Sciatica

—until a friend advised Kruschen Salts.

"I used to be troubled with sciatica, which never stopped night or day. At night I crawled into bed hoping to have relief, but was only too glad to rise in the morning to see if I could forget it. Ten years ago I was advised by a friend to try Kruschen Salts. I did so, and now I have only a very occasional twinge of sciatica, but I never now endure the constant pain and agony I was once familiar with. I know of no other thing that could have helped me so."
(Mrs.) J. H. R. Stirling.

23rd Jan., 1932.

Sciatica, rheumatism, and lumbago are all associated with an excess of uric acid in the body. Uric acid is one of the waste products of digestion, and is normally expelled through the natural channels. If the eliminating organs become sluggish, they permit this harmful acid to accumulate and deposit itself in the tissues, muscles, and joints in the form of needle-pointed crystals, which, piercing the nerve sheaths, cause those excruciating pains.

The six salts in Kruschen stimulate the eliminating organs to healthy, regular action. Mischievous uric acid is given no chance to collect. *Tasteless in Tea.*

Every chemist sells Kruschen in 6d., 1/-, and 1/9 bottles. A 1/9 bottle lasts three months—a farthing a day for health and happiness. Get a bottle to-day.

ANTRIM BOARD OF GUARDIANS

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

CHAIRMAN'S CONGRATULATIONS ON ANTRIM DISTRICT BEING THE LOWEST RATED DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the members of this Board was held on Saturday—Mr. Geo. Thompson, J.P. (chairman) presiding. There were also present Messrs. Joseph Lindsay, John Mulholland, Alexander M'Connell, J.P., Co.C.; Samuel M'Knight, J. D. Gawn, John Lindsay, Alex. Reid, and John C. Crawford. Mr. Jas. L. Clarke, M.B.E., and other officials were also in attendance.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

The auditor, Mr. R. Clarke, reported having audited the accounts of the Antrim Board of Guardians for the half-year ended the 30th September, and forwarded certified abstracts thereof showing the receipts and expenditure under the various heads for that period. The expenditure for the half year amounted to £6,134 8s 2d as compared with £6,867 2s 1d for the previous half-year and £7,167 19s 10d for the corresponding half of the previous year. The outdoor relief ordered by the Board over the same period was £724 7s, £726 18s, and £860 3s 6d. The total indebtedness of the Guardians on foot of loans account stood at £8,571 9s 5d at 30th September last, and at the same date the balance in favour of the revenue account at the bank stood at £4,586 5s 3d as compared with a balance in favour of £4,124 16s 1d at the close of the previous half-year. As usual all books and records had been kept accurately and presented neatly for examination at audit.

The Chairman said this was a very favourable report. He was sure they would be all pleased to have seen in the Press that the rates for the Antrim rural district had been lowered to 1s 9d in the £1 for the coming year. He was sure that would be very welcome news to all the ratepayers, and he might say that they were now the lowest rated union in any of the rural districts in Co. Antrim. Mr. M'Connell and he were at the County Council meeting on Tuesday and it was very welcome news to them to hear that they were the lowest rated district in the whole of County Antrim. He thought this was largely due to the wise discretion that they exercised there in all their items of expenditure, but he thought the greatest praise was due to the way in which they had been piloted through all the troublesome times as regards finance, etc., by their worthy friend, Mr. Clark, and for the way in which he organised their finance. He was certain that it would be welcome news to all the ratepayers all over the county to know that the rates for that district were now only 1/9 in the £1. He only mentioned this because they all felt proud of it, but they had all seen it in the papers for themselves.

THE CHILDREN'S ACT.

A letter was read from Mr. L. Jackson Holmes, solicitor to the Guardians, stating that he attended at Templepatrick the previous day to prosecute in a case under the Children's Act for a woman taking a child to nurse for reward without giving notice to the proper authorities, that the magistrates discharged the defendant under the Probation of Offender's Act on her entering into bail in £5 for 12 months and paying £1 towards costs and instructing her to apply for permission to keep the child.

The Chairman said it would act as a warning and a lesson to others.

The Clerk said they didn't want to press the case unduly.

There were no applicants for out-door relief, and

The members subsequently resolved themselves into a meeting of the

BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

of the Massereene Hospital.

THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

A card was received from Mrs. Walter Smyth and son desiring to return their sincere thanks for sympathy.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

The auditor, Mr. R. Clarke, reported having audited the accounts of the Board of Governors of Massereene District Hospital for the half-year ended the 30th September, and forwarded certified abstracts showing the receipts and payments under the various heads for that period. The payments for the half-year amounted to £3,250 13s 1d as compared with a total of £3,618 17s 3d for the previous half-year and a total of £3,390 13s 3d for the corresponding half of the previous year. The receipts for paying patients over the same periods were £1,137 11s 6d, £818 6s 10d and £922 2s 6d respectively, and that the balance in favour of the Governors' revenue account with the treasurer stood at £2,222 at the 30th September last as compared with a balance in favour of £1,424 7s 1d at the close of the previous half-year.

This was considered satisfactory.

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Ahoghill Petty Sessions.

HOUSE POSSESSION.

WIFE SUES HUSBAND FOR MAINTENANCE.

MOTOR PROSECUTIONS.

Ahoghill Petty Sessions were held on Thursday, before Messrs. P. S. Bell, R.M. (chairman); James A. Henry, J.P.; John Logan, J.P.; James Marshall, J.P.; and W. J. Kernohan, J.P.

Captain Small, D.I., and Mr. Logan Irwin, C.P.S., were also present.

HOUSE POSSESSION.

Daniel M'Kee, Ahoghill, summoned Joseph Robinson, Church Street, Ahoghill, to recover possession of a dwelling-house and garage.

Mr. John P. M'Cann appeared for the complainant, and Mr. S. Cumming (Messrs. J. K. Currie & Son) for the defendant.

Mr. M'Cann said the rent of the house was 2/5 weekly and of the garage 2/-. Defendant was about £20 in arrears, and proceedings were taken at the Quarter Sessions to recover the amount due. The question was then raised as to what was the standard rent, and the case was adjourned to enable this to be ascertained. Mr. M'Cann submitted that the Rent Restriction Act did not apply to the garage.

The complainant said the defendant was £11 5s. in arrears with the rent of the dwelling-house and £9 in respect of the garage. Witness was unable to say what the rent of the premises was in 1914.

Mr. Cumming said the complainant admitted in the County Court that the rent of the premises was 1/3 per week, and he contended that defendant had overpaid. An order was made by the magistrates against the complainant in November because of the unsanitary condition of the premises, but had not been complied with.

The complainant said that since taking over the property he put in new floors, new windows and doors. The rates on the house were 21/10 annually.

The magistrates gave a decree for possession of the garage, and adjourned the case in respect of the dwelling-house till after the proceedings in the County Court.

WIFE SUES HUSBAND.

Agnes Hoy, Kildowney, summoned her husband, John Hoy, Killane, for maintenance.

Mr. Cumming appeared for the complainan, and Mr. John Taylor for the defendant.

Mrs. Hoy said she and the defendant had been married 25 years. They had trouble from time to time, and she had to leave him seven years ago. They came together later, but in November last he ill-treated her so badly that she left him again. She was now living on a farm which her son bought at Kildowney. There were six children of the marriage.

Mr. Taylor said the whole thing was threshed out at the last court on a summons by the complainant for assault, which was dismissed. "Are you prepared to go back to your husband?" he asked the complainant.

Mrs. Hoey—I would go to jail first.

A daughter of the parties gave evidence of seeing her father beating her mother.

Defendant stated that when they all went home after the last court he went out to the farm, and on his return found a motor lorry in the yard. A man was putting the furniture on the lorry, and witness told him to be careful what he removed. "They did not leave me a bed to sleep on," he added. "It is an annual thing for her to run away and I thought she would be back. I did not order her to leave."

By Mr. Cumming—He denied that he ill-treated his wife.

Why did you pay her 15/- a week for six months when she left you before?—I didn't want to be fighting and jingling all the time. Some people have more respect for their dog than my family has for me.

The case was dismissed.

UNLICENSED DOGS.

Samuel Millar, Glenhugh, was fined 6d. and costs for having an unlicensed dog in his possession. For a similar offence Alexr. Weir, Straid, was ordered to pay the costs of the prosecution and take out a transfer, the dog having been licensed by another person.

John Kernohan, Ballymena Road, Ahoghill, was fined 2/6 and costs for a breach of the lighting-up regulations.

A case against Samuel Boal, Ballyminstra, for not having a reflector was dismissed on payment of costs.

Samuel Kyle, Lismuraghan, was fined 5/- and costs for drunkenness.

Constables M'Call, Orr, Campbell and M'Cabe proved these cases.

MOTOR PROSECUTIONS.

(Before Mr. P. S. Bell, R.M.)

Captain Small, D.I., summoned Robert Mitchell, 114 Queen Street, Ballymena, for driving a motor car without having a licence, not having a policy of insurance, and for not having a rere light on the car.

Thomas Penny, 136 Queen Street, Ballymena, was summoned for permitting the car to be used without a policy of insurance.

Mr. John P. M'Cann appeared for the defendants.

Sergeant Davison gave evidence of stopping a motor car driven by Mitchell on December 25 at 10.10 p.m., and said he had no rere light. He asked the defendant to produce his licence and insurance certificate, and he stated that both were at home and that he would produce them at Harryville next day. He said the car had been hired from Mr. Pinkerton, Ballymena.

Constable Beattie, Harryville, said Mitchell called at the barracks and admitted that he had no licence or policy of insurance. He stated that the driver became ill and he was driving for him.

Mr. M'Cann said Penny hired the car from Mr. Pinkerton, but, unfortunately, he let Mitchell, who had no licence, take the wheel. The men were going to a dance.

Mitchell was fined 2/6 and costs for not having a light, 10/- and costs for not having a licence, and 40/- and costs for not having a policy of insurance for the car. He was also disqualified from holding or obtaining a licence for twelve months. Penny was fined 40/- and costs and ordered not to be disqualified as he required the licence in connection with his work.

RECKLESS DRIVING.

Captain Small summoned Joseph Robinson, Ahoghill, for recklessly driving a motor car and failing to stop after an accident.

Mr. S. Cumming (Messrs. J. K. Currie & Son) appeared for the defendant.

Andrew Kerr, 'bus driver, Portglenone, said he pulled up close to the side of the road at Gracehill on December 26 and went to collect the mail. He afterwards heard a crash and saw a car passing the 'bus. On examining the 'bus he found two of the panels and the rere mudguard damaged.

John Duffin, Portglenone, who was a passenger in the 'bus, said the defendant's car approached from the direction of Ballymena and came over closely to the bus. Witness heard a crash and the car went on.

Sergeant Davison said he interviewed the defendant, and after being cautioned he made a statement, in the course of which he said that when he was passing Gracehill in his car he observed a 'bus in the middle of the road. There was other traffic approaching from Ahoghill, and as he passed his mudguard scraped the bus. He did not stop, but went on to Ahoghill.

Defendant said he noticed the bus stopped on the road. As he was passing Gracehill a cyclist cut out in front of him, and he went over towards the wrong side to avoid striking him. He was unaware that his car struck the 'bus. Later on the same evening he had some drink taken and got into trouble with the police.

Asked by the District-Inspector how he knew he struck the 'bus, defendant said he noticed his mudguard broken. He had been driving for six years.

Lancelot Robinson, brother of the defendant, said he was cycling at Gracehill on this occasion and saw another cyclist cutting out in front of his brother's car. In trying to avoid him his car scraped the 'bus.

James Murdock, who accompanied the last witness, gave similar evidence, and said he afterwards told the defendant he scraped the 'bus.

The Chairman said he would convict the defendant for driving in a manner dangerous to the public. He asked if there was any record.

Captain Small said there were two previous convictions—one for driving without a licence and another for fraudulently altering the dates on a driver's licence.

The Chairman said the defendant must have known that it was his duty to report the accident to the police. "I do not know whether he should be on the road at all," he added.

Defendant, in reply to Mr. Cumming, gave an undertaking to abstain from strong drink in future while in charge of the car.

The case of failing to stop after the accident was dismissed, and defendant was fined 20/- and 20/- costs for driving in a manner dangerous to the public, the conviction to be recorded. The Chairman remarked that the defendant was getting off in a coach.

Albert Edward Molyneaux, 8 Parkgate Av., Belfast, made application to have removed a suspension in his driving licence.

Mr. Cumming (for Mr. J. L. Russell) said Molyneaux's licence was endorsed and suspended for twelve months at Ahoghill Petty Sessions on July 21, 1931, for a motoring offence.

Captain Small, D.I., said a boy was knocked down by the applicant's motor lorry, which did not stop. It was only when he was returning and came through Ahoghill by mistake that he was detected.

The Chairman said he could not entertain the application, and it was accordingly refused.

POACHING HARES.

Captain Small said a case recently came to his notice of three boys poaching hares. He reported the case to the authorities, but was directed not to prosecute as the boys were under 14. He wished to point out, however, that such leniency would not be extended again, and any offenders would be brought before the magistrates.

Elizabeth Houston, Ballybollen, sought an Affiliation Order against William J. Baxter, Aughnahoy, Portglenone.

Mr. J. P. M'Cann represented the applicant and Baxter did not appear.

An order was made for payment of 8/- weekly, with legal and medical expenses.

Connor Presbyterian Church

The annual congregational meeting in connection with the above church was held on Monday, 22nd ult., the Rev. W. J. Thompson, B.A., minister of the church, presiding.

After praise and prayer the minutes were read by the secretary, Mr. David Blair.

Report of church committee was given by Mr. J. J. Logan. On the motion of Mr. J. Kelly, seconded by Mr. J. Owens, the committee were re-elected with the addition of Messrs. Tom Knox, Tom Francey, Wm. Stevenson, and Samuel Kelly.

The session report was given by the Chairman. The Chairman speaking on the report thanked all who helped in the work of the church. He referred to the interest taken in the work of the church by the members of session. All members of session took an active interest in the work of the church. There were no sleeping partners. The utmost goodwill prevailed. He mentioned the excellent work done by the committee and thanked Mr. Logan for the time and energy he gave to his portion of the work. He also thanked Mr. Wm. Knox and the members of the choir for their services during the past year.

Mention was also made of the loyalty of the Sabbath-school teachers and of the young people to the work of the church.

In an age when youth was supposed to be interested only in pleasure and worldly things it was a matter for thankfulness that so many of the young people gave of their time and energy to the work of Christ and His Church. The young people were most loyal.

Mr. Thompson also referred to the help rendered by the Church officer, Mr. William Wilson. He asked for the continued co-operation of all the members.

Other reports given were:—Sabbath School report, by Mr. John Sterling. Mr. Sterling thanked the teachers for the energy they put into their work.

Band of Hope report was given by Miss Maybin. This report showed that excellent work was being done for the temperance cause.

The Guild report was given by Miss Bell. Mention was made of the interesting discussions that resulted from talks given on "Beliefs of to-day."

The Girls' Auxiliary report was given by Miss Logan. She mentioned the loyalty of the girls to this organisation. Mention was made of the preparations for their concert, and of the great aim of the G.A.

The Boys' Auxiliary report was given by Mr. Francis Montgomery.

In this report mention was made of the excellent work done by the members of this organization. On behalf of the Auxiliary, Mr. Montgomery thanked all who helped to make their concert the success it had been.

Entertainments had been given by this organization in the Belfast Gaol and the Ballymena Workhouse.

Junior Boys' Auxiliary report was given by Master Chambers Irvine.

The League of Church Loyalty report was given by Mr. J. Cooper.

The Tennis report was given by Miss Weir.

After the reports had been received and adopted, Mr. J. J. Logan addressed the meeting on the finance of the church, Mr. Owens and Mr. Jackson spoke on missions and Mr. Knox on church attendance.

A short service of thanksgiving and dedication was then held.

DISEASE IN CATTLE.

THE FARMERS' VETERINARY GUIDE.

Year after year Irish farmers lose valuable stock which could be saved by a little knowledge, rightly and promptly applied. Unfortunately, too often the early symptoms of disease amongst stock pass unrecognised, and when the seriousness of the trouble compels the stock-owner to seek professional aid, it is often too late to save the affected animal.

Many diseases and ailments which affect farm stock can be simply and effectively overcome if recognised and treated in time. Therefore, wise farmers will be interested in a book, recently published, which describes the ailments which affect horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and dogs, tells how to recognise them, and gives simple remedies which 70 years' experience have proved to be effective. This book, "The Farmers' Veterinary Guide," contains 112 pages, and is copiously illustrated. For a short time Messrs. Henry Bell, Ltd., Waterford, are distributing it to Irish farmers at the nominal charge of 1/-. Prompt applicants will be sent as well a 30 page illustrated guide to operations on cattle which can be performed by any farmer. These books should be in the hands of every farmer, and every reader should send for them, giving name and address and enclosing 1/-.

MID-ANTRIM HUNT.

MEETS FOR MARCH.

Monday, 7th—Ballybeg.
Wednesday, 9th—Clough.
Monday, 14th—Rocavan School.
Wednesday, 16th—Martinstown.
Monday, 21st—Roughan.
Wednesday, 23rd—Ballynafie.
Tuesday, 29th—Point-to-Point.
Meet at 12.30 p.m. sharp.

APRIL.

Friday, 1st—Lisnahuncheon (Drag).
Wednesday, 6th—Ballyconnolly (Drag).
Meet at 1 p.m. sharp.
R. MORTON, Junr.

Leap Year Night, February 29th, will be celebrated in London hotels and restaurants as a "topsy-turvy" festival, with women paying the dinner bills and asking the men for dances. One party at the Savoy Hotel will dine backwards, beginning with liqueurs and coffee and ending with cocktails.

West Church, Ballymena.

ENCOURAGING REPORTS AT ANNUAL MEETING.

There was a large attendance of members of the congregation at the annual social and business meeting in connection with West Church, held in the Simpson Memorial Hall on Wednesday evening, 24th ult. The Session report recorded that steady progress had been made in all branches of the congregational activities during the past year, while the treasurer reported a substantial reduction of the debt on the building fund.

A very enjoyable tea was dispensed, the following ladies presiding at the tea tables:—Mrs. M'Intosh, Mrs. Moffett, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. C. Wilson, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Gillies, Mrs. Mulholland, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Perry, Miss Gore, Mrs. England, Mrs. Minnis.

The Rev. R. S. Craig, B.A., presided at the business meeting, the first item at which was

THE ANNUAL REPORT,

presented by Mr. Craig himself. Beginning by recording steady progress in all departments of the congregational activities during the year, the report went on to state that the Session was greatly encouraged by the attendances at Communion during the year, and that many new Communicants were welcomed. On Wednesday, May 20th, Mr. Herbert Mulholland, B.A., was licensed by the Presbytery as a probationer for the ministry. He is at present acting as assistant in Ballysillan Presbyterian Church, and he had their good wishes for his success and blessing. It was with pleasure that they heard of the appointment of Mr. W. R. Gillies, B.A., B.D., as assistant in St. Enoch's Church in August last. They were very much gratified in having in their membership two licentiates, and they would follow their work in the Gospel with the deepest interest. After referring to the special services held during the year, and noting that the special appeal for the building fund met with a most liberal response, the report commented on the fact that the Sabbath School continued to be carried on with unflagging zeal; they were indebted to their superintendent and teachers for their labours. Miss M'Dougall Ferguson, Sabbath School organiser, was thanked for her offices in reorganising the primary department of the school, which was under the leadership of Miss Millar. The primary teachers' training class, a very necessary part of the work, was being very successfully carried out by Mrs. Moffett. The Session wished to thank a lady in the congregation who kindly provided additional chairs for use in the primary department. The organist and members of the choir had earned their commendation for their leading of the church praise. The choir had been greatly strengthened by the addition of new members, the number of men assisting calling for special mention. They appreciated this very valuable help and congratulated Mr. Baker on the success he was achieving as their organist and choir leader. A feature of the year was the success of the Women's Missionary Association, and the Session wished to thank most cordially the members for the zealous and enthusiastic way in which they carried out the bienniel sale, which realised the sum of £410. A Junior G.A. had been formed and was making good progress under the leadership of Miss Perry and Miss Tweed. All the other organisations in connection with the congregation had had a successful year—the C.E., the Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs, the Girls' Auxiliary, and the League of Church Loyalty. Beautiful flowers had been provided by several ladies of the congregation for the Communion table during the whole year, and the Session thanked these ladies very heartily for their services. They also thanked Miss Stevenson, deaconess, for the valuable services she had rendered. Concluding, the report stated that many who had journeyed with them had finished their course. Mrs. Wasson, their oldest member, passed to her reward in her 91st year; Nurse Mary Caulfield, a devoted sister, was called home from her labours when it was least expected; Mrs. Andrews, mother of a member of Kirk Session, also entered the homeland; and they had lost also Mr. Patrick Paul, a member of committee. To all their bereaved friends they tendered their sympathy.

BUILDING FUND REDUCED.

The treasurer stated that a sum of £2,181 had been raised in the congregation and Sabbath School during the year, and that the debt on the church building now stood at £1,526. The following allocations were also mentioned:— Sustentation, £160; Orphan Society, £45; Old-age Fund, £15; Missions of the Church, £256.

S.S. REPORT.

Mr. P. F. Gillies, B.Sc., superintendent, reported that the Sabbath School has had a good and successful year. The attendance has been good and the attention of the scholars excellent, and these have combined to have what will be, it is hoped, a wholesome and lasting influence. The number of scholars on the roll has been 290, and these have been taught by 22 teachers. There have been some inevitable changes in the teaching staff, but there has been no difficulty in maintaining the supply. Special prizes are being awarded by the Sabbath School Society to the following scholars for long unbroken attendance:—Maggie Millar, 13 years; Lily Shaw, 14 years; Anna Shaw, 8 years. In the early part of the year the Session invited Miss J. Macdougall Ferguson to visit the Sabbath School with a view to the improvement of the Primary Department, and consequent on her visit there has been formed a fully organised and equipped Primary School, with a large staff of teachers and a teachers' training class. Special and memorable addresses were given in the course of the year by Dr. Rachel Irwin on "Work in China," and by Mrs. W. R. Young, J.P., on "Kindness to Animals." We are indebted also to the kindness of the family of the late Mr. Robert Cameron, ever a friend of the Sabbath School, who have presented a teachers' library with a splendid selection of books suitable for teachers, Christian Endeavourers and others engaged in the spiritual side of the work of the Church. This gift is much appreciated, and the donors have our hearty thanks. The missionary contributions have been greater than ever they have been in the history of the school, and the teachers have consequently been enabled to allocate grants to the same missions as in previous years and to add to the Mission to Lepers. The Building Fund of the church has also received a substantial contribution, and some of the classes are still contributing week by week to this good cause. It is fitting that a reference should be made to the loyalty of the teachers both to their classes and to the Superintendent. The relations existing in the school have been most harmonious, and it is a pleasure to all of us to be associated and to work so unitedly in the furtherance of the central objective of winning the young people to the service of Christ.

OTHER REPORTS.

The following reports were also submitted:—Girls' Auxiliary, Miss Perry; Christian Endeavour, Mr. John Elliott; Women's Missionary Association, Mrs. Patton; Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs, Mr. A. Maxwell.

The adoption of the various reports was moved by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. T. H. Mulholland, and passed.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

The following were elected on the Church Committee to take the place of those retiring: Miss Gore, Mr. Bruce Morton, Mr. William Robinson, Mr. R. A. Warnock, and Mr. R. Witherspoon.

MUSICAL PROGRAMME.

An interesting programme, arranged by Mr. Baker, was as follows:—"The Homeland" and "Down in Yon Summer Vale," sung by a male quartet, Messrs. A. Conway, T. Harper, D. Baker, and S. Pepper; "A Sheepfold Song" and "Beside the Still Waters," Miss Eileen Mason; solo, "Open the Gates," Woodcock; recitations, Miss Hazel Mason.

A vote of thanks to all who had contributed to the success of the evening was moved by Mr. J. Andrews and seconded by Mr. S. M'Burney, and passed.

Reading of Scripture and praise brought the meeting to a close.

CASTLECAT BASKET AND COUNTRY INDUSTRIES.

EXHIBITION AND SALE IN BALLYMENA.

OPENED BY MRS. PATRICK, COUNTY COMMISSIONER, GIRL GUIDES.

On Wednesday afternoon, 24th ult., an exhibition and sale was held in the local Girl Guides' Hall, Waveney Road, Ballymena. The proceeds of the tea were for the funds of the Girl Guides. The exhibition, which was exceedingly interesting, was given by the Castlecat Basket and Country Industries, Bushmills, which is most successfully managed by Mrs. Denny and Miss MacBain, and samples of their products, including tweeds, scarves, chairs, stools, embroideries, baskets, and many other attractive articles, were on exhibition, many of which commanded a ready sale. The industry, Mrs. Denny explained, was organised for the benefit of the people of the district, many homes being now supported by it. They also have very nice tea rooms, some of the workers do the baking for it, and others act as attendants. The industries have an up-to-date shop in Portrush, where many of their products are eagerly bought up by visitors during the tourist season. At Castlecat the sheep are grazed on Colonel Denny's lands, shorn by his men and the wool cleaned and dyed and finally woven on hand looms into suitings.

There was a large and most interested gathering at the opening ceremony, at which the chair was occupied by Major C. E. S. King, D.S.O., Ballycastle.

The Chairman said they had been invited there that evening to see the products of the Castlecat Industry. Castlecat, he said, was a small village about two miles from Bushmills, on the main road to Ballymoney. The village was comprised of a school-house, a memorial hall, the building in which the industries were carried on, three farm houses and a number of small cottages. The building in which the industries were carried on was remarkable for the fact that the celebrated Dublin surgeon, Sir James Craig, was born there. The only industry in the neighbourhood was agriculture before this organisation was started by Mrs. Denny, and he was sure they would all agree with him when he said that Mrs. Denny deserved the most cordial thanks of everyone in the North of Ireland for the unflagging interest and energy that she had put into this wonderful industry and for the success that she had brought it to. There was no doubt, as they would see from the articles on exhibit, that the people were becoming most proficient in their work, and he thought they should do all in their power to push forward and help the industry which was doing such a wonderful amount of good for the welfare of the people. (Applause.)

Mrs. Malcolm Patrick, Co. Commissioner Girl Guides, who was well received, said it was a real pleasure to any one of them to give some little help to that exhibition of beautiful things, for she knew that she felt very proud and honoured to be in the position to pay a little tribute to the work of the Castlecat Industry and of the commendable work of its promoters. Major King had told them about the village, but she would like to say something about the actual working of the industry and the handicrafts that were carried out there. The building in which the industries were carried on was celebrated as the birthplace of a famous surgeon, and it was also celebrated, she hoped, as being the birthplace of this wonderful industry. (Applause.) The workers were benefited by it, as they had a tremendous gift given to them by being organised, trained and helped in this way. Like most things the beginning of it was small, as it was got up on a small scale to give the boys and girls of the village something to do in their leisure time, but it was soon found that if the work wasn't done seriously and continuously that it would not be really well done, and so the outcome was that first one and then another took to the work as a profession, and the promoters did everything they could in the way of procuring premises and teachers and material for them. She thought their first effort was the basket industry, and there were very few people, she thought, in the North of Ireland who didn't known the Castlecat baskets and admire them. Then they went on to the making of chairs and stools, then embroidery, and lastly the hand-loom weaving of tweeds and scarves. She could not describe the beautiful things to them as she would like, but they had only to look around and see them. She knew that the workers took a tremendous interest in their jobs, and Mrs. Denny told her that they were all paid by the piece, so that no one was at a loss by the making of their own products. They could imagine the joy and satisfaction that there must be in doing something from the beginning to the end and seeing it grow from the raw material to the perfection of the finished article. They might think how very different this was to present-day jobs in the factory or mill, where the workers did only one thing continuously, and perhaps they never saw the finished product of their work. They were all being told—and quite rightly, too—that they ought to buy British goods, and she expected they must confess that when they went to do so the difficulty was to find them, while here the products of the Castlecat industry were at hand, and not only were they British goods, but, better still, they were Ulster, and, best of all, they were Co. Antrim goods. (Applause.) She thought they all ought to be very proud of this local industry and do everything they possibly could to advertise its products and find markets for its goods. She expected they all knew the shop in connection with the industry in Portrush. She had known it for several years, and she was always glad to see tourists going inside and buying a real souvenir of their county, instead of it being made on the other side of the water, or perhaps worse, it being made abroad. Don't, she said, in conclusion, forget to show their friends the Portrush shop, and if they went on to the Causeway, let them go on to Castlecat, because she knew that Mrs. Denny was only too delighted to see visitors, and tea was provided at Castlecat three days in the week. There was one other thing she would like to say, and that was about their hall in which they were meeting. Some of them living in Ballymena might know that it was now the headquarters of the Girl Guides. They had been very brave and courageous and had invested in that hall as their headquarters. It would take a lot of work to keep it up, but they were very glad to allow other people to use the hall if they wished to do so. (Hear, hear.) They were very much obliged to Mrs. Denny for comnig there that afternoon and in allowing them to have the proceeds of the teas for themselves, so that that was their first letting of the hall, and the Castlecat industries were their first tenants, and they were glad that it should be something so near their own hearts. (Applause.) They hoped that the exhibition would be an enormous success, and in that way it would also prove to be a happy opening for them, and she had great pleasure in declaring the exhibition open. (Applause.)

The Chairman said the exhibition was open, and he appealed to everyone to open their purses and get to buying the really beautiful things that they saw before them, as he was certain they would get good value for their money. Remember, he said, it was not British goods they were buying, but Ulster goods. (Applause.)

Colonel Denny said he wanted them to accord on their own behalf, and on behalf of all present, their hearty thanks to Mrs. Patrick and Major King for coming there and declaring the exhibition open. Mrs. Patrick, he said, had given them a most admirable description of the genesis of the industry, and he hoped they would all take her advice and not only buy there, but that they would come and see the shop in Portrush, and then go on and see their industry. A good many of the tweeds they saw before them were made from the sheep which he had and were shorn by themselves; the wool was spun, dyed, and woven into very pretty fabrics. He also thanked the members of the Girl Guides for allowing them to have the use of their hall, and they tendered their grateful thanks to them. (Applause.)

The Chairman, on behalf of Mrs. Patrick and himself, thanked them very much.

The sale was re-opened on Thursday by Mrs. S. W. Anderson, J.P. Mr. J. D. Caruth, J.P., presided.

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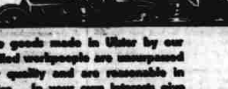

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Who Owns Ahoghill Fair Hill?

INTERESTING CASE AT PETTY SESSIONS.

ADJOURNED FOR SIX MONTHS.

A case in which considerable local interest centred at Ahoghill Petty Sessions on Thursday was that in which Daniel M'Kee summoned Samuel Small for committing malicious damage to a fence, his property, in the townland of Carnacmoin, on November 5.

A number of other cases for trespass and assault, in which Daniel M'Kee was the complainant, and which were adjourned from the November court, were withdrawn.

Mr. J. P. M'Cann appeared for the complainant, and Mr. W. J. Stewart for the defendant.

After a protracted hearing the case was adjourned for six months.

Mr. M'Cann said proceedings were instituted at the Quarter Sessions for compensation for damage to the fence, but were withdrawn, as a fence did not come within the Act. The complainant was the owner of a small farm and had had considerable trouble from a number of men, especially the defendant, and he did not think it would be denied that the defendant dug up the fence.

The complainant said he had been receiving a good deal of annoyance and was obliged to summon a number of men and have them put under bail. He had also received compensation for damage to his corn. On November 5 he saw the defendant and a number of other men whom he did not recognise digging the fence with picks and shovels and removing it. He reported the matter to the police. The fence had been there for twenty years and was about ten perches long. The quicks to replace it would cost £2 12s 0d, and the labour about £4.

Mr. Stewart said he admitted what the complainant had sworn. The defence was entirely a question of title, and he said the land on which the fence was erected was not the property of the complainant, but of the public, that it was the fairhill and that it contained about three acres of land. Continuing, Mr. Stewart said the fairhill was granted to the people of Ahoghill as far back as 1617 by the Crown, but, unfortunately, owing to the fire in the Four Courts, Dublin, the grant had been destroyed. He had, however, a copy of what was known as the calendar, which was kept in the public record office. This would show that the grant was made from the Crown to the then Bishop.

Mr. M'Cann objected to this statement, and said Mr. Stewart should produce his documents.

Mr. Stewart said he was prepared to prove it.

The Chairman asked if the people of the village were going to take proceedings.

Mr. Stewart—They have placed the matter in my hands for that purpose. I am taking counsel's opinion as to the best course to pursue, and I think this will end in Chancery proceedings for a declaration of title.

The complainant, in cross-examination by Mr. Stewart said he admitted that this was the old fairhill. He had been in possession of it since 1910 and had known the place all his life.

Did you ever know anybody to have a claim to it before you got it?—Yes; Colonel Rowan.

Did you know that he and his ancestors were the owners of what is known as the four townlands of Ahoghill?—No.

Were you in the habit of coming to the fairs in Ahoghill?—Yes.

Did you ever see the fairhill filled with cattle?—Sometimes they were there and sometimes on the street.

Replying to further questions, the complainant said he was unaware that the field at the back of the fairhill was let by Colonel Rowan. Witness paid £2 10s. 0d. rent for each of the fields. He got the rent reduced under the Irish Land Commission by the Act of 1925.

Mr. Stewart said the agreement which the complainant put in fixing the fair rent was in respect of 2 acres 13 perches, and there was no such holding as he was claiming.

"Did you ever get a fair rent fixed for the fairhill?" Mr. Stewart asked.

The complainant—That is it (pointing to a document).

Mr. Stewart—You have not. I have stopped it on behalf of my clients.

Mr. M'Cann—Take it from me, it is not stopped.

Mr. Stewart (to the complainant)—Did ever anybody say you had no right to be on the fairhill?—No.

Is not part of the hill still open?—Yes.

Who owns the part that is open?—It is mapped into me.

Do you own it or do you not?—I never owned it.

The Chairman inquired if the complainant claimed the land on each side of the fence.

The complainant—Only on one side.

Mr. Stewart—Did a circus come to the fairhill in November and go to the part that you are claiming?—Yes.

Did they refuse to leave?—I told the police.

Did they go out?—No.

Captain Small, D.I., said as the police had been mentioned he wished to say that he had instructions to have nothing to do with the matter except to see that peace was preserved.

Mr. M'Cann—And they started to assert their right through the circus. (Laughter.)

Asked if he demanded money from the circus, the complainant replied that he did not. He agreed that he offered the place for building purposes four or five years ago, but denied that it "fell through" on a question of title. When he was cropping the fields some boys erected goalposts and played football, damaging his crop.

The Chairman—Do you claim they did that as an assertion of a right?

Mr. Stewart—We do.

Does your client say that both sides of the fence belong to the public?—Yes.

Defendant said he was 71 and knew the fairhill all his life. His father told him that it was used as a fairhill in his time also. Children used the place as a playground and public amusements always put up on it. Colonel Rowan first attempted to claim it in 1899 or 1900 and prosecuted a man for allowing his horse to graze on it, but the case was dismissed. The complainant took possession of it in 1914, and witness remembered the date, as a bridge was being erected at the village at that time. He began to plough the field in February, 1914, and a person went to him and told him that he was taking possession of ground that did not belong to him. Objections were made on several occasions to the complainant using the fairhill. The fence was erected later, and when a circus or menagerie came the complainant put them into the hill "and," added the witness, "it is not likely they got it free." (Laughter.) Proceeding, witness said he saw men playing football and other games on the hill.

Mr. M'Cann—Who owns the house you are living in?—My wife.

Mr. M'Cann—So you would not be much of a mark for damages? What would you do with the fairhill if you had it?—It was given as a free grant to the people in 1617. He denied that the complainant had been in possession for 22 years.

Mr. M'Cann—Notwithstanding the agreement given to him by Colonel Rowan in 1910? How do you get beyond that document?

Witness—Pen and paper refuse nothing, they say. (Laughter.)

Do you say the Land Commission put in the wrong date?—Take it as you like.

Did you commit this damage?—I was partly at it. I helped to remove the fence according to legal advice. We left the fairhill in its original form.

The Chairman—Why did you remove the fence?

Witness—It was done by legal advice, and one of the magistrates at present on the Bench gave us the same instructions.

Mr. M'Cann (reaching for his papers)—I may go home. (Laughter.)

The Chairman—Did you remove any more of the fence than was necessary to restore the fairhill to its original form?

Witness—Not a single inch.

Was it an assertion of a right?—Yes.

David Rainey said he was summoned for grazing his horse on the fairhill and the case was dismissed.

Mr. M'Cann submitted that it was not enough for Mr. Stewart to make assertions about title without producing evidence in support of it.

Mr. Stewart handed in a copy of the calendar to which he had referred.

The Chairman said this was not evidence.

Mr. M'Cann said the defendant was not the general public, and if he claimed a right to the fairhill he would have to produce evidence of his title. One thing which could not be disputed was that Mr. M'Kee had been in exclusive occupation of it for 22 years, and that gave him a title against the world.

The Chairman said it had been sworn in evidence that the public used the fairhill.

Mr. M'Cann replied that the public did not use it until the children commenced to play football on it. It would be different, he said, if it were proved that it had been used for markets and fairs. To say that children had played on it was no answer to a charge of malicious damage.

Mr. Stewart said the Act did not apply to a person who acted under a fair and reasonable supposition that he was within his rights.

Mr. M'Cann said he would agree to an adjournment of the case if Mr. Stewart would give an undertaking to proceed with his claim to the title.

Mr. Stewart said his instructions were to proceed and have the matter tested.

On receiving an undertaking from the defendant that he would not interfere with the property in the meantime, the magistrates adjourned the case for six months.

MAKING HILL-CLIMBING EASY.

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