

No 1 MAY 1954



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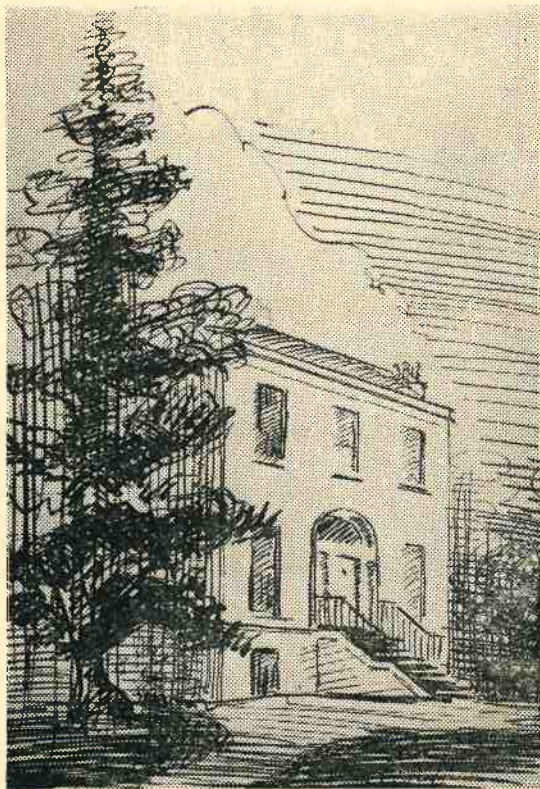
Patrick Griffin

WINE *and* GOLD

No. 1

MAY 1954

The Magazine of De La Salle College, Rathfarnham, Dublin



Inishmore House

Inishmore House, Churchtown Road, is the present Preparatory and Secondary School and Berwick House, Hazelbrook, Whitehall Road, Rathfarnham, 600 yards away, is the Community Residence. All correspondence should be addressed simply:
De La Salle College, Rathfarnham.

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25th March, 1954.

Dear Brother Patrick,

It is indeed a pleasure for me to introduce and commend your College Magazine, "Wine and Gold."

Its first number is a gratifying record of considerable progress and of much courageous effort. It is itself an effort in the right direction. May it serve as a link between the College and the families served by the College.

How often in long-established communities do we not have occasion to regret keenly the loss of details of their early history? Even if your magazine served no immediate and present purpose, it would be a valuable chronicle of these early, pioneering and creative days, a record to other generations of persons, names, places, events and dates connected with the very beginning of De La Salle College.

I avail myself of the present opportunity to say a word of thanks to you and your staff for the devoted work being done and the good standards being set; to convey to the boys and their parents my appreciation of their co-operation and understanding; and finally to assure both you and them that having been responsible for the Rathfarnham foundation, I will not be unmindful of its needs.

Yours very sincerely in Christ,

BROTHER ALOYSIUS, F.S.C.,
Provincial.



Very Rev. Brother Provincial, F.S.C.

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The Editor Introduces

WINE

And

GOLD

Launching a magazine—particularly a school magazine—is a distinct adventure, embarked upon with great trepidation, and even greater hopes.

De La Salle College, Rathfarnham, is very young, but very virile, and one small measure of its energy and drive is the fact that so early in its existence it is presenting its own chronicle of aspiration and performance. The older among us will know that in the years ahead this first issue of "Wine and Gold" will be studied and re-studied, to provide an abiding link between the Dublin foothills and many far places of the earth.

I am an Old Boy of the De La Salle Brothers and by that fact claim to be a sort of "honorary" Old Boy of Rathfarnham, where now my elder son goes to school. It is, therefore, a real pleasure and an honour to produce "Wine and Gold," designed, as it is, not only as a record of the school activities but as yet another link in the chain binding De La Salle pupils everywhere.

My fears are that in this first number I have not been able to do justice to all claimants for space; my hope is that for the next issue there will be many more contributors. My consolation has been that if I have had to cope with over-

whelming Rugby teams, I, at least, have not had to deal with clamorous Old Boys!

Our title, of course, refers to the College colours, but also to wine itself, and gold itself—two things universally regarded as symbolic of value and inspiration. They, then, and the brief motto "*Recta Sapere*"—a taste for the right things—do reflect the educational ideal of the College.

J. P. GALLAGHER.

The De La Salle Order

On January 1, 1954, the De La Salle Order throughout the world counted 14,831 Brothers, 1,061 Novices, and 1,375 Communities. In 1,295 schools there were 458,854 pupils.

Past Pupils' Unions had 266,596 former pupils on their rolls.

Before the war the Order had in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Finland, Bulgaria and Rumania 220 teaching Brothers and 6,000 pupils. Today . . . nothing.

At the last count, late in 1953, there were among Old Boys :—
Seven Cardinals, 103 Bishops and 15,118 Priests

COVER DESIGN

Our cover was specially designed by Rev. Brother Joseph, F.S.C., of De La Salle University Hall, Ely Place.

Our First Two Years

By The Headmaster

In the latter half of 1951 the Archbishop of Dublin asked our Provincial to establish schools to meet the educational needs of the rapidly developing area of Rathfarnham-Landscape-Churchtown-Dundrum. His Grace's request was conveyed to the Provincial, Very Rev. Brother Aloysius, F.S.C., by the Parish Priest of Rathfarnham, Very Rev. Thomas O'Donnell. Brother Aloysius agreed to the requisite establishment and early in 1952 succeeded in purchasing two convenient properties for this purpose: Inishmore House, Churchtown Road, with $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land; and Berwick House, Whitehall Road, Rathfarnham, with some 9 acres of land. The first building was to serve as a school, and the second property as community residence and playing fields. A contract for considerable renovations and alterations to the two buildings was given to Messrs. W. & J. Bolger of Ardee Street.

Having secured the material basis of the new institution, the Provincial turned his attention to the even more important human element of staffing. In June, 1952, I was recalled from De La Salle College, Salford, Lancs., and assigned the Directorship of the new religious community and the Headmastership of the new school. In the two years which have since elapsed I have had no reason to be less sensible of the confidence thus reposed in me, but many reasons to be more sensible of the burdens involved in such an office. My first task was to supervise the renovations and to interview parents of intending pupils. In August the Provincial assigned three assistant masters to the staff: Rev. Brother Joseph, F.S.C.; Rev. Brother Leo, F.S.C., and Rev. Brother Peter, F.S.C.; and with this staff De La Salle College opened its doors for the first time on September 3, 1952.

Some 44 boys, all in the regulation college uniform, presented themselves. A number of parents also turned up for a simple but significant occasion, unmarked by any formality and marred by broken weather. On that day we were all fairly complete strangers to one another—masters, boys, and parents, but in the intervening two years we have come to know and esteem one another a

great deal. Later in the day a photograph of this historical inaugural group of four masters and 44 boys was taken by Messrs. Lafayette: and it is an obvious surmise that that portrait will be conned and scanned when the actors of that decisive hour will have gone upon their diverse ways to life and death.

The boys were drawn from many different schools, but all in the vicinity of Rathfarnham. In age they ranged from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $13\frac{1}{2}$. By the beginning of the second term of that year their number had mounted to 62. For teaching purposes they were divided into three groups: two for the Preparatory Department, and one for the first form of the Secondary Department. In the Preparatory the main subjects taken were the traditional basic ones: Religion, oral and written Irish and English, Arithmetic, Drawing, and Singing. In the Secondary the curriculum comprised Religion, Irish, English, Mathematics, History, Geography, Latin, French, and Drawing. Games were taken by each group for two consecutive periods one day of each week. P.T. was taken throughout the school by Brother Peter.

Red-letter day in our first year was December 3, when we had the happiness of receiving His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin,

who on this day blessed and officially inaugurated De La Salle College. The ceremony was attended by the Very Rev. Provincial, the staff and the students of the college, by a very representative group of parents, the Chief Inspector of the Secondary branch of the Department of Education, and by a number of neighbouring priests and headmasters. If I were to express a wish for the future of De La Salle College it would be that it might ever be the home of all the good and gracious things for which the Church petitions God in the lovely liturgical prayers which the Ritual assigns to the blessing of a school.

In May, 1953, the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered in Dundrum Parish Church by the Most Rev. Dr. Dunne. Among those confirmed was a group of 15 boys from the College who had been prepared for the event by Brother Peter. The boys acquitted themselves well of their examination, and were a very happy band on this notable day of their lives. In their preparation they had

been much helped by the regular visits and instructions of Fr. McGinty, C.C.

On the establishment of the College we had applied to the Department of Education to have the Secondary School recognised and given official status. In furtherance of this object the Secondary Inspectors paid us several visits during the year to examine the general facilities available and the quality of teaching and the nature of the curriculum. They reported favourably on these matters, and our Secondary School was accordingly given departmental recognition. We found the Inspectors very considerate, helpful and courteous, and I would express to them our appreciation of their kindness.

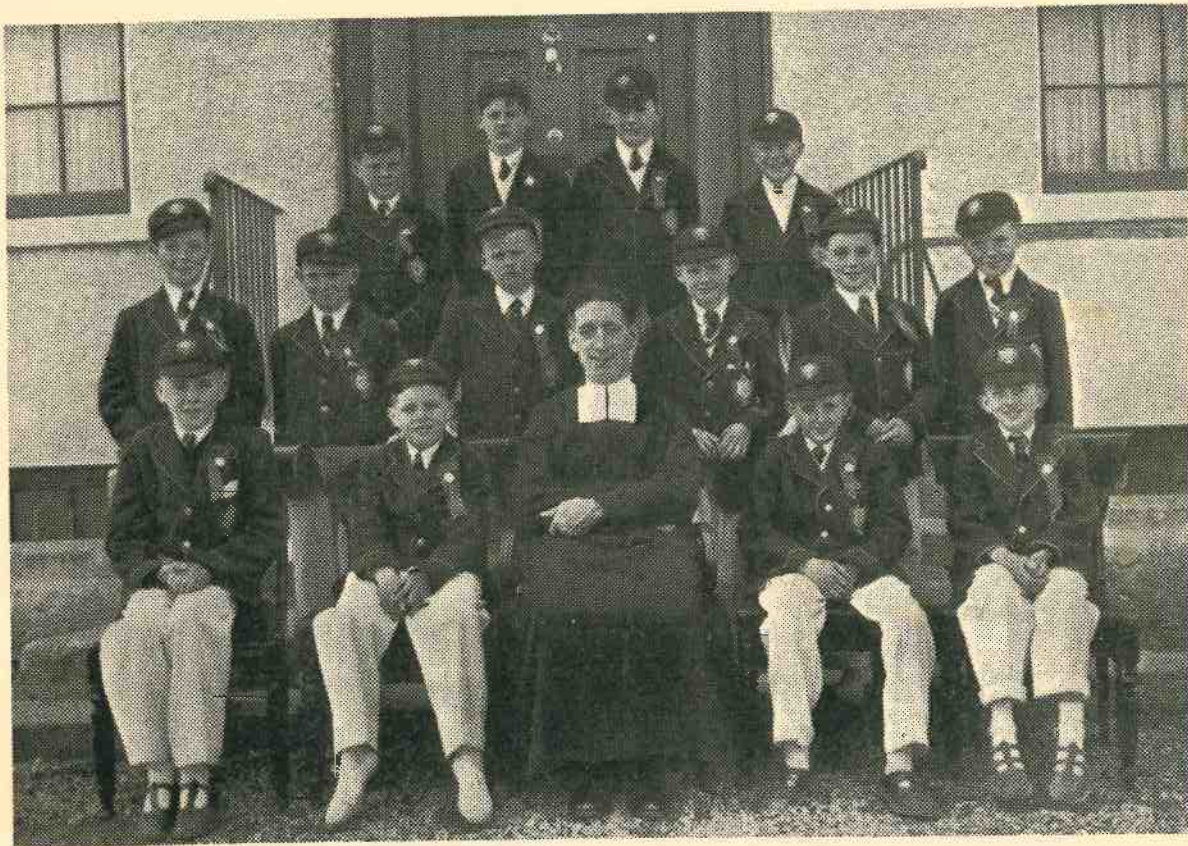
Our Founder's Day, May 15, was suitably marked by special ceremonies. At 10 a.m. the Brothers and boys assembled in the Common Room, Berwick House, and assisted at the Saint's Mass, which was celebrated by our beloved Parish Priest, Fr. O'Donnell, who also delivered a brief and very apt address to both the Community and the

Opening Day, September 3, 1952



The First School Group : From left to right :—

FRONT ROW : O. O'Loughlen, P. O'Connor, R. McCaffrey, S. Rea, Rev. Brother Leo, F.S.C., Rev. Brother Patrick, F.S.C., Rev. Brother Joseph, F.S.C., Rev. Brother Peter, F.S.C., B. O'Farrell, K. Cruise, P. Kinsella, D. O'Reilly.
SECOND ROW : N. Nolan, M. Franklin, G. Kehoe, T. Sheridan, P. O'Neill, N. Leonard, F. Kavanagh, J. Conalty.
THIRD ROW : W. Nolan, M. O'Leary, J. Brogan, M. Cannon, P. O'Leary, A. Eckford, B. Winters, D. Langan.
FOURTH ROW : B. Nolan, P. Young, A. Traynor, J. McKeown, P. Deering, P. Cleary, J. Vaughan, P. McKeown, E. Hayes, J. O'Leary, D. Fortune.
TOP ROW : F. Kelly, T. Lynch, J. Keane, C. Murray, R. Watt, R. Carroll, P. O'Donoghue, W. O'Brien, R. Ryan.



CONFIRMATION GROUP

Seated : W. O'Brien, D. Nolan, Rev. Brother Peter, F.S.C., V. Deasy, D. Fortune ; Second Row : A. Traynor, J. McKeown, J. Vaughan, D. Leonard, F. W. Nolan, M. O'Leary ; Top Row : P. Deering, C. Daly, P. O'Donoghue, P. Cleary.

Students on their respective privileges and duties as the foundation members of De La Salle College. After the Mass class photographs were taken and the afternoon was free for games and recreation.

On June 11 a Parents' Meeting was held in the Common Room, Berwick House. Virtually every family was represented ; and the idea of the meeting was much appreciated by the parents. A report of the meeting is on page 26 in this magazine.

During the Easter Vacation of 1953 an informal beginning was made in an activity which I should like to see extended. A small but energetic group of boys from the Upper School came together and organised some dozen or so treks between Easter and September. With the collaboration of a number of

the Brothers they explored on foot and cycle the splendid mountain country which lies immediately south of the College. This Trekking Club crowned it's brief season's activities with a successful and much-enjoyed camp in Glenree.

Summer Vacation began on June 25, and the College opened for its second session on September 2, 1953. A number of new pupils were received, and during the first term the total roll reached the 100 mark. Brother Peter was transferred to a new Intermediate School in Downpatrick. His departure was much regretted by all who knew him. Additions to the teaching staff were made by the appointment of two new masters: Rev. Br. Maurice, F.S.C., and Rev. Br. Alphonsus, F.S.C.

If our weekly games periods were to have

any meaning, and if our playing of games was not to be sporadic, aimless and ineffective, it seemed to me that a definite commitment would have to be made in this our second year of existence. Accordingly I instructed the masters concerned that during the winter season rugby practices were to be taken regularly by all classes on the different days assigned; I had a playing pitch prepared at Berwick House; and I secured the valued assistance of Mr. Raymond Reilly in training the older boys. We also played a number of matches against neighbouring schools: Gonzaga, St. Conleth's, St. Stephen's, and especially against Willow Park, to whose kindly Dean, Fr. Stanley, C.S.Sp., we are much indebted for moral and material encouragement. The net result was gratifying. Everybody got his games. Practices were hardly ever missed. In spite of successive defeats, inter-school fixtures were eagerly greeted. In fine, a good game was learned, played, and enjoyed. Successes may come later; *c'est le premier pas qui coute.*

To conclude let me briefly resume what has been accomplished to date here in De La Salle. Buildings and grounds have been acquired; building renovations carried out; a teaching staff, a group of boys, and a body of parents have been got together and fused into some sort of moral unity, a curriculum of primary and secondary studies has been organized; the College has been liturgically blessed by the Church; its Secondary School has been accorded recognition and status by the Department of Education. Our school colours have been selected, worn and respected; our winter school game has been got under way.

All this, indeed, has been only a beginning; very much more remains to be done.

Start A Pet Club

It all began one day upon our main road. One of the gang reported a hedgehog on the grass verge, so up we all went, armed with a cardboard box. By a little wangling we managed to box the frightened little creature. I volunteered an old shed, which we made habitable, and the hedgehog was introduced to this new home. We found how to feed our pet in the Children's Encyclopædia. Thus began our PET CLUB.

Cages aren't hard to make, you know. We just knocked a few boxes together, added some old wire netting, raised the lot off the ground on four legs, and, hey presto! the cage was complete.

Do you know what we did when financial difficulties cropped up? You'll never guess! We bought a book of cloakroom tickets and held a raffle. Tickets a penny each. Prizes—First: Quarter of a pound of sweets; Second: A pencil, sharpener and rubber; Third: A comic. We also made little note-books (1d. each) and badges with the letters "P.C." on them.

By this time we had Prickles (the hedgehog), three pigeons, two guinea-pigs, fish in a glass tank, over eight shillings in the kitty, and the intention of buying mice, too. That is the story of our Pet Club.

If you like animals, you're sure to like the idea. Take my advice—start a Pet Club. It's fun!

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Liturgical Blessing of De La Salle College

By Rev. BROTHER PETER, F.S.C.

Though the College actually functioned as from September 3, 1952, its official opening and Liturgical Blessing did not take place until December 2 of that year. For this glad and significant function we were privileged to have with us our Archbishop, the Most Rev. Dr. McQuaid.

Only by this date could the essential preliminaries to such a function be attended to. For days before the great event we had been extremely busy with preparations of all sorts: borrowing here, there and everywhere the innumerable articles necessary for such an occasion, arranging the assembly room for Mass, erecting and decorating the altar, decorating the building itself, tidying the grounds, issuing invitations to parents and notabilities, and attending to scores of smaller details. A very becoming function was ample reward for our toil.

When the morning of the great day came the whole College—exterior and interior—looked its very best: greens had been trimmed, walks raked, flags and bunting hung, flowers and shrubs and pictures placed to the best advantage. To crown all God sent us for the event a dry, clear day of steady winter sunshine. Groups of the boys strolling around the trim wooded grounds in the company of their parents, and conversing with one another or with the Brothers, made a homely and pleasing picture.

On his arrival at the College, the Archbishop was received by the Headmaster, Rev. Br. Patrick, F.S.C.; the Provincial, Very Rev. Br. Aloysius, F.S.C.; Very Rev. D. Ryan, P.P., Dundrum; Very Rev. T. O'Donnell, P.P., Rathfarnham; and a Guard of Honour of College students. His Grace was accompanied by Rev. M. P.

O'Connell, D.D., and Rev. Cathal McCarthy, Vice-President of Holy Cross College, Clonliffe.

His Grace proceeded to bless the College, visiting every room; and when this was completed he presided at Holy Mass in the Assembly Room. The celebrant was Rev. Eugene McGinty, C.C., and the Master of Ceremonies was Rev. C. McCarthy.

After Mass His Grace moved around to meet the boys and their parents individually, had a word for each, and gave each his Pastoral Ring to kiss. This homely and intimate gesture was much appreciated by all present. His request to the Headmaster that the boys should have that afternoon and all the following day free was enthusiastically received by the boys, and, I suspect, not unwillingly by the masters, who had been having an excessively busy time for some days previously. The holiday was given and taken.

The College premises being small, the attendance had to be strictly limited. Within its limits it fairly represented our world. The College itself was represented by the Headmaster, all the members of the staff, and all the students. The De La Salle order was represented by Very Rev. Br. Aloysius, F.S.C., Provincial; Rev. Br. Philip, F.S.C., former Provincial and Rev. Br. Serenus, F.S.C., President of De La Salle University Hall, Ely Place; Rev. Br. Thomas, F.S.C., Superior, Mount La Salle, Ballyfermot; Rev. Br. Arnold, F.S.C., Headmaster, De La Salle College, Skerries; Rev. Br. Gregory, F.S.C., Superior, De La Salle Monastery, Wicklow; and Rev. Br. Bernard, F.S.C., Vocational Director.

[Continued on Page 22]

RAYMOND REILLY Writes On

The First Year's Rugby

We look back on our first year of rugby with very pleasant memories. Although it was not successful from the point of view of winning matches, we enjoyed all the games including the practices, and we gained very valuable experience.

We started from scratch in the Upper School in September with less than 30 players, which is not sufficient to make up two practice teams, with the result that only one school team could be fielded. With the exception of one or two, none of the boys knew anything

about rugby. Everyone was eager to learn and in a short time had a good general knowledge of the game. Fortunately, owing to an almost rainless season, only twice had practices to be abandoned before Christmas but rather more often afterwards. Practices were held on Thursday afternoons and when matches were arranged they were played on either Saturday or Sunday.

Competition for places on the team was very keen and the first match was played against Willow Park a little over a month



The first team ever to represent the College in an inter-college game, against Willow Park, at Blackrock College, on November 15, 1953. (On ground) P. Griffith, E. Mayne. (First row) M. Lynch, D. Lehane, R. Reilly, B. O'Carroll, Rev. Br. Patrick, F.S.C. ; J. McCoy, P. Young. (Second row) A. Traynor, J. O'Leary, J. Mellon, P. O'Donoghue, D. McCrossan, J. McPartland, T. Lynch, D. Mellon

after the rugby started. Brendan O'Carroll was elected captain; owing to the small numbers the ages of the team varied considerably, with three aged ten and three aged fourteen.

For a first match it was excellent. B. O'Carroll, John and Des. Mellon, John O'Leary, and D. Lehane were superb, and although we were beaten (12-3) we were very pleased with ourselves considering Willow Park is one of the finest junior rugby schools in Dublin. B. O'Carroll scored from a very nice intercept near our own 25 and ran the whole length of the field to touch down between the posts.

Once the first match was over the competition was keener. Even the younger boys wanted to get places. Three matches were played before Christmas against St. Conleth's, Gonzaga's, and Willow Park, which we lost, but not without fighting.

THE PLAYERS

L. Barrett : One of the youngest on the team. Plays full-back because he will tackle anyone, even Lehane, which he often does in practices, though Lehane is much bigger.

P. Cleary : Wing. Although only ten years of age he is one of the fastest runners on the team. His weight makes him hard to tackle; he has a very good kick.

J. O'Leary : Excellent in the centre. A delightfully well-balanced runner with a lovely swerve. He has a really good tackle when he wants to and has a fine kick.

B. O'Carroll (Capt.) : Plays in the centre. He is very fast. He has a good punt and place-kick.

P. Griffith : Usually plays scrum-half in practices. On the wing is a sound tackler and has safe hands. Goes like a bomb when he has the ball.

[Continued on Page 31]



RUGBY : 1st XV, 1953/'54.—(On ground) L. Barrett, D. Leonard. (First row) M. Lynch, D. Lehane, R. Reilly, B. O'Carroll, Rev. Br. Patrick, F.S.C.; R. Watt, D. Mellon. (Back row) P. Cleary, E. Mayne, P. Griffith, J. O'Leary, J. Keane, T. Lynch, P. Young, F. Bushnell

The Archbishop Meets The Boys



His Grace Most Reverend Dr. McQuaid, Archbishop of Dublin and Primate of Ireland, with the Very Reverend Brother Aloysius, F.S.C., Provincial of the De La Salle Order in Ireland, meets some of the boys after the Solemn Blessing of the College.

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The History of Whitehall

The present De la Salle College, Rathfarnham, occupies the house originally called "Whitehall," and built by Major Hall in 1740.

"Whitehall" is listed in Thom's Directory from the early 19th century. It had various owners. According to the 1848 Directory, it belonged then to a George Dowling; by 1865 it had passed to a Hugh Byrne, farmer. Hugh Byrne was the occupier until 1880, when it passed to his wife, who disposed of it the following year to a Mrs. Neill, also registered as a farmer. There were only two other farmers in the immediate neighbourhood then—James Hughes and James Byrne. The valuation of each farm is given and that is very important, as the valuation enables one to trace houses where the owners or names have changed.

The valuations of the three properties mentioned were Mrs. Neill, £223; James Hughes, £40 10s. 0d.; James Byrne, £73.

Mrs. Neill continued as owner until 1896. The 1897 Directory has "Whitehall vacant, Valuation £223." The 1898 Directory gives "Berwick House, Valuation £223"; the

other two farms—Hughes and Byrne remained as before.

From 1900 onwards the house was called "Berwick Home," and so remained until 1943 when it was closed down. After it became a Charitable Home it was exempt from rates.

**By Brian MacGiolla
Phadraig**

*Former Headmaster of the
Central Model Schools*

From 1945 or so the occupier is given as a Charles Allen. The valuation was only £34 10s. 0d. then, perhaps some of the lands had been sold.

"Whitehall House" was a much later building. In a 1910 Directory it is listed "Owner Thomas Doyle, Valuation £82." It is not given in the 1920 Directory or in any later one. It may have changed its name or it may have been demolished.

PATRIAE DESIDERIUM

("Heureux qui comme Ulysse a fait un beau voyage.")

*Happy indeed is he who like Odysseus
Hath voyaged far; or Jason-like hath won the Fleece,
And then returned to live life's close among his own,
And vaunt whate'er the brave have dared or wise have known.
Ah! when shall I re-see from ev'ry village stack
The smoke ascend; or that poor home beyond the sea
That is to me a kingdom and much more beside?
Dearer far to me the cot my sires did build
Than haughtiest mien of loftiest Roman citadel;
That cot's thin slate than all this cold marmoreal pomp;
My Gallic Loire than storied Tiber's yellow waves;
My lowly Lyre than all great Rome's Palatial Mount;
Dearer to me than ev'ry breeze from every sea
The gentle soft caresses of my own Anjou.*

BROTHER PATRICK, F.S.C.

From the French of Joachim du Bellay (1525-1560)

The TREKKING CLUB KEEPS GOING

The season proved very successful for the Trekking Club. Outings were limited during term, but when summer arrived they began in earnest, and this despite wretched weather conditions. The lure of the hills over the threat of rain and our courage was rewarded with some wonderful trips.

We began with a hike to the Devil's Glen. The route was via Enniskerry, Newtownmountkennedy and Ashford, and we were four strong. Brother Maurice, Brian Nolan, Bill O'Brien and myself. Weather was beautiful and all went well until we encountered the Devils. These appeared in the form of wild bees and they stung us from head to foot.



Pictured on the Snow-clad Slopes of Glencree are Seven Intrepid Cyclists.—(Front row L. to R.) D. O'Connor, M. Hanley, D. McCrossan. (Second row L. to R.) C. Mangan, R. Condren, J. McPartland. (At back) Rev. Bro. Patrick

We lay low and contented ourselves with short spins until August 23, when we set out for Glendalough. This very enjoyable day was crowned by the discovery of an overland route to St. Kevin's Bed and a beautiful beach with safe bathing close by. The route was by Enniskerry, Roundwood, Laragh, and Glen-

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dalough. On August 25 we set out for Poulaphouca. A very enjoyable day was spent by the lakes and we were also shown over the Power Station. The company included Brother Maurice, Brian Nolan and the writer.

We paid a return visit to Poulaphouca a few days afterwards and included Hollywood in our wanderings. Brother Maurice was again the leader and a larger company consisted of Brian Nolan, David McCrossan, John O'Leary and John McPartland.

We then rested temporarily until the Christmas holidays. A small party, that included Brother Patrick, went to the Sally Gap.

Having gone out of practice, we decided on a short hike to Glencullen on February 13. The group consisted of Brother Patrick, David O'Connor, Colm Mangan, Ronald Condren, David McCrossan, Michael Hanley, Peter Gallagher and John McPartland.

On Sunday, April 23, we went to the Sugar Loaf. The company was Brother Patrick, J. Maher, L. Power, C. Muldoon and J. McPartland.

JOHN McPARTLAND, Form V

NIALL HICKEY (of the 5th Class)

writes the story of . . .

A Temptation

"John Heathland is to go to Father Michael's study immediately," said the master when he had finished prayers.

John made his way to the study. He was puzzled by this unexpected call to the headmaster's office. What was the matter now? He was greatly annoyed at being called away from his books as the exams. were beginning the next day.

His train of thought was somewhat disturbed when on knocking on the door and entering the study he found it empty. What was the meaning of keeping a fellow waiting like this?

Glancing around the room his eye alighted on the table. There lay an envelope addressed to Father Michael. It was marked "Examination Papers."

"Examination Papers"! Oh, if only he could look inside that envelope. If only he could take it just for a few minutes. He could put it back again and nobody would ever know about it.

The temptation was too much for him. Picking out a paper he put it in his pocket. He did not see Father Michael looking at him through the half-open door.

That night John Heathland turned restlessly in his bed. He was worried. He had not yet looked at the paper. Somehow he did not want to. It did not seem so wonderful now. How could he have taken the paper, he wondered fitfully; it would certainly be missed and then all the papers would be changed.

At any rate, even if the scheme did work out, he would not have got the examination fairly. That would mean he was a cheat. He must not look at that paper and so, there was only one course open to him. Slipping out of bed he put on his dressing gown and walked noiselessly across the floor.

He opened and shut the door quietly and as he hurried down the corridor a figure was kneeling in the school chapel praying.

A couple of weeks later the Headmaster read out the results of the examination to a crowd of anxious boys. But the boys were not the only people on tenterhooks. Father Michael looked worried too.

As the list continued, Father Michael brightened and as the last few names were read out he began to smile.

John Heathland had got fourth last place. But he was happy about it, as was someone else. At least he had won it fairly.

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DUBLIN

David McCrossan

(Form II)

ASKS

Do You Know?

Is there a monument to a seagull anywhere?

At Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., an invading army of grasshoppers once devoured everything green in its path. The desperate farmers were unable to do anything, but watch the results of their labours disappear before their very eyes. But at the last moment a great flock of seagulls flew in from the Pacific, settled and set to eat the hordes of winged pests. The grateful farmers erected a monument in memory of the great service rendered to them by the common seagull.

How many words do we use?

In one dictionary there are to be found 400,000 words. Many of the greatest writers found quite a small number sufficient. Shakespeare used about 21,000 different words. Milton's "Paradise Lost" contains 7,000 different words. Some people use only 300, but most of us employ between 1,000 and 2,000 words.

Has a cloud any weight?

Often as we use the expression "light as a cloud" to describe something very light, it never occurs to us that we might be wrong—as we really are. After all, what is a cloud? Merely numerous particles of condensed water, which most certainly have weight. Therefore, a good-sized cloud may weigh many tons. Following from this comes the question, why if a cloud is heavy does it float? The answer is that it does not float, it only seems to. All the time the little particles are falling slowly. Clouds are not only *rain* clouds, but *raining* clouds.

What happens to a Tadpole's tail?

At a certain stage in the life of a tadpole, some of the cells that make up the tadpole's body attack and devour those cells that comprise its tail, which is gradually eaten away until there is nothing of it left.

AS A PUPIL SAW IT....

On the morning of September 3, 1952, De La Salle College, Rathfarnham, opened. About 50 boys between the ages of 6 and 16 attended the first day and everyone of them looked as if he was lost. Soon the boys got to know one another very well. That morning gave the mothers an excellent chance to show off their hats, some of which looked like birds' nests.

It started to rain then and everybody pulled a long face and ran for cover. The mothers soon disappeared and we were called in for assembly. Brother Patrick told us what we would be doing for the next few days. Since the builders had not finished hammering and painting, we could not get down to brass tacks immediately. For the first half of the day we of the First Form were left in the capable hands of Brother Joseph, who told some of the latest jokes. Afterwards he asked some tricky questions in arithmetic.

That got too dry, so we turned to English.

By Ronald Watt

FORM II

The clock soon crept up to 12 noon and we were let home for our lunch.

A photographer was supposed to come after lunch, but the weather was not suitable and we had a lesson of very dry old Latin instead from Brother Patrick. At half past two the weather took up and we got our photographs taken. When the cameraman had gone we were let home. We had spent our first day in De La Salle College, Rathfarnham.

Father O'Donnell, the parish priest of Rathfarnham, visited us the next day and told us the Third of September, 1952, would be a historical date in De La Salle College, Rathfarnham, for years to come.

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Outside School Hours!

Four boys tell in the next pages of some of their activities outside school hours.

By The East Coast

It was a fine day in the month of July when Donal Lehane, Brendan O'Carroll, Ronald Watt and myself, all of us from Form II, decided to go for a hike to Bray Head. That night our hands and the hands of our mothers were kept busy making sandwiches and getting everything that would be required.

The following day we all assembled at Berwick House at 11 o'clock. Brother Maurice came out with a cheerful-looking face and off we went in joyful spirits and sang merrily as we cycled along. We met many friends, and Brother Maurice used often hop off his bicycle and ask a stranger to direct us in the right direction. When we had cycled for one hour we knew our destination was near for we were catching the tang of the sea.

As we came into Bray we stopped for some refreshments because our journey had been long and tiring. Leaving our bicycles beside a little cottage facing the sea, we wandered around the amusement park, and Donal Lehane invited us all to some ice-cream. Brother Maurice asked us if we were willing to climb Bray Head and we all said yea.

The climbing was hard and strenuous, but quite soon we reached the summit. From our towering height we could see everything.

We then looked for a nice quiet place to relax and have our lunch. Brother Maurice told Donal Lehane and Brendan O'Carroll to collect some firewood. Then when all the requirements were got we opened our lunch.

After we had extinguished the fire we set off again for Greystones. It was then 4 o'clock. When we reached Greystones darkness was gradually closing in. However, we reached Bray at 7 o'clock, got our bicycles and began the journey home.

THOMAS LYNCH Form II

Assault On *The Sugar Loaf*

One day we arranged to attempt an assault on the Sugar Loaf. Next day, at 10 o'clock on a bright September morning, we set off. We steered our bikes out of Berwick House amid the clatter of hob-nailed mountaineering boots. The leader of our expedition was Brother Patrick, who was ably assisted by Brother Maurice; the team consisted of the worst of the First and Second Forms.

Our first port of call was Dalton's, where we loaded ourselves with sweet-tasting provisions. Moving on, we passed the Hell Fire Club on our right. It was 1 o'clock when we reached the valley of Glencree. We had lunch in a field beside a farmhouse, where we got fresh water for making tea. For many of us it was a most uncomfortable meal, as we dined beside three beehives, which were guarded by menacing-looking sentries. As we were making our departure one of the boys rolled an enormous cart-wheel down the hill, it jumped two walls and ended up beside the farmhouse. I am sure the farmer did not like our departing ceremony!

We then cycled from Glencree to Enniskerry, which is about 6 miles from where we had lunch. The road to Enniskerry was very steep and narrow, so we kept a good grip on our brakes. Nevertheless, our team stuck grimly to the job of keeping themselves alive. It was 4 o'clock when we reached Enniskerry, where we had a well-earned rest. After a mile of easy cycling we reached the Sugar Loaf. We left our bikes and burdens in a lodge at the foot of the mountain, and after straightening ourselves, we began the climb.

The first part of the climb was a series of hasty scramblings over thorn ditches. Many shirt-cuffs were torn as fellows stumbled into briar-patches.

When we were almost at the top, there was a mad scramble. Three newcomers to the school, despite Brother Patrick's orders to remain with the party, rushed the top, each eager to be the first to put a foot on the peak of the Sugar Loaf. On the top, which is shaped like a bowl, the mountain looks like a volcano crater. We had to cling to the rocks for fear of being blown off. As it was now 7 o'clock we could not waste much time, so after naming the summit "De La Salle" we began the downward climb.

We came down the opposite side as the breeze was against us the way we came up. When we reached the lodge we had tea, and after a quick pack-up we set off on the homeward track. When we reached the Scalp it was dark and it was 10 o'clock when we cruised into Dundrum and eventually we reached Berwick House.

I was not sorry to feel the cool sheets that night.

JAMES KEANE

Form II

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A VERY LONG WALK!

Glendalough, a small village at the foot of the Wicklow Mountains, was not conquered by boys from the De La Salle College, Rathfarnham, until December 27, 1953. The route taken by two intrepid trekkers was from Rathfarnham to the Sally Gap, via Glencree, and from there to Glendalough, a distance of 24 miles in all. Plans were made some days before and everything was in smooth running order when on Sunday morning two foolish but determined trekkers set out on the road to Glendalough.

The birds were pouring forth their merry notes and the smoke was beginning to rise from the little thatched, whitewashed cottages of the valley. It was then about 9.30 and the big push was on. We climbed steadily until we reached the edge of the moorland, where we took a breather and ate some biscuits, for our stomachs were beginning to let us know that our last meal had been at 7 a.m. From then on it was a bit chilly and we felt the comfort of our coats.

We forged steadily ahead until we came to what is one of our established food depots when we are in the mountains: Mr. P. Quinn's, at the head of Glencree Valley. We ate a hearty meal of tea and sandwiches and sat before a glowing fire, talking to Mr. Quinn. The clock on the mantelpiece ticked away the minutes and we were just feeling comfortable when it was time to leave. After saying goodbye to Mr. Quinn, we continued along the winding mountain road that leads to the Sally Gap.

After passing McGuirk's, the last outpost of civilization, we saw Lough Bray come into view, nestling among the mountains. It looked beautiful, but we had no time to admire it. Some miles further on we sighted a lone hiker steadily forging ahead like ourselves. After we passed a small turf railroad, tramping feet were heard to our rear, and two sturdy-looking hikers passed us. They seemed to be of the professional breed.

We met other parties at the Sally Gap and had a pow-wow about the weather and dis-

tances, and after that we parted. One group went west to Baltyboys, some boys went east to Roundwood and the Rathfarnham trekkers went south to Laragh. We were very much disheartened when we came upon a sign-board saying: "Laragh 11 miles, Glendalough 13 miles." It seemed a lot but we decided to continue. A notice board further on read: "Dangerous to traffic," and some small boy had written: "Soviet Zone" underneath.

The country on either side was hill and bogland. Mountain streams were in abundance everywhere, chattering over the stones of granite. We passed the source of the Liffey and the road here was not more than a track. After about an hour we met a hiker coming from Glendalough, who inquired about the time and distances. He told us that we should have no difficulty in finding our way, and with that we parted. At about a quarter to four we had our second meal, a hurried affair, by the roadside under the cold winter sun. We bathed our feet in a mountain stream, finished off our sandwiches, and washed them down with a cup of strong tea.

As we approached Laragh the scenery became more rugged but trees were appearing in the valley. We passed an uninhabited gamekeeper's lodge in a pine grove under the shelter of a rugged hill.

Suddenly we came upon a vast expanse of land, through which flows the Glenmacnass River. The Glenmacnass Falls are on the Glenmacnass River and the water comes cascading down the rocks some 200 feet. Darkness was falling and the lights of the valley were twinkling a welcome to the two brave trekkers, who did not want to admit that they were tired and beaten.

The cluster of farm houses which forms the hamlet of Laragh was a welcome sight, and when we saw "Glendalough 1 mile" on a signboard, we thought the remaining distance would be chicken-feed but it proved to be the hardest bit of all.

On reaching Glendalough, Mrs. McCartan's grey car was a welcome sight, for we knew that we should not be long getting home. In Enniskerry we passed the two weary hikers who had gone to Roundwood. They looked dead beaten.

JOHN McPARTLAND

Form II

Which Game?

By Ronald Carroll

FORM II

The first year of outdoor activities was not quite successful here in De La Salle College. No two boys could agree on any one game to play. Accordingly all games got their chance and their loud-voiced champions.

Gaelic, Hurling, Rugby, Soccer, and the ancient game of Marbles all claimed their quota of players. But early in our second year the race for establishment was narrowing down to Rugby and Marbles.

In Rugby Mr. Ray Reilly coached the 1st XV at practices every Thursday. About a dozen inter-school games were played, chiefly against Willow Park and Gonzaga. As the players seldom proclaimed the results we guessed the worst. The 2nd XV made great strides under the tuition of Brother Leo. The youngest boys were taken by Brother Alphonsus. These did not want any argument but just a ball, oval-shaped or otherwise, and space and time to chase it around and shout themselves hoarse. Their loud enthusiasm on Wednesday afternoons was a serious distraction from Algebra for the detained scholars of the upper school.

In the third term a putting green was prepared on the front lawn. All the golfers polished their clubs and donned their sweaters for the Nine Holes Championship. Nobody claimed the championship: 55 was the record and far from famous.

During the 2nd and 3rd terms and the long vacation the Trekking Club came to life and brought members on walking, cycling, climbing and camping expeditions in the Dublin foothills. The expeditions, whatever else they did, seem to have supplied certain members of the upper school with twelve months' material for boasting.

WANTED: Rugby Team capable of being beaten by existing De La Salle team.—Apply, Headmaster or Raymond Reilly (JMCP).



CLASS II.—(Front row) P. Barrett, P. Burgess, D. O'Donovan, Rev. Br. Alphonsus, F.S.C. ; L. Brady, B. D'Arcy, E. Soye. (Second row) H. Franklin, A. Rau, A. Charleton, K. Hicks, T. Brugha, J. Quinn, B. Young. (Back row) J. Murray, S. O'Keeffe, F. O'Byrne, J. Kehoe, S. Deasy, J. Nash, N. Reilly, R. Greer.



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At Camp In Glencree

By Brendan O'Carroll
FORM II.

Yes, I can well remember Tuesday, August 12, 1953—the day we started a camping tour of Glencree, County Wicklow. I arose early that morning and ate my breakfast hurriedly. At ten o'clock I set out cheerily for our appointed meeting place, Berwick House, looking very odd with my haversack and utensils loaded on my back and three blankets rolled up under my arm. I reached Berwick House at 10.30 to find Brother Patrick and the other boys waiting impatiently for me. They reminded me that 10 o'clock, not 10.30, was the appointed time. However, after some checking and adjusting of our baggage, we set out gallantly in pairs for Glencree. My partner was Donal Lehane, and it's many the joke we passed along the line on our trek.

The sun was shining gloriously as we trudged along the mountain roads. As we neared "The Hellfire" thirst beat us all and we partook of some welcome refreshments in a nearby shop. After some time we started off again for the real climb—the Featherbed Mountain. The views in this rough countryside were delightful. The summer breezes blowing gently across the swaying masses of heather and fern refreshed us very much and lessened considerably the strain of the climb. In about an hour we reached the summit. Now we could view the village of Glencree, nestling serenely in the shade of the looming Kippure Mountain.

At long last we filed into Glencree. We selected the best camping site we could find and then unloaded our luggage and flung ourselves on the fragrant grass. The countryside was wild but most beautiful. A shimmering expanse of water down in the valley, overlooked by the majestic Sugar Loaf Mountain with its reflection shivering in the lake, presented a picture worthy of the best artist's brush. The slope in the ground made it difficult to pitch our tents, but this did not hinder our energetic efforts and soon we had everything in order and were seated to a long-awaited meal.

After the meal Brother Patrick assigned to each boy various duties to be done during the week we intended to stay. I was appointed to attend to the breakfasts—to my disgust, as I am a bad cook, and did not like the idea of rising early in the morning with everyone else still sleeping. We said the Rosary at 10 o'clock and by 11 o'clock all was silent and everyone slumbering.

I awoke very early next morning and immediately got up in case I might fall asleep again, as usual. All went well for me as I prepared breakfast. At 9 o'clock an appetising meal was spread on an immaculate tablecloth on the green sward, and the rest of the expedition was up and ready to pounce on it. I was glad when the boys praised my cooking, and Clark Robinson was quite willing to place dinner in my custody. I did not oblige. Nothing very exciting turned up that day and, as usual, it was concluded by the recitation of the Rosary and then bed.

Each day had its new experiences and adventures, but a most surprising coincidence occurred on Friday. As John McPartland was picking berries on the roadside, a shining car slid up beside him. Out popped a clerical figure whom John thought to be a priest but found out to be no less than a De La Salle Brother from New York who was touring Ireland by car. John explained his position and escorted him to the camp. He and Brother Patrick became rapt in deep conversation while I made an improvised tea for our very welcome guest. After tea he took cine films of the camp and of a game of cricket we were playing. We were all anxious to see ourselves as film stars, but, much to our disgust, he was returning to New York shortly, but promised to show the films in the De La Salle schools of New York. After this we bade him goodbye.

On Sunday morning we went to Mass in Glencree Church and returned to camp with the intention of having an early dinner. On our return we found that a few canine friends

from a nearby farmhouse had laid waste two pounds of corn beef that poor Thomas Lynch had travelled ten hard mountainy miles to Enniskerry to procure. Luckily we had canned meat in store and dinner was over by 1 o'clock. Then Thomas Lynch's father arrived by car and brought us to the Silver Strand. Here we thoroughly enjoyed dips in the ocean and football on the beach.

Time flew on angel wings and we never felt until Monday had arrived. We tried to put as much fun and excitement into the few fleeting hours left to us as well as executing our various duties. But I noticed an air of unrest and anxiety about the camp that evening.

The inevitable parting day came at last and I watched the sun rise, more glorious than ever, over the Sugar Loaf. After breakfast we packed our luggage and took up the tents. We waited until dinner and when it was over we planted a Tricolour on a nearby hillock and set off for home.

Exchanges

The Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools :—

St. Helen's Catholic Grammar School, Lincs. (*The West Park Magazine*).

De La Salle College, Sheffield. (*Green and Gold*).

St. Anne's College, Bondi Beach, Sydney. (*Annual Magazine*).

De La Salle College, Pendleton, Salford. (*De La Salle Annual*).

St. Patrick's High School, Downpatrick (*Trait d'Union*).

LITURGICAL BLESSING

[Continued from Page 11]

The local clergy, secular and regular, were represented by Very Rev. T. O'Donnell, P.P., Rathfarnham; Very Rev. D. Ryan, P.P., Dundrum; Rev. E. McGinty, C.C., and Rev. J. O'Donoghue, C.C., Dundrum; Very Rev. P. Kenny, S.J., Rector, Rathfarnham Castle; and Rev. P. Burke, O.Carm., Terenure College.

The Department of Education was represented by Mr. Leo Close, M.A., Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools.

A notable pair in attendance were Mrs. Aine Ceannt and her son Ronan. Mrs. Ceannt, who has since died, was the widow of the executed Easter Week leader, Eamonn Ceannt, and she was the previous owner and occupant of Inishmore House.

Not to be forgotten in this chronicle for future generations is the very fine group of parents who turned up for the occasion, including Dr. and Mrs. Daly, Mrs. Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. Kavanagh, Mrs. O'Neill, Mrs. O'Leary, Mr. and Mrs. Brogan, Mr. and Mrs. Cannon, Mr. and Mrs. Rea, Mrs. Kehoe, Mrs. O'Loughlin, Mrs. Kinsella, Mrs. Redmond, Mrs. Cruise, Mr. and Mrs. O'Reilly, Mrs. Langan, Mrs. O'Connor, Mr. Winters, Mrs. Conalty, Mrs. B. Nolan, Mrs. Young, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. and Mrs. Deering, Comdt. and Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Vaughan, Mrs. J. Nolan, Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Keane, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Caffrey, Mrs. Lawlor, and Mrs. McCann.

At the end of the ceremonies in Inishmore House the visiting members of the De La Salle Order were entertained to lunch by the Rathfarnham community in their residence, Berwick House, Hazelbrook. And in this traditional convivial way a very notable day in the history of De La Salle College came to a pleasant close. The College had been, as it were, officially launched and what adventures and voyages lay before it the small pioneering community could only dimly guess.

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WANTED: Strong contractor capable of shifting Glendalough 10 miles nearer to Rathfarnham.—Apply to Hikers, De La Salle College (JMCP).

LOST: On December 27, 1953, about 4 miles from village of Laragh, all further desire for hiking.—Apply, Headmaster or J. McPartland (JMCP).

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WHY FRENCH?

A Plea For French Studies

"Why teach French? It is not essential or compulsory": such a query occasionally comes to the ears of French masters and Headmasters. If I am in a provocative mood I answer "Why anything? and in this age of essentials, priorities and compulsion, would it not be fun to do something just because you loved it, and just because it was not compulsory?" All subjects on a school curriculum are means, not ends. If the end proposed is valuable, the means taken are proportionately justified. Let us see how this principle applies to some established subjects, and then inquire whether a similar case may be made for French.

We teach religion not primarily as a code of conduct, not as a body of knowledge, nor as a discipline, but in order to help the child to come into a personal relationship with God, to initiate him into the conscious living of a supernatural life, of a life differing not in degree but in kind from that of the good-living natural man. Having set his feet on that high road we may hopefully leave him to make his own advances and discoveries. The end of our religious teaching will have been the beginning of a new life, a setting out on the Further Journey. Of all good teaching the same may be said: "In my end is my beginning."

Our teaching of Latin is justified if, in spite of all sorts of technical failures, it communicates to our students some real and vital contact with the ancient world, some appreciation of what antiquity means, what it valued, what it achieved, what it bequeathed, why it has left so great and abiding a name, why to the present day it ceases not to be relevant and significant. In the measure of his appreciation the student has been enriched with a new life, is made a citizen of the ancient classical world. Once more life begins where teaching ends.

And in this fashion each subject of a secondary education may profitably be viewed as an introduction to one of the many aspects of human life and human experience: an introduction to reality. If we are to educate harmonious and well-integrated human

By Rev. Brother Patrick, F.S.C.

*"Tout homme a deux patries :
la sienne et la France."*

beings we must give our children in their formative years an awareness of, and an entry to as many aspects of reality as is possible. This would seem to me to be the distinctive function of a secondary school; this is what I understand by a general education. The person receiving such an education would be distinguished by a certain catholicity of interest and sympathy. His mind and his heart would open readily to all reality, all life, and all men. He would be much removed from such typical college products as the athlete who can talk only field and track records, and the classical pedant who avows that whenever he hears of a new book he reads an old one. The narrowness of both prevents them from playing truly human roles in life.

If we concede that the purpose of a secondary education is to create in the student an awareness of many aspects of life then a strong case can be made for French or some other Continental language. It will introduce him to a new and very rich world of human experience; it will put him in contact and communion with one of the chief centres of our western civilization; it will make him Continental rather than insular in interest and sympathy.

Our secular struggle against English domination has so absorbed all our energies and attention that its perpetual recurrence as a theme of argument tends to beget in us an awareness of only two nations and one issue. To off-set this inevitable but understandable preoccupation with one theme it is not necessary to study or own country less but to study others more.

If our French studies make us realise that

there are other nations and other issues they will have enlarged us greatly. Even a modest personal acquaintance with the greatness of French achievements in such diverse domains as those of intelligence, of arms, and of holiness is an enlarging and liberating experience. In the presence of French achievement our proper pride in our own Irish contribution to European civilization will be tempered by an equally proper advertence to the contributions of others.

A pertinent illustration will be supplied by an examination of the sources of modern Irish political thought. Our professed ideal has been an Ireland not free only, but Gaelic as well; not Gaelic only but free as well. But when a group of Irishmen discuss this ideal you will find that their thoughts, their assumptions, the very language in which they express themselves are those of Thomas Davis and the men of Young Ireland; and Thomas Davis is, in turn, the authentic voice of the French Revolution announcing to the world its gospel of liberty, fraternity and equality. Within our professed ideal of an Ireland fully free and fully Gaelic there is an unresolved conflict; for the republican ideal, which has attracted the most generous of Irish minds for 150 years, is a concept deriving from revolutionary France, and not from Gaelic Ireland. The ancient Gaelic world was monarchical and aristocratic in policy, not republican and democratic. It is a testimony to the vitality and vigour of Revolutionary France that she imposed this republican ideal on Ireland (and indeed on most of Europe) as if it were something connatural to us.

Indeed France more than any other country has been all through history the true index of Europe. In the Dark Ages, when Clovis accepts Baptism at Rheims he brings with him to the Roman Faith and allegiance not only his rude Frankish soldiers but all the barbarian West as well. In the Middle Ages, when France goes crusading, she sets the pattern of a movement to be followed by all Western Europe for generations. In the 17th century France is the exemplar and prototype of that monarchical absolutism which is to show itself in the dynasties of Hapsburg and Hohenzollern and Stuart and Romanoff: all Europe bows towards Versailles. In the 18th century the French Revolution became the starting point and model of almost every revolutionary move-

ment in Europe from that day to ours. There is substance in the observation that as France goes, so goes Europe. That judgment is only too true of our own sad days, when a weak and divided France is the true index of a weak and divided Europe.

If an awareness of French history will light up certain very pertinent aspects of reality for us, we may expect that our acquaintance with French literature will prove vastly illuminating and enlarging as it reveals to us the keen French mind at grips with the perennial problems of human life. Our reactions to the same problems will be fuller and more delicate for our having lived for a time in the high company of Villon, Ronsard, La Fontaine, Racine, Moliere, Corneille, Hugo, Balzac; and coming closer to ourselves, how meaningful to us Catholics, how explicative of the grandeur and misery of contemporary man, are the works of Mauriac and Claudel. In this domain I claim no specialist competence, but I may fairly illustrate the significance of French literature by two references to a work which I picked up by chance a few days ago and have been reading since. It is the Everyman translation of Pascal's "Pensees."

In a preface to this work, T. S. Eliot, speaking of the opposition of Pascal to Montaigne, says that while every man who thinks and lives by thought must have his own scepticism, Montaigne succeeded in giving expression to the scepticism of every human being. And of Pascal the distinguished English author has this to say: "I can think of no Christian writer, not Newman even, more to be commended than Pascal to those who doubt, who have the mind to conceive and the sensibility to feel the disorder, the futility, the meaninglessness, the mystery of life and suffering, and who can only find peace through a satisfaction of the whole being."

The present decadence of France is often urged as an argument to confute anyone who advocates the study of French or evinces any sympathy with the French mind. These critics assert that French greatness is all a thing of the past, with no relevance to the contemporary scene. To such objectors I can only answer that we cannot dismiss so lightly what has been great so long, that those of us who have known so many resurrections of France will be slow to believe that the Fourth Republic is the end of everything, that in any case there are many things not less real for being past, and that much of France's greatness having been in the domain of the human spirit, her effect may well endure as long as the human spirit endures. Her light shall no more be extinguished than that of ancient Athens.

WANTED: In Kenya 10 acres of land for playing Mau Mau.—Apply, First Form (JMCP).

When The Parents Met

By Auditor

A meeting of parents was held in the Common Room at Berwick House on Thursday evening, June 11, 1953.

It was not without hesitation that the Headmaster decided to invite this meeting. Might not the attendance be depressingly small, interest slight, and business negligible? A magnificent turnout of fathers and mothers soon set at rest all misgivings. Hardly a family was without representation, and many sent both parents. An air of friendliness was present from the outset. On arrival the parents were received by the Headmaster and Brother Leo, to enjoy a pleasant stroll around the grounds, lawns, green-houses, gardens and playing fields, all now in their verdant prime on a long, serene evening of June sunshine. The unanimous comment was to affirm how fortunate the Provincial and the College had been in securing such a lovely site.

When all had assembled in the Common Room—where the floor space was taxed to capacity—Brother Patrick, F.S.C., welcomed all the visitors, and said that the bond of union between the parents and the teachers was their common interest in the children. Both parties were fully committed to this interest, and it was natural that they should meet and pool views and experiences.

He gave a summary of what had been done to date, how this foundation came to be made, the two properties acquired, building operations carried out, and the school organised. Turning to future developments, he said he had been instructed by the Provincial to tell the parents that the building of a new National School would be commenced at Berwick within twelve months to cater for the new housing scheme, that the present school premises at Inishmore would be ultimately reserved for the Preparatory School, and that a new Secondary School would be built.

On general policy to be pursued in De La Salle College, Brother Patrick said a school

might elect to specialise in studies, in athletics, or in social activities. In De La Salle he would like to see a nice blend of all these interests, but if there had to be priorities he would stress study. That children might be placed to the best advantage in life it was essential that they should be submitted to a consistent discipline of learning. In the Preparatory School he would emphasise the traditional rudiments; he was not impressed by boys of that age dabbling in history, geography, geometry, algebra or French. Given good solid foundations in Irish, English and arithmetic they would have plenty of time for the new subjects in their secondary course.

As for the Secondary School, if its curriculum were to be more than a mechanical grind in a narrow range of subjects, if it were to attempt breadth and depth, if both boys and masters were to be at ease in their work and to have a calm and gracious life, then the supreme *desideratum* was time. To achieve depth and breadth the course must be well spread out in time. The ideal was that children should enter the Secondary School as early as possible and then take four years for their Intermediate Certificate and two years further for the Leaving Certificate. The large number of subjects which demanded a place in a modern curriculum made this question of time, of the duration of courses, more important than ever. The common mistake in this matter was to postpone too far the age of entry. At 14 a boy was much too old to start; 11 to 12 would be a good age.

As regards the Irish language, the Headmaster said it would be impossible for the College to cater for all the divergent claims made by different families; historical and national motives demanded its inclusion and adequate presentation. On a lower but very practical plane they had to face the fact that a satisfactory knowledge of Irish was an essential qualification for entry to very many



CLASSES III AND IV.—(Front row) N. Hickey, D. O'Reilly, B. Kelly, D. O'Reilly, Rev. Brother Leo, F.S.C., K. Cruise, P. Griffith, P. O'Connor, C. Daly. (Second row) S. Rea, D. Deasy, W. O'Neill, R. Barnes, P. Kinsella, O. O'Loughlen, M. Redmond, K. Fagan. (Third row) R. McCaffrey, P. O'Leary, P. O'Neill, F. Kavanagh, D. Nolan, L. Lyons, M. O'Leary. (Fourth row) M. Cannon, K. Fitzpatrick, M. Glynn, M. Leahy, P. McGovern, A. Rahilly, J. Brogan. (Top row) G. Kehoe, B. O'Farrell, D. Langan, M. Franklin, M. Hanley.

professions. His own experience had shown him that teaching English-speaking children through the medium of Irish was generally an undue complication of the teaching process which did not produce any notable love of Irish in those so taught. In the existing circumstances it would be the policy of the College to teach Irish well as a subject but not to use it as a medium of instruction in other subjects. Zealous teachers and parents could readily find additional means of promoting an interest in Irish studies.

In the matter of games, too, it would be impossible to satisfy everyone. In the present year a policy of *laissez-faire* had not been successful; no code had been played with the consistency essential to proficiency; argument on the topic could be as futile as interminable. To end hesitation and discussion and get down to something definite he was ordering that in the coming school year rugby should be taken by all classes in the winter season and Gaelic games in the sum-

mer. A miniature golf course had been prepared on the lawn in front of the College and the game was taken up keenly by a good number of boys. Other facilities would come later. The really important thing was that for the sake of their all-round development the boys should take an active and regular part in some game. They should no more exempt themselves from their games than from their studies. In this matter the goodwill of the parents was a particularly valuable asset to the school.

On the issue of school uniform, the Headmaster said that a definite ruling had to be made and consistently enforced. Half-measures, here as elsewhere, achieved nothing. Accordingly he had opted for a uniform and made its wearing obligatory. Parents had shown their approval and he was grateful for their co-operation in establishing and maintaining becoming standards in this domain. He asked for a continuation of that support in the coming year.

Brother Patrick reminded parents that it was important that they should know what company their younger children frequented when neither at home nor in school and that they should discreetly control their reading and film-going. He reminded parents having boys in the Secondary School that boys of that age of transition from boyhood to manhood presented special problems to the home and the school, that at "l'age ingrat" they needed more than ever the sympathy, understanding and patience of their parents and teachers. Parents should provide the physical instruction necessary for the growing boy to understand his own development, if the parents failed here the boy would most likely be the victim of unworthy and inadequate sources of knowledge. Such enlightenment should in ideal circumstances be a continuous process over the years, a gradual unfolding, according to the child's needs, of the whole Divine plan of human life. Where the parents had played their part the teacher could meaningfully offer the youth doctrinal and moral guidance and integrate this latest development of the boy's nature into the whole context of life. Given formation of this type, adolescence should, after a period of inevitable stress and strain, mature into a well-balanced and graceful manhood.

When the Headmaster had concluded his address tea was served by the housekeeper, Miss Eileen Keatley, and a few of the students; Damian Fortune, Albert Traynor, William O'Brien, Paul Young, John McCoy, and John McPartland.

During discussion after tea certain suggestions emerged from the parents. Mr. Sean Keane suggested that the College close for the summer vacation on a fixed date, known well in advance, so that parents might make arrangements for family holidays. Mrs. Lynch proposed the formation of a trekking club to take the boys hiking, cycling, camping, and studying country lore, and in general to provide healthy outdoor recreational facilities under the supervision of the College staff. Mrs. Eckford commended the Canadian teacher-parent organisations for study and possible imitation. In Canada, she said, they played a valuable role. Mrs. Fortune inquired whether a more suitable material could be found for the College tie. Brother Patrick promised to do his best to implement these suggestions.

A vote of thanks to Brother Patrick was proposed by Mr. Peter O'Donoghue and seconded by Mr. Michael O'Carroll, both expressing their appreciation of the excellent start that had been made in De La Salle College.

Attendance included :—

Mr. Franklin, Mrs. Leonard, Mr. Kavanagh, Mr. and Mrs. O'Neill, Mrs. O'Leary, Mr. and Mrs. Deasy, Mrs. Rea, Mrs. Kehoe, Mrs. O'Reilly, Mr. and Mrs. Redmond, Mr. Cruise, Mrs. Langan, Mrs. O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. O'Loughlin, Mr. Winters, Mr. Cannon, Mr. and Mrs. O'Loughlin, Mr. and Mrs. Fortune, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. McCann, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan, Comdt. and Mrs. Lynch, Mr. Traynor, Mr. and Mrs. Deering, Mr. Conalty, Capt. and Mrs. Sheridan, Mr. J. Nolan, Mr. and Mrs. Young, Mr. O'Brien, Mrs. Mellon, Mr. and Mrs. McPartland, Mr. and Mrs. Keane, Mrs. Watt, Mr. and Mrs. Lehane, Mrs. T. Lynch, Mr. and Mrs. O'Carroll, Mrs. J. Carroll, Mrs. Donnelly, Mrs. Daly.

The Open Road

The Trekking Club seems to have grown up spontaneously. In the Spring of the College's first year of existence the exhilarating mood and weather of early spring, the inviting prospects of the hills, and the adventurous spirits of certain members of the First Form, all combined to produce a small, vigorous group of trekkers ready to avail themselves of opportunities for long treks on foot or cycle. The reward : weary feet, good scenery, good appetites, and above all and most to be remembered, good fellowship, the bond that shared toil and adventure always creates.

I can recall nine fine outings :

THE PINE FOREST. On foot. Route : Berwick House, Yellow House, Rockbrook, the Pine Forest, Glencullen, Stepaside, Dundrum, Berwick House. Party : Brother Patrick, Brother Victor, J. McPartland, J. Mellon, D. Mellon, B. O'Carroll, D. Lehane, Liam Power. Date : April 10, 1953. Memorable incident : the falling of D. M. into a stream at Rockbrook and his complete unconcern at this disaster.

THE SCALP. On foot from Whitehall Road via Grange Road and Lambs' Cross. Home by a very welcome C.I.E. bus 44—the Enniskerry bus. All on a June day.

BRAY HEAD. July 24, by bicycle. Memories : swimming in very rough sea at Killiney, a second swim in Bray, a spirit-reviving and necessary tea in Butler's Tea Rooms at the Scalp on the return journey.

GREYSTONES. To Bray by C.I.E. Bus. From Bray by foot over Bray Head and then a lovely trek along the Military Road to Greystones. Long interesting walk in the late evening along cliffs by coast from Greystones back to Bray and the 10.40 p.m. bus to Burgh Quay. Company : The Headmaster, Brendan O'Carroll, D. Lehane, J. McPartland, J. Mellon and C. Murray. Date : July 28, 1953.

KIPPURE MOUNTAIN. A splendid trek on a day of splendid August weather. Travelled on bicycles. Route : Berwick House, Ballyboden, over the Featherbed

Mountain to Glencree—then on foot to the summit of Kippure (2,473 ft.). Home by different road along the mountain side above the Bohernabreena lakes—past Firhouse Inn, Rathfarnham and so to Berwick and thence to bed. The best trip to date. Lovely sunny day. Things to be remembered : tea from a turf fire in Glencree Bog ; finding the source of our local river, the Dodder, near the foot of Kippure ; the boggy and gradual ascent ; the mering or boundary line dividing counties Dublin and Wicklow ; the granite shining brilliantly in the August sun ; the soft, caressing air even on the very summit ; below us and all around a view of innumerable peaks, including the Sugar Loaf and Bray Head, and the sea to the east ; the Liffey lakes to the west. The company : Brother Patrick, B. O'Carroll, C. Murray, and J. McPartland.

CAMP IN GLENCREE. Easily the most ambitious Trekking Club undertaking :

Things remembered—the eager preparations, the kindness of Mrs. McCartan and Mr. T. Lynch in transporting equipment ; the ubiquitous mountain which denied us even sufficient level ground to sleep on without rolling.

THE SUGAR LOAF. A very arduous trek and climb in early September, 1953. Present : Brother Patrick, Brother Maurice and nearly all the members of the First and Second Forms.

GLENCREE. On November 2, in mid-term break. A long trek on foot from Rathfarnham, over the Featherbed Mountain to Glencree, and thence to Enniskerry. Home by Enniskerry bus to Dundrum.

GLENDALOUGH. Only 24 miles on foot, on Sunday, December 27, 1953. And only a few valiant hearts and tired feet survived the test ! Details elsewhere by our Sherpa Tensing.

JOHN McPARTLAND, Form II



CLASSES V AND VI.—(Front row) V. Deasy, P. Deering, P. O'Donoghue, Rev. Br. Joseph, F.S.C. ; M. Lynch, J. McCoy, D. Leonard. (Second row) D. Fortune, R. Keenan, F. Young, A. Traynor, E. Hayes, P. Condren, W. Nolan, L. Barrett. (Back row) J. Conalty, E. Mayne, D. Keenan, P. Cleary, T. Sheridan

The First Year's Rugby (contd. from Page 13)

F. Bushnell : Out-half. Started playing rugby for us after Christmas. Has a very safe pair of hands and a most deceptive swerve.

E. Mayne : Scrum-half. Used to play out-half but now plays scrum-half. Has a very nice left-footed kick and is quick to seize an opening.

Forwards :

D. Lehane : Front row. A very hard worker in the forwards and on account of his height is the best line-out man. He has a great tackle.

M. Lynch : Hooker. Well-built forward and a good hooker. Shows up well in the line-out.

J. McCoy : Front row. The real McCoy in the line-out because of his height. Always in the middle of a forward rush.

T. Lynch : Second row. One of the best forwards. Plays very hard—shoves well in scrums, a very good dribbler and excellent in the line-out.

P. Young : Second row. Very light for a forward but plucky ; always goes down on the ball in front of a forward rush.

J. Vaughan : Wing forward. Small but very good in the loose. Always where the ball is.

D. Leonard : Lock. One of the smallest and youngest on the team. Always in the middle of things ; he is a good dribbler and backs up well. The more he is knocked around the more he likes it.

D. Mellon : Our best forward. Plays wing forward. Dribbles well and has a good sense of position ; he is very fast away from the scrum and is a good spoiler. Causes more worry to the opposition than the rest of the team put together.

A special word of praise and thanks for their constant attendances at practices during the year is due to all and especially to those who obtained their places on the team as substitutes on various occasions.



RUGBY : 2nd XV, 1953/'54.—(Front row) S. Rea, J. Conalty. (Seated) M. Cannon, F. Kavanagh, L. Lyons, S. Deasy, P. O'Neill, B. O'Farrell, K. Fitzpatrick. (Standing) M. Glynn, P. O'Leary, D. Leonard, P. Cleary, M. O'Leary, L. Barrett.

The College Roll

1952—1953

Teaching Staff

Rev. Brother Patrick, F.S.C., Headmaster ; Rev. Brother Joseph, F.S.C., Rev. Brother Leo, F.S.C., and Rev. Brother Peter, F.S.C.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Classes II and III

Brogan, John M., Cannon, Michael, F. Cruise, Kieran, P., Daly, T. Christopher C., Deasy, M. Desmond, Eckford, Alan M., Franklin, Michael T.

Kavanagh, Francis, C., Kehoe, Gerard P. M., Kelly, Brian Seamus, Kinsella, Paul V., Langan, Derek R., Moloney, Michael A., McCaffrey, Raymond J., Nolan, Nicholas D., O'Connor, Patrick W., O'Farrell, Barry E.

O'Leary, Michael A. H., O'Neill, Paul M., O'Leary, Peter A. H., O'Loughlin, R. Oisín, O'Reilly, Donal J. E., Rahilly, Anthony B. C., Rea, Sean P., Redmond, Maurice, Winters, Brian.

Classes IV and V

Conalty, John B., Cleary, Philip M., Deasy, B. Victor, Deering, T. Paul, Fortune, M. J. Damian, Hayes, J. Enda, Leonard, David N., Lynch, Michael E., McCoy, John J., Mellon, Desmond.

McKeown, John, Nolan, J. Brian, Nolan, F. William, O'Brien, William B., O'Leary, John M. H., O'Donoghue, Patrick W., Sheridan, Thomas F., Traynor, Albert C., Vaughan, John E., Young, Francis J.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Form I

Carroll, Ronald H., Donnelly, Michael P., Doyle, Timothy J., Keane, James A., Kelly, Francis W., Lehane, Daniel C., Lynch Thomas J.

McCann, Sean D., McKeown, Patrick, McPartland, John M., Mellon, John J., Murray, Conan P. J., O'Carroll, Brendan P., Ryan, Robert M., Watt, Ronald J.

FOR SALE : Large bulldog. Eats everything. Very fond of children, suit Prep. School.—**Box 204 (T. Lynch, Form II).**

LOST : A wallet of notes. Finder please keep wallet, but return notes, which are of sentimental value.—**Box 205 (J. MacGowan).**

WANTED : Constantly by First Form, answer books, cogs., cigarette lighters, good lists of excuses, colds, slings, pistols, peashooters. Minimum prices only.—**(BOC),**

1953—1954

Teaching Staff

Rev. Brother Patrick, F.S.C., Headmaster ; Rev. Brother Joseph, F.S.C., Rev. Brother Leo, F.S.C., Rev. Brother Maurice, F.S.C., Rev. Brother Alphonse, F.S.C., Mr. Raymond Reilly.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Class II

Barrett, Paul, Brady, William C., Brugha, Terence C., Burgess, Paul John, Charleton, Aengus J., Deasy, Seamus, M., D'Arcy, Brendan A., Franklin, Hugh P., Greer, Ronald T., Hicks, Kenneth J.

Kehoe, John F. M., Murray, James J., Nash, John F. O'Byrne, Francis, O'Cuiv, Shan, O'Donovan, Denis A., Quinn, James, Rau, Andrew R. D., Reilly, Noel, Soye, Edward V., Young, Brian M.

Classes III and IV

Barnes, J. Roger, Brogan, John M., Cannon, Michael F., Cruise, Kieran P., Daly, T. Christopher C., Deasy, M. Desmond, Eckford, Alan M., Fagan, Kieran J., Fitzpatrick, T. Kevin, Franklin, Michael T., Glynn, Michael T.

Griffith, Paul F., Hanley, Michael, Hickey, Niall P., Kavanagh, Francis C. Kehoe, Gerard P. M., Kelly, Brian Seamus, Kinsella, Paul V., Langan, Derek R., Leahy, Michael E., Leonard, Bernard T., Lyons, William D. F.

Moloney, Michael A., McCaffrey, Raymond J., McGovern, Patrick J., Nolan, Nicholas D., O'Connor Patrick W., O'Farrell, Barry E., O'Leary, Michael A. H., O'Leary, Peter A. H.

O'Neill, Paul M., O'Neill, William J., O'Loughlin, R. Oisín, O'Reilly, Donal J. E., O'Reilly, Douglas J., Rahilly Anthony B.C., Rea, Sean P., Redmond, M., Maurice, Winters, Brian.

Classes V and VI

Barrett, William, Conalty, John B., Cleary, Philip M., Condren, Patrick J. M., Deasy, B. Victor, Deering, T. Paul, Fortune, M. J. Damian, Hayes, J. Enda, Keenan, Reginald B., Keenan, Daniel X.

Leonard, David N., Lynch, Michael E., Mayne, Ernest J., Millarden Erwin P. J., McCoy, John J., Nolan, F. William, O'Donoghue, Patrick W., Sheridan, Thomas F., Traynor, Albert C., Vaughan, John E., Young, Francis J.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Form I

Bushnell, P. Frederick M., Condren, Ronald P., Gallagher, Peter V., Griffith, Patrick G., Mellon, Desmond, McCrossan, David P.

McGabhann, Risteard, McKeon, B. Patrick, Nolan, J. Brian, O'Brien, William B., O'Leary, John M. H., Walsh, Terence A., Young, Paul F.

Form II

Carroll, Ronald H., Donnelly, Michael P., Keane, James A., Kelly, Francis W., Lehane, Daniel C., Lynch, Thomas J.

Mellon, John J., McCann, Sean D., McGabhann, Sean, McPartland, John M., O'Carroll, Brendan P., Watt, Ronald J.

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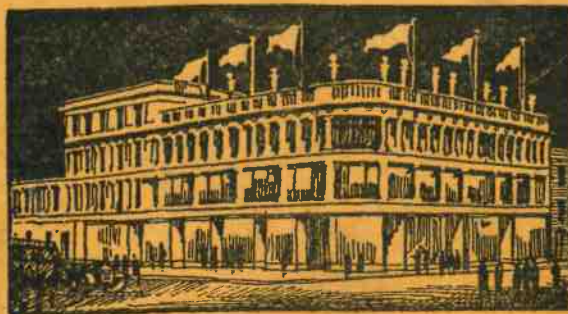
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