IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

INAUGURAL MEETING.

SPEECHES OF MESSRS. JOHN MacNEILL, P. H. PEARSE, B.L. MICHAEL DAVITT, &c.

LARKINITE INTERRUPTIONS

The Rotunda Rink, which holds between 6,000 and 6,000 people, was crowded last night, at a meeting organised by a Provisional Committee for the purpose of inaugurating the Irish Volunteers. A big brigade of stewards headed by Mr. Page, of the G.A.A., and wearing green and orange badges, had charge. At the outset, the St. James's Brass and Reed Band, which occupied the balcony at the entrance end of the hall, discoursed a selection of National airs, the refrains of which were joined in by many in the assemblage. By far the greater number of those in attendance were young men. The meeting was enthusiastic, but there was one period of sustained disorder when Mr. L. J. Kettle rose to read the manifesto of the Volunteers. "Cheers for Larkin" were raised by a small section of the crowd, and Mr. Kettle's voice was completely drowned. Alderman Macken, who followed, was quietly heard, and there was no further disturbance.

Amongst those present were—Rev. Father Eugene Sheehy, Rev. T. O'Kelly, Captain White, D.S.O.; Alderman Thomas Kelly, Mr. Eoin MacNeill, B.A.; Mr. L. J. Kettle, Councillor J. T. Kelly, Mr. P. H. Pearse, B.L.; Mr. W. Cosgrave, T.C. Mr. John Gore, Mr. John J. Scullan, National Director, A.O.H., Irish-American Alliance; Mr. Path. O'Daly, General Secretary (Gaelic League); Mr. Wm. Bergin, Sean Forde (Editor "Claidheamh Soluis"); Mr. P. O'Reilly (National Executive A.O.H. Board of Erin); Mr. M. H. Judge, Messrs. Patrick McKenna, Co. Council, Westmeath; M. J. O'Farrell, Maurice Dillon and Jos. O'Farrell.

The Chairman's Speech.

Mr. Eoin MacNeill, who presided, first addressed the meeting in Irish. He recalled a meeting held in Dublin 20 years ago at which there was only one person present for every thousand that night, and yet great things had sprung from that gathering.

The Chairman, then speaking in English, said—"We will begin now, in the name of God" (applause). The business that had brought them together, he said, was not to deliberate but to take action (applause). These things, above all others, were required—courage, vigilance and discipline. They did not want to read about these things, or to entertain sentiments about them; they wanted to see them embodied in the Irish Volunteers (applause). How was that to be done? The answer was "Volunteer" (applause). There was represented that night every section of Irish National opinion, but the speakers would not speak from any sectional point of view.

The Enrolment.

As soon as the addresses were over, continued the chairman, the enrolment forms would be presented to them, and they wished it to be understood that those who signed engaged themselves to maintain the discipline and efficiency of the Irish Volunteers (applause). A small weekly contribution would be expected from every person enrolling, and there would also be an opportunity at that meeting of subscribing to the initial expenses. A public subscription list would also be opened, and the treasurers would be Mr. John Gore and The O'Rahilly (applause). There would be work to do for large numbers who could not be in the marching line. There would be work for the women (applause). There would be work for a clerical staff, for telegraphists, for cyclists, for motor cyclists, for motorists and so on, but just now they were going to do what they were able to do. Large numbers of letters and telegrams had been received and all but one or two were heartily in favour of the objects of the meeting.

Scene of Disorder.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. L. J. Kettle. Mr. Kettle's name was received with booing, which was responded to by loud cheering.

The Chairman said "We are commencing a united Ireland (applause). We are going to let an additional number into the hall, and in the meantime I ask the band to play. After that I will call upon Mr. L. J. Kettle to read the manifesto which has been drawn up by the Provisional Committee.

The band began to play, and a body of young men carrying hurling sticks entered the hall, and proceeded in the direction of the disturbers.

A scene of tumult followed when Mr. Kettle came forward.

The Chairman interposed, and announced that an overflow meeting was being held outside.

Mr. Kettle proceeded to read the Manifesto; his voice was so great that he was heard even at the reporters' table beneath. Some people were turned out. Mr. Kettle, in a lull, said—"This work we are engaged in tonight is a national work. This is not the place for the introduction of small quarrels."

"God Save Larkin" was then sung by a compact body near the door in front of, but some distance away from the platform, and was taken up in other parts of the hall. The hall of the audience responded with "God Save Ireland" which soon drowned the other singing.

The Chairman rose, and said—"Those who are here this evening in favour of a united nation—those who are here in favour of the objects of this meeting—" He was interrupted with cheers for Larkin.

Larkinite Invasion.

Mr. Kettle proceeded to read, but the tumult increased, and there were one or two reports of detonators which some people mistook for revolver shots. Many of the audience stood on the seats, and at one of the doors there was scuffling and waving of sticks. There was apparently an invading body, one of whom held up a picture of Larkin, whilst another displayed a copy of the "Irish Worker." Captain White arrived at this point, and ascended the platform amid cheers. The crowd near the door sang another Larkinite song. Mr. Kettle went through the form of reading all the time, and his closing sentences were uttered as quiet was being restored.

The Chairman said—We will recognise no sections (A Voice, "What about the labourers?") We will recognise no divisions in the work we have put our hands to.

A young man near the platform called for "Cheers for Larkin," and was ejected.

Speech of Alderman Macken.

Alderman Macken was the next speaker, and was heard in peace, with the exception of two slight interruptions at the outset. He said the Irish people had in the face of adverse circumstances, held on to the idea of Ireland a Nation. He belonged to a class which had done more than any other in that cause, and he would be sorry if that class were to strike a discordant note (applause). Over and above accidental things, which might happen this year or next year, the nation was something for all time (applause). No nation whose manhood did not know anything of the use of arms or military discipline could claim to be a nation (applause).

Mr. P. H. Pearse.

Mr. P. H. Pearse, B.L., said that citizenship involved the enjoyment of certain rights and the acceptance of certain duties. The bearing of arms was not only the proper right of citizenship, but it was a most essential duty, because the ability to enjoy the other rights and to discharge the other duties of citizenship could be all guarded by the ability to defend citizenship. The history of the last hundred years in Ireland might be described as the hopeless attempt of a mob to realise itself as a nation. To-day they had an opportunity of rectifying the mistakes of the past. They went back, therefore, to the policy of the Volunteers—to the policy of the co-operation of Irishmen of every class and creed, and every shade of political belief, in that task of defending the rights common to Irishmen and Irishwomen.

No Opposition to Ulster Volunteers.

The movement they were inaugurating was not, Mr. Pearse said, one in antagonism to the Volunteer Companies which had been raised by the Unionists in the North-East of Ulster. He could conceive circumstances in which it would be desirable and feasible for them to fraternise and to co-operate with them (applause). They might differ as to the degree of autonomy which was desirable for Ireland, but they were all agreed on one thing, and that was, that it was for Ireland herself to determine that degree, and not for any external power (applause). There were people in the hall who shared with him the belief that for Ireland there would be no true freedom within the British Empire (applause). There were, doubtless, many more who believed that Ireland could achieve and enjoy very substantial freedom within the Empire (applause). Ireland armed would, at any rate, make a better bargain with the Empire than Ireland unarmed (applause). He was not thinking of the effect of the Volunteers on the Empire. He was thinking of the effect upon Ireland, and that effect would be mainly the moral effect (hear, hear).

Mr. Michael Davitt.

Mr. Michael Davitt, who was most enthusiastically cheered, said that when he saw that the aim of their Volunteers was to maintain the rights that were inherent in the people of Ireland, and when he found that the Volunteers were to include in their ranks people of every denomination, class and creed and shade of politics, he certainly thought that if the Volunteers did nothing else but to unify the aspirations of the Irish people and teach them how noble it was to foster national ideals, they would deserve a niche in history second to none of their great historic national forces. No one could deny that the motives underlying the movement were pure; but pure motives were liable—often amongst their own—to deliberate misconstruction and misrepresentation. Such misrepresentation they were prepared to meet, but unless they were careful they might be landed in a state of things which everyone who loved his country could not but deplore. They should ask everybody in attendance to fully understand that the Irish Volunteers were not a belligerent organisation. He did not think that anyone who had thought sincerely for themselves would allow the idea to creep into their minds that the Volunteers would be used as a threat of force. At the present moment they could not afford to take the slightest risk. Small things had hurled them before now, and big things might bank them this time. If they could show that the movement would mean the unification of the Irish people in aim and principle and through all creeds and classes, then they would have done something they would not be sorry for (applause).

The University Students.

Mr. Davitt, proceeding, disclaimed any intention of speaking for the students of University College, of whom there was a large number present. He thought it would be a great mistake at a meeting like that to formally commit any body or section to the Volunteers. Everyone should be allowed his individual choice, and therefore he hoped that no great body of men would be asked to commit themselves in toto to the movement. When great issues were impending it would be waste of logic and waste of strategy to do anything that might terminate in disaster. Many might think that the movement was an attempt to increase the bitterness that was supposed to live in Ireland. He hoped that no such opinion would be sent broadcast, but that it would be recognised that it would give instant a national opinion of herself and form a great body that would be the basis upon which to ground the demand that they knew they were deserving of making (applause).

Alderman Thomas Kelly and Mr. O'Toole, G.A.A., also spoke.

Chairman's Announcement.

The Chairman announced several meetings to be held in support of the movement in various parts of the city, and the subscriptions would be 3d weekly. The form to be signed by those present was as follows:—

"I, the undersigned, desire to be enrolled in the Irish Volunteers, formed to secure and maintain the rights and liberties common to all the people of Ireland, without distinction of class, creed or politics."

The Chairman added that as Mr. Davitt and others had made some remarks, he wished it to be clearly understood that they did not propose to organise the Volunteers in hostility to any section of the Irish people. In Ulster they had taken Home Rule and had set them an example. The Volunteer movement in Ulster could not stop where the people who initiated it thought it would stop.

There were some calls for "Captain White," but the chairman having asked all to leave who did not wish to enrol, the audience rose and sang "A Nation Once Again."

The Manifesto.

A copy of the manifesto of the Irish Volunteers was handed to the representatives of the Press. It stated that a plan had been deliberately adopted by one of the great English political parties to make the display of military force and the menace of armed violence the determining factor in the future relations between this country and Great Britain. The object proposed for the Irish Volunteers was to secure and maintain the rights and liberties common to all the people of Ireland. Their duties would be defensive and protective, and they would not contemplate either aggression or domination. Their ranks were open to all able-bodied Irishmen without distinction of creed, politics, or social grade. The Volunteers would be enrolled according to the district in which they lived. As soon as it was found feasible the district section would be called upon to join in making provision for the general administration and discipline and for united co-operation. The Provisional Committee which had acted up to the present would continue to offer its services until an elective body was formed to replace it.

Overflow Meeting.

Two overflow meetings were held, one in the Large Concert Room and in the gardens. At the former Councillor Seaghan T. O'Coailaigh presided, and the meeting was addressed by Messrs. James MacMahon, M. J. Judge, Sean MacDiarmuda, and Councillor Richard Carroll. The meeting in the grounds was addressed by Messrs. B. O'Connor and Balmer Hobson.

STREET SCENES.

ARRIVAL OF CONTINGENTS.

There were some animated scenes in O'Connell street and in Cavendish row before the meeting began in connection with the arrival of the contingents and bands. From half-past seven o'clock thousands of people, principally young men, were in the vicinity of the Rink seeking admission. It soon became evident that the building would be unable to accommodate the huge crowds desirous of being present, and even the provision of an overflow meeting in the Large Concert Room of the Rotunda left hundreds on the streets, who were anxious to take part in the proceedings. Bands playing National airs began to arrive outside the place of meeting until after eight o'clock, by which time Cavendish row had become a congested district through which tramcars and other vehicles had considerable difficulty in passing. There were large numbers of Transport Workers in the crowd, but no attempt was made to interfere with the trams. Though there was only a small force of police present at the time, the latter were entirely occupied in regulating the traffic, and there was no disturbance of any kind calling for intervention.

University College Students.

A large body of University College students marched to the meeting in processional order and attracted a good deal of attention. The members of the Gaelic Athletic Association were amongst the early arrivals and contributed largely to the dimensions of the principal meeting.

Some two or three hundred members of the Irish Transport Workers' Union, who arrived shortly after the doors were opened, were conspicuous amongst the audience, but another large section were unable to gain admission owing to the fact that the building was overcrowded when they put in an appearance outside the Rink. Shortly after eight o'clock a couple of score of them, many carrying hurleys on their shoulders, and headed by their pipers band, appeared in O'Connell street, and finding it impossible to become part of the audience, marched in the direction of Liberty Hall, accompanied by a large force of police. No disturbance, however, took place, and the police tailed off before Beresford place was reached. Later on another band of Transport Workers, who were also unable to get into the Rink, marched to Liberty Hall at a lively pace, singing "God Save Larkin," and displaying the "Daily Herald" placards. They also were accompanied by several policemen, who appeared to have some difficulty in keeping up with the Transport men without being forced into an undignified trot. There was a scene of considerable animation when the meeting concluded and the various contingents got into the streets, where large bodies of police were stationed, but there was no disturbance.

THE BOARD OF NATIONAL EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the Freeman's Journal.

Sloverus, Waterford,
November 25th, 1913.

Sir—The following letter has been addressed to the Board of National Education. Your publishing it may help them to come to a right decision on the matter at issue:—

When I came down stairs a short time since, after having been confined to bed for more than two months, and in a dying state, I found your communication of September the 5th. What has been mentioned will explain why your letter has not been replied to sooner. In this communication, which had reference to the new ceiling of Carolina pine, tongued and grooved, etc., lately put up by me in Ferrybank Boys' School to replace one of lath and plaster, which in considerable part had fallen, you state that the Board of Public Works report on the matter as follows—"The substitution of a timber for a plaster ceiling must be considered a work of maintenance, and the entire cost in the present case should therefore be met by the locality. I am to state that under the circumstances a grant would not be admissible in respect of the new ceiling.—Your obedient servant, W. P. Dilworth."

Now, it must strike anyone reading the foregoing remarkable lucubration as strange why the Commissioners of National Education (or whoever speaks for them) would not condescend to name the rule of the Board on which they base their decision. They may have a conscientious objection to specifying rules. A few years ago I remember I caught them misquoting one of their own rules in reference to Ringville Schools. When brought to book they tacitly cried "peccavi," and ran away from the point in dispute. Again, a casual reader would be disposed to conclude that the old ceiling—if it could be called old—was taken down for fun, or through sheer "cussedness." There is no mention made of the fact that a large quantity of it had already tumbled down. Should an accident occur and be followed by a lawsuit for damages who would be held responsible? I don't see how I could be, as the defects, which will be indicated immediately, were there when the school came under my management. No one can defend the work as carried out originally. Indeed, I may add I was advised on authority to take down the balance of the ceiling, lest an accident should happen. What is said, and very properly, by those on the spot who have examined it, is that the Inspector of the Board of Public Works should never have allowed the job to pass, as he is manifest that bad materials, or bad workmanship—or both—were used, seeing it was able to stand for only 14 or 15 years. One would be inclined to ask did the Board of Public Works send down an Inspector to examine the fallen ceiling, and if so was he the same who in the first instance certified the work? No one answering to the description of an Inspector has been seen or heard of in the place since the falling of the ceiling. Or, perhaps, the Commissioners (or whoever acts for them) adopted a more economic method. Perhaps a clerk, sitting on a high stool near the Custom House, Dublin, wrote for their convenience the magic words—"The substitution of a timber for a plaster ceiling must be considered a work of maintenance." And so the whole thing was settled by a scratch of the pen.

I now realise, however, that I have been in too great a hurry to get the work done, lest it should fall on somebody with fatal consequences; so that it is not correct to say as the Commissioners state (or are made to state) that it was a question merely of the "substitution of a timber for a plaster ceiling." At all events, the case should be a warning to managers of schools not to be too precipitate in carrying out repairs or improvements, relying on the sense of justice of the Board of National Education for reimbursement.

The state of my health at present bids me to labour the question. But I would put the matter this way—Let us suppose that, owing to the causes specified, viz., defective materials or defective workmanship—or a combination of both—a piece of a gable or a side wall, or the whole edifice, were to collapse, would the manager be bound in justice to make good the work? Now, amongst the Right Rev. and Right Hon. the Commissioners you must certainly have a number of experts of the first rank in carpentry. The managers, I feel sure, would be glad to have their opinion on the above point.

May I express the hope that the Commissioners will see their way to reconsider the matter of this ceiling, and allow the amount of the bill, which is:—

Materials, £6 13s 2½, abated to	6 0 0
Carpenter's time	4 6 4
	£10 6 4

The work was done, I may say, after school hours by an ex-pupil, who had just completed his apprenticeship, and reflects great credit on him.—Faithfully yours,

P. CANON PHELAN.

REXALL PHARMACIES.

The Rexall Pharmacies throughout Ireland are conducting three free gift days. The dates fixed are Friday, Saturday, and Monday next, on which customers purchasing general goods for the amount of ninepence to five shillings will be presented with gifts varying in value according to the amount of their purchases. The following is the table of gifts:—Tooth brush with 9d box of Rexall Tooth Paste, large tablet of toilet soap with goods of one shilling in value, splendid unbreakable comb with 2s bottle of Rexall Hair Tonic, ½lb box of Regent chocolates with goods value 2s 6d, specially designed hair brush and comb with purchase of 4s, 1lb box of Peerage chocolates with 5s purchases. There are also many other specialities in connection with these "three big days" which should be largely availed of. The exclusive Rexall agents in Dublin and district are Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham, and Robinson, Ltd., cash chemists, 12 Grafton street, with branches in Henry street, Baggot street, Ballsbridge, Rathmines, Rathgar, Kingstown, Blackrock, Clontarf, Cabinteely street, and Inchicore.

COST OF LITIGATION.

A WESTERN CASE

IN LONDON APPEAL COURT

Lord Loreburn, who presided in the Appeal Court, London, advised Irish litigants who appeared before him in a case affecting the sale of a business to settle their differences out of court, and thus save the cost of litigation. At first the advice was disregarded, but ultimately the parties came to a settlement without the aid of the Court.

Mr. Justice Ross, who delivered judgment in the case last November, remarked that the business carried on at Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon, under the name of John Flannery, had a large general trade, including drapery, hardware, grocery, and other departments. Though the business was large the books were kept without accuracy. Under the system of conducting the business it was open to the accountants who examined the books to arrive at any possible conclusion. Everything arrived at by the accountants on one side was contradicted by the accountants employed by the opposite side, and even the statements of the accountants were at variance with the statements of their own counsel.

The questions involved in the appeal arose in reference to the sale of the business to a partnership by Sarah V. Flannery. Later, disputes arose between the parties as to the taking of the stock-in-trade and other matters.

Mr. Campbell, K.C. who placed the purchasers' case before the court, said that some time after the agreement to sell had been entered into Mrs. Flannery complained that she had made some mistakes, and had awakened to the fact that she had charged nothing for the goodwill of the business. Then she started a series of complaints, the first of which was as to delay in the arranged periodical payments of purchase, which, she suggested, should be made more rapidly. The sum involved was several thousand pounds. The licensed premises attached to the business were still in Mrs. Flannery's name, and she refused to hand over the licence unless the purchasers accelerated their payments.

Lord Loreburn, in suggesting a settlement, said: "Let the parties remember that this is a family matter, and money is being wasted in litigation. It is really sad."

Counsel and parties consulted for about a minute, when counsel for Mrs. Flannery said he was sorry to say the case must go on.

Lord Loreburn (looking round at his colleagues) shook his head and raised his hands, and counsel proceeded with his argument.

Later, Lord Loreburn again interposed. "It is a most pitiful thing, this litigation," he said. "I do appeal to you and recommend you to try and come to terms. I appeal to you on my own behalf, and also on behalf of my learned and noble friends. Surely you can come to terms. Do try. We will go on with the next case in the list if you think you can, in the meantime, come to terms."

Counsel on both sides said they were afraid it was no use, and the arguments went on. A little later counsel announced that they had arrived at a settlement.

Lord Loreburn congratulated the parties.

Counsel—I may say that Mrs. Flannery has now become the owner again (loud laughter).

FASHION AND VARIETIES.

VICEREGAL COURT.

Yesterday morning her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen presided at a meeting of the Dublin Samaritan Committee. In the afternoon her Excellency performed the opening ceremony of the Children's League of Pity Foreign Fancy Fair, held at the Engineers' Hall, Dowson street. On arrival, her Excellency was received by the Dowager Lady Grace, Mrs. Martin, Miss Power, and Miss MacNamara, also by Sir Gabriel Stokes and Mr. John Cooke. A bouquet was presented to her Excellency by the Misses Stanton and MacNamara. Afterwards her Excellency paid a visit to the Board of Trade Labour Exchange, and was present at the meeting of the Care Committee, in connection with the Dublin Advisory Committee for Juvenile Employment. In the evening, her Excellency was present at the general meeting of the St. John's Ambulance Association, held in the Council Chamber of the Royal College of Surgeons, and was pleased to present the medals and certificates awarded. On arrival, her Excellency was received by the Right Hon. Mr. Justice Ross, Dr. Walter Stevenson, Hon. Secretary; Dr. Lumsden, Hon. Treasurer; and Mrs. Middleton Curtis, Lady Superintendent, City of Dublin Nursing Division. Guards of honour were mounted to receive her Excellency by the City of Dublin Division of St. John's Ambulance Brigade and Nursing Division, the Boys' Brigade, the Boy Scouts, and the Girl Guides. Captain W. E. Hope, A.D.C., was in attendance.

Mr James O'Connor, K.C. has arrived at Kingstown from England.

Captain Maxwell has arrived at Kingstown from England.

Viscount and Viscountess Iveagh have arrived at Kingstown from England.

Lord Decies has left Kingstown for England.

Arrivals at Kingstown per the Royal Mail Steamers:—E. S. Morgan, Mrs. H. R. Evans, Harry Hill, R. G. G. Leonard, D. J. O'Brien, J. G. Crosby, H. Barker, Mr. and Mrs. F. Garvey, Miss L. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Butler, F. S. Colquhoun, Mrs. H. A. Robinson, Martin Fitzgerald, Mrs. Allington, Mrs. Henry Concanen, Dr. and Mrs. G. E. Nesbitt, Miss Croft, J. M. Robinson, G. H. Crouch, Mrs. M. Corry, Miss V. Corry, Miss Nichol, Miss Kearns, Mrs. Waters, Miss O. Limerick, T. J. Collay, Mrs. Mason, P. J. Somerville Large, Mrs. M. Goodbody, Mrs. G. G. Goodbody, J. H. Goodbody, Miss Worthington, Miss Flynn, Miss Cookson.

Departures from Kingstown per the Royal Mail Steamers:—G. Gubb, W. L. de C. Wheeler, F.R.C.S.I., Miss Chalmers, B. Butler-Stoney, V. E. O. Valentine, M.N., Dr. Osborne, W. B. Purefoy, G. R. Gibbs, F. J. Chaves, R. H. Miller, W. B. Coulling, J. Musgrave, C.E.; Mrs. J. Musgrave, Miss D. Musgrave, F. Atherton, Mrs Colonel Cerbon, Miss Carrie Tubb, Miss Davies Gilbert, Miss Pope, L. Leonard, Miss Barbanan, Miss Birrell and child.

"MICHAEL GLEESON" AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S HALL.

St. Francis Xavier's Hall, Upper Sherrard street, was largely crowded last night when the "Pioneer" Dramatic Society, who have already gained great distinction in the dramatic world, produced for the first time a new play by Miss Mary O'Conor Eccles, entitled "Michael Gleeson." The scene, in the first act, is laid in the kitchen of Mrs. Gleeson's farmhouse in Co. Wexford, where Tom Gleeson accuses his younger brother, Michael, of having stolen a sum of twenty pounds, which he had placed in a pocket-book on the dresser. Michael is roused to anger by the accusation, and strikes Tom with a stick, and, believing he has killed him, flies to Glasgow. The second act shows the living-room in Maloney's house in Glasgow, where Michael has obtained lodgings. While there, by means of an old copy of the "Wexford People," he discovers that in his flight from home he has been the victim of a mistake, and that his brother has not been killed at all. A strike occurs in Glasgow, and, in an assault upon the police by the strikers, Michael goes to the assistance of the former in such a manner that a handsome presentation is the result. On learning of his mistake, Michael returns home, and a happy reunion takes place in Mrs. Gleeson's farmhouse kitchen. Altogether the play is most entertaining, and the different characters were very well represented. The caste was composed as follows:—Mrs. Gleeson (Mrs. Marie Sweeney), Mary Gleeson (Miss Ada Vance), Kitty O'Rourke (Miss A. Kelly), Mrs. Maloney (Miss T. Fitzgerald), Mrs Macfingor (Miss M. Atkins), Michael Gleeson (Mr. P. Nolan), Tom Gleeson (Mr. L. O'Connor), Johnny Conroy (Mr. P. E. Walsh), Constable Maloney (Mr. Jas. A. Dillon), Connolly (Mr. F. W. Bonnel), Doran (Mr. W. P. Walsh).

The very entertaining sketch "Box and Cox" followed, and was capably presented. The following took part in its production:—Box (Mr. P. J. Dillon), Cox (Mr. W. P. Walsh), and Mrs. Bouncer (Mrs. A. Bonnel).

CHILDREN'S LEAGUE OF PITY.

FANCY FAIR CARNIVAL.

OPENING CEREMONY BY HER EXCELLENCY.

A foreign fancy fair and carnival was opened yesterday in the Hall, 36 Dawson street, in celebration of the coming of age of the Children's League of Pity, the junior branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The Hall was decorated with much artistic effect, and stalls representing different countries—Ireland, England, Switzerland, Holland, Italy, Japan, etc.—were erected in the main Hall, on which were displayed for sale wares and curiosities peculiar to each country. Leaguers dressed in the national costumes also disposed of articles, and, after the fair was declared open a brisk sale was done.

The opening ceremony was performed by her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen, who was received on arrival at the Hall by the following members of the Committee—The Lady Holmpatrick, Miss Macnamara, Miss Power, Mr. W. G. Digby, the Dowager Lady Grace, Lady Lynch, Mrs. Bargroft, Mrs. Barrington, Miss Blackham, Miss Campion, Mrs. Cherry, Mrs. J. Godfrey, Mrs. Crampton, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Delaveye, Mrs Dickson, Mrs R. Dowse, Miss Dunne, Mrs. Findlater, Mrs. French, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Keightley, Miss Lanigan O'Keeffe, Mrs. Leet, Miss T. Macnamara, Mrs Meenie, Miss Maunsell, Mrs Molony Mr. and Mrs J. Talbot Power, Mr. A. Quackett, Miss O. de Rocheck, Mrs. J. H. S. Russell, Mrs. C. L. Townshend, Miss Wade, and Mrs. Sydney Young. Her Excellency, on entering the Hall was presented with a beautiful bouquet by the Misses May Macnamara and Violette Stanton.

Lady Aberdeen's Address.

Her Excellency, in declaring the Fair open, said she accepted the invitation of the Committee with very great pleasure, feeling that the Society for which the carnival was organised was most worthy of all the support that could be given to it by all sections of the community. They were all rejoiced to learn that the Society had such successful meetings in Ireland this year, and that the reports from all the Branches showed that it was already gaining the confidence of the people, and that it was doing great work for the children of the country. It was delightful to think that the children more happily circumstanced were joining in this work to help their less fortunate brothers and sisters who needed assistance, and about whose homes and surroundings they heard so much recently. Through the efforts of the Society, splendid help was given, not only to the children, but to the parents themselves, to understand more what home means, and how to care for their children (applause).

Her Excellency visited all the stalls, and made a number of purchases. She also visited the various side-shows got up for the children's benefit, and, on leaving, expressed her pleasure at the manner in which the Fair was organised.

The Carnival will be continued to-day and to-morrow, and will be open on each day from 2.30 until 6 p.m.

CO. TYRONE AND THE CAUSE.

A largely-attended meeting of the Nationalists of the Aldrummond and Loughmacrory districts of Co. Tyrone was held on Monday evening, the occasion being the re-organisation of the local branch of the United Irish League. The meeting, which was held in the Hibernian Hall, was of a most enthusiastic character.

Mr. Michael Lynch, J.P., and Mr. P. J. O'Connor, solicitor, Mid-Tyrone's representative on the National Directory, attended the meeting, and delivered addresses dealing with the political situation and the Ulster question.

Mr. Thomas Coyle (Chairman) having welcomed the speakers, Mr. Patrick McAleer enrolled a large number of members.

Dealing with the Ulster question, Mr. Lynch said that at all events the Nationalists of Ulster were determined that, come what may, they would never be satisfied until they received back the Parliament which had been filched from them, or at least an equivalent (cheers).

Mr. J. P. O'Connor exhorted his hearers to take an earnest part in the fight which their branch would have to make after this, its last, reorganisation. Long before that time twelvemonths Home Rule would be an accomplished fact, and, therefore, the present U. I. League, having fulfilled its mission, would have passed out of existence, so that every man who called himself a Nationalist, and who had belonged to any organisation in the National cause, should make it his pleasure and pride to be in at the finish (cheers).

The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. Thomas Coyle; vice-president, Mr. James McKernan; treasurer, Mr. John Curran; secretary, Mr. Patrick McAleer. Delegates to Executive meetings—Messrs. Michael McGullagh; John Ward, John Coyle, John Curran, John Dobbs, Jas. McKernan.

MESSRS J. F. KEOGH'S SALES.

Messrs. J. F. Keogh and Co., Auctioneers, Bachelor's Walk, announce in to-day's advertising columns a list of some interesting auctions, to be held during the next fortnight. To-day, at their salerooms, they will offer for sale the fully-licensed premises, 45 Castle st., Dalkey, known as "Farrell's." They will sell on Friday next a very large consignment of furniture, etc. An auction of household furniture, etc., will be held on Thursday, 4th December, at 11 Mallifont avenue, Kingstown. On Tuesday and Wednesday next, at their auction rooms, an extra large consignment of furs, including coats, travelling and hearth rugs, etc., will be sold. Rose trees, bulbs, decorative and flowering plants will also be put up for sale on Wednesday next. Next week the Christmas auctions of wines, Cigars, Cigarettes, etc., will be announced.

MESSRS. MacARTHUR'S AUCTIONS.

The house "Castle View," 104 Upper Rathmines, facing Rathmines Castle, and with vinery, summer-house, garden, etc., will be sold at Messrs. MacArthur's, of Talbot street, next auction. By deed of settlement it is free of taxes for ever. The list also includes extensive premises in Lake street and Poolbeg street, close to Butt Bridge; "Sunnyside," 120 St. Lawrence road, Clontarf, with long fowl run, etc.

MR. A. J. KEOGH'S SALES.

Mr. A. J. Keogh, Auctioneer, 10 Lower Ormond quay, will sell by publicanction or private treaty ground and profit rents, business and private premises, land, etc., in connection with the following:—Tulka Vale Mills, Finglas; Rathdown terrace, N.C.R.; 231 ground rent out of 4 valuable houses; business premises in Philisborough road; profit rent of £48 out of business premises in Mary street; 37 Westmoreland street; 75 Rathdown road; 27 and 28 Lower Gloucester street; fine two-storey dwellings in Killarney street, North Strand; licensed premises overlooking St. Patrick's Park.

TUBERCULOSIS IN DONEGAL.

At a meeting of the Donegal County Council, yesterday, a letter was received from the Local Government Board suggesting that the County Council would do well to undertake the establishment of a central dispensary, with accommodation for ten or twelve patients. A site for the central dispensary should be selected at a convenient centre, such as Letterkenny. On the motion of Mr. W. J. Evans, J.P., seconded by Mr. James Clarke, J.P., it was decided to select a site for the dispensary at Letterkenny.

AUCTIONS ANNOUNCED.

J. F. KEOGH & CO.—This Day: Licensed Premises, at Rosses, Nos. 22: Furniture, at Rosses, Dec. 2 and 3: Furs, &c., at Rosses, Dec. 6: Furniture, at 27 Mallifont Avenue, Kingstown.

P. O'CONNOR & SON—Tomorrow: Sale of Farm, purchased under Land Act, with commodious Residence, out-offices and enclosed garden, Finch, Laytown, Drogheda, at Estate Salerooms, 49 Queen street.

GAVIN LOW, LTD.—To-morrow: Store Cattle. Dec. 11: Emergency Sale of select Herd of Shorthorn Cattle, at R.D.S. Show Grounds, Ballsbridge, Dublin. Programme of Grazing Lands to let.

R. & J. WILKINSON—To-morrow: Store Cattle.

T. GARLAND—This Day: Soft Goods and Jewellery, at Rosses.

A. J. KEOGH—This Day: Furniture, of 60 Bachelor street.

W. BURLAND—This Day: Soft Goods, &c., at Rosses.

A. J. KEOGH—House and Lands, as advertised.

MESSRS. COCKRELL—House and Lands, as advertised.

MESSRS. NORTH—Houses and Lands, as advertised.

W. T. HOLDEN—Houses and Lands, as advertised.

MESSRS. HUGGARD—House and Lands, as advertised.

MESSRS. MACARTHUR—Houses and Lands, as advertised.

MESSRS. BATTERSBY—Houses and Lands, as advertised.

LANGUAGE MOVEMENT.

MEETING IN WEST CLARE.

A series of meetings have been held in West Clare during the week—at Doonbeg, Cloghaneely, Shreagh, Bealaba, and Rusin—in furtherance of the Irish Language, at all of which the National Board was sharply criticised for its hostility to Irish. The meetings were addressed by Mr. S. O Murthuille, Gaelic League Organiser, and a number of local speakers. Resolutions were passed condemning the action of the Commissioners, in refusing the Irish Language proper recognition in the National Education system.

Speaking at Cloghaneely, Mr. O murthuille said the National Board proposed to make Irish an ordinary subject next year, and, at the same time, refused to give teachers to teach it. They persisted in keeping Irish out of the training colleges, and professed, through their spokesman, Dr. Starkie, their sympathy with Irish.

At Doonbeg, Mr. O Murthuille said, in proof of the hopelessness of ever expecting the present National Board to do anything but kill the Irish Language, the Bishop of Kildare, who was a sympathetic member of the Board, appealed to the National teachers to attend the classes held by the Department of Agriculture, in order to fit themselves for the work of teaching Irish as an ordinary subject.

Speaking in Rusin, on Sunday night, the Organiser said that the Irish people should see that no hostile member of the present Board, or anybody not in sympathy with the Language, should ever be privileged to administer Education under a Home Parliament. He advised the people at the different centres to prepare for the Home Rule elections.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Dublin Centre of this Association was held last night in the College of Surgeons. Great interest was manifested in the proceedings. Lady Aberdeen was present.

Mr. Justice Ross occupied the chair.

In a report summarising a statement of the purposes and work of the Association, which was read by Dr. W. G. Stevenson, Hon. Sec., it was stated that the Association was founded in 1877 by the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, having for its object generally helping to relieve the sufferings of the sick and injured, in peace and war, independently of class, nationality, or religion. The objects for which it had been established were well known, and were, in fact, generally appreciated. During the past year 317 people first-aid lectures and 182 home-nursing lectures had been delivered, whilst at examinations 65 candidates were awarded labels, 34 medallions, 134 first-aid certificates, and 184 home-nursing certificates. Since 1891 the total number of men and women who attended courses of instruction in this centre was 11,868; while altogether 5,664 first-aid, 1,840 home-nursing, 24 home-hygiene certificates, 81 labels, and 176 medallions have been awarded. The Dublin Centre comes 11th in the amount of work it has done, their numbers being exceeded only by Birmingham and a few other English cities.

Tan Chairman, proposing the adoption of the report, expressed regret at the absence of the Earl of Meath, so interested in work of an Imperial character. It was very creditable and favourable to see so large and distinguished a gathering at this the first annual meeting which had been held for some time. Referring to the frequency with which accidents happened at the present day, he said it was a fact that since the introduction of motor vehicles the number of accidents was very much greater than under the traffic conditions which had prevailed previously. People were knocked down in the streets and were picked up by kindly persons, and there was no city in the world where such aid would be more sure to be rendered than Dublin. But it made the greatest possible difference whether the person who came to render aid was skilled or unskilled. One of the things he urged was that both the Constabulary and the Metropolitan Police should be fully instructed in this kind of most necessary work.

Dr. J. Lumsden (Hon. Sec.), seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

On the motion of Dr. Matthew Thomson, seconded by Dr. Melion, the officers and committee were re-elected.

Lady Aberdeen then distributed the labels, medallions, vouchers, and certificates to the members of the following ambulances—1. City of Dublin Nursing Division; 2. St. James's Gate Division (Guinness's); 3. City of Dublin Division; 4. Jacob's Division; 5. Fairview Division; and others.

Demonstrations of first-aid treatment were then given by the several divisions. There were illustrations of the treatment of fractured leg, scalp wound, etc.

The demonstrations were under the clever direction of Dr. Lumsden.

Replying to a vote of thanks, proposed by Dr. M'Dowell Cosgrove (Knight of Grace of St. John of Jerusalem),

Her Excellency said she greatly appreciated the vote which had been passed. She congratulated all who had to do with the reviving of the Association of the St. John Ambulance Branch, and expressed her belief that that meeting would do much to stimulate interest in the work of the Association (applause).

WEATHER FORECAST.

London, Tuesday.

Ireland.—South-westerly winds, increasing in strength; mild; unsettled; occasional rain.

The deep depression in the Icelandic region will travel away to the Arctic Sea. A new disturbance will shortly approach our islands from the westward, and a continuation of mild, unsettled weather is therefore probable, with strong winds on all our western and northern coasts.

SECOND CITY SPECIAL EDITION.

(BY SPECIAL WIRE.)
FREEMAN OFFICE, WEDNESDAY MORNING.
SIX, THIRTY O'CLOCK.

CABINET AND ULSTER.

The "Daily News and