

History Of Mayo

- J. F. Quinn

Charms Of Lough Carra

More About Lough Carra

THE lake takes a graceful, straight sweep from Castle Burke down by the Partry Shore; the land along the elevated ridge of Portroyal runs down to meet it. These sun-kissed, well-tended fields, many of them resembling lawns, on which the early meadows today billow under the gentle breeze, when viewed from the Moore Hall side would bring pleasure to the heart of the potential economist or landscape artist — furnishing, as they do, material for a nice picture and indicating an abundant harvest. The people of Partry and Portroyal villages we always find them excelling, and the land is wonderfully fertile and productive. This lake, so beloved by Stella Garvey and George Augustus Moore,

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who could not complete a book without calling it in and referring boastfully of it, runs into the village of Partry, skirting the trunk road up to the famous Bridge of Keel, where it makes union with the broad waters of the Mask, and if I may be pardoned for saying so, it turns back, washes the shores of that section of the parish of Robben, standing between it and the River Robe, back to Moore Hall, ending up at the front entrance to the demesne, now deserted and silent, but some of those days it will be much in the limelight when the brother and sister of the famous novelist come to place his cremated remains in one of his beloved Castle Carra islands. Before I depart from this place I should say that from my inquiries I found that the new tenants who got the grass lands on the Moore, Lynch, Clannorris and other estates in the region got handsome takes, but annuities and poor land valuations are high, yet only in keeping with the value of such land. The houses are decent, extensive outbuildings have sprung up, and a bold peasantry, while they have not changed the face of the country, have at least considerably improved it. In Erris and other poor districts, where they have only rubbishy cattle and equally inferior sheep, the people are almost unaffected by the restrictions, knowing that unemployment grants will be more beneficial to them than anything else, and it is very easy for them to boast about this patriotism and shout for support of the Government, but where they live in the districts I write of today they would realise the terrible calamity that has come upon the farming community — people who would be normally in comfortable circumstances are having their capital dissipated and brought to the verge of want.

About Hollymount

THIS section of the parish of Kilcommon was the home of landlordism. The serfs were tolerated only on the boggy and marshy verges of the demesnes. They were necessary to keep the swamps drained, the cut-away bog reclaimed and tilled, to keep down the rushes, side and heather. The understrappers were housed in the yards and about the big houses. As a matter of fact, the Cromwellian landlords, and many of the native Irish, bred their own clientele, producing a brood viler than themselves, begetting a moral code that was a standing scandal in the country, and only after long exposure and strong public opinion was the entrenched code of the ascendancy ousted by the Criminal Law Amendment Act, which gave them pause, though George Augustus Moore in his reminiscences said it was the Land Acts that killed the feudal system and the vile practices it gave the landlords freedom to follow. As low as is the moral code in England, their code is observed with great strictness than here, and the affiliation system, which we now have, is far more rigid in England; a greater safeguard for the unfortunate ratepayers, and the saddest part of it is that the ratepayers of the Counties of Mayo and Galway have to pay to run an expensive institution in Tuam for hiding our shame.

The Moloch Falls

THERE was nothing in Mayo, noted for landlords, resident and absentee, to equal Hollymount demesne for size, beauty, extensive fertility of the soil and location. Today it looks like a huge, beautiful orchard. A year hence it will be under cultivation. The Land Commission have put their seal on it. For years the home of the Spencer-Lindsays, there is not a trace of them. They were an old family, as their graveyard and other records show. They had extensive property high up near Kiltaine, and were not bad landlords. The last male was a dipsomaniac. The Spencer-Lindsays, a daughter of the family, who was regarded as one of the most beautiful ladies in Ireland, marrying Hermon Fitzpatrick, who assumed her name. Mr. Fitzpatrick was also a very handsome and popular gentleman, and a generous employer of labour. Of this union there was a son, who died in infancy. He married secondly. There was no issue, and he died recently. Some years before

Destruction Of The Woods

THE Hollymount district was well wooded. The view from afar indicates it is still so, but it is only a shell. There has been extensive cutting of trees of the finest quality, but there has been no planning. They are cutting still. When I was there recently I noticed a fine grove on the other side of the road from Bloomfield levelled, and it was anything but mature. If the destruction is carried on there will be no trees left in a district famous for them.

• Continued next week

The Tale Continued

CORNFIELD, in the same area, also belonged to the Rutledges. The demesne was big, so was the house. The Land Commission levelled the house, and migrants from the hills and bogs of Burren now till the rich land on this estate. Many of the Rutledges were poor and greedy, as will be seen by my article on the Moores this week. Faithful to the garrison, they enjoyed the jobs under the Grand Jury, Tom being sub-sheriff of this county for half a century, and passed away just before the change over. He was agent over score of estates, and receiver over some of the very many in the clutches of the Court of Chancery. His children have benefited to the extent of £5,000 under the will of George Moore, to whom he was also agent. Captain David Rutledge, for many years an official of the Irish Turf Club, sold his place at Kilsrah (near the railway station), to the Congested Districts Board, who made an exchange with Mr. Terence Heaney. The big mansion of Baron Clannorris at Newbrook has been made to disappear. His other one at Mount Pleasant houses a peasant proprietor. Beechgrove, another of them higher up towards Robben, where the late Mr. David Keyes, V.S., lived for some time, has been purchased by Mr. James Burke, Castlebar. At Ballinaloe, near Robben, I noticed what I took to be a stump of a round tower, and on inquiry I learned that it was the remains of a windmill Lorrain told me had for grinding corn. My informant also told me that Newbrook House, Lord Clannorris' official Mayo residence, was burned down many years ago.

On my visit I missed a familiar landmark on the side of the road above Newbrook School. This was a venerable ash tree. It was told it was cut down, and moving on I saw the fresh stump, with a girth of about 20 feet. In an adjoining house I learned that the county surveyor having intimated legal proceedings it was removed, a gentleman who has saw mills at Bloomfield performing the operation, tons of firewood being provided, as the centre of it was rotten. It might have been a thousand years old, and it looked it.

More Disappearances

THE Fairs, to whom I found elaborate monuments in Hollymount Protestant cemetery, dating back a century, lived at Bushfield. This I located above Roundford cross. They also have disappeared. A herd lived for years in the house, now in possession of peasant proprietor. The Fairs became merged in the Rutledges and a Rutledge-Fair was wife of the late Mr. Alexander Knox-Gildea, Clooncarrock — the Robe, nearly always brink high, making an effective meaning for a long stretch of the demesne. Lehinch demesne is gone — Mr. Fitzpatrick sold it to the Land Commission; and Mount Jennings is worked by a farmer. The gaunt remains of Brownstown House are visible from the Robben-Moore Hall road. Burned many years ago it was the residence of a patriotic Mayo man — George E. Browne, who was the last living member of Isaac Butt's Home Rule Party. He is still fondly remembered in the district. In George Henry Moore's day races used to be held at Robben, and the big grandstand stood up to a few years ago. Hollymount was noted for its great livestock show, lasting for two days. Mr. Fitzpatrick lavished money on its promotion. With the establishment of Claremorris Show it stopped. A number of the residences of the smaller fry of the late ascendancy partly still stand. I will have to refer to a few more of the landlords' mansions when I pass up to Ballinrobe, Cong and Shrule.

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Gortnor Abbey Ballad Groups who got first, second and third at Ballina Feis. Back (left/right): Sarah Flynn, Claudette Cosgrove, Anna Moffatt, Miss Fiona Watts (teacher); Rachel Lowry, Junko Sagara, Patricia Lynott, Patricia Garrett, Dervla Holmes, Claire Flynn, Catherine Bourke, Catherine Leahane, Catherine Gill, Brenda Farrell, Caroline Condon, Caroline Ruddy, Ailbhe Rowley, Teresa Costello and Edel McDonnell.

Templeboy/Dromore West Feis Results

COMPETITIONS (Confined Templeboy/Dromore West) Reel U-6: 1, Darren Burke; 2, Aoife Golden; 3 (tie), Sharon McCloot and Stephanie Tempany. Trophy Reel U-6: 1, Darren Burke; 2 (tie), Sharon McCloot and Stephanie Tempany; 3, Aoife Golden. Reel U-8: 1, Jennifer Scott; 2 (tie), Grace Kilgannon and Angela Burke; 3 (tie), Ciara O'Connor, Sharon Kilgannon and Mark McCloot. Slip Jig: 1, Darren Burke; 2, Jennifer Scott; 3 (tie), Sharon McCloot and Stephanie Tempany. Single Jig: 1, Darren Burke; 2, Angela Burke; 3 (tie), Jennifer Scott. Trophy U-7: 1, Charlene Foody; 2, Jennifer Scott; 3 (tie), Angela Burke and Joseph Forde. Reel U-8: 1, Aileen Cawley; 2 (tie), Denise Woods and Bernice Ruane; 3 (tie), Elizabeth Burke and Joanna Judge. Slip Jig: 1, Suzanna Henry; 2, Bernice Ruane; 3 (tie), Aileen Cawley and Carina O'Dowd. Single Jig: 1, Bernice Ruane; 2, Suzanna Henry; 3, Aileen Cawley. Trophy U-8: 1, Aileen Cawley; 2 (tie), Bernice Ruane and Suzanna Henry; 3 (tie), Hilda Hennigan and Denise Woods. Trophy U-8: 1, Aileen Cawley; 2, Bernice Ruane; 3 (tie), Corina O'Dowd and Denise Woods. Reel U-9: 1, Eirena Golden; 2 (tie), Michelle Reynolds and Fiona Egan; 3 (tie), Patrice Quigley and Aisling McDonagh. Slip Jig: 1, Eirena Golden; 2, Patrice Quigley; 3 (tie), Michelle Reynolds and Gary Burke. Single Jig: 1, Patrice Quigley; 2 (tie), Breeda Rolston and Gary Burke; 3 (tie), Aisling McDonagh and Nicola Hallinan. Light Jig: 1, Eirena Golden; 2 (tie), Fiona Egan and Gary Burke; 3 (tie), Celina Hallinan and Michelle Reynolds. Trophy U-9: 1, Eirena Golden; 2 (tie), Gary Burke and Patrice Quigley; 3 (tie), Michelle Reynolds and Breeda Rolston. Reel U-10: 1, Denise Mulrooney; 2, Amanda McCloot; 3 (tie), Melissa Kavanagh and Sonya Dowd. Slip Jig: 1, Denise Mulrooney; 2 (tie), Amanda McCloot and Pauline Lambe; 3 (tie), Sonya Dowd and Michelle Reynolds. Single Jig: 1, Denise Mulrooney; 2 (tie), Amanda McCloot and Sonya Dowd; 3, Pauline Lambe. Light Jig: 1 (tie), Pauline Lambe and Denise Mulrooney; 2 (tie), Amanda McCloot and Sonya Dowd; 3, Paula Healy. Trophy U-10: 1, Amanda McCloot; 2 (tie), Paula Healy and Pauline Lambe; 3 (tie), Sonya Dowd and Karen Woods. Reel U-11: 1, Orla O'Brien; 2, Fiona Kearns; 3 (tie), Lisa Hallinan and Lorraine Donegan. Slip Jig: 1, Orla O'Brien; 2, Fiona Kearns; 3 (tie), Lisa Hallinan and Lorraine Donegan. Single Jig: 1, Fiona Kearns; 2, Orla O'Brien; 3 (tie), Amanda Golden and Avril Shaw. Light Jig: 1, Fiona Kearns; 2, Orla O'Brien; 3 (tie), Lorraine Donegan and Sinead Egan. Trophy U-11: 1, Fiona Kearns; 2, Orla O'Brien; 3, Amanda Golden. Reel U-12: 1, Jennifer Tuffy; 2, Cathriona Egan; 3 (tie), Michael Healy and Graine Sheridan. Slip Jig: 1, Cathriona Egan; 2, Jennifer Tuffy; 3, Graine Sheridan. Single Jig: 1, Jennifer Tuffy; 2, Cathriona Egan; 3, Graine Sheridan and Michael Healy. Light Jig: 1, Cathriona Egan; 2, Graine Sheridan; 3 (tie), Jennifer Tuffy and Michael Healy. Trophy U-12: 1, Jennifer Tuffy; 2, Cathriona Egan; 3 (tie), Graine Sheridan and Michael Healy. Reel U-13: 1, Joanne Harte. Slip Jig: 1, Joanne Harte. Single Jig: 1, Joanne Harte. Light Jig: 1, Joanne Harte. Trophy U-13: 1, Joanne Harte. Reel U-14: 1, Farnan Golden; 2, Linda Blegane.

Memorial Tribute To Tom Glynn

Bekam community will miss a great friend! From my earliest days growing up in Cloonlara, Tom Glynn was much talked about among the neighbours I could hardly wait to come to the U.S. to meet him. After his sister, Mary Oley, sponsored me to Los Angeles I secured employment with T.W.A. The travel benefits took me to any major city. My first trip was to New York to meet Tom. I have fond memories of that first American vacation with the Glynn family in Glencove, L.A., New York. It was the beginning of a life time friendship. Down through the years our relationship just grew and grew. I looked up to Tom not only as a successful figure and a man of noble character, but as a father image because of the love he showed me. His many visits here to California and Chicago and New York brought us together in a close bond of unit. When my family and I visited Cloonlara he always had the welcome mat out with a hearty welcome and an open door. We were always part of his family. Cloonlara will never be the same without Tom. He brought new life to this rural village which the Yanks would call the boon docks. He shared so much happiness with his neighbours. He took on the responsibility of bringing in the 'phone system to the village and other conveniences. Tom was born in England to John and Kate Glynn, who returned to live in Cloonlara when Tom was seven years old and his dad retired from the English cops. Tom attended Bekan School until he returned to England again for a year before emigrating to our adopted land in 1927. Tom experienced some lean years here during the depression and World War two but his boxing career took him into new heights and challenges. During those years Tom met his life-time sweetheart, Kathleen Lambert, who hails from Ballymote, Co. Roscommon. God blessed their marriage with two sons, Tommy and Kevin, who now reside in San Diego. Tom also served in the United States Army. After a long career in boxing he moved from Chicago to the "Big Apple". In 1940 he joined the New York State Police Dept. He retired in 1973 after thirty-three years of dedicated service. He fulfilled his life-long dream of returning to Cloonlara to spend his retirement in the peace of this remote and quaint little village which then had a population of eight people. Many of us, after spending most of our lives here in the U.S., could not think of returning to our homeland for retirement after growing into the American way of life, but Tom showed us in his humble way that if the love for our homeland is strong enough we can return and enjoy the peace of that beautiful island and share our love with those who stayed behind to keep the home fires burning. On June 19th, God called Tom home to his eternal reward in the land he loved so well! I am truly grateful that Tom crossed my path here and touched my life in such a special way. My love and deepest sympathy to his wife, Kathleen, and Tommy and Kevin, and his nephews, John and Joseph Glynn and Cianan and Jarlath Oley. Thank you all for sharing Tom with me. His warm Spirit and loving heart will live forever! A dear friend, — John Hanley, (Los Angeles).



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SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL. LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS) ACT, 1945. THE ACLARE (FR. STEPHEN MCGUINNNESS) CIVIC IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

At a meeting of Sligo Co. Council held on the 23rd July, 1984, the above Scheme was adopted.

The Scheme includes objectives to promote the welfare of the people of Aclare and of the surrounding areas and hinterland and for the preservation, development and maintenance of amenities of these areas and, in particular, to promote, establish and maintain industrial and other undertakings in Aclare in order to generate employment within the above described areas.

The Scheme also provides for the acceptance, holding and administration of gifts of real or personal property and for the establishment of a Voluntary Civic Improvement fund which shall be under the control of Sligo Co. Council.

Any person who wishes, may make contributions to this Voluntary Civic Improvement fund.

Signed: D. O'DONOVAN. Acting Co. Secretary.

Date: 13th August, 1990.

HAVE YOU A HOLIDAY HOME TO RENT?

Did you know there is strong visitor demand for self-catering holiday homes? Most properties listed with us are booked out each summer season.

If you have a house, bungalow, castle, cottage, flat or other type of home suitable for letting to holidaymakers, we would like to hear from you by the 29th August, 1990. We are now listing properties suitable for the 1991 Ireland Self-Catering Guide published by Bord Fáilte.

For advice and application form, details of fees, etc., please contact: Ireland West Tourism, Aras Fáilte, Victoria Place, Galway. Tel. (091) 63081.

There is a computerised self-catering booking service available to owners.

Renewal forms are being posted on 22nd August to owners whose premises were listed for 1990. Forms are to be returned by the 6th September, 1990.

TB Pre-Movement Test

The validity of the TB Pre-Movement Test has been reduced from four months to 45 days. With effect from 1st August, 1990, all cattle being moved into or out of a holding, or being offered for sale, must have passed a TB Test within the previous 45 days.

ERAD

Eradication of Animal Disease Board

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20% Increase In Agricultural Diesel Oil Deplorable - ICMSA

The ICMSA President, Mr. Tom O'Dwyer, said last week that the unjustifiable increases in agricultural diesel oil by some oil companies by up to 5p per litre (22.5 / gallon), is deplorable.

Mr. O'Dwyer based his statement on an ICMSA survey of major oil companies' and oil distributors' prices which found that the price increases in the past week ranged from 0.6p/litre to 5p/litre.

Mr. O'Dwyer said that it seems the oil companies have taken advantage of the Gulf tensions to make unjustifiable increases.

"If these increases were to apply for a full year they would cost Irish farmers £20m., therefore, I have written to the Minister for Industry & Commerce to ensure that agricultural diesel oil is included in the Department monitoring of petroleum product prices", he said.

Mr. O'Dwyer stated that he had called on the Minister to impose a maximum price order on agricultural diesel if the price increases in Ireland were higher than that which could be justified by world oil prices and developments.

The ICMSA survey indicates that agricultural price increases in Northern Ireland to date have been lower than the price increases imposed by oil companies in the Republic.

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Direct Marketing Aids Called For

The Mayo International Association Executive has called on the Minister for Agriculture & Food to make Financial Aid to Factories and other groups involved in the Marketing of Agricultural Products. At present the only Body which receives State aid is C.B.F., the Irish Livestock and Meat Board, and the County Mayo Executive feel that a greater effort to market Irish products which is of such high quality should be made.

The Executive have expressed serious concern at the decline in prices of beef, sheep and milk which, if they continue to fall, will force many small farmers off the land. They have called for an increase in Sheep Headage payments from IR£9.50 paid at present on ewes, to IR£15.50 for the first fifteen in herd and an increase from IR£6.50 to IR£9.50 for the next fifty in the flock.

Mr. Francis Cusack, Chairman, Mayo United Farmers' Executive was a member of a Delegation which met Minister O'Kennedy to discuss a range of Agricultural issues.



Miss Finola Gallagher, Moygownagh, and Thomas Larkin, Knock, who were married in Moygownagh Church. The reception was held in the Castle Arms Hotel, Enniscrone. Pic: E. O'Boyle.



At the presentation to the winner in the final of the Pub Talent Competition, sponsored by Guinness, at the Charlestown Western Rose Festival, were (l. to r.): Denny Brennan, Charlestown (pub owner); Paddy Cassidy, Festival Chairman; Peter Chambers, Guinness Group Sales, presenting first prize to Darby Leonard, representing Brennan's, and Una Hanley, Treasurer, Festival Committee. Pic: Frank Dolan.

The "WESTERN"

The Big Read, Value-for-money paper.

FINOLA and TOMMY wish to thank their relatives and friends for making their wedding day such a happy and memorable occasion, and for the many presents and cards they received.