

P/183/7/111

To  
 Brigade Joseph Murray,  
 4th Brigade  
 2nd War. Div.  
 I.R.A.

We the guards of Brigade Head Quarters,  
 College St. Barracks, Ballyshannon, beg to  
 accept this little token of our esteem. We  
 wish you the best of luck and good fortune  
 in your new position. We will not soon forget the  
 good times at College Street nor the kindness which  
 we ever received from you

Signed

Liam D. Sweeney  
 M. McDonagh  
 Joseph C. Mulreany  
 P. M. Mann  
 John G. McGuigan  
 John Ward

Thos Goodwin  
 J. M. Butcher  
 Thos M. Erath.

Michael Mac Lysaght  
 P. M. Cusker  
 Edward Copeland  
 Matthew Lynch  
 Frank F. Lamin

nores

Donegal County Council Archives

P/183/7/1/2



# Ancient Order of Hibernians.

(BOARD OF ERIN)

Division No. 453, Bailieborough,

CO. CAVAN.

31 July 1931

J Murray, Esq., Superintendent C.G. Bailieborough.

Dear Mr Murray, —

At a meeting this Evg of Bailieborough A.O.H. Organisers of Bailieborough Green Walk on 19 July, 1931 I was instructed to forward you a copy of the subjoined:

Unanimously Resolved that we the Bailieborough Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians & Organisers of the Bailieborough Green Walk held on 19 July, 1931, do in the very fullest degree record our appreciation of Superintendent J. Murray & the Guards under his control for the very efficient and at the same time very kind & gentlemanly manner in which they have discharged their duties on all the streets of the Town & on all roads leading to the Town on the occasion of the Bailieborough Green Walk. With Superintendent Murray's kind assistance & Co-operation with the Demonstration Stewards we are in the happy position to state that this monster "big day" has passed over without an unhappy incident. We ask Mr Murray

The Superintendent, to accept our appreciation  
and our thanks and to state that he is at full  
liberty to make any use he likes of this Com-  
-munication.

I am, Dear Sir.

Yours Very Faithfully.

Patrick Cooney,

Secretary A. O. H.

Bairdborough.

Donegal County Council Archives

P/83/7/1/3

ST. ANNE'S T.A.S., Bailieborough

A Meeting of Committee was held on 11th inst., Revd. P. McGibney C.C., Spiritual Director, presiding and the following members in attendance:- Miss B.A. MacEnroe, Miss B. Farrelly, Messrs J. Traynor, A. Dunne, J. Mitchell, J.T. Clarke and the Hon. Sec., the following resolution proposed by Mr. J. Traynor and seconded by Miss B. Farrelly was passed unanimously:-

We wish to express our gratitude to Supt. Murray and Mr. P. MacIntyre, N.T., for their kindness in taking over the control and direction of our recent very successful Whist Drive. The experience and ability of both gentlemen are so well known that their promise of assistance made us assured at the start that our appeal would meet with success. We further believe that we would be wanting in our obligations if we did not show our appreciation of the valuable support and assistance rendered to the T.A.S., movement by Supt. Murray if we did not couple with this resolution our regret at the loss his transfer on promotion to Westport means to us. The heavy responsibilities of his professional duties faithfully carried out in the most tactful manner did not prevent his unselfish spirit from giving of his best to every cause social and charitable working for the advancement of the people.

We offer to Supt. Murray, Mrs Murray and family our very best wishes for every blessing of Health and Happiness and congratulate the people of Westport in having the services of a distinguished officer of the Garda Siochana who can fill the exalted position with becoming dignity and at the same time command the respect and esteem of all sections with his outstanding personality.

The Hon. Sec., was directed to forward copies of same to Supt Murray and Mr. MacIntyre and also to the local press for publication.

J.T. Finegan,  
Hon. Sec.

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P/183/7/1/4  
Garda Siochana,  
GOREY,  
9.9.'39.

To:-  
Supt J. Murray,  
Killaloe.

9.5.m.m.Pathe Projector.

On behalf your former District Force -  
Gorey - I have on this date forwarded you per G.S.R., Road  
Service abovementioned projector.

We ask you to accept it as a token of  
our admiration and appreciation for you whilst in our charge,  
as a souvenir of our golden opinion of you for the  
impartiality, unparalleled consideration, fairness & genuineness  
with which you always met us as an Officer and a Comrade.

We send it to you as a mark of our  
deep and heartfelt regret at your departure from our charge,

We hope the dawn of each new day will  
bring increased happiness for you and yours, and the  
realization of all you wish for.

No words of ours could adequately  
describe our moved feelings at your departure from us, nor  
could they convey to you the dearest wishes of each and  
every member of your former District Force with which  
this, our little gift, is accompanied.

We envy the District Force you have  
taken over and we pray that your blessings be many  
and that a path of joy, happiness, and prosperity may  
lie before you and each individual member of your  
household, in the many years, which we hope are in store  
for you all.

For and on behalf of Gorey District Force.

Your former District Clerk.

*Wm O'Keefe* Garda.  
(Wm. O'Keefe).

P/183/7/15(1)

AN GARDA SIOCHANA .

Any reply to this communication should be addressed to  
The Commissioner,  
Garda Siochana,  
Dublin.  
and the following number quoted :—  
B.1/9616/41.  
Different matters should be made to form the subject of separate communications.



éire

OIFIG AN CHOIMISINEARA,

BAILE ATHA CLIATH.

Mr. G.M. Ross,  
District Staff Adjutant,  
Farteen,  
Ardnacrusha,  
County Clare.



A chara,

I am directed by the Commissioner to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., and accompanying appeal relative to the presentation which members of the Killaloe L.D.F. District Staff had desired making to Superintendent J. Murray.

While the Commissioner appreciates the tribute paid to this officer's work and the generous motives prompting the presentation, he regrets that he is unable to accede to your request.

I should be glad if you would have the signatories advised.

Mise le meas,

*Seán Ó Riordan*  
Coimisineir Conganta.

Donegal County Council Archives

E.S.B.

Memorandum.

Page.....

Date.....

To.....	From.....
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REF.	SUBJECT	COPIES TO
Your Ref.....	Bright of Resolution	.....
Our Ref.....	Lt. Capt. J. Murray	.....

A chara

On behalf of the members of the L.D.F. in your area we, the members of the District staff, are requested to express to you their keen sense of appreciation & thanks for all you have done for them since the formation of the L.D.F.

From the very beginning, when the Government decided to form the L.S.F. you did not spare yourself but, went wholeheartedly into the organization of groups all over your district & it is entirely due to your genius for organizing that the L.D.F. of the Killaloe area has reached its high standard of efficiency.

Now the time has come when we are taken over by the military authorities to be further trained but thanks to your efforts the army officers will have very little to add in order to improve what you have already done.

The members of the groups regret the parting but will always remember and be glad to admit that they owe everything to your hard work.

It was their intention to make a small presentation to you as a mark of their appreciation but unfortunately Regulations would not permit this procedure so the pleasure of conveying their wishes is deputed to the undersigned who are proud of the honour.



To M.J.Kinnane, Esq.,  
Chief Commissioner,  
Garda Siochana Headquarters,  
Dublin.

A Chara,

It was with the utmost regret that we learned by letter from Superintendent Murray of Killaloe at a meeting of the District Staff of the L.D.F. held at Broadford on the 14th. ~~that~~ that because of some regulation governing the matter ~~that~~ he was precluded from accepting a Presentation which the District Staff, on behalf of the entire District Force, of the Local Defence Force, proposed making to him.

Whilst we do not desire to interfere in matters of Discipline concerning your admirable Force and its Officers we feel confident that on stating our reasons for making the proposed Presentation ~~that~~ you will reconsider your decision and waive any technical objection that there may be in the matter.

In the first place Superintendent Murray by his earnestness and tactfulness re-united all that is best of the manhood of East Clare in the struggle that is being made to maintain the Neutrality of this Country during the present World Crisis and if necessary to defend her by force of Arms against any invader.

In the second place, Superintendent Murray by his energy and organising ability built up a force of nearly a thousand fighting men second to none in Eire and if any further evidence is required it is only necessary to refer to Colonel Costello O/C of the Southern Command or Colonel Henry of the Limerick Command. That such a fine Force so highly trained and organised should be available in this area is all the more appreciated because of the fact that East Clare embracing as it does the Shannon Power Scheme with Limerick on one side and Lough Derg on the other is considered by the Army Authorities as of the most vital importance.

In building up this organisation Superintendent Murray never spared himself either by night or by day, ever and always ~~withingxxxx~~ endeavouring to accommodate the personal of the Force as regards places and hours of meetings, parades etc., always taking into account that most of the members of the Force were of the Farming Class.

Superintendent Murray's own record in the Irish Ireland struggle made in itself a strong appeal to the men of this area. He having held the rank of Brigadier in the I.R.A., and his life long connection with the G.A.A. and the Gaelic League in which movements he held important positions, and his natural patriotic outlook, all served towards his success in the organising of the Local Security Force in this area.

Another matter which tended towards the strength and unity of the Force in this area was Superintendent Murray's insistence at all times in having all the appointments to the various ranks made entirely on merit without regard for a man's social standing or political outlook. This resulted in a perfectly smooth running machine and the best of comradeship amongst all members of the Force.

In giving the above outline of Superintendent Murray's work on behalf of the present L.D.F. we have not included anything that he has done for the L.S.F. (whilst known as B Group) and with which he is still connected.

We think also that it is but right to mention that apart altogether from Superintendent Murray's outstanding work in the organising of the L.S.F. his interest in the people of the District as a whole should not be overlooked. His charitable disposition and his endeavour in all matters for the social uplifting of the people is generally recognised. The peace of the entire District of Killaloe and its freedom from crime since Superintendent Murray's advent to the area is but proof of the good work done under his guidance and his efforts as a Peace Officer.

Taking into consideration the above facts together with the fact that the cost of the Presentation will not exceed Ten Pounds

~~xxxxxxx~~

P.T.O.

P/183/7/115(4)

(Ten Pounds)

and that it is the desire of the entire District Force of the L.D.F. that an appreciation of Superintendent Murray's work on their behalf should be shown in some way, we, the members of the District Staff, appeal to you to relax the rule in this case, especially as Superintendent Murray has now severed his connection with the L.D.F. in his Official capacity.

Thanking you in anticipation for your favourable consideration of this appeal,

We beg to remain,  
Most respectfully Yours,

- Austin Brennan Ex. Colonel--- District Leader.
- Patrick McDonnell M.R.C.V.S. --- Asst. Dist. Leader.
- George McRoss Ex. Capt. --- Dist. Adjutant.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ex. Capt. --- District Q.M.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Supt. I. N. Ass. Co. Dist. Commun. Officer
- \_\_\_\_\_ N.T. Dist. Transpt. Officer
- \_\_\_\_\_ N.T. Dist. Intelligence Do
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contractor. Dist. Engineer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ M.D. Dist First Aid Officer

At Bradford the <sup>9th</sup> ~~23rd~~ March ~~February~~ 1941.

Donegal County Council Archives

by his earnestness and tactfulness re-united all that is best of the manhood of East. Blave in the struggle that is being made to maintain the neutrality of this country during the present World Crisis and if necessary to defend her by force of arms against any invader.

In the second place, Capt. Murray by his energy and organising ability built up a force of nearly a thousand fighting men second to none in Eire and if any further evidence of this be required it is only necessary to refer to Col. Costello, O.C. of the Southern Command or Col. Hurry of the Limerick Command. That such a force so highly trained and organised should be available in this area is all the more appreciated because of the fact that East. Blave embracing the Shannon Power Scheme with Limerick on one side and Bough Beg on the other is considered by the Army Authorities as of the most vital importance.

In building up this organisation Capt. Murray never spared himself by night or by day, ever and always endeavouring to accommodate the personal of the Force as regards places & hours of meetings parades etc. always

taking into account that most of the members of the force were of the Farming class.

Supt. Murray's own record in the Irish Ireland struggle made in itself a strong appeal to the men of this area. His having held the rank of Brigadier in the I.R.A., his life long connection with the G.A.A. and Gaelic League in which movements he held important positions and his natural patriotic outlook all served towards his success in his organising of the L.S.F. in this area.

Another matter which tended towards the strength and unity of the force in this area was Supt. Murray's insistence at all times in having all the appointments to the various ranks made entirely on merit without regard for a man's social standing or political outlook. This resulted in a perfectly smooth running machine and the best of comradeship amongst all members of the force.

In giving the above outline of Supt. Murray's work on behalf of the present L.S.F. we have not included anything which he has done for the L.S.F. whilst known as B. Group and with which he is still connected.

We think also that that it is but

right to mention that apart altogether from  
Supt. Murray's outstanding work in the  
organising of the L.S.F. his interest in the  
people of the Dist. as a whole should not be  
overlooked, His charitable disposition  
and his endeavours ~~at all times~~ in all  
matters for the social uplifting of the people  
is generally recognised. The peace of the  
entire District of Kullalal and its freedom  
from crime since Supt. Murray's advent  
to the area is but proof of the good work  
done under his guidance and his efforts  
as a peace officer.

Taking into consideration  
the above facts together with the fact that  
the cost of the Presentation will not exceed  
£10 and that it is the desire of the entire  
Dist. Force of the L.D.F. that an appreciation  
of Supt. Murray's work on their behalf should  
be shown in some way, we the members  
of the District Staff, appeal to you to make  
~~an exception~~ <sup>relax the rule</sup> in this case especially as  
Supt. Murray has now severed his connection  
with the L.D.F. in his official capacity,  
Thanking you in Anticipation for

your favourable consideration of this appeal.

We beg to remain,  
most Respectfully Yours

----- Ex Col. District Leader  
----- M.R.C.V.S. a/Dist. Leader  
----- Ex Capt. Dist Adjutant  
----- Ex Capt. .. Quartermaster  
----- Supt. Dist. Inverness Co. N. Communicator  
----- N.T. Dist. Transport Officer  
----- N.T. .. Intelligence ..  
----- Contractor, .. Engineer ..  
----- M.D. Dist. First Aid.

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A1183/2/115(9)

To M.J.Kinnane, Esq.,  
Chief Commissioner,  
Garda Síochana Headquarters,  
Dublin.

A Chara.

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Whilst we do not desire to interfere in matters of Discipline concerning your admirable Force and its Officers we feel confident that on stating our reasons for making the proposed Presentation that you will reconsider your decision and waive any technical objection that there may be in the matter.

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Superintendent Murrery's own record in the Irish Ireland struggle made in itself a strong appeal to the men of this area, He having held the rank of Brigadier in the I.R.A. and his life long connection with the G.A.A. and the Gaelic League in which movements he held important positions and his natural patriotic outlook all served towards his success in his organising of the Local Security Force in this area.

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Taking into consideration the above facts together with the fact that the cost of the Presentation will not exceed Ten Pounds And that it

P/183/7/115(10)

(Ten Pounds)

and that it is the desire of the entire District Force of the L.D.F. that an appreciation of Superintendent Murrery's work on their behalf should be shown in some way, we, the members of the District Staff, Appeal to you to relax the rule in this case, especially as Superintendent Murray has now severed his connection with the L.D.F. in his Official capacity.

Thanking you in anticipation for your favourable consideration of this appeal,

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Most respectfully Yours,

- \_\_\_\_\_ Ex. Colonel--- District Leader.
- \_\_\_\_\_ M.R.C.V.S. --- Asst. Dist. Leader.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ex. Capt. ---- Dist. Adjutant.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ex. Capt. --- District Q.M.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Supt. I. N. Ass. Co. Dist. Commun. Office.
- \_\_\_\_\_ N.T. Dist. Transpt. Officer
- \_\_\_\_\_ N.T. Dist. Intelligence Do
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contractor. Dist. Engineer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ M.D. Dist First Aid Officer

At Bradford the 23rd. February 1941.

Donegal County Council Archives



1183/7/2/1  
SEPTEMBER 15, 1945

## Killaloe

### POPULAR SUPERINTENDENT

While we congratulate Supt. J. Murray on his transfer to the important town of Cavan, we know his departure will be keenly regretted in the Killaloe area where he is highly respected and esteemed. The superintendent has had a great national and military record. Trained as a national teacher in Drom-cogdra College, he taught in Donegal and Loughrea where he enjoyed much popularity among the members of the teaching profession, the pupils, and people in general. When teaching at Bundoran he joined the Volunteers and was speedily promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General in the Old I.R.A. He is an enthusiastic Gael and has few equals in the promotion of the Irish language, in the fostering of Irish dancing and in the playing of the national games.

Since his advent to Killaloe over six years ago Supt. Murray has done herculean work for every national and social undertaking in the town and district. He was, not only a highly efficient and capable officer, but a great organiser. The ability displayed and the impartiality which he exercised in his official duties won for him that unbounded esteem of which he was entirely worthy. The high tributes paid him by L.D.F., L.S.F. and Red Cross leaders from time to time bore testimony to his work during the emergency. There was none more generous to the distressed, and few more observant and active in the detection and suppression of crime. To the Gaelic League and kindred organisations in our midst he is Superintendent, Mrs. Murray and family for their future welfare.

15/3/58  
Anglo Celt, Cavan

SATURDAY, MARCH

## Cavan Garda Superintendent Retires

To-day (Friday) marks the retirement from the Garda Síochána of Superintendent Joseph Murray, who has been in charge of Cavan District since October, 1945.

A native of Monaghan town, Supt. Murray began his career as a National Teacher and followed this profession until 1922 when he joined the Gardai with the rank of Inspector. During the years 1917-'22 he took a prominent part in the fight for freedom and attained the rank of Brigadier in command of the Fourth (S/E Donegal) Brigade, 1st Northern Division. His troops came under heavy shelling when the British attacked the towns of Pettigo and Belleek in June, 1922.

After joining the Gardai he



SUPT. J. MURRAY

served as Adjutant in Kildare and Collinstown Depots and in M'Kee Barracks. Subsequently he served in Dingle, Dungarvan, Bailieboro', Westport, Gorey and Killaloe before his transfer to Cavan.

A fluent Irish speaker, he was closely associated with the Gaelic League, the G.A.A., and kindred organisations in the various areas where he was stationed.

A former member of the Ulster Council G.A.A., he was largely responsible for the re-organisation of the G.A.A. in Donegal, where he was a regular member of the county team.

Keenly interested in drama, he was a founder member of Cavan Drama Festival, and helped to organise Irish drama in many schools throughout the county, acting as adjudicator on occasions. When stationed in Gorey he organised a most successful Garda "Feis Tighe," which was broadcast from Radio Eireann and compered by him. He also acted as adjudicator at Feiseanna in Co. Cavan and other areas.

A talented entertainer, his services in this regard were much in demand.

Recently, Supt. and Mrs. Murray were guests-of-honour at functions organised by the Gardai and by residents in Cavan to mark his retirement from the Force.

Supt. Murray is replaced by Supt. Christopher Flood, a native of Meath, who has been transferred from Galway City.

(See Cavan District Court tribute on Page Eleven).

P/183/7/2/2(2)  
15/3/58

GLO-CELT, CAVAN, SA

## CAVAN DISTRICT COURT

### TRIBUTES TO SUPT. MURRAY

At Cavan District Court yesterday (Thursday) District Justice Lavery said that as this was the last appearance in the Court, before his retirement of Superintendent Murray he would like to express how deeply he regretted the Superintendent's departure. They knew each other a very long time. He thought that it was in 1931 at a Court in Kingscourt that they met for the first time and they had worked together for some years in Bailieborough and Gotehill and then the Supt. retired to the South of Ireland, but he came back to his native Ulster.

"I was very pleased to see you back," the Justice continued, "and I am sure everybody else was also. You have been a very long time serving as an Officer in the Gardai—36 years—and I know that you did your duty during that period with courtesy. A Police Officer sometimes has to do unpleasant things but you always made the unpleasantness as light as possible. You have now reached the age of 65, the same as myself. I see letters in the paper from boys of 40 or 45 who think that old men of 65 are no use for anything. I do not know how true that is, but I do know that in your case that isn't so. I am glad to see that physically and mentally you are a young man still and I wish you many happy years on the shelf. One pleasing feature is that though you are retiring officially you are still going to remain in Cavan."

Mr. R. C. Faris, solr., on behalf of the Cavan Solicitors' Association, said he would like to join in the remarks made by the Justice about their very good friend, the Superintendent. He had captured more than the respect of the profession while in Cavan—he had captured a very great deal of personal affection as well. As a police officer he was always fair and courteous and very easy to deal with. He felt that it would have to be a very broad shelf to hold Supt. Murray and knew that he would soon roll off again and they would all be very glad to see him active again.

Mr. P. V. Hoey, Court Clerk, said it was with deepest regret he was parting with Supt. Murray officially.

Supt. Murray said he was deeply grateful for the very kind remarks about him. All the years he had worked in the Justice's Courts he had found him always most kind, most considerate and most helpful. He could say the same about the County Cavan Solicitors' Association and he also always found Mr. Hoey very nice.

He would like to thank the Gardai who had served under him—the different Inspectors, Sergeants and Guards who were always extremely loyal. With regard to the general public, he could say that a more law-obiding people than the people of Cavan he had not met in his 36 years' experience.

# Monaghan Officer Of Garda Siochana

## RETIREMENT OF SUPT. JOSEPH MURRAY

### Sketch Of Notable Career

The retirement of Supt. Joseph Murray, Garda Siochana, Cavan, as from 14th March, has just been announced.

Supt. Murray is a member of an old and highly esteemed Monaghan family and has never lost touch with his native town throughout a very active and distinguished career.

Recognised as a very able and popular officer, he also took a prominent part in the cultural and social life of the many counties in which he served and the friends he has made are legion.

A fluent Irish speaker he figured prominently in the work of Irish cultural and sports organisations in all four provinces. He also devoted much of his unbounded energy to charitable causes. A noted entertainer, he was in great demand at concerts and social functions everywhere he went and his services were always freely School and Boys' Orphanage, Bundoran.

Supt. Murray trained as a National Teacher in St. Patrick's Training College, Drumecondra, from 1912 to 1914 and taught in Loughrea Boys' School and Boys' Orphanage.

During his years in Bundoran he

Dublin Co. Board. While in Loughrea in 1914-15, he was Hon. Secretary of the local hurling and football clubs and represented them on the Galway Co. Board.

While teaching in Bundoran he was one of those mainly responsible for the re-organisation of the G.A.A. there in 1917. He introduced Gaelic football to Co. Donegal where previously only hurling and soccer were played. He organised and played for the first football club in Bundoran, which later won the first Donegal Co. Championship, and was also an automatic choice for the Donegal County team.

He also organised the first branch of the Gaelic League in Bundoran, teaching Irish classes and introducing Irish dancing and Ceilidhthe. He was one of the founder members of St. Patrick's Hall as a Gaelic League Hall which later became a Summer Irish College.

In Waterford, he was a member of the G.A.A. Co. Board and in 1925 represented the county at the Munster Convention in Cork, where he met such prominent figures in the G.A.A. as Very Rev. Canon Hamilton (Clare), Dan Fraher (Waterford),

parts of Ireland who will wish him health and happiness in his days of retirement.

### CAVAN CIRCUIT COURT TRIBUTE

At the sitting of Cavan Circuit Court, before Judge Sweeney, Mr. H. McWilliam, speaking on behalf of the Bar, said that they had all heard with regret of the fact that Supt. Murray was soon to leave the Gardaí. He had been a very good friend during his period in Cavan, and they wished him long life and prosperity in his retirement.

Mr. T. J. Fitzpatrick, solicitor, said that since the Superintendent came to Cavan over ten years ago the solicitors always found him very helpful and courteous. Before he entered they knew that he had played a prominent part to give them the institutions of State which they had today. They wished him long life and happiness in his retirement.

Mr. P. MacDwyer, Co. Registrar, said that he would like to associate himself with the tributes paid to the Superintendent. There was one thing which should never be forgotten and that was that the Superintendent was a bulwark who had instituted and helped the language movement in the country.

Mr. H. O'Neill, Chief Clerk, Co. Registrar's Office, associated himself with the tributes on behalf of the staff. He wished Mr. and Mrs. Murray many years of happiness in the future.

Judge Sweeney said that it was with great regret that he heard that Superintendent Murray was retiring from the Gardaí Force, with which he was so long associated and which he helped to lay the foundations so to speak from 1922. Having played his part in other activities before that it then became necessary to establish the police force, and a great debt was due to Mr. Murray and the other men who assumed the responsibility for this task. Since he came to Cavan the Superintendent was always most courteous and efficient, and he found in him a great personal friend. He wished the Superintendent and his wife many long years of happiness in retirement, and he hoped that his associations with Cavan and with the language would continue.

Supt. Murray, returning thanks, said that he was very surprised by the tributes being paid to him, as he got no indication when he was told to report to the Court. He did not feel that he deserved all that had been said. He had spent 19 years of his service in County Cavan, and for that length of time was working in connection with the Circuit Court. His lordship and the other learned judges who preceded him had always been ready to overlook his shortcomings, and he was very grateful for that. He could say the same for the gentlemen of the Bar—they were always considerate and kind.

He was very grateful for all that had been said about him, and would cherish the fondest memories of the time he had spent in Co. Cavan, and in particular the time he spent working at the Circuit Court.



joined the Volunteer Movement and played a distinguished part in the fight for Irish Freedom, attaining the rank of Brigadier in command of the Fourth Brigade (S.E. Donegal) 1st Northern Division I.R.A. He saw active service in that period and during the border fighting in June, 1922, British troops shelled the towns of Pettigo and Belleek, his Brigade area. During the shelling of Pettigo on 4th June, four of the defenders were killed and 21 prisoners were taken.

He joined the Garda Siochana in October, 1922 with the rank of Inspector and was appointed to the post of Adjutant of the then principal Garda Depot in Kildare town, when the Phoenix Park Depot opened in December, 1922, he was appointed Adjutant of the auxiliary depot at Collinstown and was also Adjutant at the McKee Barracks Depot until his transfer to take charge as Supt. of Dingle District, Co. Kerry, in Feb., 1923. He subsequently served in Dungarvan, Bailieboro', Westport, Gorey and Killaloe Districts before coming in 1945 to the Cavan Town District, where he has since been stationed. During his service with the Gardaí he always had the respect of his brother officers and those who served under him. The news of his retirement will be widely regretted among members of the force.

Supt. Murray's active interest in Gaelic culture was early evident for prior to his departure to the Teachers' Training College, he was Hon. Secretary of Monaghan Co. Board G.A.A., North Monaghan (Uster) League and a member of the Ulster Council in 1911-12. He founded the present Clones St. Tiernach's G.A.A. Club as a hurling club in 1911 and in 1912 the club embraced football also. He was an active member of the Gaelic League in Co. Monaghan during his early years.

While at Training College he played on both the football and hurling teams and represented the College on

Dick Fitzgerald (Kerry), Sean McCarthy (Cork) and Pádraig O'Keefe (then Secretary Cork Co. Board).

In the succeeding years he came back north (Bailieboro' 1927) when he was Chairman of Bailieboro' Shamrocks, Football Club and representative on the Co. Cavan Board Sub-Committee for a number of years. He was a founder member of Bailieboro' Gaelic League Branch and organised Irish dancing and Ceilidhthe there on a large scale.

During his three years' stay in Westport he was Chairman of the local G.A.A. Club.

In Wexford (from 1937 to 39) he was again prominent in Gaelic League work and organised a very successful Irish Drama Group, which under his production won the Loch Garman Cup for Drama for two successive years. One of these productions "An Feall" was broadcast by Radio Eireann. Another broadcast production during his term in Gorey was a Garda "Feis Tighe" which he compered.

While in Killaloe from 1939-45, Supt. Murray was Chairman of the local Gaelic League Branch and a member of the Clare Gaelic League Committee. He assisted in the organisation of Feiseanna in Clare and Limerick.

Prominent in the Gaelic League movement in the early thirties, Supt. Murray again entered into similar activities on his return to the county in 1945. He was one of the first members of the Cavan Drama Festival Committee and organised Irish Drama in many Primary Schools throughout the county. As a result of his efforts four towns and four rural schools competed at the Drama Festival in 1946 and 1947. He also assisted Feiseanna in the county and acted as adjudicator at some of them.

As can be adjudged from the above synopsis of an eventful career, Supt. Murray has many friends in many

### WELL-KNOWN CLONES MAN

#### Mr. A. A. Russell Leaves For America

On Friday, Mr. A. A. Russell, The Diamond, Clones, left for America with his wife and son, David. Mr. Russell carried on a prosperous business in Clones for many years. He had been in America in his early life and returned to Clones to look after his aged mother. Two of his daughters went to the United States a couple of years ago and it was to re-unite the family that Mr. Russell decided to leave. He will take up residence in Colorado. On arrival in New York, he will be met by another Clones man, Mr. Andrew Carolan, who emigrated a few months ago. His friends in Clones join in wishing Mr. Russell and his family every success in the States.

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PRESS REPORTS ON RETIREMENT  
- Supt. J. MURRAY, CAVAN.

~~IRISH PERMANENT~~

DEATH NOTICE 11/19/75



Donegal County C

Donegal County Council Archives

## Death of Veteran of Fight for Freedom Garda, Army funeral honours for late Supt. Joe Murray

WITH the death in the Shell Hospital on Saturday of ex - Garda Superintendent Joseph Murray, Portnason, Ballyshannon, another link with the stirring and historic days of the war of independence in South Donegal, with the foundation of the Garda Síochána and with the development of the G.A.A. in the area, has been severed.

A genial, kindly and gifted personality, a man of wit and humour, his passing is mourned by a legion of friends throughout the four provinces and the Gaelic cultural movement is the poorer of his passing.

He played a big role in the fight for freedom in South Donegal and was a "marked" man by the Black and Tans at the time. His former pupils in Bundoran National School recall an occasion when as he was teaching the "Tan lorries" screeched to a halt outside the school. In a flash the Master was gone out the back door making good his escape to the Ross before the "Tans" could surround the building. Still others of his comrades of those days recall how going into action, or on the run, he always showed the greatest concern for those under his command, never seeming to think of himself.

A man of tremendous energy and enterprise, he was an inspiration to the whole district in things national and patriotic. Later he played a very important role in the establishing of the Garda Síochána as an efficient police force. When he retired he returned to the area he had come to love, Ballyshannon to spend the remainder of his days amid the scenes of his early work for his country.

He was predeceased by his first wife and later married Mrs. Peggy Comerford (née Kerrigan), a native of Ballinacarrick, Ballyshannon, to whom as well as to his four sons and three daughters widespread sympathy is extended.

### His Career

The late Mr. Murray, a native of Monaghan town was a member of an old and highly respected Co. Monaghan family. A brilliant pupil at school, he trained as a National Teacher in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, from 1912 to 1914 and started his teaching career in Loughrea, coming later to take up an appointment in Bundoran. It was in Bundoran he joined the Volunteers and playing a distinguished part in the fight for independence early won promotion to rank of Brigadier in command of the Fourth Brigade (S.E. Donegal) 1st Northern Division I.R.A. He took part in many engagements in that period and in the Border fighting in June 1922 when British troops shelled Belleek and Pettigo.

He joined the Garda Síochána in October 1922 with the rank of Inspector and was appointed to the post of Adjutant of the then principal Garda Depot in Kildare town. When the Phoenix Park depot opened in December 1922 he was appointed Adjutant of the auxiliary depot at Collinstown and was also Adjutant at the McKee Barracks depot until his transfer to take charge, as superintendent of Dingle district in February 1923. He subsequently served in Dungarvan, Ballinboro, Westport, Gorey and Killybeggie Districts before being appointed to Cavan in 1945 where he remained as superintendent until he retired on 14th March, 1958.

### High Esteem

The extremely high regard in which he was held in the Garda Síochána, a force which he did so much to establish on a firm foundation, was manifested on his retirement in 1958 when many Court tributes were paid to him, and he and Mrs. Murray were guests of honour at functions organised by the Gardaí and residents of Cavan where the high esteem in which he was held was given tangible expression in the form of valuable presentations.

It was not just in his official capacity that the deceased earned the admiration and esteem of the public. In addition to being an able and popular officer he always took a prominent part in the cultural and social life of the community in which he found himself. A fluent Gaelic speaker he figured prominently in the Irish cultural and sporting organisations in all four provinces and he devoted much of his unbounded energy to charitable causes. A talented entertainer he was in great demand at concerts and social functions and his services were always freely and unstintingly given where the function was for a charitable aim.

### Work For G.A.A. and Language

It is for his interest in the fostering of Gaelic games and the language that he is best remembered in the South Donegal area. His active interest in Gaelic culture was early evident and prior to his departure for the Training College he served as secretary of Monaghan Co. Board G.A.A. and was a member of the Ulster Council in 1911-12. He founded the Clones St. Tlernach's G.A.A. Club in 1911 and was an active member of the Gaelic League in his native Co. Monaghan in his early years.



LATE SUPT. MURRAY

While teaching in Bundoran he was one of those mainly responsible for the re-organisation there of the G.A.A. in 1917 and helped to introduce Gaelic football to Co. Donegal where previously only hurling and soccer football were played. He organised and played for the first football club in Bundoran which later won the first Donegal County Championship and was also automatic choice for the Donegal county team. He organised the first branch of the Gaelic League in Bundoran, teaching Irish classes and introducing Irish dancing and céilidhthe. He was one of the founder members of St. Patrick's Hall as a Gaelic League Hall which later became a Summer Irish College. Later in all the places where he was stationed he played a prominent part in local and county G.A.A. and Gaelic League affairs.

### Interest in Drama

He always had a deep interest in drama and helped organise Irish drama festivals in places where he was stationed. When he came to Cavan he was one of the first members of the Cavan Drama Festival Committee and also assisted feiseanna in Co. Cavan and acted as adjudicator at some of them.

The soul of hospitality, his home in Cavan was always open to visitors from the Bundoran and Ballyshannon areas for whom he retained a deep affection. This was reflected in his decision after his retirement to come and live in Ballyshannon where he continued to take a great interest in local developments.

An interesting conversationalist and entertaining raconteur, he had a host of amusing anecdotes about the places in which he served and the people he met in his career. Of literary bent, he had a talent for verse and wrote many poems both in serious and humorous vein, but never sought to have them published, the satisfaction of the creative effort apparently being all he sought.

### Funeral Tribute

On Sunday evening the remains were removed from the Shell Hospital to St. Joseph's Church, the Rock, where they were received by Rev. M. Cahill, C.C. A guard of honour of Gardaí from the Ballyshannon and Bundoran stations under Supt. Dom Murray, marched on either side of the hearse, which was preceded by a patrol car.

On Monday morning there was a very big and representative attendance at the Requiem Mass and obsequies. The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Cahill and Very Rev. Fr. Pat McQuaid, S.D.B., Vice-Provincial, Dublin, a cousin. The coffin was draped in the National Flag.

As the remains were removed from the church a contingent of gardaí acted as guard of honour. At the graveside a firing party from the 28th Battalion, Finner Camp, under the command of Lieut. M. Egar, fired three volleys over the grave. Fr. Cahill, assisted by Fr. McQuaid performed the obsequies.

Capt. D. O'Sullivan represented Lt.-Col. E. Quigley, O/C 28th Battalion, Messrs. E. Quinn and J. McDermott, trustees, represented the Donegal Co. Board G.A.A.

The chief mourners were Mrs. Peggy Murray (widow); Michael, Charles, Joseph and Patrick (who is a member of the Garda Síochána (sons); the Misses Noreen, Marie and Margaret Murray (daughters); daughters-in-law, grandchildren; Mrs. Eileen Murray, Clones (sister-in-law); nieces, nephews and cousins including as well as Fr. McQuaid, Fr. Brendan McCague, St. Macartan's Seminary, Monaghan.

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# LIVER FLUKE DANGER

DOSE ALL CATTLE AND SHEEP IN THE LAST WEEK OF JANUARY

## IN ALL AREAS



Brindley Adv.

### OUR Readers' Views

#### "IRELAND COMPLETE AND AT PEACE"

Dear Sir,  
 Profound thanks to our churchmen for giving us hope and inspiration. The next move towards peace and justice must be from here in the Republic. The foundation stone must be "Truth".

Mr. Cosgrave and Mr. Lynch must jointly offer to establish an all-Ireland All-Party Government with a firm offer of power-sharing to our loyalist brethren and the other sections of our people so deeply involved in Irish life.

Truth has been faced up to and serious faults and omissions have been confessed by the British Government, the Stormont Government and our combined church leaders. Now we must exercise similar moral courage and admit that the Irish Republic is not a just society.

This is no time for apportioning blame. Our State was first established largely as a replica of British laws and customs. There was no other blueprint readily to hand at that time.

For some decades we did hold on to a spirit of statesmanlike leadership and a style and culture of our own. We expressed our genuine concern for our people in the Six Counties at every opportunity, in the Councils of Europe and elsewhere. Our society was relatively just.

The last two decades have been affluent years. Unfortunately as a nation they have been degenerate ones. Our concern for our brethren in the North died. Our law became dual in application, one for the rich and political party aligned, and another for the poor and unaligned. If you are not aware of this ask any Garda for a confidential report on his work. Our Planning Acts and housing programmes sometimes got rapid. The "Speculators Paradise" appeared on the scene and "jobs for the boys" was not only acceptable but was made respectable. Hence the political horse-trading up to our highest offices. This is not to say that our leaders are less than honest or less than gentlemen. It simply means that we as a nation copied the American and British way of life and be thankful that to date we have not had a serious Watergate situation.

In the past two decades the policies of our two main parties have become identical. This is partly due to pressure from big business and partly due to an unfortunate method of party fund-raising as well as inter-party blood relationships. Inter-party marriages and some exchange of favours at inter-party level.

In this degenerate evolution no one escapes and it is true to say Mr. Liam Cosgrave and Mr. Jack Lynch are as much victims of the way our State has evolved as the most humble workman is.

Ireland Complete and at Peace with the necessary power-sharing in an all-Ireland Government would be an open society, a society whose combined talents when put to work would have to be seen to be believed.

To our Unionist brethren, many of whom have been and still are, I hope, my friends, I say "Think", which is it better — to be a first-class Irishman involved and committed to our own affairs or a second-rate Briton whom the parent country has shown a public willingness to dispose of at the earliest feasible date.

We in the Republic must act now as messing around with articles of our Constitution and sections of our Broadcasting Acts and other marginal law reforms in the present terrible circumstances could only be described as infantile.

Finally, was it love of violence or a cynical disrespect for our institutions that made it possible for all of the escapees from Portlaoise to get out and remain free.

Back up the good work our Churchmen have started and make

"IRELAND COMPLETE AND AT PEACE"

JAMES CORRIGAN.

Carlow Road, Killeullen, Co. Kildare.

#### STUDENT QUERIES ON EDUCATION

A Chara,

"Now what I want is facts. Teach these boys and girls facts. Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else". Such is the beginning of Charles Dickens' 19th century controversial and satirical novel, "Hard Times". Is it possible that these lines could be applied to our Irish educational system to-day? We would say yes, in that this system only provides for a clear understanding of facts and figures, but if every student took a deep look at themselves they are not educated in social understanding or simply being able to make contact with school mates.

Let us as students ask ourselves an honest question? Why do we rise each morning for habitual study? Is it to learn our Irish, English and formulae in maths, and leave each morning to repeat the process on the following four mornings of our school week? Could we apply the familiar saying "Familiarity breeds contempt", or do we seek more than this by using the term "student psychology". An example of a character, John. We could here compress the life of a student for those who have long since left the system.

John is a student. John's alarm clock goes off at 8.30 each school morning. John indulges in the necessary preparations for the day's work. John is in class from 9.00 until 4.00 and then proceeds home to do his homework and study. The reason we made this synopsis of John's five years was that his conversation for five years could simply be compressed to the words "Hello", "Good-bye", "Have you got your homework done", etc.

Now take another character called Denis. He does the exact same as John, except that his conversation is slightly different. Denis criticises; Denis is criticised; Denis compliments, Denis is complimented. Denis gets to know, like and love his fellow students, and grows to know them as a result of this.

Which of the two students is more educated after the five years at school? We would say Denis, because of the fact that he gets to know mentally and morally the optimism and pessimism of the world and life. We feel the system of education to-day does not cater for the social development of students in helping to access people's demeanour by their characters and not by their appearance. As Shakespeare says: "There is no art to find the mind's construction in the face".

Conclusion — As the Lord says, "Love thy neighbour". Can we love our neighbour if we do not know him. We cannot find this in facts and formulae, and this is what our educational system is lacking in.

This is not a letter of condemnation, but rather two students speaking their minds on a social issue.

Yours,  
 Gerry Monaghan,  
 Liam Hoey.

Ballyshannon,  
 14th January, 1975.

#### SUPPORT FOR DISASTER FUND

Dear Sir,  
 We in the Maritime Institute of Ireland wish to record our deep sorrow at the particularly tragic deaths on January 7th of six young Burtonport fishermen and we urge our members and the public generally to contribute generously to the fund which has been set up for their many dependants.

Contributions to this fund should be sent c/c The Parish Priest, Burtonport, Co. Donegal.

Yours sincerely,  
 D. O'FLANAGAN,  
 Hon. Secretary,  
 The Maritime Institute of Ireland,  
 64 Oaktree Road,  
 Stillorgan, Co. Dublin.

#### Interdenominational Intercession For Peace

A special Interdenominational Service of Intercession for Peace will be held in St. Conal's Church, Ardara on Tuesday 21st January at 8 p.m. This service will form part of the town's response to the call of the four church leaders to "Think, Pray and Talk Peace" and is being arranged in conjunction with the world-wide octave of prayer for Christian unity. Members of all denominations are cordially invited to attend.



and a large circle of friends.  
At a meeting of the G.A.A. Club on Monday night a vote of sympathy was passed with the widow and family of the late Mr. Joseph Murray, former Garda Superintendent, whose death took place at the Sheil Hospital, Ballyshannon. Mr. Murray was a founder member of the club.

Bundoran Tourist Development Association will hold a meeting in the Maghery Hotel on Monday night when important matters are down for discussion.

A severe storm hit the town on Monday night. Damage was caused to many buildings. Public light-

1911/75

## Death of Veteran of Fight for Freedom

### Garda, Army funeral honours for late Supt. Joe Murray

WITH the death in the Sheil Hospital on Saturday of ex - Garda Superintendent Joseph Murray, Portnason, Ballyshannon, another link with the stirring and historic days of the war of independence in South Donegal, with the foundation of the Garda Síochána and with the development of the G.A.A. in the area, has been severed.

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