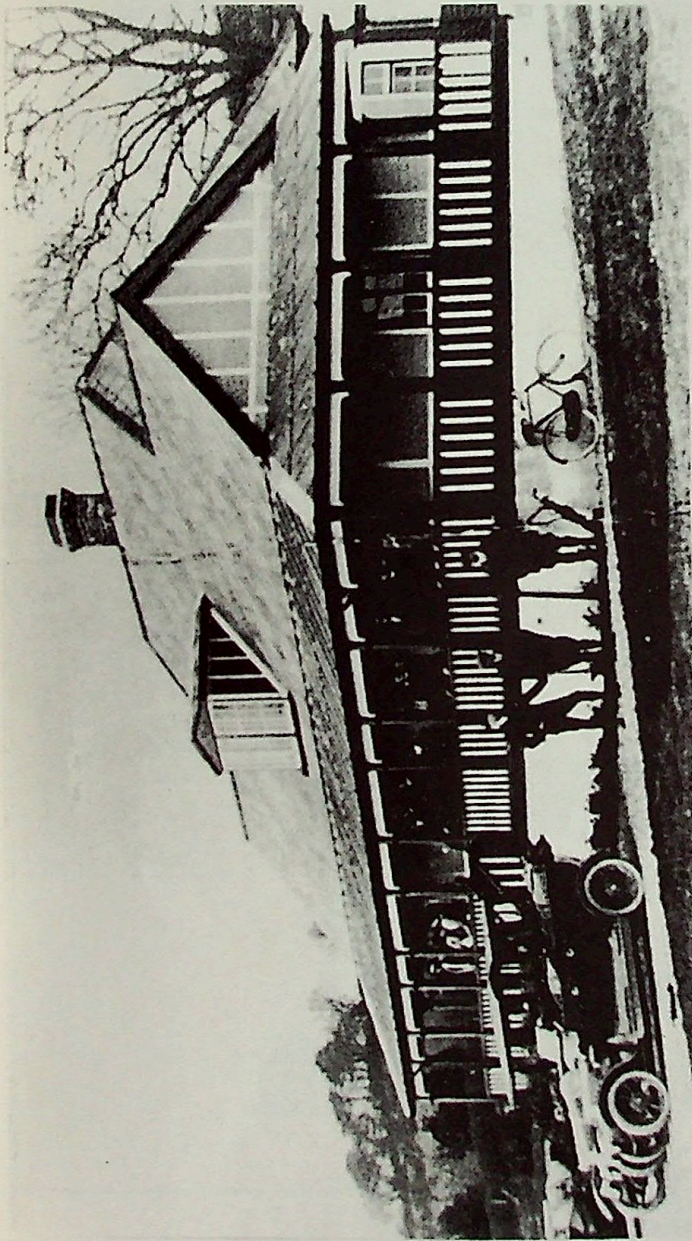
I 1908 a osclaíodh na Linnte Snámha ar R.M.G.R. agus arís bhí na costais ard ach b'fhiú an infheistiócht. Caitheamh £7,000 leis na Linnte a thógáil (Kaye, Parry & Ross, B.A.C., na hailtí). Rinneadh mórtas go raibh an tionscnamh seo "the longest and most complete public bathes yet erected in Ireland" ("Jones' Guide"). Bhí piara tógtha leis na Linnte agus bhí seomraí feistis ar leith de na fir agus de na mná. Chan amháin sin, ach bhí linnte ar leith acu freisin! Linn na bhfear, bhí sé 120 troigh x 40 troigh; linn na mban, bhí sé 80 troigh x 40 troigh.

Cuireadh an-réimse imeachtaí ar siúl i R.M.G.R. ar mhaithe leis na cuairteoirí. Bhí siamsaíocht d'achan saghas ar fáil: bannaí ceoil ag seinm cois cladaigh agus ar an seastán i lár na pairce; peadairíní (pierrots) de chuid Alder & Sutton ag pleidhcíocht leo ar pailliún an G.N.R. Hotel; siúlóidí shláintiúla éagsula; margatí i gcearnóg an bhaile. Thaitin leis na céadta a bheith ag spaisteoireacht cois trá, radharc galánta acu ar na sléibhte agus iad faoi dhraíocht ag Cuan Chairlinn:

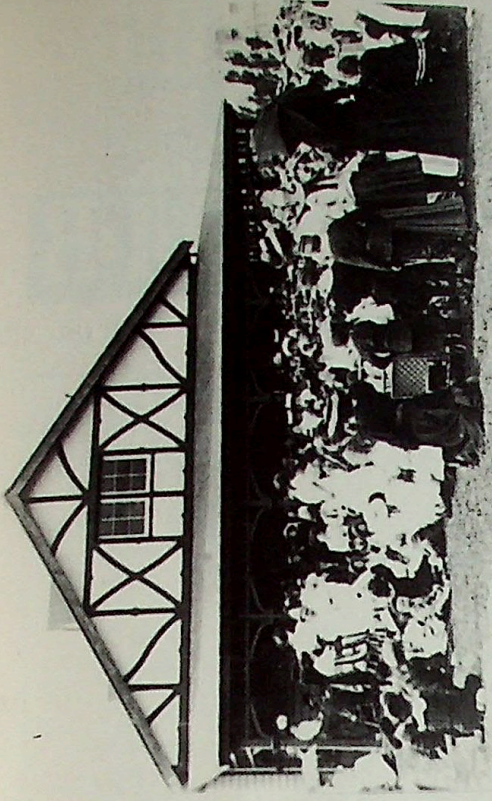
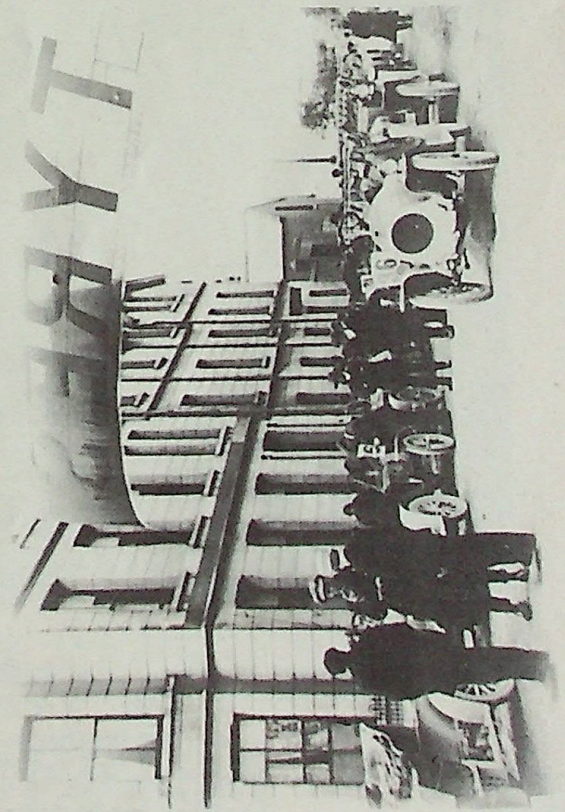
"But it is the bay - the inimitable Bay of Carlingford - which is the great lion of the scene, for all other beauties sink into insignificance beside the bright blue of these deep transparent waters." ("The Tourist's Illustrated Handbook for Ireland, 1854").

At the opening of
Warrenpoint Baths.
(pic. Newry Museum)

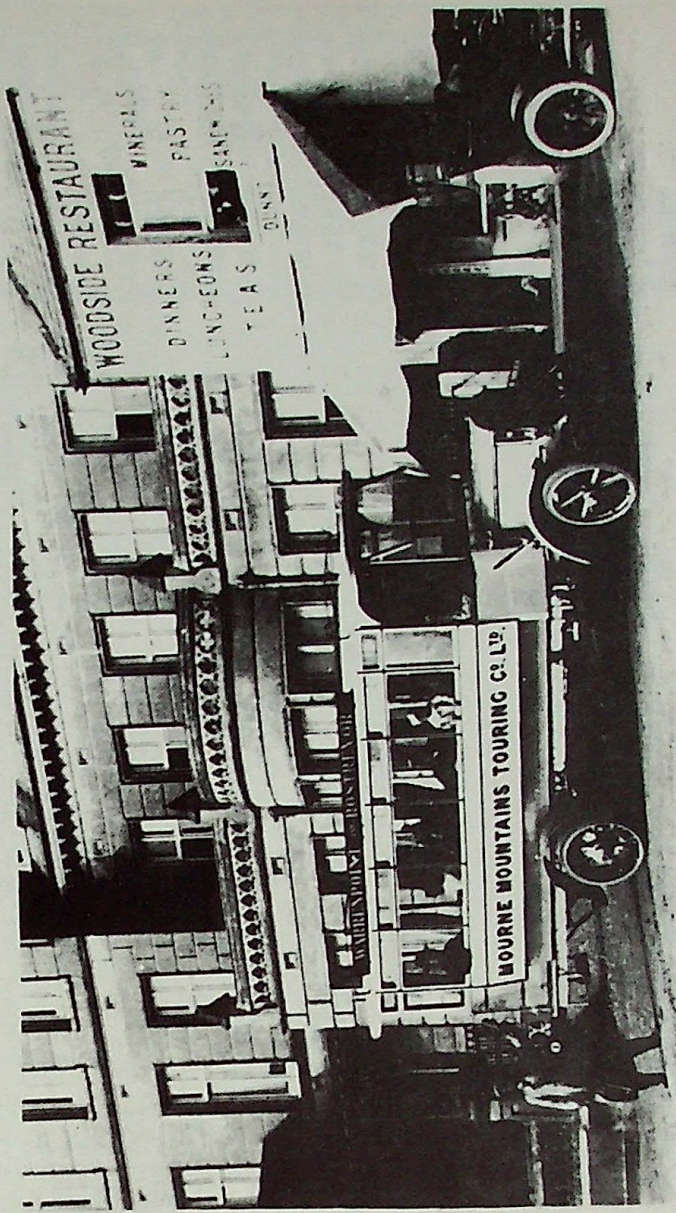




(Above) : Warrenpoint Golf Club.
(Below) : Early car rally in Warrenpoint.



(Above) : Pierrots in the Park.
(Below) : A Norton vehicle at Rostrevor.



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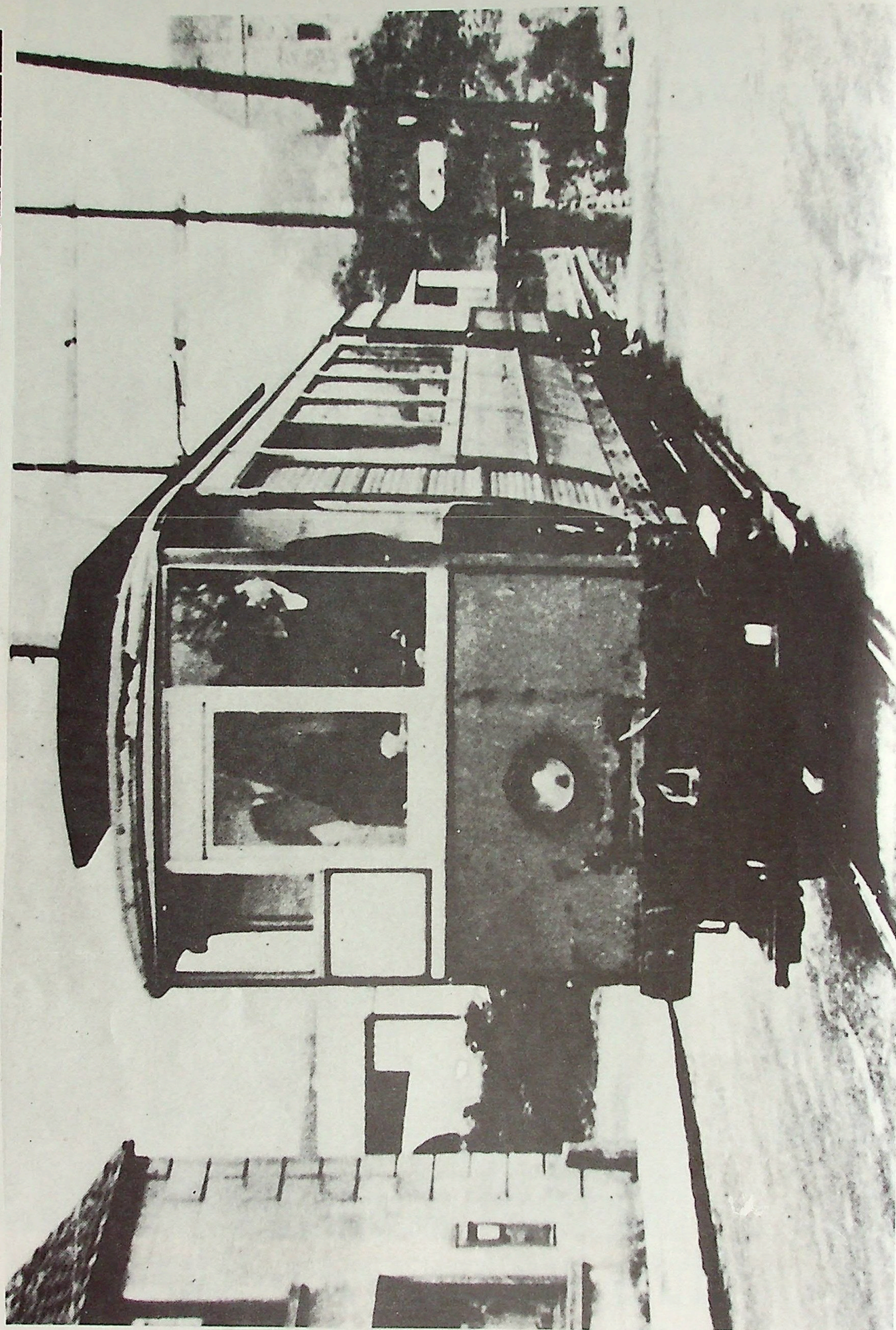
MAURICE MC CAVITT WHOLESALE MEATS

Coláiste Bhríde, Oméith, 1916

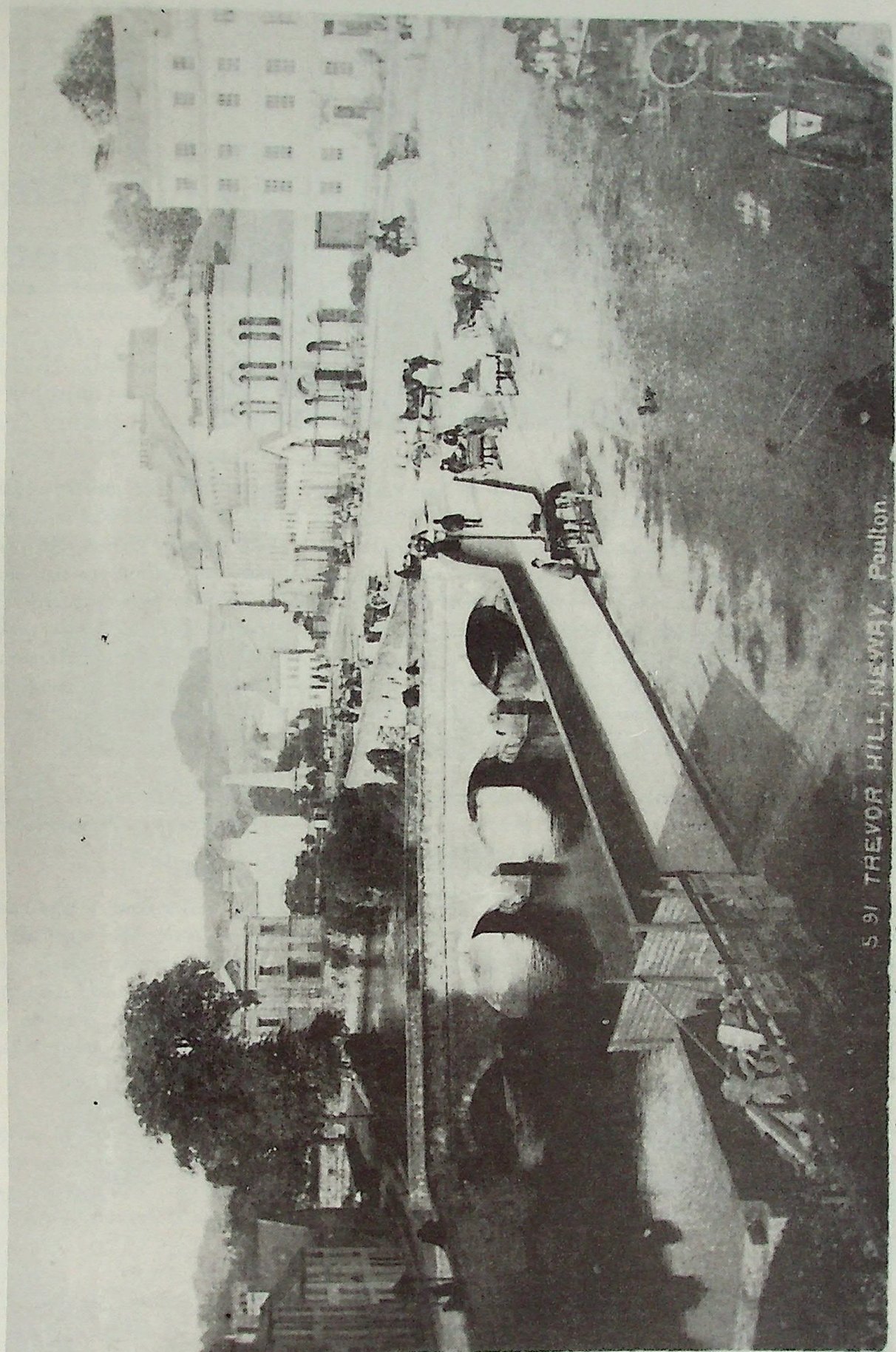


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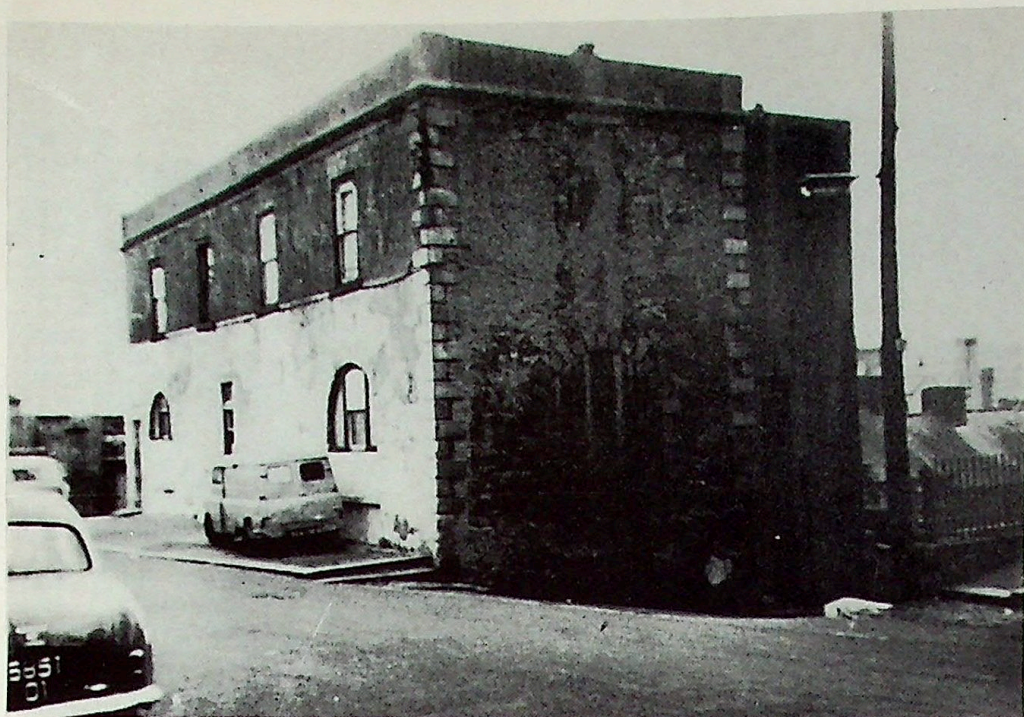
AR AN TRAM AG GLEANN A' MHAUILLINN



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**In am an
ghatair**

**In time of
need**

Ar chlé :
Halla N. Colmáin
Grianghraf le
Paddy Trainor

If asked to review the last twenty years of our turbulent history different people would likely remember particular incidents that stand out in their memories. In my own case it was something that happened in Newry in August 1969. It was the tragic week that Bombay Street, Belfast, was burned. I recall especially the night that Jack Lynch, Taoiseach, made his hollow promise about the Irish Government not standing by while innocent northern nationalists were being persecuted. I was not at home to see Lynch on television because I was on the streets of Newry that night with hundreds of others. Belfast and Derry were under pressure and we hoped to relieve some of that pressure. Latecomers to the street protests arrived to inform us that Lynch was sending the Irish Army to the border. The general opinion was that Irish soldiers would be on the streets in a matter of days, maybe even in hours. Ní mar shiltear bítear.

Later that same night there were brief skirmishes in the town between locals and the 'B' Specials. After that things seemed to fizzle out and an air of gloom descended on Newry. News reports from Derry and Belfast were ominous; aid did not come from the south.

But on the Sunday of that week something special happened - nobody knows how or who started it. This was the Newry Relief Effort, the work of the Refugee Committee. We were all acutely aware of the distressful situation in Belfast: houses burned; homes destroyed; people destitute. Newry townsfolk spontaneously started collecting foodstuffs and clothing. A chemist's shop opened on Sunday to donate baby food and medical supplies. All this merchandise found its way to Dominic Street where Eamon Trainor and Michael Keenan had a business. The boys had a lorry. Would they load it and take the stuff to Belfast? They would.

The lorry and five cars made up a convoy and the Newry men set out on their mission of mercy. They were stopped briefly at a checkpoint at the Fourmile and then continued to the entrance to the motorway at Sprucefield where a thorough search of vehicles was carried out. The Newry men were allowed to proceed after a police sergeant advised them to use his name if detained at any future checkpoints.

On that particular Sunday there was very little traffic about and our vehicles proceeded on their journey down a lonely motorway as far as Kennedy Way where they turned and headed for St. Teresa's School on the Glen Road. Up through the barricades the Newry group went to witness a scene of hundreds of men, women and children gathered at the school. Displaced people in their own country. Contact was quickly established and when the Belfast people heard what was on board, the relief materials were speedily unloaded. Much thanks and praise was displayed that Newry had come

to their aid in am an ghatair. An unfortunate outcome of the mission was that the lorry broke down, the engine having seized. The boys got home late, minus the lorry.

Meanwhile, back in the Frontier Town, things had really taken off. St. Colman's Hall in Castle Street had been opened up as a co-ordinating centre. Volunteers were arriving offering all kinds of assistance. People of all religious beliefs and from all areas had assembled. Prominent amongst the Relief workers were Sean Mc Ateer (R.I.P.); Mary Deane (R.I.P.); Bridget O'Hanlon (R.I.P.); Jim O'Boyle; Urban Councillors John McKeivitt, Michael Mc Keown and Stephen Ruddy (R.I.P.). Frs. Matt O'Hare and Cathal Jordan also participated. All were eagerly awaiting the return of the ambassadors from Belfast with an up-to-date report of the situation.

On their return a decision was made to call a meeting for the following night to put things on a proper and more formal footing. Most of those alluded to above, along with others too numerous to mention, formed the Refugee Committee. The Gasworks supplied a cooker and a soup-kitchen was established. Contact was made with the Irish Red Cross in Dundalk and they were helpful with supplies of food and First Aid equipment. In the following weeks local firms supplied transport and I myself had the honour of travelling to Belfast on one occasion with relief supplies. I will never forget the determined faces of the young people behind the barricades.

During that period several families passed through Newry, heading south. I recall witnessing one such family having refreshments at St. Colman's Hall. Their dejection was absolute. Until that moment I had always thought of refugees as unfortunates from other countries - not near home - not just down the road - not in Ireland.

It is with pride that I remember how Newry answered the call in 1969. Newry did not stand idly by.

Éamonn Mac a' tSaoir



Relief work at St. Colman's Hall.



2/-

AN tSEAN-BHEAN AONRAIC.

Dá mbéidhfeá thíos ar an chros-bhóthar Aoine ar bith eadar a dá-bhuille dhéag agus a h-aon o chlog tchífeá na sean-daoiní ag teacht ag triall ar oifig an pluist i gcóir a gcuid pinsiúin. Cibé leis a bhíofa ortha rith na seachtmhaine bogú amach, ghlí siad iarracht an oifig sin a bhaint amach ar an Aoine agus Teach a' Phobail ar an Domhnach—na créatúirí.

As h-Uí Lios Liath anuas ba ghnáth le sean-Anna Lorcáin an míle go leith de bhealach aimhréidh an tsléibhe a chur dí le mórán duaidh. Bean nach rabh de chuideacht sa toigh aici acht í féin "agus Dia," mar deireadh sí. Bhí a rabh de chloinn aici sgabtha ar fud an domhain; i n-America an chuid is mó aca.

Lá d'á rabh mé i n-Oifig a' Phuist tháinig sí isteach. Bhí bean uasal ghalánta as an chomhursanacht ann fósta agus a h-inghean i n-aoineacht léithe. Bean gur thaitin léithe cló agus dath a 'nighne, a dealbh 's a cruth, óir ba chaillín í a fuair cuid árd-oideachais—thall—agus a rabh bród uirthí aistí. Acht b'fhurus fheiceál nár leis an 'nighin gach a rabh de dhathanna i n-a plucanna—bhí cuid aca ró-léar a bheith nádúrach.

Bhíofa féin ag seanchus leobhtha nó gur bhuail Anna isteach in a cuid gioball.

Na sean-bhróga a bhí ar a cosa bhí siad ag feadailighe le méad an uisge a chuaidh isteach thír na bonnaí briste. Ní rabh oirid 's stóca ar na cosa gidh go rabh an lá go fiadhain siuch, agus bhí sean-seál ar a guailneacha nach ndéanfadh fagadh do naoidhneán míosa.

D'amharc an bheirt uirthí agus dhruid as a bealach. Thug a gcúla léithe agus lean sa chainnt liom féin.

Acht ba mhó mo dhúil-se sa tsean-bhean ná ionta-san, agus tháinig iarracht de'n déistin ortha nuair a rinne mé comhrádh léithe.

"Bratógal—aineolas—agus Gaedhilg!"—chonnaic mé sin san amharc a thug siad uirthí agus í ag cur a maire i leabhar an phinsiúin.

D'imthigh siad agus d'fhan mé fhéin ar Anna. Shiubhail mé léithe suas bóthar an tsléibhe agus clia leigim a leas a rádh gur gearrú bealaigh an seanchus a bhí eadrainn. Anois 's arís sheasfadh sí faoi sgáth creige nó scéiche le n-a h-anál a tharraint, agus fán am go rabh sí sa bhaile bhí an créatúr sáruighthe amach.

Bhí aibhleóg bheag ar an teallach agus chuir sí cupla cipín thart air 's le clár canna stáin d'aduigh sí gládrach beag. Níorbh fhiú leath-chróin a rabh de throsógán san toigh

agus bhí rian na fearthanna anuas ar na ballaí annseo 's annsiud. Bhí sé chomh h-uaigneach leis an roilig san bhóthar bheag sin thuas ar mhallaigh an tsléibhe, acht ba leig liom sgaramhaint leis an bhean aosta aonraic seo, óir b'fhada, b'fhéidir, go mbéadh faill agam theacht uirthí arís. Agus ó bhí fonn uirthí chun an cheoil shuidh mé liom ag breacadh 's ag éisteacht.

Ní rabh file d'fhilidhthibh Óighiall nach rabh seodaí d'á chuid aici. Ba léar damh im'inntin Art Mac Cobhthaigh agus Ainnir-na-maoth-chraobh-meor ag cur síos ar ghéar-leamhaint na nGaedheal, imeasc na gclach-thompal cois Chill an Chreagáin le bándh an lae. An file ag déanamh mairgnigh fán áthru mór ó ruaigeadh sliocht Néill Fhrasaigh agus ó díbrigtheadh na daoine "a chuireadh éideadh fán Nodlaig ar na h-ollaimh 'bhíodh ag géilleadh dóibh." An ainnir ag tafaingt air teacht léithe as an ghalltacht:

"Eirigh go tapaigh agus astruigh liom siar sa ród,
Go tír dheas na ngealladh nach bhfuair galla 'nn cead-
réim go fóill—
'S gheobhair aobhneas ar hallaí do mo mhealladh-sa le
siansa ceoil."

Agus an leig a bhí ar an fhile imtheacht as a thír dhúthchais:

"Tabhair léagsa agus geallamh damh . . .

Má éagam fán tSionnainn, i gcrích Mhanann nó san
Éighpte mhóir,
Gur ag Gaedhil cumhra an Chreagáin 'seadh leagfar mé
i gcré faoi fhód."

Agus chonnaic mé le m'inntin sgafairí Oméith ag imirt leo "'s an balla ins na béinní i n-áirde"—agus í ag ghabhail de cheol "Réamonn na Ranntaí":

"Bhí sé feara déag ann
De sgafairí Oméith
'Siad ag iomail ar Léanaidh 'n Bhábhduín;
Ó mhullaigh 'n mheadhon-lae
Go dtí tuitim dubh na gréine
Char chuir siad ar aon taobh díobhtha báire."

Acht línigh sí a mhalairt de phictiúr damh nuair a ghabh sí de'n mhairgne ar Shéamus Ua Mhurchaidh—"an caoin-mharcach uasal"—agus na Gaill 'ghá thabhairt faoi cheangail na gcúig gcaol chun a chrochta.

Agus mhothuigh mé an céasadh a d'fhulaing na Gaedhil ar fheiceál a dteangaidh ag dul fa dhí-mheas nuair a d'aithris sí aisling Airt Mhic Chobhthaigh cois Beinn Éadair:

"Tá mo chroidhe-se réabtha 'na mhíltí céad-chuid
'S gan balsam éigin ní fóir dom phein,
Nuair a chluinim an Ghaedhilig uilig d'á treigbheail
Agus caismirt Béarla i mbéal gach aoin."

Ríomhaigh sí damh fa'n Dall Mac Cuarta agus an "Bódhrán" Ó Néill; Ó Doirnín agus Mac Gioll Fhionndáin. Ghabh sí "Seachrán Chairn tSiadhail" agus "Patrún Cill Shléibhe" agus d'aithris sí eachtra na gCailleach a chuaidh síos cois trágha ag cruinniú pota chnuasaigh.

Ar philleadh a bhaile damh bhí mé ag cur an dá thabhairt suas agus oideachas i gcompráid le chéile—é seo ag an tsean-bhean agus é siúd ag nighlean na gnúise daithite a chuir an t-aineolas i n-a leith.

An Samhradh seo thart agus mé san cheanntar thug mé ath-chuairt ar mo shean-charaid. Bhí glas ar shlabhradh ar an doras. Bhí an toigh folamh; ní rabh le feiceál astoigh achit na ballaí loma agus smál na fearthainne anuas ortha.

"Tá sí faoi fhód le ráithe"—comhursanach a sgáirt chugam ó'n chéad toigh eile.

Níor fhléadas níos mó ná "Amen" a rádh do'n ghuidhe a chuir an comhursanach le anam mo sheanchuidhe.

Beithí

Gléifí aís agairn anseo ar scéal a chum Fearbhar Ó Dubhá agus a cuireadh i gcló don chéad uair sa chnuasach "Cáith agus Grán". Bainneann an scéal go dtí le ceantair s'againne mar tá sé suite i stráidbhaile ar Mheith. ("Cáith agus Grán", Ollig an tSoláthair, 1929).

Labhair Gaeilge Gach Lá in Iúr Chinn Trá

Cearthaigh d'ainm féin
Correct your own name - use deed-poll



Cuairt Craigavon ar an lár, 1927.

Tabhair ainm gaelach do do pháiste
Give your child an Irish name



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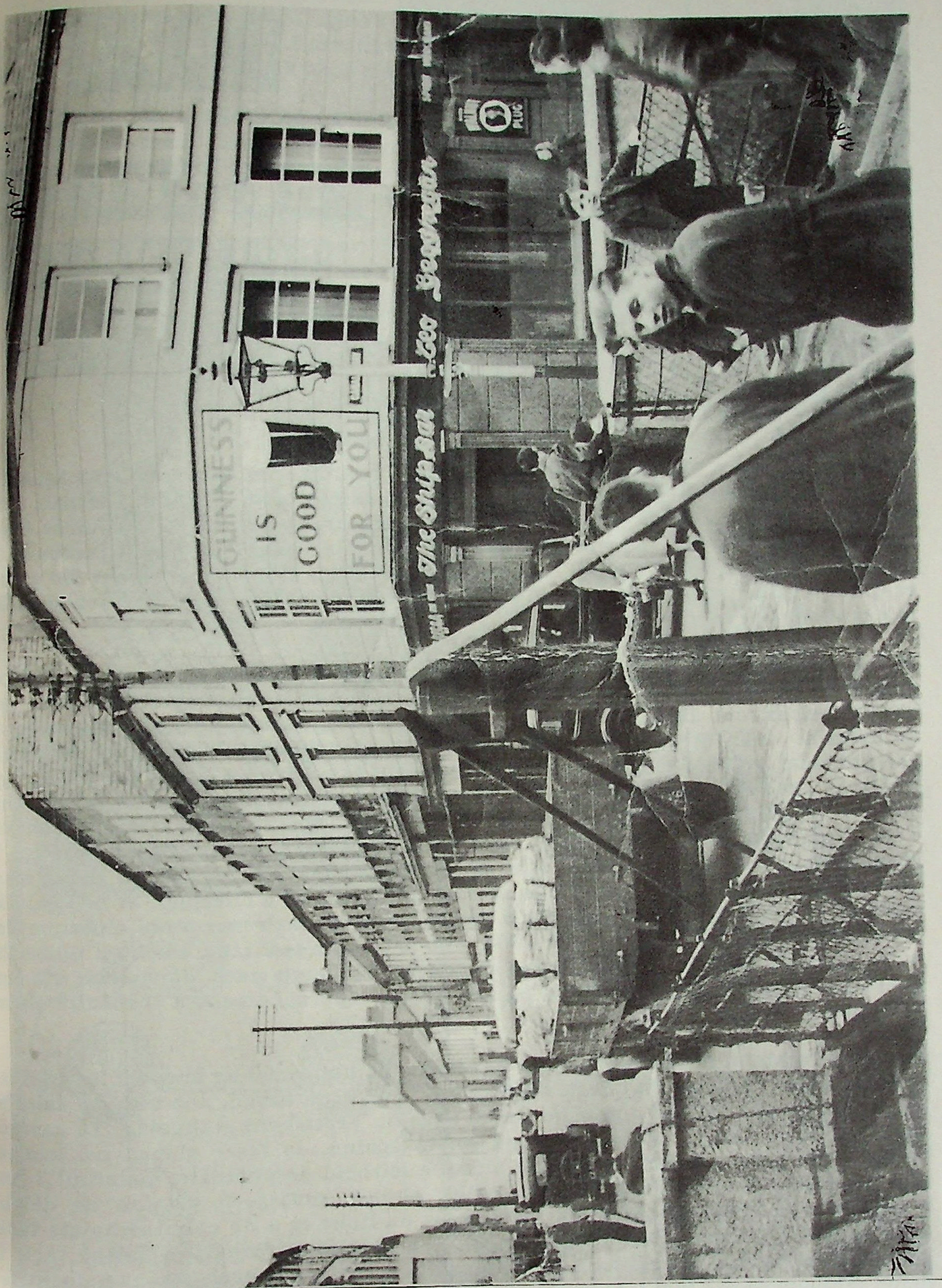


PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. C.CASEY



1993

THE END OF SPLENDID ISOLATION ?

D'fhreastail mé ar Dáil Mhór Chomhaltas Uladh i nDún Geannain i mbliana agus, le fírinne, díomachroíoch a bhí mé ag pilleadh abhaile domh. Ní raibh i láthair ach dhá dosaen de theachtaí - baicle dhílis acu ó cheantar an Iúir féin : Tomás Mac Árdghail, Seoirse Ó Dufaigh, Tomás Ó Lonargáin, Seán Cúipéar, Éamonn Ó Mathúna agus mé féin. Coiste Gnóithe an Chomhaltais a cheap na rúin ar fad a bhí ar Chlár na Dála agus bhain na rúin uilig nach mór le cúrsaí airgid. Drochchlaonadh in eagraíocht ar bith.

Mar a d'admhaigh Rúnaí an Chomhaltais féin, agus le bheith realaíoch, i slíte áirithe tá an Comhaltas in ísle brí. Nílímíd tarraingteach mar eagraíocht. Gidh go bhfuil fealsúnacht fhiúntach againn nílímíd ábalta daoine óga díograiseacha a mhealladh inár dtreo. Is fánach an áit chomh maith ina bhfuil bean inár gcomhlúadar. Nílímíd éifeachtach mar eagraíocht ach oiread. Is beag Craobh atá ag feidhmiú ar a dícheall, cuir i gcás. Annamh a bhíonn iomrá orainn sna meáin cumarsáide. Creideann a lán dálaí scoile gur grúpa a bhain leis an 19ú aois amháin é an Gaelic League. Leoga, béidh céad bliain sáraithe ag Conradh na Gaeilge i gceann trí bliana agus cheana féin tá tuairimtheoirí ag caint fa' cé bheas mar Uachtarán ar an Conradh i 1993. Is mór an onóir don té a cheapfar, ar ndóigh. Tá muid ar fad ag tnúth lenár mbreithlá gan amhras, díreach mar a bhí clubanna de chuid Chumann Lúthchleas Gael i 1984. Murab ionann is C.L.G., áfach, tá Conradh na Gaeilge réabtha le déighiltí agus tá mé ag déanamh nach dóchasach atá na gnáthbhaill go bhfuil sé ar intinn ag aon taobh rapprochement a thabhairt chun éifeachta.

Ní ag fáil lochta ar éinne atáim nuair a deirim go bhfuil rudaí ag imeacht le srúth le bliantaí aniar. Is follas do chách nach raibh, agus nach bhfuil, ach ceangal cairdis leochaileach idir Ard-Oifig an Chonartha agus an eagraíocht ó thuaidh. Tá daoine sásta go leor leis an status quo atá anois againn. Is fearr ciúnas, ná imreas eadrainn, de réir cosúlachta. Ach an bhfuil a leithéid de phatuaire slaintiúil ? An cóir Conradh na Gaeilge a bheith scoilte chomh suntasach sin idir na deich gcontaetha de chuid Chomhaltas Uladh agus na fiche is a dó chontaetha atá faoi dhlinse 6 Sráid Fhearchair ? "Eiriceacht !" a chluinim ó dhaoine áirithe. Ach i gcead de na daoine sin níl baill an Chonartha a tháinig isteach san eagraíocht le deich mbliana anuas faoi laincis ag cúrsaí stáire. Is rí-chuma leo fa' pearsana a thit amach le chéile fiche, tríocha nó níos mó bliain ó shin. Tá siad beag beannfosta ar an "cúigeachas" - sa tuiscint is teoranta don bhfocal sin. Ní folair go bhfuil siad

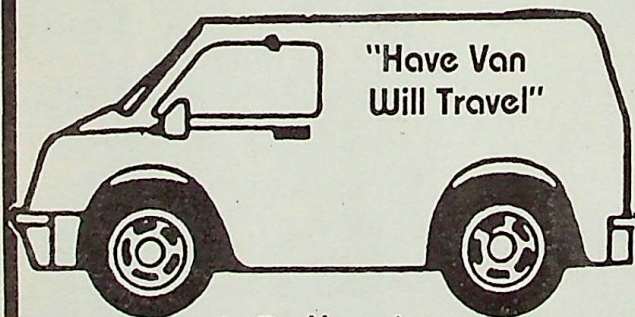
mórtasach as a gceantair fein, ach níl púicíní orthu. Tá súil agam nach mbainfear ciall chontráilte as mo chuid foclaí. Is maith ann é Comhaltas Uladh agus Dáil na Mumhan ach oiread leis siúd, agus tá mé fein go mór i bhfách le dlárú cumhachta in achan ghné de chúrsaí riaracháin. Ach thiocfadh le coimhneas i bhfad níos dlúithe agus níos cairdiúla a bheith ann idir rannta éagsúla an Chonartha.

Cén ról mar sin a bhéas ag na hUltaigh sna himeachtaí ceiliúrtha i 1993 ? An ndéanfar leithcheal orainn ? Nó an amhlaidh go mbéidh muidinne ag fanacht, d'aon oghaim, ar an imeall ? Maith an scéalaí an aimsir. Idir an dá ama, creidim gur ceart athaontas a chothú san eagraíocht. Tá dualgas ar na ceannairí atá againn san Ardchathair, i mBéal Feirste agus i gcathair Chorcaí féachaint chuige go mbéidh mór-ócaid ag Gaeil na hÉireann i 1993. Is mithid a bheith ag smaointiú ar comóradh an chéid anois agus pleananna a dheilbhiú dá réir.



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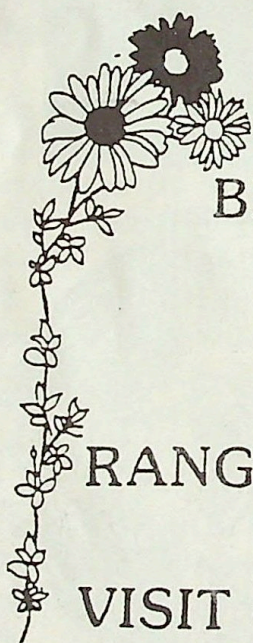
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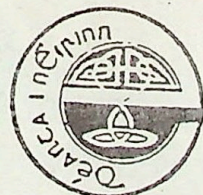
Ceannaigh
bronntanais
na Nollag

ANSÉD

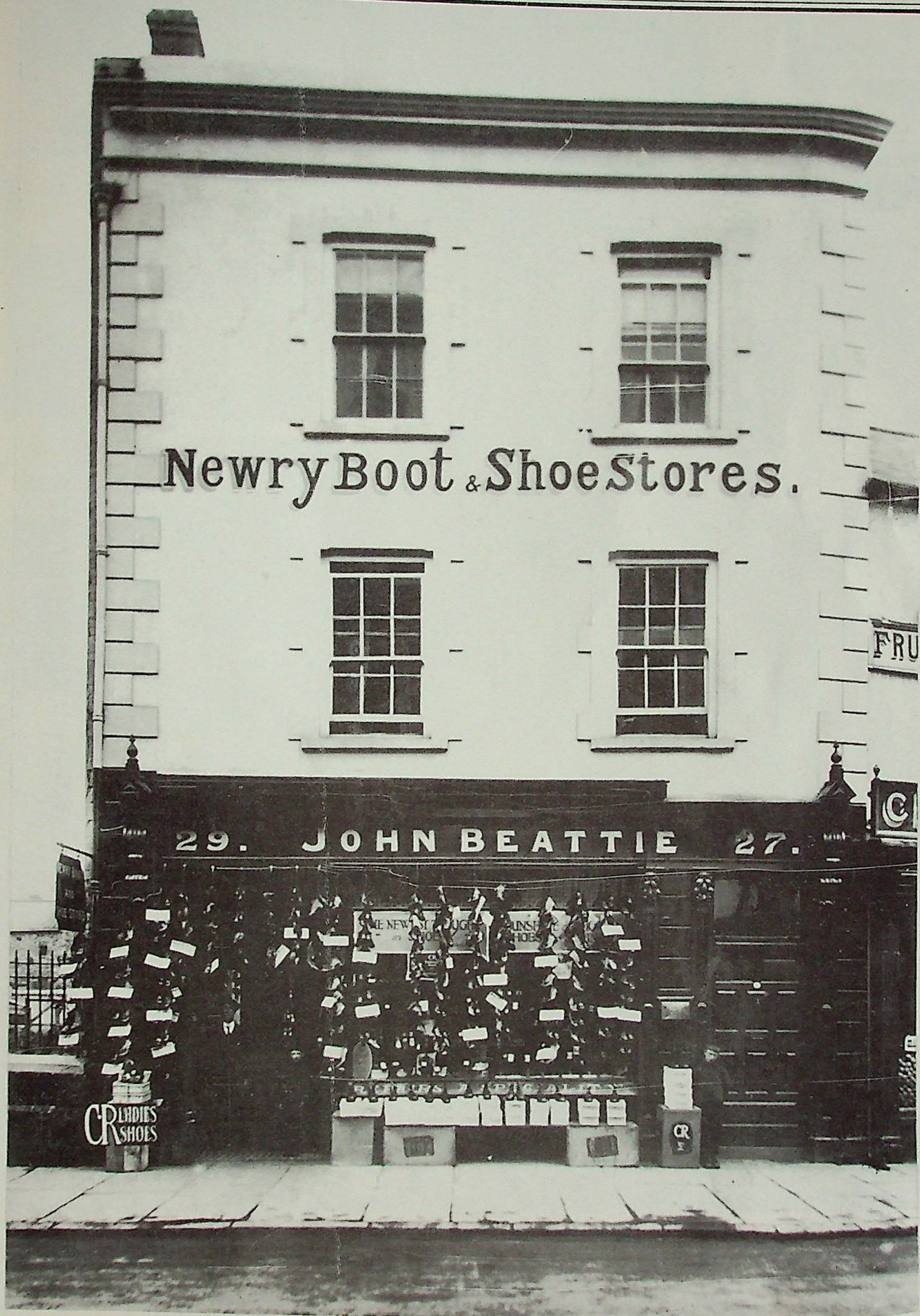


TYRONE CRYSTAL
BELLEEK PARIAN CHINA
ROYAL TARA CHINA
& EXQUISITE
RANGE OF IRISH JEWELLERY
VISIT OUR FRIENDLY STORE.

Gaelearraí
lontaofa



Pictiúir a thug G. Beattie dúinn.





Bóithrin na Smaointe

Old Barracks resident looks back



Má tá droch-iomha ar áiteacha ar leith fán Iúr inniu is iad na háiteacha siúd, tá mé ag déanamh, Doire Beag agus Paire Radharc an Mhoirn. De dheasca neamart na n-údaras nach bhfuil inleithscéil atá na héastait áirithe seo san ainriocht ina bhfuil siad faoi láthair - tithe folmha/scriosta/leagtha; manaí péintáilte ar na bhallaí; crot míthaitneamhach go ginearálta orthu dís. Cuirtear na daoine is boichte san Iúr chun cónaí sna geiteanna seo. Ligtear dóibh bheith beo gan na seirbhísí atá riachtanach i sochaí ár linne. Ar feadh na mblianta bhí na soilsí sráide múchta sna héastait seo; níor tháinig fear scuaibe ón Comhairle leis na sráideanna a choinneáil glan; níor cuireadh brat péinte ar bhallaí na dtithe fiú. Rinneadh, agus déantar go sea, fáillí iontata ar na héastait agus ní cúis iontais go bhfuil cuma ghránna orthu agus go bhfuil siad i mbéal an phobail mar limistéir achrainn. Mar dídean deiridh go hiondúil a nglacann daoine tithe sna héastait - b'fhearr leo teach a bheith acu áit inteacht eile ar fad.

ELLIOTT
TRAINOR
& CO.
SOLICITORS



9 SRÁID MHUINEACHÁIN
IÚR CHINN
TRÁ

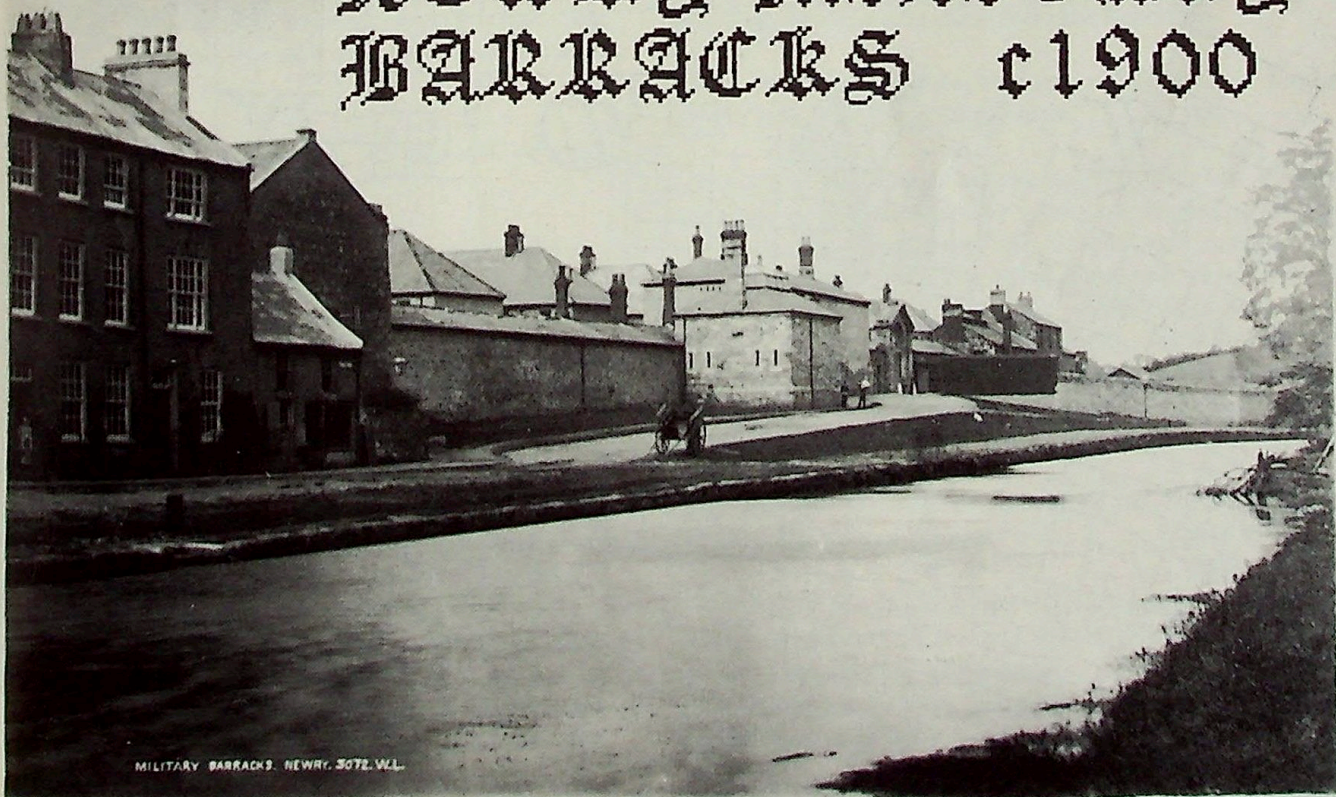
Ach ní hionann seo uile is a rá, ar ndóigh, nach bhfuil daoine macánta smaointeacha lonnaithe sna héastait. Le gairid chuaigh mé chuig Páirc Radharc an Mhoirn d'fhonn agallamh a chur ar an tionónta is sine sa cheantar, mar atá, John Casey. Bhí neart le rá aige faoi laethanta a óige sna "beairicí" mar a ghlaotar ar an áit go coitianta. Níor chuir sé fiacal ann ach an oiread nuair a thrácht sé ar an leithcheal atá á dhéanamh ag na húdaráis ar na "beairicí" le blianta fada aniar.

Most people over thirty years of age in Newry are more familiar with the local housing estate Mourneview Park by its former names 'Linenhall Square' or 'the Barracks'. The estate has changed greatly over the years and has had its share of controversy. In the following interview we chatted with Mr. John Casey, at 81, the most senior citizen currently residing in the estate. John has a long association with the area, an association which stretches back to the time when the British military were still stationed there. But first, an outline of the origins of the Linenhall/Barracks will be appropriate.

The 'Ulster White Linen Hall' as it was called, was first opened in 1783. The cost to its builders was £14,000. The linen hall was designed by Samuel Proule, an architect of Holtes Street, Dublin and in the original plan there were to be 320 rooms in the building, the intention of the owners being an ambitious one. They aspired to direct the export of Ulster linen through the port of Newry but their plans were frustrated when the White Linen Hall of Belfast assumed this function. The Ulster White Linen Hall was, therefore, sold off to the government at a fraction of its original cost. The buildings were readily converted into accommodation for the military. In Thomas Bradshaw's 'General Directory of Newry, 1820', we get a succinct account of the early years of the Barracks :

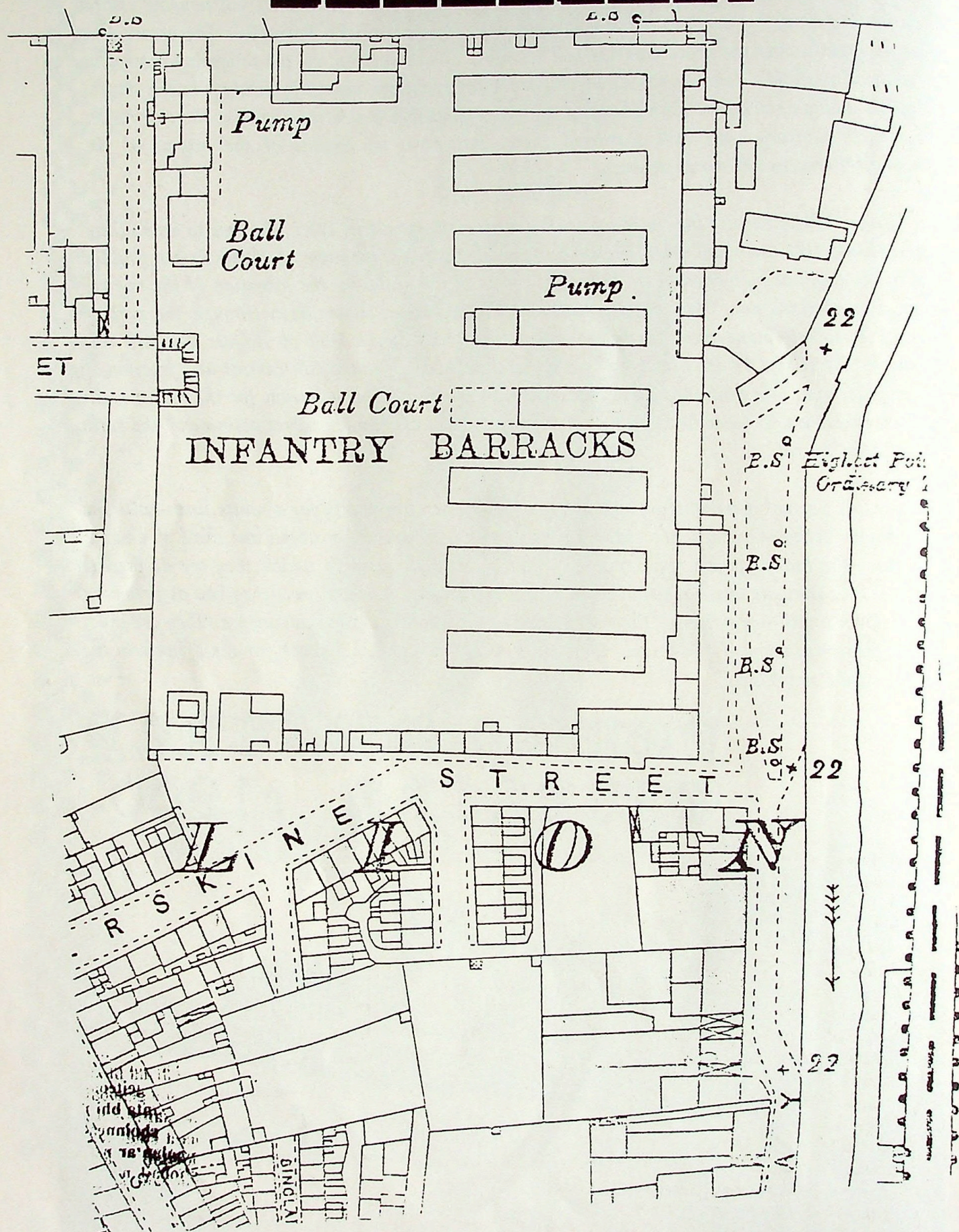
'The present barrack was built by a company of gentlemen, originally for a white linen-hall. The design not having succeeded, the concern was sold to government for about one third of what it had cost. The buildings are remarkably well adapted to the uses to which they are at present applied. It is thought that they could not have been better planned, even if they had at first been designed for a military purpose. Their proximity to the canal is a great advantage. They are equal to the accommodation of 1144 men. There is, however, a separate barrack for the officers in the street called Corry Place.'

NEWRY MILITARY BARRACKS c1900



MILITARY BARRACKS, NEWRY. 3072. V.L.L.

PLAN OF MILITARY BARRACKS.



INTERVIEW

John, tell me something of your early life.

I was born in Meerut, India, on March 3rd 1909. My father was in the British Army and all my brothers and sisters were "army born". Charles was born in S. Africa; Eric, like myself, in India; Shiela in Burma and Polly in Victoria Barracks, Belfast.

So you're very much an army family. Is that how you came to live in the Barracks?

Yes. My father was a soldier for 33 years in the Royal Irish Rifles. Eric joined the Irish Fusiliers, I enlisted in the Royal Iniskillings while my brother Charles was in the Rifles. After years in the British Army Charles moved to America and ended up as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the U.S. Airforce.

Did you see action while in the army?

I was based as an Instructor in an Infantry Training Centre during the War. We took in the lads as raw recruits and passed them out fully trained after six weeks. Apart from the War, army life wasn't for me. I did, though, end up as a sergeant. I didn't see action.

How did the Caseys first become associated with the Barracks?

Having previously lived in 14 Erskine Place, we moved to the Barracks in 1922-23. My father was caretaker of the Barracks when the military pulled out. The last soldiers I recall stationed here were the West Kents. My own father served in here - that's where he met my mother. When my father died in 1928, I took over his job as caretaker and by this stage the Barracks had already been sold to the Urban Council. But I can remember well over 800 men being stationed here. There were eight blocks in all - four for the ranks, then accommodation for the Colour Sergeants and then two blocks with attractive facades for the Officers. Mc Kenna from Armagh got the contract to rennovate the blocks into houses. The outer shape of the blocks remained the same though.

What about your younger days in Newry and in the Barracks in particular?

My happiest days were spent in the old Barracks. There were two handball alleys here. My present house is on the site of the Officers' handball alley. I was a fairly accomplished player myself, if I may say so. I reached the Ulster Junior Handball Final....Name anything in the shape of gambling and we had it here. Card schools went on under lamplights to four and five in the morning.... I attended the Christian Brothers' School. Anything I know the Brothers taught me. Bro. Tuoy instructed me in French and I can mind my Irish still. Osclaigi na leabhair agus dun an doras mas e do thoil e. There were two Sands boys in my class, from down Omeath direction. They had great Irish.... A jam-jar would get you into the Canal Street Cinema (later McLean's garage). Even in more recent times we had a bigger selection of bars about here. Canal Street had Dunster's, McLoughlin's used to be Holmes' while the

Yank's was Sullivan's.....During holidays I used to get on a boat at the first lock and take it to outside Portadown. Another barge would take me home. When the Bosco moved to this area I had no dealings with it myself, even though I ran a soccer team. The Bosco celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year you know. It originally had a boxing club on the upper floor. The bottom floor had been a blanket and gun store and wasn't used in the early days of the Bosco.



How would you counter some people's less than favourable attitude to the Barracks and its residents?

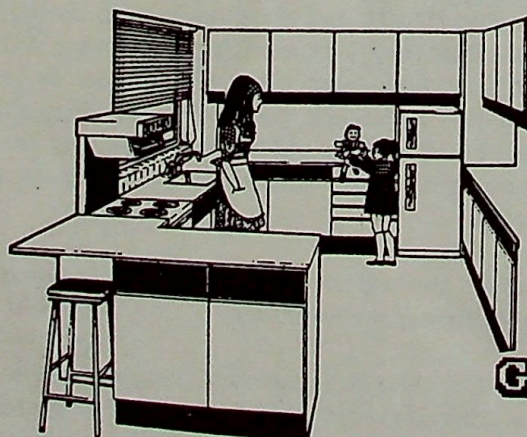
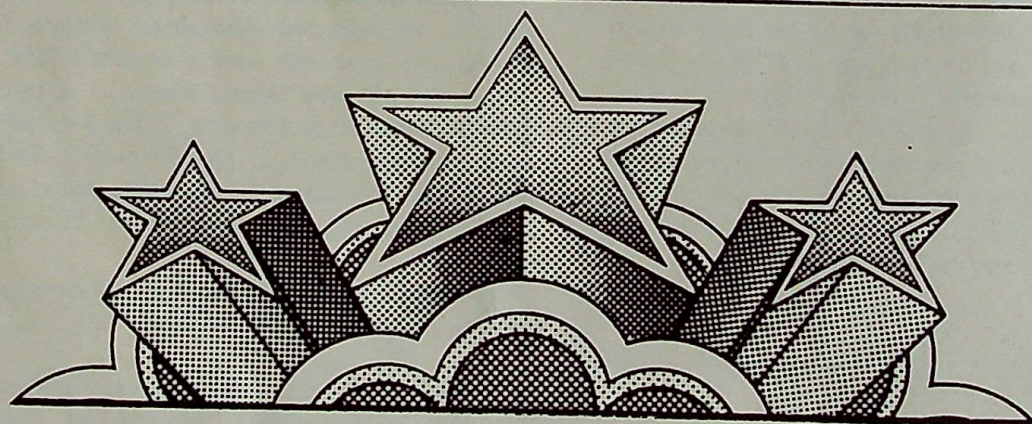
I'll put it simply. The only thing ever wrong with the Barracks' people was their poverty. Our people never really got a chance. I never found out how the Council chose the original tenants for the Barracks but they hail from some long established Newry families. The people were always kindly. We would work - if we got jobs. There was a mill not far from here and it employed mostly men. I don't remember any from the Barracks ever getting a start in it though. It wasn't so bad for the women. Chivers' factory (the "jam factory") beside us, when it was going in a big way, had three shifts with about 40 women and 12 men per shift. I was a foreman in it myself. Chivers made a potato product. The work wasn't easy. Tons of potatoes had to be peeled, cooked, mashed and then dried through steam-operated towers. My own wife worked in one of the Newry mills where she attended three frames..... I can't account for people's attitudes to this area. It has been socially deprived and much maligned..... The Barracks never produced any famous sons or daughters but we're proud of Down G.A.A. star Tony Hadden who came from the Barracks.

When the Barracks were levelled and replaced by houses, did the area lose any of its character?

It did surely. But it had lost character before that. With the building of Dromalane we saw an exodus from the Barracks. The Henrys and the Greens were among those who went at that time. The same happened when Derrybeg was built. The Loys went (they had resided in the old hospital of the Barracks); the Blairs, the Morgans, the Grants had all left. Of the old Barrack's families not many remain here. Mrs. Clarke (nee Hamill) is still here, as are the McCabes.

You describe yourself as belonging to an army family. What's your view of the army today?

When I say I'm of an army family it's nothing to be proud of in view of some of the things I've seen happening about me. It makes me wonder. Discipline has gone. In my day and in my father's day we were trained as "ambassadors" but that doesn't hold now. To a certain extent I sympathise with the



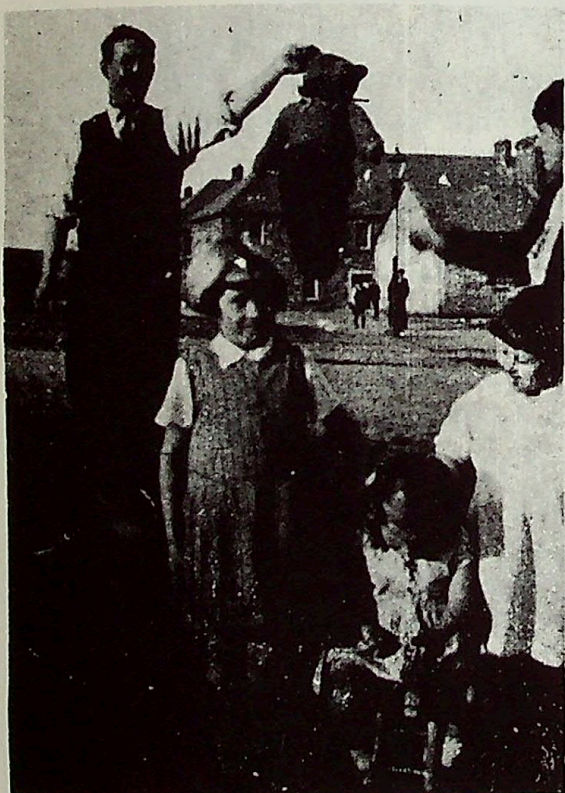
**STAR
KITCHENS**

**UNIT 3
GREENBANK BUSINESS CENTRE**

PRAGUASANNA RÉASÚNTA

British soldier in Ireland - he has to go where he's told. But they've brought a lot of trouble on themselves by their ill-treatment of civilians. I cannot understand why they must abuse women and children. When I read of our priests like Fr. Faul getting harassed I become very annoyed. Abuse of power of this nature should be punished immediately - regreably it isn't.

The Barracks has changed over the years; the army has changed; Mr. John Casey over four score years has witnessed it all. Happily, in May 1989, a function was held in the Newry Foresters' Club for all the surviving former and present residents of the Barracks. Tickets were at a premium, such was the demand. Much of the old spirit was manifest that night - the wit, the talent, the former sense of community. The Club was packed with Caseys, Grants, McKeowns, Greens, Morgans, Blairs, Rodgers', Jones', Campbells, Grattans and others. Fortunately, Mickey Mallon from Kiln Street video-taped the whole function and a copy of the tape is worth seeing by anyone ever associated with the Barracks.



DID YOU KNOW

That in the early 1870's the father of the Irish patriot, Liam Mellows, was stationed in Linenhall Barracks ?

RESIDENTS IN LINENHALL SQUARE

1935

Linenhall Square

- 1 Thomas McGrath
- 1 John Martin
- 2 Owen McAteer
- 3 Henry Co'clough
- 4 Samuel Henry
- 5 Andrew Storey
- 6 Thomas Smith
- 6 James Treanor
- 7 Thomas Jones
- 8 Francis Craven
- 9 Margaret Casey
- 10 Michael Teggart
- 10 Frederick Courtney
- 11 Owen McKeown
- 11 Michael Doran
- 12 Henry McGrath
- 13 John Fegan
- 14 James Treanor
- 15 John Toner
- 16 Alice Burns
- 17 John Treanor
- 17 Brigid Carrollan
- 18 Patrick McElroy
- 19 Albert McCrum
- 20 Terence Quinn
- 21 John Slane
- 22 James Kelly
- 23 Edward McCourt
- 24 Michael Kelly
- 25 Patrick Patterson
- 26 William Fitzpatrick
- 27 James McAteer
- 28 John McKevitt
- 29 John Stokes
- 30 Thomas Curran
- 31 Robert Stewart
- 32 Francis Fox
- 33 Alfred Fulton
- 33 John Moran
- 34 Michael Mynes
- 34 Margaret McGrath
- 35 Bernard McCann
- 35 John McAteer
- 36 James Burns
- 36 Gerald Lundy
- 37 John McParland
- 37 Christopher Loy
- 38 Michael Magee
- 38 Bridget McGrath
- 39 Hugh Cushenan
- 40 William Langan
- 41 Joseph Hadden
- 42 Thomas Lambe
- 43 Catherine Crilly
- 44 James Fegan
- 45 Robert Loughran
- 46 Patrick McGeough
- 46 Maggie McCann
- 47 Joseph Larkin
- 47 Catherine McAleenan
- 48 Edward McParland
- 49 Francis Kelly
- 50 William Rogers
- 51 John Murphy
- 51 Ellen Toner
- 52 Patrick O'Brien
- 53 Joseph Rooney
- 54 Joseph Murphy
- 55 William Magennis
- 56 Patrick Kearney
- 57 Mortimer Madigan
- 58 James McGennitty
- 58 Michael Brady
- 59 James Ruddy
- 60 John McAllister
- 61 Charles Long
- 62 Francis Matthews
- 63 Patrick Kelly
- 64 Catherine Lynch
- 65 Michael Ryan
- 65 Thomas McIlroy
- 66 Patrick Ruddy
- 67 Joseph Morgan
- 68 John Hamill
- 69 Peter Rafferty
- 70 Michael Lunnie
- 70 Joseph Connolly
- 71 Robert Campbell
- 72 James Lundy
- 73 Nicholas Kearney
- 74 Thomas McDermott
- 75 John Almeida

1960

- 1 McGrath, Thomas
- 2 Woods, Peter
- 3 McCabe, Brenden
- 4 Fegan, James
- 5 Griffin, Laurence
- 6 Taylor, Robert
- 7 Craven, Mary
- 8 Bell, John
- 9 Casey, John
- 10 Treanor, James
- 11 McKeown, Owen
- 12 McCrum, Lucy
- 13 Fegan, Elizabeth
- 14 Quinn, Joseph M
- 15 Devlin, Francis C
- 16 Carolan, William J
- 17 Kelly, Peter
- 18 McElroy, Teresa
- 19 Grattan, Thomas
- 20 Robinson, James
- 21 Farrell, Patrick F
- 22 Kelly, Annie
- 23 Craven, Francis
- 24 Murphy, Hugh P.
- 25 Mallon, Patrick
- 26 Fitzparick, Elizabeth
- 27 Carlon, Rose E.
- 28 McKeown, James
- 29 McAllister, Mary
- 30 McAleenan, Gerald
- 31 Stuart, Robert
- 32 Ferguson, Robert
- 33 Madigan, Mortimer
- 34 Mynes, Michael
- 34a McParland, John
- 35 Woods, Patric k
- 36 McMahon, James
- 37 Kelly, Mary
- 38 Larkin, Joseph
- 39 McCourt, Edward
- 40 Langan, Elizabeth
- 41 Byrne, James
- 42 Lamb, Thomas
- 43 Clarke, Margaret
- 44 Magee, John M.
- 45 McAteer, Rose
- 46 Dodd, Joan M.
- 47 Finley, James
- 48 Rooney, Mary E.
- 49 Murphy, Joseph
- 50 Murphy, John
- 51 McCabe, Patrick J.
- 52 Rilley, William J.
- 53 Fegan, Mary
- 54 Hamill, Mary
- 55 McStay, John J.
- 56 Hadden, Anne J.
- 57 McKevitt, Thomas
- 58 Carroll, Mary
- 59 Ruddy, Michael
- 60 Crawley, Thomas
- 61 Long, Thomas
- 62 Wroe, Mary
- 63 Magee, Michael C .
- 64 McAteer, Thomas
- 65 Ryan, Michael
- 66 Loy, Christopher
- 67 Bagnall, Thomas
- 68 Hamill, John
- 69 McParland, Edward
- 70 Linnie, Catherine
- 71 Campbell, Josephine
- 72 O'Reilly, John L.
- 73 Kearney, Nicholas
- 74 Grant, Dominic

FILÍOCHT

TIONÓISC

Sínte, liathdhroimseach, broc marbh.
Trua agam dó.

I nduibheagán na hoíche
Buaileadh leoraí leis.

Tobannchríoch leis an tochailt,
Leis na turais abhaile béal maidine.

Ar fhaobhar an tsaoil ariamh -
Leagtha anois ar ghruaimhín an róid.

Leagan Béarla le G. Ní M.
(Craobh an Iúir)



KINDLY FOLK OF LINENHALL SQUARE.

In Linenhall Square, where I was born,
Few people walk with an empty pride;
But many have, by dear God's grace
A cheerful word and a friendly face.
Many a kind act is done unaware
By people who live in Linenhall Square.

In Linenhall Square there are few snobs,
For a host of men, they have no jobs;
And just how folk live in time of need
Is a dreadful story and sad, indeed.
And the ways of the world seem most unfair
To the hungry poor of Linenhall Square.

In Linenhall Square, by the open doors
The children gather by twos and fours;
And there's such a crowd I give my word
The like of their arguing was never heard.
But there's many a child who was born there
And grew up a credit to Linenhall Square.

The boys of the Square are good and true
And will more than compare with the well-to-do;
The girls are like blossoms they are so fair
And can rightfully hold their heads in the air.

JOE GUINANE (R.I.P.)

01

2011

...

DÁNTA

Ionchollú

Aillillíú, aillillíú, aillillíú.
Moladh duit agus móradh mar gur
Fhuaimnigh tú len ár linn agus
San urlabhra againne d'ainm féin.
Mar go lonnaíonn tú ar an
Saol seo i do bhriathar daonna,
Bíodh agus gur soleonta an earra
Í briathar.

Leathnaigh do láithreach ionainn agus
Spréigh í go fairsing i gcosmos
Ar mbrionglóidí agus ár smaointe.
Tóg seilbh ar ár gcaidearáil, tabhair
Ciall di agus críonnacht.

Ionas i gcaint agus i gcomhlúadar
Go bhfaighmid do spiorad a anáil.
Go n-aithnímid as an nua
San chine dhaonna is sinne
Do mhac Íosa Críost, do bhriathar
Dá ndearnadh feoil, agus fós
Do ghlóir. Anois agus i
Saol na saol.

Aibhistín Valkenburg, O.P.

DINEEN OFFICE SUPPLIES

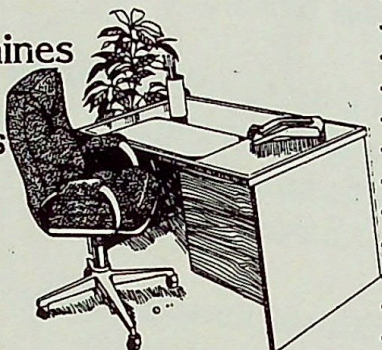
Complete Range of
Office Equipment

- ★ Typewriters
- ★ Photocopiers
- ★ Fax Machines
- ★ Dictating Machines
- ★ Shredders
- ★ Cash Registers
- ★ Stationery

**SALES &
SERVICE**

Sraid Hill

Lur Chinn Tra



Going bi-lingual

"Newry Reporter" 26 D. Fomhaire '89

All Newry and Mourne District Council vehicles are going bi-lingual! This was decided at Monday night's meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee when members adopted a motion for the change in the names of Councillors P. J. Bradley and Emmett Haughian.

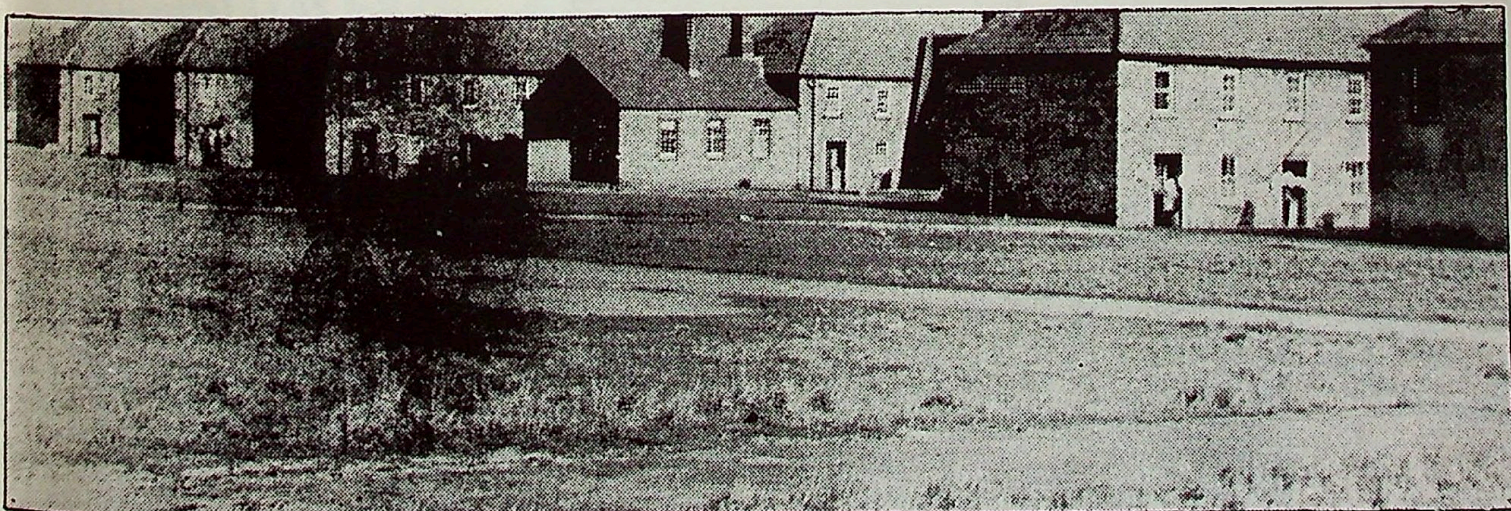
The decision, in line with the Council's bi-lingual policy will mean the names being displayed in English on one side and in Irish on the other.

Irish words

Ulster's first Irish language primary school outside Belfast has opened in Newry with seven pupils. It is temporarily housed in a private home after it was refused permission to occupy empty space in both a local state and Catholic school. 10/10/89

"Times Educational Supplement"

The old blocks at Linenball Square.





CAIRDE

aidhún
míoc

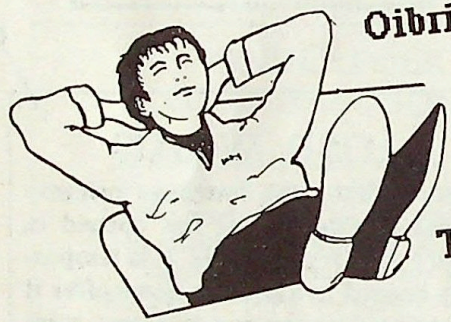
Seo é mo bheirín bréige,
Éamonn is ainm dó;
Is é mo chara dílis é,
Nach ormsa atá an ró?

Tá madadh agam fosta,
Cónaíonn seisean ins an cro;
Ach bíonn Éamonn agam i gcónaí,
D'oíche is de lá.

Is brea liom a bheith le Éamonn
Muid béirt ar ár saimhín só;
Bíonn spórt againn le chéile,
Bíonn spórt gan aon ágo.



Rainn
do
pháistí



Giolla na leisce.

Oibríonn seangán Domhnach is dálach
Mar níl aige an dara rogha;
Níl mé féin ar aon dul leis,
Is falsóir déanta mé.

Tugann mo mhamai amach domh
Nach ndéanaim faic sa teach;
Ní fhaighaim ach íde béil uaithi
Go bhfuil mé leisciúil amach is amach.

Ach níor mhaith liom a bheith mar sheangán,
Creidim go bhfuil sé amadánta;
Sásta atá mé le mo dhóigh féin
Mar liúdraman cruthanta.



Páistí óga ag
Naoinrá an Iúir



Rainn
nga
do
pháistí

Beatha an Scolaire.
 Ithim tósta te ar maidin
 Agus tósta te am lóin;
 Is grá liom tósta te don suipéar
 Agus in amannaí san iarmóin.

Is breá liom arán tíortha,
 Níl a dhath ar bith chomh blasta;
 Ag ithe tósta te i rith an lae
 Nach mise atá iontach sásta!

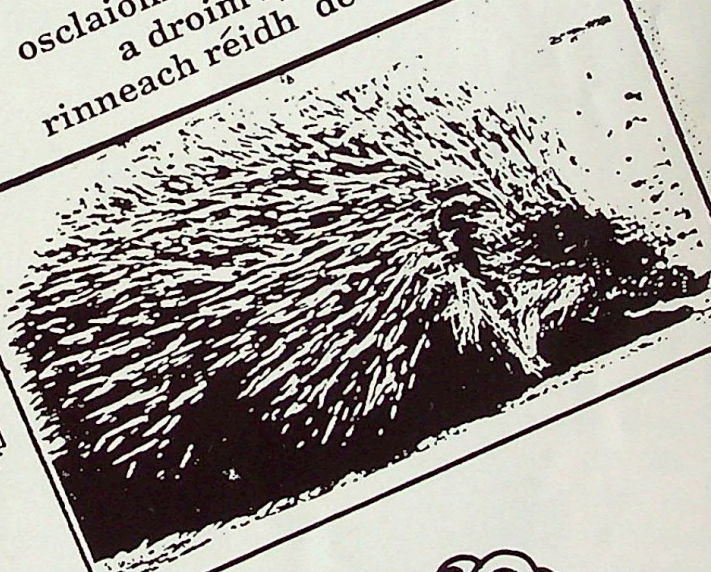
Art Mac Canna. Aois 13
 (dalta a chaith tréimhse i gColáiste
 Gaeilge ar Oileán Aráin)

COLÁISTE ARÁIN.
 BLACHLÁR.
 Greadóg: méara aráin tíortha
 gan im.
 Príomhchúrsa: arán rósta
 a la Ormo.
 Milseog: tósta agus subh air.

Bogann sé ar aghaidh sa dorchadas
 Rian a lapaí fágtha ina dhiaidh;
 Obair oíche is fearr a oireann dó,
 Cóta dubh air is liath.



an ghráinneog
 conlaíonn sí chuichi féin
 amhail blaosc chnó capaill
 sciath spící uimpi roimh namhaid
 osclaíonn sí go faireach
 a droim spíne
 rinneach réidh de shíor



Díoltas

D'fhoghlaim an frog go furasta
 An bang brollaigh nó tumadh isteach;
 Bhí orm dul chuig an linn snámha
 Cuairt ba ghráin liom, mo chrá 's mo chreach.

Bhí an frog beag cróga gan amhras,
 Níl ionam féin ach malrach meata -
 Ach nuair a bhí mé i bproinnteach i bPáras
 Bhí a chosa nite ar mo phláta!

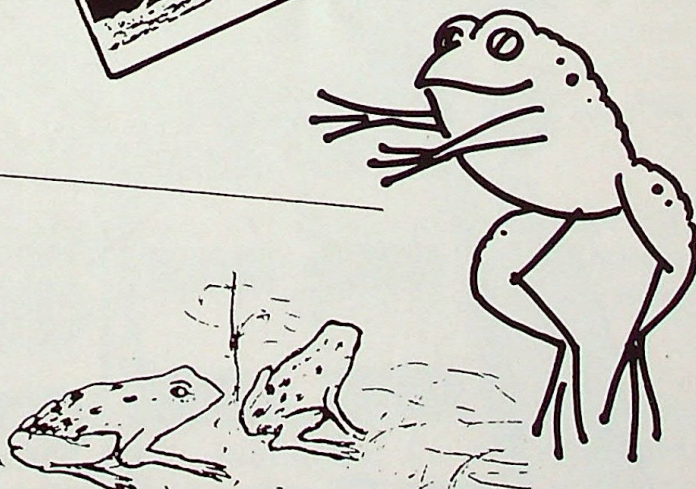


PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. C.C. CASEY



SRÁID MHUINEACHÁIN



Copyright photo (2037) by Coen, Letterkenny & Moira.

Bás Sean O' Callaghan, 1989, (R.I.P.) an fear tacsai ón Sruthán, a spreag mé póirseáil fríd mo bhailiúchán de phictiúir de chuid Iúr Chinn Trá le fáil amach an raibh grianghraf ar bith agam de na seantacsaithe a bhíodh ar Shráid Mhuineacháin. Le barr áidh tháinig mé ar an pictiúr thuas. I scuaine a bhí taobh amuigh den Newry Milling Co. (ar dheis) chítear líne na dtacsai, agus na tiománaithe ag comhrá lena chéile, toíneanna le bhalla. Duine acu Frank McArdle agus fear eile Paddy Mackin. Chónaigh siad beirt ar an Sruthán mar aon le Patrick O'Reilly atá sa ghrianghraf fosta. Beirt eile a mba ghnách leo an turas a dhéanamh idir Iúr Chinn Trá agus an Sruthán ná Jack Mc Cullough agus George Crozier ó Alt na bhfiach. Ar chlé, agus taobh amuigh de shiopa Owen McNamee, tá bus de chuid Kidd's. Thaistil an bus seo idir Lios Liath agus an Sruthán agus oibrithe ar bord a bhí ag dul chuig muilean Richardson's ar an Sruthán.

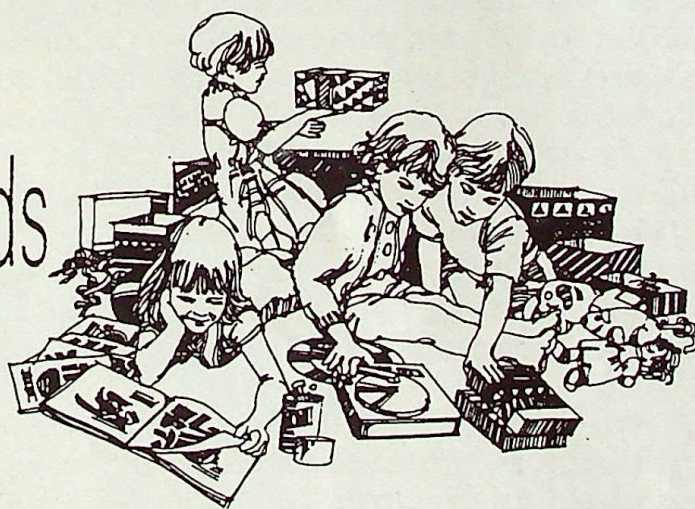
Ar ndóigh, níl an Newry Milling Co. ann i gcónaí. Tá an phictiúrlann SAVOY ar an láthair anois ach nuair a dódh an Newry Milling Co. sna fichidí bhain W.V. Hogg úsáid as an chreatlach a fagadh ann fá choinne ceantanna. Níor mhair an gnó seo rófhada, ámh.

Is iomaí claochlú a tháinig ar Shráid Mhuineacháin le blianta beaga aniar. Ar shiúl ar fad tá: an British Legion; teach tabhairne Uí Mhúrchú; an nuachtánaí Leo Geoghegan; teach báicéireachta Mhic a'Lionndáin; Uachtarlann Ard Mhacha - an Dúin; siopa grosaera Michael J. Mc Govern; an

31-33 Monaghan Street, Newry



- ★ Tobacconist
- ★ Fancy Goods
- ★ Greeting Cards
- ★ Newsagent
- ★ Ice Cream



gruagaire Grant; Ewen's Stone Works; siopa éadaitheora Campbell Gray & Co.; an bearbóir Tommy Connell; an Teach Níocháin Láir. Imithe leis tá siopa glásraí Downeys'; siopa bróg McGuigan's; an ceimiceoir Rankin; Teach Dr. Rafferty; siopa búistéara Palmer's; ollmhargadh Powells'; Oifig a Phoist agus siopa bróg Mhic Aoidh; siopa Mhic Árdghail a dhíol rothair; agus na tithe báicéireachta Milanda agus Irwin's. Bhíodh siopa beag Laverys ann (gidh go bhfuil na Laverys ann ar fad ach gnó eile idir láimhe acu). Is cuimhin liom fresin "scrap-yard" ar an sráid-- áit ina bhfuil clós ag King's anois. Fiú comhlachtaí ar nós Haldane Shiells & Co. níl siad chomh fada sin ar Shráid Mhuineacháin mar bhí Westovers Wheelbarrow Factory ann rompu agus muilean línéadaigh Kerr's ann roimhe sin aríst.

Ach an siopa a ba mhó a chuaigh i gcion ormsa ná an bhialann ROXBORO. Seo í an áit ina raibh na sceallóga a ba bhlasta in Iúr Chinn Trá agus bhíodh na málaí lán go béal gan teip. Bhíodh táblaí sa bproinnteach áirithe seo nuair a bhí mise ag fás aníos ach ní chuimhin liom ach corr dhuine ina shuí ag ithe ansin. Seirbhís "iompair-amach" is mó a rinne Mrs. Hannraty, úinéir an ti. Chaith sí go fial leis na daoine a bhí ar an ngannchuid sa chomharsanacht agus fuair carachtair an bhaile luach a gcuid pingíní uaithi i dtólamh. Ba ghnách le (Whistling) Jamesy Kelly scilling mar íocaíocht a thabhairt do Mrs. Hannraty agus thugadh sí dhá réal arais mar bhriseadh dó.

Má tá Sráid Mhuineacháin athraithe as éadan 'sé an rud is suntasaí atá in easnamh ar an sráid ná Iarnród G.N.R.. Go mí-fhoighneach a d'fhan tiománaithe tacsáí dála Seán O'Callaghan ag na geaftaí a fhad is a bhí an traein go Rinn Mhic Giolla Rua ag gluaiseacht go malltriallach ar an trasnú comhréidhe. Mura bhfuil iomrá ar an mhoill áirithe seo anois, táthar ag gearán inniu faoi na hionaid seiceála atá de shíor ag na péas ar Shráid Mhuineacháin, "Ireland's most patrolled street" de réir tuairisce.



Foireann Oifig a' Phoist Iúr Chinn Trá c. 1937

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF LILY MC CREESH



POST OFFICE STAFF, NEWRY c.1937.

BACK ROW : Mr. Mc Camley, John Mc Allister, Jack Lavery, Mr. Smith, Peter Doran, William Rodgers, Tom O'Rourke, John Pat Doran.

MIDDLE ROW : W. Lockheed, D. O'Hare, Myles Ellis, Pat Crilly, Ted Grimshaw, (Unknown), Mr. Hitchcock, J. Brady, J. Short. (J. Southwell at back)

FRONT ROW : L. Barry, Ms.Little, Ms. White, Mr. Neill (Head Postmaster), J. Mc Guigan, Nan Durnin, Ms. Ewing ?

ON GROUND : Robert Harding and Tommy Curran.
NAMES SUPPLIED BY MR. LIAM MC CORMICK

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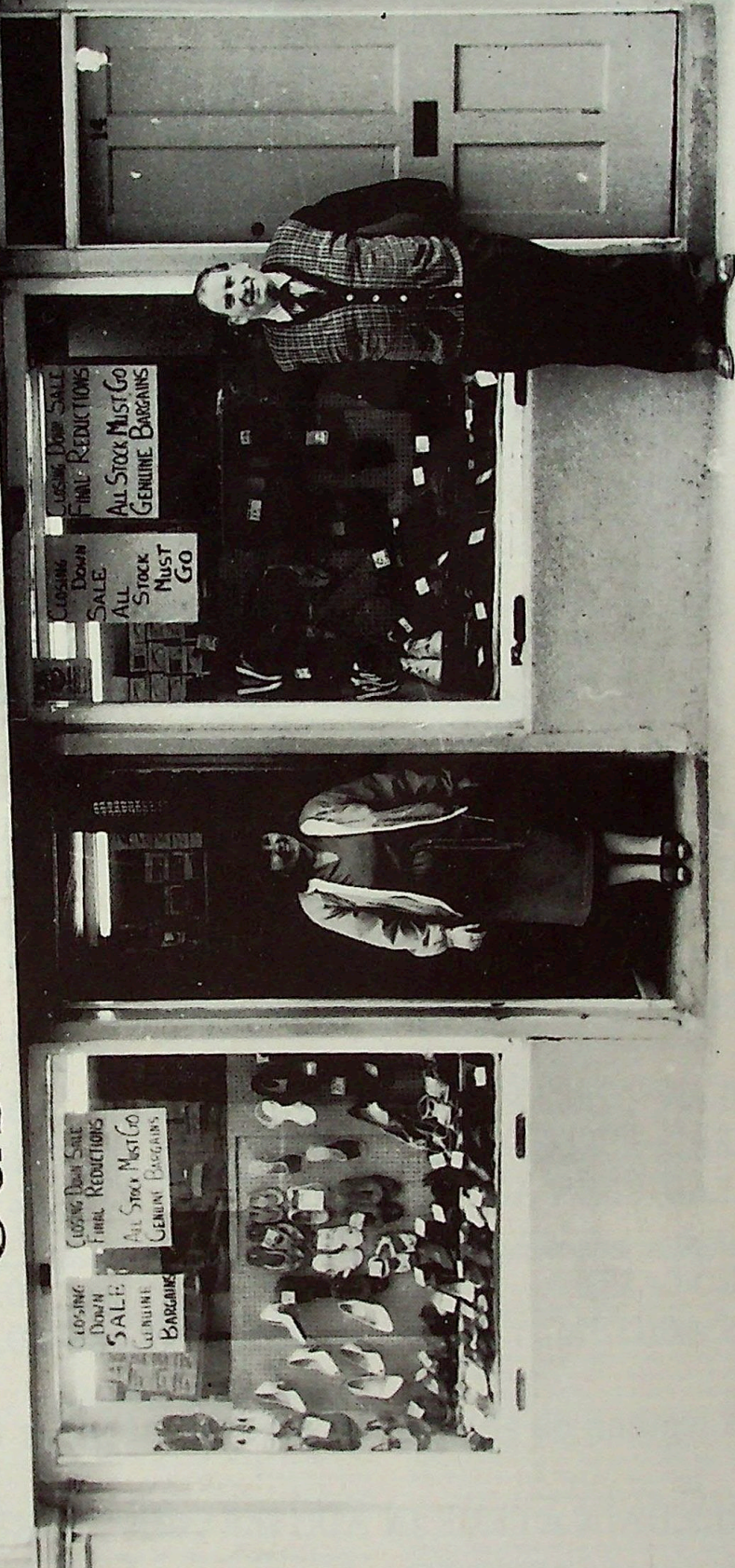
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FIFTY YEARS AGO IN ARMAGH

Walsh's shoe shop as it once stood in Francis Street. Photo by Liam Blair.

Castle Shoe Shop



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LE SUIOCHÁIN A CHUR IN ÁIRITHE CUIR SCAIRT AR 72 170 (AN POINTE)

One for the bookshelf

NEWRY Conradh na Gaeilge are to be congratulated on their annual bi-lingual magazine *Cuisle na nGael* which compares favourably with any publication of its kind anywhere in Ireland and is a credit to the amateur team who put it together.

This, the fifth edition of the town's Gaelic League magazine just released is most readable and is produced on good quality paper, a result of "cottage industry", I'm told.

As usual there is a variety of material in Irish and

English to satisfy the most critical purist and the magazine is a valuable reference for the Newry Gael at home or abroad.

Good quality photographs make it a very attractive addition to the family bookshelf and the frontpiece, a picture of Margaret Square (It looks like the turn of the century) sets off the tone of the magazine.

Articles range from a witty account of De Valera's arrest in the town in 1924 to a well-researched article on the short life of

the South Armagh novelist Donn Byrne.

It's a great fillip to Irish-Irelanders in the town that the local branch of Comhaltas Uladh succeeds in this costly venture year after year and it's especially heartening to see that Newry Council's Coiste na Gaeilge gave financial support.

The magazine is the work of local language enthusiasts but this year one of our regular Cabaireacht columnists Proinsias Mac an Bheatha and Dominican Fr. A. Valkenburg have

contributed interesting and well-structured essays.

Indeed the overall quality of the articles is very high and the magazine could hold its own with national Irish language journals which operate on a much higher budget and are produced by professionals.

Credit must be given to the sponsors, the editor and especially to those regular contributors whose work makes *Cuisle* a refreshing and inspiring read each year.

The Gaelic League, Newry Council and Newry Museum have collaborated

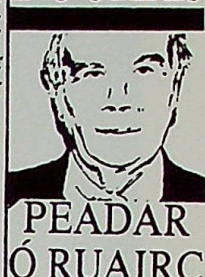
in producing this local history magazine and others could follow Newry's example. *Cuisle* is available at McAteer's Newsagency priced at a moderate £1.00.

I found the magazine full of interest whether you are a beginner in Irish or a fíor Gael.

With the emphasis on wide appeal — there are articles in English as well — it is a useful aid to learning the language and learning a bit of local history as well. For those who remember when real Gaelic

script was the order of the day you'll be pleased to see some of it in the magazine. No matter what your taste, creed or class you'll find something of interest in *Cuisle*.

DÚCHAS



PEADAR Ó RUAIRC

An tUltach, Feabra 1989

Máguaird

CUISLE NA nGAEL

Tá eagrán eile d'iris dhátheangach Chonradh na Gaeilge Iúr Cinn Trá ar fáil (uimhir a cúig, — an gcreidfeá é?) Mar is iondúil, tá an t-eagrán reatha lomlán d'ábhar soléite, inspéise, — ó "Tomás Ruiséal san Iúr" ina thús go "The Emerald Pimpernel" (.i. alt ar Éamon de Valera) i ndeireadh an leabhair. Is léir nach mbíonn easpa ar bith ábhair ag fear eagair an irisleabhair, bail ó Dhia air. Chím go bhfuil mac léinn 'A' — Leibhéal ag moladh, i litir chuig an eagarthóir, go leanfadh lucht eagair na hirise seo sampla *Cuisle na nGael* agus Béarla maille le Gaeilge a fhoilsiú: i gcead don duine óg sin, is é a déarfainn leis nach mbeimis dílis dár mbunaitheoir, an tAthair Lorcán Ó Muireadhaigh dá gcuirimis Béarla i gcló. Rud eile de, nach bhfuil tréan ábhar Béarla á chur ar fáil cheana féin? Tá *Cuisle na nGael* molta dá mbeadh an mac seo ina thost.

LÉIRCOHEASANNA REVIEWS

CUISLE NA nGAEL. The Journal of the Newry Branch of the Gaelic League. Lgh 79. £1.00.

Seo an dara uimhir den iris bhréa seo a tháinig mo bhealach trí chineáltas Séamus Mhic Dhaibhéid. Iris dhátheangach soléite atá ann agus í lán de colas nua. Tá borradh le sonrú sa Chonradh san Iúr. Maith go bhfuil an iris i lámha daoine nach bhfuil scáth orthu roimh lucht athscrúdaithe na staire. Treise leo!

Tá béim san uimhir seo ar Ghaeltacht Óméith, cuimhní cinn as sliochta le Peadar Ó Dubhda agus Donn Piatt, liosta focal a thugann spleáchadh ar an chanúnachas dúinn. Duine é Tomás Mac Árdghail nach bhfuil a shárú le fáil i dtobh stair na Gaeilge san Iúr agus maguaird. Clorann sé leabhar rolla Choláiste Bhríde Óméith 1912-27 agus cuireann in aithne dúinn muintir an Iúir a d'fhreastal ar ranganna san am sin.

Seo na haltanna suimíla eile san uimhir seo. 'Proinsias Mac Uinseannain: Gaelic League's first peripatetic teacher was employed by Newry branch'. Cruthaíonn Tomás Mac Árdghail gur bhain Seosamh Mac Grianna úsáid as *Legendary Stories of the Carlingford Lough District* le Michael George Crawford le aghaidh a scéil 'Clog an aithreachais' (bunaithe ar 'The Hidden Bell of Bronach'); ní rud nua comórtas dathúlachta, leithéid 'The Rose of Tralee' — nach raibh 'Newry's Linen Queen ann sna trócaid? Scéal brónach i gcónaí rud ar bith a bhaineas le gorta nó ganntanas agus dearcadh na n-údaras ar na bochta san aois seo chaite. Tá cur síos anseo ar 'The Newry Workhouse'. Deirtear ag bun an ailt. 'The memory of those who died so tragically is to be perpetuated by a bilingual plaque to be erected by Newry and Mourne District Council. This is appropriate as many of the paupers in the 1840s from South Armagh and from North Louth would have been Irish speakers.' Instear scéal béaloideas faoi Thomas Dunne, fear de chuid na fir Aontaithe as Ros Treabhair a dúnmaraidh ar Cherry Hill aimsear 1798.

The stubborn rebel cur
March him out on Cherry Hill
Look how the people refuse to stir
As they all obey his will.

Fear eile a chaith a shaol ag saothrú heart na hÉireann. John Philpot Curran, an dlíodóir agus óráidí clúiteach. Sheas sé don toghchán in Iúr Chinn Trá 1812. Luann an t-alt air anseo litir a bhí i gcló ar an *Dublin Evening Post*, 10 Deireadh Fómhair 1812:—

'The enthusiasm of the people was such as to take the horses from the Master of the Roll's carriage on Saturday evening, two miles out of the town, and about three thousand people drew him in. He made the finest speech I ever heard, for an hour and twenty minutes, amidst the greatest acclamations . . .'. Tá alt ag John McCavitt ar 'The Newry Massacres of 1641-2'. Seo ábhar a chuireann as do Phrotastúnaigh fóis. Cuir i gcsá dhá leabhar a bhfuil léirmheas agam orthu sa roinn seo — deir John W. Lockington ina leabhar *A History of the Mall Presbyterian Church*, 'tens of thousands of Protestants died amid scenes of horrible barbarity', agus deir Beatrice Elliott agus Jennifer Lundy ina leabhar *History of Kingsmills Presbyterian Church*, 'The Presbyterian ministers and people who were driven out of the country as a result of this Black Oath, escaped to a large extent, the Massacre of 1641, in which so many thousands of Protestant inhabitants perished'. Is mithid srúid gear a dhéanamh ar an cheist seo arís. Tá réimse M. Hickson agus Thomas Fitzpatrick thart. Tá alt maith, 'The 1641 Depositions' ag Aidan Clarke i *The Treasures of the Library, Trinity College, Dublin* agus tús maith déanta aige le haghaidh athscrúid na ceiste. Mas mall is mithid.

Tá na príomhaltanna luaithe agam ach tá filocht agus blúirí eile i *gCuisle na nGael*. An raibh fios agat gur scríobh Séamus Mac Conmara dán, go dtug Wolfe Tone cuairt ar an Iúr i Lúnasa 1792, go raibh Míchéál Cíosóg tráth ar shoireann teagaisc Choláiste Cholmáin, go raibh dán Gaeilge ar an *Frontier Sentinel* 9 Meitheamh 1928? Léigh leat!

REÁMONN Ó MUIRÍ

Cuisle an Iúir

gcuirfidís oile ar aicmí áirithe. Ach tháinig mé féin ar iris áitiúil tá gaird ó shin agus mé ar mo bhealach abhaile fríd Iúr Chinn Trá i dtreo Dhún Dealgan, iris a éiríonn léi argóint Uí Thuathaigh a bhreágnú. I siopa Mhic an tSaoir, Sráid an Droichid, a bhí teacht ar an iris.

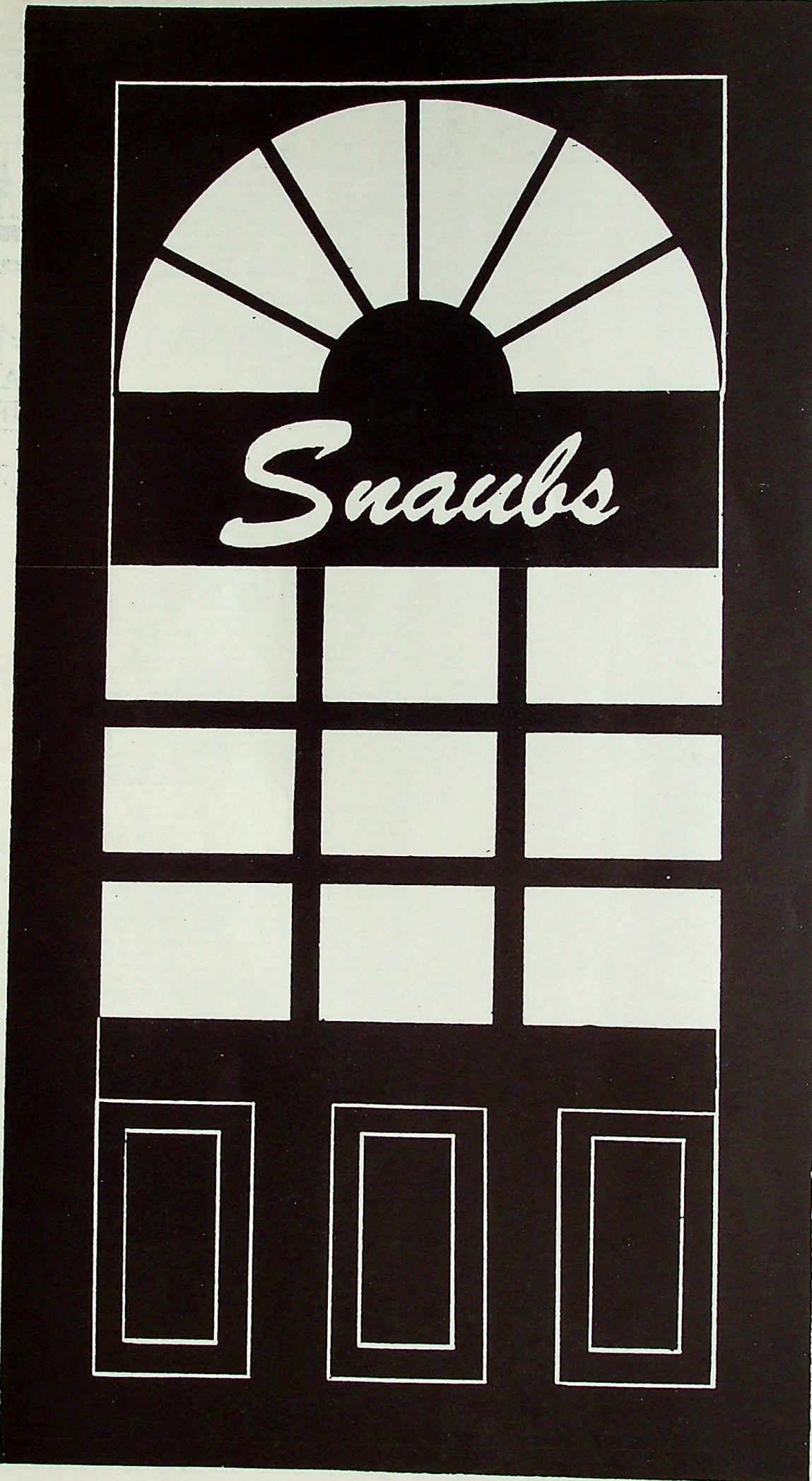
"Cuisle na nGael," bliainín Chonradh na Gaeilge ar an Iúr, an foilseachán atá i m'intinn agam agus í lán le haistí spreagúla speisiúla. Tá béim san uimhir 1989 ar limistéar an Iúir, cinnte, ach ina theanta tá eagarfhocal

neamhbhalbh uirthi a ionsalonn go fíochmhar Aire Oideachais an Tuaiscirt, Brian Mawhinney, agus an feallghníomh faoi réir aige bás a thabhairt don Gaeilge sna scoileanna ó thuaidh. Tá gnéithe Eorpacha den iris chomh maith mar tá aiste ann ó Frank Patterson atá thall sa Bhrúiséal agus alt ó scríbhneoir gan ainm a chaith seal sa Chatalóin. Agus tá ábhar ó cheantar níos sia uainn go fóill óir cuireann A. Valkenburg síos go taitneamhach ar eachtra a tharla dó i Tehran. Ní scáfarach atá foireann na hirise seo ach oiread roimh buncheisteanna áirithe a chlórach a bhaineann leis an tír síos fríd, mar atá, Forlámhas na nGall agus an chinsireacht.

Ba chóir go dtuigfeadh an tUas. O Tuathaigh nach in aon chioth amháin a d'fhliuch na cumainn staire uilig agus más amhlaidh go bhfuil an Crúsachas go smíor ó dheas agus athléamh na staire faoi lán seoil ag lucht acadúla béallfhileata na Sé Chontae is Fíchead, tá guth neamhspleách le cluinistín i gcorr-áit ó thuaidh go fóill.

"IRISH NEWS" 26/1/89. M.OC.

BHí mé ag léamh ar "Comhar" na míosa seo (Eanáir 1989) agallamh a thug Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh, staraí agus léachtóir. De réir dealraimh, nó mó ná sasta atá an tUas. O Tuathaigh leis na cumainn staire áitiúla atá chomh flúirseach sin i gCúige Uladh sna laethanta seo agus sna Sé Chontae go speisialta. Má thuigim i gceart é, creideann an tUas. O Tuathaigh go bhfuil sé sách éasca ar na cumainn staire logánta ábhar neamhchospóideach a fhoilsiú. Ní toipic a mbeadh imreas faoi, cuir i gcsá, "comhlúadar fíodóirí as Deisceart an Duin a chuaigh ar imirce go Meiricea sa naoú haois déag," solaoic a thugann O Tuathaigh féin. Tá tuairim ag O Tuathaigh go bhfuil na heagraíochtaí áitiúla teoranta ina ndearcadh agus go bhfuil laimsleisceachtúla a gceangal. Níl siad in ann déileáil le ceisteanna thromchúiseacha náisiúnacha, dar leis. Seans go bhfuil an ceart ag an fear léannta ó Ollscoil na Gaillimhe agus b'fhéidir go bhfuil bunús na gcumann seo faidósach roimh a dtuiscint féin ar an fhírinn a nochtadh ar eaga go



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Seán Mac Dhaibhéid Cathaoirleach
Tomás Mac Árdghail Fo-chathaoirleach
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Gearóid Mac Uidhrín Coiste Gnó
Gearóid Ó Maolchalann Coiste Gnó
Gearóid Ó Páirce Coiste Gnó
Ursula Bean Mhic a tSaoir



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