

Irish News

GENERAL.

Mr. T. P. Gill, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, in Dublin, has had his salary increased from £1500 to £1800 a year. Mr. Gill was formerly a member of the Irish Party. At the time of the Parnell split he declined to take either side.

The will left by a retired merchant of Armagh, Mr. John McClelland, whose estate in the United Kingdom has been valued at £16,974, was entirely taken up with the appointment of executors and omitted to make any disposition of the property.

On the motion of the Rev. M. Cullen, seconded by the Rev. D. Waldron, Kildare, Mr. P. Charleton, T.C., who is a Protestant, has been unanimously re-elected chairman of the Co. Kildare School Attendance Committee. In returning thanks Mr. Charleton said his election showed that no such thing as religious bigotry existed among them in the County Kildare.

The Dublin Corporation, by a majority of two votes, have refused to accept the conditions laid down by Sir Hugh Lane regarding the erection of a Municipal Art Gallery. Sir Hugh had offered to pay the architect's fee and to bestow a number of priceless pictures on the proposed art gallery if the Dublin Corporation would allow him to choose the architect and agree to the site being placed on a bridge to be built over the Liffey. The Corporation insisted that Irish architects should have opportunity of competing, and it declined to provide the site proposed.

Messrs. T. Scanlan, J. O'Dowd, J. Fitzgibbon, and F. E. Meehan, M.P.'s, on September 7, addressed the largest Home Rule demonstration that has been witnessed in Sligo for many years past. Contingents with bands and banners were present from all parts of Sligo, Roscommon, Leitrim, and Mayo. About 10,000 men marched in the procession through the town. Splendid speeches were made by the members of Parliament present, and Mr. Wm. Fraser, Protestant Home Ruler, was also amongst the speakers.

The Very Rev. Father Sebastian, C.P., rector of Mount Argus, Co. Dublin, presided at the final meeting of the lady stallholders and assistants in connection with the great record-breaking Ovada bazaar held in May last. Mr. G. A. Moonan, honorary secretary, read the list of stall results, and it is interesting to note that the Lucky Tent (presided over by Madame de Navarro—Mary Anderson) realised the highest total with £626 14s. There were three stalls credited with totals of over £300, and six had sums of £200 and over. The Very Rev. Rector expressed his personal thanks and the thanks of the Passionist Community of Mount Argus to the ladies.

The visit of Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., to Middleton, on Sunday, September 7, for the opening of a new Hibernian hall, was made the occasion of a magnificent Nationalist demonstration. The town was lavishly decorated with bunting and scrolls, and large contingents of Hibernians, United Irish Leaguers, and members of the Land and Labor Association, with bands and banners, representing Cork City and the whole eastern part of the county, attended. Four special trains were run from Cork, and one from Fermoy, in addition to the usual Sunday service. About 5000 people were present at the demonstration.

THE TENEMENT DISASTER.

In connection with the appalling tenement house disaster in Dublin, resulting in the loss of eight lives, and in the reduction of over 100 people to a homeless condition, the heroic and Christian work of the Franciscan Capuchin Fathers, who have worked wonders in the uplifting of the people in the Church street area, called forth the admiration of the citizens of all creeds. The two houses which collapsed were situated directly opposite the Father Mathew Memorial Hall, a great 'social service' centre in Dublin, and the good

Capuchins provided food, clothing, and lodging for the unfortunate people left desolate through the awful disaster.

THE PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES.

The Dublin correspondent of the London *Universe*, writing of the departure of the Irish pilgrimage to Lourdes on September 8, said:—Impressive scenes were witnessed at the points of departure—Dublin, Greenore, and Rosslare—of the three sections of the first Irish National Pilgrimage to Lourdes. In an interview with the Rev. Father Lockhart (general secretary), I learned that nearly 2500 pilgrims were included in the party, which was thoroughly representative of every diocese in Ireland. Amongst the general body were 250 invalids—men, women, and children—suffering from a variety of maladies. The Pilgrimage Committee are spending £3000 on this section alone, the greater number of the invalid parties having all expenses paid for them out of a special fund. In case of accident or illness, eight doctors, twenty-two nurses, and ten ambulance attendants are travelling with the pilgrimage. The contingent from the west, south, north-west, and south-east of Ireland (corresponding in the main with the archdioceses of Armagh, Tuam, and Cashel) left by special boat from the North Wall, Dublin, and numbered 800, including over 30 'chaired' invalids alone. The scene at the quay-side as the invalid pilgrims were being carried aboard the *Cambria* was an affecting one, and noble work was performed by the band of helpers wearing distinctive armlets. As the boat sailed down the Liffey, the strains of the hymn, 'Star of the sea,' could be heard by the large parties which lined the quays on each side of the river, and a scene of like impressiveness was witnessed on the departure of the Dublin diocesan party by the 9.20 boat. Amongst the members of the hierarchy accompanying the pilgrimage are his Eminence Cardinal Logue, Most Rev. Dr. McHugh (chairman and organiser), Most Rev. Dr. O'Dea, Most Rev. Dr. Higgins, and other prelates. One of the great events of the pilgrimage will be the unveiling ceremony in connection with the beautiful Irish cross erected at Lourdes, a telegram having been received in Dublin on Saturday night from the Bishop of Derry (who had gone on to Lourdes before the general body) announcing that the cross had been safely erected that day.

GREAT LABOR UPIHEAVAL.

For about a fortnight, Dublin has been the scene of labor troubles which are certain to result in suffering for many innocent persons, including women and little children (writes a Dublin correspondent under date September 9). Nearly five thousand people have thrown up their various employments and are now idle, and in some cases hungry. Many of them were fairly treated by their employers and simply struck in sympathy with their less fortunate fellows. They adopted what is now known as the sympathetic strike, which has the effect of paralysing trade and causing great public inconvenience. Under its rules, workers refuse to handle the goods of firms, no matter for what reason, at loggerheads with their employees. Shipping companies, railway companies, carrying companies of every kind, and even the most generous business firms become affected and their work impeded. Into the principle underlying this form of warfare it is not necessary to enter, but it should be said that repressive measures, such as the authorities adopted at first, are no remedy for the unrest. With the gradual withdrawal of the overwhelming police force from the streets matters have quietened down and are now practically in a normal condition. The bringing of the Royal Irish Constabulary into the city on such an occasion is generally admitted to have been a grave mistake. Their military training is no recommendation for the work they were called upon to do. Moreover, there were soldiers at hand if they were required. But over twelve hundred Metropolitan policemen, for whom the citizens pay an exorbitant tax, should have been sufficient to preserve the peace. In response to the