

THE ROSCREA REVIEW

No. 21

Quarterly of the Cistercian College, Roscrea, Union

Autumn 1971



DOM CAMILLUS CLAFFEY

1911 - 1971

Dom Camillus Claffey passed peacefully to his reward on 28th July, 1971, after 60 years in the monastery. He was a native of Portumna, educated at St. Jarlath's, Tuam and he spent some time with the Oblates of Mary Immaculate before joining the Cistercians at the age of twenty. On the 3rd September, 1911 he received the habit of that Order.

Ordained to the priesthood in August 1919. He devoted his life to various monastic and priestly duties and also found time to write a number of pious articles and poems. He was appointed successively Sub-prior and Prior to Dom Justin McCarthy.

In October 1944 Dom Justin died and Dom Camillus was elected to succeed him. The Community he inherited was strong in numbers and financially sound. Within two years he had established a new foundation in Scotland at Nunraw. Less than ten years later another foundation was sent to Australia at the request of Archbishop Mannix, and settled at Tarrawarra near Melbourne.

During Dom Camillus' reign, the Community in Roscrea at one time numbered over a hundred and twenty. Before he retired from office in 1962 he had the joy of seeing the negotiations for yet another foundation begin. At the request of the Arch-

bishop of Dublin, Most Reverend Dr. McQuaid this monastery was established at Moone, Co. Kildare.

Dom Camillus was succeeded by Dom Eugene Boylan whom he outlived, to see yet another successor take office. This time it was a young monk whom he had received into the Order in August 1945, Dom Colmcille O'Toole, a past student of the College ('40-'45).

The remaining years of Dom Camillus were spent in peaceful study and prayer. He was well prepared when he was called to meet his Master.

Ar deis De go raib a anam.

A Letter from the Union

President

Dear Past Student,

No doubt you will be anxious to hear how the collection of funds for the Swimming Pool Project has fared since it was launched in the period May/June 1971, by the posting of an illustrated brochure and Form of Covenant/Bankers Order to all Past Students of the College. This is not the place to delay over the considerable initial work involved in this circulation—the revision of the roll of Past Students, the preparation and posting of a preliminary circular and finally the preparation and posting of the Brochure. I will only say here that the work fell heavily on the Union General Secretary, Fr. Dermot, and we can at this stage only offer him and those in the Branches who co-operated with him, our grateful thanks.

All Union members had received their Brochure and Covenant Forms before Union Day, 16 May 1971. As a follow up to the Brochure, Union members have been and are being visited by selected representatives in some branch areas, but the organisation and execution of this work is by no means complete in any of the Branches. The work of visiting the General Past Student body has yet to begin. This work entails the breaking up of the roll of Past Students into suitable working areas for visiting and the appointment of visitors. It is here that the Officers of the several Branches of the Union must play their part. No circulation however well carried out, can be an equal substitute for the personal contact and interest established by visiting.

Bearing these things in mind I will now give for the three month period 15 May—15 August '71 the results of our efforts so far. As a result of the appeal a sum of £12,000 has been subscribed. This figure can be considered satisfactory for a collecting

time of three months which included the annual holiday period, and our grateful thanks are due to all those past men who have so promptly and liberally subscribed. Their Alma Mater will be ever grateful to them and for the present and future generations of boys at the College they will have helped to raise a monument "aere perennius".

There is one disturbing aspect of this figure however which must be pointed out. It is better that all past men and Union members particularly be appraised of the exact position. The total number of past men who have subscribed to this sum of £12,000 is only 76 while the total number of past students circularised is 4,400 and of these there are about 1,000 Union members. The very great majority then of Union members and past students generally have not yet contributed. Let me say to those past men (and I know of many) who intend to contribute, that it is impossible to commence detailed planning for the Pool if the target we have set ourselves—£30,000—is not attained; that the longer the delay in subscribing, the greater will be the eventual cost of the Pool be.

A central committee meeting of the Union will be held on October 24th '71 at which the Swimming Pool will be the main item on the agenda. I now appeal to all past men who have yet to contribute to do so immediately or at least before that date, as otherwise, the Committee can take no positive action for the erection of the Pool. I ask them by doing this to lighten the burden of those charged with the work of visiting and indeed of all concerned.

We have entered into this Project freely. Let us see it through with the promptitude and generosity it deserves. "Give freely" said the saint "what you have freely received."

GERARD BATES

Union Day, 1971

Sunday, May 16th, dawned cold and grey. It was raining in most areas in the morning and many of those who had planned to come to Roscrea for the day were put off by it.

The golfers assembled early for the Abbot's Cup Championship and the ladies competition. The cup was won by Mr. O'Gorman for his second time in a row and the ladies competition by Mrs. Greta Healy, Dublin.

The Union Mass was said by the Lord Abbott in the college chapel for past students, living and dead. It was attended by about two hundred people. Some photographs were taken of the general assembly after Mass.

There was much greeting of old friends and many whom we had not seen for a long time were back—some no longer single. Family groups were much in evidence and quite a number had come very long journeys—Dublin, Cork and Waterford as well as Galway, Limerick and Longford. It was a pity the sun did not shine but at least the rain held off. An enjoyable afternoon tea was served by Sisters and the staff in the recreation hall and some informal photographs were taken by Mr. Cotter of the *Birr*

Tribune. The Abbott and a number of the priests moved amongst the guests speaking to old friends and meeting new ones. It would have been pleasant to prolong this afternoon session but the important work of the day, the annual general meeting, had to be got through.

Reluctantly and with many apologies members of the Past Students Union were herded into the Billiard Room where they carried out their own mysterious rights. It was some hours later before the doors were again opened and all were invited to join in a glass of sherry. For many of the family parties this was the close of the day. Long journeys and young children demanded an early departure but some eighty or more remained for the dinner in the Pathe Hotel where they enjoyed a very well cooked and served meal. A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Horan for his excellent cuisine and service. The music was provided by an electric organ and drummer and those who wished to remain danced into the early hours of the morning, having being joined later on by the Roscrea Operatic Society.

AN FIOLAR 1970

READY BY CHRISTMAS, D.V.

Write to THE EDITOR,
CISTERCIAN COLLEGE, ROSCREA

Price £1 Plus Postage

Annual General Meeting

A very representative gathering of the past students attended the annual general meeting on May 16th. All the Irish branches were present and Paddy Moriarty and Seamus Gartoll spoke on behalf of those in England and Wales.

The meeting itself was a very lively affair. It mostly centred around a heated discussion regarding the brochure and the figures for the forms of covenant. The annual retreat was also discussed. Many of those present thought that in view of last year's attendance at the retreat this function should be abandoned but as many considered that it still fulfilled a useful function and should be retained. Opinions differed as regards the date, some wanted it early, some wanted it late. When the meeting was reminded that a minimum of twenty was necessary before we could hold a retreat next year, Mr. Houlihan said that three from each branch could cover this quota. Some thought that there were a lot more than three in each branch who need a retreat, so if we were honest we would have no difficulty in reaching the quota! At Dr. Sherry's proposal it was agreed to continue the retreat for one more year and that the details as regards date, publicity and so on be left to the Central Committee. The President said that in the final analysis the responsibility of the success of the retreat rests on the chairmen of the branches. There were some who thought that Union Day and retreat day would make a good combination, but those who had experience of both functions said this was not practical.

Mr. Lavan, the new General-Treasurer, read the financial report which is printed elsewhere. The President introduced Mr. Tom Haugh as President-Elect for 1971-72. Acceptance of Mr. Haugh as President-Elect was proposed by Mr. Windle and seconded by Mr. Rafferty.

The subject of membership fees was also reviewed at the annual general meeting and the new subscription fixed at £3.50. The Dublin Branch outlined a plan of campaign for the follow-up to the brochure. A colourful set of charts gave the figures for each area and the numbers both of pastmen and Union members involved. There was much discussion on what was expected from each member but the President closed the discussion by saying the collection was confidential and that the figures that frightened so many were given as guides not as standards. There seemed to be a division of opinion about the method of collecting funds and the amount required. Mr. Haugh said we should not leave the meeting divided in our intention of our aims. We had proposed this work and adopted it freely, it was up to us to see it through at all costs. We had committed ourselves to collect £30,000 and now everyone should help to realise this sum.

The discussions took so long that the important point of acceptance of volunteers for follow-up work was forgotten and this aspect of the campaign for the swimming pool must still be fulfilled. The sherry reception that followed this heated discussion was very welcome. Much heated talk had generated a healthy thirst!

General Secretary's Report to AGM 16th May, 1971

The General Secretary's Report to the 41st Annual General Meeting of the Cistercian College, Roscrea, Union, held at the college on the 16th May 1971.

During the past year there were fifty new members enrolled in the Union. Most of these were from among the students who finished in the college last June, eight were at branch level.

The attendance of pastmen on Union Day 1970 was very good, but there was the usual last minute embarrassment with the hotel people about the numbers attending the Union dinner/dance. This resulted in a financial loss of about £37. We hope that the return to the Pathé Hotel this year will improve matters. Let me insert a word of thanks here to the officers of the North Tipperary Branch who work so hard to organise the social side of Union Day, and also to the committee of the Roscrea Golf Club who have facilitated us in regard to the championship for the Abbot's Cup.

Reports have been received from North Tipperary, Cork, Midlands, Galway and Dublin. Most of the branches are in low water financially, sometimes as a result of subsidising the *Review*. Attendance at branch meetings and social functions in the provinces has sadly fallen away, with the result that already the Midlands, Limerick and Galway have given up trying to organise functions in their areas. The investment club in Galway brings some members together from time to time. The current report from

Cork forecasts that the dinner/dance which they held there so often and so long will be abandoned next year for lack of support. While on this somber note we might as well include the annual retreat for pastmen. Only six people turned up last October. Rather than abandon this traditional exercise altogether the Central Committee has changed the date to facilitate those who find early October inconvenient, and the end of November has been selected as a suitable time. Facilities for retreatants have greatly improved in recent times and central heating has made it much more comfortable than formerly. However the guest-house authorities have insisted that they will only provide retreat facilities for a minimum of twenty bookings. It should be the duty of each branch committee to stimulate interest in the retreat in their respective localities, and ensure a good attendance. We would welcome any suggestion from this body which would help to keep the retreat going.

The swimming pool project which was approved by the A.G.M. last year took a long time to get off the ground. Only a few people realised the magnitude of the work involved, and co-operation from the branches has been put on the long finger. The thorough and businesslike way in which the members of the Dublin Branch have put their shoulder to the wheel should be an encouragement and an example to us all. It has been said here again and again, that the Union needs a worthwhile project to unite it, stimulate the members and focus their

interest on some tangible objective. Now you have it in the swimming pool project; and it is up to you to see that these objectives are attained. If you are to realise the goal you have set for the Union—to provide a swimming pool for the college—there will have to be a lot more effort put into the campaign.

To date the *Roscrea Review* has been maintained in spite of rising costs of production. This has been largely due to the untiring work of the South Tipperary Branch and the advertisements supplied by businessmen in that area. We would like to put on record here our appreciation and thanks for their generosity and support. The amount of news and literary contributions sent in by pastmen is far less than it should be, and I would ask the branches to put the literary needs of the *Review* among the items to receive attention at your meetings. Some years ago an interesting series called "Portrait of a Pastman" appeared in the *Review*. There must be still many interesting people in our midst whose lives and careers would make very good literary copy. The career guidance panels which the Union sent to the college to speak to the students did splendid work and we hope this will continue for a long time to come.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I thank you for your forbearance towards me during the year, and if I have fallen short of what might be expected, I plead your forgiveness. Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS

Author: G. J. HOULIHAN

The major barrier to mutual interpersonal communication is our very natural tendency to judge, to evaluate, to prove or disprove the statement of the other person or group. For example, suppose someone commenting on a discussion makes the statement: "I did not like what he said." Almost invariably your reply will be either approval or disapproval. In other words your primary reaction is to evaluate it from "your" point of view.

Although the tendency to make evaluations is common in almost all interchange of language, it is very much heightened in those situations where feelings and emotions are very deeply involved. So the stronger our feelings the more likely it is that there will be no mutual element in the communication. There will be just two ideas, two feelings, two judgments, missing each other in psychological space.

Real communication occurs, and this evaluative tendency is avoided, when we listen with understanding. What does this mean? It means to see the expressed idea and attitude from the other's point of view. If, for instance, you can really understand

another's hatred of communists or of Russia—it will be of the greatest help to him in altering those hatreds and fears. It has been established that such emphatic understanding—understanding *with* a person—not *about* him—is such an effective approach that it has brought about major changes in personality. Following on those lines it is suggested that the next time you get into an argument with anyone, just stop the discussion for a moment, and for an experiment institute this rule: "Each person can speak up for himself only *after* he has first restated the ideas and feelings of the previous speaker accurately and to that speaker's satisfaction".

You see what this would mean. It would simply mean that before presenting your point of view you would have to understand his thought and feelings so well that you could summarise them for him. Sounds simple, but if you honestly try it you will discover that it is one of the most difficult things you ever tried to do. However, once you have been able to see the other's point of view your own comments will have to be drastically revised. You will also find the emotion going out of the discussion,

the differences being reduced, and those differences remaining become a natural and understanding sort.

Can you imagine what this kind of an approach would mean if it were projected into larger areas? What would happen to a labour-management dispute, if it were conducted in such a way that labour, without necessarily agreeing, could accurately state management's point of view in a way that management could accept; and management in a like manner state labour's point of view. It would mean that real communication was established, and one could practically guarantee that some reasonable solution would be reached. If this is such an effective method of obtaining good communication why then is it not more widely tried and used. I suppose it does not take place more widely and more often because it basically requires courage and humility and these commodities are not readily available under such circumstances—perhaps we are moving in this more enlightened era towards obtaining and showing these virtues and the country and world will be so much the better for same.

OBITUARIES

On 15th July 1971 Dom Columban Mulcahy died peacefully after undergoing several weeks of semi-paralysis which resulted from a cerebral haemorrhage. He was 70, and had spent forty seven of those years as a monk. He was Abbot for twenty two years.

Before being directed to become a Cistercian monk at the age of twenty three, Dom Columban had aspired to missionary work in China with the Columban Fathers. At Roscrea he taught at the College for a number of years and after Ordination he acted as Spiritual Director. Early entrusted with responsibilities he devoted himself fully to the succession of offices; Novice Master, Prior, Definitor in Rome, which led finally to his election in 1948 as first Abbot of Nunraw. He initiated the building of the new abbey and received much generous support in seeing it progress.

As one of the pioneers of Scottish Church Unity he became known to a much wider community and wherever he went he seemed to draw forth the trust and good will of separated and diverse Christian people for unity and friendship. He will be remembered for his response to what has been a movement of the Holy Spirit, the Ecumenical Movement in Scotland. His brethren will remember him as a great monk, wholly faithful to his monastic vocation.



Dom Columban Mulcahy

Fr. Fintan O'Flanagan (Billy) 1919-'24 and his brother **John** (1921-'23), died within a short time of each other this summer. They were natives of Durrow, Co. Laois. Fr. Fintan was noted for his piety as a boy and carried this trait with him all through life.

Gerrard L. McGowan (1924-'27) died on 5th August this year. Gerrard is the last of the six McGowan brothers who passed through Roscrea from 1912 to 1928

Matthew; 1912-'16.

Patrick; 1913-'18.

Joseph; 1916-'18.

Michael J.; 1918-'19.

John B.; 1918-'21.

Francis; 1923-'28.

May they all rest in peace.

Dr. Gerard Hurley; 1923-27 died early this year in Montreal. He was formerly of Cononagh, Leap, Co. Cork.

Eugene L. Boland LL.B., 1920-'24 was House Captain for two terms, a distinction shared by very few others. He died in July of this year. May he rest in peace.

Fr. Eugene Garvey (Thomas) 1918-23 formerly of Brosna, Co. Kerry. He joined the Carmelite Order and was Superior of several Houses of the Order. He died in Clarendon Street this summer.

Patrick Harney; 1909-'10 of Manna Cottage, Templemore died early this summer. We extend to his past-student sons, Fr. James, Martin, William and the family our deepest sympathy.

On the right: Career Guidance Panel: Joseph Gallagher, '65; Jim Fehily, '48; Dr. Cathal Bredin, '60.



NEWS OF PASTMEN

Most of the news at this time of year is about University examinations, etc. The '67 class is now finishing. **Frank O'Meara**, **Dan Ryan**, **Michael Hanley** and **Donal Hogan** have got their final Engineering in U.C.D. **Brian Duncan** has qualified in Law in Trinity. **Liam Spooner** has taken his Diploma in Mechanical Engineering and joined his father in business. **Eugene Garvey** has completed his second Architecture in Bolton Street, **Michael Griffin** his first, and **Denis Finn** is studying Building Technology and is now in his second year. **Anthony Bennett** who is also in the Architectural field is engaged to be married in October. **Noel Burke**, House Captain in '68 is doing Architecture in U.C.D. **Des Purcell** '65 has now M.I.A.V.I. after his name, and has been elected President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Waterford.

Fergal O'Gara '67 who is preparing

for final Science, has been elected Rugby Captain of U.C.G. for the coming season. **Sean Loughnane** has qualified from there in Engineering. **Michael Shouldice** took his finals in Engineering in Bolton Street, **David Garrahy** '66 and **Michael Fogarty** '67 are doing final Pharmacy. **Michael Ward** '67 has gone back to the land and **John O'Dwyer** is in the Bank in Tralee.

Brendan Flynn '67 is married and in business in Carrigahoric. **Tom Hunt** plays Rugby for Roscommon seniors. **Sean Gohery** '60 is a national teacher in Kells—playing for Galway he got his All Ireland hurling medal against Meath and **Eddie Byrne** '64 plays for Kilkenny.

The **Kerins** brothers are now in Newfoundland; **Tadhg** '54 and **Damien** '63 are doctors, **Diarmuid** '58 is a teacher.

Donal O'Meara '65 and **Jim Phelan** '66 are both doing final

dentistry. The latter is married and has a son . . . congrats. **Jim. Brendan O'Dea** '57 also married during the year. **Des O'Grady** '54 teaches English in Rome and writes poetry. **Dr. Richard Fogarty** '63 has returned to Nenagh from Slough. **Con Foley** '66 has half his Final Medicine. **Conor Guiney** '63 is in the Bank in Dublin, is engaged. His brothers **Philip** and **Jack** have emigrated to Australia. **Donal Doolan** '67 has got his B.Com.

Michael Sherry has completed 2nd law in U.C.D. and **Francis Thompson** and **Niall Gaffney** have done 3rd Medical. **John Carey** has done his 3rd Medical in Surgeons, and **Peter Quigley** has got his Pre. Med in Trinity. **Gerry O'Leary** has his first Commerce from U.C.G. **Pat Kelly** and **Brendan Hyland** have completed their first year in Trinity and got first class and second class honours respectively in their exams.

Retreat for Past Students

The Central Committee has changed the date of the Retreat this year to weekend 27th, 28th November in the hope that this will be more suitable to a greater number of past students.

As we pointed out in the last issue of the Review, unless a minimum of twenty applications are received the Guest House will not be available. The Retreat is scheduled to begin on the evening of Saturday 27th and end at tea time Sunday 28th November.

Please book in good time.

Past v. Present Matches

This year these matches will be played on the 24th of October. Paststudents who wish to play should contact Fr. Kevin in good time. Transport from Dublin as usual—McBernies on the Quays at 11.30 a.m.

BRANCH REPORTS

Dublin Branch 1970-1971

In accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution of the Roscrea Union I give herewith my report on all functions and activities undertaken by the Dublin Branch in the year under consideration.

(1) There were twelve formal meetings of the branch committee, five of the dance sub-committee and four of the career guidance sub-committee. In addition there were a larger number of informal meetings. The personnel of all the committees were hard-working and this undoubtedly contributed to the success of our functions.

(2) Union Day took place shortly after our own annual general meeting and incorporated the usual schedule of events such as golf tournaments, dinner dance and the Union Mass, all of which were well attended. The annual general meeting provided two items of particular interest to the Dublin Branch. Our past-chairman, Comdt. Gerard Bates, was invested as the new President of the Union and this was followed some short time later by the passing of a resolution "That the past-pupils contribute towards the provision of a swimming pool for the college". To the outsider there was little to indicate that the Union had just then undertaken its most challenging task since its inception some forty years ago.

The past versus present matches were held on Sunday, October 27th, and the branch was well represented. A notice appeared in the Autumn *Review* to the effect that all those wishing to travel should call at the traditional McBirneys meeting place, and this ensured that none were left behind.

(3) The annual dinner was again held in the Intercontinental Hotel on Saturday, December 5th. Father Cronin Sherry represented the Lord Abbot and community. Although we failed to emulate last year's performance we nonetheless achieved a creditable attendance with over seventy past men this was, in fact, one of the largest attendances at a Dublin dinner. Our President, Comdt. Bates, took the opportunity of placing before the pastmen the proposed plans under consideration by the Swimming Pool Committee. The result was an overwhelming amount of goodwill for the project—and should provide great impetus to the forthcoming campaign.

(4) For the third year in succession our annual dinner dance was organised in association with the Sacred Heart Union. We were unfortunately forced to leave our traditional hosts as Jury's Hotel had introduced a new type of cabaret-style dinner dance which was not to the liking of many of our members. Eventually the function was held in the Shelbourne Hotel on Wednesday, 27th January 1971. The committee approached the event with some trepidation fearing that a midweek dance might be inconvenient for many. Happily this was completely unfounded and an excellent attendance of over three hundred and fifty ensured a thoroughly exciting

atmosphere. Everybody felt that a great night had come to a too early close. There can be no doubt but that this was the ultimate complaint and was echoed by all from both Unions. In addition to the usual joint-committee meetings we also held a press reception to publicise the event.

(5) A jumble sale, in aid of Fr. Hardwicks Ruabon Youth Club, was held in Mountjoy Square at the end of May 1970. A gallant group aided and abetted in the hard work that this type of venture necessarily requires. Special tribute must be paid to Mrs. Gerard Bates not only for organising the event but for all the tireless work which she put into it.

If in the end we didn't succeed in raising as much as we had hoped we nonetheless discovered many of the inner secrets of the rag trade!

(6) Last year we held a number of informal "get-togethers" as a means of providing some sort of contact between the branch members. Due to pressure of work among other factors it was decided to discontinue these, a decision reached with some regret in retrospect. One can see this type of function as having provided a worthwhile service and the incoming committee might well review the position.

(7) In the wake of an interim report on career guidance, prepared by the branch in 1970, the Dublin Branch was requested to send panels to the college. In this regard we were following in the footsteps of the Galway Branch who had provided an exceptionally good series of talks in the preceding year and who had set us a very high standard to follow. We have provided three panels to date and I think it's true to say that we have provided a service which is of value to the college.

(8) The second Catholic Action activity undertaken by the branch is that of taking part in the Lay Association of the Blessed Sacrament in Lower Fitzwilliam Street. The position remains as it has over the past few years with the same small group of individuals being called upon time and time again. Mr. Aidan Mottley, the panel organiser would be glad to hear from any interested party who would wish to attend.

(9) As far as all the branches were concerned this year could best be described as "The year of the Swimming Pool"! While it was mainly a topical discussion for many, in the earlier part of the year, the incredible amount of work put into the initial planning by the President, Comdt. Bates, and Campaign Manager, Mr. Houlihan, with our Rev. General Secretary soon saw to it that we had much work to do. The first major task was the compiling of an up-to-date register of Union members and pastmen. The magnitude of the task can be gleaned from the fact that the initial working roll consisted of some 5,000 names. The Dublin Branch went through the entire roll and played no small part in ensuring that we shall soon have a thoroughly up-to-date register of pastmen.

At this stage almost all pastmen have received the advance circular

indicating the task to be undertaken. This is shortly to be followed by the brochure at which stage all the branches will again be engaged in the matter. The Dublin Branch will have to prepare and organise its own follow-up campaign after the brochure had been dispatched. Following upon a Central Committee resolution we are in the process of compiling a list of persons who will be deputed to visit members and in view of this it has been decided in principle that visits should be made by two people together. There can be no doubt but that the Dublin Branch and its members are in for some hard work in the coming months.

(10) I would remind members that we were not called upon to underwrite the cost of printing and posting the *Review* in the current year. Some people have been good enough to send a small subscription to the Union to offset these costs and we hope that this is a trend which will be continued in the future.

(11) Last year I suggested that the essential criterion of a successful Union is that of good attendance at its functions. That still remains my view. This, of course, requires a considerable effort on the part of a committee. With two years experience on the part of this committee we have no doubt but that personal contact in relation to each event is the only method of ensuring success. Finally, on behalf of the outgoing committee, may I wish all the new incumbents a most successful term.

Vivian H. Lavan
Honorary Secretary

Midland Branch Report

Our annual General Meeting was held on 8th March, at which the following officers were elected for the coming year:—

Chairman: Nial O'Rourke.
Vice Chairman: Thomas O'Rourke.
Hon Secretary: Shaun Wrafter.
Hon. Treasurer: Patrick Healy.

As the numbers attending our annual Dinner/Dance have dropped drastically over the past few years, we decided against holding one during the season. At the last function numbers were down to fifty-seven and we lost money as a result.

We held five meetings during the year. The average attendance at these meetings was six. We shall be making an all-out effort this Autumn to attract members to our function.

During the year we financed the cost of one edition of the *Review*. This left us with a small overdraft. But we are financially sound as we have one hundred and five pounds in Prize Bonds.

Tom Haugh was the unanimous choice of the Branch for President. We are delighted that he has been chosen President-Elect by the A.G.M.
Shaun Wrafter

Cork Branch Report

The Annual General Meeting of the Cork Branch was held on Monday 26th April. As already advised it is very difficult to keep the branch going here, only four members turned up for the meeting and apologies were received from two others. This I think gives a true picture of the support we have here. Every effort is being made to keep the branch alive but as you can well appreciate our work is cut out for us.

The following is the committee for the coming year:—

Chairman: Dr. Tom O'Callaghan.
Secretary: Peter Somerfield.
Treasurer: Gerard McCarthy.
Committee: Bro. Declan, Donald McCarthy, Michael Dempsey, Killian Boland, Sean Donnelly.

Delegates to the Central Committee: Peter Somerfield, Bro Declan, Gerard McCarthy.

Very little happened here for the past twelve months, except that our Annual Dinner Dance was held at the Hotel Blarney. Whilst the night was a great success a slight financial loss was incurred.

Gerard McCarthy

Acknowledgement

Since the last issue of the *Review* the following have sent subscriptions or Bankers Orders to help defray the cost of publication:

Noel Windle, Dublin.
Patrick J. Hartnett, Roscrea.
Dr. Denis J. Doorly, Dublin.
Dr. Thomas M. Collins, Dublin.
John Joseph Doyle, Dublin.
Dr. Joseph Daly, Galway.
Leo Crehan, Galway.
Dr. Bernard Sherry, Dublin.
Dan O'Meara, Roscrea.
Seamus Murray, U.S.A.
Aidan Quigley, Dublin.
Colm Irwin, Navan.
Christopher Carroll, Dublin.
Laurence Branigan, Dublin.
Dr. Ailbe O'Meara, U.S.A.

These names are published by way of acknowledgment.

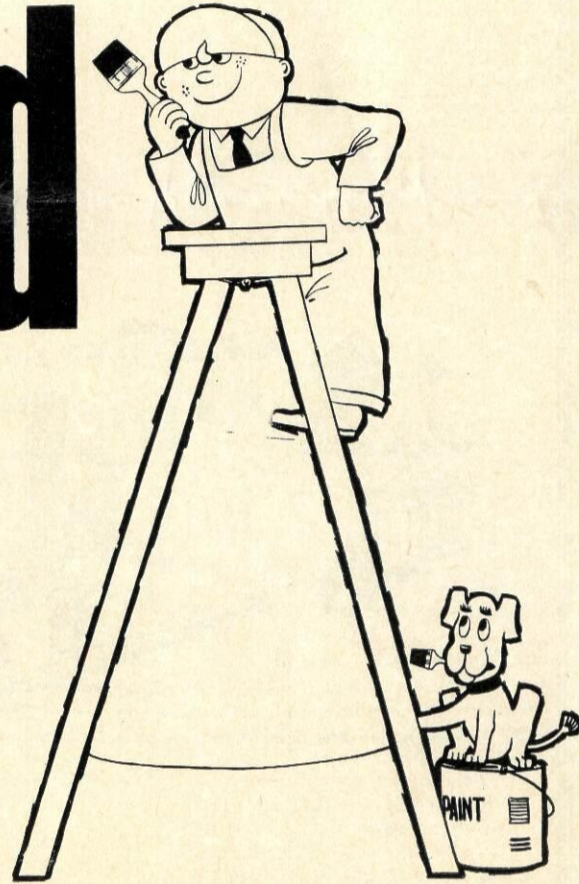
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Tom McMahon, Tipperary.

This issue speaks for itself. And let us not forget the men who had to forage for them:—Fr. T. Hogan, Gerard Bates and Noel Windle.

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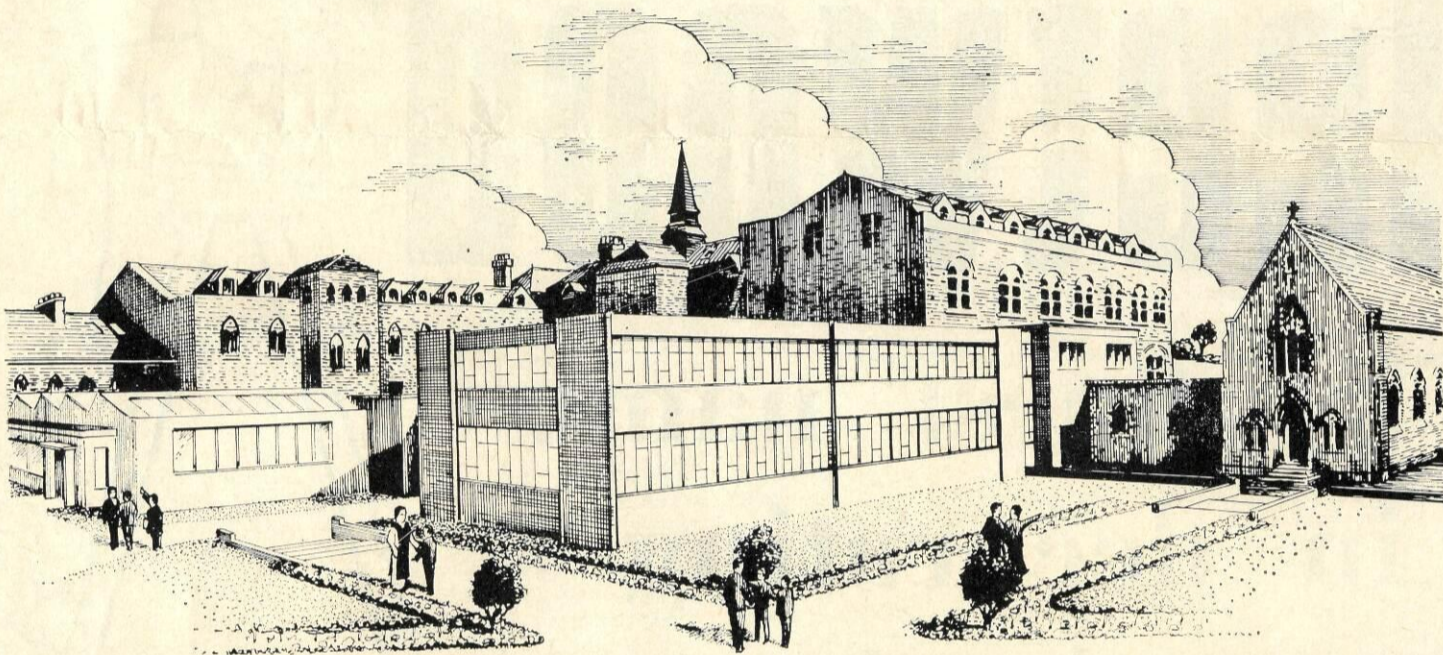
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The Call of the Monk

[Continued from Spring issue]

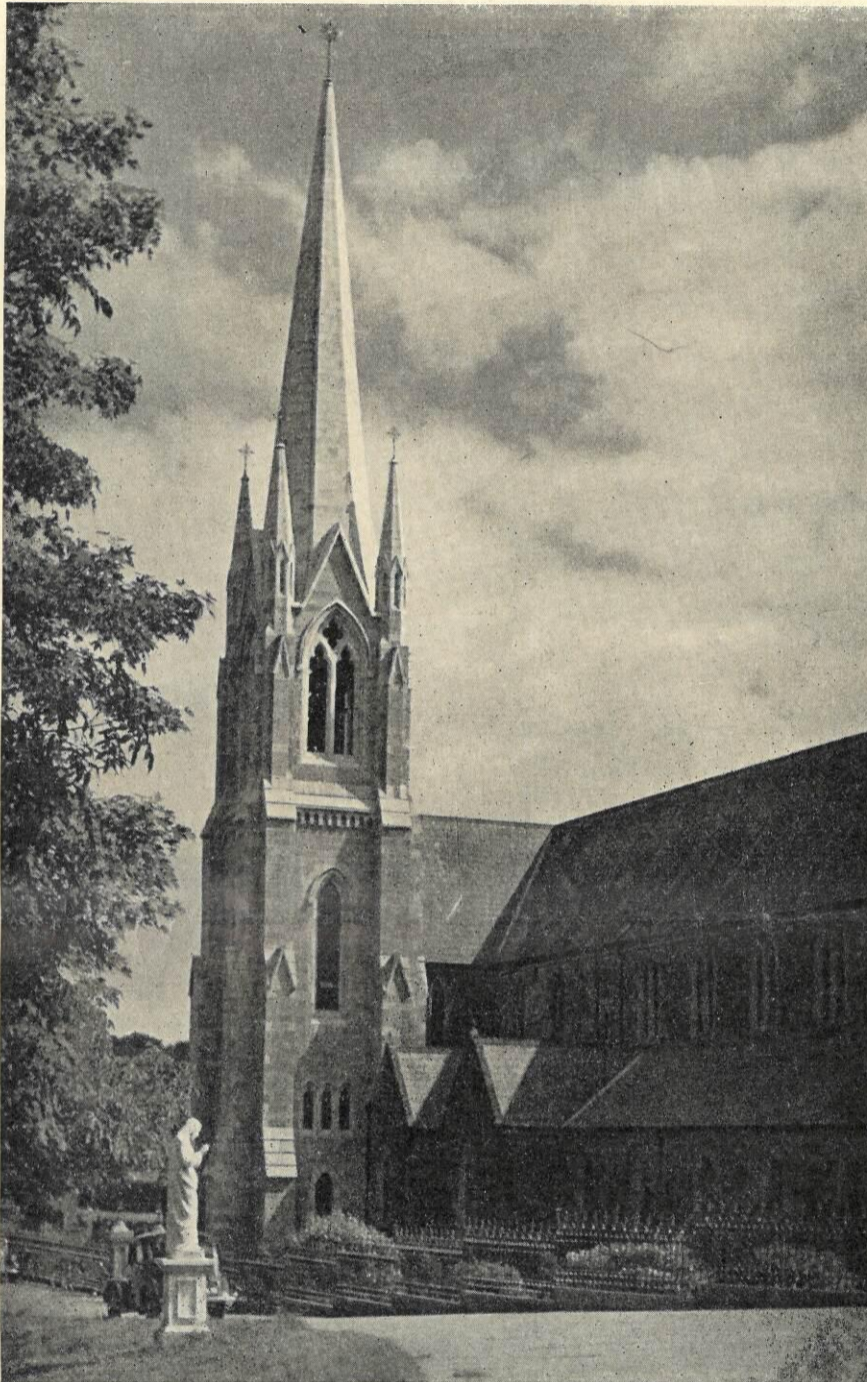
The ideal put before him, never to be reached in this life but always its guiding-star, is a life of constant prayer sundered from every creature to be united with God. How much of the day must be spent in prayer or in the reading and thought that keeps the mind on God, how far one may dispense with the use of creatures, so that the maximum service may be given to God while keeping the strength intact for a lifetime's service, must be decided by prudence directed by the rule, tradition and example of the Order, applied under the instruction and direction of the Abbot; all guided and given life by the Holy Spirit who perfects those he has called. The monk, trained to meet and overcome difficulties, guided to live so as to leave himself always ready to answer the divine impulse, will grow in the love of God with an every-growing trust and thankfulness for the gift of a monastic vocation.

But the question may be asked: granted that such a vocation is a big advantage for the individual monk, does it really fill a place in the Church? Is it not selfish and so unchristian?

The first, and in itself really complete answer, is that a life dedicated to the service of God so completely that it leaves room for nothing else is not wasted. The service of God is a complete and satisfying ideal. All will not be able to accept this answer but it must be given. It takes a very clear light of faith, not simply possessed but reflected upon and vividly realised, to appreciate the magnitude of God's claims. As our creator he has rights to all our service and adoration, and our longings can finally find satisfaction only in complete dedication to him. The question does not usually stand as stark as this. In practice the monk is not always engaged in prayer, he must work, he must use material things and in all this there will be exercise of charity towards his fellow-monks and, according to circumstances, towards others. He prays for others. He may be engaged in social or apostolic works. But the fundamental answer to the question about the value of his life is that first given. Anyone who is satisfied to consider the secondary activities has not yet fully grasped the value of the monastic life and these secondary activities have a real value only in so far as they are inspired by the pure ideal, which they must never be allowed to replace or hinder.

As to the place of the monastic life in the Church: we must first recognise that it has a place. The Church has approved of monastic orders and thereby made herself responsible for any apparent waste of unused talents, including the priesthood, which are implied in such a vocation. By allowing men to dedicate themselves to a life where the activities are in principle spiritual she affirms in the clearest manner that her goal is supernatural. She must and does concern herself with

many other things of priceless value for humanity but she has always maintained that the spiritual comes first, that a life of prayer is the one thing necessary and that without prayer even the most zealous apostolic or humanitarian works are nothing, and she stresses this in the most emphatic manner by her contemplative Orders. The very existence of such communities, even if they are not often enough seen or heard to impress an example, and apart altogether from the greater or less fervour of any particular religious or community, is her continual and official act of dedication to God and a clear indication of her true goal, beyond all things temporal, where Christ has entered to prepare a place for us.



Dates for Your Diary

Past v Present Match: Roscrea, Sunday, October 24th

Past Pupils Retreat: Roscrea, November 27th//28th

Union Branch Dinner: Dublin, Saturday, December 4th
Shelbourne Hotel

South Tipperary Dinner/Dance: Friday, December 10th
Anner Hotel, Thurles

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Intermediate and Leaving Certificates, 1971

Intermediate: 58 Presented; 34 Honours; 16 Passed

Leaving: 48 Presented; 27 Honours; 17 Passed

Honours List—Intermediate Certificate 1971

Name	A	B	C	Total
Dwyer, R.	3	2	2	7
O'Connor, K.	1	5	1	7
O'Loughlin, M.	1	5	1	7
Coghlan, K.		3	4	7
Coyne, V.		3	4	7
Burns, A.		2	5	7
Hayes, K.		2	5	7
Moran, K.	1	2	3	6
Lynch, B.		3	3	6
Meehan, G.		2	4	6
Condon, E. J.		2	4	6
Gunning, D.		1	5	6
Drea, E.		3	2	5
McCarthy, G.		2	3	5
Gleeson, E.		1	4	5
McCarthy, N.		1	4	5
Chater, A.		3	1	4
Brady, L.		2	2	4
McGovern, G.		1	3	4
Lee, M.		1	3	4
Hanley, K.			4	4
Kilmartin, N.			4	4
Donovan, M.			4	4
Enright, P.			4	4

Leaving Certificate 1971

Name	A	B	C	Total
Bruen, Michael	2	5	2	9
O'Sullivan, Brian	1	3	3	7
O'Flanagan, Kevin	1	3	2	6
McLoughlin, Michael	1	1	3	5
McGovern, Paul		5		5
Martin, Declan		4	1	5
Spillane, James		4	1	5
O'Connell, George			5	5
Coyle, George	1		3	4
Curran, Hugh		2	2	4
Creed, Niall		1	3	4
Comber, Edward			4	4
Culliton, Paul			4	4
Pearse, Maurice			4	4
Cantwell, Donal		1	2	3
Ryan, Michael			3	3
Ryan, John A.		2	1	3
Dolan, Tiernan		1	2	3
Sinnott, Matt			3	3
Fitzpatrick, Frank		2		2
O'Hara, Frank		2		2
O'Dwyer, Michael			2	2
Teehan, Joseph			2	2
Wrafter, Paul			2	2
Fitzsimons, Peter			2	2
McTiernan, William			2	2
Naughton, John			2	2

The above 27 qualified for university; 16 qualified for free grant.

Classroom Block

This building is nearing completion and should be ready for occupation before Christmas. The floor coverings, interior fittings, central heating and electrical fittings are at present being installed. The whole complex consists of fourteen classrooms, science laboratories, art room, language laboratory, geography room, staff rooms and library. The building is entered from the Church Corridor and is built out from that towards the Alleys.

As soon as the old classrooms are vacated they are to be refitted as modern dormitories. This turn-over will hardly be completed before the end of the school year.

Officers of the Dublin Branch 1971-1972

Chairman: Dr. Joseph Gallagher
 Vice chairman: Laurence Branigan
 Secretary: Thomas Hope
 Treasurer: Conor Brady.
 Committee: James F. Walsh, Thomas Hainsworth, Gerry O'Dwyer, John McEvoy, Donal Doolin, Edward Comber (house captain previous year)



Fr. Joseph Power (1921-26) and Dr. Michael Flynn (1937-41).

Students who Finished in Roscrea, June 1971

- | | |
|--|---|
| Michael Bruen, 139 Esker Lawns, Lucan, Co. Dublin. | Oliver McGinnity, Dublin Road, Longford. |
| Tadhg Campion, Ossory Street, Rathfriland, Laois. | Paul McGovern, Main Street, Mountcharles, Co. Donegal. |
| Dr. Cantwell, 25 Main Street, Birr, Co. Tipperary. | Michael McLaughlin, Castle Street, Birr, Co. Offaly. |
| Edward Comber, Church Street, Lahinch, Co. Clare. | William McTiernan, 30 John Street, Kilkenny. |
| Aidan Cooney, "Mountview", Ferrybank, Arklow, Co. Wicklow. | Declan Martin, Ard Mhuire, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. |
| George Coyle, Curragbeg House, Athleague, Co. Roscommon. | Michael Matthews, "Ardoyne", 30 Emerson Ave, Salthill, Galway. |
| Niall Creed, Munster and Leinster Bank House, Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary. | Gerard Mulholland, Hilltop Hotel, Dalysford Rd., Salthill, Galway. |
| Paul Culliton, Rearymore House, Rosenallis, Laois. | John Naughton, Mount Talbot, Co. Roscommon. |
| Padraig Cuniffe, Station Road, Castlebar, Co. Mayo. | George O'Connell, Altamont Street, Westport, Co. Mayo. |
| Hugh Curran, 37 Ballyroan Road, Dublin 14. | Michael O'Dwyer, Dromineer, Pallasgreen, Co. Limerick. |
| Tiernan Dolan, "St. Anne's", Keon Tce., Longford. | Kevin O'Flanagan, Galtee House, Cahir, Co. Tipperary. |
| Dan Egan, 16 Beech Park, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. | James O'Flynn, Hawthorn, Newmarket, Co. Cork. |
| Frank Fitzpatrick, Powerstown Park, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. | Frank O'Hara, National Bank House, Gort, Co. Galway. |
| Peter Fitzsimons, John Street, Kells, Co. Meath. | Brian O'Sullivan, "Ardeen", Perry St., Edenderry, Co. Offaly. |
| Antony Frost, Moyville, 16 Glenard Rd., Salthill, Galway. | Maurice Pearse, "Glenroyd", Tyone, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. |
| John Galvin, Saleen, Castlebar, Co. Mayo. | John Ryan, Kilconnan, Cullen, Co. Tipperary. |
| James Gibbons, Dunmore, Co. Kilkenny. | Michael Ryan, Munster and Leinster Bank House, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. |
| Martin Gibbons, Dunmore, Co. Kilkenny. | Mathew Sinnott, Coolree, Ballindaggin, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford. |
| Edward Gleeson, 36 Mitchel Street, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. | James Spillane, Scart, Aherla, Co. Cork. |
| Gerard Gleeson, 42 Kenyon Street, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. | Thomas Stuart, St. Ann's, Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary. |
| Thomas Gunning, Monatrea, Ballinacurra, Limerick. | Michael Teehan, The Square, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny. |
| Donal Hayes, Middlepiece, Two-Mile-Borris, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. | Richard Vaughan, Deanville, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. |
| Noel Hayes, John's Place, Birr, Co. Offaly. | Kieran Ward, Ballymacward, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. |
| Pat Kavanagh, Pipe Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny. | Paul Wrafter, Earl St., Tullamore, Co. Offaly. |
| Brendan Loughnane, 12 John's Mall, Birr, Co. Offaly. | |