



STRABANE IN WORLD WAR 1



As reported in The Strabane Chronicle & The Strabane Weekly News

July 1914 – November 1919



Thanks are due to all those who contributed to the compilation of material for this research project. The group painstakingly combed the microfilm copies of the Strabane Chronicle and Strabane Weekly news and selected material and these included John Rogan, James Johnston, Joseph O'Kane, Hugh McGarrigle, Kathleen Patton, Chris McDermott, Pat McGuigan, William Allen, Ronnie Johnston, Michael Kennedy and John Dooher. Thanks are also due to Ms Geraldine Casey for her assistance. The group is grateful to the staff of Strabane Library for their unfailing help and to Libraries N.I. for making the resources available.

Photo on front cover shows a military parade at The Diamond, Lifford, in 1914.

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1914

Strabane Chronicle
4th July 1914

RURAL LABOUR PROBLEM

There has been for many years the report states a marked scarcity of agricultural labourers, which was becoming more and more acute.

The increase in the cost of living and the increased prices which the farmers was getting for his produce had been mainly instrumental in bringing about increased wages. The wages however are still very low. The usual daily wage current in 1913 were for men 2s to 3s 6d, for women 1s 6d to 3s.

RESERVES CALLED UP IMMEDIATELY

At the start of WW1 58,000 Irishmen were already enlisted in the British Regular Army or Navy – 21,000 serving regular soldiers, 18,000 reservists, 12,000 in the Special Reserve, 5,000 Naval ratings and 2,000 officers. (Wikipedia)

Strabane Weekly News
1st August 1914

TYRONE U.V.F.
CONCENTRATION OF MOBILE FORCE 1st and 2nd Battalions
674 CYCLISTS FULLY EQUIPPED
MEDICAL AND SUPPLIES ARRANGEMENTS

A most successful concentration of the mobile columns of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Tyrone Regiment U.V.F. took place on Wednesday evening at Baronscourt, when in addition to the officers there were 674 section leaders on parade.

At the close of the inspection, Captain E.C. Herdman, D.L., officer commanding the 1st Battalion, addressed the parade. He apologised for the absence of General Richardson, who was detained in Belfast, and the Duke of Abercorn, the Commander of the Regiment, who had done so much for the efficiency of the Tyrone Regiment.

... the men coming from the Derry borders on one side to Sixmilecross and Kilskeery on the other side. Mr P Cruickshank, Officer Commanding the 2ND Battalion, also addressed the parade and congratulated the Mobile Force of the 1st and 2nd battalions on the success of the concentration.

Strabane Weekly
1st August 1914

U.V.F. IN DONEGAL
PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO NURSES

A meeting of St Johnston and district branch of the Ulster Women's Unionist Association was held on the evening of 23rd July in the St. Johnston Orange Hall for the purpose of presenting certificates to the U.V.F. nurses.

Mrs Moore, Molenan, who presided over a large attendance, which included a number of nurses in uniform, congratulated the candidates, and said it was a highly gratifying fact that everyone who competed got certificates.

Mrs. Sinclair, Holyhill, who was enthusiastically received, said Unionists did not want any compromise. The certificates were then presented to the nurses by Mrs. Pane Coffin.

Strabane Weekly
1st August 1914

BARONSCOURT

A muster of 674 section leaders and men of the Mobile Force of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, Tyrone Regiment U.V.F. all fully armed and mounted on bicycles took place to Baronscourt on Wednesday.

Strabane Weekly News
& Strabane Chronicle
1st August 1914

FIRST ADVERTISEMENTS FOR RECRUITS
THE ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
RECRUITS

Are now wanted for the above Regiment also for all Branches of His Majesty's Army. Young men of good character between 18 and 25 years of age are invited to join and have good prospects. Recruits are also wanted for the

SPECIAL RESERVE

4 month's continuous Employment is ensured. Pay 7s. to 8s 5.5d according to the Arm of the Service, in addition men are allowed to take away part of the Kit on completion of their Four month's training. Bounty on completion of four or five months drill 30s.

Men of good character between the ages of 17 and 30 years are eligible to join.

Full particulars regarding service in the Regular Army or Special Reserve will be supplied on application to any Recruiting Officer or Recruiting Sergeant at Strabane, Coleraine, Londonderry, Cookstown, Dungannon to any Post Office or to

Captain E.I. Manders,
The Barracks, Omagh

: VARYING FIGURES ABOUT ENROLMENT

13,227 (Ulster Division) by early November 1914 (Strabane Weekly News of 14 Nov 1914)

40,000 from all of Ireland by end of 1914 (Strabane Chronicle 9th Jan 1915)

PAY

Basic rate of pay for a 'Private' was 'a shilling a day', less 'stoppages' (married men normally had a 'compulsory stoppage' to be paid to his wife, normally around six pence, but this was supplemented & a 'Private's' wife with no children could expect around 12/6 d per week), plus 'trade & proficiency' allowances & an 'overseas' allowance (one penny), when serving in foreign parts.

PAY RATES PER DAY AS OF 1914 – IN “OLD MONEY”:-

In 1917 pay was increased to 1s & 3d per day.

PRIVATE	1s 0d. Equivalent to £24.08 per week or £1,250 per year (2015)
SERGEANT	2s 4d. Equivalent to £55.38 per week or £2,880 per year (2015)
LIEUTENANT	6s 0d. Equivalent to £144.38 per week or £7,513 per year (2015)
MAJOR	13s 8d. Equivalent to £331.10 per week or £17,218 per year (2015)
COLONEL	18s 0d. Equivalent to £433.44 per week or £1,250 per year (2015)

Strabane Weekly News 8th August 1914

RECRUITMENT

In response to the proclamation “Your King and Country Needs You” a meeting was held on Saturday 8th August 1914. The Strabane Catholic Temperance Society band provided marching music for the assembled bodies of the Ulster Volunteer Force and the National Volunteers. Captain Roderick Gallagher called for three cheers for the UVF, Captain William Smyth reciprocated by calling for three cheers for the National Volunteers.

WHAT IN THE END WILL SETTLE THIS WAR?

TRAINED MEN

IT IS YOUR DUTY TO BECOME ONE

Sir Edward Carson was reported to have said in September 1914 :-“Our duty is to the Empire first. There is no time to be lost, and a large number of volunteers throughout the country are now considering the best course to adopt, they cannot do better than study the speech of Sir Edward Carson.....”.

One or two instances of refusal to volunteer for Kitchener's Army in rural districts simply because the pay was considered insufficient, have recently come to light. The Strabane Weekly News continued “We would remind people that this is a most unpatriotic way of looking at the matter.....”.

The Strabane Weekly News reported on 19 September 1914 of an official statement on the weekly separation allowances made to wives and children of soldiers on active service with Kitchener's Army.

“...in many instances the amount of income from all sources would be greater than the bread winner could earn at his ordinary employment...”

In September 1914 Captain Ambrose St. Quintin Ricardo, DSO, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was appointed commanding officer of the Tyrone Battalion, Ulster Division of Lord Kitchener's army.

On 26 September 1914 a report in the Strabane Weekly News stated that recruiting for the Donegal Battalion of the Ulster Division had been going well and a very good response had followed. In St. Johnston

over 70 men had come forward, in Ballyarnett and Culmore 50, and 20 each in Mulroy and Donegal. The first contingent went into camp on Friday 2 October 1914.

On 26 December it was reported that a great number of Lord Kitchener's army, all of whom were connected to the Strabane UVF had arrived here to spend the Christmas holidays. The men had been granted leave for six days, after which they returned, and another portion were allowed leave for the New Year. The men appeared in excellent spirits and were delighted to be at home to spend the holidays with their friends and chums.

Strabane Chronicle

8th August 1914

SINN FEIN OPPOSES IRISH PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR

"Ireland is not at war with Germany. She has no quarrel with any Continental Power. England is at war with Germany, and Mr. Redmond has offered England the services of the National Volunteers to 'defend Ireland'. What has Ireland to defend and whom has she to defend it against?"

MEETINGS OF IRISH VOLUNTEERS (INV) IN SUPPORT OF WAR

It was reported on 3 Oct 1914 that a meeting of INV in Strabane— It agreed with Mr Redmond; condemn the action of minority Provisional Committee.

A similar resolution was discussed at a meeting of INV in Omagh in June 1914 and they agreed with Mr. Redmond.

Strabane Weekly News

15th August 1914

EXCITING SCENES AT COOKSTOWN RAILWAY STATION

Another draft of the North Irish Horse and a considerable number of reservists left Cookstown by the midday train on Saturday to join their regiments. Those who belonged to the Nationalist Volunteers went to the station individually, while those who were Unionists were accompanied by about 200 comrades of the U.V.F. and were headed by a band. Both parties were surrounded by friends, and the station platform was the scene of wild excitement. Free fights took place and the pressure was so great that the Stationmaster had to get Mr. Byers, officer commanding the U.V.F., to draw up his men to keep back the crowds and let the train get out in safety. Union Jacks were waved by one side, which the other tried to get at; in one case they succeeded, but it was quickly rescued. Shouts of "Home Rule" and "Ireland a Nation" were drowned by the greater volume of sound as the Unionists sang "Rule Britannia" and the National Anthem. As the train steamed out fog signals were discharged and cheers were given.

RESERVISTS CALLED UP IMMEDIATELY

At the start of WW1 58,000 Irishmen were already enlisted in the British Regular Army or Navy – 21,000 serving regular soldiers, 18,000 reservists, 12,000 in the Special Reserve, 5,000 Naval ratings and 2,000 officers. (Wikipedia)

Strabane Chronicle

15th August 1914

HARMONY BETWEEN UVF AND IRISH VOLUNTEERS

A scene of very unusual occurrence was that at the departure of the army reservists on Saturday from Newtown Stewart. The Nationalist band played their men to the railway station, headed by Union Jacks. The band played the National Anthem at the station

Strabane Weekly News

15th August 1914

IRISH AND ULSTER VOLUNTEERS JOIN TOGETHER

Saturday will ever be remembered as a red-letter day in the history of Strabane when Orange and Green were blended happily together. The Irish National Volunteer companies fell in outside the Barrack Street Hall under the command of Captains Eddie Gallagher and John D. Reid. A few minutes later they were joined by the Ulster Corps under the command of Captains W.R. Smyth and John W. Buchanan

Strabane Weekly News

15th August 1914

ULSTER AND NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS UNITE TO SEND OFF VOLUNTEERS

The Army Reserve and Special Reserve of the Inniskilling Fusiliers left Omagh last weekend.

For a spontaneous and wholehearted display of feeling on the part of citizens of all creeds, classes and political beliefs the extraordinary enthusiastic demonstrations could not be equalled.

Strabane Weekly News
15th August 1914

RECRUITING

JOHN REDMOND IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON 3rd AUGUST 1914 STATED:-

"I say to the Government that they may tomorrow withdraw every one of their troops from Ireland. I say that the coast of Ireland will be defended from foreign invasion by her armed sons, and for this purpose armed nationalist Catholics in the South will be only too glad to join arms with the armed Protestant Ulstermen in the North."

Strabane Weekly News
15th August 1914

RECRUITS

The average height of the recruit in 1914 was around 5ft 5in, with anyone above 5ft 7in something more of a rarity.

The Army later created 'Bantam' battalions for men between 5ft - 5ft 3in in height.

Average weight would have been around 8 stone.

Average age would have been around 30+ in 1914 (original BEF).

Later, it would go as low as 18 (many lied about their age in order to enlist) & as high as 51 years of age (again, some lied).

Many men were that 'under-nourished' that with the army physical training & '3 square meals a day', within their first year they put on a stone in weight & grew by about 2 inches.

Strabane Weekly News
15th August 1914

TRAINING

'Basic Training' consisted of getting fit, learning about one's 'kit', how to shoot & how to fight with a bayonet, as well as basic 'war' skills.

One of, if not, the most important parts was the teaching of 'discipline'. One had to learn to obey orders 'precisely & without question'. Endless 'drill' might seem 'pointless', but it is because it requires an 'instant' response to a command, so that, when practiced constantly, men become 'accustomed' to responding to commands without thinking about what is being asked of them.

Route marches of up to 25 miles per day in 'full marching order' were the 'norm' (in the army, 'marching' has always been regarded as a great way to 'exercise' & build up stamina). Rivers, etc were considered 'fair game' up to a depth of 3 feet....the fact that you were then 'wet through' seemed irrelevant!

Without doubt, the majority of training was received in the fields of France & Flanders & elsewhere.

Strabane Weekly News
15th August 1914

GERMAN SPIES

People were suspicious about foreigners and this was exaggerated during the war – spy paranoia.

8,000 – 9,000 reports of espionage by the beginning of September 1914 in London area

During WW1 31 German agents were tried, 12 were executed.

Strabane Weekly
15th August 1914

TYRONE ANSWERS THE CALL

MR. E.C. HERDMAN OFF TO FIGHT FOR HIS COUNTRY

Four companies of the Ulster Volunteers, consisting of Strabane, Artigarvan, Carricklee, and Ballindrait were mobilised on Friday morning to do honour to their commander, Mr.E.C. Herdman, D.L., on his departure for the front to Belgium with his regiment.

On the arrival of Mr. Herdman he was escorted through the ranks by Messrs. W.B. Smyth, O.C. Strabane Battalion; W.W. Barnhill, B.L. Artigarvan; and W.E. Wagentreiber, who holds an important office in the Donegal Volunteers.

In the course of two hours on Thursday, he stated, 800 of the Ulster Volunteers under his command in North Tyrone had volunteered to go and fight for their country. The Volunteers were afterwards reformed and marched via Railway Street and Abercorn Square to the Unionist rooms, where they were dismissed.

Strabane Weekly News
Thursday 22nd August 1914

WAR PROPAGANDA

Tyrone men have never been backward in defending the Empire, and we are sure that they will be ready to step into the breach if their comrades who have already gone to the front during the last week or so, are in need of their assistance. These men are asked to come up now to the colours and by a little training be ready to stand up for the Empire. A number of meetings are being held in Tyrone by Captain Hessey and Captain Ricardo DSO, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Both officers have seen a good deal of active service, and army men who served in the Inniskillings would go with them anywhere and do anything for them. They are prepared to explain conditions of enlistment in Lord Kitchener's first 100,000 men, and answer any questions.

Strabane Weekly News
Thursday 22nd August 1914

WAR PROPAGANDA

The following communication is issued by the official Press Bureau:-
As some misapprehension still appears to exist, the Army Council desire to make known that any man enlisting in the Army under the present conditions will be discharged with all speed possible the minute the war is over, whether this lasts three weeks or three years. Should the war last over three years their continuance of service will be optional. The following is the text of a notice printed in bold type and red ink which is being issued:- Lord Kitchener's Appeal. 100,000 men required for the war. No men will be refused who are physically fit for active service and between the ages of 19 and 30. Old soldiers up to 42. Late NCO's of Regulars and ex-soldiers urgently required.

Strabane Chronicle
29th August 1914

THE ULSTER VOLUNTEERS

It was stated that a large gathering of armed Ulster Volunteers was to pass through the streets of Derry on Saturday last. The suggestion was afloat that they were to strike terror into the hearts of Nationalists. The parade was most peaceful, and was, we may hope, the forerunner of still more friendly relations with the Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Chronicle
29th August 1914

WAR EFFECTS IN DONEGAL
APPEAL FOR GOVERNMENT AID TO PREVENT UNEMPLOYMENT

A quarterly meeting of the Donegal County Council was held on Tuesday in the Courthouse, Lifford. Mr. Callaghan moved a resolution asking assistance from the Government for the industries of the county in the exceptional circumstances created by the war. Seeing that orders were being given throughout the country, he thought they in Donegal should apply for share of these. The resolution was:- "That we view with alarm by reason of the war the present curtailment of industrial employment in the county, and the dark outlook for the future in the various industries – hosiery, shirts, woollen manufactures (tweeds, friezes, blankets, rugs, etc). carpet factories, cottage industries, and generally. That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Lord Lieutenant for Ireland, the Prime Minister, the Chief Secretary, the President of the Board of Trade, the Secretary of State for War, the Director of Contracts, War Office, Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture.

Strabane Weekly News
5th September 1914

BACKGROUND

Strabane was described in the Belfast and Ulster Directory of 1899 as "a market town in County Tyrone ... one of the largest and most populous towns in the county and its environs are replete with interest and beauty." The above Directory paints a picture of a thriving town with its own railway network from Belfast, Derry/Londonderry and Donegal, a canal connecting the town centre with the River Foyle and a wide range of businesses including its own Urban District Council.

Like most places throughout the British Empire Strabane had heard the most popular saying of the time "The war will be over by Christmas". Indeed war was talked about as being a great adventure with romantic ideals and being able to visit foreign places.

There was an initial surge of volunteers at the start of the war and although precise figures are not available it is estimated that 500,000 men enlisted in the first two months of the war. It must be recognised that these volunteers had to be trained and in many cases the men's ability to withstand the army life and therefore they had to be "hardened" The use of emotive recruiting posters, newspaper reports of German atrocities and pressure from employers and relatives of volunteers increased the pressure on men to recruit.

The desire for politicians to show they were in favour of their followers enlisting was immense. By the end of February 1914 the UVF had recruited around 90,000 men, one third of them in Belfast. In November 1913, led by Eoin MacNeill, a professor at University College, Dublin, the Irish Volunteers (IV) were established as a counterbalance to the UVF. Across Ireland their support soon topped that of the UVF, with as many as 40,000 in Ulster.

The British army was set up so that in the event of war it could rapidly expand through calling up members of the Army Reserve or Special Reserve. Reservists were either ex-soldiers or had undergone military training and agreed that in the event of war they would enlist. Overnight, regular battalions of the British army such as the 1st and 2nd Royal Irish Rifles could increase their numbers from a peacetime strength of around 500 to a wartime strength of 1,000. Many of the reservists in Belfast were men who had played an important role in the UVF or the IVs because they knew how to march and use firearms. When war broke out, they were called up to their battalions and could easily find themselves with men from the rival group of volunteers.

For those in the UVF there was another reason for joining up immediately. Although willing to resist Parliament, these men were passionately loyal to the British Crown.

JOINT SEND OFF RESERVISTS

Following close behind individual decisions to enlist was formal political encouragement to do so. When war was declared Redmond offered the IVs to the British government for the defence of Ireland so that British troops could leave Ireland for the front, a move which Carson had already made in the days leading up to the war

Any volunteers who enlisted were escorted through the town, often accompanied by a military band, on their way to either training camp or the front line. These events attracted large crowds and the opportunity was often taken to enlist eligible men.

The approach to these departures were often different depending on whether it was recruits from UVF or recruits from the Nationalist Volunteers.

Strabane Weekly News

5th September 1914

THE FIRST CASUALTY LIST TOTAL 5,127

A report has been received from the general headquarters of the Expeditionary Force giving a return of the casualties of one cavalry brigade and of three of the divisions less one brigade. It shows the following numbers:-

Killed 163

Wounded 686

Missing 4,278

Total 5,127

The return includes the names of officers only.

Strabane Weekly News

5th September 1914

THE ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS RECRUITS

"Are you Wanted for the above Regiment also for all Branches of His Majesty's Army. Young men of good character between 18 and 25 years of age are invited to join and have good prospects."

Strabane Chronicle

5th September 1914

SOME ULSTER FRIENDS OF THE KAISER REMARKABLE PRO-GERMAN SPEECHES

It may be urged that the following utterances should be allowed to sink into oblivion since Unionist Ulster now unconditionally supports the Government in the crisis which the empire is facing. If this were so we would gladly refrain from resurrecting them.

But militant Ulster Unionism is still as irreconcilable and as "conditionally loyal" as ever. It declares that the Ulster Volunteers will refuse their services to the empire if the Home Rule Bill is placed on the Statute Book Sir Edward Carson has repeatedly said that if the Government put Home Rule on the Statute Book the Provisional Government would be set up. We look for fulfilment of this promise.

The Belfast Evening Telegraph, the leading Unionist evening paper, commenting in an editorial on August 25th, 1914 on the suggestion to "put the Home Rule Bill upon the Statute Book with a time reservation," wrote

To do that would create a serious position. It would drive Ulster Loyalists into this position that as much as they desire to assist Britain's armed forces abroad at this juncture, and much as their help in that direction is needed, they would be compelled, through the Government's action, to remain here for the defence of their hearths and homes against an enemy no less deadly and embittered.

Strabane Chronicle

5th September 1914

CASUALTY LIST

The Press Bureau has issued the list of casualties amongst officers in the British Expeditionary Force. The list contains the names of 35 killed, 52 wounded and 69 missing. (some names included)

Keen regret is felt in Fermanagh at the news from the War Office to Lady Brooke, Colebrooke, that her brother-in-law, Major V. Brooke, 9th Lancers, was killed at Mons.

Strabane Weekly News

12th September 1914

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

An enthusiastic meeting of the women of Strabane and District was held ne the Pallidrome (kindly lent and decorated for the occasion) on the afternoon of 3rd inst. The chair was occupied by the Rev. John Doherty who, having read several apologies for non-attendance, explained the object of the meeting, pointing out the great necessity that existed for garments and socks for our soldiers and sailors, and urging the women to do all in their power to provide these things. He intimated that the Convent would assist and do all in its power for the committee.

Strabane Weekly News

12th September 1914

RECRUITMENT

The Right Hon. Earl of Leitrim, Officer Commanding, the Donegal Regiment, UVF, together with the battalion commanders, had made arrangements to place properly before the men the views of Sir Edward Carson as to the duties of Volunteers in the present crisis:-"Our duty is to Empire first. There is no time to be lost, and as large numbers of volunteers throughout the country are now considering the best course to adopt, they cannot do better than study the speech of Sir Edward Carson at Coleraine on Saturday.

Strabane Weekly News

12th September 1914

WAR PROPAGANDA

One or two isolated instances of refusal to volunteer for Lord Kitchener's Army in rural districts, simply because the pay was considered insufficient, have recently come to light. We would remind people that this is a most unpatriotic way of looking at the matter. While the pay may not be large, there are very considerable allowances attached and separation allowances are granted to the wives and families of married men, which will, in many instances be equally as large as the head of the family would earn at home. If the German armies were successful and the people of the United Kingdom at their mercy there would be little left afterwards for anyone.

Strabane Weekly News

12th September 19

VOTE FOR 500,000 BRITAIN TO PUT 1,200,000 IN THE FIELD INDUCEMENTS TO RECRUITS

Mr Asquith moved that an addition of 500,000 men of all ranks be made in the regular forces of the country.

Strabane Chronicle
12th September 1914

THE INNISKILLINGS IN ACTION
PRIVATE RIDDALL'S STORY

Private C. Riddall (No. 9028) Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who was wounded and who is at present in a London Hospital, has written a letter to a comrade. He then describes how he had previously been wounded by a German machine gun, and the agony he was in when he was sent to hospital.

Strabane Chronicle
12th September 1914

FURTHER CASUALTY LIST

The Press Bureau issued at midnight a list of the officers killed, wounded, and missing received from the headquarters of the Expeditionary Force on September 8th.

Officers Wounded

Miller, Lieut. I.F.R., Royal Inniskilling Fus.

Wounded N.C.O.'S and Men.

M'Connell, 806, Private F., North Irish Horse

Parker, 9560, Lance-Corpl. C., Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Chronicle
12th September 1914

HALF-A-MILLION MORE MEN REQUIRED FOR THE ARMY

The House of Commons to-day went into a Committee of Supply and on a vote "a half-million more men of all ranks for the Army.

Strabane Chronicle
12th September 1914

STRABANE WOMEN AND THE WAR: RELIEF OF DISTRESS:
ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING

An enthusiastic meeting of the women of Strabane and vicinity was held in the Pallidrome (kindly lent and decorated for the occasion on Thursday 3rd September, at 3.30 o'clock. The chair was occupied by Rev. Father John Doherty, P.P., V.F., ... explained the objective of the meeting, pointing out the great necessity that existed for garments and socks for our soldiers and sailors and urging the women to do all in their power to provide these things. He intimated that the Convent would do all in their power to assist the committee. He then called on Captain J.C. Herdman, who described in detail the articles necessary, after which a resolution approving of the object of the meeting was proposed by Mr. Edward Gallagher, J.P., and seconded by Mr. R.J. Blair.

The next resolution was proposed by Rev. Canon Delap, and seconded by Rev. C.K. Toland. This resolution proposed as president her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn; Vice-presidents, Mrs Smyth and Mrs Gallagher; secretary, Mrs J.C, Herdman; treasurer, Mrs Toner.

Strabane Chronicle
12th September 1914

CHARGES AGAINST INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

On Saturday evening a special court was held at Limavady, before Mr. J.D. Boyd, J.P., when three young men dressed in the uniform of the 4th Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers, named T.J. Moore, Samuel M'Ilroy, and William Rice, were charged by Constable Carr, of Ballerena with being absent from their regiment without leave. It transpired that they were stationed at Leenan Fort, County Donegal. His Worship remanded them to Derry Jail pending an escort.

Strabane Chronicle
12th September 1914

TYRONES MAN'S ESCAPE FROM GERMANS
THRILLING TALE TOLD BY CORPORAL O'DONNELL

Last week I reproduced the substance of an interview with a private of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers who had returned from the front and was at the time I saw him in Naas Depot. This was the first real personal experience of a British soldier told in this country straight from the front.

Corporal O'Donnell is a highly intelligent, well educated, young man, a native of Omagh.

Strabane Weekly News

19th September 1914

WAR PROPAGANDA

An advertisement appearing in this week's issue sets forth the official statement of the weekly separation allowances made to the wives and children of soldiers on active service with Lord Kitchener's Army, and we would specially direct the attention of all readers desirous of serving the Army, but who are held back by domestic reasons, to the announcement. The ordinary artisan or workman need have no fear on taking up service in the Army that his wife and family will be left penniless at home. On the contrary in many instances the amount of income from all sources would be greater than the breadwinner could earn at his ordinary employment.

Strabane Weekly News
19th September 1914

LOCAL HOSPITALS FOR HELPING THE WAR WOUNDED

Practically the whole of the Ards Demesne in County Donegal has been offered to the Government by Captain Sir Peter Van B, Stewart-Bam and Lady Stewart-Bam as camping ground, convalescent home, a place for prisoners of war, refugees etc. or for any other purpose the Government may wish. Sir Peter and Lady Stewart-Bam have also offered to give sufficient peat and fuel to any number of men the Government may decide to have in the demesne and to give every facility. This offer has been made for the duration of the war or three years certain.

Strabane Weekly News
19th September 1914

Report of the death of Lord John Hamilton – these reports are now labelled as premature and dismissed as incorrect by Baronscourt. Sir John was in action with his regiment, but he has not been struck

Strabane Weekly News
19th September 1914

SIR EDWARD CARSON'S MARRIAGE

The "Times" of to-day (Friday) says –Sir Edward Carson was married yesterday to Miss Ruby Frewen, elder daughter of Colonel Frewen, late commanding the 16th Lancers.

Strabane Weekly News
19th September 1914

STRABANE VOLUNTEERS ENTERTAINED

A complimentary dinner was given in the Abercorn Arms Hotel, Strabane to a number of members of the U.V.F. who have enlisted in Lord Kitchener's Army. Messrs E. Stevenson. Bertie Ingram, E. Ingram, Howard Lavery, Sydney Lavery, Quentin Snodgrass and R Pollock were the guests of the evening.

Strabane Weekly News
19th September 1914

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS THE CASUALTY LIST

The following have been admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley:- Capt G.W. Robinson, Lance-Corporal R Farr, Pte J. O'Reilly, Pte J. Stewart, Pte R. Courtney, Pte J. Harvey, Pte W.R. M'Crea, Pte H.M. M'Laren, Lance-Corporal B. O'Reilly, Corporal E. Edenborough, Corporal J. Manly, Lance-Corporal S. Taylor, Pte J Thompson, Corporal J. Hanley, Lance-Corporal J. Preston

Strabane Weekly News
19th September 1914

ADVERTISEMENT: KITCHENER'S ARMY OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON WEEKLY SEPARATION ALLOWANCES

Strabane Chronicle
19th September 1914

BLANKETS FOR THE ARMY IMMENSE SUPPLY REQUIRED

The Press Bureau states that an immense supply of blankets is immediately required for the use of Lord Kitchener's new armies.

Strabane Chronicle

19th September 1914

INNISKILLINGS SUFFER: FURTHER LIST OF CASUALTIES

The Press Bureau has issued the following list of admissions of wounded men to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, on 1st September:-

Lance-Corpl. R. Farr, 8015, Inniskilling Fus.

Pte J. O'Reilly, 10475, Inniskilling Fus

Pte J. Stewart, 6665, Inniskilling Fus

The following admissions of wounded, non-commissioned officers and men from the Expeditionary Force to the First Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge, are reported under date 2nd September:-

Corp. J. Hanley, 10286, Royal Inniskilling F.

Pte. R. Hyndman, 6934, Royal Inniskilling Fus.

Lce-Corp. J. Preston, 8084, Royal Innis. Fus.

Officer wounded

Capt. G.W. Robinson,

The following admissions of wounded non-commissioned officers and men from the Expeditionary Force to the Connaught Hospital, Aldershot are reported, under date 2nd September, 1914:-

Corpl. A. Edenborough, 5519, 6th Inniskilling Dragoons

Corporal J. Manly, 6143, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

L. Cpl. S. Taylor, 10124, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Pvt. J. Thompson, 10558, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Chronicle

19th September 1914

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES

The Press Bureau on Friday night issued the appended casualty lists. The following casualties are reported from the general headquarters of the Expeditionary Force, under date 15th September:-

Sergt. J. Horgan, 8288, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Sergt. W. Murrell, 9355, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private S. Ritchie, 9088, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Sergt. T. Wilkinson, 4816, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

WOUNDED AT BRIGHTON HOSPITAL

Private P. Maguire, 8239, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private J. Reilly, 8144, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private T. Whelan, 7826, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private A. Whitfield, 8708, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Chronicle

19th September 1914

INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

FURTHER CASUALTY LIST

ADMISSIONS TO NETLEY HOSPITAL

The following admissions of wounded non-commissioned officers and men from the Expeditionary Force to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, are reported under date 29th August:-

Private R. Courtney, 9320, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private J. Harvey, 6686, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private W.R. M'Crea, 8408, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private H. M'Laren, 7787, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Lance-Corpl. B. O'Reilly, 10432, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Weekly News

26th September 1914

BRITISH NAVAL DISASTER

THREE CRUISERS TORPEDOED

... His Majesty's ships *Aboukir* (Captain John E. Drummond) and *Hogue* (Captain Wilmot S. Nicholson), and *Cressy* (Captain Robert W. Johnson) had been sunk by submarines in the North Sea.

A considerable number (of crew) were saved by H.M.S. *Lowestoft* (Captain Theobald W.B. Kennedy) and a division of destroyers, trawlers and boats.

Strabane Weekly News

26th September 1914

APPEAL FOR WORTHY OBJECTIVE STRABANE NURSES AT THE FRONT

A letter received from the Duchess of Abercorn, president of the St John's Ambulance Association for Tyrone and Miss Sinclair, Hollyhill, Battalion organise of the North Tyrone Volunteer Nursing Corps to inform the public that the Ulster Volunteers of North Tyrone have been honoured by having their Volunteer hospital requisitioned by the French government for service during the War. The hospital which will leave as soon as it can be equipped will be stationed at Pau and may be utilised in rendering welfare services to many of our wounded Irish soldiers. Already the hospital has been completely staffed with volunteer doctors and nurses ... The St John's Ambulance Association have approved of the scheme

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

LORD JOHN HAMILTON

A report which first appeared in the "Pall Mall Gazette," and which was copied to many Irish newspapers, was circulated towards the close of last week that Lord John Hamilton of the Irish Guards, and brother of his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, had been killed in action. It has, however, transpired since that Lord John is still alive. It was with feelings of much relief that his family and public in County Tyrone learned of his safety.

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

NORTH IRISH HORSE AT THE FRONT A TROOPER'S EXPERIENCE CASTLEDERG MAN'S INTERESTING ACCOUNT

Owing to the rigours of the Press censorship little news has come through of the doings of the North Irish Horse at the front. Indeed, it is not even generally known that three hundred of these sturdy young yeomen have been in the fighting line for over a month.

Among the wounded was Trooper Kyle, a young Castlederg man who has been invalided to the headquarters of his squadron – B – at Brandywell Road grounds, Londonderry.

A few pertinent queries, however, which were answered readily, established the fact that he had much interesting information to divulge.

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

RECRUITMENT

Recruitment for the Donegal Battalion of the Ulster Division is going briskly, and a very good response has been made by the members of the Donegal Regiment. In St. Johnston over 70 men have come forward, in Ballyarnett and Culmore 50, and 20 each from Mulroy and Donegal. A very strong contingent will be recruited. The physique of the men is splendid. The first contingent, which should be about 300 strong, goes into camp on Friday, and the rest will be sent along later.

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

It was at Cambrai that they got their baptism of fire, and all accounts go to show that the gallant Northerners came through the ordeal brilliantly. Among the wounded was Trooper Kyle, a young Castlederg man who has just been invalided to the headquarters of his squadron – B – at Brandywell Road grounds, Londonderry. He had an arm broken when engaged in pursuing a company of fleeing Germans towards the close of the battle but has recovered so rapidly that he hopes to rejoin his comrades in France when the next draft is sent out in the course of a few days.

Strabane Chronicle
26th Sept 1914

ROYAL ASSENT TO HOME RULE END OF MEMORABLE SESSION UNPRECEDENTED SCENES IN COMMONS

The Home Rule Bill received the Royal Assent on Friday in the House of Lords, and there followed subsequently in the House of Commons a scene unprecedented and unparalleled in British annals. The whole assembly rose, as did likewise the occupants of the Strangers' gallery and the Press Gallery, while the members sang "God Save the King". Then a Radical member shouted out, "God Save Ireland"; to

which Mr. John Redmond responded in ringing tones, "And God save England". Cheers loud and prolonged followed.

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

HINTS FOR FARMERS
THE WAR AND FARMING INDUSTRY

In a previous notice to farmers, the Department called attention to the importance of keeping sufficient seed of oats and wheat to sow a largely extended area next season. Wheat, Winter Oats.

WOMEN'S GROUPS FOR SOLDIERS' COMFORTS

First meeting of the women of Strabane and vicinity was held in the Pallidrome on Thursday 3rd September 1914.

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

LOCAL HOSPITALS FOR HELPING THE WAR WOUNDED

The letter of the Duchess of Abercorn and Miss Sinclair (Holyhill) which will be found in this issue, speaks well for the vitality of the Ulster Volunteers Movement in North Tyrone. The offer of a hospital staff has been accepted by the French Government. The object of the letter is to appeal for subscriptions for those wishing to take a share in the equipment of the hospital, the cost of which is being borne by North Tyrone Unionists. Not everyone can go to the Front but at least they can help financially to succour the sick and wounded who have been fighting on their behalf.

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

LOCAL PEOPLE INVOLVED IN VARIOUS MOVEMENTS/ORGANISATIONS

Captain Ambrose St. Quintin Ricardo DSO, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been appointed Commanding Officer of the Tyrone Battalion, Ulster Division, of Lord Kitchener's Army.

Captain Ricardo, who has been in command of the depot at Omagh since the outbreak of war, entered the Army in 1888, and was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1897. Captain Ricardo who resides at Sion Mills, County Tyrone, married in 1893 Elizabeth Alice, second daughter of Mr. Emerson T. Herdman, DL, Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News
26th September 1914

RECRUITMENT

Recruitment for the Donegal Battalion of the Ulster Division is going briskly, and a very good response has been made by the members of the Donegal Regiment. IN St. Johnston over 70 men have come forward, in Ballyarnett and Culmore 50, and 20 each from Mulroy and Donegal. A very strong contingent will be recruited. The physique of the men is splendid. The first contingent, which should be about 300 strong, goes into camp on Friday, and the rest will be sent along later.

Strabane Chronicle
3rd October 1914.

IRISH NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

At a special meeting of the Strabane Irish National Volunteers, held in their drill hall, Barrack Street, last night the Very Rev. John Doherty, P.P., V.F., presiding, the following resolutions, proposed by Mr. Edward Gallagher, J.P., and seconded by Mr. Eugene Conroy, chairman, of the Strabane Urban Council, were passed:-

"That we the Strabane Volunteers, express our warmest approval of Mr. Redmond's Manifesto" (Cheers)

"That we condemn and repudiate the action of the minority of the Provisional Committee who are endeavouring to create disunion in the ranks of the Volunteers." (Cheers)

"That we tender our heartiest congratulations to the Irish Parliamentary party for their persevering labours and success in placing the Home Rule Bill on the Statute Books." (Cheers)

The resolutions were supported, amongst others, by the Rev. Chairman, and Mr. Dan M'Caffery. The meeting was large, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. Mr. Redmond's name being greeted with rounds of applause. The Rev. Peter Tracy, C.C., was in attendance.

Strabane Chronicle
3rd October 1914

THE PLAGUE OF SPIES

Espionage plays so large a part in the conduct of the war by The Germans that it is difficult to avoid further reference to the subject. They have evidently never forgotten the saying of Frederick the Great – “When Marshall Soubise goes to war, he is followed by a hundred cooks; when I take the field I am preceded by a hundred spies”

Men in plain clothes signal to the German lines from points in the hands of the enemy by means of coloured lights and puffs of smoke from chimneys by day.

Strabane Chronicle

3rd October 1914

SPY USES CHURCH CLOCK AS SEMAPHORE

One spy of this kind was found by our troops hidden in a church tower. His presence was only discovered through the erratic movements of the hands of the church clock, which he was using to signal to his friends by means of an improvised semaphore code.

Amongst the precautions taken by us to guard against spying is the publication of the following notice, copies of which have been printed in French, and posted:-

Motor cars and bicycles, other than those carrying soldiers in uniform, may not circulate on the roads.

Inhabitants may not leave localities in which they reside between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Inhabitants may not quit their homes after 8 p.m.

No person may on any pretext pass through the British lines without authorisation.

Towards the end of the war a larger than life “spy” was widely known and written about. She was an exotic dancer and had a series of lovers many of whom were high-ranking military officers from various nations. She was tried, convicted and sentenced to death in October 1917. Although the evidence against her was circumstantial and vague she was convicted. German documents unsealed in the 1970s proved that she was truly a German agent.

Strabane Chronicle

3rd October 1914

SPLIT IN NATIONALISM:

The third Home Rule Bill, introduced in 1912, which led to the crisis in Ireland between the majority Nationalist population and the Unionists in Ulster. A Third Home Rule Bill had been proposed in 1912 and was under discussion during 1914. The Unionists formed the Ulster Volunteer Force (U.V.F.) which would resist Home Rule by force – if necessary. In response Nationalists formed the Irish Volunteers in order to safeguard the granting and implementation of Home Rule. This was primarily led by the grouping of a number of nationalist bodies and fronted by Eoin MacNeill a professor at University College, Dublin.

While Redmond took no role in the creation of the Irish Volunteers, when he saw how influential they had become he realised an independent body of such magnitude was a threat to his authority as leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, and therefore sought control of the organisation. He sought the authority to nominate half of the Executive Members.

In his speech at Woodenbridge, Co. Wicklow on 20th September 1914 he stated that “The interests of Ireland – of the whole of Ireland – are at stake in this war” and committed his followers to enlist. He felt it was in the future interest of All-Ireland Home Rule settlement to support the British war cause

This situation regarding the difference of opinions regarding recruitment of The Volunteers was included in a letter from the Office bearers of the Irish Volunteers in *The Strabane Chronicle* on 3rd October 1914. They called for a convention on 25th November 1914 to among other things “To declare that Ireland cannot with honour or safety, take part in foreign quarrels otherwise than through the free action of a National Government of her own; and to repudiate the claim of any man to offer up the blood and lives of the sons of Irishmen and Irishwomen to the service of the British Empire, while no National Government which could speak and act for the people of Ireland is allowed to exist”

Redmond further reminded the Irish Volunteers that when they returned after an expected short war at the end of 1915, they would be an army capable of confronting any attempt to exclude Ulster from the operation of the Government of Ireland Act.

Those who disagreed with Redmond reacted angrily against his support for the war, and nearly all of the original leaders of the Volunteers grouped together to dismiss his appointees. However, the great majority of the Volunteers supported Redmond, and became known as the National Volunteers.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd October 1914

GREAT BATTLE CONTINUES ALLIES GAINING GROUND

**DESPERATE GERMAN ONSLAUGHTS REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSS
ENEMY'S HEAVY ARTILLERY AT WORK**

Saturday. The following communique was published at three o'clock yesterday afternoon:-
On our left wing a very violent general action has been in progress between those of our forces operating between the Somme and the Oise and the enemy's Army Corps in the district of Tergnier and St. Quentin.

**Strabane Weekly News
3rd October 1914**

**SIEGE WARFARE ON THE AISNE
ENEMY GRADUALLY RETIRING. HUGE GERMAN ARTILLERY
SMALL MORAL EFFECT OF HOWITZER FIRE
TOMMY AND THE "BLACK MARIAS"
QUAINT GERMAN LETTERS**

The Feeling That We Are Victorious
The Nineteenth (Sept 1914)
The Twentieth (Sept 1914)
Our Splendid Infantry
Information About the Enemy
A Quaint German Letter
A German Officer's Letter

**Strabane Weekly News
3rd October 1914**

LETTER FROM E.C. HERDMAN DL – REPORT FROM THE FRONT

Herdman was a captain in the North Irish Horse and attached to the headquarters staff of Sir John French (Field Marshall). "Hard times for the Gees (horses). Stationed near a small town about the size of Strabane – hard to find places for man or beast. Our guns never cease. It is hard to believe they are slaughtering each other so close. The Germans are more ready to surrender to the British than to the French German prisoners are all absolutely ravenous – our soldiers had to separate them with the butt ends of their rifles or they would have fought with each other for the food. There are no oats for the horses – they have to forage from the fields. "

**Strabane Weekly News
3rd October 1914**

9th (SERVICE) BATTALION ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

When the record of the Tyrone Regiment of the Ulster Volunteer Force comes to be written up it will be found that it has already had a history of no little importance. It was the first regiment to be completely organised in Ulster, and in many respects, it became entitled to the reputation of being the most efficient regiment of the U.V.F. Its organisation was so complete that it could be mobilised on very short notice and being composed of the best specimens of the Protestant population in Ulster it was little wonder that neighbouring counties looked to Tyrone for guidance. It had as Regimental Adjutant an officer not only popular and resourceful but thorough in the smallest detail. That officer was Captain Ricardo, D.S.O. late of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

**Strabane Weekly News
3rd October 1914**

**THE ROLL OF HONOUR
CASULTIES IN INNISKILLINGS AND BEDFORDS**

Killed – 1 officer named;
Inniskillings Wounded – 3 named;
Bedfordshire Regiment Killed – 12 named;
Bedfordshire Regiment Wounded – 45 named;
Bedfordshire Regiment Missing – 42 named

**Strabane Weekly News
3rd October 1914**

MISSING SOLDIERS

Mrs Eliza Jane McNulty who resides in Ballybofey and who has three sons in the army has received intimation that her son, Private Frederick McNulty, Royal Inniskilling Fusileers, has been missing since the 18th inst. (September) Private McNulty has been in the firing line since the battle of Mons

Strabane Chronicle
3rd October 1914

**THE NORTH IRISH HORSE
AT THE FRONT UNDER LORD COLE
SLEEPING IN THE OPEN**

Mrs E.C. Herdman, Carricklee, Strabane has received several interesting letters from her husband, Mr. E.C. Herdman, D.L., captain of the North Irish Horse, which are attached to the Headquarters Staff of Field-Marshal Sir John French
Rather Tired of Rations of bacon;
Ross (Lord Justice Ross's son);
Is in an exceeding strong position;
Covered with broken and bent German lances;

Strabane Chronicle
3rd October 1914

**VOLUNTEERS CAPTURED
MINORITY EXPEL MAJORITY**

The following statement was issued on Thursday night from the Headquarters of the Irish Volunteers, 41 Kildare Street, Dublin

Strabane Chronicle
3rd October 1914

INNISKILLING SERGEANT'S EXPERIENCE

Sergeant T. Irwin, 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who has been wounded in an engagement, and has just arrived at the Royal Infirmary, Bristol, along with 200 others who are wounded gives his experiences in a letter to his brother, Mr. R. Irwin, Castlederg.

Strabane Weekly
10th October 1914

STRABANE NURSE FOR THE FRONT

Scenes of enthusiasm were witnessed at Strabane railway station on the departure of members of the St. John's Ambulance Association, Tyrone, for Red Cross work in France, in connection with the Tyrone U.V.F. hospital which has been accepted by the French Government for service at Pau, in Southern France. The volunteers included Nurse Wright, Workhouse, Strabane; Nurse Patrick, Workhouse, Castlederg, and several members of the Association. The Duchess of Abercorn was present.

Strabane Weekly News
10th October 1914

**POSITION OF IRISH VOLUNTEERS
MR. REDMOND'S LIP SERVICE**

Mr. John Redmond referred to the position of the Irish Volunteers, with regard to the war, and contrasted the position in Ireland to-day with that of German and Poland. The only choice before Irishmen, he said, the choice of honour of sanity, and of statesmanship, was to defend, wherever it was necessary, either at home or abroad, the liberties of Ireland and the position which she has won in the Empire, to join the democracies of the Empire in defending those liberties from declared enemies.

Strabane Weekly News
10th October 1914

**WITH THE VOLUNTEERS AT FINNER
TYRONE MEN NOT FORGOTTEN**

The reading room which has been promoted by the Rev. Chancellor Naylor at the G.N.R. Tea Rooms, Bundoran for the use of the Volunteers at Finner Camp, has been such a marked success that the skating rink has now been opened in addition, the shareholders having kindly lent it for the purpose.

Strabane Weekly News
10th October 1914

**THE ROLL - TYRONE U.V.F. FINNER
WITH THE 9th BATTALION ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS**

The following is a list of the men who have answered the call:-

Names of soldiers from Strabane, Artigarvan, Donemana, Bready, Donagheady, Ballaghlane, Rooskey, Killyclooney, Cullion, Mountcastle, Desertone, Longfield, Sion Mills

Strabane Weekly News

10th October 1914

SOLDIER IN STRABANE WHO ESCAPED FROM THE GERMANS

I interviewed today at Strabane one of the famous ten who so cleverly escaped from the Germans after being captured at the battle of Mons.

At this battle he was wounded in the leg and made a prisoner.

He is at present being nursed in Strabane.

He is a stoutly-built young man and belongs to a Regiment which we are all proud of, but for obvious reasons he does not wish to disclose his identity, and on a point of honour I will not do so.

Strabane Weekly News

17th October 1914

NATIONALIST VOLUNTEERS POOR RESPONSE TO MR. REDMOND'S APPEAL OFFICIAL ANXIETY

The days pass, and one looks in vain for any sign that the Nationalist Volunteers are rushing to the colours in answer to Mr. Redmond's appeal. We have it on the authority of the "official" Nationalist Press that the entire body of the Volunteers is solidly behind Mr. Redmond. Last Sunday's demonstration in Dublin was a direct contradiction of that statement, so far, at any rate, as Dublin is concerned. Three or four thousand Volunteers, many of them armed with the rifles that are so zealously guarded behind the barbed-wire defences of the offices in Kildare Street, paraded at the bidding of Mr. John M'Neill. And Mr. John M'Neill is definitely opposed to Mr. Redmond and all his works.

Mr Redmond himself appears to be getting apprehensive about the failure of his legions to enlist, and although he protested vigorously at Waterford that the Volunteers were not "funking the war" he sought to show why there was the delay. Ireland was an agricultural country, he said, and emigration had taken away most of the youth of the country than could be spared. He then went on to claim that Ireland had more men in the firing line in proportion to her population than England, Scotland, or Wales, and for this statement he received a snub from the "Westminster Gazette" for comparisons which tend to become recriminations. The latest recruiting figures show that approximately 28,000 men have enlisted in Ireland since the beginning of August. These figures may, or may not, include the Ulster Division. They probably do; and they provide a fairly strong answer to Mr. Redmond's assertion.

The anxiety with which the Nationalists are viewing the poor response Ireland has so far made to the appeal for recruits is becoming apparent in the comments of their newspapers, and the following very pointed remarks in the "Irish Independent", may have some effect:- "Unfortunately, says that papers, "the question of enlistment and the formation of an Irish Brigade which Mr. Redmond wanted is being overshadowed by the contest for the control of the Volunteers. Volunteers and other are passing resolutions all over the country in support of Mr. Redmond's attitude towards the war and his manifesto appealing for the establishment of an Irish Brigade; but what practical effect have any of these bodies given to their own resolutions? Are they going to fight with the Allies, with whom all Ireland is in sympathy? So far as we can see, the enlistments have in no way been in proportion to the number of resolutions passed. The Germans are not carrying on their formidable campaign by merely passing resolutions. They are lining the trenches in millions. It would be better if we were more resolute and less revolutionary. Men are wanted, not resolutions. The latter when not translated into the prompt and decisive action demanded by the international crisis, in which our whole future, our homes, our liberty, and our property are involved may well be described as scraps of paper. Battles cannot be won by scraps of paper."

The first number of the journal which is to represent Mr. Redmond's section of the Nationalist Volunteers will be published this week. Its editor is Mr. J.P. Gaynor, B.L., a member of the journalistic profession.

Strabane Weekly News

24th October 1914

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

In aid of the hospital in South France which has been established by the Unionists in Tyrone there will be a splendid concert and cinematograph entertainment held in Sion Mills this Friday evening, and also tomorrow evening at 8.00p.m. In addition to a high-class vocal programme there will be an excellent exhibition of war pictures. The object of the concert is the most deserving one, and we hope many from the district will endeavour to be present.

Strabane Weekly News

24th October 1914

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

We wish to remind readers of the social which is to come off in the Orange Hall, Newtownstewart, on next Thursday night, which promises to be one of the great events of the season. Patriotic music will be given including the French, Belgian, Russian and British National Anthems.

Strabane Weekly News

24th October 1914

BELFIAN REFUGEES

A meeting of Strabane District Council was held on Monday evening, Mr. Eugene Conroy (Chairman) presiding. The other members present were Messrs. James Tourish, Patrick Brannigan, Thomas K. Howie, John Brown, John Perry and James White. The Chairman said that since the last meeting he had received a further letter from the local Government Board with reference to Belgian Refugees and cancelling their previous letter on the subject. The Local Government Board now asked the Relief Committee to furnish them with the names of any person willing to take these refugees. Those available were chiefly men with wives and families of one, two or three children, and were principally mechanics or market gardeners.

Strabane Weekly News

24th October 1914

**LETTERKENNY IRISH VOLUNTEERS
THE GRAND REVIEW AND THE ABSENT GUNS**

The above company paraded in full panoply of war in the Market Square of Letterkenny on Sunday morning. The ranks have not been depleted by the loss of men. Not one of the gallant band has been so base or so dry as to take the "Saxon shilling" Etc, Etc.

Strabane Weekly News

24th October 1914

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES NATIONAL RELIEF FUND

Subscriptions from members of Strabane Presbyterian Church received by Right Hon. Edward Archdale, H.M.L., Co Tyrone, per Mr. R.J. Blair, Strabane. Etc, Etc.

Strabane Weekly News

24th October 1914

THE 9th SERVICE BATTALION ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

The 9th battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers) is undergoing a thorough practical course of training, and a musketry is being pushed on as rapidly as possible at both the long and miniature ranges, in conjunction with the other battalions forming the brigade. Etc. Etc

Strabane Chronicle

24th October 1914

**WAR PROPAGANDA
IRELAND THROUGH GERMAN GLASSES**

The condition of affairs in Ireland attracts the widest attention in the German press. Columns are devoted to it and a picture is drawn with not the slightest resemblance to truth and with colouring so gross that we fail to even admire the imagination of the writers.

One article doing the rounds tells that the Irish leadership, John Redmond, with his 25 followers, has been ousted from control of the Volunteer movement, a movement under Sir Roger Casement, has now assumed an anti-British character and is working for an armed and independent Ireland.

The British Government, we are further told, is treating the Irish, not a white men, but as slaves. Martial law reigns throughout Ireland, and coasts of Ireland are thickly strewn with mines and every harbour is closed. There are no longer either imports or exports and no foreigners are permitted to land in the country.

Strabane Weekly News

31st October 1914

**THE ULSTER DIVISION
SIR E. CARSON'S MESSAGE
OFFICERS GAZETTED**

Lieutenant-Colonel James Craig, M.P., Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, Ulster Division, has received the following telegram from the Right Honourable Sir Edward Carson, K.C., M.P., leader of the Irish Unionist Parliamentary Party:-

Congratulations to you and all officers gazetted to Ulster Volunteer Regiments of Ulster Division. Good luck.

Third Brigade Lieut.-Colonel Captain A. Ricardo D.S.O.

Strabane Chronicle

7th November 1914

**BRIGADE ANNIHILATED
ENEMY'S TRENCHES FILLED WITH WATER**

(Press Association War Special Paris Tuesday)

The "Gaulois" to-day recounts annihilations of a Wurtemberg brigade in the valley of the Yser. At midday the Wurtembergers in formidable numbers had succeeded under protection of their artillery in crossing the Yser. After a week's fighting the river was choked with sunken boats, trunks of trees, bodies of men and carcasses on horses. It was over a veritable bridge of corpses the enemy passed.

Saturday Strabane Chronicle

7th November 1914

BULGARIA'S ATTITUDE

Any lingering hope that the Turkish Government would have the strength to repudiate the action of its naval officers who bombarded the Russian ports must now be abandoned.

Saturday Strabane Chronicle

7th November 1914

RESCUED BY DESTROYER

200 from the crew of the *Hermes* have been rescued by destroyers

Strabane Chronicle

7th November 1914

ULSTER LOSSES AT THE FRONT

The names of several Ulster officers wounded appear in Thursday's casualty list.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C.G. Stewart, D.S.O. 36th Brigade R.F.A. who is a brother of Sir H.H. Stewart, D.L., OF Carrickmore who was High Sheriff of Tyrone in 1903 etc

Lieutenant C.R. Heygate, Yorkshire Light Infantry wounded is a son of the late Mr Wm Unwin Heygate, second son of the first holder of the Heygate baronetcy at Bellarena, Co. Derry

Second Lieutenant A.C. Lyons, 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers wounded, is an officer of the 3rd Battalion from Omagh.

Strabane Chronicle

7th November 1914

DYING SOLDIER - PRIEST

Gives absolution to comrade. They pass away together.

Strabane Weekly News

7th November 1914

THE 9th SERVICE BATTALION ROYAL INNISKILLING (TYRONE VOLUNTEERS)

Letter from Lieut-Colonel A Ricardo Commanding 9th (S) Bn. R. Inniskilling Fus. (Tyrone Volunteers) Giving advice on recent Army Order granting separation allowance, under certain conditions, to the mothers and other dependants of unmarried soldiers during the present war. ETC. ETC

Strabane Weekly News

7th November 1914

**THE ULSTER DIVISION
PREPARATIONS FOR WINTERING IN CAMPS
EQUIPMENT AND PAYMENT**

Preparations for wintering in the camps at Ballykinlar, Newcastle, Clandeboye, Shane's Castle, and Finner are proceeding apace. The uniforms and equipment for the men are also being rapidly supplied now.

Strabane Weekly News

14th November 1914

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES - R. ARBUCKLE

Information has been received by Mr. Thos. Arbuckle that his brother, Private R. Arbuckle, No. 7789, of the 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded at Ypres. He received a bad bullet wound in his stomach and would have been killed but for the fact that the bullet first struck the ground. He also received a slight wound on the left hand. Private Arbuckle joined the army about 11 years ago, and since then he has seen foreign service in Malta, Egypt and China. He is at present lying in hospital at Aldershot.

IFF: Sergeant Robert Arbuckle, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 31st Jan 1918

CWGC: Sergt. R Arbuckle, 7789, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 31 Jan 1918

Strabane Chronicle

14th November 1914

STRABANE WOMEN'S SOLDIERS AND SAILORS RELIEF COMMITTEE

Mrs Trimble begs to acknowledge the following gifts for soldiers and sailors:

Mrs McElhinney, Miss Stewart, Liskey, Mrs Bates, Mrs Thompson, Miss Gray, Miss Stanley

Mrs Hoy, Mrs McNicholl, Mrs Clifford, Mrs Burns, Mr Phil Quigley, Mrs Berry

Miss Connolly, Strabane Golf Club, Mrs Fulton, Edymore

Strabane Weekly News

14th November 1914

**ULSTER AND THE WAR
RECRUITING IN PROVINCE
STRENGTH OF THE BRIGADES**

Up to Tuesday evening the total number of officers and men enrolled in the Ulster Division was 13,227. Although recruiting is, of course, less active now than a few weeks ago, when the Division was being formed, men are presenting themselves for enlistment every day, and there are certainly no lowering of the high standard of physique. In the various camps the training is being energetically proceeded with, and the troops are making excellent progress, thanks to the keen interest they take in their work and the ardour and enthusiasm which animate them.

In the same paper there is a report on OMAGH Y.M.C.A. on their usual meeting and "After the usual opening preliminaries the Chairman introduced Mr. J., Hutton, B.A. who delivered an address on "Our Duty to our Country". He emphasised the necessity of a high standard of moral rectitude both in the nation and in the individual. He showed how that when a nation strayed away from the upright path it usually met with disaster he gave instances from Bible history.

Strabane Weekly News

14th November 1914

**PATRIOTIC CONCERT IN STRABANE
ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINMENT: TRIBUTE TO MRS R. TONER**

A grand patriotic concert was given in the Pallidrome, Railway Street, Strabane on Tuesday evening. The concert was in aid of the Strabane Women's War Relief Fund. The stage was prettily decorated, and side by side were the Union Jack and the Green Flag. Mrs R. Toner was the principal promoter of the concert. The following acted as stewards; Messers Dan M'Anaw, Andrew Doherty, James Craig, William M'Elhinney, John Hackett, and Jack Stevenson. Programme stewards – Scout L. M'Guinness and Scout G. Elliott.

Contributors included Miss M. Lafferty, Mr Victor Vernon, Mrs Ludlow, Mr D.D. M'Guinness, Mrs Andy Doherty, Capt. J.C. Herdman.

The Very Rev. John Doherty, P.P., V.V., Strabane thanked all. Mr W.B. Smyth seconded the vote of thanks.

Strabane Weekly News

14th November 1914

**ROUTE MARCH FROM FINNER
VOLUNTEERS VISIT DONEGAL**

Two hundred and fifty members of the Ulster Volunteers Force from Donegal in training from Finner camp were accorded a hearty reception in Donegal town on Friday. The occasion was a route march.

Strabane Weekly News

14th November 1914

ULSTER AND THE WAR

**RECRUITING IN PROVINCE
STRENGTH OF THE BRIGADES**

Up to Tuesday evening the total number of officers and men enrolled in the Ulster Division was 13,227. Although recruiting is, of course, less active now than a few weeks ago, when the Division was being formed, men are presenting themselves for enlistment every day, and there is certainly no lowering of the high standards of physique.

The Division is composed of three brigades, each having four battalions, and the actual strength of the latter is as follows:-

(Summary) 1st Brigade – Belfast areas

2nd Brigade – Antrim, Down, Armagh

3rd Brigade 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers) 916; 10th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers), 922; 11th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Donegal and Fermanagh Volunteers), 703; 14th Royal Irish Rifles (Young Citizens Volunteers), 1,134.

**Strabane Weekly News
14th November 1914**

**LORD KITCHENER ON THE WAR
GLOWING TRIBUTE TO THE ARMY
EMPIRE AT STAKE
CALL FOR MORE MEN**

**Strabane Weekly News
14th November 1914**

**STRABANE WOMENS WAR RELIEF FUND COMMITTEE
PATRIOTIC CONCERT**

On Tuesday evening, 10th inst., at the Pallidrome Strabane, a largely attended concert in aid of the Strabane Women's War Relief Fund Committee was held etc etc

**Strabane Weekly News
14th November 1914**

STRABANE U.V.F. AND FINNER CAMP

The members of Strabane U.V.F. gave an entertainment to the 9th Service Battalion (Tyrone) Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in the Lecture Hall on 11th inst. The Finner men at the Unionist Committee-rooms, Abercorn Square Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor, delivered a rousing address to the Finner men and the U.V.F...

The following contributed to the programme:- Sergeant S.E. Stevenson; G.M. Elliott; Sergeant L. Walsh; J.W. Buchanan; W.B. Smyth; Master Hopkins; John Davidson; John Browne; Captain J.C. Herdman; James Craig.

**Strabane Weekly News
14th November 1914**

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Information has been received by Mr. Thos. Arbuckle that his brother, Private R. Arbuckle, No. 7789, of the 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded at Ypres. He is at present lying in hospital at Aldershot. The relatives of Private R. Findlay, No. 3730, have had a notice intimating that he is in the General Hospital, St. Nazarre.

Two members of the Canadian Volunteers, on their way to the front from the Dominion, spent a few days at their homes in this district during the past week – Corporal Watson, son of Mr. Watson, Archill, (Newtownstewart) and Corporal R. Maguire, a native of Ballykeel district (Armagh)

**Strabane Weekly News
14th November 1914**

**CASUALTY LIST
INNISKILLINGS SUFFER HEAVILY**

List of named soldiers provided – approx. 35 names

**Strabane Weekly
14th November 1914**

R. FINDLAY

The relatives of Private R. Findlay, No. 3730, have had a notice intimating that he is in the General Hospital, St. Nazarre.

IFF: Born Castlederg. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Died Sat 20 July 1918.

CWGC: No mention of Findlay. Private Robert Finlay, 3730, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 27 Jul 1917.

Parents (Late Robert, Jane) from Lisnatunny, Newtownstewart, Tyrone.

Strabane Weekly News

21st November 1914

Major G.G.P. Humphreys, Welsh Regiment, who died from the effects of wounds, was the youngest son of Mr. T.W.D. Humphreys, Castlefinn, Co Donegal. He served in Uganda, East Africa and in China, and was A.D.C. to King Edward at the Coronation.

Strabane Weekly News

21st November 1914

CASUALTIES

Further casualty lists were issued last night, which included approx 7 names.

Strabane Weekly News

21st November 1914

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS AND THE IRISH BRIGADE STRIKING DEMONSTRATION IN BELFAST

SPEECHES BY MR. J DEVLIN, M.P. AND RIGHT REV. MONSIGNOR O'DOHERTY, P.P., OMAGH

A singularly striking demonstration took place in Belfast on Wednesday evening.

Right Rev. Monsignor O'Doherty, P.P., V.F., Omagh who was enthusiastically received, said he was glad of the opportunity to say a few words of encouragement to the boys of Belfast who were going away to prepare to fight for their country on the Continent, because in fighting side by side with the Allies they were fighting as well for their lives and their native land of Ireland.

He happened to be chaplain of the Inniskilling Fusiliers in his own parish, and although he was an aged man he had offered his services to the colonel commanding to go to the front as chaplain. Forty-four years ago, when he was a young man, he was a volunteer in the Franco-Prussian war. He did not carry a gun, "but he was a member of an ambulance corps at Sedan and assisted the French wounded and Turcos for four months.

Strabane Weekly News

21st November 1914

ULSTER AND THE WAR MILITARY APPOINTMENTS LIST OF NEW CHAPLAINS

109th Infantry Brigade Rev. Chancellor E.F. Naylor, B.D., Bundoran

109th Infantry Brigade – Rev John Cullen, Ballyshannon

The 109th Infantry Brigade is formed by 9th Service Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers)

11th Service Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Donegal and Fermanagh Volunteers)

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

LORD JOHN HAMILTON MISSING

News has been received at Baronscourt that Lord John Hamilton, brother of the Duke of Abercorn, is reported missing. Lord John who is the second son of the late Duke of Abercorn, K.G., is thirty-one years of age. He was educated at Wellington College, and, after serving for some time with the 3rd Battalion Royal Scots-formerly the Edinburgh Light Infantry Militia-he received a commission in the Irish Guards on 4th December 1901, and obtained his step on 2nd August 1902, being promoted to the rank of Captain on 2nd December 1909. He retired on half-pay on the 5th March 1913, and entered the Special Reserve, re-joining his regiment on the outbreak of the war. He unsuccessfully contested North Tyrone at the general election of December 1910.

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

CONFIRMED DEATH OF LORD JOHN HAMILTON

An officer in the Life Guards who is a prisoner in Germany has written to Duke of Abercorn informing him that he has come into possession of the late John Hamilton's watch and that he will forward it to the Duke at the earliest opportunity

Sympathy expressed on recent death of Capt Auchinleck

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

SION MILLS BED IN FRENCH HOSPITAL

In connection with the hospital at Pau, South France, established by the Unionists of North Tyrone, Sion Mills has contributed so well that a bed has been endowed and it will be known as the 'Sion Mills' bed. During the past few weeks the Duchess of Abercorn has received large subscriptions for this hospital

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

DEATH OF LORD JOHN HAMILTON

Genuine sorrow has been expressed all over the North-West at the news received last Friday that Lord John Hamilton was killed in action on the 9th inst. while leading a charge of the Guards, and deepest sympathy will be extended to the gallant young officer's mother, the Dowager Duchess of Abercorn, his young brother, Lord Claud Nigel Hamilton, and his sisters, Lady Alexandra Hamilton and the Countess of Wicklow, in their trying bereavement. Lord John was well known throughout Tyrone and was possessed of all those virtues and manly qualities which have ever belonged to his noble family. His personality will be missed at Baronscourt where he was a frequent visitor. Like all the other members of the family he was a strong and uncompromising Unionist, and in 1910 with great odds against him he fought North Tyrone in the Unionist interest against the late Mr. Redond Barry, afterwards Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and the fearless manner in which he then championed the cause he had so much at heart will be easily remembered. He got every Unionist vote which was polled, and that he was not successful was entirely due to the fact that the Nationalists held a better position on the register. His death at an early age is a severe blow to the cause of Unionism. His relatives will have some consolation in knowing that he died fighting for the country he loved, and that his life-blood flowed on behalf of the nation which his forefathers took such an active part in building up.

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

DONEGAL MEN AT THE FRONT

That the Irish are contributing their quota to Kitchener's Army can be seen from the reports received at home from the numbers of young men joining the army in Scotland from the Rosses and Gweedore, says a correspondent. In Kincasslagh parish on last Sunday the priests asked that the names of those who enlisted and their dependants be furnished them with a view to avail themselves of a portion of the Relief Fund contributed by the public. In this parish alone over fifty have enlisted, one family, that of Patrick O'Donnell of Mullaghduff, having contributed four sons and a grandson. Names provided.

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

COMMANDER BRIGGS' WOUNDS NOT SERIOUS

A telegram to the "Lokalanzeiger" from Friedrichsafen states that the wounds which Commander Briggs received in the recent air raid against the Zeppelens there was a head wound caused by shrapnel, and that it is not serious.

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

IRISH GENERAL KILLED TYRONE FAMILY BEREAVED

Details of the casualties in the repulse of the Prussian Guards at Ypres last week by the British infantry are beginning to come to hand.

Brigadier-General M'Mahon was the commanding officer of the 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers but during the recent fighting was in command of a brigade. His brother, Sir William M'Mahon, Master of the Rolls in Ireland was made a baronet in 1815 and the present holder of the title is Sir Lionel M'mahon. Bart.D.L. of Mountfield Lodge, Mountfield, County Tyrone.

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

NATIONALISTS AND RECRUITING

Now that the Nationalists are beginning to bestir themselves in Belfast in the matter of recruiting we can quite understand that they want to make the most of it in the papers.

Here is what the "Independent" in its editorial columns on Wednesday, said:- "It must be admitted that recruiting in the United Kingdom generally, and in Ireland especially, is not up to the mark. . . . In this connection one may recall Mr Redmond's statement a few weeks ago that he would get from the Government a return showing the comparative numbers of recruits enlisted since the commencement of the war from Ireland and from Great Britain. On Monday however Mr Asquith stated in the House of Commons that there were no precise of trustworthy figures available for such a return.

Strabane Weekly News

28th November 1914

DONEGAL INNISKILLING FUSILIER KILLED

Mr John Duncan, a large farmer residing at Ballagh House, Malin, County Donegal has just received notice from the War Office that his son, Private William Duncan, of the Royal Inniskilling had been killed at the front. ETC.ETC

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

JAMES MILLIGAN

John James Milligan an instructor of the National Volunteers in Strabane now serving at the front writes home that he is well.

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

OMAGH BROTHERS IN FIRING LINE

Serj Hugh Bradley of the Royal Inniskilling Fusileers writing from the front to an Omagh acquaintance, says that he and his brothers, Thomas and Michael, are quite well and hope to have a slap at the Germans before returning home. The writer and his brother Thomas are fighting in one trench. He also mentions that he saw Pte Cassidy of the Dublin Fusiliers, an Omagh printer, marching past a few days previously

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

TYRONE HUSSAR'S EXPERIENCE – EQUINE FRIEND SHOT UNDER HIM

Pte Joseph Anderson of the Prince's Own Hussars, writing to his mother, Mrs Crooks, Tyresson, Cookstown from hospital in Kent says he had a very narrow escape, his horse having been shot under him. He goes on to say –

"I am very sorry about the horse which was a real good one and trained by myself ... We were lying in a wood for 4 days and 4 nights under very heavy shell and rifle fire. On the morning of the 5th day we got orders to mount up – as a large party of Uhlans were advancing on us ... my horse was shot in the head and fell on top of me. I was unconscious until I found myself in a field hospital. I was taken to Boulogne and then sent to England. I was 5 days and nights on the boat and with broken ribs and bruised chest it was not at all comfortable lying on the hard deck but there were some 700 wounded on board. I have had many narrow escapes and from 20th October the fighting was hot....

Strabane Weekly News

5th December 1914

STRABANE MAN AT THE FRONT

Mr John James Milligan, Dock Street, Strabane of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who is serving at the Front, has written home to his wife to say that he is well. He especially asks her to send the '*Strabane Chronicle*' to him every week to help cheer him up and remarked that he would rather she sent him this paper than any other as it would be more like home to read the '*Chronicle*'. He sends his regards to all his friends in the Irish National Volunteers. Mr Milligan was one of the instructors in the Strabane Corp of the INV up to the time of going to the Front and it was chiefly owing to his instructions, among others, that the corps attained such proficiency.

He was part of the joint send-off led by St Eugene's Temperance Band. Mr Milligan is also well known in football and athletic circles.

Strabane Weekly News

5th December 1914

Strabane Ladies War Relief committee – several consignments of garments sent to soldiers –a credit balance of over £100

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

BELGIAN REFUGEES

The recent entertainment at the Couvent of Mercy Schools, Strabane, was an undoubted success from every point of view. The good Nuns who organised the entertainment are worthy of every thanks for their labours, given ungrudgingly on behalf of the poor Belgian refugees.

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

RECRUITMENT – DIFFERENT VIEWS

Replying to a letter from a school teacher in Co. Mayo, enclosing a subscription for the comforts for the Connaught Rangers at the front, Mr. John Dillon says:- “a disgusting campaign of calumny and abuse is now being carried out against everyone who has the courage to take his stand beside these gallant men of the Connaught Rangers and other Irish regiments , who, for the last three months, with superb courage, against terrible odds, and unparallel hardships, have maintained the well-known reputation of their fighting race”.

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

WAR PROPAGANDA

Dr. Council DL, speaking at a Manchester Martyrs’ meeting in London at which Mr. J. Valentine delivered the address on the subject of the Martyrs, said that Irishmen should not forget that, although the Home Rule Bill was on the statute book, their work was, by no means accomplished. For at least 10 years they must see that no Government, antagonistic to Ireland, was allowed to continue in power. “I am glad”, said Rev. Father Murphy, SM, “to see our brave Irish boys going out to help clear Belgium of tyranny. Although it may mean the shedding of Irish blood, yet our men will be proud to engage in such a cause”. Irish soldiers in khaki took part in the Martyrs’ procession.

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

NEWS / STORIES FROM THE FRONT

Mr. John James Milligan, Dock Street, Strabane of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who is now serving at the front, has written home to his wife to say that he is well. He specially requests her to send the “Strabane Chronicle” to him every week to cheer him up, and remarks that he would rather she would send him this paper than any other as it would be more like home to read the “Chronicle”. He sends his regards to all his friends in the Irish National Volunteers. Mr. Milligan was one of the instructors of the Strabane Corps of the Irish National Volunteers up to the time of going to the front, and it was chiefly owing to his instructions, amongst others that the Corps attained such efficiency in drill. It will be remembered that on his departure from this town the two Volunteer forces joined hands and marched to the station, headed by the St. Eugene’s Temperance Band. Mr. Milligan is also well known in football and athletic circles, and on scores of occasions brought credit to Strabane by his fine exhibitions. We are pleased to know that Mr. Milligan is well and we wish him all success.

Strabane Chronicle

5th December 1914

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A meeting of the Strabane Ladies’ War Relief Committee was held on Thursday evening. Mrs. Britton presiding.

It was reported that the following articles had been sent by the committee to the soldiers since the beginning of the war up to date:- 464 pairs of socks, 69 helmets, 221 pairs of mittens, 98 day shirts, 6 boxes of tobacco, 81 mufflers, 72 cholera belts, 7 pairs bedsocks, 1 blanket, 74 nightshirts, 90 pillow cases, 22 pillows, boric powder, 12 bed jackets, Total number of garments sent – 1,297.

The Duchess wrote acknowledging with thanks a letter of sympathy from the Committee on the death of her brother-in-law, Lord John Hamilton, who was killed in action at the front.

It was decided to give a Christmas treat to the children of Strabane soldiers at the front and a sub-committee was appointed to go into the matter of arrangements.

Strabane Chronicle
12th December 1914

LOCAL ENLISTMENTS

Mr. Patrick McLaughlin, a shop assistant in O'Doherty Ltd, Strabane has joined the Irish Brigade. He left for Fermoy on Tuesday night. A young man of athletic build he is sure to make a good soldier

Strabane Chronicle
12th December 1914

PRISONER OF WAR

James Conaghan, postman, Strabane, a reservist in the Inniskillens and formerly a drill instructor for the Strabane corps of the Irish National Volunteers is according to information received by his wife, a prisoner in Germany. Mr Conaghan left with the first batch from England for the Front.

Strabane Chronicle
12th December 1914

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

Subscription list of Strabane Women's Soldiers and Sailors Relief **Committee** (SWN Oct.10th 1914)
Total raised so far £98-19-3

Strabane Chronicle
12th December 1914

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A meeting of the Strabane War Relief Committee was held on Thursday evening. Mr. Eugene Conroy, Chairman of Strabane Urban Council, presiding. There were also present the Very Reverend John Doherty, P.P. V.F., Rev. Canon Delap, Rev. Samuel Connolly, P.P., Rev. Jas. O'Kane P.P., Messrs. Thomas Burns J.P., R.J. Blair, Hugh Maguire, Patrick Cannon, Wm.B Smyth, Dr. Trimble, Mrs. James Toner, Mrs. Captain Herdman, Mrs. Leay, Nurse Stanley, Mrs. Charles Browne, and Mrs. S. O'Doherty.

The Local Government Board wrote informing the Committee that the children of the United States were sending Christmas presents to the children of the belligerent nations in Europe. These gifts consisted mainly of warm clothing and were intended primarily for children, made orphans by the war but it would seem probable that the response made to the American newspapers initiating the scheme had been so generous that there would be gifts available for the children of the United Kingdom and for the children of the Belgians who were due to arrive shortly, but at present they had no information as to the number of presents which would be consigned for distribution in Ireland. A list should be made up without delay for each district, giving the names and addresses of the children of non-commissioned officers and men usually resident in the district, whether of British or Belgian nationality, whose fathers or guardians were, or had been on active service abroad. The age limit of the children eligible to receive presents would be 16 in the case of girls and 14 in the case of boys. Boys up to the age of 16 might receive presents if they are still attending school.

Mr. T.B. Feely, Hon. Secretary, said that he understood a man named Maguire from this district had been killed at the front. The Secretary was directed to supply the necessary information to the Local Government Board.

A circular letter was read from Her Majesty, Queen Mary, president of the Queen's "Work for Women" Fund, stating that, in the firm belief that prevention of distress was better than its relief, and that employment was better than charity, she had inaugurated the Queen's "Work for Women" Fund. Its object was to provide employment for as many as possible of the women of this country who had been thrown out of work by the war. She appealed to the women of Great Britain to help their less fortunate sisters through this fund.

The Chairman said that he had received the following telegram – "To the Chairman of the Urban District Council, Strabane – Her Majesty, the Queen, had commanded me to invite your kind co-operation in the Queen's 'Work for Women' fund by arranging for the formation of a representative collecting committee of ladies in your town. On receiving your acquiescence, suggestions for working the committee and literature will be forwarded. Please address to Lady Roxburgh, hon. Secretary, 33 Portland Place, London W." The chairman said that he had wired in reply that there was a committee already formed and Lady Roxburgh again wired thanking him.

Mr Hugh Maguire, unemployment agent, Strabane, stated that there were a number of workers in one factory in town thrown out of employment and quoted figures. Some of them had gone to work in Derry and others obtained work in a local factory.

Mr Blair suggested that the secretary should write to Lady Roxburgh and explain the position that a big number of women factory workers were in and see if suitable employment could be found for them.

This suggestion was agreed on.

At the conclusion of the meeting the chairman paid tribute to Mr James Toner and Mrs Captain Herdman for their useful services on the Strabane Ladies War Relief Committee.

Strabane Chronicle

12th December 1914

Castleberg Guardians – Nurse Isobel Patrick requested leave of absence with pay to go to the War front with the Red Cross.

Strabane Weekly News

12th December 1914

MEDICAL SUPPORT

Local hospitals for helping the war wounded (SWN 19th Sept 1914)

Practically the whole of the Ards Demesne in County Donegal has been offered to the Government by Captain Sir Peter Van B, Stewart-Bam and Lady Stewart-Bam as camping ground, convalescent home, a place for prisoners of war, refugees etc. or for any other purpose the Government may wish

Local hospitals for helping the war wounded (SWN 26th Sept 1914)

The letter of the Duchess of Abercorn and Miss Sinclair (Holyhill) speaks well for the vitality of the Ulster Volunteers Movement in North Tyrone. The offer of a hospital staff has been accepted by the French Government. The object of the letter is to appeal for subscriptions for those wishing to take a share in the equipment of the hospital, the cost of which is being borne by North Tyrone Unionists

Strabane Chronicle

12th December 1914

LABOUR ISSUES

WAR UNEMPLOYMENT LOCALLY

Hugh Maguire, unemployment agent, Strabane stated that a number of workers in one factory in the town had been thrown out of work and quoted figures. Some of them had gone to Derry and others obtained employment in a local factory. Mr Blair suggested writing to Lady Rockburgh to explain that a big number of women factory workers were out of work and to see if suitable employment could be found for them

Strabane Weekly News

12th December 1914

CASTLEBERG MAN'S ESCAPE A LETTER FROM THE TRENCHES

Private W T Kane of the Scots Guards, a son of Mr T Kane, Kilcleen, Castleberg writing to his parents from the trenches in Flanders - re the shirts and socks that you sent, I never received them. It is terribly cold out here with frost and snow. A lot of the poor fellows in my battalion had to be carried out of the trenches suffering from frostbite. The worst part is where the trenches get full of water and then freeze. I had a very miraculous escape from death a few days ago. Seven of us were peacefully sleeping on the floor of an empty house on the roadside when without warning a shell burst in, killing instantly the man who slept at my feet, blew the arms off the man sleeping beside me and shattered the right leg of the drum major. The man who shared my blanket, and whose name, strange to say, was also Kane, lost both his arms To relate all my hair-breath escapes would take weeks.

Mufflers, shirts and good socks are wanted most and if you could send me a good bit of Irish twist tobacco I would be delighted and extremely obliged.

Strabane Weekly News

12th December 1914

Yesterday my best friend James Douglas was killed and the worst is he leaves a young wife and one dear little child. He was shot through the head by a sniper. Snipers are Germans who conceal themselves up-trees waiting every chance for a man to pop his head above the trenches.

Strabane Weekly News

12th December 1914

STRABANE MAN KILLED AT THE FRONT

The wife of Pte William J Maguire has received notification from the War Office that he has died from wounds. He was a private in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and had been sent to the Front shortly after the

Wear started. It appears he acted with great bravery on the battlefield and when in the act of trying to save a comrade was struck by a shell which partly blew his stomach away. He leaves a wife and child and great sympathy is felt for them in Strabane and district.

Strabane Chronicle
12th December 1914

NEWS / STORIES FROM THE FRONT

You meet many queer chaps out there, but I think the queerest of all was a Highlander from Perth that we came on one day, said a soldier who had returned from the war, wounded.

He had got knocked out and was unconscious when we picked him up. At some great risk and inconvenience we carried him down to the base hospital. There he recovered consciousness and began to take stock of things. He also began to swear and, and it was pointed out that this was a strange way of showing his gratitude to men who had most likely saved his life.

"Maybe you have and maybe you haven't saved my life", he said in his dogged, dour way.

"Ah'm no saying onnything about that, 'av ah? But what ah want to hear is what did ye dae wi' ma wee cap? It's loast, is it, an' an'll hae tae pay for anither oot o' me ain pocket"

In our excitement we had left his glengarry behind, and I don't suppose he will ever forgive us!

Strabane Weekly News
12th December 1914

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A largely attended concert was held in the Assembly Rooms, Derry Road, Strabane, on Monday evening in aid of the War Fund, and proved to be one of the best concerts held in this district for a considerable time. The concert was organised by Mr. GM Elliott, FAI, and owing to this gentleman's energetic manner in dealing with matters in this way, the audience which packed the hall were favoured with a rare treat. The choir, of which he is the conductor, was well trained, and the items rendered by himself on his violin were simply charming. The hall was decorated for the occasion.

Strabane Weekly News
12th December 1914

NEWS / STORIES FROM THE FRONT

Private WT Kane, of the Scots Guards, a son of Mr. T. Kane, Kilcleen, Castlederg, writing to his parents from the trenches in Flanders, says – the shirts and socks which you sent, I never received them. Perhaps they have gone astray, or they may turn up later on. At present there is such a rush in Post Office work that things are a bit mixed up. It is terribly cold out here with frost and snow. A lot of the poor fellows in my battalion had to be carried out of the trenches suffering from frostbite. The worst part is when the trenches get full of water and it freezes, the effect on the feet is terrible. I had a very miraculous escape from death a few days ago. Seven of us were peacefully sleeping on the floor of an empty house on the roadside, when without warning, a shell burst in, killing instantly the man who slept at my feet, blew the arms off the man sleeping beside me, and shattered the right leg of the drum-major of the Bedfordshire Regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
12th December 1914

NEWS / STORIES FROM THE FRONT

Private Joseph Moorehead, Newtown Stewart 3rd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who has been wounded at Ypres, arrived home on Tuesday evening. He was met at the station by the Hamilton Pipers Band of which he is a member.

Strabane Weekly News
12th December 1914

BELGIAN REFUGEES

Mr. CC Hamilton, secretary, Tyrone County Council, has received a letter from the Local Government Board in reference to the provision being made for war refugees, in Tyrone, a copy of which has been forwarded to the Castlederg Distress Committee. The Local Government Board state that during the last few weeks comparatively few refugees have come to Ireland and apparently some time will elapse before an influx occurs sufficiently great to meet the offers of hospitality already made and accepted.

Strabane Weekly News
26th December 1914

KITCHENER'S ARMY AT HOME

A great number of the members of Lord Kitchener's New Army, all of whom were connected with the Strabane UVF, have arrived here to spend their Christmas holidays. The men have been granted leave of absence for six days, when they will return, and another portion will be allowed leave for the New Year. The men appear in excellent spirits and are delighted to be able to come home to spend their holidays with their chums and friends.

1915

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

The inhabitants of the town of Strabane and district will regret to learn of the death of Mr. James Cooke. Deceased before he left this locality was in the employment of Mr. William Wilson, D.L., Greenfield and was afterwards employed by his Grace the Duke of Abercorn at Baronscourt. Recently he enlisted in Lord Kitchener's Army, where he has also two sons with the colours. He was an active member of the Orange Institution.

IFF: Born Donaheady, Co. Tyrone. No. 14551. 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 26th Dec 1914

CWGC: James Cooke, 14551, 9th Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 26 Dec 1914. Buried Edenderry Cofl Churchyard, Aughagallon, near Omagh.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

FOOD FOR REFUGEES AND OTHERS

There are many thousands of Belgian refugees in our midst, and it has been announced that others will be arriving in the near future. Many of these are destitute, and as the present widespread distress will tend to increase progressively so long as the war continues, the provision of cheap and suitable food is sure to become an important and urgent problem.

It is well known that in Holland, Belgium and France horseflesh is used as a staple article of food, and in times of peace not less than a thousand live horses are exported each week from this country to the Continent.

We are extremely anxious to develop a scheme by means of which our Belgian guests could be provided with the form of food which they appreciate:

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The soldiers of the Ulster Division who were at home for a few days at Christmas were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Miller in the orange Hall on Tuesday evening.

At an interval in the proceedings the Rev. T.L. Healy, M.A. gave the men some words of counsel and encouragement.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

STRABANE PENSIONS COMMITTEE AND WAR OFFICE

The fortnightly meeting of the Strabane Pensions Committee was held at the Courthouse, Strabane, on Tuesday 29th ult., Mr. P M'Menamin, J.P., presiding. There were also present Messer. R.J. Blair, Thos M'Elhinney, Edward Gallagher, J.P., and James Stewart, J.P.

Mr David M'Clements, secretary was also in attendance.

Several claims from dependents of soldiers were considered at the meeting and allowances duly made.

Mr. R.J. Blair complained as to the neglect of the War Office in failing to send on to dependents of soldiers' allowances made them. He said that several people were actually in a state of starvation owing to this neglect.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

THE FINNER MEN AT SION MILLS

Last week a large number of recruits who have enlisted in Kitchener's new army arrived for a week's leave of absence. Most of them belong to the Tyrone Battalion, 9th (Service, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, but others belong to the North Irish Horse. The recruits were all members of the U.V.F., and almost every house is represented with the colours. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

STRABANE U.V.F. (CARRICKLEE CO.)

A very successful shooting competition in connection with above was held at Carricklee on 26th inst.

The following were successful marksmen:- Messer's. Samuel Quinn, Wm. Mackay, R. Gray, J. Anderson and T. Henderson.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

NOTES

The inhabitants of the town of Strabane and district will regret to learn of the death of Mr. James Cooke. Deceased before he left this locality was in the employment of Mr. William Wilson, D.L., Greenfield and was afterwards employed by his Grace the Duke of Abercorn at Baronscourt. Recently he enlisted in Lord Kitchener's Army, where he has also two sons with the colours. He was an active member of the Orange Institution.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE WAR
HOW ARE SOLDIERS PAID IN THE TRENCHES?

In the actual trenches, of course, there is no need for money, and therefore, while a soldier is in the firing line, his "accounts" are kept by his company officers. They keep a record of all that is due to him, and he can make withdrawals whenever he wishes.

When a soldier is wounded, a statement of his financial position goes with him into hospital, and the medical officer in charge takes over the job of banker. A special paymaster controls the money of a soldier on furlough during convalescence.

Any pay due to a soldier killed in action is regarded as part of his "estate" and is sent to his nearest relative.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

G (SION MILLS) COMPANY, ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE
CHRISTMAS WELCOME

A very successful smoking concert was held on Thursday, 24th December, in the Recreation Hall, Sion Mills, the object being to welcome home on their Christmas Holidays the members who had joined the Ulster Division of Lord Kitchener's army and others who had joined other units of His Majesty's army. The event was largely organised by Mr. John Crosbie, who spared no trouble in the matter. Mr. James Johnston Ritchie presided. ...

They (of the 9th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers had as their leader Colonel Ricardo, D.S.O., one of the most efficient officers in the British Army.

Patriotic and other songs and recitations were given by the following:- Corporal John Maxwell, Wm M'Loughlin,

W.H. Gray, R. Warke, Wm Houston, Army Instructor, H. M' Knight, R.J. Allison, Hugh Browne, H M'Conaghey, R. Maxwell, R. White, Joe Maxwell, J. Crosbie, Jack Kennedy (of the Canadian Grenadier Guards) and the Chairman.

Corporal Jack Kennedy proposed the toast.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

9th INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
CHRISTMAS AT BUNDORAN

On the 23rd December B and C Companies of the 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers proceeded on Christmas leave, and A and D Companies remained behind, spending Christmas Day in the billets in Bundoran. When the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel A. Ricardo, D.S.O.) paid his customary visit to see the men at their Christmas dinner, the ceremony of drinking the Colonel's health

In the afternoon Captain Robinson organised sports on the sands, money prizes being given.

In the wrestling competition Corporal Cullen and Private Cuthbertson, D Company were first, and Private Lecky and Private M'Cullagh, D Company, second. In the long kick contest (with football) Private Best, D Company, was first; Private Withers, A Company second; and Private Lecky, D Company third.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

DOUGLAS NATIONAL SCHOOL
PATRIOTIC CONCERT

A highly successful concert in aid of the Soldiers and Sailors was given by the choir of the above school on Friday evening 18th ult.

The youthful choir, with their conductor, Mr. M'Laughlin, the principal of the school rendered a very attractive programme of part-songs, recitations and instrumental selections ...

Mr. D. Mackey, Sion Mills, who quickly established himself as a great favourite with the audience sang. Before the close a vote of thanks was passed with acclamation to Rev. R. Dick, who occupied the chair.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

STRABANE WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE
GRAND ENTERTAINMENT

An enjoyable and highly successful entertainment and Christmas tree was given in the Town Hall, Strabane. The hall was beautifully and tastefully decorated and reflected the utmost credit on Mr. Thos. Taite.

The following members of the committee assisted:- Mrs. Thomas M'Elhinney, Miss May M'Elhinney, Mrs T.B. Feely, Miss Black, NTS, Meetinghouse Street, National School, Strabane, Miss. May Elliott, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs James Toner, Mrs M'Feeters, Mrs, Heggart, Mrs Stewart Harpur,, Miss Nellie Doherty, Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, Mrs David Hamilton, Mrs Clark, The Manse, Mrs. J.M. Trimble, Mrs. Merrick, Mrs Coxall, Miss M'Crea, Mrs Greene, The Manse, Mrs. W. King, Miss. M. Connolly, and Mrs Harpur, Irish Street. Among those on the platform were the following:- The Very Rev. John Doherty, P.P., V.F., Strabane; Rev., P. Murphy, O.P., Prior St Malachys College, Dundalk, Rev. Peter Tracy, C.C., Strabane Etc. Etc

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

STRABANE SOLDIER AT SCARBOROUGH

Private M'Glinchey, of Strabane, at present stationed at Scarborough, has sent a letter to his wife, who resides in Strabane, a portion of a shell which came into the town during the bombardment by the German cruisers. M'Glinchey, who was on duty during the bombardment, is an old soldier, having served through the South African campaign.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

THE PRICE OF BREAD

At present there is a great scarcity of flour, and it is said that unless something happens at once to reduce the cost of flour the price of the 4lb. loaf will be increased from 6.5d to 7d.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd January 1915

DONEGAL CASUALTY

Report of Ballymacool man Capt John Boyd who had a narrow escape in the War at the battle for Mons. Presently home on leave

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

KITCHENER'S ARMY AT HOME

The model village of Sion Mills is at present like a military depot. Last week a large number of recruits who had enlisted in Kitchener's New Army arrived for a week's leave of absence. Most of them belong to the Tyrone Battalion, 9th (Service), Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, but others belong to the North Irish Horse. The recruits were all members of the UVF, and almost every house is represented with the colours. Some 40 will leave on Wednesday after an enjoyable holiday while another lot will arrive for the New Year. The inhabitants of the village are giving them a good time. Colonel Ricardo is commander of their regiment and is very popular with the men, who speak very highly of him.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd January 1915

KITCHENER'S ARMY AT HOME

On Monday last the Stranorlar UVF men entertained the Finner men who had arrived here on holidays, in the Schoolhouse, Stranorlar. Mr. Samuel Woods, JP, occupied the chair, and paid a tribute to the men who had volunteered to go and fight for their King and Country. Rev. James Curry and Rev. RW Wright were also in attendance. The members of Convoy UVF attended with the bagpipe band and played lively airs. The Kiltteevogue branch of the UVF was also represented. Songs were rendered by the leading members

present. After the entertainment the room was cleared for dancing which continued until the early hours of the following morning.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

THE SOLDIERS' MAIL
2,500,000 LETTERS DURING CHRISTMAS WEEK

Two and a half million letters and a quarter of a million parcels were despatched by the General Post Office, London, to the men of the British Expeditionary Force in time for the Christmas festivities at the front. A large number of parcels were sent to prisoners of war, both German and English. Just before Christmas about 1,200 parcels a day were received by prisoners of war in this country, and 2,500 a day were sent to English soldiers who are prisoners abroad.

The Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

RECRUITING IN IRELAND
40,000 ENLISTMENTS SINCE WAR BROKE OUT

Taken in round numbers, the total of the Irish recruiting since the outbreak of the war to the end of the year was just over 40,000. During the Christmas holidays and for an interval preceding there was an appreciable decline in the numbers presenting themselves for enlistment at the Irish centres, and the observation applies to Dublin equally with the others. Already, however, there is evidence of some renewed activity in this direction, and several enlistments took place on Friday at the Brunswick Street Depot. Within a short period the authorities expect that the figures will again mount up to the standard which prevailed prior to the holidays.

The Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

IRELAND AND THE WAR
HEART AND SOUL WITH THE ALLIES (By William Redmond, M.P.)

Let me, as one who is here in Ireland and meeting people every day, say what I am sure is the true feeling of Ireland and all classes regarding the war. By every consideration of honour, sentiment, and interest, Ireland is beyond all doubt heart and soul with the Allies in their struggle against German brute force. Let no one be deceived for a moment by statements as to Sir. Roger Casement, or anyone else, begging for mercy or terms for Ireland in Berlin. Ireland has authorised no one to beg for her at the Court of the Kaiser, and all statements to that end are mere weak inventions of the enemy. As if Ireland would beg for terms from the men who have outraged every rule of civilisation and religion and honour in Belgium. Let no one believe such a thing, for it is a slander upon Irishmen

The Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

GERMAN SPIES

The wariness about foreigners is characteristic in most countries and this was compounded and often played out in the press against Germany who were often considered to be a threat to Britain.

When war broke out in August 1914, spy paranoia soared.

A prime example of this was the case of a German called Wentzel who lived in Co. Down. According to local papers, Wentzel's movements had "aroused the suspicions of the authorities" and he was arrested on 7 August 1914, and charged under the Official Secrets Act of 1911.

He was described as a cultured, well-educated man of soldierly bearing, aged around 35.

The trial took place on 10 December 1914 in the Crown Court, Crumlin Road, Belfast, amid a blaze of publicity in the local area.

While the jury found Wentzel not guilty, he was not a free man. He was detained at the central police station as an "alien", and it is believed he was deported and interned in a concentration camp on the Isle of Man with other Germans.

This fuelled the "rumour machine" and this resulted in a number of other instances when Germans were arrested.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

ENTERTAINMENT AT STRANORLAR
IN AID OF BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

One of the largest concerts ever held in the town was given on Friday evening in the school-rooms, Stranorlar in aid of above. The attendance included the Rev. R.W. Wright, Rev. R.L. Matchett, and Rev. P.B. M'Miullen, C.C. An interesting address was delivered by Dr. Johnston.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

JUDGE APPEALS FOR RECRUITS FOR THE ULSTER DIVISION

His honour Judge Walker Craig, addressing the Grand Jury at the opening of the Belfast Quarter sessions on Tuesday, said they were engaged in a gigantic, a titanic struggle, a war unparalleled in the history of the world, and they were struggling against a combination of extraordinary power and force, with preparations made for years while this country was quietly sleeping. He did not doubt that their country would pull through.

He saw that it wanted something like 2,000 men and he thought that all Ulster people would like to see it made up to its full numbers. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

PATRIOTIC CONCERT IN MULROY

A most enjoyable concert was held in Manorcunningham School-house on Saturday in aid if the Soldiers and Sailors Fund. The chair was occupied by Rev. Dr. Vance.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

**CASTLEDERG VOLUNTEERS AT HOME
ENTERTAINMENT TO THE 9th INNISKILLINGS**

On the evening of 29th ult. The soldiers of the 9th Inniskillings, who were home for a few days at Christmas from Finner Camp, were hospitably entertained by Dr. Gerald F.V. Leary in Mr. Gailey'

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

INTERCESSORY SERVICE AT STRANORLAR PARISH CHURCH

On Sunday, at both morning and evening services, special forms of intercession and prayer on behalf of the nations and the Empire were used, as suggested by the King. Special lessons were also used and also special hymns. The preacher at the morning service was the Rev. R.L. Matchett, B.A. ...

At the evening service was the Rev. Mr. Spence.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

DONEMANA U.V.F.

A shooting contest arranged by the U.V.F. of Donemana, too place on 5th inst. The various prizes were presented to the club by the inhabitants of the district and were numerous.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART NATIONALISTS AND THE WAR

Dear Sir:- I had occasion to visit Newtownstewart frequently on business and I have noticed of late quite a few young men in that district who, in spite of having no strong business or family reasons, have not yet joined the army. On inquiry I learned that these young men were Nationalists, nearly to a man, and that actually not a single Nationalist from that little town, who had not been in the army before, had volunteered for service in the country's cause. I happened to be there on Monday evening and witnessed a full-dress parade of the Nationalist Flute band out on the march ...

I am informed that about 50 Unionists from Newtownstewart and Baronscourt districts have volunteered since the outbreak of war, and from recent articles in that ably edited moderate Nationalist paper, the "Irish Independent" it is those who have joined since August that count. Yes, the full-strength band parade of the Nationalists the other evening makes one ponder.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES

One of the largest concerts ever held in Stranorlar was given on Friday evening in the school-rooms in aid of the Belgium Relief Fund. The attendance included the Right Rev. RW Wright, Rev. RL Matchett, and Rev. PB McMullan, CC. The hall was decorated for the occasion. An interesting address was delivered by Dr. Johnston on the war crisis, in which he surveyed the situation generally.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE TRENCHES

News report of Christmas day in the trenches – from Lt Williamson, Castlecaufield, wrote to his father about the ‘sort of truce’ arranged over Christmas. Firing continued sporadically throughout the day in some parts of the Front – some went across to the Germans and talked and exchanged tobacco.

“ it was the queerest sight to see two lines of men who a few hours before were intent on killing each other (and will be again tomorrow) talking together as if they were the greatest friends in the world. They even arranged a football match and since I started writing this letter a telephone message has come through to say the Germans won by three goals to two.

Strabane Weekly News
9th January 1915

KITCHENER’S ARMY AT HOME

On the evening of 29th the soldiers of the 9th Inniskillings, who were at home for a few days at Christmas from the Finner Camp were hospitably entertained by Dr. Gerald FV Leary in Mr. Gailey’s hotel, Castlederg, prior to their departure to camp on the following day. The large room was nicely decorated and a sumptuous tea was dispensed by a few local ladies, after which a good supply of cigarettes was distributed. Cheers were given for the King and for the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A. Ricardo, DSO.

Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES

A number of Belgian Refugees belonging to Ghent and Bruges arrived in Derry. In affording consolation to the Belgian Refugees in their sore distress, the Derry Diocese has taken an honoured place.

Lady Maloney, the President of the Central Committee, paid a warm tribute to the lively interest shown by his Most Rev. Dr. McHugh and by the priests and people of the diocese of Derry generally, in the welfare of the poor Belgians. In addition to this very practical display of sympathy, offers of hospitality were made from various parts of the diocese.

The people of Strabane and district have already shown their willingness to provide for as many as possible of the poor exiles of the ruined Belgium.

Already 11 families have found accommodation in the Strabane and Lifford districts.

Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND
ENTERTAINMENT AT STRANORLAR

A grand variety concert and entertainment in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund, was given in the schoolroom, Stranorlar on Friday and Saturday evenings. The programme was in every respect an excellent one, and from the musical point of view it would have been difficult to have got a better one. ..

Amongst those present on Friday evening were: Rev. P.B. M’Mullen, C.C., Rev. W. wright, and Rev. R.L. Matchett. An interesting address was delivered by Dr. Johnston entitled “The War Crisis”.

Amongst those who contributed to the programme were:- Misses Boyle, Miss Aylward, Miss M. Shesgreen, MISS A. Brodbin, Mr. G M’Guckin.

Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

RECRUITING IN IRELAND
40,000 ENLISTMENTS SINCE WAR BROKE OUT

Taken in round numbers, the total of the Irish recruiting since the outbreak of the war to the end of the year was just over 40,000. During the Christmas holidays and for an interval preceding there was an appreciable decline in the numbers presenting themselves for enlistment at the Irish centres, and the observation applies to Dublin equally with the others. Already, however, there is evidence of some renewed activity in this direction, and several enlistments took place on Friday at the Brunswick Street Depot. Within a short

period the authorities expect that the figures will again mount up to the standard which prevailed prior to the holidays.

Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

STRABANE WOMENS WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE
THE XMAS ENTERTAINMENT

The following members of the committee contributed gifts towards the tea and Xmas tree:- Mrs. M'Elhinney, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. C. Browne, Mrs T.B. Feely, Mrs. J.Elliott, Mrs W. King, Mrs Delap, Mrs O'Brien, Mrs. S. Harpur, Miss M'Crea, Mrs Britton,, Mrs Clarke (The Manse), Mrs Caxall, Mr. John Black, Mrs. Merrick, Mrs Paul Gallagher, Mrs J.C. Herdman, Miss. M'Gowan, Nurse Stanley, Mrs Hoy, Mrs Wm Traynor, Mrs Campbell, Mrs James Toner.

Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

BELGIUMS CRY FOR BREAD
URGENT APPEAL BY CARDINAL MERCIER

The Commission for Relief in Belgium, London Wall Buildings, have received an urgent appeal from Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, in which he says that after all that has been done and is being done to help the Belgians in their trouble it might appear unseemly on his part to ask for more. "The whole population, so dense here, is now entirely dependent on outside aid for its daily bread.."

Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES IN STRABANE

Scenes of great enthusiasm were witnessed in Strabane on Wednesday last at the arrival of ten Belgian refugee families. Hundreds of people gathered in the vicinity of the railway station when the train was due by which the refugees travelled, and on their arrival and during their journey to the town hall the Belgians were greeted with very hearty cheers.

Strabane Chronicle
9th January 1915

INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
CASUALTY LIST (under date 24th November)

Died of wounds -2;
Wounded – 23;
Wounded – 39;
Missing – 10. List issued on Friday night:

Strabane Weekly News
16th January 1915

NATIONALISTS AND THE WAR
AN ULSTER PROTEST
"HIDING FROM THE GERMANS"
REPLY TO YORKSHIRE CLERGYMAN

I have just seen reproduced in a Derry Nationalist paper the report of a lecture stated to have been delivered in St Patrick's Hall, Binstall, by Rev. Father Russell. I am concerned with the following paragraph:-

Moreover, as Irishmen we have done more than our share already. Catholic Irishmen... have fought and bled while the brave Protestants of Ulster – who were drilled and armed last July to destroy the British Army, or if needs be to transfer their allegiance to the Kaiser – are still, with the consent of the War Office, coddling themselves in Ulster, hiding from the Germans far away.

It is only in Nationalist Ireland that an anti-enlistment campaign has been carried out for years...

The three Nationalist Provinces, with a population of three million, have given only 12,000 recruits to Kitchener's Army; while Ulster, with a population slightly over a million, has given 29,000 recruits. Etc. Etc.

Strabane Weekly News
16th January 1915

STRABANE & DISTRICT
COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS AT THE FRONT

A meeting of Strabane Womens' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Friday evening. Mrs Delap presiding. The attendance included Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, Mrs. C. Browne, Mrs. Thomas M'Elhinney, Miss M'Crea, Mrs. William King, Miss E. Doherty, Mrs. Coxall, Mrs. William Hoy, Mrs. P. Gallagher, Mrs. T.B. Feely, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, hon. secretary, and Mrs Toner, hon. Treasurer.

The Strabane War Relief Committee are a most energetic and patriotic society and they are making every effort to provide for the comforts of the troops and have already done good service in this direction since the outbreak of the war.

Strabane Weekly News
16th January 1915

U.V.F. OFFICER MISSING

The inhabitants of the town of Strabane and district regret that no tidings, official or otherwise, have been received regarding Lieutenant T.L. Barton. It is not known whether he is killed, wounded, or a prisoner. He was a relative of Mrs Sinclair, of Hollyhill, who is a pioneer of Unionism in this locality, and has rendered valuable services to the Ulster Volunteers.

Strabane Weekly News
16th January 1915

**ULSTER'S PART IN WAR
SPLENDID RALLY TO COLOURS
UNIONIST LEADER'S IMPORTANT PRONOUNCEMENT
VICTORY OF ALLIES ASSURED
IMPERIAL PROVINCE WINNING UNPARALLELED GLORY
OUR SPLENDID VOLUNTEERS,
CERTAIN TO COME OUT ON TOP
I AM NOT CENSORED
A GLORY UNPARALLELED
THE ONLY WAY WE CAN WIN
17,000 REBELS IN CAMP NOW
LET US AVOID RECRIMINATIONS
RECRUITING FIGURES
A VERY UNIQUE DIVISION**

Strabane Chronicle
16th January 1915

MILITARY FUNERAL IN STRABANE

On Thursday the remains of the late Mr. John Frederick Kennedy arrived in Strabane from Salisbury for internment in Urney Churchyard. Deceased was formerly in the employment of Messers. Herdman, Ltd., Sion Mills, and held a lucrative position there, where he was much esteemed.

The chief mourners were:- Robert Moore, Woodbrook; William Moore, Woodbrook; James Moore, Montilly (uncles); Alfred Woods, Harry Woods, and Moore M'Farlane (cousins). The principal employees of Messers. Herdman. Ltd., also attended. Rev. Laird, Rev Hay and Rev. Morton officiated. The funeral was very large and representative.

Strabane Chronicle
16th January 1915

**BELGIAN REFUGEES
ENTERTAINED IN STRABANE
ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION**

Scenes of tremendous enthusiasm unparalleled in the history of Strabane, were witnessed on Tuesday evening at the Great Northern Railway Station on the arrival of ten Belgian refugee families by the 4.50 p.m. train.

Twenty motor cars lined up outside the station to drive the refugees to the Town Hall where they were afterwards entertained.

As the refugees were driven along continuous cheering marked their progress until at last, they reached the Town Hall.

Strabane Chronicle
16th January 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES AT STRABANE

The following either subscribed or contributed articles of furniture to the house in Church Street, in which the Belgians are being housed:- The Sisters of Mercy, Strabane; Mrs. James Toner, Mrs. J. Harkin, Mrs. M. Brannigan, Mrs E. Conroy, Mrs. John T. Burns, Mrs. E. Gallagher, Mrs. W. Clifford, Mrs. M'Swiggan, Mrs. J. Gormley, Mrs. Francis M'Menanin, Mrs. P. Gallagher, Mrs. E. O'Hagan, Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, Mrs. Sayers, etc, etc

Now that the Belgian refugees have arrived in Strabane, weekly subscriptions or lump sums for their maintenance will be gratefully received from anyone having their welfare at heart by the Rev. Hugh M'Glynn, C.C., Strabane (treasurer of the Belgian Committee) Etc, Etc

Mr. Eugene Conroy (Chairman of the Urban Council) writes us as follows:- "I have been requested by the interpreter in charge of the Belgian refugees to return the very best thanks, through the medium of your paper, firstly to Father M'Glynn, who brought the parties from Dublin, and who was the soul of kindness to all.

Strabane Chronicle
16th January 1915

RECRUITING IN IRELAND DEBATE IN THE LORDS

In the House of Lords last week a discussion was initiated by Viscount Midleton on the part taken by the British forces in the war operations, and steps taken to ensure a constant supply of reinforcements. His lordship's references to Ireland's recruiting and anti-enlistment led to a general exchange of views on these aspects of the question, and several remarkable statements were made – the Earl of Mayo, for example, expressing contempt for the National Volunteers, who were defended by the Earl of Crewe. Lord Crewe also joined with the Lord Chancellor in defending Government reticence in respect of service organisation methods. Lord Kitchener had sent an apology for inability to be present owing to important official business.

Strabane Chronicle
16th January 1915

LORD MAYO & THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Lord Mayo, wires the London Correspondent of the "Freeman", provided the key to Lord Midleton's motion in the House of Lords last night when he expressed the view that if ever the Germans landed in Ireland the Irish Volunteers would take to their heels. Coming at a moment when the Irish regiments, comprising many of the most active spirits of these Nationalist Volunteers, are covering themselves and their country with fresh glory in the most terrible war in all history, this accusation of cowardice against his own countrymen revealed a depth of malignant partisanship which only the Irish Tory peer could be capable of. Etc, Etc

Strabane Chronicle
16th January 1915

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall the other evening.

CREDIT BALANCE CONSIGNMENTS QUEEN MARY'S GUILD

Strabane Chronicle
16th January 1915

RECRUITING FIGURES

On the question of recruiting it is to be regretted that the government quoted no figures to refute – as there is every reason to believe they could have done – those put forward by Lord Midleton. This official reticence was adopted in accordance with the policy now decided upon by the War Office not to publish any further figures which might in any way be of service to the enemy, by showing them the resources which this country has at its command. This is the policy which Germany has adopted from the beginning of the war.

Strabane Weekly News
16th January 1915

STRABANE & DISTRICT U.V.F. OFFICER MISSING

The inhabitants of the town of Strabane and district regret that no tidings, official or otherwise, have been received regarding Lieutenant T.L. Barton. Mr. Barton shortly after the war broke out, received a commission in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and went direct to the fighting line and after being there for some weeks suddenly disappeared. It is not known whether he is killed, wounded, or a prisoner. He took a keen interest in the U.V.F. since its formation, holding a high position in its ranks and proved himself a very

capable instructor, on many occasions being called upon to inspect companies of the force in and around North Tyrone. He was a relative of Mrs Sinclair, of Hollyhill, who is a pioneer of Unionism in this locality, and has rendered valuable services to the Ulster Volunteers. Great anxiety is felt for Lieutenant Barton's welfare amongst the members of the U.V.F. He was also a member of the Orange Institution and his ability will be much missed in this direction.

IFF: 2nd Lieutenant Albert Thomas Lionel Barton, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 7 Nov 1914

CWGC: 2nd Lieutenant Albert Thomas Lionel Barton (Age 20) 2nd Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 7 Nov 1914. Parents shown as London

Strabane Weekly News

16th January 1915

FUNERAL OF CANADIAN SOLDIER

On the 14th inst. the remains of the late Mr. John Frederick Kennedy arrived here from Salisbury for internment in Urney Churchyard. Deceased formerly was in the employment of Messrs. Herdman's Ltd., Sion Mills and held a lucrative position there, where he was much esteemed. Some time ago he emigrated to Canada, and joined the army, being a member of the Canadian contingent. He was undergoing training in Salisbury, when he died. The funeral was met by a military band who gave the salute. A procession was formed and headed by the band, playing hymns, proceeded to the graveyard. The chief mourners were Robert Moore, Woodbrook; William Moore, Woodbrook; James Moore, Montilly (uncles); and Alfred Woods, Harry Woods, and Moore, McFarlane (cousins). The principal employees of Messrs Herdman, Ltd., also attended. Rev. Mr. Laird, Rev. Mr. Hay, and Rev. Mr. Morton also attended the funeral and officiated. The funeral was very large and representative. Deceased was a member of the U.V.F.

IFF: John Kennedy. Born England. 2nd Lieutenant. 2nd Somerset Infantry. Died 10 Jan 1915. (This is the only Kennedy who died around Jan 1915)

CWGC: John Frederic Kennedy, C/41001, 2nd Bde. Canadian Field Artillery. Died 10 Jan 1915. Buried in Urney Graveyard

Strabane Weekly News

16th January 1915

KILLED SOLDIER NOT DEAD

News received by Misses Black, Bridge End, Donegal from Headquarters announcing that their brother Private Patrick Black had not been killed in the war. A parcel sent him by his sisters (who had a letter from him on Tuesday) had been returned bearing the words "killed in action"

Strabane Weekly News

16th January 1915

WORK OF TYRONE HOSPITAL IN PAU

Miss Sinclair writing from Pau on the UVF Hospital writes about the very favourable local reception. The English Consul's wife comes here nearly every day and takes someone out for a run in her car which is a great treat.

'We have now got 23 patients here; 12 more are due this afternoon; the latter are all cases for operations sent on from another hospital some distance away. We are very proud at having been chosen out of all the other hospitals to do these operations. We expect to be filled up before the end of the week.

As well as our 54 beds here, we have charge of the nursing arrangements at another hospital at Lescar, a few miles from here. It is in charge of a French doctor and has been equipped by the government but is being run by our nurses. Sister Johnson is in charge helped by Sisters Patrick and Cobbett, two probationers, and Sergts Buss and Hunter. They have French people under them to do the unskilled work such as cleaning up, handing round the food etc. This Lescar hospital is a most delightful place. It is a wing of what was a very ancient monastery, but which has been used as a school for some years.

My office window overlooks the garden of the Sacrecoer Convent (or at least it was formerly the Convent). It has been turned into a hospital for the German wounded. There are about 200 of them there now. Some of them are walking about in the garden. One of our doctors goes in there every morning to help with the dressings. He has also done a couple of operations in there.

Our wounded are the most charming people in the world. They are so gay in spite of all they have suffered and so grateful for the slightest thing (It is hard to realise it is November)

We got rather a shock this morning. We expected 12 new patients to be passed on to us this afternoon but at 7.00 am eight men straight from Amiens were planted down on the doorstep without any warning. Poor things, some of them look awful.

I will send you on an account of all our patients and whose 'beds' they are in tomorrow or the next day. After today I will be able to get the names up over the beds.

We have 8 wards called 'French, Roberts, Kitchener, H. Gough, Joffre, Castlenau, Pau and another French general whose name I'm ashamed to say I have forgotten.

I have explained to some of the men that the people at home have provided the money for the various beds and one of them suggested they would like to write to the donors of their respective beds to thank them.

At present we (the staff) are still billeted in various hotels; of course we are most comfortable as we have been put in the best hotels in the place but it is very inconvenient as we are almost a mile from the hospital

Strabane Weekly News

16th January 1915

NEWS / STORIES FROM THE FRONT

The relatives of Private Robert McCorkell, who resides at Lifford, near Strabane, have not as yet received further intimation from the War Office as to his whereabouts. After the battle of Aisne his relatives were informed that he was then missing. Private McCorkell, who had fourteen years service in the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, left Dover at the outbreak of hostilities and went direct to the firing line. He was also in the South African campaign but came through it safely. His many friends around here are anxious to hear of his whereabouts.

Strabane Weekly News

16th January 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

In aid of the war relief funds and to provide comfort for our soldiers and sailors, a most successful dance was held in Newtownstewart on the 13th inst., the hall being kindly given free of charge by Mr. O'Doherty, for the occasion. The company taxed the hall to its utmost dancing capacity. The refreshments were supplied by the ladies, and the music left nothing to be desired. Dancing was kept up till a late hour, and an enjoyable late night concluded with the singing of the national anthem.

Strabane Weekly News

23th January 1915

MR. PERCY FRENCH IN STRABANE

An entertainment was given in the Town Hall, Strabane on the 20th inst. by Mr. Percy French, consisting of a humorous song and art recital, and including war songs, stories and pictures. Needless to say the large hall was well packed, as the people look forward to Mr. French's visit with much pleasure, and he is certain of a rousing reception on all occasions. The programme consisted of two parts. Part 1:- "Songs I must sing," "Chalk talk." "Where the girls gets her gentle disposition," and "Where the 'Nut' gets his vacant stare." "Prize-giving day at Larksmead," "The Otter King," "Introducing my latest song." "Luke the looney," "My picture for the salon," "Am tag, the German war toast, and why it won't work." Part 2 consisted of: "Mixed Memories." "Doomed to the dustbin." "Father O'Callaghan." "Five minutes with Jack and Jill," "Sweet Marie" (racing version). "Carmody's mare." "Micky the screech will oblige with some war ballads." "All by the Baltic Say."

Strabane Weekly News

23th January 1915

LOCAL PEOPLE INVOLVED IN VARIOUS MOVEMENTS / ORGANISATIONS

A full realisation of the war and its responsibilities is not yet felt in some parts of Ulster. With a view to further educating the people and of assisting towards greater efficiency in such time of stress, the patriotic temperance movement was inaugurated at a great meeting in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, a few weeks ago. This was followed by large meetings in Derry and Strabane this week organised for the most part by ladies and gentlemen who up to the present had never signed a total abstinence pledge. The new pledge is issued for the duration of the war.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd January 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A meeting of the Strabane War Relief Committee was held on Thursday in the Town Hall, Strabane, with Mrs. Charles Brown presiding. There was a large attendance which included Mrs. JC Herdman, Hon Secretary and Mrs. James Toner, Hon. Secretary. It was reported that upwards of 36 parcels were forwarded last week to Strabane men serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and arrangements were made to forward parcels to more of the men at the front who had not received them previously. The Canadian gifts received for the wives and families of soldiers serving their country were distributed. A sum of £12 was voted to purchase clothing for Belgian soldiers who are now in the firing line. The amount voted

was in response to an appeal by the Queen of Belgium. The Committee also unanimously voted a sum of £10 for the 1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who have just arrived from India prior to their departure for the front.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd January 1915

INNISKILLINGS LOSE HEAVILY

The following casualty list of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been issued:-

Killed – 25;
Died of wounds – 2;
Wounded – 20.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd January 1915

PATRIOTIC TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION IN STRABANE PALLIDROME THE TREATING OF SOLDIERS DENOUNCED PRACTICAL AND APPEALING ADDRESSES

On Thursday evening last what was described as a “patriotic night” was held in the Pallidrome, Railway Road, and Strabane. The programme for the occasion was a very varied one, consisting of music, pictures, and speeches, and all three could be truthfully termed first-class.

At seven o'clock every available seat was occupied, and as the Pallidrome accommodates about 800 persons it speaks well for the attractiveness of the fixture.

Mr. W.P. Smyth contributed the “Soldiers of the King” in rousing style.

In the centre stood a table which was covered with a Union Jack, and round was grouped the speakers of the evening, Captain J.C. Herdman (chairman), Mrs MacGregor Greer, Cookstown; Mr. Copeland Trimble, Enniskillen; Sergeant J. Adamson N.I.H.; Dr Hunter, Mr. G.M. Elliot, and Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd January 1915

SION MILLS AND BELGIANS

At the annual meeting of the Sion Mills Recreation Club, Mr. Joseph Neilly in the chair, Mr. John Crosbie proposed and Mr. William M'Loughlin seconded that £10 be voted as pocket money to the Belgians at present in Strabane. The motion was unanimously passed.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd January 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane War Relief Committee was held on Thursday in the Town Hall, Strabane. Mrs. Charles Brown presiding. There was a large attendance, which include Mrs. J.C. Herdman, hon secretary and Mrs. James Toner. It was reported that upwards of 36 parcels were forwarded last week to Strabane men serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and arrangements were made to forward parcels to more of the men at the front who had not received them previously

Strabane Weekly News
23rd January 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES IN STRABANE

The refugees which arrived here are being well looked after by the inhabitants. Altogether ten families have arrived and they are accommodated in first class house kindly lent by the owners. Some of them are accommodated in the Convent whilst two families are housed in Lifford and are being looked after by the people of the surrounding district. It is the intention of those fit for service to return to the front at the earliest opportunity. At present they are enjoying themselves touring the district and seem in excellent spirits. A committee has been formed and is making a tour of the town with the object of arranging with the wealthy inhabitants to contribute a certain amount per week for the maintenance of the refugees.

Mr. John Harkin, J.P., Strabane, has placed at the disposal of the refugees a comfortable three-storey house which has been fully equipped with furniture. The refugees reciprocate the kindness shown them by the people.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd January 1915

STRABANE U.V.F. AND RECRUITING

A large meeting was held in the Lecture hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening, 14th inst. At 8 o'clock the Ulster Volunteers, consisting of the Strabane, Carricklee, Artigarvan and Sion Mills companies assembled at the Unionist committee Rooms fully equipped and armed, and after being inspected by Captain Fannon marched through the principal streets of the town to the hall. Upwards of 300 took part. The military band headed the procession playing lively airs, and it was the largest turnout of the U.V.F. ever witnessed here. Captain J.C. Herdman, officer commanding the North Tyrone Volunteers, presided, and after explaining the objects of the meeting

Strabane Weekly News
23rd January 1915

THE ULSTER DIVISION STEADY PROGRESS BEING MADE

The latest official return of the strength, etc., of the Ulster Division, issued by headquarters on Monday evening, shows that the Division is making steady progress towards completion. Since the compilation of the appended table the War Office have increased the establishment of the Army Service Corps from 594 to 900, an addition of 306 men. Thus the total establishment of the Division is increased to 18,291. The total strength is 16,451, so nearly 2,000 men are still required to complete the establishment.
Table shown

Strabane Chronicle
23rd January 1915

DONEGAL NOTES

Mr. William Hegarty, Mullans received a letter from his son, Private Hugh Hegarty, serving with the British Expeditionary Force in France, and in it he states "We all received a present (a pipe, a package of tobacco, a package of cigarettes and a card) from Princess Mary at Christmas.

The Misses Black, Bridge End, have received a communication from headquarters announcing the safety of their brother, Private Patrick Black, who was reported killed in the war. The parcel sent him by his sisters (who had a letter from him on Tuesday), and returned to the senders bearing the words "killed in action." was not properly addressed.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd January 1915

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES

KILLED – 30,
DIED OF WOUNDS – 2,
WOUNDED – 36.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd January 1915

FILL UP THE RANKS PROGRESS OF ULSTER DIVISION

The Ulster Division of Lord Kitchener's Army still continues to make rapid progress towards full establishment, and if the enlistments continue so satisfactorily as they did last week, it should reach full strength within the next few weeks.

The numbers now required to complete the division are:-

Strabane Chronicle
30th January 1915

NOTES

Mr. Thomas Knox Howie, Strabane was elected chairman of the Urban Council at their annual meeting on Saturday. Mr. John Kelly was elected vice-chairman.

Dr. H.P. Harpur, Strabane has received a commission in the R.A.M.C., and is appointed M.O. in charge of 8th Battalion Kings Royal Rifle Corps, Beacon Hill, Hindlead.

The Belgian refugees in Strabane are feeling quite at home. Speaking to our representative, they have expressed a high opinion of the Irish people, who have helped them in their hour of need.

Strabane Chronicle
30th January 1915

TYRONE MILITARY GOSSIP THE IRISH BRIGADE

Special efforts are about to be made to recruit for the Irish Brigade in the North of Ireland. Officers and non-commissioned officers from several of the regiments at Fermoy have been detailed for this duty, and it is intended to devote special attention to Belfast, Derry, Omagh, Strabane, Lurgan, Dungannon, Portaferry, Ardglass, Downpatrick, Castlewellan, Newry, and other centres, which will be visited on dates to be notified.

The sum of £?? Has been collected in Raphoe and neighbourhood to supply a fully equipped bed in Dublin Castle Hospital. A. Butler Stoney, Oakfield Park, Raphoe has forwarded the amount to Sir. John Olphert, H.M.L.

A Belgian refugee boy residing in Lifford is attending the Prior School, where he is showing himself a diligent student. Under the tutorship of Mr. A.J. Gloster, M.A., and Mrs. Gloster – both of whom can speak the French language fluently – the boy is sure to make every progress.

Belgian children are attending the Convent Schools, Strabane and are making splendid progress. Imbued with the natural love of their race for education, they are showing a strong inclination towards learning, and gifted with keen intelligence, they promise to be diligent students.

Strabane Chronicle 30th January 1915

STRABANE AND THE WAR

At present there are upwards of fifty men from Strabane serving at the front, the most of them being with the Inniskilling Fusiliers and the remainder being with the Irish Guards, North Irish Horse, Royal Field Artillery, Dublin Fusiliers, etc Private William J. Maguire (Inniskilling Fusiliers) has been killed in action, and Private Robert Sproule (Irish Guards) has died of wounds in France. Four privates of the Inniskilling Fusiliers, names Ellis, Craig, Gallagher and Henderson, who arrived home a short time ago, have been wounded in action, but three of them are at present with their regiment and anxious to go to the front at any moment.

Strabane Chronicle 30th January 1915

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE GIFTS FOR OUR SOLDIERS

The Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee still continue to carry out a huge scale their mission of charity. During the past week a sum of £60 has been spent by them in connection with the despatch of comforts for our troops. Fifty parcels have been sent to the Expeditionary Force, three parcels to our wounded soldiers, two parcels to the soldiers at present in Strabane who were wounded in the firing line, and three bales of warm underclothing to the Belgian soldiers.

The committee gratefully acknowledge the following (names listed)

Strabane Chronicle 30th January 1915

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

DIED OF WOUNDS – 2,
WOUNDED – 5, and
REJOINED – 3.

Strabane Chronicle 30th January 1915

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION FROM STRABANE SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT

Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus, Strabane has received the following letters of appreciation from the Strabane soldiers at the front, acknowledging their heartfelt thanks for a splendid parcel sent to each of them by Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee:-

Private Patrick M'Menamin, 27 Church Square, Sion Mills;

Private William Devenny, Strabane;

Bombdr. Joseph Reid, Strabane; and

Private John James Milligan, Dock Street, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle 30th January 1915

STRABANE AND THE WAR

Private William J. Maguire (Inniskilling Fusiliers) has been killed in action, and Private Robert Sproule (Irish Guards) has died of wounds in France

CWGC: Private William John Maguire, 3155, 2nd Bn., Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 31 Oct 1914. Son of Patrick and Mary Maguire of Strabane; husband of the late Cassie Maguire.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

MILITARY FUNERAL AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

The funeral took place on Tuesday of Private John Jamison of the 9th Battalion R.I.F., who belonged to Newtown Stewart and whose death took place in hospital in Belfast, as a result of appendicitis. Etc.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

RECRUITING IN STRABANE

On Monday, 1st inst. The band of the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Battalion) attended the fair, looking for recruits. They were accompanied by Captain Fannon and a number of recruiting officers and were stationed at the Unionist Committee Rooms.

Strabane has contributed a large number for the Ulster division, and almost daily recruits are joining the colours. Upwards of 100 men have enlisted from this locality and the immediate districts. In addition to this a good number of the U.V.F. men have enlisted in other divisions of the new army.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

STRABANE PENSIONS COMMITTEE AND WAR DEPENDENTS

A meeting of the above was held at the Courthouse, Mr. Patrick McMenamin, J.P., presiding.

A number of claims for pensions were considered and dealt with by the committee.

Subsequently a meeting in connection with the war dependents was held, when a large number appeared in support of their claim. Several dependents attended and complained of the delay in receiving their allowance. One of them stated that she was granted her allowance five months ago, but still she has not received the money. The secretary explained to the meeting that he had written about the matter. He received a communication on the subject requesting him to furnish a list of names of those who were granted an allowance but did not receive the money. He (the secretary) wrote furnishing a list of twelve names but did not as yet receive a reply to this list. The chairman directed the secretary to write again on the matter and urge the necessity of paying the money at an early date.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening, Miss M'Crea presiding. The attendance included: Mrs William Hoy, Mrs Clarke, the Manse; Miss N. Doherty, Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, Mrs. William King, Mrs. T.B. Feely, Mrs. Paul Gallagher, Mrs. Coxwall, Mrs. Delap, Mrs. David Hamilton, Miss Joyce, Miss Macgowan, and Mrs. J.C. Hamilton (hon. Secretary). Letters were received from the troops at the front expressing gratitude to the committee for their kind parcels sent.

A number of them wrote that it was a pleasure for them to do their duty when they were so well looked after.

The secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) reported that she had been in Belfast recently and had discussed the question with a medical gentleman there as to the reason of no wounded men being sent to the Strabane Hospital, and she had been informed by him the reason was that the institution was called a convalescent home, and that he had advised that it should be called a private hospital. If this were done he had no doubt wounded men would be sent for attention.

After hearing the secretary's remarks, the committee decided to change the name to a private hospital. The secretary also requested the members of the committee to enquire as to soldiers being wounded from this district, and also County Donegal districts, when arrangements could be made to have them treated.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

"RED HAND OF ULSTER"
DISTINCTIVE BADGE FOR THE DIVISION

As announced some time ago the War Office have granted permission for a distinguishing badge to be worn by the officers and men of the Ulster Division. The badge will take the form of the "Red Hand of

Ulster," is made of bronze, and will be worn in the cap. It is to be worn by every member of the Ulster Division, and their comrades in the British army will thus be able to recognise the division when they go to the front. The Division have had an honour conferred upon them by the War Office in being privileged to wear such a badge, and the men will doubtless appreciate the compliment thus paid to them.

Strabane Chronicle
6th February 1915

MILITARY FUNERAL AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

The funeral took place on Tuesday of Private John Jamison of the 9th Battalion R.I.F., who belonged to Newtownstewart and whose death took place in hospital in Belfast, as a result of appendicitis. The remains were escorted in Belfast to the railway station by a number of men from deceased's own regiment whilst the band was supplied by 5th Irish Rifles. At Newtownstewart Railway Station there was a good turn-out of Ulster Volunteers, who supplied a firing party of twelve men.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

MILITARY FUNERAL AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

The funeral took place at Newtownstewart on Tuesday of Private John Jamieson, 9th (Service) Battalion, R.I.F., who had died from appendicitis on Sunday morning in a Belfast hospital. Deceased had been with the battalion at Randalstown, where he had an attack of appendicitis, from which he was removed later to Belfast for an operation. The news of his death under such sad circumstances was received in his native town with regret. "Johnnie" was but 18 years of age, a mere boy, and his loss is keenly felt by his parents. The remains were escorted with military honours to the railway station at Belfast by a detachment of the 9th Battalion R.I.F. to which deceased belonged whilst the band was supplied by the 5th Royal Irish Rifles. The funeral from Newtownstewart Station at 2pm to the church-yard was most impressive, every detail being carried out with military precision. Etc.

The main mourners were – Mr. Thomas Jamieson (father), Robert Jamieson, private R.I.F., Thomas Jamieson, private R.I.F., and William Jamieson (brothers), Robert Jamieson (uncle).

CWGC: Private J Jamieson, 11663, "D" Coy. 9th Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 31 Jan 1915. Son of Thomas and Ellen Jamieson of 39b Colvil St., Strandtown, Belfast. Born at Newtownstewart. Buried in Ardstraw Cofl, Newtownstewart.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES
BROTHERS IN WAR

The death of Private John Jamieson makes a break in the number of families having three brothers serving their king and country in this district. The other families who have that proud distinction are the Crowes (John, Alexander and William) the Finlays (Robert, John C. and Andrew) the Mooreheads (Alexander, Joseph and James) the McGonigles (Mark, John and Frank) the Wilsons (Robert, John and William). The two Jamieson brothers still serving are Robert and Thomas

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Another member of B (Newtownstewart) Company of the 1st Battalion Tyrone Regiment UVF has received a commission in the army in the person of Cecil M. Smith who acted as assistant to the adjutant of the 1st Battalion all summer. When the War broke out he was anxious to join the 9th (Service) Battalion R Inn. Fus but was considered too young. He then joined the University OTC in Belfast and was last week offered a commission and has been gazetted to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

This makes 42 members from B Company and it is understood that more are enlisting next week. Over 100 men from this district are now serving.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

RECRUITMENT – DIFFERENT VIEWS

On Monday 1 inst., the band of the 9th Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Battalion) attended the fair, looking for recruits. They were accompanied by Captain Fannon and a number of recruiting officers and were stationed at the Unionist Committee Rooms. This battalion is now up to full strength, but they are recruiting for a reserve battalion. The band paraded the streets of the town all day and were successful in

obtaining a good number for the Ulster division, and almost daily recruits are joining the colours. Upwards of 100 men have enlisted from this locality and immediate districts.

Strabane Weekly News
6th February 1915

KITCHENER'S ARMY AT HOME

Another member of B (Newtownstewart) Company of the 1st Battalion Tyrone Regiment, UVF, has received a commission in the army in the person of Cecil M Smith, who acted as assistant to the adjutant of the 1st Battalion all summer. When the war broke out he was anxious to join the 9th (Service) Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, but was considered too young. He then joined the University OTC in Belfast and last week was offered a commission which he accepted, and has been gazetted to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and joined his regiment at Tenby on Tuesday last. This makes 42 members of the B Company, and it is understood that more are enlisting next week. Over 100 men from this district are now serving.

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

BROTHERS IN WAR - NEWTOWNSTEWART

In addition to the 6 sets of brothers mentioned last week we have to record the following – Adams (William, Robert and Fred), Hyndmans (Samuel, John and Joseph) Brogans (Edward, Charles and Patrick). The Quigley family who used to belong to this district but have since moved nearer to Strabane, has also sent 3 brothers – James, Hugh, William. Newtownstewart district has now accounted for 120 men.

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

THE ULSTER DIVISION
MR. MACNEILL'S ALLEGATIONS
SNUB FROM UNDER SECRETARY FOR WAR

In the House of Commons Mr. Swift MacNeill asked the Under Secretary for War whether of the four new armies the fourth new army started with the 30th Division and ended with the 36th (Ulster) Division; whether the 10th (Irish) Division, which was in the first new army, and the 16th (Irish) Division, which was in the second new army, and the levies of last autumn would take the field before the 36th (Ulster) Division, which was the last in the fourth new army and was composed of men who had had three years' training by efficient officers in field manoeuvres, in rifle practice, and even with machine guns; and having regard to the fact that if due rotation be observed the Ulster Division, notwithstanding their superior advantage in training, would be the last to take the field, and the Irish divisions, with a few month's training, amongst the first to take the field, what was the explanation of this treatment of the Ulster Division by placing it in the background.

Mr. Tenant writes in reply- ... he would be wrong in thinking that the Ulster Division will necessarily be the last to take the field.

Mr. Swift MacNeill asked the Under Secretary for War whether ... a great number of Nationalists and Catholics enlisted at the Unionist agencies in Ulster, and were now to the number of 1,000 in various camps throughout that province; whether these recruits had intimated their desire to join certain Irish regiments and were assured they could change into them later; whether despite this assurance, on the faith of which they enlisted, they were still detained in breach of that compact in the camps of the Ulster Division; and whether the War Office would take immediate steps for the performance of the condition under which these recruits enlisted and provide in future that the wish of the persons enlisting on the understanding that they were to join the Irish Brigade would be accomplished.

Mr. Tennant writes in reply that inquiry is being made.

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

1,166 RECRUITS REQUIRED

The following men are now required for the Ulster Division:-
Details provided of professions/employments...

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

THE COST OF FOOD AND FUEL
WAR EMERGENCY COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS

The War Emergency Workers' National Committee at their meeting at the House of Commons-Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., presiding-passed the following resolutions:-

- (1) That we view with grave concern the rise in prices of foodstuffs, which is equivalent to a serious reduction in wages. Etc, Etc
- (2) That the committee emphatically protests against the movement at present being engineered by certain mine owners, manufacturers, chambers of commerce, gas committees, and other interested parties to bring about the suspension of the Eight Hours' Act.
- (3) That in view of the great rise in the cost of living there is urgent necessity to raise the scale of relief to civilians in distress on account of the war, and that no rigid family income disqualification should necessarily debar an application from admission to workrooms or from under the National Relief Fund.
- (4) ... recognising the influence of co-operative societies in keeping down the price of coal in many districts, urges the co-operative movement to consider the question of becoming the owners of collieries as well as distributors of coal...
- (5) ... labour should be represented on the proposed Committee of Inquiry which is to investigate and report upon the question of dock and transport congestions.

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

THE ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS RECRUITS

Are now Wanted for the above Regiment also for all Branches of His Majesty's Army. Young men of good character between 18 and 25 years of age are invited to join and have good prospects. Recruits are also wanted for the SPECIAL RESERVE. 4 Months continuous Employment is ensured. PAY, 7s to 8s 5.5d. per week according to the Arm of the Service, In addition men are allowed to take away part of their Kit on completion of their Four month's training. BOUNTY on completion of four or five months' drill, 30s.

Men of good character between the ages of 17 and 30 years are eligible to join.

Full particulars regarding service in the Regular Army or Special Reserve will be supplied on application to any Recruiting Officer or Recruiting Sergeant at Strabane, Coleraine, Londonderry, Cookstown, Dungannon, to any Post Office, or to Captain E.I. Manders, The Barracks, Omagh.

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

WAR QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT
ARMY CASUALTY STATISTICS

Mr. Asquith said in reply to Mr. Hogge, that the total number of the British army casualties in the western area of the war up to February 4 was approximately 104,000 of all ranks.

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

DANCE IN AID OF THE BELGIANS

A very successful dance was held in Strabane in aid of the Belgian refugees, on 9th inst. under the auspices of the Commercial Dancing Class and proved a most enjoyable function. The Town Hall was packed to overflowing. Mr. D. Connolly's orchestra supplied the music, and the hall was tastefully decorated with the flags of the allies.

Mr. Patrick Doherty acted as M.C. and the refreshments were looked after by Mrs. McElhinney, Mrs. Browne, Miss O'Doherty, Mrs. J. Reilly, Miss Brady, Mrs T.B. Feely, Miss M'Gowan, Miss M'Elhinney, Mrs. M'Clean, and Miss M. Doherty.

Strabane Weekly News
13th February 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES IN STRABANE

The Belgian refugees who have arrived here are being well looked after. The largest number of them are residing at Church Street, being accommodated in a house provided by Mr. John Harkin, J.P., which was furnished by gifts of furniture, etc., presented by the inhabitants prior to their arrival. Already one of them has obtained employment with Mr. James White, J.P., at his works situate at Railway Street, amongst the numbers is a dentist.

The clergy, professional men, shopkeepers, etc., of all creeds subscribe a weekly allowance, which is being collected and is in charge of a capable committee, towards their maintenance

Strabane Chronicle
13th February 1915

TYRONE MILITARY GOSSIP
STRABANE MEN DOING WELL

Upwards of 70 parcels consisting of warm clothing, etc., have been sent by the Strabane War Women's RELIEF Committee to the soldiers at the front, and Mrs J.C. Herdman, hon. Secretary of the committee, has received a large number of letters from soldiers expressing their thanks. In one of the letters the writer states that up to the present all the Strabane men are well and in best of spirits. Each parcel forwarded consisted of a number of articles selected specially for the winter season.

Strabane Chronicle
13th February 1915

CASTLEDERG DOCTOR GETS A COMMISSION

Dr. G.M. Devine, son of Mr. George Devine, J.P., Castlederg has been gazetted a Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps and is attached for duty to the 8th Service Batt. South Lancashire Regiment. Dr. Gerald Leary, son of Dr. Thomas Leary, J.P., Castlederg, is also a Lieutenant in the R.A.M.C., and the town of Castlederg is well represented at the front.

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13th February 1915

COMMISSION FOR NEWTOWNSTEWART MAN

Cecil M. Smith, Newtownstewart, has received a commission, and is attached to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, which regiment he joined a week ago at Tenby. At the outbreak of the war Mr. Smith was anxious to join the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, but was considered too young, and then he joined the University Officers' Training Club in Belfast. He was recently offered a commission and he accepted it.

Strabane Chronicle
13th February 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART'S PROUD RECORD

The death of Private John Jamison last week makes a break in the number of families in the Newtownstewart district who have three serving their King and country. The families who have this proud distinction are the Crowes, the Finlays, the Mooreheads, the Wilsons, the Adams', and the M'Gonigles. Two Jamison brothers are still serving. Over 100 men from the Newtownstewart district are at present serving, and last week five volunteers from Plumbridge joined the army.

Strabane Chronicle
13th February 1915

GRATITUDE FOR "ATKINS"

Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Hon. Sec. of the Strabane War Women's Relief Committee has received a large number of letters from soldiers serving at the front from Strabane, acknowledging the receipt of gifts sent them

The following are extracts taken:-

Private James Walsh;

Private Devlin;

Private Michael Molloy;

Private John Smith;

Gunner McBeth;

Private Welsh.

Upwards of seventy parcels have been sent by the committee here and all letters carry the same tone of thanks for the comfortable underclothing, etc.

Strabane Chronicle
13th February 1915

IN AID OF THE BELGIAN REFUGEES
SUCCESSFUL BALL IN STRABANE

On entering the Town Hall, Strabane on Tuesday night, and taking a glance around it-although far away from the roar of the mighty cannons-one's mind must naturally have gone back over the past six months of a cruel war and given a few thoughts to the purpose of the assembly that night. I saw there in full force Strabane's colony of Belgian refugees, who despite the privations and torture received at the hands of the German Hun, -looked exceedingly well and bore faces of contentment, for full well they know that the star

of the German Empire-which has brought about this fiendish war- is about to set for ever, never again to rise to make men rush at one another's throat.

Strabane Chronicle
13th February 1915

STRABANE SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT

Mrs. J.C. Herdman, hon secretary of the Strabane War Women's Relief Committee, has received a large number of letters from soldiers serving at the front from Strabane, acknowledging the receipt of gifts sent them. The following are extracts:-

Private James Devlin;
Corporal Devlin;
Corporal Hamilton;
Private Michael Molloy;
Private John Smith;
Gunner M'Beth;
Private Welsh.

Strabane Weekly News
20th February 1915

**PAYMENT OF SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
ACTION OF PENSION OFFICERS CRITICISED
SOLDIERS' RELATIVES UNFAIRLY TREATED**

At an adjourned meeting of Omagh Urban Council, on Monday night, Mr. Thomas Johnston, J.P. (chairman), presiding.

Arising out of circular letters from the Local Government Board with reference to the National Relief Fund, Mr. P M'Loughlin said some people had been making very grave complaints with regard to the separation allowances, he did not refer to married women, they were very happy, but he did say there was a great grievance with regard to other dependents, the mothers and fathers. There was a great misunderstanding as to what they were entitled to, and grave complaints had reached him about the matter. He said the Administration of that portion of the War Office business was not properly carried out. A question had been asked in the House of Commons if the schedule offered by the Government was ever carried out, and the answer was given that it should be carried out. Was it? It was not.

If there was a disagreement between the pension officer and the dependents the question was to be referred to the pension committee, but he could not tell them that the pension committee had been absolutely ignored

Strabane Weekly News
20th February 1915

MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES

The following have been mentioned in despatches for distinguished and gallant service at the front:-
Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers – Sampson;
2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers n- Wilding, Stewart, Thomas, Cree.
North Irish Horse – Massereene, Wright, McIlwaine, MacM. Milling

Strabane Weekly News
20th February 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES IN STRABANE

The inhabitants of Stranorlar district are expecting a contingent of the Belgian refugees to arrive here shortly. Etc

Strabane Weekly News
20th February 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's war Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on the 18th inst. The committee decided to send out another consignment of parcels to the soldiers at the front. It was decided to register the hospital as a Hospital and Convalescent Home. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
20th February 1915

STRABANE AND DISTRICT WAR DEPENDENTS

A meeting in connection with above was held at the Courthouse, Strabane on the 16th inst., Mr. P M'Menamin, J.P. (chairman), presiding. There were also present Messers. R.J. Blair, James Stewart, J.P., John Harkin, J.P., and J.F.A. Simms. The secretary Mr. D. M'Clements, was also in attendance. Twenty-six dependents appeared before the committee in support of their applications. The applications were considered and dealt with.

Strabane Weekly News
20th February 1915

STRABANE'S FINE EXAMPLE

The town and vicinity of Strabane have at the instance of Strabane Women's War Relief Committee opened an hospital for the care of wounded soldiers who will arrive here from the front. The hospital is a fine building, four storeys high, situate at Newtown Street, and is fully equipped with beds, bed clothing, and all the necessary articles required for the care of the wounded. A matron has been secured from the city of Londonderry to superintend same, and the largest part of the work in connection with the hospital will be voluntary. The hospital will be open for wounded from County Tyrone and the adjoining county of Donegal. It is expected the hospital will be in full swing in the course of a week or two.

Strabane Weekly News
20th February 1915

REQUIRED BY THE ULSTER DIVISION

The following recruits are required by the Ulster Division:-

Details provided of professions/employments etc. etc

During the past week 491 recruits joined in Belfast, the majority of these being posted to the Ulster division. This brings the total of the city up to 18,528 irrespective of those who ???? or joined the Royal Navy or Royal Marines.

The number required for the Ulster division has been reduced to about 960 men. Will you help to complete its established strength by joining your comrades in the U.V.F. at once.

Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915

STRABANE MAN AT LA BASSEE.

Private A. Stewart, of the A.S.C., returned again to the front on Friday after having spent a pleasant holiday with his relatives in Strabane. He was wounded in the battle of La Bassee. He was engaged in the transport department, taking ammunition, etc to the firing line, his return journey being occupied by bringing wounded soldiers to hospital.

He expressed the opinion that it will only be a matter of time till the Germans are beaten, "and a thorough good thrashing they will get." He says. "The Strabane boys have given a good account of themselves and mean to continue to do so," he asserted.

Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915

STRABANE HOSPITAL FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

The Strabane Women's War Relief Committee have opened a hospital for the care of wounded soldiers who will arrive there from the front. The hospital is a fine building, four-storey high situate IN Newtown Street, and is fully equipped with beds, bed-clothing and all the necessary articles required for the care of the wounded.

Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee was held on Thursday, Miss M'Crea presiding. Consignments of parcels, Treasurer's Report, The Hospital, day of meeting.

Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915

BELGIAN REFUGEES AT STRABANE

In the attached photograph are seen four generations of Belgian refugees from historic Louvain. They are residing in Church Street, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

20th February 1915

**IRISHMEN IN NEW ARMIES
115,500 RECRUITS FROM GREAT BRITAIN**

According to the last census returns there were about 2,500,000 persons of Irish birth or descent living in Great Britain. Adopting the usual methods of calculation, this means that there are about 450,000 males of military age, says the "Daily Chronicle.") Mr. F.J. Crilly ... found that excluding the western, southern, and eastern counties, 115,513 Irishmen have joined the colours since the war began.

**Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915**

STRABANE SOLDIER MISSING

The relatives of Private Robert M'Corkell, who reside at Lifford, have not as yet received any further intimation from the War Office as to his whereabouts. Private M'Corkell, who has had 14 years service in the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

**Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915**

STRABANE POST OFFICE CLERKS

Since the outbreak of war recruiting has been brisk in Strabane, and from all trades and professions young men have nobly answered the call of King and country. Four clerks in the Strabane Post Office have joined the Royal Engineers Signalling Corps. Viz., Messrs. Alfred E. Charles, Irvine B. Wilson, Peter A. Devlin and Daniel V. Ford. Mr. Charles has already been called to France as he volunteered shortly after the outbreak of war, having undergone the usual course of training. Mr. Wilson is in Buxton, England; Mr. Devlin is in Waterford and Mr. Ford is in Downpatrick, all undergoing training before going to France.

**Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915**

CANADIAN FLOUR FOR STRABANE

The Very Rev. John Doherty, P.P., V.F. presided at a meeting of Strabane Distress Committee held in the Town Hall and there were also present- Rev. H.J. Smyth, Messrs. John Kelly, John Perry, Patrick Doran, Thos. M'Elhinney, J.q. Russell, and R.J. Smyth.

Arrival,
Names of Bakers,
Dates of distribution
Tickets

**Strabane Chronicle
20th February 1915**

STRABANE SOLDIER MISSING

The relatives of Private Robert M'Corkell, who reside at Lifford, have not as yet received any further intimation from the War Office as to his whereabouts. After the battle of Aisne his relatives were informed that he was then missing. Private M'Corkell, who has had 14 years' service in the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers left Dover at the outbreak of hostilities and went direct to the firing line. He had been in the famous retreat from Mons. He was also in the South African campaign but came through it safely. His many friends around here are anxious to hear of his welfare.

I.F.F. Lance-Corporal. Service No. 9667. 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 26 Aug 1914

**Strabane Weekly News
27th February 1915**

MISSING OFFICER

News is anxiously required of Lieutenant W.K. Humfrey, Lancashire Fusiliers, reported missing on August 26, and not since heard of. It is thought some of the war prisoners now returning from Germany may be able to throw some light on his fate, and Mrs. Humfrey, Cavanacor, Ballindrait, County Donegal, would gladly hear from any of such on the subject.

*I.F.F. Lieutenant W.K. Humfrey. 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers. Died 26 Aug 1914
Son of Col. and Mrs. B.G. Humfrey, of Cavanacor, Ballindrait, Donegal.*

**Strabane Weekly News
27th February 1915**

HELPING THE BELGIANS

A special meeting of Strabane Distress Committee was held in the Town Hall. Very Rev. J. Doherty, P.P., presiding. The master bakers of the town were also in attendance.

The secretary (Mr. T.B. Feely) reported that 65 bags of flour had arrived here, 15 of these bags were for the Belgians and the remainder for the poor of the town.

It was decided to issue tickets for the benefit of the poor to the different charitable societies in the town to persons who were affected by the war.

The master bakers, Messrs. Russell, Doran, M'Elhinney and Smyth have generously agreed to bake the flour, free of charge, same to be given out on specified days.

Strabane Weekly News
27th February 1915

ARMY APPOINTMENTS

Quartermaster and Honorary Lieutenant W. A. Morris, 1st battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers ..

Colonel G.M. Mackenzie, who formerly commanded a battalion of the Inniskilling Fusiliers ..

Quartermaster and Honorary Lieutenant J.A. Welby, who retired from the 1st Inniskillings in 1911 ..

Lieutenant A.W. Stark Christie, R.A.M.C., has taken over temporary medical charge of the Ulster Division, Headquarters R.E. at Antrim.

Strabane Weekly News
27th February 1915

MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES **COLONEL JAMES MEEK, M.D.**

Colonel James Meek, M.D., of the Headquarters staff, British Expeditionary Force, who was mentioned in Sir John French's recent despatch, is a brother of Rev. Samuel Meek, M.A., Presbyterian Minister of First Presbyterian Church, Raphoe, Co. Donegal. Colonel Meek is a Belfast man and prior to entering the army he had a most distinguished career at Queen's College.

Strabane Weekly News
27th February 1915

THE ULSTER DIVISION

The following recruits are still required for the Ulster Division. Details provided of professions/employments etc. etc

Last week 57 recruits joined the colours in Belfast bringing the total up to date for the city to 16,888. A recruiting tramcar has been provided in Belfast and has been the means of conveying a number of recruits to the Old Town Hall for the Ulster Division

Strabane Weekly News
27th February 1915

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR **IRISH NATIONALISTS AND RECRUITING** **LORD ABERDEEN'S FIGURES**

Sir, If a Unionist refers to the efforts of Ulsterman to defend the Empire he is at once taunted by the Nationalist Press with a desire "to stop recruiting" or to break the truce. But I cannot refrain from commenting on Lord Aberdeen's latest attempt to minimise the action of loyal Ireland in favour of his Nationalist friend

Strabane Weekly News
27th February 1915

PATRIOTIC CONCERT AT BARONSCOURT

One of the largest and perhaps most successful concerts of the season was given at Baronscourt in the Schoolhouse on Friday evening last, 19th inst. commencing at 7p.m.

The chair was occupied by the Rev. F.M. Hamilton, rector of Baronscourt, who introduced the different performers in his usual good-humoured and popular manner.

The proceeds, which amounted to the sum of £12 10s., has been forwarded to the Duchess of Abercorn for the war Relief Funds.

Strabane Weekly News
6th March 1915

NUMBER OF MMEN REQUIRED

The following recruits are still required for the Ulster Division:-
Details provided of professions/employments

Strabane Weekly News
6th March 1915

DIVISIONAL ITEMS

The undermentioned officers and N.C.O.'s of the Ulster Division have been selected for a fortnight's rifle course of instruction at the School of Musketry, Dublin, beginning tomorrow:-

107th Infantry Brigade (names given);
108th Infantry Brigade;
109th Infantry Brigade;
Divisional Units;

It is ordered that the bronze badge (Red Hand of Ulster), which has been sanctioned by the War Office for the Ulster Division, is to be taken into use forthwith both by officers and men at all units.

Strabane Weekly News
6th March 1915

GOVERNMENT AND THE VATICAN
SIR HENRY HOWARD'S APPOINTMENT
BELFAST PRESBYTERY PROTEST

At the meeting of the Presbytery of Belfast held on 4th inst., in the Church House, Rev. James Hunter directed attention to the recent appointment by the House of Commons of Sir Henry Howard as an envoy to the Vatican and moved the following resolution: "That the Presbytery are exceedingly anxious not to do or say anything that would embarrass the Government of the country in the solemn crisis of our history, but they think it is necessary to put on record their regret that the Government should have approached the Vatican as they have done, and they sincerely trust that this action will not be regarded as a precedent for the future."

Strabane Weekly News
6th March 1915

DRINK AND THE WAR
PLAIN SPEAKING BY MR. LLOYD GEORGE
GOVERNMENT ACTION FORESHADOWED
LABOUR DISPUTES AND THE NATION'S DEFENCES

Mr. Lloyd George on Sunday afternoon addressed a large meeting of his constituents in the Theatre, Bangor.

REASONS FOR TRIUMPH

A reason why we should triumph was that the resources of the Allies were overwhelmingly greater than those of the enemy, both as to men capable of bearing arms and in financial and economic resources. But beyond that all, there was a moral strength of our cause which counted in a struggle which involved sacrifice, suffering and privation.

NEED OF EQUIPMENT

The allied countries could raise armies of over 20 million men. Our enemies could put into the field barely half that number. But we stand more in need of equipment than we do men.

PLAIN SPEAKING

Proceeding, the Chancellor said there were two millions of men in this country at this hour who have tendered their lives for their country, and the rest of the nation ought not to grudge their share of inconvenience.

FOR AND AGAINST
THE LURE OF DRINK
WORLD'S GREATEST WAR
A GERMAN VICTORY

Strabane Chronicle
6th March 1915

CHANCELLOR AND INDUSTRIAL STRIFE.
LURE OF DRINK

Mr. Lloyd George addressed a great meeting of his constituents at Bangor this afternoon. His speech was his most momentous utterance since he spoke at the Mansion House during the Agadir crisis words of warning to Germany which at the time were heeded.

**POTATO BREAD SPIRIT
LURE OF DRINK
FEARLESS ACTION**

Strabane Chronicle
6th March 1915

COST OF WAR

The war has now lasted 240 days. The sum of £37,000,000, it is calculated will suffice, with the amount previously authorised, to defray the expenses up to the end of the financial year, and the extra vote for £250,000,000 taken yesterday will, it is estimated, provide for the naval and military expenditure up to the second week in July.

It has by this time come to be realised in all quarters of the House that it is characteristic of Mr. Asquith to be better in performance than in promise and that he is more inclined to under-estimate than to exaggerate the prospects of any cause with which he happens to be identified. Mr. Bonar Law, who followed, said that the Government would have the full support of the Opposition in the programme which had been outlined.

Strabane Chronicle
6th March 1915

IRISH RECRUITS FROM MANCHESTER AND SALFORD

The total of Irish Recruits from Manchester and Salford is more than double the number that appeared in the statistical table published last week. It has been ascertained that over 9,000 Irishmen from that city have joined the colours. The 4,000 referred only to the recruiting from the six parishes set out in the return. This raises the number of Irish recruits who have joined in Great Britain to 120,000. These returns are apart from the number of Irishmen of Great Britain who were in the army prior to the war.

Strabane Chronicle
6th March 1915

**STRABANE AND LETTERKENNY RAILWAY COMPANY
RETURN OF THE YEAR'S TRAFFIC
EFFECT OF THE WAR ON TOURISTS**

The annual general meeting of the proprietors of the Strabane and Letterkenny Railway was held on Friday afternoon in the offices of Strabane Station. Mr. P. M'Menamin, J.P. (chairman of directors), presided and there were also present- Mr. E.T. Herdman, D.L., and Mr. Edward M'Fadden (directors) and Mr. Henry Forbes (secretary and traffic superintendent), Mr. R.M. Livesey (engineer and locomotive superintendent), and Mr. J. Shields (accountant).

The secretary submitted the directors' statement of accounts and statistical returns for the year ending 31st December last. The report showed that the gross receipts amounted to £6,282 13s 3d and expenditure to £3,889 16s leaving the net receipts £2,392 17s 3d

The details showed that in the case of passenger bookings they had a falling off in all classes, the number carried being 93,848 passengers, as compared with 101,496 for the previous year, a decrease of 7,648 while their passenger receipts ... a falling off of £215.

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13th March 1915

NURSING CORPS

Sixmilecross nurse, Bella Dixon, who served in Serbia during the first World War and was later decorated by both King George V and King Peter of Serbia for her work at the field hospital in 1915.

Nurse Drought (Mrs. Edith Whelan), wife of Canon Whelan, Lislimnaghan Church, Omagh

Edith Harkness, Newtownstewart, joined the Tyrone UVF nurses brigade, as a volunteer during the war.

SWponsored by the Duchess of Abercorn they offered their services to the French army. They established the Tyrone Hospital in Pau, France

Strabane Weekly News
13th March 1915

**IRISH FARMERS AND THE WAR
NEED OF FOOD PRODUCTION
LETTER FROM SIR HORACE PLUNKETT**

Sir,- The wisest and most far-seeing amongst us can form but the vaguest notion of the economic social and political agony which this war may be piling up for years to come. We must be prepared for a period of depression, the like of which this generation has not known. Etc. Etc

Strabane Weekly News
13th March 1915

**RECRUITING TOUR IN TYRONE
MORE MEN WANTED FOR THE INNISKILLINGS**

An advertisement appearing in another column of this issue states that a recruiting tour organised by the 7th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, which is presently stationed at Tipperary, will commence on Saturday next when a large recruiting party consisting of two officers, fifty men and the band of the battalion will arrive in Omagh for that purpose. The recruiting detachment will make a complete tour of the entire surrounding district and will visit all the principal towns in the county with the object of beating up recruits. Tyrone has done well already in the matter of recruiting, but there are still some men who can be spared, and as the allowances being made by the Government both to the soldier and his dependents are very favourable, it is expected that this new recruiting tour will find many men willing and ready to join the ranks.

Strabane Weekly News
13th March 1915

A STRABANE MAN'S PROMOTION

His many friends in Strabane and District, and in the counties of Tyrone, Donegal and Londonderry, will be pleased to learn that Mr. Edward Gallagher, son of Mr. Edward Gallagher, J.P., county councillor and coroner, has been gazetted second lieutenant in the 7th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at present stationed at Tipperary. Mr. Gallagher was the commander of the Strabane Nationalist Volunteers previous to his enlistment, and in that capacity enjoyed a large measure of popularity. He has had six months' service with the colours, having served three months with the 7th Battalion Dublin Fusiliers and three months with the 7th Battalion Leinsters. The appointment is very popular here.

Strabane Chronicle
13th March 1915

**BELFAST NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS REVIEWED
BEFORE COLONEL MOORE AND MESSRS. DILLON AND DEVLIN
IMPOSING CEREMONY
DUTY OF IRISHMEN IN THE WAR
GREAT SPEECH BY MR. DILLON**

"WE SHALL NEVER CONSENT TO DIVIDE THIS COUNTRY OR THIS NATION"

Mr. John Dillon, M.P., was an honoured visitor amongst the Nationalists of Belfast on Sunday. The occasion of his visit was principally to participate in the function of a review of the Irish National Volunteers of the city, which was held in the afternoon in Celtic Park.

An enormous crowd of spectators was attracted to the function, and all along the line of the route the streets were lined with people. Mr. Dillon, M.P., Mr. Devlin, M.P., and the members of the Party by whom they were accompanied were accorded a spirit-stirring ovation.

**THE REVIEW
THE INSPECTION
MR. DEVLIN'S ADDRESS
MR. DILLON'S SPEECH. VOLUNTEERS IN THE WAR
IN THE BATTLE LINE
POWER OF THE VOLUNTEERS
CONCILIATION, NOT CONTENTION
BANQUET SPEECHES**

Strabane Weekly News
20th March 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A meeting of the War Relief in Strabane was held in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, Mr. William Hoy presiding. The Secretary (Mrs. JC Herdman) and treasurer (Mrs. James Toner) were also in attendance. Letters were received from the Marconi Station, Galway, horse artillery, rifle brigade, etc., acknowledging receipt of garments sent to them. All the letters were paid in a high tribute towards the comforts received from the gifts.

Strabane Weekly News
20th March 1915

RECRUITMENT

A large crowd of spectators assembled at the railway station on Tuesday to witness the arrival of the contingent from the 7th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who arrived here accompanied by a band for the purpose of recruiting in order to bring the battalion up to its full strength. The party was accompanied by Lieutenants Morton and Taggart. Some of the recruiting party were residents of this locality prior to their enlistment and they were heartily welcomed by their friends at the station.

Strabane Weekly News
20th March 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

Mrs. JC Herdman, secretary of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee, has received a number of letters from soldiers serving at the front from Strabane, in response to a quantity of parcels forwarded them consisting of underclothing etc. The following are extracts taken:- Private J.Slevin, 2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers writes:- "Many thanks for the parcel received from the Women's War Relief Committee. I beg to thank the members of the Committee for taking such a great interest in the welfare of the troops at the front." Private J. Milligan writes:- "Just a few lines to let you know that the parcel was received all right. The garments were gladly accepted as a change. The weather out here is not so bad as it was. All the Strabane boys are in good spirits. I wish the Committee the best of luck".

Strabane Weekly News
20th March 1915

CONCERT IN STRABANE

A largely attended concert was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday, 17th inst, the proceeds being in aid of the Volunteers. The programme consisted of two parts and was greatly appreciated. Etc, Etc.

Strabane Weekly News
20th March 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of above was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs. William Hoy presiding. The secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) and treasurer (Mrs. James Toner) were also in attendance. Letters were received from the Marconi Station, Galway, horse artillery, rifle brigade, etc., acknowledging receipt of garments sent them. All the letters paid a high tribute towards the comforts received from the gifts.

The secretary reported that Colonel Browne had suggested that a telephone be erected in the hospital recently equipped so as to communicate with him as to the condition of the wounded.

Mrs. Herdman stated that she communicated with Colonel Baillie, J.P., as to the use of his telephone, and Colonel Baillie had written her stating that the committee could have the use of same and enclosing at the same time a subscription towards the fund.

The committee expressed their gratitude for Colonel Baillie's kind offer and subscription. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
20th March 1915

9th INNISKILLING SPORTS

Most successful regimental sports were held at Randalstown camp on St. Patrick's Day, handsome prizes being provided for the winners. List of events and winners and second places shown. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
20th March 1915

MUNITIONS OF WAR
LORD KITCHENER ANXIOUS
OUTPUT UNEQUAL TO NECESSITIES.
WARNING TO THE NATION
THE FIGHTING IN FRANCE

In the House of Commons on Monday.

Earl Kitchener who was received with cheers, made a statement with regard to the progress of the war. He said-for many weeks only trench fighting has been possible owing to the climate conditions and waterlogged state of the ground. During this period of apparent inaction it must not be forgotten that our troops have had to exercise the utmost individual vigilance and resource and owing to the proximity of the enemy's lines a great strain has been imposed upon them.

**PROGRESS OF THE CAMPAIGN
DELAYED SUPPLIES OF WAR MATERIAL
A WARNING TO THE NATION
PATRIOTISM IN THE WORKSHOPS**

Strabane Chronicle
20th March 1915

**MR. REDMOND ON IRELAND AND THE WAR
REMINDERS TO THE WAR OFFICE.
VOLUNTEERS' READINESS.
TO TAKE PART IN DEFENDING COASTS OF IRELAND
RECORD AT THE FRONT**

The celebration of Ireland's National Festival which took place in Manchester on Sunday, resulted in one of the most enthusiastic demonstrations that has ever marked these annual functions.

**THE EFFECT MIGHT BE WHEN THE WAR IS OVER
THE ULSTER AND IRISH VOLUNTEERS
THE OFFER HAD NOT BEEN ACCEPTED
HE INVITED NEW MEN TO JOIN ONE OF THE IRISH DIVISIONS
THE CALCULATIONS OF THE KAISER HAD BEEN FALSIFIED.**

Strabane Weekly News
27TH March 1915

**RECRUITING IN IRELAND
LETTER FROM SIR E. CARSON
ULSTER'S FINE RECORD**

Sir Edward Carson writes as follows to the "Morning Post":- It has recently been stated that "recruiting is particularly bad in Ireland, despite the efforts which Sir Edward Carson and Mr. Redmond have made to promote it, each in his own sphere." As the government do not publish the figures relating to different districts I can only speak of recruiting in Ulster, and if the information in my possession is accurate, as I believe it to be, the comment made, so far as that province is concerned, is unwarranted and unfair. The latest figures I have been able to obtain were supplied to me towards the end of February. At that time the province of Ulster had contributed 32,000 recruits out of a population of 1,580,000 or approximately 205 per 10,000 of the population. Taking the figures for the principal industrial area-that is, the city of Belfast and the counties of Antrim and Down together-the rate of recruiting for that district works out at nearly 350 per 10,000, which I should imagine is unequalled by any other district in the United Kingdom. I think that on these figures I may be allowed to claim that any hostile criticism of recruiting in Ireland should not be applied to the province of Ulster.

Strabane Weekly News
27TH March 1915

NOTICE OF DEPOSIT OF POOR RATE BOOKS FOR INSPECTION

The Poor Rate Books of the following Rural Districts is available:-
Castlederg, Clogher, Cookstown, Trillick, Dungannon, Omagh, Strabane No.1

Strabane Chronicle
27th March 1915

NOTES

Intimation has been received by Mrs. Reid, Ballymullerty, Douglas Bridge, Co. Tyrone that her husband Private William Reid, of the Royal Irish Rifles, has been promoted to the rank of Lance-corporal for gallantry on the battlefield. Reid, who was a reservist, acted as a Nationalist Volunteer instructor in the Douglas Bridge district before the outbreak of war.

Strabane Chronicle
27th March 1915

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, Strabane has received letters from Capt. W.L. Foster, R.H.A., Woolwich, Captain G. Kents, A Co., 1st Rifle Brigade, British Expeditionary Force, France and from the Marconi Troops at Cliften, acknowledging the receipt of parcels of necessaries sent to the men of the different regiments by the Women's War Relief Committee of Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
27th March 1915

STRABANE SOLDIERS' GRATITUDE

Mrs. J.C. Herdman, secretary of the Strabane Women's Relief Committee, has received a number of letters from soldiers serving at the front from Strabane, in response to a parcel forwarded to each of them, consisting of underclothing, etc.

The following are extracts taken-

Private J. Slevin, 2nd battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers,

Private J. Milligan,

Private R. Cunningham,

Private P. Gallagher, and

Gunner John Cassidy.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd April 1915

'Amongst all the Strabane men who are serving with the British and Indian Expeditionary forces in France there cannot be any more interesting career or more deserving of praise than Corporal Archie McLay, eldest son of the late Mr. E.B. McLay, veterinary surgeon.

Corporal McLay, on completing his education at the Strabane Academy some years ago, chose soldiering as a profession, and joined the 6th Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Most of his service with the regiment was in India and on the expiration of his term of enlistment, he applied for, and received a highly coveted position as army instructor to the Australasian Imperial Force, holding the rank of sergeant-major.

His position in Australia was both responsible and lucrative, but on the outbreak of the war he was amongst the first to volunteer for service in Kitchener's army, and having obtained the necessary permission, he returned to England and rejoined his former regiment, which had, in the meantime, volunteered from India. Corporal McLay is now serving with the 6th Inniskilling Fusiliers in France. He recently paid a flying visit to Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
3rd April 1915

STRABANE MAN'S LETTER FROM THE FRONT

A letter has been received from Corporal A. McLay, who is serving with the 6th Royal Inniskilling Dragoons, which gives an interesting account of some of his experience at the front. It is of course well known that there has been comparatively few British cavalry engagements, but Corporal McLay's letter shows that it would be wrong to assume that our mounted troops have no active duties to perform.

Strabane Weekly News
17th April 1915

Prisoner Conaghan in Germany. Joined up on outbreak of War. Postcard to a relative and says he is quite well. Requests that he be sent parcel of food, tobacco, sweets and cake. Took part in retreat from Mons where he was wounded and taken prisoner. Formerly worked in Strabane Post Office.

Strabane Weekly News
17th April 1915

OMAGH MAN REPORTING FROM THE FRONT

Bombardier John Lyons of Campsie, Omagh has been invalidated home and has given some particulars of his experiences. He mobilised at Athlone and weighted in at 16s-6lbs and was labelled for 'home service'. He had been a saddler and was posted to Waterford to help harness 400 horses. Was then sent to Kildare to join a howitzer battery and on to Dublin where he was shipped to Cambridge. Had not expected to be taken to France but volunteered to go as harness maker.

After 34 days at the Front his group retired to rest the horses and repair harness. He was sent to get new harness and got separated from his lorry driver. He attempted to walk the 50 miles back to his troop but got lost and found himself in enemy territory. He came across a saddled horse with dead Germans around and after waiting for a period caught the horse which had apparently stayed beside her dead German master for up to two days. With some difficulty he was able to persuade the horse to head towards the British lines until the horse collapsed when he had to proceed on foot. Rejoined his troop and took part at battle at Lille and Ypres and then to Neuve Chapelle. He was in the famous charge at Dixmude where over 15,000 Germans lay dead on the field. Bombardier Lyons got a medal for distinguished bravery in battle.

Strabane Weekly News

17th April 1915

Thanks from Strabane Sailor for parcels – Stoker Foster from Strabane on board HMS Donegal. He had travelled from Montreal at start of the War to Liverpool and joined up. He was in contact with Stoker James McCallan, HMS Majestic and formerly of Sion Mills – now serving in the Dardanelles and is quite well

Strabane Weekly News

24th April 1915

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

A letter from John Donnell of the 11th Battalion, 1st Brigade, 27th Division Expeditionary Force Arrived in August in Havre, and on to Mons to take part in the battle there. Retired on 26th August and were hard pressed by the Germans. Driven back to near Paris. The war was fearful and Hell open could not be any worse. I was also engaged in carrying despatches to the ammunition column. I was in charge of the first line of wagons for eight days and also in charge of the gun for 8 days. I was in charge of my gun when the Royal Irish made the gallant charges near St Eloi and captured 8 trenches. Our battery is now in Ypres. This is a rough outline of some of the battles I have been in.

Strabane Weekly News

24th April 1915

DONAGHMORE MAN FIGHTING AT NEUVE CHAPELLE

Sapper Alfred McGowan on Royal Engineers writing to relative at Donaghmore -
'had it very hot recently on attacks on German trenches. We lost thousands of brave men, but it was nothing compared to the Germans. When we got to their trenches the dead were laying eight deep in some of them and for almost a mile the place was covered with dead and wounded friend and foe alike lying side by side. We bombarded Neuve Chapelle and scarcely left a brick standing. In this place alone we captured 750 prisoners it was a murderous fight and when we got to their trenches we made short work of them, even where they were one to one..... I got wounded in the shoulder and thought it was all up with me but as I lay on the ground I saw two Germans firing at us from behind a tree seventy yards away. I slipped up my rifle steadily and shot both stone dead.... After our victory everyone was saying how pleased our people at home would be hearing the result. It should be a good incentive to wake up the young men of Britain who are the right age and can be spared to enlist.

Strabane Weekly News

1st May 2015

THE OPERATIONS IN THE DARDANELLES GENERAL ATTACK BY FLEET AND ARMY FORCES LANDED IN FACE OF STRONG OPPOSITION

The War Office and Admiralty make the following announcement. The general attack on the Dardanelles by Fleet and Army was resumed on Monday.

Strabane Weekly News

1st May 2015

DEFENCE OF THE REALM A STRABANE CASE THOUGHT HIGHLY OF KAISER'S RULE GETS "TIME" TO CONSIDER HIS DECISION

District Inspector Heggart, charged Bernard Goan, of no fixed abode, and who was brought up in custody with having in Strabane, on 20th April, 1915, unlawfully spread reports or made statements likely to prejudice recruiting for his Majesty's forces, contrary to the Defence of the Realm Act 1914, and regulations thereunder.

It appeared that on the 20th April last there was a recruiting meeting in Strabane at the Pallidrome. The deposition of Constable M'Caffrey was read and was to the effect that on the evening of the 20th April, between 7 and 8 o'clock, a recruiting meeting was being held in the Pallidrome, at Railway Street, Strabane, at which a number of speeches were being delivered urging recruiting for his Majesty's forces. After the meeting was over and the people were dispersing, witness was outside the Pallidrome. He saw the defendant there. He was in the crowd and threw up his arms and shouted loudly: "Is there any recruiting sergeant about here? I hope not a man in Strabane will join the colours"
After cautioning him he said: "I wish the Kaiser was here. The Kaiser's rule would be better than the rule we have. I am not a bit sorry for what I have said. I will stick to it."

The chairman said that having regard to the gravity of the offence they could not give him less than two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Strabane Weekly News

1st May 2015

**ULSTER DIVISION RESERVES
6,000 MORE MEN REQUIRED
APPEAL FOR COMMERCIAL BATTALIONS**

A public meeting of Belfast employers was held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall to consider the question of raising three reserve battalions to the Ulster Division of Lord Kitchener's Army. The Lord Mayor (Councillor Crawford M'Cullagh, J.P.) presided over a large and representative attendance. Lieutenant-General Powell said they had got in the Ulster Division over 18,000 men, but they required three reserve battalions of 2,000 each.

Strabane Weekly News

1st May 2015

**STRABANE MAN AT THE FRONT
AN APPEAL TO TYRONE MEN**

Gunner Joseph Reid, Heavy Battery R.G.A., now with the Expeditionary Force in Northern France, and formerly of Ballee, Strabane, sends us the following communication, dated 27th April 1915, and in doing so says he always looks forward to getting the "Strabane Weekly News" each week at the front:-
Practically speaking there has been no movement of importance since October and there has been really no heavy fighting since the great battle of Ypres came to an end last November etc, etc
We have one advantage, we can hear the shells coming whistling through the air."
Have you any eligible men in County Tyrone who have not yet donned the khaki?

Strabane Weekly News

1st May 2015

**OMAGH URBAN COUNCIL
SEATING OF THE TOWNHALL
RELIEF FOR BELGIAN SOLDIERS**

A letter was received from the chairman of the convalescent home for Belgian soldiers, London asking the support of the Urban Council and stating that they felt sure that many charitable ladies would if asked by the Council make a house to house collection and by taking up weekly and monthly contributions secure a substantial amount and should a sum of £10 per month be raised a bed in the Convalescent Home would bear the name of the district.

Strabane Weekly News

1st May 2015

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A most enjoyable entertainment was held in the school-house, Leckpatrick, on Friday evening, the large audience attending being well satisfied with the programme provided. Pictures were also shown and Corporal D. Gillen who attended and rendered assistance was greatly appreciated. An amusing sketch was given by the local amateurs and lunch was enjoyed. A dance followed and was continued until the morning. Mr. William Cunningham officiated as MC. The dinging of the National Anthem concluded the entertainment.

Strabane Weekly News

1st May 2015

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A further sum of £20 has been collected by the Baronscourt school children and other kind friends in the surrounding districts and forwarded per Mrs. Johnston of the Schoolhouse to Her Grace, the Duchess of Abercorn, as an additional contribution to the war relief funds. This is the third occasion that school children have interested themselves in raising funds for the sick and wounded soldiers. It is hoped that other schools in County Tyrone will follow their worthy example as apart altogether from the help thus given them, there is no better training for the children than encouraging them to do something, however little, for the King and country, in this terrible time of stress and struggle.

Strabane Chronicle

1st May 1915

IRISH GUARDS' BAND ARRIVES IN STRABANE ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME

This morning the famous fife and drum band of the Irish Guards arrived from Derry by the 11.10 train, and on alighting received a tremendous ovation, a large number of prominent townsmen attending to receive them. Lieut. Purcell, of the Irish Guards, was in charge of the party, and was accompanied by Mr. Cronin, who is attached to the Guards recruiting party. The band formed outside the station. Lively airs were rendered on the route march through the town.

In the afternoon, a public meeting was held in the Abercorn Square. Mr. Malone, postmaster, explained the object of the meeting, and moved that Mr. Gallagher, J.P., take the chair. This was seconded by Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor.

Mr. Gallagher said he had great pleasure in welcoming the representatives of that famous and distinguished regiment of the Irish Guards (hear, hear). He urged upon the people the duty of responding to the call of the country. He depreciated the fact that the Strabane Urban Council had neglected the duty of welcoming the party.

Mr. Cronin in the course of his speech, remarked that two members of the regiment had already distinguished themselves of the battlefield. It would be well for them, he said, to ponder for a few minutes why they were at war.

Mr. Simms, solicitor, said it was a privilege for him to stand on that platform, which was composed of parties of all shades of political opinion. (hear, hear)

Mr. T. Burns, J.P., said he was pleased to welcome the Irish Guards to Strabane.

Mr. James White, J.P., said that he had two sons with the colours. (cheers)

Mr. Perry said if he were a young man he would join the army. His brother and his brother-in-law were both in the trenches (cheers).

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman and the speakers, and the meeting concluded.

Strabane Weekly News 8th May 2015

KITCHENER'S ARMY AT HOME

It was with a feeling of pride and deep satisfaction that the thousands of Tyrone people who journeyed to Belfast last Saturday watched the march past of the splendid battalion which County Tyrone has contributed to Lord Kitchener's army from the ranks of the Ulster Volunteers. The 9th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, about 1,200 strong, are a credit and an honour to any country. They were enthusiastically admired, not only by Tyrone people, but by the vast assemblage which lined the route through the city, and even Belfast people who would be naturally prejudiced in favour of their own battalions, had to admire that the Tyrone men could not be beaten in physique and general military appearance.

Strabane Chronicle 8th May 2015

NEWS / STORIES FROM THE FRONT

John Brady, organiser in London, for the United Irish League, and Mrs. Brady have been frequently visiting the wounded soldiers at Millbank Hospital, bringing them comforts of various kinds which sympathetic friends from many parts of Ireland and even from the Irish in the United States, have entrusted to them. Private Michael McGlinchey, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was a prisoner in Germany but was exchanged and sent to London. He was severely wounded during the retreat from Mons and sustained bullet wounds on the shoulder and across the jaw.

He was also injured in the leg so badly that it was found necessary to amputate the limb. The poor fellow, who had kept up his spirits wonderfully despite his dreadful injuries, has now gone to his home in Bridge Street, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News 8th May 2015

NEWS / STORIES FROM THE FRONT

Gunner Joseph Reid, Heavy Battery, RGA, now with the Expeditionary Force in Northern France, and formerly of Ballee, Strabane, sends us the following communications, dated 27th April 2015, and in doing so says he always looks forward to getting the "Strabane Weekly News" each week at the front.

Dear Sir, allow me, through the columns of your valuable paper, to give people in and around Strabane my views on the present campaign. The little bit I see going on just in my own vicinity is very small compared with the operations along the whole battle front, on the French side, a distance of about 600 miles, and of this distance the British army holds only about 30 miles. Well, as yet we have hardly come to the end of the

long and dreary winter campaign, which means all trench fighting, when by reason of the cold and the sodden state of the ground progress has been impossible on either side. The ground must be hard before cavalry or artillery can be moved to advantage.

End of winter where there had been little movement from either side since battle for Ypres in November – the Germans suffered hundreds of thousands of casualties in their vain attempts to pierce the Allies ring of steel and get to Calais and now I think they are finding great difficulty in replacing these casualties. Undoubtedly the Germans are getting weaker every day while we are getting stronger.

With spring here we can expect big movements before long. You can take it from me that the Germans will have to move soon. Our artillery is doing excellent work here, much to the annoyance of the Germans who have a peculiar habit of opening fire about dinner time. Yesterday we had the pleasure of having four different German batteries firing at us. It was rather warm I can assure you while it lasted. We have one advantage, we can hear the shells coming whistling through the air. The Russian successes will probably seal the fate of Austria. Also our fleet will certainly force the Dardanelles in time and capture Constantinople which will be sure to hasten the end. But they certainly have a hard nut to crack and we must not expect success too soon or without serious losses.

Now there is one more question I would like to ask you; Have you any eligible men in co. Tyrone who have not yet donned the khaki ... Well I would like to tell them that now is the time if they want to be in at the finish....

Strabane Weekly News
8th May 2015

RECRUITMENT

On Saturday the brass and reed band of the Inniskilling Fusiliers attended Stranorlor for the purpose of obtaining recruits. The band was accompanied by Captain Toner, who took part in the famous retreat from Mons. Great crowds conveyed the band on the march to Stranorlar and the town of Ballybofey, adjoining. In the evening a very enthusiastic meeting was held, and on a motion of Mr. Francis Callaghan JP, seconded by Mr. James Boyle, Dr. Johnston was moved to the chair. The chairman, who was warmly received, explained the objects of the meeting and appealed to all the men of military age to join and avenge the wrongs done to Belgium by German barbarism.

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

NOT KILLED BUT WOUNDED
BLUNDER OVER A TYRONE MAN

On Tuesday, a large number of the morning papers published in the list of killed the name of Lieutenant R.A. Lloyd son of Mr. Averell Lloyd., J.P., Tamnamore House, Dungannon. It appears however that the War Office in issuing the casualty list confused the name of Second-Lieutenant R.A. Lloyd of the 4th Battalion of the King's Liverpool Regiment who had been killed in Ypres on 24th April.

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

SIR E. CARSON APPEALS FOR RECRUITS
“A SPECTACLE TO ROUSE PRIDE AND ENTHUSIASM”

With regards to Saturday's review of the Ulster Division, Sir Edward Carson has given to the Press the following statement:- "No one who witnessed the review of the Ulster Division on Saturday could fail to be moved by feelings of pride and enthusiasm. The gallant men who have such a splendid response to the call of their King and country will fight the battle of freedom and justice with traditional courage of their race, and will each do a man's part in avenging the barbarous atrocities which have scandalised civilisation and have introduced into warfare methods of savagery and lawlessness which have been hitherto unknown amongst civilised nations.

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

NOTES AND COMMENTS
THE TYRONE VOLUNTEERS

It was with a feeling of pride and deep satisfaction that the thousands of Tyrone people who journeyed to Belfast last Saturday watched the march past of the splendid battalion which County Tyrone has contributed to Lord Kitchener's Army from the ranks of the Ulster Volunteers. The 9th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, about 1,200 strong, are a credit and honour to any county.

The battalion was under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel A. St. Quentin Ricardo D.S.O., and Major E.H. Llewellyn.

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

LOCAL AND DISTRICT NEWS

Ulster Division-Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers 9th Battalion (County Tyrone)-Temporary Captain W.J. Peacock to be temporary Major. To be temporary second-lieutenants- W. Kelly and W.A. Hewitt. 11th Battalion (Donegal and Fermanagh)-L.H. Rutledge to be temporary second-lieutenant.

9th Batt. Royal Inns. Fus. Seniority roll of warrant and non-commissioned officers of the above.

A list of approx. 126 officers.

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

THE SERIOUS SIDE OF THE WAR
BY THE REV. T.L. HEALY, M.A. NEWTOWNSTEWART

The serious aspect of the great European war and its vital connection with the lives of the people at home was the subject of the sermon by the Rev. T.L. Healy, at the morning service in Newtownstewart Parish Church on Sunday last.

I am told that the drinking in Newtownstewart at the fair before the last was worse than usual.

It may be that we are at the turning of the tide

What the war means.

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT BARONSCOURT
ENJOYABLE EXCURSION FROM OMAGH

The wounded soldiers brought to Omagh for treatment in The Tyrone County Hospital and Omagh Military Hospital consider themselves exceptionally fortunate. There are few other places in the United Kingdom where they received better attention of where the general public take a greater interest in their welfare, in fact nothing is left undone either outside or inside the hospitals to ensure their comfort and happiness, and those who have been previously treated here for wounds and became fit for active service again left the town with many regrets and expressions of heartfelt thankfulness for the kindness bestowed on them.

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS FAMILIES ASSOCIATION.
TYRONE DIVISION. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Already acknowledged	£692 15s 8d
Grant from Head Office, Omagh	£ 75 0s 0d
Thomas Falls, Esq., High Sheriff	
Of Tyrone	<u>£ 3 0s 0d</u>
	£770 15s 8d

H.Irvine, Col.,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer

Strabane Weekly News
15th May 2015

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

A detachment of the Ulster Division, 9th Service Battalion R.I.F. visiting Newtownstewart on Monday, the opportunity was taken by the local company of the U.V.F. to entertain the men. A football match Military v Civilians was arranged for, and began at 7-15 p.m. Etc.

Subsequently the recruiting party and their band were entertained to supper in the Abercorn Hotel. At the conclusion of the repast Lieutenant Weir thanked the Newtownstewart U.V.F. for their great kindness to the party since their arrival on the previous Saturday. Etc

With the Irish Brigade contingent which came here for recruiting purposes on Monday was Sergeant-Major Dolan, who formally belonged to Newtownstewart. Etc, Etc

Mr. Henry Gallagher, Crown Solicitor, for County Donegal, spoke a few sharp words to Nationalist Volunteers on the matter of recruiting at the public meeting held here on Monday last. The platform had on it representatives of both political parties. There were present: Mr. H.T. Gallagher, Mr J.F.A Simms, Mr.

W.T. Miller, J.P., Mr Percy (Dublin). Mr N.W. Tipping. Mr. Patrick Roche, and Lieutenant E. Gallagher (Strabane). A report of the meeting will be found under separate heading

Strabane Chronicle
15th May 1915

STRABANE MAN INJURED AT THE FRONT

News has reached Strabane that Private George Gallagher, a native of this town, has been seriously wounded at the front in the recent gallant fighting in which the Canadian troops were engaged. Private Gallagher who has been in Canada since boyhood, was amongst the first to volunteer for service with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He now lies at a base hospital in France where he has undergone a successful operation in order to have several bullets removed from his legs. He is the son of the late Mr. Patrick Gallagher, who for many years was an employee of the firm of Messrs. James M'Ivor and Co, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
15th May 1915

**THE LUSITANIA
HOW YOUNG MAN AND HIS SISTER ESCAPED
TRYING ORDEALS
THEIR MEETING AFTER GIVING EACH OTHER UP FOR LOST
SHOCKING INCIDENTS DESCRIBED
TOUCHING SCENES AMONGST THE SURVIVORS AT QUEENSTOWN**

A graphic story of the sinking of the great liner and the tragic scenes which followed was given to an "Irish News" representative on Sunday night, by Mr. Patrick V. M'Ginley, of 233 Albertbridge Road, who had a most thrilling experience. Mr M. M'Ginley who was formerly a teacher in St. Galls National School, Clonard, was well known in sporting and social circles in Belfast.

Shortly after two o'clock, as I was still talking to my friend I noticed a white object about 400 yards off on the land side. I called my friend's attention to it, and he said, "That appears to me to be a periscope". He had scarcely uttered these words when a submarine appeared on the surface. It remained above the water for about a minute, and suddenly disappeared again. No sooner had it gone down than I saw, a white streak coming towards the vessel, while at the same time I heard a noise. "My God, there's a torpedo," exclaimed my friend. I saw it come quickly through the water until it struck the ship, which shook like a reed in the wind, and heaved on to one side.

**THE SHIP DOOMED
LIFEBOAT CAPSIZED
TERRIBLE SIGHTS
RESCUERS RUSH TO THE SCENE
IN QUEENSTOWN
A SEARCH AMONST THE DEAD**

Early in the morning I went to the seven different morgues seeking my sister. The sights were terrible, and I failed to find her. Then I went back to the store and got more clothes. I spent twenty minutes in the store and in going into the street met my sister a few yards away. She became quite hysterical on seeing me, and I was overjoyed

**TOUCHING INCIDENTS
OTHER SURVIVORS**

Strabane Chronicle
15th May 1915

RELATIVES OF A TYRONE PRIEST

It may be mentioned that Mrs Murray and her brother (Mr. Patrick V. M'Ginley) are niece and nephew respectively of the Rev. Father Harkin, C.C., Omagh, Co Tyrone, and of Mr. John Harkin, J.P., Strabane, Co. Tyrone.

Strabane Chronicle
15th May 1915

STRABANE MAN INJURED AT THE FRONT

News has reached Strabane that Private George Gallagher, a native of this town, has been seriously wounded at the front in the recent gallant fighting in which the Canadian troops were engaged. He is the son of the late Mr. Patrick Gallagher, who for many years was an employee of the firm of Messrs. James M'Ivor and Co, Strabane.

**Upon this rock
15th May 1915**

IN MEMORIAM

Foster – In loving memory of my dear husband, Private George Foster, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who was killed in action at Festaubert, May 16th 1915

“Gone but not forgotten,”
He answered duty’s call,
He lies amongst the slain,
He died for England’s honour,
He hath not died in vain.

We oft times think of him who’s gone
From a world of strife and care,
But soon we’ll meet him in that better land:
There will be no parting there.

Inserted by his loving wife.

**Upon this rock
15th May 1915**

The relatives of Private Samuel Stewart and Private Robert Cunningham, who reside in Strabane, are anxiously awaiting tidings as to their whereabouts. Both of them are attached to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and took part in a number of engagements. At the Battle on 16th May 1915 last they were engaged, but since that period no news has been had from them.

STRABANE MAN’S FATE

Mystery surrounds the fate of Private Samuel Stewart, of Strabane, who was attached to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Private Stewart had been in the firing line since the commencement of the war and took part in an engagement on the 16th May last. Since that period no tidings have been forthcoming of his whereabouts. He has now been reported as missing. Recently circumstantial (but unofficial) news has come that he was killed in action on the date he was missed. (Reg. number 3785)

The relatives of Private Samuel Stewart, Liskinbuoy, Strabane, have been notified that he has been killed in action. Privat Stewart was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

**Strabane Weekly News
15 May 1915**

STRABANE MAN AT THE FRONT

Private Michael McGlinchey of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has arrived home permanently disabled after some trying experiences. He was wounded in one of the early engagements of the war and was for a period of time a prisoner of war in Germany where one of his legs was amputated. Subsequently as an exchange of prisoners of war he got his release and lay for some time in a hospital in France, finally being admitted to Millibank Hospital in England for further surgical treatment and he is now, after all his suffering, in the enjoyment of good health and spirits.

**Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915**

SONS AND NEPHEWS

Mr. James Griffen, Main Street, Strabane has five sons and four nephews serving with the colours. He deserves to be congratulated.

**Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915**

FIRST INNISKILLING LOSSES

The War Office announced that Lieutenant A.F.K. Penrose, 1st Battalion has been killed at the Dardanelles, and that Major Somerville and Captain H.S. Edden have been wounded

**MEDITERRANEAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS**

49 soldiers are listed as wounded.

Strabane Weekly News

22nd May 2015

**RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES
NURSING CORPS**

Pathetic scenes were witnessed in Strabane on Tuesday night when six wounded soldiers arrived. They were met at the railway station and conveyed in motors provided by the hospital at Newtown Street. The wounded men belong to English regiments Northumberland and Lancashire, and they all took part in the recent severe fighting at Hill 60, where they were wounded on the hands and arms, principally by shrapnel. They will be accommodated at the hospital, which was recently equipped by the ladies who form the War Relief Committee, and a matron who has been secured from Londonderry, who will superintend the institution and will be assisted by members of the committee in rotation.

**Strabane Weekly News
22nd May 2015**

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

On Friday night the 14th inst the young ladies of the town held a patriotic dance, the proceeds of which being to provide comforts for the gallant soldiers and sailors who are present doing battle for the country from this vicinity. The dance was very largely attended, large numbers coming from the country districts to assist the object, and the large hall was scarcely able to provide accommodation for the number present. The music was supplied by Mr. D. Connolly's band. Dancing was continuing until the early hours of the morning and a handsome sum was realised.

**Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915**

PRIVATE JOHN BOYLE WRITING TO HIS PARENTS IN DUBLIN STREET, NEWTOWNSTEWART

– "It was an awful time. We made an attack on the Germans on Sat night and put them to rout but we had a wild time all night and all day. The Germans suffered very heavy losses. We got relieved from the firing line yesterday and I was glad to get back for a rest. My nerves are very shaky with the noise of shells and rifles ... We had our chaplain up with us on Saturday about 3 hours before we went into action on Saturday night."

**Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915**

WITH THE STRABANE SOLDIERS IN THE TRENCHES

Mr. George Boyd who was well known to the inhabitants of Strabane and district prior to his departure to Canada, where he enlisted with the Canadians, has written a letter to his brother, in which, describing the gallant stand of the Canadians in holding the trenches at Ypres. Notwithstanding the fact that they were nearly all poisoned with gas before the attack, he says:—"I was in the trenches during the whole time, and had several narrow escapes. It was simply awful, shrapnel shells bursting and bullets whizzing past like rain, and many of my comrades, who were old chums, falling all around, being either killed or wounded. I had the most thrilling time of it in all my life, and never wish to see the like of it again." Mr. Boyd was in the employment of the County Donegal Railways Joint Committee before he left here for Canada.

IFF: No mention

CWGC: No mention of Strabane

**Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915**

PRISONER OF WAR

An intimation was received a few days ago by Mr. W.J. Tynau, Killygordon, that his son, Samuel Parke, who joined the 3rd Brigade Queen's Own Rifles at Toronto on the outbreak of the war was posted as missing after the famous Canadian charge at Ypres. A letter has now been received from him to say that he is a prisoner of war, wounded in the left arm, and in a German hospital.

IFF: No mention

CWGC: No mention of Killygordon

**Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915**

Mr. Edward M'Gowan, Fountain Street, Strabane, has seven sons with the colours, and the father's only regret is that he is not young enough to fall into line with them. Four of the boys are at the front, and the others are prepared to go at any moment.

IFF: Bernard, 24179. Born Camus, Co Tyrone. 7th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 27 Apr 1916.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915

ANOTHER PATRIOTIC FAMILY

Mr M'Geehan, Strabane, a sterling Nationalist, has also something to be proud of as a father. He has with the colours four sons doing their share for King and country. One of the sons, Sergeant M'Geehan has been in the firing line since the start of the war and through his own merits has been promoted to his present rank. The M'Geehan brothers were prominent Nationalist Volunteers in the Strabane corps before the outbreak of hostilities

A patriotic family – 4 McGeehan brothers in the War

Serg. John McGeehan – raised from private to Serj

Private Hugh McGeehan

Private John McGeehan

Private Joseph McGeehan

Serg John McGeehan writing home – “Am just writing a line in the corner of the battlefield. I think a German bullet was never made for me. I am at present sitting in the dug-out and one would think one of those coal boxes was going to knock one out and they are plentiful. My battalion has not suffered such heavy losses since Christmas but at Easter the shells were very thick among us. I am now doing duty as a sniper and am also engaged in bomb throwing. One one day while I was engaged in sniping I knocked over 4 Germans. The sniping is a dangerous job. You have to go about the roads and wait and when you see a German pick him off as he would do the same if you were not in time. The bomb throwing is a great game but you have to be careful for if you did not watch you would destroy some of your own men. The bomb is worked by a fuse and you have to throw it with all your might. I am just giving you a slight idea of what I have been through”. (Serj McGeehan has been in many a severe engagement but as yet has never received a scratch.) 22/5/1915

IFF: John McGeehan, 21251, 7th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 9 Sept 1916.

CWGC: Corporal John McGeehan, 21251, 7th Bn., Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 9 Sept 1916.

Brother of Hugh McGeehan of Townsend St, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915

SONS AND NEPHEWS

Mr. James Griffin, Main Street, Strabane has five sons and four nephews serving with the colours. He deserves to be congratulated.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915

KILLED IN ACTION

Mrs. M. Campbell, Bridge Street, Strabane has received intimation from the War Office that her son, Charles Campbell, was killed in action in the engagement at Neuve Chapelle. Campbell belonged to a Scottish regiment.

IFF: Charles, 10823, 1st Batt. Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders. Born Castlederg. Died 26 April 1915.

CWGC: Same as above. Son of Robert and Martha Campbell; of 67 Bridge Street., Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915

WOUNDED

Private Hugh M'Cool, Bridge Street, Strabane has been wounded at the front. His injuries are not of a serious nature.

IFF: No mention of Private Hugh McCool

CWGC: No mention of Private Hugh McCool

Strabane Chronicle
22nd May 1915

Mr. Edward M'Cosker, Main Street, Strabane, has been reported wounded. Private M'Cosker enlisted in Canada, where he emigrated a few years ago, after the outbreak of hostilities and came to England with the Canadian contingent. He visited his mother in Strabane and afterwards went with his regiment to the front. He was in the battle in Hill 60 when the German troops used asphyxiating gas. He now is in hospital and is progressing favourably.

CWGC: Checked McCosker and McCusker but no mention of Strabane

Strabane Chronicle
29th May 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES
KILLED IN ACTION

Official intimation has been received by the father of Private George Foster, Strabane that his son has been unfortunately killed in action and the news of the death has caused deep regret in the district where the deceased young man was well known. He was at the time an employee of the Northern Steam Laundry Company.

IFF: George Foster, 7852, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 16 May 1915

CWGC: As above. Husband of Margaret Foster, of 24 York St., Waterside, L'Derry.

Strabane Chronicle
29th May 1915

WOUNDED

Private John Long, Sergeant Jas. M'Geehan, Private John Milligan, Private William Mulligan, 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

John McGeehan, 21251, 7th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 9 Sept 1916: John Milligan, Cappagh, G/348.

Strabane Chronicle
29th May 1915

Private James M'Menamin, Townspark, Strabane. Private Michael M'Garrity, Shannon, Ballindrait 2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers got wounded in the head, and is in hospital in France. Private McGarrity was a reservist on the outbreak of the war and went to France in November last.

Michael McGarrity, 4107, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Clonleigh, Co Donegal. Died 12 Feb 1916:

Private Michael McGarrity (age 27), 4107, 2nd Bn., Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Son of Mary McGarrity, Trensallagh, St. Johnston, Donegal and the late John McGarrity.

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Private James M'Menamin, of Townparks, Strabane has just arrived here minus a leg as a result of injuries received 4 1 in the battlefield. Private M'Menamin has had 17 service in His Majesty's forces, having fought through the whole of the South African campaign, and came through it without a scratch. He received a knock-out blow as far back as October, the wound being so severe that his whole leg had to be amputated.

Strabane Chronicle
29th May 1915

MISSING

Two young men, names Rush and Cunningham are reported missing.

John James Cunningham, born Donaheady, Co Tyrone; 23142, Died 22 May 1917:

Robert Cunningham, born Camus, Co Tyrone. 3437 Died 16 May 1915

CWGC: Private Andrew Rush (Age 19), 3820, 2nd Bn Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Son of Andrew and Margaret Rush 68 Kennedy Row, Strabane. Private Robert Cunningham (age 24) 3437, 2nd Bn Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 16 May 1915. Son of Mrs Elizabeth Cunningham 148 Main St. Strabane

Strabane Chronicle
29th May 1915

ITALY DECLARES WAR
ARMY AND NAVY MOBILISED
1,200,000 READY TO FIGHT
THE POPE'S NEUTRALITY

It is officially announced that Italy has declared war against Austria.

Strabane Chronicle
29th May 1915

INNISKILLINGS' HEAVY LOSSES
TEN OFFICERS IN THE LIST

The 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers have apparently been engaged in heavy fighting in France or Belgium.

KILLED

Lieutenant J.J.L. Morgan. Second-Lieutenant J.J.L. Morgan, Newtownards
Lieutenant R.W.G. Hinds
Second- Lieutenant Mordaunt-Smith

WOUNDED.

Captain G.R.V. Steward, D.S.O.
Captain R.C.Smythe.
Captain C.C. Hewitt
Captain H.K. Crawford
Lieutenant G.C. Thomson
Second- Lieutenant E. Carter
Second- Lieutenant A.C. Lyons

EIGHT MORE OFFICER CASUALTIES

Killed, wounded, missing

Strabane Chronicle 29th May 1915

STRABANE MAN PRISONER IN GERMANY

Corporal James Conaghan, Strabane, who is a prisoner at Limburg, Lahn, Germany writing home to Mr. Thomas Toorish, Strabane acknowledging receipt of a postcard from him and a parcel from Mr. John Hackett, sent on behalf of the National Volunteers.

Strabane Weekly News 29th May 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

News has reached Strabane that Private John Long, Private James M'Geehan, Private John Milligan of Townsend Street and Private William Milligan, of Dock Street, have been wounded in action whilst taking part in an engagement on 8th and 9th May. These four young men belonged to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and have been in the firing line since the month of September last. Etc, Etc
IFF: John Long – no one from Strabane: John McGeehan, born Camus, Co Tyrone. 21251, 7th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 9 Sept 1916:

Strabane Chronicle 29th May 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES KILLED IN ACTION

Private George Foster, Strabane

WOUNDED

Private John Long, Sergeant Jas. M'Geehan, Private John Milligan, Private William Mulligan, 2nd Battn. Private James M'Menamin, Townspark, Strabane. Private Charles McHugh, Private Michael M'Garrity, Ballindrait

MISSING

Two young men, names Rush and Cunningham are reported missing.

Strabane Weekly News 29th May 1915

STRABANE AND THE WAR

Within the past two weeks recruiting appears to have been very brisk in Strabane and immediate district. A rally was made on the day of the half-yearly fair and since that period upwards of 100 recruits have volunteered in the new army most of them choosing the Ulster Division and Irish Brigade. With a population of a little over 5,000 the town is represented by more than 100 in the firing line. Some have been killed in action, a good many have been wounded and a few are prisoners in Germany. In the town and adjoining neighbour upwards of 400 are in training in various units. In addition the town and District have produced seven officers.

Strabane Weekly News 29th May 1915

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The military hospital in Strabane, organised by the Women's war Relief Committee has been rendering excellent services to the wounded soldiers recently. The volunteer nurses this week were Miss Frances Boyd, daughter of Dr. J.C. Boyd, surgeon of Lifford Infirmary, and Miss. Joyce, Strabane.

The following ladies and gentlemen contributed during the week, comforts for the soldiers:- Mrs J.C. Herdman, Messers. A & J. M'Cay, Drumnabuoy, Mrs Wm King, Mrs. Delap, Miss. F. Boyd, Mrs. Fyfe-Young, Mrs Sinclair, Holyhill, Mrs J.M. Trimble, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs John Elliott, Mrs Keatly, Miss M. Russell, Mrs Howard, Mountcharles, Lieut. E. Gallagher.

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

REVIEW AT RANDALSTOWN
109TH INFANTRY BRIGADE ON PARADE
PICTURESQUE SCENES IN SHANE'S CASTLE PARK

The review of the 109th Infantry Brigade of the Ulster Division in Shane's Castle park which took place on Saturday, was perhaps the most impressive and picturesque event in the programme of the Viceregal visit to the North of Ireland. The Viceregal party reached Lord and Lady O'Neill's beautiful demesne shortly before half-past eleven o'clock, having been heartily cheered as they passed through Randalstown, and were received by Major-General Chas. H. Powell Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

STRABANE MAN'S LETTER FROM THE FRONT

A letter has been received from Corporal A. McLay, who is serving with the 6th Royal Inniskilling Dragoons, which gives an interesting account of some of his experience at the front. It is of course well known that there has been comparatively few British cavalry engagements, but Corporal M'Lay's letter shows that it would be wrong to assume that our mounted troops have no active duties to perform. Etc, Etc.

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

NEWTOWN NOTES

Private Wilson wounded at landing at the Dardanelles is now in military hospital in Malta

Private Bonnar, wounded, has arrive home from Dardanelles for a rest. Shows signs of having come through a considerable mental ordeal

Privates A. Moorhead and Finlay are reported to have been wounded and private Collins seriously wounded but no official notification as yet

Private Francis McAnena (Mill St.) who is in hospital in Sheffield in a letter to his mother speaks of the terrible experience of Ypres 2 weeks ago.

Private John McAnena 2nd battalion RIF in a long letter to his mother wrote – *"I am thankful to God that I am spared as I gave up hope of ever writing to you again. I cannot say if Collins is wounded or not. Alec Moorhead is wounded but I haven't seen John McGonigle, Fowler and Boyle are all right, we won the victory but my officer was killed beside me... Maybe we are through the worst of it, if not it can't be helped"*.

Private John Boyle writing to his parents in Dublin St Newtownstewart on the 19th May '15

– *"It was an awful time. We made an attack on the Germans on Sat night and put them to rout but we had a wild time all night and all day. The Germans suffered very heavy losses. We got relieved from the firing line yesterday and I was glad to get back for a rest. My nerves are very shaky with the noise of shells and rifles ... We had our chaplain up with us on Sat. about 3 hours before we went into action on Sat night."*

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

STRABANE DISTRICT
STRABANE MAN A PRISONER

Private Conaghan of the Inniskillings has written to a friend from this town thanking him for parcels sent which he says are very acceptable, especially the tobacco. Private Conaghan in an early engagement of the War was wounded and taken prisoner. In his letter he states that his wounds are nearly better.

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

News has reached Strabane that Private John Long, Pte James McGeehan, Pte John Milligan of Townsend St and Pte William Mulligan of Dock St have been wounded in action. These four young men belonged to the 2nd Battalion Inniskillings and have been in the firing line since the month of Sept last....

Private Hugh Duncan is also said to be missing. A letter has been recd from Samuel Parke Tynan that he is wounded in the left arm and a prisoner of war in Gemany. He joined the 3rd Brigade Queen's Own Rifles in Toronto and took part in the famous Canadian charge at Ypres.

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

STRABANE MAN'S LETTER FROM THE FRONT

Corporal McClay, serving with the Inniskilling Dragoons gives an interesting account of some of his experiences at the front.... Corporal McClay's letter shows that it would be wrong to assume that mounted men have no active duties to perform. He computes that he has covered 120 square miles in Belgium and France within the last two months. A rather interesting experience was of a reconnaissance carried out by him and 3 picked dragoons at an early hour of the morning. Showing no fear of the enemy guns or aircraft. *"Our chaps go about unconcerned and if one passes a remark about the firing he is told in a casual sort of way that 'there is a war up the road' or 'these folk over the way are not too good friends' or that 'someone has started to throw the furniture out the window.'* The letter, Corporal McClay states, was written on his knee while his troop was standing to, at a quarter of an hour's notice to saddle up for what, to many of them, might be their last ride.

Strabane Weekly News
29th May 1915

FIVE BROTHERS KILLED IN ACTION

Private William Furey of the 3rd battalion Inniskillings stationed in Derry has receive notice that his brother has been killed in France during the past week. Private Furey who is a native of Loughrea, Co Galway, had eight brothers in the army and five of them, all belonging to the Connaught Rangers have been killed in the present war. Two of the brothers are in the Royal Irish Fusiliers and one in the Royal Irish Rifles. Their mother, a widow, has recd a letter from Lord Kitchener sympathising with her and expressing appreciation of the patriotism of her family.

Strabane Chronicle
29th May 1915

STRABANE MAN PRISIONER IN GERMANY

Corporal James Conaghan, Strabane, who is a prisoner at Limburg, Lahn, Germany writing home to Mr. Thomas Toorish, Strabane acknowledging receipt of a postcard from him and a parcel from Mr. John Hackett, sent on behalf of the National Volunteers says that he was proud to know that his comrades had not forgotten him. He returned them his thanks for the parcels it was the very thing that he wanted. He expresses the hope to be soon amongst them again. He states that he got three wounds-on the breast, cheek and right thigh- but is getting along nicely, though yet lame.

Charles Conaghan born Cirronne, Co Donegal. Died 16 May 1915:

Charles Conaghan born Conwall, Co Donegal:

John born Killybegs. Died 16 Aug 1915

All listed were Privates.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

THE IRISH PLEDGE.

MR. JOHN REDMOND AND THE CABINET.

Writing in the "Daily News" an Irish Nationalist says - Those who know Ireland and its history best are not likely to doubt the wisdom of Mr. Redmond of declining an office in the Coalition cabinet. It is not that Irishmen are not determinedly behind the Cabinet in everything it can do to defeat Germany and restore Belgium to her place among the free nations. Irish Nationalists on this point are of the same mind as the Irish Guards, who in the early days of the war charged the Prussians singing "God Save Ireland." In August and September last Irish enthusiasm for the cause of the allies who momentarily damped down by a series of events into which it is not necessary to enter once more, but since then the enthusiasm has reawakened again, and Ireland is sending her full share of men to fight against the Prussian bully. It was only the other day that many thousands of the new Irish soldiers had an enthusiastic passage through Dublin on their way to the front. Ireland's attitude to the war is the attitude of the Dublin Fusiliers and the Munster Fusiliers, who led the way so heroically in landing at the Dardanelles.

**IRELAND AGAINST PRUSSIANISM
THE REFUSAL OF REWARDS
THE REAL UNION**

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

**THE CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN!
WHAT THE VOLUNTARY SYSTEM HAS DONE**

An "Old-Fashioned Liberal," writing from Victoria Street, S.W., to the Daily News says:- Dr. Clifford's letter in your issue of the 27th May should be reprinted and circulated as widely as possible.
"To organise the whole nation for war (so that everyone may be called upon to do whatever he is fit for) is one thing; and even martial law must be endured whilst we are at war, but to force men to fight who know they are for any reason (such as cowardice) useless is quite another"
"What the Army wants is not only fit but willing men, and if the War Office would only simplify their proceedings and get rid of the vexations and futile inquiries they make into the exact cost of each recruit's food, so that recruiters would tell a boy who has enlisted exactly what his mother will receive (as they can tell a husband what his wife will get) the mothers would be as good recruiters as the wives are.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

GALLANTRY OF IRISHMAN

Writing from St. Joseph's Catholic Mission, Uganda, Rev. B.J. MacLoone, a native of Donegal; says out there all have been deeply impressed with the gallant and undaunted conduct of the Irish soldiers at the front, and much regret that their ranks have been sadly thinned by severe losses. As a consolation to the bereaved, Father MacLoone states that he has said Masses for the soldiers. He hopes that God may soon end this awful conflict and that Ireland may reap visible and practical benefits when peace is declared and the country embarked on a career of settled prosperity. Long may England and Ireland stand together, not as two but as one great immovable power, shoulder to shoulder, sharing sorrow as well as joy and fighting for God and Country.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

**SINKING OF THE LUSITANIA
GERMANY'S REPLY TO AMERICA**

The following is a brief summary of the German Note to America regarding the sinking of the Lusitania. The Note says that Germany considers it necessary that both countries should arrive at a complete agreement regarding the facts of the case. The facts from the German standpoint are that the Lusitania was a big auxiliary cruiser and, according to trustworthy information from German officials and neutral passengers, had guns concealed under her deck and carried trained gunners. The Admiralty last February advised the merchant ships to ram German submarines.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

NOTES

News has reached Kilcleen, Castlederg, that Private Hamilton Gourley, of the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was wounded some time ago at the Dardanelles, but no further details as to the extent of the injuries have yet been received by his parents.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

STRABANE RAILWAY OFFICIAL JOINS THE COLOURS

A very interesting function took place in one of the waiting rooms of the Donegal Railway Station, Strabane on Monday night, on the occasion of the departure of Mr. John Galbraith Baird, ticket clerk, from the town to join the Royal Engineers.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

STRABANE OFFICER PROMOTED

The many friends of Captain R.J. Craig, Strabane, will be pleased to learn that he has been raised to the rank of temporary major. At the time of mobilisation he was stationed in Dublin, and afterwards transferred to Northampton, and from there went to the front. Major Craig served through the South African campaign.

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

STRABANE OFFICER'S PROMOTION

The many friends in Strabane and District of Captain R.J. Craig, will be pleased to hear that he has been appointed to the rank of temporary major. At the time of the mobilisation he was posted in Dublin and was transferred to Northampton. He then took up his duties in the A.S.C. at Le Havre, being afterwards sent to the front at Ypres, where he was attached to the 2nd Cavalry Brigade, in which he received his present promotion.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

AMERICA AND GERMANY
PRESIDENT WILSON'S NEXT MOVE

The "Daily Telegraph's" New York correspondent telegraphed on Wednesday - At the cabinet the steps that would follow the breaking of diplomatic relations with Germany were seriously discussed. I learned that the Atlantic battleship fleet will remain in Atlantic waters indefinitely. The plan to send the fleet through the Panama Canal next month; for participation in the Panama Pacific Exposition at San Francisco has been abandoned. Etc, Etc

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

INNISKILLINGS' CASUALTIES

Saturday morning's casualty list contains the names of two more officers of the Inniskilling Fusiliers-viz., Second-Lieutenant F. Holmes, of the 4th Battalion, who has died of wounds received whilst attached to the 1st battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, and Lieut. C.H. Daniels, of the 4th Battalion, attached to the second battalion, who is wounded. Daniels received his commission on 20th December 1913.

IFF: Frederick Holmes, 2nd Lieutenant, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 10 May 1915 (No ref to where born): William Daniels died 5 May 1915. Born Clonmel.

CWGC: Second Lieutenant Frederick Holmes, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers attd. 4th Bn. The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Died 10 May 1915. Son of Charles and Alice Holmes.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

KILLED IN ACTION

The relatives of Private Michael McAnenny, Urney, Strabane, have been notified that he has been killed in action in the Dardanelles. He belonged to the 2nd Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private Michael M'Anenny, of Urney have received a notification that he has been killed in action at the Dardanelles. He was attached to the 2nd Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers and had been on active service for a long time.

Intimation has been received that Private George Foster of the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been killed in action during the past week. Private Foster who was a reserve man, was called out in August last and was in the thick of the fighting during the whole period. He was a popular member of Strabane L.O.L. He leaves a wife and family.

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

LETTER FROM P. McKENNA, 2nd BATTALION INNISKILLINGS, DUNGANNON
ON FIERCE BATTLE WITH THE GERMANS

'It was an awful fight. You couldn't believe what it was like, with shells bursting beside us and machine guns mowing us down. Our company had 400 yards to go to the German trenches and was in the front leading the attack. Men fell all around me in dozens and I do not know under God how I escaped, for the men were falling on each side of me. We still kept going on and I had no fear and felt just like going for a walk until we

got to the German trenches, and I then came to my senses. Our company took the trench but at an awful cost..... It was a terrible fight. You could compare it to nothing else but all the devils in hell let loose.....

Strabane Weekly News

5th June 1915

Private John Slevin of the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action. He has been in active service since the beginning of the year.

Private James M'Menamin has returned home with severe wounds received. He served in the South African campaign through which he came successfully. In the present struggle, unfortunately he has been disabled for life.

IFF: George Foster: Born Camus, Co Tyrone. Service No. 7852. 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 16 May 1915.

IFF: John Slevin – 3 Slevins

Strabane Weekly News

5th June 1915

Lance Corporal Fowler (son of Mr A Fowler, Mill Street, Newtownstewart) of the machine gun section 2nd Inniskillings in a letter a few days ago said -

'We had some very severe fighting here the past month, in fact it was the worst in the whole campaign so far. We made an attack on Sat night 15th May, and our old regiment got a bad cutting up. We lost a lot of good men and officers and many fell when the first trench was being taken. But the skins knowing no fear went on and took the 2nd and 3rd line of trenches. I was along with my chum McAnena. We were in the thick of it and I am sorry to say we lost our machine gun officer, as good a British soldier as ever walked. There are some of the boys from Newtownstewart I cannot account for since that night but there are still three of us left together – Boyle, McAnena and myself. I see by the papers that Newtownstewart is responding well to the call for men. If the boys at home only saw some of the things we have seen they would be glad to be here helping to keep the Germans out of Ireland. I hope they will take the tip and come soon.'

Strabane Weekly News

5th June 1915

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS CASUALTIES IN FRANCE AND TURKEY

The following casualties in the Inniskillings are reported:-

Private George Foster, 2nd Inniskillings, Strabane (Killed)

Private James M'Menamin, Townspark, Strabane (Wounded)

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

GALLANTRY OF IRISHMAN

Writing from St. Joseph's Catholic Mission, Uganda, Rev. B.J. MacLoone, a native of Donegal; says out there all have been deeply impressed with the gallant and undaunted conduct of the Irish soldiers at the front, and much regret that their ranks have been sadly thinned by severe losses. As a consolation to the bereaved, Father MacLoone states that he has said Masses for the soldiers. He hope that god may soon end this awful conflict and that Ireland may reap visible and practical benefits when peace is declared and the country embarked on a careen of settled prosperity. Long may England and Ireland stand together, not as two but as one great immovable power, shoulder to shoulder, sharing sorrow as well as joy and fighting for God and Country.

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

News has reached Kilcleen, Castlederg, that Private Hamilton Gourley, of the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was wounded some time ago at the Dardanelles, but no further details as to the extent of the injuries have yet been received by his parents.

IFF: John Gourley, 22819, 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 24 Jun 1916. Born Clonlee, Co Tyrone.

Private John Roulston Gourley, (age21) 22819, 9th Bn Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 24 June 1916. Son of Andrew and Mary Jane Gourley

Strabane Weekly News

5th June 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private J. Harte have received information that he has been wounded in two places in the recent severe fighting and that he is now in hospital in England. Private Harte belonged to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been through several stiff engagements. Prior to his being called up he was employed in the Provincial Bank here.

IFF: John Harte, 4049, 1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Leckpatrick, Co Tyrone. Died 31 Jul 1917.

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES WOUNDED

The relatives of Private J. Harte, Strabane, have received information that he has been wounded in two places in the recent severe fighting and now lies in a hospital in England. Prior to his being called to the colours, he was employed in the Provincial bank, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

INNISKILLINGS' CASUALTIES

Saturday morning's casualty list contains the names of two more officers of the Inniskilling Fusiliers-viz., Second-Lieutenant F. Holmes, of the 4th Battalion, who has died of wounds received whilst attached to the 1st battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, and Lieut. C.H. Daniels, of the 4th Battalion, attached to the second battalion, who is wounded. Daniels received his commission on 20th December 1913.

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

GALLANTRY OF IRISHMAN

Writing from St. Joseph's Catholic Mission, Uganda, Rev. B.J. MacLoone, a native of Donegal; says out there all have been deeply impressed with the gallant and undaunted conduct of the Irish soldiers at the front, and much regret that their ranks have been sadly thinned by severe losses. As a consolation to the bereaved, Father MacLoone states that he has said Masses for the soldiers. He hoped that God may soon end this awful conflict and that Ireland may reap visible and practical benefits when peace is declared and the country embarked on a career of settled prosperity. Long may England and Ireland stand together, not as two but as one great immovable power, shoulder to shoulder, sharing sorrow as well as joy and fighting for God and Country.

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

SINKING OF THE LUSITANIA GERMANY'S REPLY TO AMERICA

The following is a brief summary of the German Note to America regarding the sinking of the Lusitania. The Note says that Germany considers it necessary that both countries should arrive at a complete agreement regarding the facts of the case. The facts from the German standpoint are that the Lusitania was a big auxiliary cruiser and, according to trustworthy information from German officials and neutral passengers, had guns concealed under her deck and carried trained gunners. The Admiralty last February advised the merchant ships to ram German submarines.

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

STRABANE RAILWAY OFFICIAL JOINS THE COLOURS

A very interesting function took place in one of the waiting rooms of the Donegal Railway Station, Strabane on Monday night, on the occasion of the departure of Mr. John Galbraith Baird, ticket clerk, from the town to join the Royal Engineers. Etc, Etc

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

KILLED IN ACTION

The relatives of Private Michael McAnenny, Urney, Strabane, have been notified that he has been killed in action in the Dardanelles. He belonged to the 2nd Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle

5th June 1915

AMERICA AND GERMANY

PRESIDENT WILSON'S NEXT MOVE

The "Daily Telegraph's" New York correspondent telegraphed on Wednesday - At the cabinet the steps that would follow the breaking of diplomatic relations with Germany were seriously discussed. I learned that the Atlantic battleship fleet will remain in Atlantic waters indefinitely. The plan to send the fleet through the Panama Canal next month; for participation in the Panama Pacific Exposition at San Francisco has been abandoned.

Strabane Chronicle
5th June 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES WOUNDED

The relatives of Private J. Harte, Strabane, have received information that he has been wounded in two places in the recent severe fighting and now lies in a hospital in England. Prior to his being called to the colours, he was employed in the Provincial bank, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private J. Harte have received information that he has been wounded in two places in the recent severe fighting and that he is now in hospital in England. Private Harte belonged to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been through several stiff engagements. Prior to his being called up he was employed in the Provincial Bank here.

The relatives of Private Michael M'Anenny, of Urney have received a notification that he has been killed in action at the Dardanelles. He was attached to the 2nd Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers and had been on active service for a long time.

Intimation has been received that Private George Foster of the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been killed in action during the past week. Private Foster who was a reserve man, was called out in August last and was in the thick of the fighting during the whole period. He was a popular member of Strabane L.O.L. He leaves a wife and family.

Private John Slevin of the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action. He has been in active service since the beginning of the year.

Private James M'Menamin has returned home with severe wounds received. He served in the South African campaign through which he came successfully. In the present struggle unfortunately he has been disabled for life.

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

WAR DEPENDENTS IN STRABANE ABSENCE OF THE EXCISE OFFICER

A meeting of the committee was held on the 1st inst., at the Courthouse, Mrs P M'Menamin, J.P., presiding. The attendance included Messrs. E. Gallagher, J.P., Thos. M'Elhinney, John Harkin, J.P., James Stewart, J.P., J.F.A. Simms and Mrs. Leay, secretary of the Sailors' and Soldiers' Families Association.

Twenty-two dependents appeared before the committee in support of their claims and were dealt with on their merits.

A large number of the claimants complained of the reports sent in by the Excise Officer regarding their circumstances.

The members of the committee expressed great dissatisfaction at the non-attendance of the Excise Officer who would not appear to give evidence regarding his statements.

The committee expressed the opinion that the present system was against the interests of recruiting in the district.

The secretary said that the County Council and Lord Lieutenant had been contacted with regard to the absence of the Excise Officer from the meetings, and after further discussion it was proposed and passed unanimously that a letter be sent to the Chief Inspector of Customs complaining of the absence of the Excise Officer.

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

STRABANE RECRUITERS

Over 150 recruits have been obtained from the district of Strabane and County Donegal during the past ten days for the Irish Brigade and Ulster Division as a result of meetings held on fair days in the different towns.

The recruiting party consisted of Colonel J.R. Baille, at present with the colours, Mr. H.T. Gallagher, Crown Solicitor, Mr. John Elliott, Coroner, Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor and Lieutenant E. Gallagher. The recruits were mostly composed of the agricultural community and each evening they arrived in Strabane in batches and were dispatched to their various units.

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

STRABANE BOMB THROWER WOUNDED

Serj. James McGeehan, writing from a Red Cross hospital, Perth, Scotland, June 1915

'got struck with a hand bomb on the body and thank God I was not killed. I expect to be out of hospital in about a month.

There are 50 of us in the bomb throwing squad I succeeded in getting to the German first line of trenches and was getting on fine, throwing a bomb here and there as I got the chance. Our gallant chaps took three lines of trenches. I had to make my way through the firing line to my own trench and this was worse than advancing as the German fire was heavy..... On making my way back my chum was shot in the head

(Serj McGeehan has 3 brothers serving in the army)

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

LONDON LETTER
GERMAN REPLY TO U.S. NOTE

Germany's reply to America over the sinking of the "Lusitania" shows total unrepentance, and a disposition to play with the subject. In spite of President Wilson's direct and serious tone, the answer raises a host of hypothetical issues and prepares the way for a long argument by seeking to "define terms." The straightforward demand that the present mode of submarine warfare shall cease is totally ignored, while with regard to the actual sinking of the "Lusitania" Germany attempts to cast the whole blame upon Great Britain. This country is accused of embarking America passengers to shield the vessel from torpedo attack and to provide a safeguard for a transatlantic traffic in ammunition. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
CASUALTIES IN FRANCE AND TURKEY

The following casualties in the Inniskilling s are reported:-

Private George Foster, 2nd Inniskillings, Strabane

Private James M'Menamin, Townspark, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
5th June 1915

STRABANE No.1 DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL MEETING
ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN
ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN
ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN
VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CLERK

The annual meeting of Strabane No.1 Council was held on Monday last Mr. Wm. Rankin J.P., presiding. The other members present were – Messers Archibald Anderson, Robert S. Johnston.

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART MEN WITH THE COLOURS

The first Newtownstewart man to lose his life in the war is Private F. Collins, intimation of whose death was received by his parents on Saturday from Captain C.A.H. Alexander. Private Collins, who belonged to the 2nd Batt. Royal Irish Fusiliers fell in action on 19th May. Private J.C. Finlay, who is a native of the district, and was with the Canadians, has been taken prisoner. He is at present confined at Meschede, from where in a letter to his mother a few days ago he wrote for eatables to be sent to him. Amongst other men from Newtownstewart serving at the front is Lance-Corp. F. Fowler, machine gun section, 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers who has been in France since 26th August. Etc, Etc.

IFF: Private F Collins, 4088, 2nd Batt Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Ardstraw, Co Tyrone. Died 16 May 1915.

Strabane Weekly News
12th June 1915

LONDON LETTER
GERMAN REPLY TO U.S.

Germany's reply to America over the sinking of the "Lusitania" shows total unrepentance, and a disposition to play with the subject. In spite of President Wilson's direct and serious tone, the answer raises a host of hypothetical issues and prepares the way for a long argument by seeking to "define terms." The straightforward demand that the present mode of submarine warfare shall cease is totally ignored, while with regard to the actual sinking of the "Lusitania" Germany attempts to cast the whole blame upon Great Britain. This country is accused of embarking America passengers to shield the vessel from torpedo attack and to provide a safeguard for a transatlantic traffic in ammunition.

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS
EFFECT OF THE DEMANDS OF THE WAR

The general public has probably hardly realised as yet the gravity of the demands the war is making on the medical profession. That it be the case, is a matter of regret, for the time has fully come when the co-operation of the public at some sacrifice of convenience or idiosyncrasy, is necessary if the available medical skill of the country is to be distributed as it is most needed at a time of crisis. The problem before the medical men of the country is twofold-to provide an adequate supply of doctors for the army and to maintain the standard of the medical service for the civil population. What that involves cannot be expressed statistically, for like other military facts the figures of the needs of the R.A.M.C. are not made public. It is, however, known from statements by Ministers that some 6,000 general practitioners are already giving fulltime service to the War Office. That is a serious loss out of a total of some 30,000 qualified men in the United Kingdom, and the needs of the Army are by no means satisfied yet.

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES - OFFICERS

Saturday morning's official casualty list contains the names of three officers of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers not previously notified, in addition to Captain H.L. Crofton (killed) reported yesterday. Lieutenant E. Crawford, 3rd Battalion, attached to the 2nd Battalion is reported to have died of gas-poisoning and wounds received in action in France. He joined the Inniskillings on 14th July 1906. Captain Richard Brian, Schubrick, of the 1st Battalion R.I.F. has died of wounds received in the Dardanelles. He obtained his commission on 20th April, 1910 being promoted on 9th October 1912 and he received his company during the war. Second-Lieutenant Ronald Frank Rous M'Neill, also of the 1st Battalion, who has been wounded in the Dardanelles, joined on 21st March 1914.

MEDITERRANEAN FORCE
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS.
DIED OF WOUNDS – 4 names
WOUNDED – 68 names
KILLED – 6 names
WOUNDED – 20 Names

Strabane Weekly News
12th June 1915

INCREASED SEPARATION ALLOWANCES FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND CHILDREN

From March 1st the Separation Allowances paid by the Government to the wives and children of soldiers have been increased, so that the total weekly payment to the family, if the soldier makes the usual allotment from his pay, is now as follows:-

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

DEATH OF MR. R.J. BLAIR, STRABANE
PROMINENT UNIONIST PASSES AWAY

The inhabitants of the town and District of Strabane received no small shock on Saturday evening when a telegraph was received by the relatives of Mr. Robert J. Blair, announcing his demise at a private nursing home in Belfast. Deceased was a man who enjoyed robust health up till a few months ago when he had occasion to undergo an operation. The operation was performed successfully on Thursday and deceased was progressing favourably until Saturday morning when he became weaker and finally expired.

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

STRABANE MAN KILLED AT THE FRONT
REGRET IN DERRY

Much regret is felt in Derry on the news being received of the death of Private H. Duncan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, at the front. Private Duncan, who resided at Townsend Street, Strabane was a brother of Mrs Gallagher, Abercorn Road, Derry.

Strabane Weekly News
12th June 1915

STRABANE SOLDIER'S FATE

The wife of Private Hugh Duncan, of Townsend Street, Strabane has just been notified by the War Office that he was killed in action on May 16th. He was connected with an old family of the town and his relatives carried out an extensive brewery business for a very long period, at what was known as Duncan's Brewery. Then deceased has three other brothers serving King and country, two of them having formerly served through the South African campaign, when one of them was wounded.

Private John Glackin, Strabane has been killed in action in the Dardanelles. He is a son of Mr. John Glackin, Strabane. Mr Glackin has other sons with the colour. Deceased was at one time an employee of Strabane Urban District Council.

John Duncan, 30269, 9th Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Ardstraw. Died 10/14 June 1917.

IFF: Private John Glackin, 9861, 1st Batt Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Camus, Co Tyrone. Died 8 May 1915

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

STRABANE SHOW
RECORD ENTRIES
KEEN COMPETITION
HUGE ATTENDANCE.
DELIGHTFUL WEATHER

Details included

MEDITERRANEAN FORCE
INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
WOUNDED – 16

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

ALLOWANCES FOR OTHER DEPENDENTS

If an unmarried soldier has supported a dependent for a reasonable period, and wishes the support he gave to be continued, the Government will help, during the war, by making a grant of Separation Allowance, provided he will contribute part of his pay.

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

STRABANE MAN'S EXPERIENCE

The relatives of Sapper Edward M'Cusker, a Co. Tyrone man, serving in the 3rd Field Company Canadian Engineers, have suffered much anxiety owing to the publication of an unofficial report that he had been killed at Ypres in the battle on the night of 27th April. Happily all fears in regard to his welfare have been dispelled by letters received by the mother of sapper M'Cusker, Mr Hanna, Main Street, Strabane, from her son dated 6th June. It appears that Sapper M'Cusker was suffering from the effects of poison gas as well as a slight wound in the leg and was seven weeks under treatment at Rouen Hospital. He is now making a good recovery, and has re-joined for service, being engaged in conveying wounded down to the hospital base. He is a native of Strabane. He is the son of a member of the firm M'Cusker and Co., painters, long

established in Lifford. He mentions in the letter that a comrade, John M'Ginley, has been wounded by shrapnel in the knee, but expects to be out of hospital soon.

Strabane Chronicle
12th June 1915

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
KILLED – 10

DIED OF WOUNDS – 5

WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER TO LORD KITCHENER'S CALL?

"300,000 men wanted now"

There is only one reply that Ireland expects from every man who is between 19 and 40 years of age and physically fit, - that is to go to the nearest Recruiting Office and Join an Irish Regiment Today

Strabane Chronicle
19th June 1915

STRABANE SOLDIER ON HOLIDAY

The friends and relatives of Private Patrick Meehan of Ballycolman, Strabane were glad to see him arrive for a well-earned holiday after being in the fighting line since the outbreak of hostilities. Private Meehan belongs to then 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and received three wounds- in the face, shoulder and knee-during the last week of May. He took part in the retreat from Mons, fought in the battles of Aisne, Neuve Chapelle, Ypres Hill 60 and Festhubert. He describes these engagements as of the greatest severity and pays a great tribute to the gallantry displayed by the British officers. He says the British officer will go through anything to accomplish victory, and not one of them knows what fear means. He further adds that under such officers as the British "would make any man fight." As regards the Irish troops, he is filled with admiration for his countrymen, and says they fight with the valour that inspired their ancestors at Benburb, Limerick and Fontenoy. The private got seven days leave to visit his relatives, and after nine months' continuous fighting he deserves his well-merited holiday. His brother Joseph, who belongs to the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is at the Dardanelles. Private Joseph Meehan was serving in India when called up for operations. Despite the privations suffered by the former he is looking hale and hearty.

Strabane Chronicle
& Strabane Weekly News
19th June 1915

THE CASUALTY LISTS. ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
WOUNDED – 172 names

Strabane Weekly News
19th June 1915

ARDSTRAW MAN AT THE FRONT

S. KERR R.F.A. WRITING TO HIS FATHER FROM THE FRONT

'I am still at Ypres and have been all through those fierce engagements on Hill 60. I have been hit 4 times and on one occasion the cap was shot off my head by shell splinters. Yet I have had no serious injury. The hardest job I got was turning our gun on a mass of Germans during one of the attacks on Ypres. Our gun simply mowed them down in swathes in that attack. The Germans are not without plenty of pluck and bravery..... I know something of the calibre of the German Army and they could and would fight for years, but personally I think this war is too fierce and expensive to last very long. There is no doubt Germans are not beaten yet by a long way I would not be surprised if we had to stay here another winter.We had it hot on Monday with the gas ... though I was 12 miles away I could feel the effect of the gas. We are now all supplied with helmets or respirators. They got the gas at us by means of shells We are very much troubled by snipers, that is German crack shots dressed as Belgian civilians. They lie in farmhouses and pick off individuals, especially telephone men. All signalling is done by telephone and the infantry use periscopes for purposes of observation. All marching is done at night, and firing kept up night and practically nothing during the day. You will be pleased to hear that I have been promoted to bombardier.....

I forgot to tell you that I was in the mound of death before it was blown up. We were sent to relieve some French troops two miles from Ypres. We live in dug outs and I have seen worse houses in Ireland. These have boarded floors, chairs, tables, lamps, stores and pictures on the walls and we have in this one even spring mattresses, a stove, clock and also a piano in the corner

..... I am glad I am doing what I can for my King and Country and it is only what every able bodied man in Ireland should do, whether in the field or the workshop.

Strabane Chronicle
26th June 1915

THE CASUALTY LISTS
MEDITERRANEAN FORCE

The Mediterranean casualties include the following regimental figures:-

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Battalion- Killed, 15; died of wounds, 7; wounded, 39; missing, 0.

KILLED Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers .-1st Battalion 13

DIED OF WOUNDS – 6

WOUNDED – 41

BAZAAR AND DRAWING OF PRIZES

In aid of the above Company's rifle fund came off on Sunday, the 6th June at Rabstown, Sion Mills. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
26th June 1915

INTERESTING TO RAFFERTY FAMILIES IN TYRONE

Mrs. Ada Rafferty, Biglon, of 206, Montrose Avenue, South Orange, New Jersey, U.S.A. writes us making inquiries concerning one Michael Rafferty who went to America some time about 1830. He was born in County Tyrone, and his son Thomas Rafferty was his father. Both of them are now dead, but she is interested in tracing the descent of the family in order to fill out a genealogical chart for her children

Strabane Weekly News
26th June 1915

TEACHERS AND RECRUITING

In the House of Commons, Mr. Patrick White asked the Chief Secretary if he will suggest to the Commissioners of National Education the advisability of relaxing their rules so as to enable teachers to publicly identify themselves with organisations assisting the Government in obtaining recruits for his Majesty's army; and if he is aware that the absence of teachers from recruiting meetings is generally misunderstood in the country districts, and has an injurious effect on the subjects of these meetings.

Strabane Weekly News
26th June 1915

STRABANE AND DISTRICT L.O.L.

The quarterly meeting of above district lodge was held at Artigarvan on 18th inst., Bro. John Cummins, district master, presiding.

It was decided that no outdoor public demonstration be held in the district this year on account of the war, as a good many members of the lodges are engaged in the struggle and others are in training

Strabane Weekly News
26th June 1915

STRABANE SOLDIER'S FATE

The wife of Private Hugh Duncan, of Townsend Street, Strabane has just been notified by the War Office that he was killed in action on May 16th. He was connected with an old family of the town and his relatives carried out an extensive brewery business for a very long period, at what was known as Duncan's Brewery. The deceased has three other brothers serving King and country, two of them having formerly served through the South African campaign, when one of them was wounded.

Strabane Weekly News
26th June 1915

STRABANE AND THE WAR
RECRUITING COMMITTEE FORMED
ENTHUSIASTIC PROCEEDINGS

On Wednesday night in the Town Hall a large and enthusiastic meeting was held for the purpose of forming a local recruiting committee in response to the Appeal from Central Council. The meeting was convened by order of the Strabane Urban Council. Prior to the meeting the band of the Connaught Rangers arrived by motor and paraded the principal streets of the town

Strabane Weekly News
26th June 1915

INTERESTING TO RAFFERTY FAMILIES IN TYRONE

Mrs. Ada Rafferty, Biglon, of 206, Montrose Avenue, South Orange, New Jersey, U.S.A. writes us making inquiries concerning one Michael Rafferty who went to America some time about 1830. He was born in County Tyrone, and his son Thomas Rafferty was his father. Both of them are now dead, but she is interested in tracing the descent of the family in order to fill out a genealogical chart for her children

Strabane Weekly News

26th June 1915

EGGS FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Sir,- We are sorry to have to report a slight falling off in the number of new-laid eggs contributed by the public for our wounded soldiers and sailors. We have collected to date from various sources nearly five million eggs for this purpose. We unfortunately require no less quantity than 70,000 per day to satisfy all requirements and there is every prospect of the quantity required being materially increased at no distant date.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd July 1915

The relatives of Private Francis Collins of Mill St, Newtownstewart have received notice that he was killed in action recently. Private Collins was 19 years of age, being the only son of James Collins and has been in action for about three months. He belongs to a fighting family, his father holding three medals for the Afghanistan War, having had 19 years' service with the Royal Horse Artillery

Strabane Weekly News

3rd July 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART MAN WOUNDED

Corporal R. Wilson, No. 3317, 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who lives in the Newtownstewart district, writing to a friend in Strabane, says that he has been wounded in action in the Dardanelles. The following are extracts from a recent letter received-

"Just a few lines to say that I am improving well. About the end of June last we had a big battle with the Turks and there were hundreds of them fell, but I got shot through the right arm. I was operated on and got the bullet taken out of my arm, and I feel very well since I got it taken out. I thought I would never have been able to write to you again as I gave up all hopes, but thanks to god, I am living and well, and hope to see you all again soon, although I am far away from home. I may tell you that we all have done our duty since we came out here, and I may tell you that we hope to do our duty again. He speaks of the gallantry of the British against the Turks. He says the Turks are putting up a strong defence, but they are not able to resist the advance of the British.

Notification has been received that Pte Robert Wilson who resided at Back St, Newtownstewart, was wounded recently in the operations at the Dardanelles. He was attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers and before the outbreak of hostilities had been section leader in the UVF at Newtown and acted as drill instructor for the same force at Strawletterdallon. He is being treated in hospital in Malta. He has two other brothers serving with the colours, both of whom have been wounded and are now stationed with their regiment at Derry.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd July 1915

Private John McGuigan whose parents reside in Mill St in a letter posted in Alexandria several days ago says -

I am well and am going back to the trenches tomorrow. I saw Robert Wilson for the first time since I came out and he is going to the trenches with me. I haven't got a letter from you yet but I see the 'Constitution' sometimes and I wish you would send me a copy regularly as there is a lot of home news in it.....I saw Francis Collin's name in the paper among the killed and I am very sorry. We will 'get our own back' when we go back to the Dardanelles tomorrow and will knock off a few Turks with our maxim gun.....

Strabane Weekly News

10th July 1915

Private John McGinley of Townsend St has arrived home from the scene of action, having had some of his bones shattered. He is attached to the Canadian Engineers and has been in Canada for two years, volunteering and coming over with the first contingent to aid the mother country. Private McGinley took part in some very heavy fighting before being wounded.

Strabane Weekly News

10th July 1915

Private James Murdock of Dysert, Strabane, has also arrived home, having been wounded in a recent engagement. He is attached to the 2nd Battalion Inniskillings and was in the trenches for a long period before being knocked out. A bullet passed through one of his legs, penetrating the other leg, without touching any of the bones. He is yet lame but expects to be all right soon.

Strabane Weekly News

10th July 1915

The relatives of Private James Welch who reside at Bridge End, Strabane, have received an intimation that he is missing. He was attached to the 2nd Inniskillings and had been in the firing line for the past four months.

Strabane Weekly News

10th July 1915

Private Robert Cunningham of Strabane, 2nd Battalion Inniskillings has also been reported missing after a recent engagement. Private Cunningham has been serving since the outbreak of hostilities.

Strabane Weekly News

24th July 1915

Private Harry Doherty home in Strabane on leave. A resident of Canada for the last four years. Also resided in the states for a while. Volunteered for the Canadian army after start of the War. Stationed at Shorncliffe in England – got 6 days leave to visit relatives.

Strabane Weekly News

24th July 1915

CORPORAL McCLAY ON HIS WAR EXPERIENCES

The Inniskilling Dragoons in action. Building the trenches 'under a searching artillery fire from the enemy' alternately firing percussion and shrapnel shells.

No sign of war ending soon. Britain and the Allies too slack and hopes that government and people at home get more organised for victory so that 'the many shortcomings will be put right before it is too late.'

Corporal McClay is a son of the late E. McLay, V.S. of Strabane. He adopted the Army for a calling and has seen a good deal of service in foreign countries.

Strabane Weekly News

31st July 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Word had been received a while ago of the injuries to Private John Harte. He has now recovered and has returned here for a well-deserved holiday. His wounds are now almost better.

Strabane Weekly News

31 July 2015

RECRUITMENT

A recruiting meeting was held in Ballybofey on Monday evening at 8 o'clock. Before the meeting the band of the Connaught Rangers were in attendance and paraded the principal streets of the town. The music rendered was of a fine quality. The meeting was formed in the Market Square, and was addressed by Lieutenant Burns, Mr. H.T. Gallagher, and Mr. James Boyle, solicitor. Lieutenant Burns made an earnest appeal for recruits for the Irish Brigade. Referring to the Ulster Division the speaker said Sir Edward Carson's men had done their duty well and anything Sir Edward asked of them they willingly agreed to. The Irish Volunteers did not listen to the appeals nor follow their leaders, as did the Ulster Volunteers. He appealed to the audience to come at once and join the colours.

Strabane Weekly News

31 July 2015

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MILITARY HOSPITAL

Good progress is still being maintained at Strabane Military Hospital. The nurses for the week were Miss Falls, Lislip, Omagh, and Miss Joyce, Derry Road, and Mrs. Green of Derry Road, as housekeeper. Mrs. Britton of Derry Road entertained the staff and men on Saturday to tea in her beautiful garden. A concert was organised by Miss Delap, who was assisted by Mr WB Smyth, Mr Thomas Pollock, Mr Jack Britton,

Miss Delap, Miss D Delap and Mrs Leay. Miss Connolly also organised a concert for the men's amusement and she was assisted by Mrs JC Boyd, Mr Jim Gallagher and Mr B Connolly.

Strabane Weekly News
31st July 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Word has been received by Mrs Farren, Ballybofey that her husband Private W J Farren attached to the 2nd Battalion Inniskillings has been killed in action. He served with the Inniskillings in South Africa and Crete and Malta and was a reservist when War broke out, going immediately to France. He had been a guard on the Donegal Railways Joint Committee. his brother in law, Private J Thompson of the 1st Inniskilling Fusiliers has also been wounded at the Dardanelles and he has another brother in law at present serving with the 10th Inniskillings at Seaforde. He leaves a wife and family of four to mourn his loss.

Strabane Weekly News
31st July 2015

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge at Strabane Military Hospital this week were Miss Stoney, Raphoe, Miss Stewart, Dergalt, And Mrs. Stewart Harpur, looked after the housekeeping arrangements. The men were entertained to a motor drive during the week by Dr Trimble, JP, of Newtown House, and Mr Vernon, entertained them at the picture house. Contributions were received from people from Belfast, Edymore, Strabane, Camus, Leckpatrick, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Sessiaghmore (Castlefin), Lifford, Baronscourt and Raphoe.

Strabane Weekly
7th August 1915

CASTLEDERG GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL
GERMAN MEASLES IN THE DISTRICT
PROTEST AGAINST ACTION OF MILITARY AUTHORITIES
THE QUESTION OF WAR BONUSES

The weekly meeting of this board was held on Friday, Mr. James Leitch (chairman) presiding. The others present were- Felix Connolly, J.P., James Haughey, Robert Thompson, Andrew Deery, David Bredin, etc Sanctions. The Local Government wrote sanctioning the payment of £4 4s as remuneration to Dr. Campbell, Drunquin, for acting as substitute for Dr. C.J. Johnston

Heating Arrangements.
Master's Bonus
Ambulance breaks down
Holidays
German Measles
Clerk's War Bonus

Strabane Chronicle
7th August 1915

SIR EDWARD CARSON AND CONSCRIPTION

Speaking at a war anniversary meeting at Hobe on Wednesday night, Sir Edward Carson asked those who declared they would never Agree to compulsory military service whether they would persist on that attitude if they were told the war could not be won without it. The country has made up its mind it was going to win, he declared, and it was going to be too scrupulous in observing old methods, which were absolutely futile in war time. There was no step in the organisation of the country for the objects of the war that Lord Kitchener would not get if he asked for it.

Strabane Chronicle
7th August 1915

DR. THOMPSON AND THE WAR

Sir,-I have carefully watched to see if any of the County Tyrone public men-by which I mean those occupying important representative positions-were taking any steps, as in England and Scotland, to hold representative meetings, and adopt resolutions on the anniversary of the war, expressing our unalterable determination to continue the contest until we had secured an honourable, adequate and durable peace, and calling upon the Government to act with more firmness and use any and all means necessary to secure and safeguard our rights and liberties.

Strabane Chronicle
7th August 1915

EFFECT OF THE WAR
IRELAND'S POSITION
L.G.B.'S ANNUAL REPORT

"Though the war has unquestionably caused much hardship to the poorer class families, with restricted incomes, owing to the increased prices of foodstuffs, its effects in producing acute distress among the population of the country have not been considerable, and have been constituted for the relief of distress caused by the war."

The above statement is contained in the annual report of the L.G.B. in reviewing war relief measures for coping with distress among the civil population in Ireland

Disturbance of employment first made itself felt in the industrial centres, the report adds. In Dublin, trade generally was adversely affected, and the labour market was much dislocated. The fishing industry was to some extent affected by the menace of enemy submarines. Almost all the tourist places suffered considerably owing to the interruption of vthe holiday season. Throughout the country generally employment in tailoring, dressmaking, lacemaking, and other kindred trades, especially amongst women, was considerably reduced owing to the economics practised by the public.

BUILDING TRADE
RELIEF TO WOMEN
DANGER OF DISTRESS

Strabane Weekly News
7th August 1915

TYRONE AND THE WAR
OFFICERS WHO HAVE FALLEN

The first year of the war has levied a heavy toll from Tyrone men, both officers and rank and file.

The appended list gives the names of the officers who have fought and died for King and Empire:-

Captain Lord John Hamilton, 1st Battalion Irish Guards, Baronscourt.

IFF: Captain. Born Co Tyrone. Irish Guards (Special Reserve). Died 6th Nov 1914

CWGC: Captain Lord Arthur John Hamilton, 1st Bn Irish Guards. Died 6 Nov 1914. Son of the late Duke of Abercorn, K.G., and of Dowager Duchess of Abercorn, of 115 Park St., London. Deputy Master of his Majesty's Household.

Strabane Chronicle
7th August 1915

THE WAR AND HOME RULE
INTERVIEW WITH MR. REDMOND

An interesting interview with Mr. John Redmond which deals with a number of important issues is published in the "New York World".

Asked as to the feeling between Great Britain and Ireland, Mr. Redmond answered:- "The feeling between Ireland and England has entirely changed since the war began. The Home Rule Act has had the same effect on national sentiment here that the grant of Home Rule to South Africa has had in that country. In England I can say with knowledge that Ireland's attitude towards the war has had an enormous influence on what was up to that time opinion hostile to Home Rule and to Ireland.

THE COALITION CABINET
SINN FEIN MOVEMENT

Strabane Weekly News
14th August 1915

THE ULSTER ARMY
RICH MEN AND LABOURERS RUB SHOULDERS

The London "Daily Express" says:-The pick of the sons of Ulster- a fine hefty set of men hard as nails- are quartered on the outskirts of a town famous for its twenty nine preparatory schools and convalescent homes.

Before the outbreak of the war they knew how to handle a rifle, as most of them were Ulster Volunteers. All sections of the community in Ulster were represented. Sons of wealthy Belfast merchants and citizens are here in their hundreds, as are also the heirs to large estates. They rub shoulders with artisans, dock labourers and farm hands. There many who have given up berths of £8 or £10 a week in order that they may do their bit.

Strabane Weekly News
14th August 1915

SIR EDWARD CARSON AND THE ARMY

Sir Edward Carson's eulogy of our new army as being composed of "men of the finest material" receives singular collaboration from the pen of a Prussian officer who kept a diary. He wrote at the beginning of the war- "There is no army at all to be compared to an army of citizens and untrained men, once they have got their fair training; then they are new baked bread, not old rolls heated up. In a nation eternally thinking war, self-assurance and arrogance make the fighting spirit heavy still and cumbersome. Should the English make big armies of citizens they will be a terrible foe." We may go outside the limit of our own new army and say that the success of Botha's army in South Africa, the fighting spirit of the Canadian citizens round Ypres, and of Australian and New Zealand citizens in the Dardanelles battles confirm the Prussian officer's theory to the last word. Our empire army as a whole is "a terrible foe"

Strabane Weekly News
14th August 1915

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
COUNTY DONEGAL MAN KILLED IN ACTION

The relatives of Private John Murray, who reside at Gortree, near Strabane, have received an intimation that he has been killed in action recently. Private Murray was attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been in action since the outbreak of the war. He was a reservist, having served for a long period before in the Army.

Strabane Weekly News
14th August 1915

ALLEGED DESERTER IN STRABANE

A special court was held in Strabane on Monday evening, 9th inst, when a private named Edward O'Hara, of Strabane, was charged with desertion and being drunk and disorderly on the public street. Constable Begley, who arrested the prisoner, stated that he gave him a great deal of trouble and resisted arrest. He could not have him conveyed to barrack without the assistance of civilians. Prisoner acted in a most rowdy manner. The court kept the prisoner in custody until the arrival of a military escort from Londonderry, which took him to the Londonderry barracks.

Strabane Weekly News
14th August 1915

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Francis M'Philemy, who reside at Broad Lane, Strabane, that he has been wounded in action. Private M'Philemy was attached to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He has been in active service since October of last year and has passed through a great many engagements. The number of casualties from Strabane now exceed 30. Upwards of ten have been killed in action, whilst several from the locality have been made prisoners of war.
Patrick McPhilomey, 2732, 6th Batt Royal Irish Regiment. Born Urney, Donegal. Died 4 May 1916.

Strabane Weekly News
14th August 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES - MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge of the Military Hospital this week were Mrs Wiseheart, Main Street, and Miss Evelyn White, Bowling Green, with Mrs Britton of Derry Road, as housekeeper. The men were entertained to a motor drive on several occasions during the week by Mr JM Trimble, JP. Mrs. Herdman, Camus, also gave a motor run on Tuesday and Thursday and on the same occasions entertained the men to tea and games. A concert was organised by Miss Connolly of Newtown Street, and she was ably assisted by Miss Colhoun, Miss Turley (Belfast) Mr. Connolly, Mr Gallagher and Mr Cochrane. The inmates of the hospital also rendered songs. The contribution to the hospital received during the week were from his grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mr James Aiken, Mrs Trimble, Mr Vernon, Miss Turley, Miss Bella Godfrey, Derry Road, Mrs Baillie, Red House, Carricklee, Mrs. Ricardo, Sion Mills, Mrs Delap, The Rectory and Mr Jack Britton, Derry Road.

Strabane Chronicle
14th August 1915

CROPS IN ULSTER
HARVEST PROSPECTS IN THE PROVINCE

The "Journal" of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, in its mid-July report on the condition of the crops in Ulster, makes the following comments:-

CO. DONEGAL

The wheat crop is promising now and looks like yielding well. An increased area of oats has been sown; straw will be short owing to the dry weather; late rains have made some improvement. Etc, Etc

CO. TYRONE

The wheat crop is a great success, and well headed. Oats are only fair. The crop is thin and short in many cases, except on clay soils, which were well cultivated. Rye, which is not much sown, is good. The potato crop has a fine healthy appearance of foliage.

Strabane Weekly News 14th August 1915

STRABANE DISTRICT HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge during the week were – Miss H. Delap, of the Strabane Rectory and Miss Keatily, while Mrs. Delap carried out the duties of housekeeper.

Mrs. Herdman, of Carricklee, entertained the man to a motor drive and tea and games. They were also entertained during the week by Mrs. Humfreys, of Cavanacor, near Ballindrait, to tea and games, and were driven in a brake to Mrs. Humfreys' residence, a distance of three miles.

Strabane Weekly News 14th August 1915

DERRY RECRUITING STATISTICS

Dr. W.H. Elliott, inspecting medical officer of recruits in Derry and district has just issued a return showing the number of recruits examined by him from the 1st of January last to the 30th of June. During that period he examined 670 men of whom 91 were rejected as physically unfit. The figures apply to the city and adjoining rural areas and to the nearer portions of County Donegal, and apparently do not include the men who joined the Ulster Division or Irish Brigade.

Strabane Weekly News 14th August 1915

BRITISH TRANSPORT SUBMARINED GOING TO DARDANELLES 600 MEN RESCUED

The Press Bureau made the following announcement on Tuesday:-

The Secretary of the Admiralty issues the following:-

The British Transport Royal Edward was sunk by an enemy submarine in the Aegean Sea on Saturday morning.

According to information at present available the transport had on board 32 military officers and 1,350 troops, in addition to the ship's crew of 220 officers and men.

The troops consisted mainly of reinforcements for the 29th Division and details of the R.A.M.C.

No information has yet been received, but it is known that about 600 have been saved. The 29th Division, for which the reinforcements were intended, includes amongst other battalions the 1st Royal Inniskillings, 1st Munster Fusiliers, 1st Dublin Fusiliers, 5th Royal Scots, 1st Lancashire Fusiliers, 2nd South Wales Borderers, and the 1st Border Regiment.

Strabane Weekly News 21st August 1915

STRABANE AND DISTRICT PATRIOTIC STRABANE MAN

The patriotism of a Strabane man named William Hone, of Bowling Green, is deserving of mention. At the age of almost 50 years he has volunteered to serve his country. Private Hone, who lived by himself, responded to the call which was made on him by the recruiting officers from the Irish Brigade and locked up his door and joined the colours. He is now stationed at Tipperary. He had previously seen 9 or 10 years' service with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and was also attached to the Lifford Militia prior to the time they were disbanded. Private Hone still pays rent for the house which he occupied prior to his enlistment.

Strabane Weekly News 21st August 1915

STRABANE DISTRICT HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge during the week were – Miss H. Delap, of the Strabane Rectory and Miss Keatly, while Mrs. Delap carried out the duties of housekeeper. Mrs. Herdman, of Carricklee, entertained the man to a motor drive and tea and games. They were also entertained during the week by Mrs. Humfreys, of Cavanacor, near Ballindrait, to tea and games, and were driven in a brake to Mrs. Humfreys' residence, a distance of three miles.

Strabane Weekly News
21st August 1915

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Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

ATTACK FROM ANZAC

The attack from Anzac, after a series of desperately contested actions, was carried to the summit of San Bahr and Chunok Bahr ridges, which are dominating positions in this area, but owing to the fact that the attack from Sulva did not make the progress which was counted on, the troops from Anzac were not able to maintain their actual creat-line, and after repeated counter-attacks were forced to withdraw to a position close below it.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

STRABANE AND DISTRICT ROLL OF HONOUR

The wife of Private Frank Gallagher, who resides at Urney Road, Strabane, has received an intimation that her husband has been wounded in action in the Dardanelles. Private Gallagher is attached to the Dublin Fusiliers and has been in the firing line for some months past. Private Gallagher who is a tailor by trade, and also carried the rural post for a portion of Strabane district, volunteered at the outbreak of hostilities and after passing through the various courses was despatched to the Dardanelles. He also has a brother named Eugene Gallagher serving his country. It is hoped that his wounds are not of a serious nature.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

STRABANE MAN FROM THE FRONT

Private Richard Boyd, of Meeting House Street, Strabane, who is attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has just left here to rejoin his regiment after having leave of absence for seven days. Private Boyd has had connection with the battalion for a large number of years and has been in the fighting line continually for a period of twelve months. He took part in the first engagement with the British troops on their arrival at the front and also in a great many further engagements up till recently and came through all the battles unscathed. A good many of Private Boyd's comrades who accompanied him to the firing line have been knocked out of action.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

Mrs. James Toner, Bank House, presided at a meeting of above held in the Town Hall on the evening of 20th inst., and there was a good attendance of members present. A sum was voted towards the purchase of wool for the making of comforts for soldiers at the front and it was stated that any person willing to assist in this deserving object should communicate with Miss M'Crea, Derry Road, who is in charge of the wool an acknowledgement was received on behalf of a sum exceeding £50 , which was sent by the committee towards the Servian fund.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

STRABANE CORPORAL WOUNDED

Corporal James M'Philemy, of Meeting House Street, Strabane, has written home from a hospital in Malta that he has been wounded in action in the Dardanelles. Corporal M'Philemy is attached to the 1st Battalion

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been in some stiff engagements. He has been for more than six years attached to the battalion and prior to the outbreak of hostilities was serving with his regiment in India, where he was stationed for a period of four years. He returned from India about last Christmas and was then allowed a short leave of absence. He afterwards proceeded direct to the firing line. He was wounded on the side, but states that he expects shortly to be well again and able to do his bit. He speaks in glowing terms of the dash and gallantry displayed by the troops engaged and pays a glowing tribute to the officers. It is hoped that Corporal M'Philemy will soon be restored to health and strength again.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

NEWTOWNSTEWART MAN WOUNDED

Corporal R. Wilson, No. 3317, 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who lives in the Newtownstewart district, writing to a friend in Strabane, says that he has been wounded in action in the Dardanelles. The following are extracts from a recent letter received-

"Just a few lines to say that I am improving well. About the end of June last we had a big battle with the Turks and there were hundreds of them fell, but I got shot through the right arm. I was operated on and got the bullet taken out of my arm, and I feel very well since I got it taken out. I thought I would never have been able to write to you again as I gave up all hopes, but thanks to god, I am living and well, and hope to see you all again soon, although I am far away from home. I may tell you that we all have done our duty since we came out here, and I may tell you that we hope to do our duty again. He speaks of the gallantry of the British against the Turks. He says the Turks are putting up a strong defence, but they are not able to resist the advance of the British.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Excellent progress is still being made at the above. The nurses in charge during the week were Lady Cynthia Hamilton, of Baronscourt, daughter of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, and Mrs. O'Brien of Strabane Rectory, whilst Miss M'Crea, of Derry Road looked after the housekeeping arrangements. Mrs. Trimble, of Newtown Street, kindly gave the men a drive in a brake to the Strabane Glen and afterwards entertained them there to tea and games.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

ITALY DECLARES WAR ON TURKEY

Italy has at last declared war on Turkey; she has been at war with Austria-Hungary for three months, but until Friday last, when her Ambassador at Constantinople demanded his passports, she was officially at any rate, still on friendly terms with both of her enemy's Allies.

Two reasons are given by Rome for this new development in the world-war. The support of the revolt in Libya, Northern Africa; and the prevention of the departure of Italians resident in Syria.

For a long time however, relations between the two Powers have been strained in fact the tension due to the war of 1912 when Italy took Tripoli from the Turks has never been fully relieved.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

BADEN-POWELL IN STRABANE

Large crowds assembled at the grounds of the Strabane Rectory on Monday evening to view an inspection of the defence corps of the Boy Scouts made by Lieutenant-General Baden-Powell. Before the inspection of the Scouts, Lieutenant General Baden-Powell attended at the Strabane Military Hospital and conversed with the wounded soldiers individually. The Scouts, who were fully equipped, were under the charge of Mr. Charles Campbell as leader, and Mr. Beacom as instructor.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

IRISH TROOPS AT THE DARDANELLES

The Press Association's Special Correspondent at the Dardanelles sends a dispatch, dated Alexandria, August 12th. It is of special interest in view of the officers' casualties, already published, which have indicated the prominence of Irish regiments in the fighting now described by the correspondent. He says:- "on the right centre about 3,000 yards inland is a hill 170 feet high, which was stormed in gallant style by a

Fusilier regiment supported by Irish troops on the landing day. The position was strongly held by the Turks, but the Irishmen, instead of attacking from the front, marched across the Salt Lake, wheeled into the plain and they came back at the hill, which was ultimately taken with relatively few casualties. A short distance beyond this hill, which has been christened "Chocolate Hill" by the soldiers is a smaller height which is still held the enemy. The firing line at present runs between the two hills and across the plain on either side.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

IRISH BRIGADE AT FINNER CAMP

The 7th Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers are at present encamped at Finner Ballyshannon. On their arrival in Ballyshannon they were accorded an enthusiastic reception. The National Volunteers Pipe band turned out to meet them at the station and it was accompanied by a torchlight procession. On the road to Finner arches spanned the streets and the population turned out en masse to receive them. The soldiers were greeted with hearty cheers, and the scenes at the Bridge End was enthusiastic in the extreme. Never before has a battalion of soldiers received such a reception in the town, and it was evident that they were both pleased and surprised. The band of the 12th Battalion (Ulster Division Reserves) also met the Battalion and played them to camp. The officers are Brigadier General Louge, commanding; Lieut.-Col. M. Hughes, who is most popular with his men, Sergeant-Major Lynch Bloss, Regimental Sergeant-Major Kenney. Quartermaster M'Grain, Company Sergeant-Major Dolan, Emor and Taylor, etc. Large numbers of men visited Ballyshannon during the week.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS IN TYRONE COL. MOORE IN OMAGH PARADE AND INSPECTION PUBLIC MEETING

An important review of the National Volunteers was held in Strathroy, near Omagh, on Sunday, and the display was on the whole, highly creditable, when it is considered that the ranks of the Volunteers in Tyrone, as in almost every county in Ulster, have been badly thinned by the large number of men supplied to the new army, and also by the departure of those who had joined the army as reservists or recruits. The inspecting officer was Colonel Moore, C.B., Inspector-General and he was accompanied on the parade ground by the Hon Fitzroy Hemphill, Sir. Thomas Eamonde. Bart., Right Rev. Monsignor O'Doherty, P.P., and Mr. F. J. O'Connor. The volunteers of the Omagh district were augmented by contingents from Strabane, Drumquin, Newtown Stewart, Cloghcor and other parts of North Tyrone.

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

NOTES

Lance-Corporal Ralph Shepherd, 1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, whose parents reside at Magheracregan, Castlederg, has died of wounds received in action at the Dardanelles. The lance-corporal was formerly a member of the 1st Derry Company of the Boys' Brigade. He had four years' military service.

The Committee of the National Volunteer, Omagh, desire to thank Mr. M'Anulla and the members of the Newtown Stewart Band for kindly attending the parade on Sunday last. They also desire to thank Mr. Patrick Cunningham, J.P., for giving the use of his field and Mr. John Hughes for giving Colonel Moore, C.B., the use of his horse on the occasion

The following names appear in the casualty lists:- Killed-Captain C.E.G. Vernon, 5th Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; Lieut. J.R. Whitsitt, 5th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Lieutenant H.H. M'Cormac, 5th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Lieutenant J.E.T. Nelis, 5th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Wounded-Second-Lieutenant J.F. Hunter, 6th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

THE DARDANELLES HEAVY FIGHTING TURKISH TRENCHES TAKEN HEAVY LOSSES TO BOTH SIDES

(Press Association War Special.) Paris, Wednesday

The following communique regarding the operation in the Dardanelles was issued here this afternoon:- The period of five days which has elapsed since the last communique has been marked in the Northern zone,

by fresh progress by the British left wing, which has carried 800 metres (810 yards) of the enemy's trenches. In the Southern zone operations have been confined to artillery actions and patrol encounters.

TWO LINES OF ATTACK

(Press Association War Special)

A further account of the operations in progress, in the western extremity of the Gallipoli Peninsula since August 6th has been issued by the Press Bureau. There were two separate lines of attack,

Strabane Weekly News

28th August 1915

TURKISH TRENCHES STORMED

Further reinforcements having arrived, a renewed attack was made on the 21st on the centre of this new extended line. The Anzac left was successfully advance about three-quarters of a mile, and a system of strong knolls and under features secured.

Strabane Weekly News

28th August 1915

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Strabane Chronicle

28th August 1915

Injury of Private Robert Wilson of Newtownstewart – for the 2nd time. He was attached to the 1st Battalion of the Inniskillings and wounded at the Dardanelles. Prior to the War he was instructor for the Newtownstewart UVF and also drilled a group at Strawletterdallon. He was an active member of the LOL. Two brothers, John and William are also in the firing line – both were wounded but are now back in action. Lance corporal John Wilson (as above) of the 1st Inniskillings writing from the Dardanelles – 'to let you know how some of the Newtown men are doing. It is now the 2nd time for Robert Cochrane and myself to be at the Front and we think if more of our friends at home had enlisted we might have had longer furlough ... The other day I cam across Corporal Tom Jamieson who is also doing his bit and doing it well. The heat here is very severe on us, just as bad as the frost and snow was some months ago. Cochrane

and I don't feel bad in the firing line due to our previous experience in Flanders, but perhaps it is not so easy for Jamieson, however, he keeps fairly cool Sometimes it is terrible to listen to the shelling from the Turks and overhead their aeroplanes are very active but the latter are nothing to ours. In one battle this morning I thought we would never see Newtown Stewart again, so thick and fast were the shells...

Strabane Weekly News
28th August 1915

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28th August 1915

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COL. MOORE IN OMAGH. PARADE AND INSPECTION
PUBLIC MEETING

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Strabane Weekly News
4th September 1915

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

The town of Strabane with a population of over 5,000 is doing its share in the great struggle. There are about 100 men in the firing line, all of whom have taken part in a great many engagements. Eight have been killed in action and upwards of 35 have been wounded, but most of the latter are well again and at the front. Some have been made prisoners of war. In addition there is more than 400 enlisted in the new armies, being distributed in almost every regiment of his Majesty's forces, and the Royal Navy. The majority have now completed their training. Twelve inhabitants of the town have recently left to work at Rosyth, Scotland, at the new naval dock where they have been guaranteed three years employment and fourteen have volunteered for munitions work and are waiting the call to commence operations, all of them being accepted for work.

Strabane Weekly News
4th September 1915

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

The relatives of Private B Gallagher who reside at Tyrkernaghan, Donemana, have for some time been anxious for tidings regarding him and information has just come to hand that he is a prisoner of war having been captured at the severe fighting at St. Julian. Private Gallagher is attached to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and being a reservist, was called out immediately on the outbreak of the war. He took part in a great many engagements prior to being captured and came them safely.

Strabane Weekly News
4th September 1915

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

The many friends of Captain EC Herdman, Carricklee, will be pleased to learn that he has been promoted to the rank of Major with the North Irish Horse. Major Herdman has been at the front since the commencement of hostilities and on one occasion returned for a short holiday. He is the esteemed chairman of the Strabane Board of Guardians, which office he has filled for many years. Major Herdman is the champion of Unionism in North Tyrone, having contested the constituency on two occasions, and being defeated on the last occasion by the present member, the Right Hon TW Russell by a small majority of 16 votes.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

NOTES

Private Cunningham and Private Walshe of Strabane who were reported to be missing some months ago, are still on the missing list and are believed to be killed.

The Strabane Old Age Pension Committee have co-opted Mr. William B. Smyth, Strathfoyle, Strabane, as a member of the committee, in room of the late Mr. R.J. Blair.

A party of 12 have left Strabane to work at Rosyth, Scotland. Fourteen have volunteered for munition work and have been accepted. They are awaiting the call to commence operations.

Captain E.C. Herdman, of North Irish Horse, has been promoted to the rank of major. Major Herdman, who is the popular chairman of Strabane Board of Guardians, has been at the front since shortly after the outbreak of war.

Recruiting in Enniskillen is above Londonderry and Ballymena, says a contemporary. The army medical officer at Derry reported he had passed 800 recruits into Kitchener's Army, and 1,150 had come from Ballymena district. The medical officer at Enniskillen has passed 1,200 and the recruiting officer 1,600 of whom 400 had been passed in outside districts before coming to Enniskillen.

The Board of Trade has announced the number and net tonnage of British wrecks during August and the number of lives lost. This shows 58 sailing vessels of a net tonnage of 4,206 including 39 sailing vessels of 2,019 tons sunk by German warships and 21 lives lost; 68 steamers, net tonnage 84,117, including 56

steamers of 81,490 tons sunk by German warships, and 1,178 lives lost, inclusive of 1,011 which so far as is known at present, were lost in the transport *Royal Edward* in the Sargasso Sea.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

STRABANE AND WAR DEPENDANTS

The monthly meeting of the Strabane Old Age Pension Committee was held on Tuesday, Mr. Patrick McMenamin, J.P. (chairman), presiding.

Five claimants appeared in support of their applications for an allowance, and each case was dealt with on its merits.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

5th INNISKILLINGS' SEVERE LOSSES

The casualty list from the Dardanelles contains the names of no fewer than 18 officers of the 5th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

YOUNG MAN - IS ANYONE PROUD OF YOU?

Is your mother proud of you?

Is your sister proud of you?

Is your sweetheart proud of you?

Is your employer proud of you?

Is IRELAND proud of you?

If you are not making munitions, get into khaki at once

Join an Irish Regiment today

And they will be proud of you.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

STRABANE PENSION COMMITTEE ABSENCE OF EXCISE OFFICER

At the monthly meeting of the Strabane Old Age Pension Committee, the Secretary read a letter from the Customs House, London with reference to the non-attendance of the Excise Officer at the meeting, and stating that it was right but not the duty of pension officers to attend meetings. Etc, Etc

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

5th INNISKILLINGS' SEVERE LOSSES

The casualty list from the Dardanelles contains the names of no fewer than 18 officers of the 5th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly
4th September 1915

STRABANE AND THE WAR

The town of Strabane and district with a population of over 5,000 is doing its share in the great struggle.

There are about 100 men in the firing line all of whom have taken part in a great many engagements. Eight have been killed in action and upwards of thirty-five have been wounded, but most of the latter are well again and at the front. Some have been made prisoners of war. In addition there is more than 400 enlisted in the new armies, being distributed in almost every regiment or his Majesty's forces, and the Royal Navy. The majority have now completed their training. Twelve inhabitants of the town have recently left to work at Rosyth, Scotland, at the new naval dock where they have been guaranteed three years employment and fourteen have volunteered for munition work and are awaiting the call to commence operations all of them being accepted for the work. The town is proud of the fact that Lieutenant-Colonel Ricardo who resided adjacent is in charge of the 9th Batt. (Tyrones), and Captain E.C. Herdman who also hails from the locality has been promoted to major in the North Irish Horse. Eight officers have left the town to do their bit and one from the district (Lieutenant Barton) is either killed or a prisoner of war. No information is yet forthcoming as to his whereabouts during the past ten months. Lieutenant Barton was a very popular member of the U.V.F.

and was a nephew of Mrs. Sinclair of Hollyhill who is the pioneer of Unionism in North Tyrone. The medical profession is also well represented from the town and six officials have volunteered out of the Post Office. The town is also responsible for the maintenance of several Belgian refugee families who arrived here in January last, and the Womens' War Relief Committee, which consists of kindly ladies who organised themselves at the outbreak of hostilities, has done great service in honour of the town having sent comforts continually to the front for the use of the soldiers. One of the greatest efforts, however, was the starting of the military hospital for the care of the wounded soldiers. This hospital which is situate at Newtown Street, is in charge of a band of willing volunteers and nothing is left undone for the care of the wounded who arrive here, the hospital which was placed at the.....

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge during the week were Lady Hamilton of Baronscourt, daughter of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, and Mrs. O'Brien, Strabane Rectory. Mrs. G.M. Lavery, Railway Road, looked after the arrangements in connection with the housekeeping. The men were entertained to motor drives by the Duchess of Abercorn and Mr. W.B. Smyth, Strathfoyle.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Francis Gallagher, who reside at Dock Street, Strabane, that he has been wounded in action in the Dardanelles in one of the eyes, being hit bt a piece of shell. Private Gallagher was a reservist and has been in action since the commencement of the war, being attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He also served throughout the entire South Africa campaign, and came through it safely. In the street where Private Gallagher resides there are nine houses in the block, and ten men are serving with the colours, which speaks volumes for this quarter of the town.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

STRABANE MAN AT THE DARDANELLES

Private Thomas Mullan, who is attached to the 7th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 39th Brigade, 10th Division, with the Mediterranean Force, writes to his sister in Strabane that he is well, and having a "go" at the Turks. In his letter he states that there has been some hard fighting, but that the victory rested with the British troops in each engagement. He is of the opinion that the Turks will soon be knocked out. Etc. {Private Mullan who resided at Meetinghouse Street, volunteered at the outbreak of hostilities, and after the usual course of training was despatched to the Dardanelles. Private Mullan has another brother attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and he has also been in the firing line for a considerable time past. He has been through many engagements, and up to the present has come through unscathed.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

WAR FUNDS AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

Under the auspices of the Newtown Stewart Golf Club, a fete in aid of War Funds, and entertainment for wounded soldiers was held at the links near Baronscourt on Wednesday. Her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn and the Ladies Hamilton, who took an active interest in the organising of the event, took entire charge of the jumble sale tent, which contained many curios and valuable articles from the Castle. The proceeds are to be devoted to the providing of winter comforts for the soldiers. Etc, Etc Private R. Wilson, 2nd Battalion R.I.F., who took part in the famous landing at the Dardanelles, in April last, when so many lives were lost, has arrived here from an English hospital, having been again wounded. On the first occasion he had an injury to the right arm and left leg. Private Wilson prior to being called to service took an active interest in the drilling of U.V.F. men in the early stage of that movement.

Strabane Chronicle
4th September 1915

MAJOR E.C. HERDMAN

The promotion of Captain E.C. Herdman, North Irish Horse, to the rank of major will afford the utmost satisfaction not only throughout County Tyrone but the entire North-West where he is so deservedly popular. The promotion has been well merited. Major Herdman has been serving with the North Irish Horse at the front since the outbreak of war and his battalion has been called upon to bear an important and

arduous part in the campaign. Prior to the outbreak of war Major Hamilton took a prominent part in Ulster Volunteer work being the O.C. of the North Tyrone Battalion, and it was largely through his exertions that such a splendid regiment of volunteers was raised and equipped in Tyrone. He is chairman of Strabane Board of Guardians, and one of the keenest sportsmen in the country.

Strabane Chronicle **4th September 1915**

Mr. John James Milligan, Dock Street, Strabane has returned home from the front, being a reservist he was called up for service at the outbreak of hostilities and recently got wounded. He was a prominent member of the Strabane Corps of the Irish Volunteers and one of its instructors. On his departure from Strabane for the seat of war he got a right royal send-off from the Volunteers. The efficiency which the corps obtained in drill was in a large measure down to the training and interest of Mr. Milligan took in it.

Strabane Chronicle **4th September 1915**

Eight officers have left the town to do their bit and one from the district (Lieutenant Barton) is either killed or a prisoner of war. No information is as yet forthcoming as to his whereabouts during the past ten months. Lieutenant Barton is a very popular member of the U.V.F. and was a nephew of Mrs Sinclair of Hollyhill who is the pioneer of Unionism in North Tyrone.

Strabane Weekly News **4th September 1915**

The relatives of Private Samuel and Private Robert Cunningham, Strabane are anxiously awaiting tidings as to their whereabouts. Both of them were attached to the 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and took part in a number of engagements. At the battle on (16th) May last they were engaged but since that period no news has been had from them.

Strabane Weekly News **4th September 1915**

Private Michael Molloy, Main Street, Strabane is missing. No tidings have been heard of him since the 9th May. Two other brothers, Private John James, Dublin Fusiliers, and Thomas Molloy, Garrison Artillery, are also in the firing line, the former is at the Dardanelles, and the latter in France.

IFF: Lance-Corporal Michael Molloy, 8476, 1st Batt Royal Irish Rifles. Born Strabane. Died 9 May 1915.

Strabane Chronicle & Strabane Weekly News **11th September 1915**

Private Cunningham and Private Walsh of Strabane who were reported to be missing some months ago, are still on the missing list and are believed to be killed.

IFF: Private Robert Cunningham, 3437, 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Camus, Co Tyrone. Died 16th May 1915.

IFF: Private James Walsh, 4292, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Camus, Co Tyrone. Died 16th May 1915.

Private Michael Walsh, 18119, 9th Batt. Scottish Rifles. Born Strabane, Co Tyrone. Died 14th July 1916.

Strabane Weekly News **11th September 1915**

In a future issue we propose giving Strabane's roll of honour up-to-date. We shall be obliged if relatives of soldiers killed or wounded will let us have their names as soon as possible.

In a letter to his father, Private Francis M'Philomey, Strabane states that he was wounded in France and now lies in a military hospital in Newcastle-under-Lyne. Private M'Philomey, previous to joining the colours, was well-known in this town, and a member of the National Volunteers. He was through many engagements in France.

Strabane Weekly News **11th September 1915**

Intimation has been received from Private William Dunbar belongs to the Newtown Stewart district, that he has been wounded in action at the Dardanelles. Private Dunbar is a signaller attached to the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He also took part in the battle of Mons, where he was also wounded, and after a holiday he went again to the firing line, where he received his present wounds, and is now in a hospital in

England. Private Dunbar has also two other brothers attached to the 9th Battalion (Tyrones). The three brothers were members of the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News

11th September 1915

Mr. Harry O'Donnell, Strabane, arrived home from the front on Friday evening last, where he has been since after the outbreak of hostilities, and took part in the retreat from Mons. Lately he got wounded. Despite his many privations, Mr. O'Donnell looks remarkably well. His numerous friends and acquaintances are pleased to see him back to his native town again. He is still full of fight, and anxious to return to the firing line to do his bit. Mr. O'Donnell who is well known, and a popular figure in Strabane, is to be congratulated on his safe return.

Strabane Chronicle

11th September 1915

CRICKET IN STRABANE. MEETINGHOUSE ST. v TOWNSEND STREET

These teams met on Sunday last in an exhibition match before a large attendance of spectators. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News

11th September 1915

STRABANE MAN KILLED AT THE DARDANELLES NORTH TYRONE CORONER BEREAVED

Mr. John Elliott, solicitor and coroner for North Tyrone, of Bowling Green, Strabane has been notified by the War Office that his only son, Private Thomas Cecil Moore Elliott, was killed in a bayonet charge at the Dardanelles on the 16th August. The deceased, who was only 21 years of age joined the now famous "D" Company of the 7th battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers. After training at the Curragh he left Dublin for England, and the Division later sailed for the Dardanelles. Private Elliott took part in the landing at Suvla Bay and has since been through two engagements in which his battalion greatly distinguished itself, but unfortunately, lost heavily. Only a few days ago his father had a most interesting letter from him, written two days before his death, in which he gave a vivid description of the battalion's splendid achievement. The deceased was educated at Strabane Academy and Portora Royal School. From the latter he proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin, where he joined the Medical School. He was a prominent athlete and represented Ulster in an inter-provincial in the three-quarter position. Etc, Etc

Strabane Chronicle

11th September 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Mr. John Elliott, solicitor, Bowling Green, Strabane has been notified by the War Office that his only son Private Thomas Cecil Moore Elliott was killed in a bayonet charge at the Dardanelles on 16th August. Deceased who was only twenty-one years of age, joined the now famous D Company of the 7th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers. After training at the Curragh he left Dublin for England, whence the Division sailed with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force for the Dardanelles. Etc

Intimation has been received that Pvt. John Harte, of Townsend Street, Strabane; Private William M'Ginley, of Townsend Street, Strabane and Private John Maxwell, of Sion Mills, have been wounded in action at the Dardanelles. They were all attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and have been in the firing line during the past six months.

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private John Donnelly, who resides near Strabane, and who is attached to the 5th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, that he has been wounded in action in Flanders. He has five or six bullets through his legs.

Strabane Weekly News

11th September 1915

THE GALLANT INNISKILLINGS

The following men of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers have been awarded the D.C.M.:-
Company Quartermaster-Sergeant H.H. Waugh (8214), 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Private J. M'Niece (10047), 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Private J. Brennan (9328), 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Sergeant H. Kearney (7268), 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Wounded at the Dardanelles
Sergeant Robert Allen Christie, of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Belfast man)

Strabane Weekly News
11th September 1915

FATE OF STRABANE MAN

The relatives of Private Samuel Stewart and Private Robert Cunningham, who reside in Strabane, are anxiously awaiting tidings as to their whereabouts. Both of them are attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and took part in a number of engagements. At the battle on 16th May last they were engaged, but since that period no news has been had from them.

Strabane Weekly News
11th September 1915

DESERTERS IN STRABANE

A special court was held on Wednesday before Mr. M'Menamin, J.P., when a number of soldiers were brought before the court and charged with being deserters. Their names were Private J. Cassidy, Strabane; Private James Clarke, Derry; Private P. M'Laughlin, Strabane; Private J. Cunningham, Strabane; from Finner camp and attached to 7th Inniskillings. Gunner H. O'Neill, Private Patrick Walshe, Private William Meehan, Private Monaghan, and Pvt O'Leary of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. An escort arrived from Cavan and took some of the prisoners away, and by order of the court the remaining prisoners are detained at the barracks for the arrival of another escort.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

ARMY DESERTERS IN STRABANE SPECIAL COURT

A special court was held in Strabane on Wednesday morning before Mr. Patrick M'Menamin, J.P., when nine army men were charged with having left their regiments without permission. Their names were Private J. Cassidy, Strabane; Pte. Jas. Clarke, Derry; Pte. P. M'Laughlin, Strabane; Pte. J. Cunningham, Strabane; Gunner H. O'Neill, Pte. P. Walshe, Pte. Wm Meehan, Pte. Monaghan, and Pte. O'Leary of the Irish Fusiliers). The latter claimed to be a cousin of Sergeant O'Leary., V.C. An escort came from Cavan and took some prisoners, and by order of the court, the remaining prisoners were detained at the barracks for the arrival of an exact.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

DRIVING VEHICLES IN STRABANE
THE RULE OF THE ROAD
A DANGER TO THE PUBLIC

At Strabane Petty Sessions Court on Monday, Mr. Gallagher, J.P., drew attention to the dangerous manner in which drivers of motor vehicles, bicycles, cars and carts drove these vehicles through the town, not having any desire in most cases to keep to their own side of the road, and he thought the Constabulary should be instructed to educate the people on this important matter. Drivers insisted at present in keeping to the wrong side of the road and at the different corners in Strabane it was a serious matter, full of danger. D.I. Heggart said the offenders knew the law as well as the police did, and the best thing was a prosecution.

Mr. Gallagher said they should be warned first and then prosecuted.

Captain Gosselin said if there was a prosecution or two for the offence in congested parts of the town, and the magistrates gave a warning, and let the public see that the law would be carried out, it would go round quicker than anything else.

D.I. Heggart said he would have the matter attended to.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

THE HOME RULE ACT
LETTER FROM THE BISHOP OF RAPHOE
HOW THE PASSAGE OF THE BILL WAS RESISTED
THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

The Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell has written the following important letter to a London gentleman, Mr. H. Brassill arising out of the letter's observations with reference to the recent Nationalist Convention for County Donegal at Letterkenny:-

Dear Mr. Brassill-These are kind things you say of my letter to the County Donegal Convention. Any disposition to belittle the Act or the Party is altogether out of place. When one considers the obstacles in the way of the Home Rule Bill the wonder is that it was got through at all.

The achievements of overcoming the veto of the House of Lords removed an almost insuperable barrier. But, as you well know, the resistance to Home Rule of an important section of the Irish people was supported by one of the great English parties, was backed by society in England, and not discouraged, to say the least of it, by the Army officers in Ireland.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

ULSTER BISHOP AND HOME RULE

Notwithstanding the confidence which thinking Nationalists have had in the future of the Home Rule cause and the political integrity and sagacity of Mr. John Redmond and his colleagues in the Irish Parliamentary Party that they will rejoice at the very opportune and inspiring utterances contained in the letter written by the Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell to Mr. Harry Brassil, a warm friend and indefatigable champion of Ireland's rights. Etc, Etc.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

NOTES

In a future issue we propose giving Strabane's roll of honour up-to-date. We shall be obliged if relatives of soldiers killed or wounded will let us have their names as soon as possible.

The Customs House, London in a letter to the Strabane Old Age Pension Committee state that it is the right but not the duty of the excise officer, to attend their meetings.

In a letter to his father, Private Francis M'Philomey, Strabane states that he was wounded in France and now lies in a military hospital in Newcastle-under-Lyne. Private M'Philomey, previous to joining the colours, was well-known in this town, and a member of the National Volunteers. He was through many engagements in France.

The relatives of Private Samuel and Private Robert Cunningham, Strabane are anxiously awaiting tidings as to their whereabouts. Both of them were attached to the 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and took part in a number of engagements. At the battle on (16th) May last they were engaged but since that period no news has been had from them.

Private Michael Molloy, Main Street, Strabane is missing. No tidings have been heard of him since the 9th May. Two other brothers, Private John James, Dublin Fusiliers, and Thomas Molloy, Garrison Artillery, are also in the firing line, the former is at the Dardanelles, and the latter in France.

Intimation has been received from Private William Dunbar, who belongs to the Newtown Stewart district, that he has been wounded in the Dardanelles. Private Dunbar is a signaller attached to the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He also took part in the battle of Mons, where he was also wounded, and after a holiday went again to the firing line, where he received his present wounds, and is now in hospital in England.

Mr. Harry O'Donnell, Strabane, arrived home from the front on Friday evening last, where he has been since after the outbreak of hostilities, and took part in the retreat from Mons. Lately he got wounded. Despite his many privations, Mr. O'Donnell looks remarkably well. His numerous friends and acquaintances are pleased to see him back to his native town again. He is still full of fight, and anxious to return to the firing line to do his bit. Mr. O'Donnell who is well known, and a popular figure in Strabane, is to be congratulated on his safe return.

Mr. John James Milligan, Dock Street, Strabane has returned home from the front, being a reservist he was called up for service at the outbreak of hostilities and recently got wounded. He was a prominent member of the Strabane Corps of the Irish Volunteers and one of its instructors. On his departure from Strabane for the seat of war he got a right royal send-off from the Volunteers. The efficiency which the corps obtained in drill was in a large measure down to the training and interest of Mr. Milligan took in it.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

THE TENTH (IRISH) DIVISION AMAZING STATEMENT LONDON JOURNAL APPEALS TO THE CABINET

The following appears in a leading article, "The Dardanelles Battles," in the "Daily Chronicle" of Saturday:- One should be on one's guard against listening too readily to the crop of minor rumours and grumbings, which repulses are apt to engender. But perhaps we may be allowed to mention one matter, which allows at least a serious lack of imagination on the part of the military authorities. One of the new divisions sent to the Dardanelles was the new 10th Division under General Mahon-the first to go out of the distinctly Irish divisions. Admittedly it was a very fine unit, and Ireland took a great deal of legitimate pride in it. On its

arrival it is said to have been broken up, and all but three battalions dispersed among other divisions. Now we would merely ask whether it is conceivable that, say a Canadian, an Australian, or a New Zealand division should have been handled in this way, and how long it will be before the military authorities are made to realise, as they should be, that the local and national feeling in Ireland is as much worth treating considerately as that of the Dominions.

Strabane Weekly News
11th September 1915

CAPTAIN LORD CLAUD N. HAMILTON, D.S.O.

Monday night's "London Gazette" contained the announcement that Lieutenant Lord Claud Nigel Hamilton, D.S.O., grenadier Guards, is promoted to the rank of captain, and to remain seconded. The youngest brother of the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Claud N. Hamilton has served with distinction at the front, having been mentioned in dispatches, and appointed a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order. In January last he was seconded for service as an aidr-de-camp.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

COMMISSION FOR DONEMANA MAN

The many friends of Dr. Cecil J.H. Gatchell will be pleased to know that he has received a commission in the R.A.M.C. Dr. Gatchell has had service as ship's surgeon on an Elder Dempster liner sailing to the West Coast of Africa. He is the youngest son of the Rev. Dr. Gatchell, the respected rector of Earlsgift Parish Church.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

STRABANE MAN KILLED AT THE DARDANELLES
NORTH TYRONE CORONER BEREAVED

Mr. John Elliott, solicitor and coroner for North Tyrone, of Bowling Green, Strabane has been notified by the War Office that his only son, Private Thomas Cecil Moore Elliott, was killed in a bayonet charge at the Dardanelles on the 16th August. The deceased, who was only 21 years of age joined the now famous "D" Company of the 7th battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers. After training at the Curragh he left Dublin for England, and the Division later sailed for the Dardanelles. Private Elliott took part in the landing at Suvla Bay and has since been through two engagements in which his battalion greatly distinguished itself, but unfortunately, lost heavily. Only a few days ago his father had a most interesting letter from him, written two days before his death, in which he gave a vivid description of the battalion's splendid achievement. The deceased was educated at Strabane Academy and Portora Royal School. From the latter he proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin, where he joined the Medical School.

IFF: See above

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private John Donnelly, who reside near Strabane, and who is attached to the 5th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, that he has been wounded in action at the Dardanelles. He is at present in hospital in Alexandria.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

Private John Donnell, who is attached to the Royal Field Artillery, has arrived home after being wounded in Flanders. Private Donnell has been on active service during the past twelve months.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

The relatives of Private Patrick Hegarty, who reside at 16, Fountain Street, Strabane, has received intimation that he has been wounded in the Dardanelles. Private Hegarty is attached to the Dublin Fusiliers. He has been through severe engagements. The wounds are of a serious nature, but hopes are entertained that he soon will be all right again.

Strabane Weekly News
11th September 1915

FATE OF STRABANE MAN

The relatives of Private Samuel Stewart and Private Robert Cunningham, who reside in Strabane, are anxiously awaiting tidings as to their whereabouts. Both of them are attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and took part in a number of engagements. At the battle on 16th May last they were engaged but since that period no news has been had from them.

Strabane Chronicle

18th September 1915

The relatives of Denis Hagan, Fountain St., Strabane, have received intimation that he has been killed in action at the Dardanelles on the 15th ult. Deceased who enlisted since the outbreak of war, worked previously in Sion Mills and leaves a wife and children to mourn his loss.

IFF: Private Danial Hagan, 5112, 6th Batt Royal Munster Fusiliers. Born Strabane. Died 15 Aug 1915.

Strabane Weekly News

18th September 1915

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Joseph Meehan, of Strabane, who is attached to the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, that he has been wounded in action at the Dardanelles. He is at present in hospital but expects soon to be again in the firing line. Private Meehan took part in the first landing at the Dardanelles and came through a good many engagements prior to being wounded. His older brother, Private Patrick Meehan, is also with the colours and is also engaged at the Dardanelles. Private Patrick Meehan was also wounded in Flanders and took part in all the engagements with his battalion. After being wounded, he was over for a short holiday here. He is now again in the firing line.

Strabane Weekly News

18th September 1915

STRABANE ROLL OF HONOUR

No intimation has been received as to the fate of Private Michael Molloy, of Strabane, and no account of his whereabouts since the 9th May last is forthcoming. Up to that time he has taken part in numerous engagements. He has two more brothers also with the colours, Private John James Molloy, who is attached to the Dublin Fusiliers, and Private Thomas Molloy, who is with the Garrison Artillery. Both of them are in the firing line, the former at the Dardanelles and the latter in France.

Strabane Weekly News

18th September 1915

Private J.J. Milligan, of the Royal Inniskillings, is now at home from the front after having received extensive injuries to his hands. He took part in the first engagement of France and many another since that time. He was instructor to the National Volunteers in Strabane prior to the outbreak of hostilities.

Strabane Weekly News

18th September 1915

STRABANE ROLL OF HONOUR

Private Harry O'Donnell, of Strabane, has arrived from the theatre of war, having received slight wounds. He was through a great many battles and took part in the retreat from Mons. He looks well, despite his twelve months on the battlefield.

Strabane Weekly News

18th September 1915

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Mr. John Elliott, solicitor, Bowling Green, Strabane has been notified by the War Office that his only son Private Thomas Cecil Moore Elliott was killed in a bayonet charge at the Dardanelles on 16th August. Deceased who was only twenty-one years of age, joined the now famous D Company of the 7th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers. After training at the Curragh he left Dublin for England, whence the Division sailed with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force for the Dardanelles. Etc

Strabane Chronicle

18th September 1915

THE DARDANELLES TURKS NEARING THE END

A well-regulated fire from the warships reduced to silence the Turkish batteries on the Asiatic side of the Dardanelles, says a telegram from Athens to the Paris "Journal", according to a Press Association War Special.

Strabane Chronicle
18th September 1915

NOTES

Mr. Wm. Walker, Derry has been re-appointed stock-taker for the Strabane Union.

The relatives of Private Patrick Hegarty, Dublin Fusiliers, Fountain Street, Strabane, have received intimation that he has been wounded in the Dardanelles.

The relatives of Denis Hagan, Fountain St., Strabane, have received intimation that he has been killed in action at the Dardanelles on the 15th ult. Deceased who enlisted since the outbreak of war, worked previously in Sion Mills and leaves a wife and children to mourn his loss.

The Parliamentary papers include a supplementary vote of credit for £250,000,000, which is intended to cover not only the cost of the Navy and Army services and warlike operations but also all expenditure which may be necessary or desirable in view of the conditions created by the war.

Strabane Chronicle
11th September 1915

**BRITISH CASUALTIES
AT THE DARDANELLES
STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT**

In the House of Commons on Thursday.

Answering Mr. Joynson Hicks, Mr. Tennant said the casualties in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, including the Naval Division, up to August 21 last were as follows:-

Killed or died of wounds-Officers, 1,130; other ranks, 16,478.

Wounded-Officers, 2,371; other ranks, 50,257

Missing-Officers, 373; other ranks, 8,021.

Making a total of 3,874 officers and 83,756 other ranks.

Strabane Weekly News
11th September 1915

Intimation has been received that Private Hugh M'Cool, who is attached to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in action in Flanders. He has had five or six bullets through his legs, but it is hoped the wounds are not of a serious nature.

Strabane Chronicle
18th September 1915

**LORD KITCHENER'S STATEMENT
BRITISH FRONT EXTENDED
IMPREGNABLE FRENCH FORTIFICATIONS
THE RESPONSE TO CALL FOR RECRUITS**

In the House of Lords on Wednesday, Earl Kitchener, who was received with cheers, said-During the latter part of last session I did not deem it necessary for me to address your lordships, as current events were fully reported from time to time, and no defined military situation presented itself which seemed to call for special comment from me.

THE WESTERN FRONT

In the last few months the front held by the Allies in the West has been practically unchanged. This does not mean that there has been any relaxation of active work on the part of the forces in the field, for the continuous local fighting that has taken place all along the line has called for the display of incessant vigilance.

**POSITIONS STRENGTHENED
EFFICIENCY OF NEW ARMIES
BRITISH FRONT EXTENDED
NETWORK OF IMPREGNABLE FORTIFICATIONS
EASTERN WAR THEATRE
SUPERIORITY OF RUSSIAN SOLDIERS
CO-OPERATION OF THE FLEET
MARVELLOUS RECRUITING
MORE MEN NEEDED UTILITY OF REGISTRATION ACT**

Strabane Chronicle
18th September 1915

TWELVE MONTHS' CASUALTIES
BRITISH LOSSES NUMBER 381,983 to August 31st

Details provided

Strabane Chronicle
18th September 1915

COST OF THE WAR - £4,200,000 A DAY
PREMIER'S STATEMENT
CONSCRIPTION QUESTION
COST OF WAR

The Premier and Lord Kitchener in Parliament on Wednesday reviewed the progress of the war on the various fronts and gave an account of the present position of the Allies. Mr Asquith, in moving a vote of credit for £250,000,000 said the war was costing Great Britain £4,300,000 a day.

The outstanding figures in connection with the cost of the War given by the Prime Minister are:-

Daily expenditure now

7 th vote (to cover to 3 rd week Of November)	£4,200,000 £250,000,000
Total credit votes to date	£1,262,000,000

Strabane Chronicle
18th September 1915

MR. ASQUITH'S STATEMENT
£4,200,000 A DAY
800,000 WAR MUNITION WORKERS
THE FUTURE
FALL OFF IN RECRUITING
POSITION AT THE FRONT
CONSCRIPTION QUESTION
LONDON AND PARIS
THE NORTHCLIFFE ATTACK
QUESTION OF PEACE

Strabane Weekly News
18th September 1915

TYRONE VOLUNTEERS ON LEAVE
TO BE REVIEWED BY THE KING

The men of the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers) are now on short leave at their homes and during the past few days have been spending a most enjoyable and pleasant time with their friends. This is the last leave the men will obtain prior to their departure for the fighting line in France and it is evident that they are making the most of it and that their friends and admirers are leaving nothing undone to ensure for them the maximum of happiness. Never heretofore have they appeared in better conditions. The camp life both in Ireland and England has apparently agreed with them all, and we have no doubt that very shortly in the fighting line they will bring renown to the Ulster Volunteer Force from which they were recruited, and be a credit to the county which is so proud of its battalion. Etc, Etc.

On 25th inst., it is understood, that they will be inspected by his Majesty the King. This is an honour which has been bestowed upon few of the divisions of the new army and is a striking tribute to the efficiency and splendid physique of the battalion.

Strabane Weekly News
18th September 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the above was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening, 16th inst. Mrs Cooper, of Railway Street, presided and there was a good attendance of members present.

On the motion of Mrs. J.M. Trimble, Newtown Street, Strabane, and seconded by Mrs. William King, of Main Street a vote of condolence was passed to Mrs. John Elliott, of the Bowling Green, on the occasion of the death of her son, Private T.C. Elliott who was attached to the Dublin Fusiliers (7th Battalion), and killed in action at the Dardanelles on 16th August.

Subsequently a meeting of the Hospital Committee was held. It was agreed to retain the piano at the hospital in Newtown Street for another term, as a source of amusement for the wounded soldiers, who appreciate it very much.

Strabane Weekly News
18th September 1915

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge during the week were Miss Parker, Ballindrait, and Mrs. O'Brien of the Strabane Rectory, while Mrs. Keane, of Abercorn Square, looked after the housekeeping arrangements.

Strabane Weekly News
18th September 1915

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Joseph Meehan, of Strabane, who is attached to the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, that he has been wounded in action at the Dardanelles. He is at present in hospital but expects soon to be again in the firing line. Private Meehan took part in the first landing at the Dardanelles and came through a good many engagements prior to being wounded. His older brother, Private Patrick Meehan, is also with the colours and is also engaged at the Dardanelles. Private Patrick Meehan was also wounded in Flanders and took part in all the engagements with his battalion. After being wounded, he was over for a short holiday here. He is now again in the firing line.

Strabane Weekly News
18th September 1915

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge during the week were Miss Parker, Ballindrait, and Mrs. O'Brien of the Strabane Rectory, while Mrs. Keane, of Abercorn Square, looked after the housekeeping arrangements.

Strabane Weekly News
25th September 2015

RECRUITMENT

A meeting of the Strabane Recruiting Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Tuesday evening. Mr. James Toner, clerk of the Crown and the Peace, occupied the chair and there were present – Captain JC Herdman, Rev Edward Clarke MA, Messrs William King, William B Smyth, John Toorish and Edward Gallagher JP. Mr RK Malone, postmaster, wrote apologising for his non-attendance. Colonel Baillie wrote with reference to the grand military display and rally in Londonderry on the 2nd October and asked the meeting to make arrangements in connection with the event. It was decided to do everything possible to make the meeting a success and that the railway company be asked to issue cheap tickets by all trains on that day to Londonderry.

Strabane Chronicle
25thSeptember 1915

THE BUDGET
SWEEPING NEW TAXATION
NO HALFPENNY POST
DUTIES ON SUGAR, TEA AND TOBACCO INCREASED
40 PER CENT. ON THE INCOME-TAX

The new taxes and changes in taxation are:-

Strabane Weekly News
25th September 2015

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

A number of men from this district of the 9th Battalion RIF, at present in camp in England got a few days leave last week and returned again to take up their duties on Friday and Saturday. The men who left on Saturday had to travel by the ordinary 3.24p.m. train to Omagh, and no extra accommodation being provided, the entraining was done under difficulties. A very large number of the men's relatives and friends came to the station to say their 'goodbyes' as it is probable that the men will shortly be going to the front. The operation of crushing into over-crowded carriages was not very convenient for those wanting a last parting word, and both military and civilians were considerably hustled.

Strabane Chronicle

25th September 1915

**INCREASED SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
ALLEGED FALSE STATEMENTS
SION WOMAN CHARGED AT STRABANE SESSIONS
PENSION**

At Strabane Petty Sessions on Monday, Captain Gosselein, R.M. presiding, D.I. Heggart prosecuted Mrs Margaret Jack, Sion Terrace, Sion Mills for having, as alleged, by means of false documents and also statements, attempted to obtain an increased separation allowance. An alleged dependant of Trooper Gilbert Jack, of the North Irish Horse.

**Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915**

NO CONSCRIPTION FOR IRELAND

It is likely that there may be a lull in the Conscriptionists' campaign, but, if so, it shall only be temporary lull. All that is reactionary, anti-democratic, pessimistic and faint-hearted in the British Isles is loud in its demand and subtle in its planning for the introduction of Prussianism in regard to the army. That principle, once having gained the approbation of the Government and acquiescence of the populace will be but the prelude to its application in every department

**Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915**

NOTES

On the motion of Mr. James Toner, Clerk of the Crown and Peace seconded by Captain J.C. Herdman, the Strabane Recruiting Committee passes a vote of condolence to Mr. John Elliott on the death of his son, Mr. Cecil Elliott.

Lance-Corporal Edward Flood, Milltown, Strabane, who belongs to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and has been at the front since after the outbreak of hostilities, was wounded at La Bassee. Lieutenant Claud Ronald Anson, R.F.A. 3rd North Midland Brigade, who has been wounded in France, is the youngest son of Captain the Hon. George Augustus Anson late R.A., second son of the Earl of Lichfield, who married the eldest of the seven daughters of the first Duke of Abercorn, of Baronscourt, Co. Tyrone. Through his grandmother Mr. Anson is consequently a cousin of the present Duke of Abercorn, and the nephew of Lord and Lady Lansdowne. Mr. Anson joined the Artillery in August, 1914 and became lieutenant this year.

**Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915**

**IRISH TROOPS
ULSTER AND OTHER DIVISIONS
AN INTERESTING CONTRAST**

The Daily Chronicle" says:- There are now two more Irish Divisions in England. They are here for their divisional training preparatory to starting for the front, having come over within the past few weeks. These are the 16th Division and the 36th or Ulster Division. In coming to England for their divisional training these divisions are following the course adopted in the case of the 10th (Irish) Division which is now at the Dardanelles, where its battalions in the terrible fighting there have been covering themselves with distinction.

For the first time in the history of the British Army a division has been formed on a religious and political test. Whether it was wisely or unwisely done, we do not now discuss, but the fact is that not a single Catholic is allowed into that division, and from its commander and brigadier-general down to its N.C.O.'s, everyone of its officers is in religious and political sympathy with its men. Etc, Etc.

**Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915**

**IN GALLIPOLI, EIGHT WEEKS' FIGHT
SIR IAN HAMILTON'S DESPATCH
GALLANT IRISH BATTALIONS
INNISKILLINGS CARRY TRENCHES**

The story of fighting which took place on the Gallipoli Peninsula in May is contained in a despatch from Sir Ian Hamilton, which was issued by the Press Bureau on Monday. In the course of his despatch, he says:- The many urgent calls for reinforcements made during the previous critical fighting had forced me to disorganise and mix together several of the formations in the southern group, to the extent even of the

French on our right having a British battalion holding their own extremest right. For the purposes of the impending fight it became, therefore, necessary to create temporarily a composite division, consisting of 2nd Australian and New Zealand Infantry Brigades (withdrawn for the purpose from the Northern section).

**TO BE VERY SEVERELY TRIED
INNISKILLING FUSILIERS' DASH
DIVIDED THE FRONT INTO FOUR SECTIONS
ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS AND THE ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS
BATTLE OF THE 4th JUNE
IT BECAME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT
INCESSANT ATTACKS AND COUNTER-ATTACKS
BIG TURKISH ATTACK
BREAKING WORLD'S RECORD**

**Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915**

**INNISKILLING FUSILIERS' DASH
DIVIDED MY FRONT INTO FOUR SECTIONS
ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS AND THE ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS
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BIG TURKISH ATTACK
BREAKING WORLD'S RECORD**

**Strabane Weekly News
25th September 1915**

**A FALLEN HERO
THE LATE PRIVATE ELLIOTT
VOTE OF CONDOLENCE**

At Strabane Petty Sessions on Monday morning last, the magistrates present were:- Captain Gosselin, R.M. (presiding), Messrs. Edward Gallagher, James White, Thomas Burns, and James Clarke. Before taking up the business of the court Mr. Gallagher said since they had last met there had unfortunately been confirmation of the death of the only son of Mr. John Elliott. Mr. Elliott had been associated with that bench for many years and he was sure he was only expressing the feelings of all the magistrates when he said they sincerely sympathised with him in his sad bereavement.

**Strabane Weekly News
25th September 1915**

RECRUITING MEETING IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Recruiting Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Tuesday evening. Mr. James Toner, clerk of the Crown and Peace, occupied the chair, and there were present Captain J.C. Herdman, Rev. Edward Clarke, M.A., Messrs. William King, William B. Smyth, John Toorish and Edward Gallagher, J.P. Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, wrote apologising for his non-attendance. Colonel Baille wrote with reference to the grand military display and rally at Londonderry on the 2nd October and asked the meeting to make arrangements in connection with the event. Etc. The chairman (Mr. Toner), moved a vote of condolence to Mr. John Elliott, solicitor, and family of= n the loss they had sustained by the death of Private T.C.M. Elliott.

**Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915**

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES

The Press Bureau on Friday night issued the appended casualty lists. The following casualties are reported from the general headquarters of the Expeditionary Force, under date 15th September:-

Sergt. J. Horgan, 8288, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Sergt. W. Murrell, 9355, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Private S. Ritchie, 9088, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Sergt. T. Wilkinson, 4816, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

WOUNDED AT BRIGHTON HOSPITAL

Private P. Maguire, 8239, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Private J. Reilly, 8144, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Private T. Whelan, 7826, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Private A. Whitfield, 8708, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915

BRITISH NAVAL DISASTER
THREE CRUISERS TORPEDOED

... His Majesty's ships *Aboukir* (Captain John E. Drummond) and *Hogue* (Captain Wilmot S. Nicholson), and *Cressy* (Captain Robert W. Johnson) had been sunk by submarines in the North Sea. A considerable number (of crew) were saved by H.M.S. *Lowestoft* (Captain Theobald W.B. Kennedy) and a division of destroyers, trawlers and boats.

Strabane Weekly News
Thursday 26th September 1914

Local people involved in the various movements/organisations
Captain Ambrose St. Quintin Ricardo DSO, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been appointed Commanding Officer of the Tyrone Battalion, Ulster Division, of Lord Kitchener's Army. Captain Ricardo, who has been in command of the depot at Omagh since the outbreak of war, entered the Army in 1888, and was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1897. Captain Ricardo who resides at Sion Mills, County Tyrone, married in 1893 Elizabeth Alice, second daughter of Mr. Emerson T. Herdman, DL, Sion Mills.

Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915

EXCITING SCENES AT COOKSTOWN RAILWAY STATION

North Irish Horse and a considerable number of reservists left Cookstown by the midday train on Saturday to join their regiments
Shouts of "Home Rule" and "Ireland a Nation" were drowned by the greater volume of sound as the Unionists sang "Rule Britannia" and the National Anthem

Strabane Weekly News
25th September 1915

Intimation has been received that Private John Harte, of Townsend Street, Strabane; Private *William M'Ginley*, of Townsend Street, Strabane and Private John Maxwell, of Sion Mills, have been wounded in action at the Dardanelles. They were all attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and have been in the firing line during the past six months.
IFF: Private William McGinley, 22203, 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Born Tyrone. Died 1st Jul 1916. Private Patrick McGinley, 3829, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Urney, Co Tyrone. Died 16th May 1915.

Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915

Lance-Corporal Edward Flood, Milltown, Strabane, who belongs to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and has been at the front since after the outbreak of hostilities, was wounded at La Bassee.

Strabane Chronicle
25th September 1915

Lieutenant Claud Ronald Anson, R.F.A. 3rd North Midland Brigade, who has been wounded in France, is the youngest son of Captain the Hon. George Augustus Anson late R.A., second son of the Earl of Lichfield, who married the eldest of the seven daughters of the first Duke of Abercorn, of Baronscourt, Co. Tyrone. Through his grandmother Mr. Anson is consequently a cousin of the present Duke of Abercorn, and the nephew of Lord and Lady Lansdowne. Mr. Anson joined the Artillery in August, 1914 and became lieutenant this year.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd October 1915

Lance Corporal Edward Flood, Milltown, Strabane wounded in action. Attached to 2nd Bn Inniskillings – a reservist called up at start of the War and in action since then.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd October 1915

Corporal George McCutcheon 5th Inniskillings to the rank of Sergeant. He has been in active operations at the Dardanelles for the past three months. Prior to enlistment at the start of the war he was a member of the staff of Col R.J. Baille at his estate office, Strabane. He was an ardent member of the Carricklee Company of the UVF

Strabane Weekly News

2nd October 1915

Private T. Mullen, Meetinghouse Street. arrived home from the Dardanelles for a short rest. Took part in the landings at Suvla Bay. Attached to 7th Battalion of Dublin Fusiliers. He came through some very fierce fighting - many of his comrades were knocked out of action. Private Mullen has a brother at Flanders

Strabane Weekly News

2nd October 1915

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

Private T Mullen who resides at Meetinghouse Street, Strabane, has arrived home from the Dardanelles for a short rest. He took part in the famous landing at Suvla Bay and being attached to the famous 7th Battalion, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, came through some very thick fighting in which a great many of his comrades were knocked out of action. He speaks in glowing terms of the bravery displayed by the British troops on this occasion and says the dash and gallantry of the men is splendid. Private Mullen has also another brother engaged in operations in Flanders, and although in the firing line since the outbreak of hostilities has come through up to the present without hurt.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd October 1915

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

The many friends of Corporal George McCutcheon who is attached to the 5th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, will be pleased to learn that he has been promoted to the rank of sergeant in the field. Sergeant McCutcheon has been in active operations in Dardanelles for the past three months and has been through many engagements. Prior to his enlistment at the outbreak of hostilities he was a member of the staff of Colonel JR Baillie, at his Estate Office, Strabane. He was also an ardent member of the UVF, belonging to the Carricklea Company which won the first trophy for drill etc. at an inspection held at Baronscourt at the residence of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd October 1915

Wounded at the Dardanelles. One of three brothers in the army. His brother Edward was seriously wounded some time ago and is still critical in an English hospital.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd October 1915

Wounded in action at the Dardanelles. Attached to Inniskillings at start of the war. Before that served in North China and India. Wounded in the shoulder and arm

Strabane Weekly News

2nd October 1915

Visiting his parents at Dublin Road, Newtownstewart. He serves on a flagship and was in action against the Goebenat Messina and at the sinking of the Zenda in the Adriatic last August

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 2015

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge at Strabane Military Hospital this week were Miss Smyth Lifford, and Miss McGowan, Bridge Street, Strabane, and the housekeeping arrangements were attended to by Miss Moore, Baronscourt. Motor drives were kindly given by Dr JM Trimble JP, of Newtown House, and Mr Vernon entertained the staff to pictures of the Pallidrome. Contributions were also received from several people across the district.

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1914.

STRABANE NURSE FOR THE FRONT

Scenes of enthusiasm were witnessed at Strabane railway station on the departure of members of the St. John's Ambulance Association, Tyrone, for Red Cross work in France, in connection with the Tyrone U.V.F. hospital which has been accepted by the French Government for service at Pau, in Southern France. The volunteers included Nurse Wright, Workhouse, Strabane; Nurse Patrick, Workhouse, Castlederg, and several members of the Association. The Duchess of Abercorn was present

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1915

Pte. John McGuigan whose parents reside in Mill St (Newtownstewart) has been given a few days to recuperate at home having been in hospital in England as a result of wounds received at the Dardanelles.. Private McGuigan has had the misfortune to be wounded twice since April, before coming to England he was in hospital in Alexandria and Ras El Tin (or Ras El Teen, Alexandria)

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1915

Writing to his father Mr. Thomas Mullan of Meetinghouse Street states that he is quite well and optimistic about the operations in Flanders. He is in the 2nd Battalion of the Inniskillings and has been in the firing line since Oct – so far he has escaped injury. Another brother, Thomas Mullan, attached to 7th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers has been engaged in fighting at the Dardanelles. At present he is on a well-deserved holiday.

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1915

Private John McGlinchey - missing at the Dardanelles. Attached to 6th battalion of Munster Fusiliers and has been through a great deal of the campaign. His other brother, Michael, McGlinchey, who is attached to the Inniskillings took part in hard fighting in France at the earlier stages and lost a leg – he was in the famous retreat from Mons.

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1915

Private Samuel McCann of Ballymagorry killed in action at the Dardanelles. Attached to the Munster Fusiliers and enlisted shortly after the outbreak of the War. Has been in the firing line for several months. Prior to enlistment Private McCann was an instructor for the National Volunteers and took charge of the company at Ballymagorry. He leaves a family to mourn his loss

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1915

Mr. Howard Lavery, eldest son of Mr George Roe Lavery, the respected station agent at Strabane, appointed as 2nd Lieutenant in the 8th Reserve Battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles. Lt Lavery has 13 months service with the 9th Ulster Division. Prior to enlistment he was a prominent member of the UVF and attached to Strabane Company. A keen athlete and keen on football and boxing. Brother Sydney Lavery was also attached to the 9th Battalion of the Ulster Division.

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1915

Private John McMahan of the Inniskillings has been killed in action in France – he has been through many engagements since the start of the War.

Strabane Weekly News

9th October 1915

Private Moorehead of Newtownstewart attached to the Inniskillings has been reported missing. He took part in many engagements up to the 19th May. It is hoped he is among prisoners of war.

Strabane Weekly News

16th October 1915

No word about the missing soldiers Private E. Walsh, S. Stewart and E. Cunningham who were attached to the Inniskillings. These three privates took part in the heavy fighting in France in May and it is not known if they were knocked out or taken prisoner. No news yet of Lt. Barton.

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

Dr Wallace Blair, son of the late R.J. Blair, has received a commission as Lieutenant in the R.A.M.C. A keen athlete and footballer. A pioneer of Strabane Cricket Club and the best bowler in the North West, also a splendid batsman.

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

Letter from Private Jim Boyle of Meeting house Street from the Dardanelles "I am well and enjoying good health; we have a good hold on the Dardanelles; in my opinion the Turks are finished with the place. Our fellows are in the best of health."

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

Private John Boyle of the 2nd Battalion of R.I.F. who is at home at present has been rather fortunate in not having received a single wound during all the fighting of the past 12 months. It is now almost a year since Private Boyle went to France and during that period, he has passed through experiences he will never forget.

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

Corporal John Maxwell of Sion Mills has been wounded in action at the Dardanelles – of the 5th Battalion of Inniskillings and has been in action for 3 months past. Wounded about the legs but expected to be back in action soon.

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

Relatives of Private Alfred Wilkinson who reside at Lifford have got word that he has been wounded in action in France. Private Wilkinson was employed pre War at the GNR Station and volunteered early in the War in the Irish Guards. He has received two bullets in the head and one in the back. He has only been about one month in action before being wounded.

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

The parents of Corporal T. Jamieson have got word that their son was wounded at the Dardanelles but is now progressing towards recovery in a hospital in Eastbourne. Writing as an engagement on August 21st he says – when we prepared to take the hill from the Turks that evening about 3 o'clock my rifle was knocked from my hands in splinters and nearer the hill the bag on my back containing eatables, was riddled with bullets like a pepper-duster. Not one of the bullets touched me though they were coming like hailstones and many of our men, as well as the commanding officer were knocked out. I was struck on the arm and hip and when lying a third pierced my shoulder...The front isn't a bad place to be after all, it is certainly not as bad as it is reported to be, and I don't object to it at all. It is weeks and weeks sometimes before there are battles like them three I have been through.

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

Trooper Ernest Clarke of the North Irish Horse who has been in France for several months, spent a few days at his home in Magheracolton (Ardstraw, Newtownstewart) last week.

Strabane Weekly News**16th October 1915**

Lt. Col. G.C. Hamilton who has been gassed is the only son of Lord Claud Hamilton, uncle of the present Duke. He was gassed during the recent offensive and is now in hospital in London.

Strabane Weekly News**23rd October 1915**

Word received that Private James Gallagher of the Inniskillings and resided in the Strabane vicinity has been wounded in action at the Dardanelles. Private Gallagher has been in action for the last 6 months.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd October 1915

Private Hone of the Inniskillings who has been in the firing line at the Dardanelles for a considerable period has been wounded. His wounds have been of a slight nature. Private Hone took a prominent part in football and the team that he played for in Strabane was lucky on several occasions in getting into the semi-final of the Irish Junior Cup.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd October 1915

Dr. Thompson wrote to Omagh Hospital Management Committee seeking leave of absence. He had accepted a role as commandant of the Belgian Field Hospital which is right up at the front. Would prove useful in giving him experience in new surgical techniques. Committee granted Dr. Thompson 6 weeks leave. Arrangements have been made for other doctors to cover for the absence.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd October 1915

Death of Trooper Thomas Stevenson of the Australian Expeditionary Force. Deceased the youngest son of the late J.J. Stevenson and Mrs. Stevenson of Killyclooney (Donemana) emigrated to New Zealand about 4 years ago being then 24 years of age. Joined the Australian Light Horse. Arrived in Dardanelles on 1st September and spent 3 weeks in the trenches. He contracted dysentery there and sent to hospital in Alexandria. Died on 26th Sept after 6 days in hospital.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd October 1915

Report that Bryan Gallagher of Tykernaghan, Donemana was taken prisoner and still a prisoner of war. He was attached to the Inniskillings and had seen a great deal of active service before being captured.

Strabane Weekly News
30th October 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHP AND ACTIVITIES

A most elaborate jumble sale was held in the Abercorn Schools on Saturday 23rd inst, the proceeds being in aid of the purchase of woollen comforts for our soldiers at the front. Since the commencement of the war the ladies of Strabane and district have been working in an energetic manner for the soldiers' comfort and when it became known that further comforts were necessary another effort was made by organising a jumble sale. At the hour of 4 o'clock, the many stalls in the large and spacious school houses were completely packed with gifts contributed by the inhabitants. The stalls were in charge of a capable band of volunteers and it was evident by the large crowd who attended that the object was greatly appreciated.

Strabane Weekly News
30th October 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHP AND ACTIVITIES

A very large meeting was held on Friday evening, 22nd October 1915 in the Strabane Town Hall, in connection with the War Relief. Her Grace, the Duchess of Abercorn was present and presided. Mrs Herdman, Camus (secretary) and Mrs Toner, the Bank House (Treasurer) were also in attendance. Mrs Elliott wrote, thanking the meeting for a vote of sympathy passed on the occasion of her son being killed in action at Dardanelles. The meeting arranged to have Mr Raymond Brown-Lecky to stage a drama entitled 'Time and the Hour', at the Strabane Pallidrome, the proceeds to be in aid of the war charities.

Strabane Chronicle
30th October 1915

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

Lance Corporal William Houston of Strabane, writing from the Dardanelles to a friend in Strabane, states that several of the Strabane boys have come safely out of the recent heavy fighting and are at the best of spirits and not downhearted.

The death of Cecil Elliott was a great blow to them and on the day of his funeral all of them filed in behind and paid their last respects to the memory of one who laid down his life for his country and was beloved by everyone.

Dan Hagan was killed in the same charge as young Elliott when the Turks suffered heavily.

"The Strabane Chronicle" he adds, arrives on Sunday evening and is eagerly awaited from the evening before. It takes three weeks on the journey. One amongst them reads out the news from the doings of the urban council to the operations in the Gallipoli Peninsula.

The "Chronicle" is a regular treat, so far from home and there is not a Strabane fellow who doesn't appreciate it.

Strabane Chronicle **30th October 1915**

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

It is estimated that there are between 60,000 and 70,000 priests engaged in one capacity or another at the various front, says the 'Weekly Despatch'.

Of these, from 10,000 to 20,000 are in France actually fighting in the trenches.

Such scenes must have burnt themselves into the memories of all who must have witnessed them. But even these do not make so great an impression as the deeds of personal heroism accomplished by the chaplains.

The death of Father Finn, chaplain of the 1st Dublin, is a typical example.

Strabane Weekly News **30th October 1915**

Private John Donnelly, Lifford arrived here this week minus a leg. Private Donnelly attached to 5th battalion Inniskillings and had been at Dardanelles for a considerable time. Private Donnelly was one of the first to volunteer in Kitchener's new army, enlisting though he left a wife and very large family.

Strabane Weekly News **30th October 1915**

Private Thomas McCrossan attached to 1st Battalion Inniskillings and who lives at Sion Mills has returned home after being wounded in France. Private McCrossan was serving at the outbreak of hostilities and has been in the firing line for a long period. He also got gassed on some occasions and at one time was unconscious for six or seven hours. His wounds are about his sides, but he expects to recover soon.

Strabane Weekly News **30th October 1915**

Relatives of Private John Anderson of Carricklee have been notified that he has been killed in action in France. Volunteered in Glasgow at the start of the War in the Highland Light Infantry. Has been in the firing line since the New Year and has seen a great deal of the campaign. Died in the Allied advance. A prominent member of Carricklee Co. UVF and in Strabane LOL.

Strabane Weekly News **30th October 1915**

Private William Devenney has left after a few days leave to rejoin his regiment after being wounded in Flanders. Was in action since the start of the war and involved in the Retreat from Mons and other campaigns. Believes they can break through the German lines very soon and praises the leadership of the officers and the great work of the artillery.

Strabane Weekly News **30th October 1915**

Relative of Private Hugh Kelly of Donemana informed he has been killed in action in France. He was a reservist and attached to Inniskillings at start of the war. He was in the Inniskillings and was a shop assistant in Strabane. His wounds are about the legs and hopes they are not of a serious nature.

Strabane Weekly News **30th October 1915**

Relatives of Private John Allen of Gobnascale, Donemana informed he has been wounded in action in France

Strabane Weekly News **30th October 1915**

Relatives of Mitchell Ward who reside at Donemana notified that he was wounded in France. Was attached to the Inniskillings and has been through a great many engagements during the campaign.

Strabane Weekly News
30th October 1915

Relatives of Michael Ward, Ballybofey notified he has died of wounds at the Dardanelles. Part of the Inniskillings and leaves a wife and family

Strabane Weekly News
30th October 1915

DONEMANA VOLUNTEER KILLED

Private Samuel Donnell, 9th battalion Inniskillings (Tyrones) is the first to be killed. Deceased who was only 17 years of age resided with his sister Miss F Donnell, 12 Dark Lane, Londonderry but on the outbreak of war was working in Donemana and immediately joined the colours on the formation of the Ulster Division. Message from Lt Colonel Richardo on 1st November –

‘Your brother Pte S. Donnell was killed this morning in the trenches, whilst attached, for instruction, to an English regiment. He was in a place where our trenches and the Germans were very close to one another. Your brother pushed his head over the parapet to observe what the Germans were doing when he was shot by a sniper and killed instantly. It was no one’s fault and he was doing his duty to his King and country like so many others ... he was a good soldier and comrade.....

Private Donnell’s uncle Lance corporal Samuel Donnell, is at the front with the 10th battalion (Derry) of the Inniskillings

Strabane Weekly News
30th October 1915

PATRIOTIC DONEGAL FAMILY

Constantine O’Donnell of Strabane, formerly of Burtonport and a descendant of Red Hugh has received word that his brother Antony O’Donnell, serving in France has been killed there. Notified that another brother named Manus O’Donnell has been wounded at the Dardanelles. His brother John in Edinburgh has been discharged from the army having been badly wounded in Flanders and is now unfit for military service. His brother in law, Patrick Connolly is also serving with the colours in France while Patrick Connelly jun, son of Patrick, has been killed in action in France

Strabane Weekly News
6th November 1915

PAY AND ALLOWANCES

Mr. P McMenamain, JP, presided at a meeting of the War Dependants in Strabane. There were ten applications before the meeting for allowances of dependants of soldiers. The applicants appeared and gave evidence in support of their claims and the committee dealt with each case on its merit. Mr. Edward Gallagher, JP, stated that the committee was very well pleased at the attendance and consideration of the pension officer to the claims of the dependants of the soldiers. Subsequently a meeting of the Old Age Pension Committee was held and was presided over by Mr P McMenamain. The secretary Mr D McClements reported that he had received five applications and the committee dealt with those cases.

Strabane Weekly News
6th November 2015

CASTLEDERG MAN WITH THE CANADIANS

Lance-Corporal Andrew Porter, B Company 35th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, Bramshott Camp, Hants, England was born at Coolcreaghey, Castlederg, County Tyrone and has been in Toronto for the past 4.5 years. He is well known in Donegal town and district, where he was employed in the hardware stores of Mr. M’Millan for four years and was a member of the Donegal L.O.L. No.990. In Canada he was employed as inspector by the Canadian Bread Company and was a Charter member of Duke of Abercorn L.O.L. 2477, Toronto. This lodge is composed of North of Ireland men exclusively, and 75 per cent. of its members are on active service.

Strabane Weekly News
6th November 2015

ARDSTRAW MAN AT THE FRONT

Bombardier Samuel Kerr, formerly of Ardstraw, writing to his brother in Donegal, says that he had just got a short rest after two weeks of very hard fighting just after the great British advance. He says the country now occupied by the British is very poor, thinly populated, and they are anything but courteous. The Germans were over this place six weeks previously. At Loos the losses were very heavy. They were just resting after coming through all that fierce bombardment. The noise of their guns were terrific. You would think that a

mouse could not live. It was the hill forts that caused most of the British casualties. You would be proud to see a British squadron storming the ground in the face of death. Nothing short of British pluck and endurance could have performed what we did. Sorry I cannot give you a fuller picture, as it would not pass the censor.

Strabane Weekly News
6th November 2015

RECRUITMENT

A meeting in connection with recruiting was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening 28th October. Mr James Toner, clerk of the Crown and Peace, presiding. Correspondence was read with reference to recruiting, including a letter from Colonel Baillie. Mr. John Elliott, in proposing that the meeting act in the best interest of the new scheme, said that he looked upon the voluntary recruiting as a mere farce. The chairman had done everything possible in his professional and personal capacity to get recruits, and no man could do more. Every member present had done the same. In his opinion the men would not go until they were compelled by some form of conscription. His opinion was that seeking men to enlist voluntarily was played out.

Strabane Weekly News
6th November 1915

FOR OUR WOUNDED SOLDIERS
LIST OF GORTIN CONTRIBUTORS

The Misses D. and H. Whyte, Gortin, have received the following subscriptions for the wounded in Malta:-
Names listed. Total £22 3s 6d

Strabane Weekly News
6th November 1915

CASTLEDERG NOTES
RED CROSS MOVEMENT

On Friday the people of Castlederg were given an opportunity of assisting in the great movement on behalf of the Red Cross funds, and they responded very generously.

The 21st ult. was the date of flag day in the Killeter district, and it is understood that the handsome sum of £84 was realised, whilst it is anticipated that this amount will be increased to £100 by the proceeds of a concert on Thursday.

Strabane Chronicle
6th November 1915

Private Alex Matthews, Castlederg, has returned home badly wounded in the right leg. He was wounded on the 16th April last at Neuve Chapelle.

Sergeant H. Thornton, Royal Engineers, of Ballyfatton, Sion Mills has been wounded by a shell fragment in the left arm, and after treatment in the Second Canadian General Hospital, has been sent on to Fir Vale Hospital, Sheffield, where he is now a patient.

IFF: No mention of Thornton from Ballyfatton, Sion Mills. Only Thornton with Royal Engineers was Henry Frederick Thornton Renny-Tailyour. Died 11 Nov 1914.

Strabane Weekly
6th November 1915

CASTLEDERG MAN WOUNDED

Private Alex Matthews, Castlederg, has returned home badly wounded in the right leg. He was wounded on the 16th April last at Neuve Chapelle in the famous bayonet charge of the 2nd Inniskillings by shrapnel, receiving three wounds in the foot and leg and he has had some time in hospital at Graydonwell.

Strabane Chronicle
6th November 1915

IRISHMEN!

You cannot permit your Regiments to be kept up to strength by other than Ireland's sons! It would be a deep disgrace to Ireland, if all her regiments were not Irish, to a man.

A Call to 50,000 Irishmen

Excluding Munition Workers

TO JOIN THEIR BRAVE COMRADES IN IRISH REGIMENTS

Lord Kitchener has told you-his fellow-countrymen-that Ireland has done magnificently, and all the world knows of the splendid valour of the Irish Regiments, horse and foot. So glorious is the record that it must be maintained by the men of our race-by Irishmen alone.

It is your proud duty to support your gallant Countrymen who have fought so well. Ireland must stand by them!

SERVE FOR THE PERIOD OF THE WAR ONLY

Your relatives, whom you have looked after, will be looked after while you are away-your wife, your parents, your children.

You will be fed, clothed and boarded, and your pay will be 1/- per day. Married men will receive the same, subject to a deduction of 6d. per day, which goes to their wives entitling them to receive 12/6 per week and 5/- for one child; 3/6 for the second child, and 2/- each for others.

The dependents of unmarried soldiers will receive substantial allowances.

Strabane Chronicle
6th November 1915

MEN OF TYRONE GREAT VOLUNTARY RALLY NOW OR NEVER

Your Fellow Irishmen at the Front Want You.

BIG RECRUITING MEETINGS

BAND OF THE THIRD BATTALION INNISKILLINGS (Tyrones) will be in attendance
Irishmen for Irish Regiments. Do your Duty – Enlist Today

Strabane Chronicle
6th November 1915

NOTES

Private Alex Matthews, Castlederg, has returned home badly wounded in the right leg. He was wounded on the 16th April last at Neuve Chapelle.

Sergeant H. Thornton, Royal Engineers, of Ballyfatton, Sion Mills has been wounded by a shell fragment in the left arm, and after treatment in the Second Canadian General Hospital, has been sent on to Fir Vale Hospital, Sheffield, where he is now a patient.

Strabane Chronicle
6th November 1915

TOTAL BRITISH CASUALTIES ALMOST HALF A MILLION

In a written reply to Mr. Molteno who asked the Prime Minister what are the total casualties in the Western area of operations, distinguishing between killed and wounded and missing, up to the 9th October, as well as the total casualties in all fields of operations. Mr. Asquith says:-

WESTERN AREA

Killed	Officers	4,401
	Other ranks	63,059
Missing	Officers	9,169
	Other ranks	225,716
Missing	Officers	1,567
	Other ranks	61,134
Total casualties in the Western Area 365,046		

IN ALL FIELDS

Killed	Officers	6,660
	Other ranks	94,992
Missing	Officers	12,633
	Other ranks	304,832
Missing	Officers	2,000
	Other ranks	72,177

Total casualties in all fields of operations ... 493,294

Strabane Weekly News
13th November 1915

Event for Strabane Women's War Relief at Pallidrome – organised by James Toner

Strabane Chronicle
13th November 1915

STRABANE WOMEN'S SOLDIERS AND SAILORS RELIEF COMMITTEE

Mrs Trimble begs to acknowledge the following gifts for soldiers and sailors:
Mrs McElhinney, Miss Stewart, Liskey, Mrs Bates, Mrs Thompson, Miss Gray, Miss Stanley
Mrs Hoy, Mrs McNicholl, Mrs Clifford, Mrs Burns, Mr Phil Quigley, Mrs Berry
Miss Connolly, Strabane Golf Club, Mrs Fulton, Edymore

Strabane Chronicle
13th November 1915

PATRIOTIC CONCERT IN STRABANE
ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINMENT
TRIBUTE TO MRS R. TONER

A grand patriotic concert was given in the Pallidrome, Railway Street, Strabane on Tuesday evening. The concert was in aid of the Strabane Women's War Relief Fund. The stage was prettily decorated, and side by side were the Union Jack and the Green Flag. Mrs R. Toner was the principal promoter of the concert. The following acted as stewards; Messers Dan M'Anaw, Andrew Doherty, James Craig, William M'Elhinney, John Hackett, and Jack Stevenson. Programme stewards – Scout L. M'Guinness and Scout G. Elliott.

Contributors included Miss M. Lafferty, Mr Victor Vernon, Mrs Ludlow, Mr D.D. M'Guinness, Mrs Andy Doherty, Capt. J.C. Herdman.

The Very Rev. John Doherty, P.P., V.V., Strabane thanked all. Mr W.B. Smyth seconded the vote of thanks.

Strabane Weekly News
13th November 1915

ROUTE MARCH FROM FINNER
VOLUNTEERS VISIT DONEGAL

Two hundred and fifty members of the Ulster Volunteers Force from Donegal in training from Finner camp were accorded a hearty reception in Donegal town on Friday. The occasion was a route march ETC.ETC.

Strabane Weekly News
13th November 1915

ULSTER AND THE WAR
RECRUITING IN PROVINCE
STRENGTH OF THE BRIGADES

Up to Tuesday evening the total number of officers and men enrolled in the Ulster Division was 13,227. Although recruiting is, of course, less active now than a few weeks ago, when the Division was being formed, men are presenting themselves for enlistment every day, and there is certainly no lowering of the high standards of physique.

The Division is composed of three brigades, each having four battalions, and the actual strength of the latter is as follows:-

(Summary) 1st Brigade – Belfast areas

2nd Brigade – Antrim, Down, Armagh

3rd Brigade 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers) 916; 10th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers), 922; 11th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Donegal and Fermanagh Volunteers), 703; 14th Royal Irish Rifles (Young Citizens Volunteers), 1,134

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 2015

RECRUITMENT

The recruiting committee in Strabane are to be heartily congratulated on their endeavours to obtain recruits for the Army in response to the Lord Lieutenant's appeal and they had left nothing undone for the furtherance of the cause. Their strong and influential committee had carried out their plans in the most elaborate manner and their large meeting in Strabane, which was the first held in North Tyrone, obtained a good flow of recruits equalling the first days of the war.

Strabane Chronicle
20th November 2015

NEWS FROM THE FRONT

In view of the extraordinary way in which the bravery of Irish troops fails to find recognition in so many official dispatches, it is interesting to read an account of John French in describing his experiences at the front.

"My meeting with Sir John French was an interesting feature of my visit. The Field Marshall emphasised that our men were better fighters than the Germans", he recounted.

When the story of the war comes to be written it is the achievements of the Irish soldiers on the field of battle that will stand the test. From the day that the Munsters saved the guns at the retreat at Mons, up to the latest exploits at Gallipoli, the Irish soldier has been where the fighting has been fiercest and the issues involved have been most vital to the cause of the Allies.

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

LIFFORD AND THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

At a meeting held in Lifford, a sum of £50 was promised in aid of the British Red Cross and St. John Ambulance societies. It was also arranged to have a house to house collection next week in the district which includes Porthall, Clady, Lifford and Ballindrait. The following ladies are responsible for collecting, viz:- Mrs. John Clarke, Mrs. W. Weir, Miss. Roulston, Mrs. B. M'fadden, Miss W. Clarke, Mrs. J. Simms, Mrs. A. Weir, Mrs. H.C. Cochrane, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, is hon. Secretary and Mrs. H.C. Cochrane is hon. Treasurer

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

RECRUITING IN STRABANE

During the past ten or twelve days, and particularly since the half-yearly fair, a good many recruits have been raised from the town of Strabane. On the 12th inst. upwards of 30 men joined the colours, the majority joining the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. There has been a recruiting party from the City of Londonderry doing good work here during the last fortnight and their efforts are being rewarded. Major Herdman's appeal for recruits for the North Irish Horse, one hundred men being required, has met with a generous response, and recruits are coming in fast. There is scarcely a day but recruits are obtained here and despatched to do their training. The town of Strabane has made and is still making a grand response to the call of King and country.

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

ENTERTAINMENT IN STRABANE

The fortnightly entertainment arranged by the ladies of the Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Abercorn Schools on the evening of Thursday, the 25th inst.

After a sumptuous tea, games were indulged in by the staff and patients of the Strabane Military Hospital, who were guests of the evening, as was also a number of persons interested in the welfare of the institution. Etc, Etc.

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Womens' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Miss Maude Herdman, Sion House, in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

A letter was read from Mrs. Toner, Bank House, stating that she was unable to attend the meeting.

The committee passed a vote of condolence with Mrs. Stewart Harpur, on the occasion of the death of her mother-in-law, Mrs. Harpur, Milltown.

It was decided to send fortnightly contributions of comfort to the depot at Omagh, to be forwarded to the battalions of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who most required them.

The secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) reported that there had been a substantial sum realised out of the recent play. "Time and the Hour," held in the Pallidrome, which sum she said was to be devoted to war charities in the way of comforts.

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

MAJOR E.C. HERDMAN' APPEAL
NATIONALIST SOLICITOR REPLIES TO A CRITIC

The occasion of the Strabane hiring fair on Friday, was marked as a recruiting rally which, with similar appeals for men in the district, was arranged by Strabane Recruiting Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. James Toner, clerk of the Crown and Peace. The depot band of the Inniskilling Fusiliers attended from Omagh, and paraded the streets playing inspiring music. Unfortunately the day was very inclement, and this fact combined with the suspicion that many eligible men who ordinarily frequent the hiring fair were deliberately absent on this occasion made the numbers in the streets smaller than usual. However a considerable crowd assembled at the steps of the Town Hall in the afternoon when rousing speeches were delivered by Major E.C. Herdman, of the North Irish Horse, who is at home on a brief furlough from the front and others.

Mr. James Toner, who presided, said they were there to appeal to every man who could go to join the army.

Major Herdman, who was received with cheers, began by observing that the platform had rather unfortunate memories for him, inasmuch as he had twice appeared on it, not to propose but to second a vote of thanks to the Sheriff. Etc

Mr. Harry T. Gallagher, Crown Solicitor for Donegal, expressed his pleasure at appearing on the platform with Major Herdman, and said at least one thing the Hun had done was to unite to thrash him (Hear, hear). Their appeal that day, he proceeded, was for unmarried men. When the time came to appeal for married men they would come and do so in khaki. Were the young fellows going to stay at home and ask the married men to do the fighting? He very much mistook the spirit and the heart of the Irish people if that was going to be the answer. He apologised to no man for being on that platform. He was doing his duty and following in the footsteps of his leader, Mr. John Redmond. In Ireland they had only two leaders, Mr. John Redmond and Sir. Edward Carson and he asked them to follow now whichever of these leaders they followed in the past. Mr. Redmond's only son was in the army, Sir. Edward Carson's two sons were there, and he asked those with sons to send at least one of them to fight for them.

Strabane Weekly News **20th November 1915**

STRABANE MEN FROM THE FRONT

Private John O'Neill, Dock Street and Private John Rouse, Meetinghouse Street have returned home from the front, being allowed a well-earned holiday. both of them are attached to the 2nd. Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and have been in the firing line in France for more than a year. During their long stay there they have come through a great many engagements and are two of the lucky ones who have come through unscathed.

Private John Harte and Private James Hone, both of Strabane, have also been allowed home for a holiday after being at the Dardanelles. Private Harte and Private Hone are also attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers and both have come through some fierce struggles at the Dardanelles, in which may be included the famous landing at Suvla bay. Both Privates Harte and Hone were wounded, but happily the wounds were not of a serious character.

The four of them are looking well, and they all state any of the Strabane soldiers, whom they come in contact with in the firing line are also well and in the best of spirits.

Strabane Weekly News **20th November 1915**

RED CROSS COLLECTION

The effort made in the Castlederg district by the ladies there to raise funds to assist the Red Cross has resulted in the handsome sum of £114 being realised. This speaks eloquently of the zeal and enthusiasm with which the workers took the collection up and of the liberality of the people and giving freely to a cause which appeals to the hearts of everyone.

Strabane Weekly News **20th November 1915**

WELL DONE KILLETER

The little village of Killeter, comprising about twenty houses and bounded on three sides by lands of a mountainous description, has subscribed the magnificent total of £106 to the Red Cross. At a concert held in Mr. Matthew Clarke's barn in connection with the fund, some remarkable scenes were witnessed. The event received such wide and whole-hearted patronage that rumours got out that there would be insufficient accommodation for all who had purchased tickets.

Strabane Weekly News **20th November 1915**

CASTLEDERG RED CROSS MOVEMENT

Castlederg, which has already done so much during the last twelve months for the comforts of our soldiers, besides subscribing for a bed for Pau Hospital, France, had a splendid result in the appeal for the British Red Cross Society on Flag Day, having sent a cheque for £114 to headquarters. Etc, Etc

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

FLAG DAY IN STRABANE

Flag Day was held in Strabane on the half-yearly fair, 12 inst. the efforts of the ladies at raising money was continued during the entire day and up to a late hour in the evening. A large number of flags were disposed of at the Strabane Pallidrome. During the day a large number of young ladies who were organised voluntarily by Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee, made a thorough canvas of the fair and few visitors or inhabitants escaped their notice. Mrs. Herdman states that the total response amounted to a handsome sum of £139 odd. £94 of which was made up of subscriptions and the balance was the result of the sale of flags.

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

TYRONE U.V.F. OFFICER'S FATE

Tidings is at last to hand respecting the fate of Lieutenant T. Barton, who resided near Strabane. Lieutenant Barton, who held an important position in the ranks of the U.V.F. in North Tyrone immediately after the outbreak of hostilities, applied for and received a commission in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and was immediately dispatched to the firing line. After being there for a few weeks he disappeared and no news was forthcoming as to his whereabouts up to the end of last week. A wounded soldier who had returned from the front states that Lieutenant Barton was leading his men on an advance when he was killed but the advance proved successful. The loss of this gallant officer from amongst the ranks of the U.V.F. in County Tyrone will be keenly felt as he was an able and gallant leader and held the confidence of all ranks.

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

STRABANE AND THE WAR A MAGNIFICANT RESPONSE

The Recruiting Committee in Strabane are to be heartily congratulated on their endeavours to obtain recruits for the Army in response to the Lord Lieutenant's appeal and they have left nothing undone for the furtherance of the cause. Their strong and influential committee have carried out their plans in a most elaborate manner and their large meeting in Strabane, which was the first held in North Tyrone, obtained a good flow of recruits equalling the first days of the war. The men obtained were of fine physique and will make typical soldiers. The committee have arranged further campaigns to be held in the division, at Donemana, Castlederg, and Newtown Stewart and a large number of speakers, who are local, will go at some inconvenience to address these meetings.

Strabane Chronicle
20th November 1915

RECRUITING MEETING AT PLUMBRIDGE

The monthly fair at Plumbridge on Tuesday was availed of for the purpose of recruiting. The depot band from Omagh played martial airs through the village under the leadership of Bandmaster Ramsey and the members of the recruiting party, in charge of Colonel Baille and Lieutenant A.J. Porter, made a vigorous canvass.

Mr P.H. O'Brien, solicitor, Strabane presided at a meeting in the main street. Mr. O'Brien, before introducing the speakers, said they did not come to coerce anyone, nor to force them to do something they did not want to do. That would probably be the last time a public appeal for volunteers would be made in Plumbridge. If the young shirked their duty to King and country coercion would be put in force. He saw any amount of eligible young men before him, and he did not appeal to them on behalf of ill-fated, downtrodden Belgium; he did not appeal on behalf of Russia; he did not appeal on behalf of France, or on behalf of Serbia, or even of England; but he did appeal to them on behalf of the gallant Irish regiments who had gained such laurels, and many of whom who had fallen on behalf of those at home. He (the speaker) was and always would be a nationalist, but he strongly appealed to them to throw aside all political feeling and prove to the world that the Irish people were as brave as in days gone by.

Mr. Elliott said it was no pleasure for him or anybody else to come to plead with them that day. After fifteen months of war it should not be necessary to point out to young men their duty. He trusted Plumbridge district would make an adequate response.

Strabane Weekly News
20th November 1915

STRABANE MAN SHOT THRICE

The sad tidings have been conveyed to Mr. James Craig, Lifford Street, Strabane, that his son Private George Craig has again been wounded at the Dardanelles. Private Craig at the commencement of the war was attached to the 1st battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and was then on the regular Army. He was despatched to France where he had been through many engagements and was wounded. After recovering from his wounds, he volunteered and was sent to the Dardanelles. Etc
Private Craig also has a brother in the firing line at Flanders, named John Craig and although he has been in action since the retreat of Mons, and many engagements till date, he has come through the campaign as yet unscathed.

Strabane Chronicle
20th November 1915

ECHO OF THE NORTH TYRONE DISMISSALS
DEFENCE OF THE REALM
VAN DRIVER CHARGED
INTERESTING CASE AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

At Newtownstewart Petty Sessions to-day, an interesting case under the Defence of the Realm Regulations was heard, in which a young man named Michael M'Philomey, Newtownstewart was charged with having, as alleged, at Invaugh, on 13th September, unlawfully by word of mouth made use of statements to Henry Rodgers which were likely to prejudice recruiting and discipline in his majesty's Army, in contravention of Section 27 of the Defence of the Realm Regulations.

D.I. Heggart said that on the 13th September, it appeared that the defendant, who was the driver of a tea van, went to the house of an old man named Henry Rodgers, who lived in the vicinity of Newtownstewart and pressed on his wife to buy some tea from him. Rodgers told M'Philomey that they did not want any tea with the result that an argument arose and M'Philomey asked Rodgers where his sons were. Rodgers replied that they were at the front, and M'Philomey said, "Be d_____ to them and any others that join then British Army." Or words to that effect. This was a very serious offence, and the defendant on conviction was liable to a fine of £100 and a six months imprisonment.

Etc, Etc

The Chairman said that the case would be dismissed. There was no doubt that there was a war of words between M'Philomey and Rodgers but the magistrates were not satisfied that the words which had been used by the defendant would bring him under the Statute.

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27th November 1915

RECRUITING MEETING AT DONEMANA

On Thursday a recruiting meeting was held at Donemana. Dr. Hamilton, Donemana presided, and introduced Dr. Walsh, K.C., who said his two sons joined the army. His eldest son went out to Gallipoli, and now he was in Serbia. His second son was received into the army when he was 17 years old, while his daughter was working in the kitchen of an hospital in France. He earnestly appealed for recruits.

Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor, Strabane, said he did not think after fifteen months of war that there was a man in the crowd who did not realise the grave issues at stake and the sacrifices that were and would have to be made. The question before them was one of self-preservation and national unity. Ireland, North and South, Protestant and Catholic, had united in face of this supreme struggle and had sent thousands of men to the army in order to save this country from the horrors of a German invasion. The young men from Donemana who had gone readily had earned the gratitude and respect of everyone, but there were others who had not gone.

Other speakers: Mr. P.H. O'Brien, solicitor, Strabane, Captain Graham, Royal Welsh fusiliers, Mr. Wm. Barnhill, B.L.

Strabane Chronicle
27th November 1915

CASTLEDERG MAN WOUNDED

Private Alex Matthews, Castlederg, has returned home badly wounded in the right leg. He was wounded on the 16th April last at Neuve Chapelle in the famous bayonet charge of the 2nd Inniskillings by shrapnel, receiving three wounds in the foot and leg and he has had some time in hospital at Graydonwell.

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27th November 1915

CASTLEDERG MAN WITH THE CANADIANS

Lance-Corporal Andrew Porter, B Company 35th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, Bramshott Camp, Hants, England was born at Coolcreaghey, Castlederg, County Tyrone and has been in Toronto for the past 4.5 years. He is well known in Donegal town and district, where he was employed in the hardware stores of Mr. M'Millan for four years and was a member of the Donegal L.O.L. No.990. In Canada he was employed as inspector by the Canadian Bread Company and was a Charter member of Duke of Abercorn L.O.L. 2477, Toronto. This lodge is composed of North of Ireland men exclusively, and 75 per cent. of its members are on active service.

Strabane Chronicle
27th November 1915

ARDSTRAW MAN AT THE FRONT

Bombardier Samuel Kerr, formerly of Ardstraw, writing to his brother in Donegal, says that he had just got a short rest after two weeks of very hard fighting just after the great British advance. He says the country now occupied by the British is very poor, thinly populated, and they are anything but courteous. The Germans were over this place six weeks previously. At Loos the losses were very heavy. They were just resting after coming through all that fierce bombardment. The noise of their guns were terrific. You would think that a mouse could not live. It was the hill forts that caused most of the British casualties. You would be proud to see a British squadron storming the ground in the face of death. Nothing short of British pluck and endurance could have performed what we did. Sorry I cannot give you a fuller picture, as it would not pass the censor.

Strabane Chronicle
27th November 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Womens' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Miss Maude Herdman, Sion House, in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. A letter was read from Mrs. Toner, Bank House, stating that she was unable to attend the meeting. The committee passed a vote of condolence with Mrs. Stewart Harpur, on the occasion of the death of her mother-in-law, Mrs. Harpur, Milltown. It was decided to send fortnightly contributions of comfort to the depot at Omagh, to be forwarded to the battalions of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who most required them. The secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) reported that there had been a substantial sum realised out of the recent play. "Time and the Hour," held in the Pallidrome, which sum she said was to be devoted to war charities in the way of comforts.

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27th November 1915

FLAG DAY IN BALLYBOFEY

The occasion of the half-yearly fair in the town of Ballybofey was taken advantage of by the inhabitants who, following the custom of surrounding towns, arranged their Flag Day for that date. A number of local ??? kindly lent their services to the committee in charge of the arrangements in connection with the movement and as there was a large attendance of people in the fair it is pleasing to record that a substantial sum was contributed.

Strabane Chronicle
27th November 1915

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Mrs. Britton, Hazelwood and Mrs. Thomas Britton, looked after the housekeeping arrangements and Miss. L. Coyle, Railway St., Strabane, and Miss J. McCarter, Mourne View, Strabane, were the nurses in the Strabane military hospital during the past week. Two men at the institute were discharged during the week and two men were admitted in their stead, both being attached to the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

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27th November 1915

**LORD KITCHENER ON THE WAR
GLOWING TRIBUTE TO THE ARMY
EMPIRE AT STAKE
CALL FOR MORE MEN**

**Strabane Weekly News
27th November 1915**

**STRABANE WOMENS WAR RELIEF FUND COMMITTEE
PATRIOTIC CONCERT**

On Tuesday evening, 10th inst., at the Pallidrome Strabane, a largely attended concert in aid of the Strabane Women's War Relief Fund Committee was held.

**Strabane Weekly News
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STRABANE U.V.F. AND FINNER CAMP

The members of Strabane U.V.F. gave an entertainment to the 9th Service Battalion (Tyrone) Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in the Lecture Hall on 11th inst. The Finner men at the Unionist Committee-rooms, Abercorn Square Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor, delivered a rousing address to the Finner men and the U.V.F...

The following contributed to the programme:- Sergeant S.E. Stevenson; G.M. Elliott; Sergeant L. Walsh; J.W. Buchanan; W.B. Smyth; Master Hopkins; John Davidson; John Browne; Captain J.C. Herdman; James Craig.

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27th November 1915**

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Information has been received by Mr. Thos. Arbuckle that his brother, Private R. Arbuckle, No. 7789, of the 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded at Ypres. He is at present lying in hospital at Aldershot. The relatives of Private R. Findlay, No. 3730, have had a notice intimating that he is in the General Hospital, St. Nazarre.

Two members of the Canadian Volunteers, on their way to the front from the Dominion, spent a few days at their homes in this district during the past week – Corporal Watson, son of Mr. Watson, Archill, (Newtownstewart) and Corporal R. Maguire, a native of Ballykeel district (Armagh?)

**Strabane Weekly News
27th November 1915**

**CASUALTY LIST
INNISKILLINGS SUFFER HEAVILY**

List of named soldiers provided – approx. 35 names

**Strabane Weekly News
27th November 1915**

MISSING ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

Names and Service numbers provided approx. 40 names

**Strabane Weekly News
27th November 1915**

**MAJOR G.G.P. HUMPHREYS
WELSH REGIMENT**

who died from the effects of wounds, was the youngest son of Mr. T.W.D. Humphreys, Castlefinn, Co Donegal. He served in Uganda, East Africa and in China, and was A.D.C. to King Edward at the Coronation

**Strabane Weekly News
27th November 1915**

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS AND THE IRISH BRIGADE
STRIKING DEMONSTRATION IN BELFAST**

SPEECHES BY MR. J DEVLIN, M.P. AND RIGHT REV. MONSIGNOR O'DOHERTY, P.P., OMAGH

A singularly striking demonstration took place in Belfast on Wednesday evening.

Right Rev. Monsignor O'Doherty, P.P., V.F., Omagh who was enthusiastically received, said he was glad of the opportunity to say a few words of encouragement to the boys of Belfast who were going away to prepare to fight for their country on the Continent, because in fighting side by side with the Allies they were fighting as well for their lives and their native land of Ireland. ETC. ETC.

He happened to be chaplain of the Inniskilling Fusiliers in his own parish, and although he was an aged man he had offered his services to the colonel commanding to go to the front as chaplain. Forty-four years ago, when he was a young man, he was a volunteer in the Franco-Prussian war. He did not carry a gun, "but he was a member of an ambulance corps at Sedan, and assisted the French wounded and Turcos for four months

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ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION TO THE REV. J. GERALD HARVEY, B.A.

On the occasion of his Leaving Omagh

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LORD JOHN HAMILTON MISSING

News has been received at Baronscourt that Lord John Hamilton, brother of the Duke of Abercorn, is reported missing. Lord John who is the second son of the late Duke of Abercorn, K.G., is thirty-one years of age. He unsuccessfully contested North Tyrone at the general election of December 1910. ETC.ETC.

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DEATH OF LORD JOHN HAMILTON

Genuine sorrow has been expressed all over the North-West at the news received last Friday that Lord John Hamilton was killed in action on the 9th inst.

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LOCAL AND DISTRICT NEWS

An officer in the Life Guards who is a prisoner in Germany has written to the Duke of Abercorn informing his Grace that he has come into possession of the late Lord John Hamilton's watch, and that he will forward it to the Duke at the earliest opportunity.

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27th November 1915

DONEGAL MEN AT THE FRONT

That the Irish are contributing their quota to Kitchener's Army can be seen from the reports received at home from the numbers of young men joining the army in Scotland from the Rosses and Gweedore, says a correspondent. In Kincasslagh parish on last Sunday the priests asked that the names of those who enlisted and their dependants be furnished them with a view to avail themselves of a portion of the Relief Fund contributed by the public. In this parish alone over fifty have enlisted, one family, that of Patrick O'Donnell of Mullaghduff, having contributed four sons and a grandson. NAMES PROVIDED

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COMMANDER BRIGGS' WOUNDS NOT SERIOUS (Press Association War Special. Amsterdam, Thursday)

A telegram to the "Lokalanzeiger" from Friedrichsafen states that the wounds which Commander Briggs received in the recent air raid against the Zeppelin hqs there was a head wound caused by shrapnel, and that it is not serious.

Strabane Weekly News

27th November 1915

IRISH GENERAL KILLED TYRONE FAMILY BEREAVED

Details of the casualties in the repulse of the Prussian Guards at Ypres last week by the British infantry are beginning to come to hand.

Brigadier-General M'Mahon was the commanding officer of the 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers but during the recent fighting was in command of a brigade. His brother, Sir William McMahon, Master of the Rolls in Ireland was made a baronet in 1815 and the present holder of the title is Sir Lionel McMahon. Bart, D.L. of Mountfield Lodge, Mountfield, County Tyrone.

Strabane Weekly News
27th November 1915

NATIONALISTS AND RECRUITING

Now that the Nationalists are beginning to bestir themselves in Belfast in the matter of recruiting we can quite understand that they want to make the most of it in the papers.

Here is what the "Independent" in its editorial columns on Wednesday, said:- "It must be admitted that recruiting in the United Kingdom generally, and in Ireland especially, is not up to the mark. . . In this connection one may recall Mr Redmond's statement a few weeks ago that he would get from the Government a return showing the comparative numbers of recruits enlisted since the commencement of the war from Ireland and from Great Britain. On Monday however Mr Asquith stated in the House of Commons that there were no precise of trustworthy figures available for such a return.

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DONEGAL INNISKILLING FUSILIER KILLED

Mr John Duncan, a large farmer residing at Ballagh House, Malin, County Donegal has just received notice from the War Office that his son, Private William Duncan, of the Royal Inniskilling had been killed at the front. ETC.ETC

Strabane Weekly News
& Strabane Chronicle
27th November 1915

On 14 Nov 1914 the Strabane Weekly and reported on the following:

PATRIOTIC CONCERT IN STRABANE
ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINMENT
TRIBUTE TO MRS R. TONER

Strabane Weekly News
27th November 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A meeting of the War Relief Committee in Strabane was held in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening.

Strabane Chronicle
4th December 1915

TYRONE RECRUITING CAMPAIGN
MEETING AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

A recruiting meeting was held at Newtownstewart on Monday last, the occasion of the monthly fair, and the band of the Omagh Depot, under Bandmaster Ramsay, attended, accompanied by a recruiting party from Derry. At a meeting held opposite Marshall's Hotel, Mr. P.H. O'Brien, solicitor, Strabane presided and addresses were delivered by Captain J.C. Herdman, Rev David Morton, B.A., Sergeant Somers V.C., Mr. W.W. Barnhill, B.L., and Col. Irvine, C.B. the band paraded the streets during the day playing lively airs.

Strabane Chronicle
4th December 1915

IRISH RECRUITING

The Lord Lieutenant has sent out a second circular letter in support of the recruiting movement in Ireland, in which he says-"The year that has passed has seen 100,000 Irishmen forsake civil life to take up arms overseas in defence of the lives and livelihood and the lands of those they have left behind. Since my first letter to you enough men to form six complete battalions have rallied to the support of those Irishmen who have already joined. This is the answer to those who understood Irishmen so little as to think that they could be misled into questioning the high motives and intelligence of the men who first listened to the call."

Strabane Chronicle
4th December 1915

NOTES

As a result of a recruiting meeting held at Donemana several recruits were obtained. Mr. James Scott, Railway Street, Strabane, has enlisted in the Irish Guards. Private Dan Gillespie (Strabane) of the Irish Guards, has been promoted to the rank of Corporal. Mr. John Nicholl, Strabane, has joined the colours in Glasgow, where he held an important position. Anthony O'Donnell, brother of Mr. Constantine O'Donnell, Strabane has been killed in action in France. He was one of four brothers serving with the colours. Colonel Bailie speaking at a recruiting meeting in Moville mentioned that County Wexford the scene of the rebellion of '98, had, he was informed, supplied more recruits to the army than any other Irish county. Mr. W.B. Hope, cashier in the Ulster Bank, Strabane; C.J. Moore, accountant, in the same bank; and R.H. Bell of the Hibernian Bank, have joined the colours.

Strabane Chronicle
4th December 1915

THE BRITISH LOSSES.
379,958 WEST
106,610 GALLIPOLI

The Prime Minister, in a written answer to a question by Mr. Monteno, who asked for the total casualties up to 9th November, gives the following figures-

FRANCE

Killed and died-Officers, 4,620; other ranks, 69,272.
Wounded-Officers, 9,754; other ranks, 240,283.
Missing-Officers, 1,583; other ranks, 54,446.
Total, 379,958.

MEDITERRANEAN

Killed and died-Officers, 1,504; other ranks, 21,531.
Wounded-Officers, 2,860; other ranks, 70,148.
Missing-Officers, 556; other ranks, 10,211.
Total, 106,610.

OTHER THEATRES

Killed and died-Officers, 227; other ranks, 2,062.
Wounded-Officers, 337; other ranks, 5,587.
Missing-Officers, 76; other ranks, 3,223
Total, 11,502.

NAVY AND MARINES

All fields.-Killed and died-Officers, 589; other ranks, 3,928.
Wounded-Officers, 161; other ranks, 1,120.
Missing-Officers, 52; other ranks, 310.
Total, 12,160.
Grand Total, 510,230

BRITISH PRISONERS IN GERMANY

In reply to Mr. Peto, in Parliament on Wednesday, Mr. Tennant stated that the approximate number of British prisoners in Germany was
Military32,000 Naval1,050

Strabane Chronicle
4th December 1915

CLADY NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

A very successful meeting was held in the Hall, Clady, on Wednesday night for the purpose of reorganising the National Volunteers. Mr. Francis M'Kinney presiding. There was a good attendance of the young men of the district, and it was unanimously decided, amidst enthusiasm, to reorganise the Volunteers under the leadership of Mr. John Redmond. A call for recruits for the corps was magnificently responded to. It was agreed to hold a meeting on Sunday next at 3pm when everybody interested is invited to attend. The election of committee and officers will then take place.

Strabane Chronicle
4th December 1915

LOCAL REPERCUSSIONS OF NATIONAL ISSUES

The annual general meeting of the members of the North West of Ireland Printing and Publishing Co Ltd was held at the office of the company, John Street, Omagh on Wednesday at 12 noon. Mr Michael Lynch JP, Managing Director presiding. In moving the adoption of the auditor's report the chairman said the past

year had been a very trying one, not alone for their company but for every newspaper in the three kingdoms.

They would all recollect that, at the outbreak of the war, there was quite a panic in the paper trade and at one time it was believed by many that the supply of newspapers would be stopped altogether. However, events prove that these forebodings were not justified and after things had settled down the supply of paper became reasonably regular but could only be obtained at increased prices.

The most serious fracture since the war broke out had been the decrease of advertisements, but over the last few months the resumption of a normal amount had resumed.

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RECRUITING MEETING IN CASTLEDERG

Castlederg was on Friday last the scene of a recruiting rally in connection with the present scheme for obtaining recruits. It was the occasion of the monthly fair, and the streets were crowded, men of the farming class passing to and fro with cattle, women hurrying hither and thither with baskets, cattle dealers and horse dealers bargaining, the ever busy second-hand clothes men pushing the sale of their wares in the loudest of tones, and above all the sweet tones of the band of the 3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

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A FAIR PICTURE OF THE STREETS

Only one feature is forgotten and that is an energetic band of young ladies organised by Mrs Love, Spamount, with trays of flags and money boxes trying to obtain some money to provide comforts for the brave fellows who are to form a barrier to Germany's hordes during the coming winter. The Inniskilling Band paraded the town several times during the morning and from about midday discoursed a choice of programme of music in the square at the Courthouse, and during these periods the recruiting sergeants were busy at work amongst the many young men of military age who were attracted by the music. Their efforts, we are glad to say, were not in vain.

Between two and three o'clock, Mr James Toner, clerk of the Crown and Peace for County Tyrone, was moved to the "chair", which means the principal seat in a brake just in front of the Courthouse, and in speaking to a very large audience, he recalled the days in which political meetings were addressed in Castlederg by representatives of two great parties in Ireland, but one good thing which the war had done was to bring both parties together on a common platform. They had not to leave home to recognise that the one could not do without the other, to respect one another, and to know that no matter at what altar an Irishman worshipped, Irishmen were Irishmen all over the world. (Hear, Hear). If they could only have recognised that a bit sooner instead of having these wretched parish quarrels and recognised what was inevitable, it was a question if the world war would have been thrust upon them. (Hear, hear.) Speaking of the present crisis, Mr Toner said it should be distinctly understood that if the British Empire went down, Ireland went down with it.

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THE TOWN'S GOOD RECORD RECRUITING AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

Newtownstewart got a testimonial at the recruiting meeting held there on Monday, of which many a place would feel proud. Mr O'Brien, the chairman at the meeting, said: "If every district in Ireland had responded to the call of the Motherland as nobly as Newtownstewart had done there would be little need for recruiting meetings." The district, however, could send a few more men yet, and it was with the object of catching these men that the recruiting meeting was held on Monday. The recruiting party of the 3rd Battalion R.I.F. was in charge of Lieutenant Porter, and the splendid band from the Omagh Depot played martial airs in the streets. As on most fair days lately the rain fell piteously and this detracted a little, no doubt from the efforts of the military. Only one recruit was secured by dusk. We should remark, however, that without the aid of the meetings or stirring martial music about twenty men from this district offered themselves for service in the Army since the middle of the month.

The public meeting was held on the Main Street at 1.30 pm, Mr P.H. O'Brien presiding.

Mr John Elliott, solicitor, Strabane, whose only son has fallen in action, wrote to the Chairman, - I am very sorry indeed that I cannot attend your meeting, as I would like to do my best to aid voluntary recruiting. Like every Irishman, I do not like the word conscription, but unless the young men of this country rise to a sense of their duty I do not see how some form of compulsory service is to be avoided.

The Chairman said he never felt more pride than he did that day in standing in that gallant little town, because if every district in Ireland had responded to the call of the Motherland as nobly as Newtown Stewart had done there would be little need for recruiting meetings. Splendid as their response had been, it was up to them to do even better still, and he thought that within the very ambit of the town he could raise a platoon, and in the district around, he believed he could yet raise a complete regiment. Having dwelt upon the fate of Belgium and Serbia and massacre of the Armenians, Mr O'Brien said it might be Ireland's turn next. It was well within the range of possibility that if the British fleet were overcome the Germans and the Turks would invade this country and the same brutality would be meted out to the Irish. What was the use of loyal men singing "God Save the King" if they did not come forward and do their duty? What was the use of singing "Rule Britannia" if they did not give a tinker's damn whether Britons were slaves or not? What was the use of his own co-religionists talking about their faith if they allowed Catholic Belgium and Catholic Armenia to be devastated? The Germans would come to this country if sufficient reserves could not be obtained to back up the men of Newtown Stewart, the men of Tyrone, and the men of Ireland fighting so gallantly at the front. If enough men did not come forward voluntarily the only means by which they could be obtained would be by conscription. He knew many families in that town and district where there were three or four sons, and surely one or two of them could be spared. They didn't want the farmers to leave their farms derelict, but without doing that more men could come forward and do their duty like brave men. Ireland's position was very dangerous to-day; Germany had her eye on the county. She knew that Ireland was the key to the Western world, its trade and commerce, and the Irishmen should realise that if the Germans come they will not treat Irishmen like lambs. A Voice – "They will never get here.") They will get (continued the speaker) unless you or your sons join the British Army at once and fight the Germans on the Continent. On this platform, remember, we know no religion, except the religion of God and the brotherhood of Empire. (Applause).

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BLAIR FAMILY IN ARMED FORCES

Another son of the late R.J. Blair has joined up. Ross Blair has joined up in Toronto and is now in training. This is the third son of the Blair family to join the War. Wallace Blair received a commission as lieutenant in the R.M.A.C. George Blair joined the Canadians and came over with the second consignment – he is now stationed in England awaiting orders for the Front

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HEROIC SOLDIER

A pathetic scene was witnessed here on the arrival of one of the trains, when Private Francis Gallagher, of Strabane, who was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, came home from hospital deprived of his eyesight, the result of shrapnel wounds received whilst engaged in operations at the Dardenelles. Private Gallagher, although he has a wife and family, at the outbreak of hostilities, volunteered. He has seen many engagements before receiving his severe wounds. Although blind, Private Gallagher enjoys good health, and states with pride that he was only too glad to do his bit and is only sorry that he cannot now do any more for his country.

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NOTES

Private Hugh M'Cool, Inniskilling Fusiliers, who resides at Bridge Street, Strabane, and is nineteen years of age has just arrived home after being severely wounded in Flanders, having had an exciting experience in that theatre of war. After being wounded, he was for thirty hours crawling over dead bodies on the battlefield before he was eventually able to take refuge, and afterwards he was picked up by a patrol of Coldstream Guards. On one occasion he was compelled to take cover in a Jack Johnston hole for hours which he states was anything but pleasant, as the shells were whistling round him continuously. Private M'Cool had the experience of an encounter with a Prussian officer whom he got the better of, and succeeded in obtaining possession of his watch, which he has brought home as a souvenir. His father Bernard M'Cool, and his uncle, are also serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle

11th December 1915

A PATRIOTIC CONSTABLE

Mr. Jim Devlin, Newtown Street, Strabane, who was a member of the police force stationed at Musgrave Road, Belfast, has resigned the force and volunteered. This patriotic young man, who stands over 6 ft high, has joined the famous Irish Guards, and in a short space of time he expects to be in grips with the Germans. He is the son of Sergeant Devlin, a highly and deservedly popular police sergeant in the Strabane force, whose kindness and courtesy has made him a favourite amongst all creeds and classes in the neighbourhood. Sergeant Devlin has also another son, Peter Devlin, who also gave his services to King and country. This young man, who held a lucrative position in the Strabane Post Office, volunteered at the commencement of the war and has been engaged in the firing line performing scientific work in which he is highly skilled. He was in many stiff encounters with the enemy, including the big push made by the British in September last, and speaks in glowing terms of the valour displayed by the British troops on that occasion.

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PATRIOTIC STRABANE FAMILY

The family of the late Mr R.J. Blair, who carry on an extensive business as stationers, newsagents, etc, at Strabane, have received notification that another of their family, Ross Blair, has joined the colours and is in training in Toronto. This is the third son of this patriotic family to join the colours since the commencement of the war. Wallace Blair, on passing his final examination, applied for and received a commission as lieutenant in the R.A.M.C. George Blair joined the Canadians, and came over with the second contingent, and is in England awaiting orders for the front.

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RED CROSS IN STRABANE

The matter of arranging for a collection to supply funds to this deserving object was entrusted to Mrs. E. C. Herdman, Carricklee, and it could not have been in more capable hands. Up to the present this energetic lady has the handsome sum to credit of £185 15s.

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NOTES

Elizabeth Rutlidge, Lisleen, Castlederg, was charged at the Petty Sessions with attempting to obtain increased separation allowance by means of a false document. She was fined 10s and costs.

Mr. Wm. B. Smyth, Strathfoyle House, Strabane, left on Monday for Antrim to join the North Irish Horse. He is deputy vice-chairman of the Board of Guardians, and in the absence of Major E.C. Herdman, D.L., is Acting Master of Strabane harriers. He was company commander in the U.V.F. he is one of the largest millers in Ulster.

Constable James Devlin, Belfast, a native of Strabane, has joined the Irish Guards. His brother Peter is at present on active service with the Royal Engineers in France, and has been in several engagements. Prior to the outbreak of war Mr Peter Devlin was a clerk in the Strabane Post Office. Both young men are very popular and well known in Strabane, where their father, Sergeant Devlin, has been stationed for some years.

On Friday evening a patriotic entertainment was held at Sion Mills in the large hall, the proceeds of which were to raise funds to be sent to Omagh to provide comforts for all the battalions of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at the front. Pictures were screened. There was also a musical programme, those contributing being Capt. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. W.E. Gordon, Miss Isabel Hadfield, Mr. James Wassen, and Mr. Will Hadfield. The entertainment was continued on Saturday.

Private Hugh M'Cool, Inniskilling Fusiliers, who resides at Bridge Street, Strabane, and is nineteen years of age has just arrived home after being severely wounded in Flanders, having had an exciting experience in that theatre of war. After being wounded, he was for thirty hours crawling over dead bodies on the battlefield before he was eventually able to take refuge, and afterwards he was picked up by a patrol of Coldstream Guards. On one occasion he was compelled to take cover in a Jack Johnston hole for hours which he states was anything but pleasant, as the shells were whistling round him continuously. Private M'Cool had the experience of an encounter with a Prussian officer whom he got the better of, and succeeded in obtaining possession of his watch, which he has brought home as a souvenir. His father Bernard M'Cool, and his uncle, are also serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

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11th December 1915

STRABANE FAMILY AT WAR

Mr Jim Devlin, Newtown St, Strabane who was a member of the police force stationed in Musgrave St, Belfast has resigned the force and volunteered. He has joined the famous Irish Guards. He is the son of Sergeant Devlin, a very popular police sergeant in the Strabane force. Sergeant Devlin has also another son, *Peter Devlin*, who gave his services to the War. This young man who held a lucrative position in the Strabane Post Office, volunteered at the start of the war and has been engaged in the firing line performing scientific work in which he is highly skilled. He was in many stiff encounters.....

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

CONCERT IN STRABANE

On Friday night through the kindness of Mr. Victor Vernon, the Strabane Ladies War Relief Committee held a highly successful concert in aid of their funds in the Strabane Pallidrome, which was filled to overflowing. the programme was excellent, and each item was received with rounds of applause.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

CAPTAIN WEIR RESIGNS

Captain John Weir, 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, on active service, wrote resigning his membership of the Guardians. As a member of the North Ward he felt it was his duty to do this, as otherwise the ward might have no one to represent it for some considerable time, owing to the way this bloody war was dragging on.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES

The following casualties in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were issued on Sunday evening:-
1st Battalion.- Killed 23664, R. Lightbody; missing, 8821, D.G. Shaw; 4429, J.Wright. Wounded and missing-M'Cormack, 16146, T. M'Keown,3/2146, Serg. R.; M'Mullen, 3037, G.; Neill, 3460,W.; Powers
2nd Battalion-Wounded, Barrett, 19413W.; Deehan, 16466,W.; Gillen, 2147,J.; Hinds, 17203, Lance-CorporalG.; Keenan, 19401,J.; Moir, 20427,J.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

NOTES

Intimation is to hand that Private Michael Ward, who resides near Donemana, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded for a second time whilst in action in France. Private Ward has been in the firing line since the commencement of the war.

A correspondent writes that the committee in connection with the Sion Mills (B) Company, Irish Volunteers met in their hall, Rabstown, on Monday evening. Correspondence was read from the I.V. Headquarters. Some other business having been transacted the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Wm. Devine, Green Brae, Strabane, a popular employee of the Great Northern Railway Company, has joined the Irish Guards. His brother, Patrick, is also serving with the Irish Guards, and is at present on Active service in France.

Mr. William McLaughlin, St. Johnston, whose son, Corporal William M'Laughlin, Royal Engineers, was killed in France, has received a letter from the officer commanding the section, in which he says- "Your son was severely wounded on the night of the 13th, together with several of his comrades, and was at once taken to hospital where he died the following day at about 6.30p.m. His loss will be very heavily felt throughout the company, as he was one of our best N.C.O.s one whom I had myself recommended for the stripes less than a year ago. When he was being taken to the hospital, he bore his wounds without a murmur. I must express the deep sympathy we all feel for you in your bereavement."

A further contingent of wounded soldiers has arrived at the military hospital in Strabane. The men are attached to the Irish Fusiliers and also the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. They were met at the station by Mr. S.J. M'Guinness, who very kindly motored them to the institution in his own car. The new arrivals are very cheerful, and everything possible was done for their comfort. Contributions are kindly given by the inhabitants of the town, and each week his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, of Baronscourt, very kindly supplies the wounded soldiers with a quantity of fresh rabbits.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

**THE FOURTH MILLION OF MEN
PREMIER'S STATEMENT IN COMMONS
IRISH PARTY AND CONSCRIPTION
THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT**

In the House of Commons on Tuesday, the Premier's motion in the Committee of Supply, voting another million men for the Army, was, after debate agreed to.

Mr. Asquith said the men already voted numbered 3 million, and they had now at the various theatres of war 1.25 million of men. They aimed to have potentially every man of military age and capacity, consistent with provision for national necessities: and the Minister of Munitions needed 80,000 skilled and 200,000 unskilled men. The Derby scheme result has been circulated among the Cabinet but could not just then be communicated to the House.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

**THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT
MR. REDMOND'S SPEECH
MR. DILLON
"OTHER STEPS"
THE DERBY FIGURES
THE SUVLA BAY OPERATIONS**

Private George Gallagher, of Strabane, who is attached to the machine gun section of the Toronto Regiment, of the first Canadian Expeditionary Force, has arrived in Strabane, after having been in hospital since April last in consequence of wounds received at Hill 60 and St. Julien. Private Gallagher was the sole survivor of a crew of six men, and himself received 27 wounds from the explosion of a German shell. He is now able to walk fairly well and is quite cheerful.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

TYRONE MAN TWICE WOUNDED

Intimation is to hand that Private Michael Ward, who resides near Donemana, and is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded for a second time whilst in action in France. Private Ward has been in the firing line since the commencement of the war. He received his first wounds about the middle of summer. After being restored to health, he again went to the firing line and was again wounded. After coming through all these hardships he is anxious to return to the front and again do his bit.

Strabane Weekly News
18th December 1915

STRABANE MAN HOME ON LEAVE

Private George Gallagher at present home in Strabane. Attached to the machine gun section of the Toronto regiment and took part in recent battles at Ypres. Private Gallagher while handling his machine gun was the sole survivor of a crew of 6 men and he himself received 27 wounds from the explosion of a German shell – has been in hospital since April.

Private Gallagher has recovered from his wounds and will rejoin the regiment soon for active service

Strabane Weekly News
18th December 1915

LOCAL HOSPITALS FOR HELPING THE WOUNDED

Good progress is being maintained at Strabane Military Hospital. The nurses in charge during the week were Miss Thompson, Artigarvan and Miss Lowry, Artigarvan. Miss P O'Brien, Derry Road looked after the housekeeping arrangements. There were three others admitted in their stead. The three new arrivals were attached to the Royal Field Artillery, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and the Royal Irish Fusiliers. As the weather was most severe during the week the men could not take part in any outside amusements, but they were entertained by Mr Vernon at his picture house, Railway Road, on the evenings of Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They were also entertained by him on Friday at Strabane Pallidrome to a most enjoyable entertainment held by Strabane Women's War Relief Committee.

Strabane Weekly News
18th December 1915

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

Strabane Pallidrome was looking at its best on Friday evening the 10th inst. When a most successful and enjoyable entertainment was held organised by the Women's War Relief Committee, the proceeds being in aid of war charities. Great praise is due to the ladies who form this committee for the energies they display in organising events with object of raising money for such deserving charities. Their efforts on this occasion amply rewarded as the large hall was thronged and the results highly satisfactory. The hall was kindly lent by Mr Vernon, who had rendered invaluable assistance. He carried out the decorations admirably. And also contributed to the magnificent programme produced.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

A STRABANE MAN'S MANY COLOURS

Private George Gallagher, of Strabane, who is attached to the machine gun section of the Toronto Regiment, of the first Canadian Expeditionary Force, has arrived in Strabane, after having been in hospital since April last in consequence of wounds received at Hill 60 and St. Julien. Private Gallagher was the sole survivor of a crew of six men, and himself received 27 wounds from the explosion of a German shell. He is now able to walk fairly well and is quite cheerful.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the above committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday 16th inst, Mrs. T. B. Feely presiding. The treasurer (Mrs. Toner) reported a sum to credit amounting to £25 realised out of the play, "Time and Hour", which was considered as highly satisfactory. Mrs O'Brien, on behalf of the Despatch Committee, intimated the receipt of a communication from the Central Committee, Omagh, with reference to a supply of comforts recently forwarded by the committee for the use of the Royal Inniskillings.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

GALLANT CANADIAN AT HOME RECEIVED TWENTY SEVEN WOUNDS

Private George Gallagher, who has been previously mentioned in these notes as having been wounded in Flanders, is a present home on a visit to Strabane, his native town. Private Gallagher was attached to the machine gun section of the Toronto regiment of the first expeditionary force, and took part in the engagement known as the second battle of Ypres, in which the Canadians so signally distinguished themselves around Hill 60 and St Julien, and in which they suffered severe losses owing to their gallantry in holding the position against the odds. Private Gallagher, whilst handling his machine gun, was the sole survivor of a crew of six men, and he himself received twenty-seven wounds from the explosion of a German shell, with the result that he has been in hospital since the 23rd April last.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

"IRISH VOLUNTEERS" AND RECRUITING

The Chief Secretary Questioned

Sir John Lonsdale, in the House of Commons, asked the Chief Secretary if he would state what steps he was taking to counteract the endeavours of the organisation which was obstructing recruiting and fomenting dis-loyalty in Ireland and if all supporters of this movement who were in Government employment would be dismissed.

Mr. Birrell – It is not in the public interest to set forth all the steps that are being taken to counteract the endeavours of the "Irish Volunteers" to obstruct recruiting and to foment disloyalty in Ireland, but some indication as to them is given in my answers to the questions of the honourable member for North Westmeath in this matter. When persons in Government employment are found to be supporters of the movement, they are warned to cease all connection with it, and if they fail to comply with this direction they are dismissed.

Sir J. Lonsdale – Is the right honourable gentleman aware that seditious leaflets have already been circulated in Ireland, and that although representations have been made to the authorities, no reply has been given?

Mr. Birrell – Well, sir, we are watching the leaflets, and are doing what we can to suppress them.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

FOOTBALL IN FRANCE 9th v, 10th INNISKILLINGS

In a long letter home one of the sergeants of the 10th Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers gives some interesting facts. He states that their billets are most comfortable. In their canteen they can buy everything at the same as in England, and not French goods either, but all brought from England. The army has got a big canteen, called the "Expeditionary Force Canteen", which serves all the British army in France, and each battalion sends transports there and buys the stuff for its own canteen. The cigarettes and tobacco only cost us the same as before the tax came on. Leave starts about 4th January, and you may expect to see us sometime next year.

Yesterday (4th inst) our football team was on the warpath again, and this time it was the 9th Battalion (Tyrones) which came in for a bad time. They had greatly improved their team since the 10th defeated them in Ireland, and they had been very lucky in getting a number of good players amongst recruits who came from Scotland.

**Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915**

U.V.F. – ARTIGARVAN COMPANY

As will be seen elsewhere in our columns, this purely country company has already contributed thirty-four members to the service of King and country, being about one-third of their total strength, including those not of military age. It will be recollected that two years ago they won the Duke of Abercorn's Challenge Shield for the best-drilled company in North Tyrone, and it is gratifying to find such a response to their country's call. Mr. W.W. Barnhill, B.L., was company commander of this company, which he was instrumental in raising and training.

**Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915**

STRABANE FLAX MARKET

Although it was immediately after a severe snowstorm, and most of the roads in a very muddy condition, there was a good exhibition of flax in Strabane Bowling Green on Wednesday morning, 15th inst. At 10.30, when the gong rang, 46 loads of fibre, representing 18 tons, were awaiting the attention of the flax buyers, who were in attendance in large numbers. The market opened briskly, and by noon all the flax had been purchased. The prices of the previous market were well maintained, and farmers seemed well satisfied. The highest price obtained was £10 per cwt, and the lowest price was £7 10s. There were other lots sold at £8, £8 10s, £9, and £9 10s per cwt. The fibre consisted of all qualities, and the market was a most satisfactory one.

**Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915**

STRABANE VOLUNTEER'S DEATH

The many friends of Mr. William John Gormley, who was well known in U.V.F. circles in Strabane and volunteered for service with the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), will regret to learn of his death, which took place on Friday evening at Purdysburn Hospital, Belfast. Deceased was a very popular young man and worked in Strabane with his uncle. When war broke out, he was one of the first to volunteer, and whilst in training he contracted typhoid fever. He was despatched to Purdysburn Hospital, Belfast, and died there. He was a great favourite with his comrades of the 9th Inniskillings and also with the Carricklee Company of the Ulster Volunteers.

The funeral of the deceased took place from his mother's residence, Flushtown, Strabane, on Saturday, and the remains were interred in Urney burial ground. The funeral was large and representative, a large number of deceased's comrades attending. The chief mourners were Messrs. Robert Gormley, John Gardner, William Gardner, and John Rippy, uncle. The Rev. E. Clarke, M.A., officiated at the graveside.

**Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915**

PATRIOTIC ENTERTAINMENT IN STRABANE

Strabane Pallidrome was looking at its best on Friday evening, the 10 inst, when a most successful and enjoyable entertainment was held, organised by the ladies of the Strabane Womens' War Relief Committee, the proceeds being in aid of war charities. Great praise is due to the ladies who form this committee for the energies they display in organising events with the object of raising money for such deserving charities. Their efforts on this occasion were amply rewarded, as the large hall was thronged, and the results were highly satisfactory.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

STRABANE CORPORAL WITH THE ULSTER DIVISION

Corporal Alexander Maton, who is attached to the 9th Battalion (Tyrones) of the Ulster Division, has written to the Rev. W.G. Rennison, a long and interesting letter with reference of his battalion. Corporal Maton was attached as a signaller to the Artigarvan U.V.F. He turned out to be very skilled in this department, and at the outbreak of hostilities he volunteered, joining the 9th Service Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrones). Extract from letter-“ I heard that Leckpatrick Parish was making arrangements to send out some comforts, in the way of warm clothing, etc, for the Ulster Division. Most of the division have had their turn in the trenches, and I am sure that they would appreciate anything your district may do for them. Our artillery has been potting pretty often at the Germans, but they do not seem to reply. We think sometimes they must be short of shells, but perhaps they are saving them up to give us a surprise later on.”

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

COMFORTS ENTERTAINMENT IN ARTIGARVAN

A cinematographic exhibition was held in Artigarvan Orange Hall on December 9th, the proceeds of which were to provide comforts for the Ulster Division at the front. Upwards of £15 was realised. The entertainment was organised by the ladies of the V.A.D., aided by members of the Sinclair Brass and Reed Band, Artigarvan.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Good progress is still being maintained at this hospital. The nurses in charge during the week were Miss Thompson, Artigarvan, and Miss Lowry, Artigarvan. Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, Derry Road, looked after the housekeeping arrangements. There were three men discharged during the week, and three others admitted in their stead.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

TYRONE MAN WOUNDED TWICE

Intimation is to hand that Private Michael Ward, who resides near Donemana, and is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded for a second time whilst in action in France. Private Ward has been in the firing line since the commencement of the war. He received his first wounds about the middle of summer. After being restored to health, he again went to the firing line and was again wounded. After coming through all these hardships he is anxious to return to the front and again do his bit.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

POLICE SERGEANT'S PATRIOTIC FAMILY

Sergeant Devlin, of Strabane R.I.C., is proud of the fact that he now has three sons serving with colours, the third having just left to join the Irish Guards. The names of the three are, John Joseph Devlin, Peter Devlin, and James Devlin. Peter Devlin is attached to the Royal Engineers and has been in the firing line for a considerable period. He took part in the last big advance in September. John Joseph Devlin is attached to a Scotch regiment, and also is in the firing line, whilst James Devlin resigned his position in the police force in Belfast, where he was stationed, and has enlisted in the Irish Guards.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

STRABANE MAN LOSES A LEG

Private McGlinchey, Strabane, who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, having lost one of his legs whilst at the retreat of Mons, has just gone to London to get fitted with an artificial leg. Private McGlinchey has two other brothers serving with the colours, one of them, Private James McGlinchey, who is at present at the front in France, and Private John McGlinchey, who had been in action at the Dardenelles but is now reported as missing, and both of whom are also attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle
18th December 1915

TYRONE OFFICER WOUNDED

Lieutenant Alexander Ferguson Smyly, 8th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment, who has been wounded in France, is the second son of a well-known Ulsterman, his Honour Judge William Cecil Smyly, K.C., L.L.B., of Camus and Castleterg, County Tyrone, now County Court Judge of Bow and Shoreditch, and grandson of the late Mr. John George Smyly, Q.C., D.L., of Camus, by his marriage with Eliza, daughter of Sir Andrew Ferguson Bart, M.P., Castleterg and Londonderry. The late Dean of Derry (Dean Smyly) was an uncle of the officer who has now been wounded. The Smylys settled at Camus in 1628, and have been associated with County Tyrone ever since. Judge Smyly succeeded his brother, Major John George Smyly, D.L. of Camus and Castleterg, on that gentleman's death three years ago. Prior to being appointed County Court Judge at Bow and Shoreditch he filled a similar post for Derbyshire and part of Staffordshire. Lieutenant Smyly enlisted as a private with his brother at the beginning of the war, and was given a commission about a year ago.

IFF: See above

Strabane Chronicle 18th December 1915

STRABANE VOLUNTEER'S DEATH

The many friends of Mr. William John Gormley, who was well known in U.V.F. circles in Strabane and volunteered for service with the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), will regret to learn of his death, which took place on Friday evening at Purdysburn Hospital, Belfast. Deceased was a very popular young man and worked in Strabane with his uncle. When war broke out he was one of the first to volunteer, and whilst in training he contracted typhoid fever. He was despatched to Purdysburn Hospital, Belfast, and died there. He was a great favourite with his comrades of the 9th Inniskillings and also with the Carricklee Company of the Ulster Volunteers.

The funeral of the deceased took place from his mother's residence, Flushtown, Strabane, on Saturday, and the remains were interred in Urney burial ground. The funeral was large and representative, a large number of deceased's comrades attending. The chief mourners were Messrs. Robert Gormley, John Gardner, William Gardner, and John Rippy, uncle. The Rev. E. Clarke, M.A., officiated at the graveside.

IFF: Private William Gormley, 17639, 12th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Urney, Tyrone. Died 9 Dec 1915.

Strabane Chronicle 18th December 1915

A STRABANE MAN'S MANY COLOURS

Private George Gallagher, of Strabane, who is attached to the machine gun section of the Toronto Regiment, of the first Canadian Expeditionary Force, has arrived in Strabane, after having been in hospital since April last in consequence of wounds received at Hill 60 and St. Julien. Private Gallagher was the sole survivor of a crew of six men, and himself received 27 wounds from the explosion of a German shell. He is now able to walk fairly well and is quite cheerful.

Strabane Chronicle 18th December 1915

STRANORLAR MAN DIES OF WOUNDS

The sad news has just been conveyed to Mrs. Atkinson, a patriotic lady who resides at Dreenan, Stranorlar, and who has six sons serving with the colours, that one of them – George Atkinson – has died of his wounds in Floriana Hospital, Malta. Private George Atkinson was first wounded at the Dardanelles in May last, and, after a speedy recovery, he was again despatched to the Dardanelles. He was there wounded on the 12th November, and in consequence of wounds received about the head he expired on 5th December as stated. Private Atkinson was attached to the 1st Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He had twelve months active service, and also had the honour of being one of those who took part in the first landing at Suvla Bay. The names of Mrs. Atkinson's other five sons are Henry Atkinson, who is a chief stoker on the Navy, and engaged on His Majesty's ship, "Prince George"; Sergeant Frederick Atkinson, who is attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and who was wounded at Hill 60. Sergeant Frederick Atkinson is at present home on leave, and, during his stay, he took part in numerous recruiting meetings held at Stranorlar and Ballybofey. He gave the audience a description of the fighting in the Dardanelles and made earnest appeals for recruits. Mrs. Atkinson's remaining three sons are Private Edwin Atkinson, who is attached to the 12th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Cornish Atkinson and Rowe Atkinson, both of whom are in the Royal Engineers. Mrs. Atkinson's family of six boys all took part in active operations in the various theatres of war at the same time. The father of these heroic lads was a full corporal in the Royal Engineers and served in the Egypt-Nile Expedition Force in 1884 and 1885.

IFF: George: See Strabane Chronicle 25th December 1915.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

DONEGAL MAN DIES OF WOUNDS

Mrs. Atkinson, Dreenan, Stranorlar, has been informed that her son Private Geo. Atkinson has died of wounds on 5th December in Florina Hospital, Malta received at the Dardanelles on 12th November. Private Atkinson was wounded on two occasions at the Dardanelles, once in May last, and from which he recovered, but the last wounds received caused his death. Deceased took part in the landing at Suvla Bay. *IFF: Private George Atkinson, 16609, 1st Batt Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Donegal. Died 5 Dec 1915.*

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

Lieutenant Alexander Ferguson Smyly, 8th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment, who was wounded in France, is the second son of a well-known Ulsterman, his Honour Judge Wm. Cecil Smyly, K.C., LL.B., of Camus and Castleberg, County Tyrone, now County Court Judge of Bow and Shoreditch, and grandson of the late Mr. John George Smyly, Q.C., D.L., of Camus, by his marriage with Eliza, daughter of Sir Andrew Ferguson, Bart., M.P., Castleberg.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

PATRIOTIC BANKERS

Mr William B. Hope, cashier of the Ulster Bank, Strabane, Mr A.C.J. Moore, accountant in the same bank, and Mr R.H. Bell, who holds a lucrative position in the Hibernian Bank, have responded to the call of King and country and have joined the colours, the two former, Messrs. Hope and Moore, joined the bankers' battalion of the Irish Fusiliers, and the latter (Mr. Bell) has received commission in "Devil's Own". All are very popular in the town. Mr. Hope is a celebrated golf player and recently won a beautiful cup presented by Major E.C. Herdman in connection with a competition in the Strabane Golf Club. He is also a well-known tennis and hockey player.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

WAR DEPENDENTS

On Tuesday, 30th November 1915, at the Strabane Courthouse, Mr. P. McMenam, J.P., presided at a meeting of above, and there were also present – Messrs. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor, Thomas McElhinney, and D. McClements, secretary. The secretary submitted a number of claims of dependants of soldiers and after hearing the report of the excise officer the committee ordered payment to be made and passed to them. Subsequently Mr P. McMenam presided at a meeting of the Old-age Pension Committee. There was the same attendance of members. Upwards of fourteen claimants came before the meeting for old-age pension, and after hearing evidence, the committee dealt with each case on its merits.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

PATRIOTIC DONEGAL FAMILY

Mr Constantine O'Donnell, Strabane, a native of Burtonport, County Donegal, and who claims to be a descendant of Red Hugh O'Donnell, has received an intimation that his brother, Anthony O'Donnell, who was serving with the colours in France, has been killed in action there. He has also been notified that another brother named Manus O'Donnell, has been wounded whilst engaged in active service operations at the Dardenelles. His brother, John O'Donnell, who is in Edinburgh, has been discharged from the Army, he had been badly wounded in Flanders, coming through many engagements, and is now unfit for military service. His brother-in-law, Patrick Connelly, is also serving with the colours in France, whilst Patrick Connelly, jnr, son of Patrick Connelly, has been killed in action in France. Great sympathy is extended to Mr. O'Donnell of Strabane, and to his sister, who resides in Burtonport, in their bereavement.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Parker, Ballindrait, and Miss Chapman, Carricklee House. Mrs. Samuel McClure, of Railway Street, Strabane, attended to the housekeeping arrangements. During the week, there were three patients discharged and three admitted, two of whom are attached to the Royal

Irish Fusiliers and the other to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Mr. Vernon, Strabane Pallidrome, invited them to his pictures on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They were entertained during the past week to a most enjoyable evening's amusement at the Abercorn Schools, where they were the guests of the women's War Relief Committee.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

DESERTION CHARGES

Mr Eugene Conroy, J.P., presided at a special court in Strabane on Friday last, when a private named P. Hone, who is attached to the Royal Irish Fusiliers, was charged with being a deserter. The constabulary having received intimation that Private Hone was wanted, Sergeant Latimer and a constable made every search for him and learned that he was in hiding. They went to his sister's house, Mrs. Devlin's, in Main Street, and the sergeant knocked at the door and was admitted by Mrs. Devlin, who told him that the deserter had gone out by the back door. When the sergeant went to the back door Hone, who was in hiding, darted out of the front door, thinking the coast was clear, but the Strabane veteran, Recruiting Sergeant Ellis, just happened to be passing the time, and observing the deserter escaping, closed in on him and caught him. A fierce struggle ensued, but Sergeant Ellis held his man until the police sergeant and constable arrived.

Later, a special court was held, when Constable Flanagan charged Private Neal Byrne with desertion. Defendant belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Both Hone and Byrne were ordered to be imprisoned in Derry Gaol and handed over to a military escort.

Mr Eugene Conroy, J.P., presided at a special court of petty sessions on Tuesday, 30th November 1915, when Private William Meehan, of the 7th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was charged with being an absentee from his battalion. Constable Flanagan proved the charge. The court ordered prisoner to be imprisoned in Derry Gaol, pending the arrival of a military escort.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The progress at the above institution has been maintained during the week. The nurses for this week were Miss Trimble, of Newtown House, and Miss Lizzie Stewart, Dergalt. The men were entertained during the week at the Strabane Pallidrome by Mr. Vernon and had the pleasure of witnessing his excellent pictures. They were also entertained at the Strabane Town Hall on Saturday evening to a matinee in connection with the O'Brien company. Needless to say, these amusements were much enjoyed by the patients.

Contributions were received from Miss E.M. McClay, Strabane, Mrs. William King, Main Street; Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Lifford; Mrs. Trimble, Newtown House; Mrs. Herdman, Camus; Mrs. Sinclair, Hollyhill; Mrs. Woods, Newtown Street; Mrs. Neill, The Manse, Sion; Mr. Aiken, Edymore; Mrs. Wilson, Greenfield; Miss Falls, Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin; and His Grace the Duke of Abercorn.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

SIR EDWARD CARSON AND GALLIPOLI

The London correspondent of the "Northern Whig" says:- "It is well understood that one of the considerations which led to Sir Edward Carson to quit the Cabinet was the indecision of his colleagues on the question of withdrawal from the Gallipoli Peninsula. High authorities were notoriously of opinion that the position of our troops there was to a large extent dangerous. In these circumstances high interest attaches to those passages of his speech in which on Tuesday he dealt with the news of the withdrawal from Suvla Bay and Anzac.

Strabane Chronicle
25th December 1915

In a footnote the Editor of the "Irish Times" disclaims responsibility, and adds "The figures were given by our correspondent, as he was careful to state, the authority of the Ulster Unionist mentioned in the House of Commons.

1916

Strabane Chronicle
1st January 1916

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A very large and well-attended and most enjoyable dance was held in Strabane Town Hall on Wednesday evening under the auspices of the Women's War Relief Committee, the object being to raise funds for war charities. As is the case with any patriotic movement in the town, the affair was attended by all creed and classes, and many travelled long distances in motor cars to support such a deserving object. The hall was tastefully decorated by Mr. Richards with the various flags of allies and beautiful flowers, lent by Mr Bannigan, while Mr J White lent curtains.

Strabane Chronicle
1st January 1916

**IRISH RECRUITING
UNIONIST FIGURES
VICEROY'S REBUKE**

The following appeared in the London Correspondence of the "Irish Times" last week. The Irish Unionist members were much amused at Mr Dillon's tender of information to Sir Edward Carson that the feeling among his (Sir Edward's) friends in Ulster against conscription is as fierce as in Nationalist Ireland. Exactly the opposite is the case, the member mentioned. As a matter of fact, Ulstermen are eager that every fit man should be given a chance to fight for King and Empire, and they greatly resent Nationalist attempts to charge them with sympathy with the anti-conscriptionists. I am assured by the members aforesaid that the city of Belfast alone has provided as many recruits since the war began as the three Nationalist provinces put together, only a very small proportion of these being supporters of Mr Redmond. The special recruiting effort lately put forward under the direction of the Lord Lieutenant drew 5000 men from Ulster, and only 3000 from the three Nationalist provinces.

The statement is rebuked in a letter from the Viceroy, which the "Irish Times" has published.

Sir-The Lord Lieutenant, as Director of Recruiting for Ireland desires me to refer to the figure quoted in your column this morning purporting to represent the proportionate results "of a special recruiting effort lately put forward under the direction of the Lord Lieutenant", as between one part of Ireland and another.

I am to acquaint you that the proportions mentioned in your columns are not even approximately correct, and must create an entirely false impression.

Moreover the Director-General feels that comparisons of this type, even if correctly drawn, can serve no useful purpose.

R W NEEDHAM
Secretary

The Department of Recruiting for Ireland
32 Nassar Street, Dublin

In a footnote the Editor of the "Irish Times" disclaims responsibility, and adds "The figures were given by our correspondent, as he was careful to state, the authority of the Ulster Unionist mentioned in the House of Commons.

Strabane Chronicle

1st January 1916

The Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee held a very enjoyable ball in the Strabane Town Hall on Wednesday night.

Strabane Chronicle

1st January 1916

Prior to his departure from England for active service with the Royal Engineers, Mr Thomas McCrossan, CE (London Co Council), a native of Strabane, was made the recipient of a handsome presentation.

Strabane Chronicle

1st January 1916

BALL IN STRABANE

A very pretty and enjoyable ball was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Wednesday night, under the auspices of the Ladies' War Relief Committee. Dancing began at nine o'clock and continued up till the early hours of Thursday morning. Mr. James Craig acted as M.C. in a very capable manner. The Belgian refugees and a number of wounded soldiers at present in Strabane were present at the ball.

Strabane Chronicle

1st January 1916

BRITISH MILITARY CASUALTIES. 528,227 TO DECEMBER

Mr Asquith, in parliament, gave the following figures of British casualties, being the totals in various fields up to 9th inst:-

THE OFFICERS

	D.	W.	M.	Tl.
France	4829	9943	1699	16,471
Dardanelles	1667	3028	350	5,045
Other Theatres	<u>871</u>	<u>694</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>1,665</u>
Totals	7367	13665	2149	23181

RANK AND FILE

	D.	W.	M.	Tl.
France	77475	241359	52685	371,517
Dardanelles	24535	72781	12194	109,510
Other Theatres	<u>10548</u>	<u>10953</u>	<u>2518</u>	<u>53019</u>
Totals	112556	325093	67307	505046

TOTALS – OFFICERS AND MEN

	D.	W.	M.	Tl.
France	82302	251302	54384	387988
Dardanelles	26202	75809	12544	114555
Other Theatres	<u>11418</u>	<u>11647</u>	<u>2618</u>	<u>25684</u>
Totals	119923	338758	68546	528227

Up to 9th November the military casualties were reported to be 498,070 – the naval losses being then returned as 12,160.

Strabane Chronicle

1st January 1916

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss McGowan and Miss Trimble of Strabane acted as nurses this week and Miss McCrea of Derry Road looked after the housekeeping arrangements. There were two patients discharged during the week and they were replaced by two other patients who are attached to the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle

1st January 1916

PATRIOTIC DANCE IN STRABANE

A very largely attended and most enjoyable dance was held in Strabane Town Hall on Wednesday evening under the auspices of the Women's War Relief Committee the object being to raise funds for war charities.

The soldiers at present in Strabane Hospital and a number of Belgians at present residing in Strabane, were interested spectators.

Strabane Chronicle

1st January 1916

An enjoyable entertainment was given in Strabane on Christmas Eve by the Women War Relief Committee, those invited being the Belgian refugees from Strabane and Lifford. The entertainment which commenced at four o'clock lasted for some hours.

Strabane Weekly News

1st January 1916

THE ULSTER DIVISION GENERAL NUGENT'S MESSAGE

Major-General Nugent, Commanding the Ulster Division at the front, writes:-

On behalf of Ulstermen in the field, I beg you will tell our Ulstermen at home that we are counting on them to keep us up to our number in trained men. We must not let it be said that we failed in the undertaking that we took on ourselves to give an Ulster Division for service of the King.

The 20th (R) Battalion Royal Irish Rifles, now being formed at Ballykinlar under command of Lieut-Colonel T.V.P. McCammon require many men to complete the establishment.

Strabane Weekly News

1st January 1916

BARONSCOURT NOTES

Sergeant Adams, son of Mr William Adams, Baronscourt, who has been on active service for the past fourteen months in France after spending a few days holiday with his parents. His two younger brothers, Corporal Robert Adams and Private Fred Adams are with the Ulster Division at present in Flanders.

Strabane Weekly News

8th January 1916

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

The patriotic village of Donemana is to be congratulated on their part in the war. At a sale of work recently held in connection with the provision of comforts for the troops, the handsome sum of £172 was realised, the expenses only accounting for a few pounds. At a shooting match which was recently held a further sum for the same object was realised and forwarded. The village also contributed a large number of recruits for various units of the army during the past few months.

Strabane Weekly News

8th January 1916

RELIEF COMMITTEES – MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening 6th inst. at which Miss McCrea, Derry Road, presided. There was a large attendance of member. Mrs O'Brien, of the Despatch Committee, initiated that she had received an acknowledgement of the last parcel of comforts sent to the depot in Omagh for the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and arrangements were made for the despatch of another consignment of comforts. The meeting considered the making of arrangements for the coming theatrical entertainment which will be held in Strabane Pallidrome on Tuesday next and also made arrangements for the entertainment band from Omagh depot, which is coming to the entertainment to render selections by the kind permission of Lieutenant Colonel Stewart and officers of the battalion.

Strabane Chronicle

8th January 1916

Up to 9th November the military casualties were reported to be 498,070 – the naval losses being then returned as 12,160.

Strabane Chronicle

8th January 1916

Mr. John Ashenhurst, relieving officer, Strabane has joined the Tyrone Battalion of the Ulster Volunteers. The Guardians on Tuesday granted him leave of absence for the duration of the war.

Strabane Chronicle
8th January 1916

An enjoyable entertainment was given in Strabane on Christmas Eve by the Women War Relief Committee, those invited being the Belgian refugees from Strabane and Lifford. The entertainment which commenced at four o'clock lasted for some hours.

Strabane Weekly
8th January 1916

A SION MILLS DESERTER

On the evening of Wednesday, 5th inst., a special court was held before Mr. P. McMenamin, J.P. when a private named John Goan, who resided at Sion Mills and is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was charged with being a deserter. The court ordered the detention of prisoner pending the arrival of a military escort from the City of Londonderry.

Strabane Weekly
8th January 1916

STRABANE ENGINEER FOR THE FRONT

It will interest many of our readers in Strabane to learn that Mr. Thomas McCrossan, C.E. has departed from England for the front to do his bit for King and country. Mr. McCrossan is a Strabane man but went to London some years ago and succeeded in obtaining a lucrative position under the London County Council. Prior to his departure to the front he was made the recipient of a handsome presentation by his comrades who had the greatest respect for him. It may be mentioned that Mr McCrossan is a brother of Mr. Joseph McCrossan, journalist. London. His many friends in Strabane and surrounding district wish Mr. McCrossan every success.

Strabane Weekly
8th January 1916

COUNTY DONEGAL MAN PROMOTED

The many friends of Mr. David R. Bates whose parents reside at Carnone (Raphoe) will be pleased to learn that he has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant whilst in France. He has had a great many years' service with the North Irish Horse and at the outbreak of hostilities was called to the colours. Lieutenant bates will now be attached to the Royal Irish Rifles. He took a keen interest in the Ulster Volunteer Force and was in charge of a highly efficient company when the war broke out. A good many of the men of the company are serving their country now.

Strabane Weekly
8th January 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge during the week were Miss E. Perry, Urney and Miss M. Quinn, Foyfin. Mrs. Sayers, Castletown, Strabane was in charge of the housekeeping arrangements. Nine of the men were discharged and three were admitted, two of whom are attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and one to the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly
15th January 1916

STRABANE MAN'S FATE

The relatives of Private Jack O'Neill who reside at Dock Street, Strabane have been informed that he has been killed in action in Flanders, having been shot through the head with a bullet. Deceased was a young man and worked at the painting trade. Being a reservist in the 2nd battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers he was called up at the commencement of the war and has been in a good many engagements. He had been home for a short holiday a few weeks ago. Deceased was an instructor for the Strabane National Volunteers and was held in high esteem with the company of which he had charge. The news of his death has caused deep regret amongst all those who knew him.

Strabane Weekly
15th January 1916

DESERTION CHARGES IN STRABANE

On Tuesday evening a special court was held in Strabane before Mr. Eugene Conroy J.P., presiding when Constable Dwyer arrested and charged a private named William Delaney, of Bridge Street, who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, with desertion.

Strabane Weekly
15th January 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

On Tuesday morning the relatives of Private James McNally who reside at Milltown, Strabane received an official notification from the War Office that he was killed in action at the Dardanelles on 15th December last. Private McNally was attached to the 3rd battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and enlisted about six months ago and was about 20 years of age. This is the tenth man from the locality to be killed in action at the Dardanelles and upwards of 50 men from Strabane and district have been wounded in this theatre of operations.

Mr James Craig, Lifford Street, Strabane, father of Private George Craig, who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has received intimation that he is at present in hospital in Liverpool suffering from dysentery, contracted whilst in the firing line. Private Craig was attached to the regular army at the commencement of the war and has had varied experiences in all the theatres. His other brother John Craig, who is attached to the Royal Field Artillery has been on active service since the beginning of the conflict, took part in the retreat from Mons, and is as yet uninjured.

Intimation is to hand that Private John Barton who is attached to the 9th (Service) Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrones) of the Ulster Division has lost portion of his thumb, having contracted blood poisoning whilst engaged in France. He was a member of the U.V.F. prior to enlistment.

Strabane Chronicle
15th January 1916

IRISH RECRUITING RETURNS
PROVINCES COMPARED

Mr Birrell, replying to Sir John Lonsdale in the House of Commons, said the number of men between 19 and 41 in each of the provinces in Ireland on August 15th last were approximately:-

Leinster	Ulster	Munster	Connaught
174,597	169,489	136,637	81,392

Up to December 15th there had enlisted in the army and navy, according to the periodical returns compiled by the police and which could only be regarded as approximately accurate the following:

Leinster	Ulster	Munster	Connaught
37,458	49,760	14,190	3,589

"Is the right hon gentleman prepared to state", asked Sir J Lonsdale, "the number of recruits obtained in each of the four provinces during the month of November last under Lord Wimbourne's scheme?". I cannot do that without notice", answered the Chief Secretary.

Mr Asquith, answering another question by Sir J Lonsdale, said that the Government, when considering the terms of the Military Service Bill, were acquainted with the monthly returns of recruiting in Ireland, but no formal report by the Lord Lieutenant was before them. Such a report was now being prepared by his Excellency, and the figures it contained would be communicated to the House.

THE WIMBORNE SCHEME

On the same subject, Mr Tennant informed Sir J Lonsdale that the Lord Lieutenant was in close touch with the War Office. The measure of success so far achieved by the Wimborne. Scheme gave good reason for the expectation that his Excellency's hopes would not be disappointed. The introduction of the system of deferred enlistment obtaining in Great Britain was not, said Mr Tennant, at present contemplated.

Strabane Chronicle
15th January 1916

At a meeting of the committee of the Strabane Commercial Dancing Class on Friday evening it was decided to hold a dance in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund on Wednesday 26th January.

Lieutenant -Colonel Ricardo DSO, who is at present on active service, wrote tendering his resignation to the monthly meeting of the Strabane No 1 Rural Council held on Tuesday, as a member of that body. The resignation was accepted with regret.

Strabane Chronicle
15th January 1916

Private John Barton, Strabane, 9th Service Battalion (Tyrones) of the Ulster Division, has lost portion of his thumb, contracted through blood poisoning whilst engaged in Flanders.

Strabane Chronicle
15th January 1916

Mr James Craig, of Lifford Street, Strabane, has received intimation that his son, Private George Craig, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is in a military hospital in Liverpool, suffering from dysentery. Private Craig was wounded at Mons and twice at the Dardanelles.

Strabane Chronicle
15th January 1916

Mr Dan McGarrigle, Ballycolman, Strabane, who was attached to the Intelligence Corps and has been at the front since the outbreak of war, arrived home on Friday evening for a brief holiday which terminated on Tuesday. He has witnessed and has been present at several thrilling battles. He spoke with admiration at the splendid work of the Irish troops at the front and has no doubt that the Germans have long since shot their bolt. Every day, he asserted, brings the Allied troops nearer to victory. Despite his many privations and hardships, Mr McGarrigle looked hale and hearty.

Strabane Chronicle
15th January 1916

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

At a meeting of the committee of the Strabane Commercial Dancing Class on Friday evening it was decided to hold a dance in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund on Wednesday 26th January.

Strabane Chronicle
15th January 1916

Mr. McGee, Conneyburrow Cottage, Lifford has been officially informed that his son John, serving with the 5th Highland Light Infantry, has been wounded in the Dardanelles and is at present in St Patricks Military Hospital at Malta.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd January 1916

A man named John Stevenson of Raphoe was arrested in Strabane on Saturday last by Constable Dwyer and charged with being an absentee from the Royal Field Artillery. Stevenson was brought before a Special Court, was stated to have joined the colours in November last, and sent to Athlone for training but deserted while on the journey. The prisoner was remanded in custody pending the arrival of a military escort.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd January 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART SOLDIER'S DEATH.
WOUNDED AT BATTLE OF FESTUBERT
TRIBUTE TO DECEASED BY THE REV. WM. MURPHY, C.C.

The funeral took place at Newtownstewart on Saturday 15th inst. of the late Pte. Edward Brogan, of the 1st Battalion Irish Guards.

Deceased was son of Mr. John Brogan, Upper Gallen, for whom great sympathy is felt in the great trial, that has come to him in the loss of a son so young, so brave and so bright.

Young Brogan enlisted in the early stages of the war and was but a short time on active service when he took part in the Battle of Festubert (France), where he was seriously wounded. He was subsequently transferred to Netley Hospital, Southampton where on Wednesday 11 inst after a period of six months suffering, he passed peacefully away.

Prior to the internment on Saturday, the remains were taken to the church at Glenock, where Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev. William Murphy, C.C.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd January 1916

The relatives of Private Jack O'Neill, who reside at Dock Street, Strabane, and who was attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, have been informed that he has been killed in action in Flanders. A reservist, deceased was called up at the commencement of the war and had been in a good many engagements.

Private Jack O'Neill, Dock Street, Strabane has been reported killed in action on the 6th inst. he belonged to the 2nd Batt Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and prior to the outbreak of war was an instructor to the Strabane Corps. of the Irish National Volunteers, amongst whom he was a general favourite. Being a reservist he was called to the colours immediately on the declaration of war.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd January 1916

STRABANE MAN'S EXPERIENCE IN THE BALKANS

Private J. Boyle, Strabane, brother of Mr. Wm Boyle, postman, who is serving with the 6th Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, being attached to the military police writing from Salonica, states that the Irish soldiers spent a very happy Xmas there.

Strabane Weekly
22nd January 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT DESERTION CHARGE IN STRABANE

Mr Eugene Conroy, J.P., presided at a special Court in Strabane on 18th inst. when a man named John Stinson (or Stephenson) dealer, from Raphoe locality, was charged as being a deserter.

Strabane Weekly
22nd January 1916

A PATRIOTIC BANKER

During the week Mr. Charles J. Moore, who was an official in the Strabane branch of the Ulster Bank. He has enlisted in the King's Royal Rifles Bankers Battalion, London. Mr Moor who is a native of County Cavan, came here about two years ago and during his stay he made himself a general favourite with those who came in contact with him. In sporting circles he will be missed, especially with the local tennis and golf clubs. He also proved himself a capable player of hockey.

Strabane Weekly
22nd January 1916

STRABANE MAN JOINS THE COLOURS

On Monday the 17th inst. two young men, named James Doherty and John Alexander, both of whom reside at Newtown Street, Strabane left here by the 5.20 train to join the colours and do their bit for King and country. Both these patriotic young men are enlisting in the 18th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles (Ulster Division). Mr Doherty is a painter by trade and Mr. Alexander was employed as a postman in Strabane Post Office. Mr. Doherty was a member of the Strabane Company of the U.V.F. and was a most efficient volunteer. He also has a brother, Private Harry Doherty, with the colours, the latter being attached to a Canadian regiment and presently stationed at Shorncliffe, England.

Strabane Weekly
22nd January 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The usual progress is being made at the hospital. The nurse in charge this week was miss. McKnight, Sion Mills. Mrs. Stewart Harpur, The Hill, attended to the housekeeping arrangements.

Strabane Weekly
22nd January 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening 20th inst. Mrs. McElhinney, Main Street occupied the chair and there was a very large attendance of members.

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

Private Joseph Gallagher, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who formerly resided at Townsend Street, Strabane, is at present in hospital suffering from enteric fever.

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

Private Joseph Forbes, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, whose parents reside at Townsend Street, Strabane, has been wounded in the Balkan theatre of war by a bullet penetrating through his hand. Private Forbes has also two other brothers in the firing line. The father of these boys is attached to the transport department.

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

Mr J McGeehan, of Strabane, has received an intimation that his son, Private Hugh McGeehan, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in action, and is now in hospital. He also has been informed of the fact that another son, Private James McGeehan, of the same regiment, was recently wounded in action for a second time.

Strabane Chronicle
29 January 1916

The relatives of Private Thomas Doherty, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who reside in Strabane, have received intimation that he has been killed in the Dardanelles.

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

Private Joseph Gallagher, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who formerly resided at Townsend Street, Strabane, is at present in hospital suffering from enteric fever.

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

Private Joseph Forbes, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, whose parents reside at Townsend Street, Strabane, has been wounded in the Balkan theatre of war by a bullet penetrating through his hand. Private Forbes has also two other brothers in the firing line. The father of these boys is attached to the transport department.

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

THE BELGIAN REFUGEES BALL IN STRABANE

A most successful ball organised by the Commercial Dancing Class in aid of the Belgian Refugees, was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Wednesday night. The spacious building was crowded to overflowing. People came from Derry, Omagh, Letterkenny, Stranorlar, Ballybofey, and other places. The hall was nicely decorated and from all sides floated the Belgian flag. In the centre suspended from the ceiling was a beautiful basket of carnations in coloured paper, the work of Mr A Richards, Railway Street, Strabane. Amongst those responsible for the tasteful decorations were :- Messrs A Richards, W McIntyre, Denis Doherty, Patrick Doherty, W McElhinney, Alphonsus Doherty, T O'Shea, H Kelly,, and Misses M McElhinney, A Griffin, and R Raffin. Messrs P Doherty, W McElhinney and T O'Shea acted as MC's in a very capable manner. The music was supplied by Mr. Dan Connolly's splendid orchestra, which struck up the Belgian National Anthem as the Strabane refugees filed into the hall. The Belgians were the object of a warm reception as they took their places in the balcony. Dancing began at 9.30, and was continued up till the early hours of Thursday morning, the lovers of the "light fantastic" thoroughly enjoying themselves. An excellent and sumptuous supper was served at midnight by a committee of ladies, to whom much thanks are due for their generosity and kindness. The able secretary, Mr Alphonsus Doherty, and Mr Patrick Doherty are entitled to every praise and thanks for the pains and trouble they took in making the function a success. At the conclusion of the ball, all present joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne"

A considerable amount of money was realised as a result of the ball.

Strabane Weekly News
29th January 1916

BELGIAN DANCE IN STRABANE

On the evening of Wednesday 26th inst a most enjoyable dance was held in Strabane Town Hall. Large crowds attended from all the principal towns surrounding Strabane and as a result a handsome sum has been realised. The duties of M.C. were carried out by Messrs. Patrick Doherty, Timothy O'Shea and William McElhinney.

Strabane Weekly News
29th January 1916

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

The wounded soldiers and staff at the hospital, with those interested, were entertained in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday evening 27th inst by members of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee consisting of Mrs. Moody, Railway Street; Mrs. White, Bowling Green; Miss Black, Bridge Street and Mrs. Black, Derry Road.

Strabane Weekly News
29th January 1916

THIRTEEN MONTHS IN THE TRENCHES

Private Samuel McGarrigle, Bowling Green, Strabane was made welcome when he arrived home for a few days holidays by his friends and acquaintances after having done over thirteen months in the trenches in Flanders. Private McGarrigle who is an engineer by trade was working in Scotland at the outbreak of the hostilities and was one of many who then joined the colours, enlisting in a Scottish regiment. He has been through a vast number of engagements, including several bayonet charges.

Private Armour Ellis is presently at home enjoying short leave of absence from the firing line. Private Ellis is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and being a reservist was called up at the commencement of the war. He came through the Mons retreat and in or about that time he was wounded. After receiving treatment in a hospital he was granted leave of absence but returned again to the front in France, and he is now on leave for the second time, after another six months spell in the trenches.

Strabane Weekly News
29th January 1916

STRABANE OFFICER PROMOTED

The many friends and acquaintances of Dr. Thomas Britton, in the counties of Tyrone, Derry and Donegal will be please to learn that he has been promoted to the rank of captain and is attached to R.A.M.C. he is in charge of a military hospital in Perthshire, Scotland. He is a son of the late Dr. John Britton J.P., of Hazelwood, Strabane. Dr Britton has also two other brothers serving the country – Mr. William Britton, a cadet at Sandhurst in the South of England, and Mr. Jack Britton, who is in an ammunition department.

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

The relatives of Private Thomas Doherty, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who reside at Strabane has received intimation that he has been killed at the Dardanelles

Strabane Chronicle
29th January 1916

Mr. J McGeehan of Strabane has received an intimation that his son Private Hugh McGeehan, has been wounded in action and is now in hospital. He has also been informed that another son Pte. James McGeehan of the same regiment was recently wounded in action for a second time.

Strabane Weekly News
29th January 1916

STRABANE ROLL OF HONOUR

Mr. J. McGeehan, Strabane has received an intimation that his son, Private Hugh McGeehan, who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action and is now in hospital. He has also been informed of the fact that another son named Private James McGeehan attached to the same regiment has been recently wounded in action for the second time. Private James McGeehan was first wounded on the 16th May last. Mr McGeehan has another son attached to the Royal Inniskillings. These three patriotic lads have been in the firing line since the start of the war.

The relatives of Private Thomas Doherty who reside in Strabane have received the sad news that he has been killed in action in the Dardanelles. Private Doherty was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Notification has been received that Private Joseph Gallagher, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who resided at Townsend Street, Strabane is at present in a hospital lying dangerously ill. He is suffering from enteric fever, contracted whilst in action. Private Gallagher was an ex-reservist and although his time was up he volunteered and has been in active service since 22nd August 1914.

Mr. McGee, Coneyburrow Cottage, Lifford has received a notification that his son, John McGee, who is serving with the 5th Battalion Highland Light Infantry has been wounded in the Dardanelles and is at present in St Patricks Military Hospital, Malta.

Strabane Chronicle
5th February 1916

Private J Gallagher, 3rd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, of Townsend Street, Strabane has been awarded a medal for long and faithful service and good conduct.

Private Joseph Gallagher, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who formerly resided at Townsend Street, Strabane is at present in hospital suffering from enteric fever.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The progress at the institution for the week was of a satisfactory nature. Miss McKnight, Sion Mills acted as nurse.

There were three man discharged during the week.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening 3rd inst. Mrs. Toner, Bank House, presided and there was a satisfactory attendance of members.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

COMMISSION FOR STRABANE MAN

The many friends of Mr. John Doherty who resides at Main Street, Strabane will be pleased to hear that he has received a commission. He has been appointed a Second-Lieutenant and attached to the 7th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers and has just gone to take up his training in Cork City. He has been on active service at Suvla Bay where the skill he displayed was acknowledged by his superiors. He is prominent in sporting circles in the Strabane district.

Strabane Chronicle
5th February 1916

COMMISSION FOR STRABANE MAN

Mr. John Doherty, Main Street, Strabane has received a commission in the Dublin Fusiliers, and has gone to Cork for a period of training. Second-Lieutenant Doherty was formerly attached to the Royal Engineers, and saw active service at Suvla Bay, from where he arrived home a few weeks ago. He is a son of a well known town's lady Mrs. Doherty, publican and mother of Mr. Andrew Doherty, principal of Barrack Street national Schools, Strabane. His numerous friends in Strabane and elsewhere wish Mr. Doherty every success.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

DESERTER ARRESTED IN LIFFORD

Mr. P. McMEnamin, J.P., presided at a special court when Sergeant Sheehan and Constable Walsh, Lifford charged a soldier named William J. Pigott with desertion. It appears the accused arrived in Lifford wearing the uniform of the Royal Field Artillery (coat and spurs) and proceeded to the house of a man named early where he created a disturbance.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

CONCERT AT STRANORLAR

On Thursday 27th ult., one of the largest and most successful concerts that was ever staged in Stranorlar took place in Stranorlar Robertson School. The object was to raise funds in aid of war charities and as has been the case since the outbreak of hostilities the event was largely patronised by all classes of the community.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

TYRONE VOLUNTEERS
HOW THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED
TRIBUTE FROM BATTALION OFFICERS

Our Strabane correspondence says:- the 9th Service Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has lost one of their comrades the victim being Private 11249 Thomas Johnston who resided at Sion Mills. This gallant volunteer was a most efficient soldier and popular with both officers and men as is testified by the letters received by his sorrowing wife. The deceased was a native of Castledawson and at the time of his enlistment with the Ulster Division he was employed in the firm of Messrs. Herdman's Ltd., in their mechanical department.

His wife is a daughter of the late Mr. John Colhoun, Ubleragh, Victoria Bridge. In addition to his wife, deceased leave a family of five children to mourn his loss.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

RECRUITING IN IRELAND

The report that Lord Wimborne, director of recruiting in Ireland has just been issued. It is a somewhat remarkable document in that the figures supplied vary very considerably from any other statements which have been previously made public on the subject, and there will be many people inclined to question the accuracy of the figures now supplied.

Strabane Weekly News
5th February 1916

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES

The following casualties are reported:-
1st Battalion Hyndsman 6939 Private O.
Johnston 4574 Private J.
5th Battalion Cosgrove 13961 Private
Fleming 11402 Private A.
Kirk 11829 Private W.
6th Battalion Gibbons 13186 Corporal P.
Hackwood 12861 Corporal S.F.
Pritchard 11675 Private W.J.
Teaney 16559 Private W.

Strabane Chronicle
5th February 1916

RECRUITING IN IRELAND

The report on recruiting in Ireland, dated January 14th, addressed to Lord Kitchener by the Lord Lieutenant as Director of the Recruiting Department in Ireland, and duly presented to Parliament, gives the subjoining figures:-

Numbers raised from 2 nd August, 1914, to 8 th January 1916.	86,277
Raised between 10 th Oct. 1915 and 8 th January 1916	10,984

Strabane Chronicle
5TH February 1916

On 9 th Oct. 1915, the enlistments since the beginning of the war had reached 75,293, giving a total of pre and post-war enlistments	126,339
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An estimate shows:-

Unmarried men in Ireland, Aug. 1915	416,409
Of these engaged in agriculture	252,000
Estimated still unattested	400,000
Available (allowing for deductions)	100,000

Strabane Chronicle
5TH February 1916

Private T. Johnston, 9th (S) battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Regiment UVF), Ulster Division has been killed at the front. Private Johnston, who was a native of Castledawson, was employed in Messrs. Herdman's mills at Sion.

Strabane Chronicle
5th February 1916

ACCIDENT TO TYRONE VOLUNTEERS
ONE MAN KILLED AND FIVE INJURED

News has been received in Omagh of a serious accident to a party of 9th Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers) resulting in the death of one man and the injury of five other details of the occurrence are not yet to hand and the extent of the injuries of the five men are not yet known. The following is the list:

KILLED

11249 Private T. Johnston, 22 Albert Place, Sion Mills

INJURIES

18086 Private W.J. Haslett, Lisnacloon, Castlederg
16279 Private C. Clarke, Killen, Castlederg
19999 Private J. Worling, Drumagle, Sion Mills
13888 Private J. Rankin, Knockbride, Raphoe
24966 Private W.A. McLaughlin, Ramoan Cottage, Ballycastle

Strabane Chronicle

5th February 1916

Private Johnston, who has been killed, was a married man, his wife residing at the address given above. Private Haslett is a son of Mr. James Haslett and is injured in the leg. Private Clarke is a son of Mr. Joseph Clarke, Killen, Castlederg, and is also injured in the leg. Private Worling, who is wounded in the head, belongs to Drumagle, near Sion Mills. Private Rankin is a son of Mrs. M.J. Rankin, Knockbride, Raphoe and has a head injury. These men were all members of the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News

12th February 1916

COMFORTS FOR THE TYRONE VOLUNTEERS GENEROUS RESPONSE TO APPEAL

Miss Maud Herdman, Sion House, Sion Mills, writes as follows:- Now that the last consignment of woollen comforts, required by the men of the 9th battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been dispatched, I wish to express my gratitude to all those who have so kindly collected both the knitted garments and the subscriptions to form a Comforts Fund and I should like also to thank all who have given their work and money for the sake of our soldiers.

I enclose for publication a list of subscriptions and the numbers of different comforts received and sent out to the battalion.

Strabane Weekly News

12th February 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Notification has been received by the relatives of Private Joe Gallagher who reside at Strabane that he has succumbed to a military hospital in consequence of having contracted fever. Private Gallagher was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He was an ex-reservist and at the outbreak of hostilities again volunteered. He had been in continuous action from the commencement of the war. Intimation is to hand that Private Frank McColgan of Strabane has died of wounds. Private McColgan was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and had been in the firing line for a considerable period.

Strabane Weekly News

12th February 1916

HOME FROM THE FRONT

Private Peter Devlin of Newtown Street, Strabane has returned for a holiday from the front. Private Devlin volunteered shortly after the outbreak of war. He was formerly in the postal service where he enjoyed a lucrative position. His vocation being of a skilful nature he was entrusted with responsible duties and during his stay in France he has witnessed many thrilling experiences. Private Devlin has another brother, Jim Devlin attached to the famous Irish Guards. Private Jim Devlin was a member of the Royal Irish Constabulary and resigned the force solely for the purpose of serving during the present struggle and is also now on short leave from his training quarters. Both are sons of Sergeant J. Devlin, of Strabane Police Force.

Strabane Chronicle

12th February 1916

STRABANE MAN AT SALONICA

Mr Thomas McCreaghan, C.E., Strabane, who is attached to the Royal Engineers and at present on active service, writing from Salonica says it is the Thessalonica of old that has witnessed the march of Xerxes and been occupied by the Athenians in the Peloponesian wars, the cities where Nero created the statues of Dionsyno and Ariadne. The men of the West are today marshalling their forces for the liberation of Serbia in this tragic city, or as the old Greek historians called it "the tragic city destiny", and marching along the road that Paul and Silas travelled. Though still ravaged the city has survived twenty-two centuries of vicissitudes. Along the way are passed the oxen drawing the carts as of old, the quaint figures, the mixed and the

original race, the Sephardic Jews and the wily Greek. Here Saint Ambrose played a great part in the ancient glory of the Church by his power.

The weather is intensely cold in Macedonia just now, and the frost is very keen. The streets are covered in snow, sleet and mud. At night one would almost be frozen by the heavy frost.

Strabane Chronicle
12th February 1916

Mrs. Bridget Travers, 46 Nelson Street, Derry, has received rectification from the War Office that her son, Private Michael Travers, of the 1st Inniskilling Fusiliers, who had been unofficially reported wounded and missing in Flanders, was killed in action in August last. Four other sons of Mrs Travers are serving with the colours.

Strabane Chronicle
12th February 1916

The Strabane No. 1 Rural Council have expressed regret at the loss of the services of Colonel Ricardo, DSO, and paid a tribute to his business qualities as a member of the Council.

Strabane Chronicle
12th February 1916

STRABANE GOLF CLUB
ANNUAL MEETING

Mr. Wm J. Ludlow presided at the annual meeting of the Strabane Golf Club on Wednesday evening and there was a good attendance of the members.

The Treasurer submitted his report, which showed a satisfactory balance standing to credit. The Secretary in the course of his report stated that several sums of money had been handed over for the purpose of war charities. Both reports were approved of and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS

The following office-bearers were elected:- Captain - Major EC Herdman, North Irish Horse; hon treasurer – Mr. W B Hope; hon secretary – Mr. James Smyth; Ground Committee - Captain JC Herdman, Messrs Andrew Gallagher, and William Roulston; competition secretary – Mr. Wm J Ludlow; members of Council, in addition to the above - Messrs Hugh C Cochrane, Wm B Smyth, North Irish Horse, PJ Byrne, Andrew Doherty NT, Edward Gallagher jun., Wm Stevenson, John Miller BA, H Lloyd, RS Magee and the Rev. Peter Tracey CC.

WITH THE COLOURS

It was decided that any member serving with the colours be made an honorary member during the period of the war.

Strabane Chronicle
12th February 1916

Private T. Johnston, Sion Mills was killed, and a number of Tyrone Ulster Volunteers injured, as a result of a railway accident in France. A number of the injured belonged to the Castlederg district including Privates Kee and Semple, the former belonging to Castlederg and the latter to Killen.

Strabane Chronicle
12th February 1916

An informal civic welcome by the High Sheriff of Belfast was given to Capt. F. Harold Tubb, V.C. of the Australian Force and Capt. T.G. Leary, of the Australian Medical Corps. A native of Castlederg, Co. Tyrone.

Strabane Chronicle
19th February 1916

Mr. Peter Devlin, Strabane, who is attached to the Royal Engineers, arrived home from the front on Thursday evening for a short break. Shortly after the outbreak of war Mr. Devlin who was employed as a clerk at the Post Office, joined the colours, and has been for several months in the firing line in France. He has had several narrow escapes from death and has been present at several exciting engagements. His brother, James is also with the colours. They are sons of a popular member of the Strabane Constabulary, Sergeant Devlin.

Strabane Chronicle
19th February 1916

IRISH RECRUITING IN SCOTLAND

LETTER FROM MR. J. O'D. DERRICK

J.O'D. Derrick, United Irish League organiser for Scotland writes to the "Edinburgh Evening News":- In yesterday's issue one of your comments conveys the suggestion that Ireland "should be doing a little more than filling the ranks." I reply by pointing out she has done and is doing all the War Office authorities asked of her, and I am certain that generous minded men will agree that in view of the treatment Ireland has accorded in past years by the British Parliament her people have done well in recruiting since the start of the war.

Apart from the Irishmen that went from Scotland into Irish regiments there are at least 25,000 Irishmen who enlisted in Scotland and were placed in Scottish units.

Strabane Chronicle 19th February 1916

Mr. Nathan Oliphant, Castlefin has received a commission and has started his training course in London. Mr. Oliphant held a lucrative position in the office of Colonel J.R. Baillie at the Strabane Estates Offices

Strabane Chronicle 19th February 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

The wife of Private T. Meehan, who resides in Strabane has received a notification from the War Office that her husband has been wounded in France. Private Meehan enlisted in May 1915 in the Irish Brigade. He has been in the firing line for some months past. It is understood that his wounds are not of a serious nature.

Strabane Chronicle 19th February 1916

ACCIDENT TO TYRONE VOLUNTEERS FULL LIST OF CASUALTIES

The accident which occurred to No.2 Company, 9th Royal Inniskillings is most regrettable but the company behaved very well, kept cool and set to work without any fuss to get the debris off the injured men. Two waggons were telescoped and the men in them were shot off, with the contents of the waggons on top of them. The train behind the second engine was also partly telescoped and Private Johnston, who was killed, was in a waggon at the rear of the second engine.

Private Johnston was buried at -----, the 14th R.I.R. sending a party to the funeral

The injuries received by the other men were not of a serious nature except in the case of Private W.A. McLaughlin who however is progressing favourably.

The complete list of killed and injured in the 9th Battalion is as follows:-

KILLED

11249 Private T. Johnston

INJURED

1388 Private J Rankin, 19979 Private J Worling, 17560 Private H.C. Kane, 16279 Private C. Clarke, 18086 Private Hazlett, 19811 Private A Semple, 24916 Private W.A. McLaughlin.

Private Kane's next-of-kin is his mother Mrs L Kane, Castlederg

Private A. Semple's next-of-kin is his father Mr.W.Semple, Killen, Castlederg. Private Semple has a brother in the battalion and in the same company

Strabane Chronicle 19th February 1916

NEWS FROM THE ULSTER DIVISION

In a letter written from France, Private John Jack, jun., who is attached to the 9th (Service) Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrones) Ulster Division, states that he is well. Private Jack at the commencement of the war enlisted with the Ulster Division and he has been in France since the departure of his battalion for the front. He states that all his comrades from Strabane are quite well and enjoying good health. Private Jack is employed two or three miles behind the firing line in the construction of huts.

Strabane Chronicle 19th February 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening 17th inst. Miss Hepburn, Bridge Street, occupied the chair and there was a large attendance of members.

Strabane Chronicle
19th February 1916

STRABANE OFFICER ON LEAVE

The many friends of Captain John Weir will be glad to welcome his arrival amongst them for a short period. Captain Weir is attached to the 9th (Service) battalion (Tyrones) Ulster Division. Captain Weir is a member of the firm of A. Weir & Co., Ltd.

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The work at the above institution was carried on satisfactorily during the week. Miss McKnight, Sion Mills, acted as nurse. The patients and staff were invited to pictures at the Pallidrome.

Strabane Chronicle
19th February 1916

STRABANE ROLL OF HONOUR

Private Patrick Arbuckle has arrived home from a hospital in Manchester where he had been treated for dysentery contracted at the Dardanelles. Private Arbuckle is attached to the Royal Irish Regiment and took part in the landing at Suvla Bay. He has another brother named John Arbuckle who is engaged on the Flanders front.

Mr. John Early, Lifford has received an intimation that his son Joseph Early who is attached to the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been taken a prisoner by the Bulgarians. He also has another brother named Private Patrick Early attached to the R.A.M.C.

Private Edward Quinn, Lifford has arrived home suffering from the effects of frostbite received at the Balkan theatre of war. Private Quinn took part in the landing at Suvla Bay and was in action since the commencement of the war.

Strabane Chronicle
19th February 1916

Sapper A.J. Baird, Royal Engineers, a native of Newtown Stewart writing recently to Mr. Whyte, Poyntzpass, in acknowledgement of comforts sent him

Strabane Chronicle
26th February 1916

STRABANE MAN'S BRAVERY

Mr. Andrew McCutcheon, of Carricklea, Strabane, has received a letter from an officer of high rank complimenting his son, George McCutcheon, of the Inniskillings, for his services on the battlefield. Private McCutcheon was a member of the Strabane UVF before enlisting. He was promoted on the battlefield to the rank of sergeant. He took part in the recent rearguard action in the Balkans and was one of the lucky ones to escape. In the letter the officer, Lieutenant Victor O'Malley pays a great tribute to his courage and devotion. He states when the regiment suffered heavily Sergeant McCutcheon stuck to him under the heaviest fire, and was, in fact, the only one of the platoon to keep up. The officer was knocked out by a bullet, and he states he will never forget the way Sergeant McCutcheon ran to his aid, although both of them were exposed to heavy fire and had to lie for five hours under cover until darkness came.

Strabane Chronicle
26th February 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

As from 18th November 1914 to 31st January 1916

STRABANE WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

From September 1914 to 31st January 1916.

Strabane Chronicle
26th February 1916

Private Henry Magee, Townparks, Strabane of the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone) has been killed in Flanders – shot by a German sniper. Colonel Ricardo has written to deceased's wife conveying the bad news, expressing his sympathy with her and mentioning that deceased was buried with full military honours behind the firing line. Mrs. Magee has one child.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

Private Edward Quinn, of Lifford has arrived home suffering from the effects of frostbite received in the Balkan theatre of war. Private Quinn took part in the landing at Suvla Bay and was in action since the commencement of the war.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

STRABANE AND THE WAR LADIES RELIEF COMMITTEE REVIEW OF ITS WORK

We think it will be universally conceded that since the beginning of the war, few, if any, towns in Ireland can show a more sustained and better organised effort on behalf of the soldiers than what has been put forth by the town of Strabane through its splendidly organised Women's War Relief Committee. The work of the Committee has been recorded in our columns from time to time since the formation of the Committee (immediately after the outbreak of war) and in the advertising columns of our present issue, we publish the audited accounts of the committee, until the 31st January 1916. The committee may well feel proud of its record and we wish to offer it our congratulations on behalf of our readers.

The work of the committee divides itself into two distinct objects: one, the furtherance of relief and comfort of soldiers both in camp, and at the front, and the other the relief and nursing of wounded soldiers who are received in the committee's auxiliary hospital, the only one of its kind in Ulster.

The statement of account in respect of the general work of the committee shows that a sum of £305.8.3 was received from various sources and is made up of public subscriptions and the proceeds of patriotic concerts, dances and amateur theatricals, etc. Out of this, a sum of £228.2.3d was expended, leaving a credit balance on hand with which to carry on the good work. The sum of £228.2.3d has been expended on the purchase of wool, which was knitted up into hundreds of pairs of socks, mittens, mufflers, helmets, body belts, jackets, and gauntlets, and in the purchase of pants, vests and shirts, and these have been widely distributed to the troops in camp at Clonmany, the Red Cross Society, St John's Ambulance Association, Lord Kitchener, Queen Mary's Fund and through the central depot at Omagh for the men of the Battalions of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. The Queen of the Belgians received a contribution for her veteran soldiers, also the Serbians. The 1st Battalion of the Inniskillings on their return from India last winter received a large consignment of underclothing, and in far-away Recess in Co. Galway, men in the Marconi wireless service were the recipients of much needed woollen comforts. The men in the Royal Navy were not forgotten and shared with their comrades of the land forces in the bountiful distributions.

While the committee have taken a broad national view of their responsibilities they did not forget the mere particular needs of the many men of the town and neighbourhood serving the colours abroad. At Christmas a large number of parcels of all sorts of goods so much desired by men on active service were dispatched to local men in all parts of the war area. The soldiers who have had the misfortune to become prisoners of war have been kept bountifully supplied with the "staff of life" and other necessaries.

In the large amount of knitting that was involved the committee's efforts were loyally assisted by all classes of women workers whose names would be too numerous to mention, but it is only proper to add that a good proportion of the work was done by the Sisters of Mercy, Mount Saint Joseph, Strabane, the Presbyterian and Episcopal school, the Young Women's Christian Association and the Methodist Church Guild.

The statement dealing with the hospital accounts covers the period from 18th November 1914 to the 31st January 1916. The receipts were £502.0.9d derived from monies subscribed locally at the formation of the hospital proceeds of concert and dances, a street collection on Strabane Show day, weekly subscriptions which are collected by the following ladies and gentlemen:- Mrs Cooper, Miss Nellie Doherty, Miss Connolly, Mrs. McFeters, the Boys Scouts, and Mr. J Robinson, Sion Mills and by contributions from the Army Pay Office and St John's Ambulance Association for the matron's salary. A sum of £401.7.9d has been expended in working the hospital, leaving a substantial balance to credit. All this money has been spent in the town.

The hospital has been a great success, and upwards of a hundred men have been restored to health and vigour within its walls. As is well known it was given to the committee, free of charge by the late Dr. J M Trimble and was equipped and furnished by a number of ladies in the town. It is under the immediate charge of an efficient executive committee, consisting of Mrs. Delap (Commandant), Mrs. Trimble (Lady Superintendent), Mrs. Wm King (Quartermaster), Mrs. Toner (Hon Treasurer), Mrs. J C Herdman (Hon Secretary), and Miss Connolly, who have the services of Sister Magee, of the late Sir Patrick Dunn's Hospital, Dublin, as matron, assisted each week by the nurses of the V.A.D. and other ladies who take their turn weekly as housekeepers. The local medical men have always placed their services freely at the

disposal of the committee, whilst a number of local ladies who are fully qualified nurses have at various times given the hospital the benefit of their skill and experience.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

Private Patrick Arbuckle has arrived home in Derry from a hospital in Manchester, where he had been treated for dysentery contracted in the Dardanelles. Private Arbuckle is attached to the Royal Irish Regiment and took part in the landing at Suvla.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

Mrs. Mary McCreedy, 8 Pine Street, Waterside, Derry, has just received notification that her husband, Lance-Corporal John McCreedy, 2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is in one of the base hospitals in Flanders, suffering from acute appendicitis. Lance-Corporal McCreedy has been at the front since the declaration of war and has been wounded. He has a brother with the colours.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

Mr. John Early of Lifford has received intimation that his son, Joseph Early, who is attached to the 1st Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been taken prisoner of war by the Bulgarians. Private Early has had twelve years of service with the 1st Battalion and had been at the Dardanelles during the entire campaign.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

Mr John Craig, Laghey, County Donegal, has received official notification that his son, Private John Craig, Highland Light Infantry, has been killed in action in France.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurse in charge of the above was Miss. McKnight, Sion Mills and Mrs. Lavery, Railway Street, looked after the housekeeping arrangements. During the week there were five new patients admitted three being attached to the Irish Fusiliers and the remaining two to units of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

WOUNDED SOLDIERS AND BELGIANS ENTERTAINED

A most enjoyable function was held in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday evening 24th inst., when Mrs Toner, Bank House; Mrs McElhinney, Main Street; Mrs Browne, Castle Street; and Mrs William King, Main Street, entertained the wounded soldiers in Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE – SPLENDID RECORD

We think it will be universally conceded that since the beginning of the war few if any towns in Ireland can show a more sustained and better organised effort on behalf of our gallant soldiers than that which has been put forth by the town of Strabane through its very representative Women's War relief Committee. The work of the committee has been recorded in our columns from week to week since its formation immediately after the outbreak of war and elsewhere in the present issue we publish the audited accounts of the committee up to the 31st January 1916 in which there is constituted a record of which the committee may well feel proud and on which we wish to offer our heartfelt congratulations on behalf of our numerous readers.

The Treasurer, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Central Comforts Fund, begs to acknowledge with many thanks the most generous donation of £263 5s 3d from the Castlederg district, per W.J. Davidson, Esq to the above fund.

Strabane Chronicle

26th February 1916

WITH TYRONE VOLUNTEERS

STRABANE MAN SHOT BY SNIPER

On the 10th inst., No. 19302 Private H. Magee of No. 2 Company 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was unfortunately killed by a bullet from the rifle of the enemy's sniper. Private Magee was shot through the ear and death was instantaneous. He has been buried in a little cemetery for soldiers close by the grave of a comrade of No. 2 Company – Private Sam Donnell who was also killed by a sniper on 1st November last. Deceased's wife (Mrs M. Magee) lives at Brickfield, Strabane and the officers and men of No. 2 Company to her their deepest sympathy in her sad bereavement at the same time regretting the loss of a good comrade and soldier.

Our correspondence writes:- Pte. Henry Magee of 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers a native of Townparks, Strabane has fallen on the Flanders front.

9/16311 Private C.R. Owens No 1 Company was also seriously wounded in action on 10th inst.

Mr Andrew McCutcheon, Carricklee, Strabane has received a letter from an officer of the Royal Inniskillings regarding the bravery of his son, George McCutcheon whilst in action. Prior to the commencement of the war he was employed in Glasgow but enlisted at the outbreak of war and attached himself to the 5th Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Whilst in Strabane he was a most active member of the U.V.F. It may also be mentioned that he was promoted from the rank of private to that of Sergeant on the battlefield. Private McCutcheon has been right through the Dardanelles campaign and he is now at Salonika. He was one of the lucky heroes who escaped in the recent desperate fighting at the Balkan theatre when two companies of the Inniskillings were practically decimated.

Strabane Chronicle 26th February 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Sergeant J.J. Patterson, 9th Battalion Royal Inniskillings was home for a few days furlough last week. Despite the hardships of the trenches he looks very well and fit. As Sergeant Patterson was the first members of the 9th Battalion from the District to get home on a holiday he was subject to interviews from many residents here as to the welfare of their friends at the front and his reports were most reassuring.

Strabane Weekly News 4th March 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS

The committee here take the opportunity of thanking all those who so generously subscribed at the formation of the committee and also to the committee of the Women's War Relief and especially to the following:-

Strabane Weekly News 4th March 1916

SPECIAL COURT IN STRABANE

A special Court of Petty Sessions was held in Strabane on Wednesday 1st inst., when Sergeant Latimer charged a private named R. Logue, Gallon Cottage, Strabane with being an absentee from his regiment, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. After hearing the evidence, Mr. Conroy, who presided ordered prisoner to be remanded pending the arrival of a military escort.

Strabane Weekly News 4th March 1916

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Mr. Thomas Mullin, of Meetinghouse Street, Strabane has received an official notification from The War Office that his son, Private Joseph Mullin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in action and is at present in No. 1 General Hospital, Etretat. Private Mullin has been in continuous action since August 1914 and escaped till the present. It is understood that his wounds are not serious. He also has another brother, Private Thomas Mullin, attached to the Dublin Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News 4th March 1916

STRABANE BOY SCOUTS

Rev. Canon Delap, The Rectory, Strabane, writes as follows:- The Boy Scouts of the Empire have provided two recreation huts and four motor ambulances for our armies in France, and are now raising funds for more of both, as the need is great. The Strabane troop has already sent in a contribution and asks your kind help to enable the scouts to earn some more.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

At the Strabane Military Hospital for the week, Miss McKnight, Sion Mills, acted as nurse and Mrs. Wisheart, Main Street looked after the housekeeping arrangements. There was one man discharged during the week and four admitted, two of which belong to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, one to the Irish Fusiliers, and one to the Royal Scots.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening 2nd inst. Miss McCrea, Derry Road, presided and there was an average attendance of members. The committee took into consideration the desirability of establishing a soldiers' rest club in Strabane for the use of soldiers passing through the town en route from the front to their various destinations when coming home on leave as it was found that many of these men had to undertake long railway journeys into County Donegal and elsewhere; and had to stop a considerable time in Strabane in order to obtain suitable train connections.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

SCENE AT STRABANE STATION

On instructions received from the Officer Commanding the 3rd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers on Saturday 26th ult., Sergeant Devlin, Strabane arrested Private John Harte, Townsend Street as an absentee from his regiment. On his way to the station Harte escaped and the escort came to the police barracks for assistance. The police after searching for him discovered him in a house in Main Street. He was again conveyed to the station. At the station the prisoner made another desperate attempt to escape and just as the train was coming along the platform Harte stepped back to the other side of the platform and dropped down on to the rails underneath where some carriages were lying. After a lengthened search, Constable McCloskey discovered him clinging like a cat across the axle of one of the wagons. He was again dragged out and handed to the escort who conveyed him to Derry.

Strabane Chronicle
4th March 1916

SCENE AT STRABANE STATION

On Friday morning Sergeant Devlin, Strabane, arrested Private John Harte, of Townsend Street, as an absentee from the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Harte was brought before Mr. Eugene Conroy, JP, and remanded pending the arrival of a military escort, who came on Friday evening. On the way to the station, Harte escaped and the escort came to the Police barracks for assistance. The police discovered him in a house in Main Street. He was again conveyed to the station, where he made another attempt to escape. Just as the train was coming in Harte stepped back to the other side of the platform, and dropped down on the rails underneath where some carriages were lying. After a lengthened search, Constable McCloskey discovered him clinging to the axle of one of the waggons. He was again brought out and handed over to the military.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

IRISH RECRUITING FIGURES

Mr. Birrell told Sir. John Lousdale in Parliament on Friday that it was not in the public interest to give recruiting figures for Ireland in greater detail than they were in the Lord Lieutenant's report. According to the police returns the numbers enlisted in the army and navy since the outbreak of the war up to the 15th inst., were:-

	Army	Navy	Total.
Ulster	50515	1397	51912
Leinster	27,816	1870	29186
Munster	14458	732	15190
Connaught	3741	198	3,939

An estimate based on the National Register of the number of men of military age still remaining was-

Ulster, 199,640; Munster, 138,237; Leinster, 167,492; Connaught, 80,330.

It was not a fact that the figures supplied in the Lord Lieutenant's report were incomplete and referred only to infantry.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Intimation has been received that No. 11456 Private W. Alexander No. 2 Company, 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded by a rifle bullet. Private Alexander's father resides at Ballykeel. An officer of the battalion writing home says their casualty list has been light.

Mr Percy Walker, son of Mr. Joseph Walker, Chief Traffic Agent in Belfast of the G.N.R., and for some years the company's agent at Newtownstewart has received a commission in the R.N.V.R. Mr. Walker, jun., was a well-known rugby player.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

LIGHT CASUALTY LIST

"We have been fortunate so far, as one casualty list has been light. We lost Private H. Magee (19303) whose wife resides at Brickfield, Strabane and a few men have gone to hospital. Magee was hit by a sniper. Private Owens of No. 1 Company has had rather nasty wounds from an enemy rifle grenade but the other are mostly suffering from "trench feet" from the mud and the wet.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART MAN WOUNDED

Since writing the above, No.11455, Private W. Alexander (whose father lives at Ballykeel, Newtownstewart) has been wounded by a rifle bullet. Private Alexander belongs to No. 2 Company.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

SION MILLS MAN WOUNDED

Mr. James Neely, Sion Mills, Co. Tyrone has received notification from the Canadian Record Office that his son, Private M. Neely, 24th Canadian Infantry has been admitted to the 3rd Canadian General Hospital, Boulogne suffering from multiple shot wounds which are not serious. Private M. Neely was for many years in the offices of Messrs. Dunville Ltd, Belfast where he served his apprenticeship prior to going to Canada four years ago.

Strabane Chronicle
4th March 1916

Mr. James Neely, Sion Mills, has received notification from the Canadian Record Office that his son, Private M Neely, 24th Canadian Infantry, has been admitted to the Third Canadian General Hospital, Boulogne, suffering from multiple shot wounds, which are not serious.

Strabane Weekly News
4th March 1916

COMFORTS FOR OUR SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT, AND IN HOSPITALS IN FRANCE

Mrs. Morrow most gratefully acknowledges the following subscriptions and contributions of work received by her for the above objects since June 1915.

Strabane Chronicle
4th March 1916

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION
THE LINER GOES DOWN IN 20 MINUTES

The *Maloja*, which was outward bound, was sunk near Dover about 10.30 on Sunday morning owing it is thought to a mine explosion there being a terrific report, and she sank in 20 minutes.

The rescued were put on hospital ships, where their wants were attended to.

Strabane Chronicle
4th March 1916

Intimation has been received that Private W. Alexander, 9th Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded by a rifle bullet. Private Alexander's father resides at Ballykeel, Newtownstewart. An officer of the battalion writing home says that the battalion lost Private H. Magee, whose wife lives at Brickfield, Strabane and a few men have gone to hospital, most of them suffering from "trench feet" from the mud and the wet. Private C.R. Owens received rather nasty wounds from an enemy rifle grenade.

Strabane Chronicle

4th March 1916

Mr. Thomas Mullin, of Meetinghouse Street, Strabane, has received an official intimation that his son, Private Joseph Mullin, attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in action (not seriously), and is at present in No. 1 General Hospital, Etretat. Private Mullin has been at the front since August 1914.

Strabane Chronicle

4th March 1916

Private George Floyd, 12th Inniskilling Fusiliers, was brought up on remand at Ballyshannon Sessions, charged with the larceny of a parcel which contained a pair of lady's corsets, the property of Ellen Carty. Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was allowed out under the First Offender's Act.

Strabane Chronicle

4th March 1916

Private Andrew McCready, 9th Battalion, Scottish Rifles, son of Mr. James McCready, farmer, Drimadart, Inver, Co. Donegal, has been killed in action in France. He had been wounded about seven months ago and had not been long at the front secondly when he met his death. Deceased, who leaves a wife and family, has another brother with the Ulster Division.

Strabane Chronicle

4th March 1916

Private George Floyd, 12th Inniskilling Fusiliers, was brought up on remand at Ballyshannon Sessions, charged with the larceny of a parcel which contained a pair of lady's corsets, the property of Ellen Carty. Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was allowed out under the First Offender's Act.

Strabane Chronicle

4th March 1916

Lance Corporal Patrick Meehan, Ballycolman, Strabane, who has been in the fighting zone since August 1914, has returned home. For bravery in the Dardanelles he was promoted in the ranks. He speaks with admiration of the daring deeds of his fellow countrymen in the field of battle and looks forward to with the utmost confidence to the ultimate defeat of the Germans. His brother, Private Joseph Meehan, is also with the colours, and has been at the Dardanelles. He has also arrived home for a six weeks holiday.

Strabane Chronicle

4th March 1916

SION SOLDIER'S RETURN FROM THE FRONT

Private Joseph Ward of Sion Mills, who is attached to the 1st Battalion, Inniskilling Fusiliers, has arrived home for a short holiday in the village. He was wounded twice at the Dardanelles. As a junior international footballer, he played for Ireland against Scotland in 1909. He was one time captain of the first Battalion, Inniskilling Fusiliers football team, which won the Secundenabad Cup in India for two years, and also played in the regimental hockey and cricket teams. Private Ward went to India in 1911 with his regiment, and at the outbreak of war was ordered to proceed to the seat of hostilities.

Strabane Chronicle

11th March 1916

DONEGAL FLYING OFFICER KILLED IN FRANCE

The announcement will be received with regret that Dr. H.M. Johnston, J.P., Stranorlar has lost his youngest son, Second-Lieutenant H.A. Johnston, Royal Flying Corps. The death took place on 4th inst. the deceased had been daily bombing the German trenches in France for some time past. Before joining the Air Service, he served for twelve months as a private in Lord Kitchener's Army.

Strabane Chronicle

11th March 1916

FUNERAL OF MRS. HERDMAN, SION MILLS

The funeral of Mrs. Fanny Alice Herdman, wife of Mr. Emerson Tennent Herdman, D.L., Sion Mills took place on Wednesday, was a remarkable testimony to the popularity of deceased and a graceful expression of sympathy with the sorrowing relatives.

Strabane Chronicle

11th March 1916

CONCERT AT NEWTOWNSTEWART

A concert and social meeting the proceeds of which will be devoted to war funds, was held in the Town Hall, Newtownstewart, on Friday evening under the auspices of the local Co-operative Dairy Society. Mr. NW Tipping occupied the chair, and introduced a first class programme, to which the following contributed:- Pianoforte duct, the Misses McAleer: mandoline solos, Miss Bruce, Irish step dances, Mrs McAleer, and Miss McCloskey. Male quartette, Messrs Beattie, Wason, MacIlwaine, and Fairley; humorous recitation, Mr. James Ervine, (Belfast); action songs, the Misses Baird; solos by - Mrs J.W. Baird, Miss Gallagher, Miss G. Baird, Messrs J. Wason, J. Ervine, R. MacIlwaine, J McBride and J Carlin. The accompanists were – Mrs. J. Baird, Miss M. McAleer, and Mr. Fairley. Tea was served at an interval in the proceedings. Subsequently a dance was held, music being supplied by Mr. Joseph Nugent's (Omagh) splendid orchestra.

Strabane Weekly News

11th March 1916

STRANORLAR MAN KILLED IN ACTION

The sad tidings have just been conveyed to Dr. H Johnstone, J.P., of Stranorlar that his son Mr. H.A. Johnstone of the Royal Flying Corps. Has been killed in action in France whilst in the discharge of his duties. Dr Johnstone has also two other sons serving their country, one named Bertie attached to the Royal navy and the other Benjamin serving in the army. Great sympathy is extended to Dr. Johnstone on the death of his youngest son.

Strabane Weekly News

11th March 1916

STRABANE MAN FOUR TIMES WOUNDED

The relatives of Private George Craig who reside at Lifford Street, Strabane have received notification that he has been wounded for the fourth time. Private Craig is attached to the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He is at present in hospital and his injuries which are not serious are about the arm and head.

Strabane Weekly News

11th March 1916

BALLINDRAIT MAN KILLED IN ACTION

Mrs. McGarrity, Ballindrait has received a notification from the War Office that her son No. 4107 Lance-Corporal M. McGarrity of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been killed in action whilst bravely doing his duty in the trenches. He has been buried in the military cemetery in Authuille, near Albert, in France and that the Rev. Maccable, R.C. chaplain conducted the burial service. The officer commanding pays tribute to the gallantry displayed by deceased.

Strabane Weekly News

11th March 1916

HOME FROM THE FRONT

Gunner J. Craig, 15th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, son of Mr James Craig, Lifford Street has arrived in Strabane after being in continuous action from the 16th August 1914, till a few weeks ago. He took part in the Mons retreat and can relate some most thrilling experiences of that famous battle. Although Gunner Craig's term of service has expired, he has again volunteered for service.

Strabane Weekly News

11th March 1916

ADDITIONAL TYRONE CASUALTIES

The following are a few additional casualties in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers:-

WOUNDED

19814 Private J. Stark. No. 2 Company (shell wound). His father is Mr. John Stark, Derbrough, Plumbridge.

Strabane Weekly News

18th March 1916

DISAFFECTION IN IRELAND CAMPAIGN AGAINST RECRUITING

From motives of patriotism worthy of all praise the English papers have refrained for some time from comments upon the position in Ireland. Throughout the South and West a vigorous and organised campaign against recruiting is being supported by the dissemination of seditious and pro-German pamphlets and literature of various kinds, apparently without let or hindrance on the part of the Irish Executive. It is idle and dangerous any longer to ignore the truth or to pretend to be deceived by the suggestion that Irishmen are only too eager to enlist provided they are engaged for home defence only and thereby secure the training and equipment at the public expense of the disloyal and seditious section of the Irish population. Delay at such a time is not only dangerous but disastrous, and the remedy lies with the Government.

Strabane Weekly News
18th March 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge of the Military Hospital this week were Miss White, Bowling Green, Strabane and Miss Smith, Lifford. There were three patients discharged during the week and four admitted.

Strabane Weekly News
18th March 1916

STRABANE CRICKETER DEAD

Our readers in Strabane and district will learn with regret of the death of Mr. John Doherty which took place on Thursday morning at Abercorn Square, Strabane, deceased was a native of Strabane but some time ago went to Glasgow and was engaged there in the manufacture of munitions. His health recently necessitated his return to Ireland. Deceased leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss

Strabane Weekly News
18th March 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A very large meeting of the above committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening 16th inst. Mrs Harpur, The Hill, presided.

Mrs Feely, Despatch Committee, reported having sent a sack of comforts to the Central depot at Omagh. The committee had again under consideration the formation of a Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club for the benefit of men of both services who may be passing through Strabane from time to time to their homes particularly in County Donegal. Suitable accommodation has been provided at Mr. Griffin's Temperance Hotel, Railway Hotel, Railway Road and arrangements having been made for the catering, it was finally decided to carry out the scheme. A separate fund has been set aside.

Strabane Chronicle
18th March 1916

STRABANE LIEUTENANT'S EXPERIENCE IN THE TRENCHES

Lieutenant Eddie Gallagher, Strabane, writing home to his brother, Mr. Henry T Gallagher, Crown Solicitor for County Donegal, gives an interesting account of life in the trenches. Prior to the outbreak of war, Mr. Eddie Gallagher was Captain of the Strabane Irish National Volunteers. In the course of his letter he says, "The organisation of the British Army is simply grand. How so many troops are looked after is wonderful". Regarding the rats which infest the trenches he remarked jokingly that they are good pals, they skip about one's feet, and if you are lying sleeping in the trench they cuddle up inside your cape; they are as big as dogs.

Strabane Chronicle
18th March 1916

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The monthly meeting of the Strabane Ladies War Relief Committee was held on Thursday evening, Mrs. Harpur presiding. Amongst others present were – Mrs. J.C.Herdman, Mrs. R. Toner, Mrs. King, Mrs. McElhinney, Mrs. C Browne, Mrs. Coxall, Mrs. Whyte, Miss Joyce, Mrs. Delap, Mrs. McFeeters, Miss McCrea, Miss Hayburn, Mrs. Feely, Mrs. Trimble etc.

MINUTES

Mrs Herdman read minutes of the previous meeting which were signed.

WOOL

The committee ordered that £10 be spent on wool for socks by the Buying Committee.

SOLDIERS' REST CLUB

The committee have provided a rest club for soldiers at Griffin's Hotel, Railway Road, Strabane.

STRABANE DRAMATIC CLUB

The hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Toner, reported a sum of £31.15.4d as the proceeds of the dramatic entertainment recently given by the Strabane Dramatic Club.

On the motion of Mrs. Toner, seconded by Mrs. King, a sum of £9 out of this amount was directed to be given as a grant in aid of local Belgian refugees.

FACTORY DANCE

As a result of a dance given by the employees of the factory of Messrs A. Gallagher, Ltd., the promoters very generously handed over to the committee the sum of £4.10.00 which they asked should be expended in the purchase of cigarettes.

The meeting arranged that the cigarettes should be dispatched to Lieut. Col. Ricardo, D.S.O., and Lieutenant E. Gallagher for distribution to Strabane men.

LETTER FROM DUCHESS OF ABERCORN

The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Hamilton, read a letter from the Duchess of Abercorn expressing her gratification at the successful statements of accounts, and balance sheets which appeared lately in the local press.

Strabane Chronicle

18th March 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART SOLDIER WOUNDED

Intimation has been received in Newtown Stewart that Private Samuel Murphy, of the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskillings has been wounded in action recently. He is lying in No. 1 General Hospital, Etretat both his legs broken, the left below the knee and the right in the knee. His condition was stated to be critical,

Strabane Chronicle

25 March 1916

On Thursday evening a meeting of the Strabane Recruiting Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, Mr. James Toner, Clerk for the Crown and Peace for County Tyrone presiding.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Percy, of the Central Recruiting Committee, Dublin, in regard to recruiting for the Royal Navy, and to the advisability of holding a public meeting and also to have a cinematograph display in connection with the matter.

The meeting considered the question of presenting illuminated certificates to the relatives of those who are serving with the colours.

Mr. RK Malone, postmaster, and Mr. Wm King, solicitor, were appointed to hand out the certificates.

Strabane Chronicle

25 March 1916

BRILLIANT STRABANE MAN

His Career in the United States

An interesting reference in a recent issue of the "San Francisco Chronicle" is made to Mr. Wm Greer Harrison, of that city and the splendid work he has carried out for the benefit of the citizens is especially commented on. Mr. Harrison who has almost attained four score years, is a native of Strabane, and emigrated in his youth to the States, where from the start he manifested a deep interest in the welfare of the land of his adoption, but at the same time his native country has always held a revered spot in his memory. His love of home is admirably shown in a true patriotic and masterful story which Mr. Harrison has penned. It is entitled "O'Neill, Prince of Ulster" and has been suitably arranged for dramatisation. It has been staged with remarkable success in several parts of the States, and everywhere it was met with great enthusiasm. Many of the episodes in the play are set round his birthplace, and the first scene which was prepared under the supervision of Mr. Greer Harrison is a very effective and at the same time most realistic picture of Strabane Glen. It has been said that those who have witnessed the play when on a visit to this country. Made it a rule to include this beautiful glen in their itinerary and in many cases they were struck by the remarkable resemblance between original and Mr. Harrison's setting. The story contains many of the principal incidents in the life of Tyrone' chief, and they are produced with a correctness of detail that it places the work of the author on a very high pinnacle.

A short time after settling down in San Francisco Mr. Greer Harrison displayed a lively interest in the establishment of a club for men, a club for all young athletes and those ambitious to become such. A first footing was made in 1860 and the organisation was called the Olympic Club. It started in a modest home, and soon larger quarters became necessary. The club moved to more commodious rooms, with a membership of 500 - as energetic and as powerful a young organisation as ever was formed in those days. The club made such remarkable progress that a larger building was secured, but this was burned down in

June 1883. Mr. Greer Harrison was elected President in 1886, and from then the Olympic took a new lease of life. The contemporary says "In fact the club found itself in the grip of an iron hand, according to old members, and to use a modern expression, there was something doing" It was again found necessary, as the club was in a very prosperous condition, money accumulating, and the organisation gaining strength month by month with the admission of new and influential members, to seek a new abode. Mr. Harrison was successful in obtaining a suitable site, and on April 18th 1891 he turned the first spadeful of earth and dedicated the ground to "the Olympic Club and the fostering of the highest and best manhood of its members". The building, a splendid one of its kind, was erected at a cost of £40,000 and on the club taking possession of it in 1893 President Harrison was presented with a beautiful silver punch bowl in recognition of the work he had done for the organisation. Once again fate dogged their steps and in 1906 the magnificent structure was reduced to ashes. After establishing themselves in a temporary home, the members set about with confidence to erect new premises. On June 15th 1912 the doors of the new home were opened to members, and hundreds of friends, and today the pioneer athletic association of the United States is housed in an edifice which cost £110,000. The club has presently 3,560 members of whom 2,108 are on the active list. "Their home is one of which the city might well be proud. It is a monument to the virile manhood of the Pacific Coast, and in point of architectural beauty and interior plan, it has no equal in the United States. Although a spacious and commodious structure The Olympic building is hardly large enough to house the present membership, and yet the applicants are clamouring by the score to be admitted. Not only in this sphere has Mr. Harrison shown his worth, but in many other capacities he has displayed his ability, and today he is one of the most prominent and esteemed citizens of San Francisco.

Strabane Chronicle
25 March 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINMENT

One Thursday evening the VAD nurses provided a most enjoyable entertainment for the wounded soldiers and staff of the hospital in Strabane. The members of the V.A.D. present were – Mrs. Wisheart, Miss J Smyth, Miss E Whyte, Miss L Smyth, Miss Woods, Glentimon, Miss Coyle, Miss McGowan, Miss Stewart, Mrs. McClure and Miss Lowry. A splendid tea was served. An orchestra under the leadership of Mr. GM Elliott, rendered lively selections of music. After tea a musical programme was submitted, those taking part being Mrs D.D. McGuinness, Miss Elliott, Miss West, Mr. J. Lowry, Miss Colhoun, Mr. J. Browne, Sergeant Spurren, Miss Connie McGuinness, Miss Pearl Latimer, the Musical programme having concluded, games and dancing were indulged in. The singing of "God save the King" brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

Strabane Chronicle
25th March 1916

STRABANE AND THE NAVY

On Thursday evening a meeting of the Strabane Recruiting Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, Mr. James Toner, Clerk of the Crown and Peace for County Tyrone, presiding. The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Percy, of the Central Recruiting Committee, Dublin, in regard to recruiting for the Royal Navy and to the advisability of holding a public meeting for this purpose. It was unanimously decided to have arrangements made for the holding of the meeting and also have a cinematograph display in connection with the matter. The meeting considered the question of presenting illuminated certificates to the relatives of those who are serving with the colours. Mr. K. Malone, postmaster and Mr. Wm. King, solicitor, are appointed to hand out the certificates.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT CASTLEFIN MAN'S DISTINCTION

Captain W.D. Holmes, 7th Battalion Canadian Infantry who has been invested by the King with the D.S.O. which he won at Festubert is one of many officers of Ulster descent serving in the Dominion forces. He is a grandson of Mr. Alex Holmes, formerly of Meenahoney, Castlefin and now Dublin and a cousin of Mr. Geo. McCurdy the present occupier of Meenahoney which has been in the occupation of the family for over 200 years.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Private George Craig, attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has returned home after being wounded for the fourth time. He was first wounded at Flanders, twice wounded at the Dardanelles and again in the Balkan theatre of war. He was in the first battles of the war including the Mons retreat

Private J. Mullin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has just arrived home after being wounded in France by a shell. He has been at the front since September 1914. He will be treated in a hospital in Londonderry.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

STRABANE AND THE NAVY

A meeting of the Strabane Recruiting Committee was held in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening at which Mr James Toner clerk of the Crown and Peace presided. A letter was read from Mr Percy with reference to recruiting for the Royal Navy and suggesting the advisability of holding a meeting for the purpose and also a cinematograph display.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

SUCCESSFUL STRABANE SOLDIER

Our readers in Strabane and district will learn with pleasure of the success attained by Private William Hawthorne, Ballymagorry, son of Mr. Thomas Hawthorne, and grandson of the late Mr. Thomas Law, deceased who carried out an extensive business at the Abercorn Square. Private Hawthorne is attached to the 155th Contingent of the Canadians and in competition for the general efficiency prize for the month of January in the local unit to which he is attached he has had the distinction of winning the first prize, which carries with the success achieved a considerable amount of money.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

THE TYRONE VOLUNTEERS

The 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers) have established the reputation of being one of the finest units in Lord Kitchener's army. This was recognised long before they took their departure from the shores of the United Kingdom and all accounts which have come to hand since they landed in France point to the fact that they have not failed in maintaining that high reputation.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

CASUALTIES IN TYRONE VOLUNTEERS **ARDSTRAW MAN KILLED** **NEVER SHRANK WHEN DUTY CALLED** **PROMINENT U.V.F. WORKER**

News has just reached Newtown Stewart that Sergeant Jack Laird, Ardstraw, No. 2 Company, 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was killed whilst his company were in the trenches on 18th inst. he was in a reserve trench behind B. Company when a mortar struck the ground at his feet and he was killed instantly. The deceased was extremely popular in the Derg Valley and took a prominent part in the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

TWO CASTLEDERG MEN KILLED **LETTERS FROM COLONEL RICARDO** **A DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE**

Letters received in Castlederg on Saturday report three casualties in the 9th Battalion No. 2 Company Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private James Kerrigan, Creevym Castlederg and Private James McCarron, Listymore, Castlederg were killed in a French village which was heavily shelled on the night of 10th inst. The late Private Kerrigan who was a much-respected member of Castlederg U.V.F leaves a wife and six children with whom much sympathy will be felt.

Private McCarron has been a member of the Ballyfoliard Company U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News
25th March 1916

CASTLEDERG MAN WOUNDED

John J. McCutcheon, another private of the 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action in France and is now in hospital in England. Before enlisting Private McCutcheon was a member of the Castlederg U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

Mrs Atkinson, Dreonan, Stranorlar, Co Donegal, has received a notification that her son Pte. Edwin Atkinson 11th batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been admitted to the 1st General Hospital, Etredal. Mrs Atkinson has six sons serving.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

D.C.M. FOR GORTIN MAN

Sergeant Hugh Campbell, of the Royal Engineers and third son of Mr John Campbell, Minaduff, Gortin, County Tyrone has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and recommended for a commission on account of meritorious service. Sergeant Campbell, who is the eldest of three brothers in the army was in private life a foreman in Messers., Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson's shipbuilding yard, Wallsend-on-Tyne. He joined the Royal Engineers at the beginning of the war and when in charge of advanced communications during the recent British attack at Ypres succeeded, after several failures in making good the signal lines through the German curtain of fire.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

ULSTER VOLUNTEERS SEVERELY WOUNDED

The sad tidings have been conveyed to the relatives of Pte. A. Devine who reside at Ballindrait that the wounds that he received recently in action were of a most serious nature. It appears he was seriously wounded about the thigh and abdomen by the same shell which wounded Cpt. Boydon one of the officers commanding the 11th Bn Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Pte Devine was a most popular man in the district and a prominent worker in the UVF.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

ARDSTRAW AND FINTONA MEN KILLED

The Ardstraw district has been moved to the depth by the tidings of Sergeant Jack Laird's death which took place in the trenches of France on 18th inst. Sergeant Laird who belonged to No. 2 Company, 9th Battalion Inniskillings was the eldest son of Mr A. Laird, Milltown on the outskirts of Ardstraw village. He was a prominent member of the U.V.F. and occupied a leading position in the local lodge of the Orange Institution and of the R.B.P. No. 474.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

CASTLEDERG MEN KILLED

Second-Lieutenant John Taylor has sent the following letter to Mrs McCarron, Listymore, wife of the late Private James McCarron, 9th Inniskillings who as reported in last issue was killed recently in action.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

THE CASUALTY LISTS

The Press Bureau has issued the following notice:-

The Government has decided that in future the list of casualties shall give no particulars either of the theatre of war in which the casualty occurred or of the battalion to which the officer or man belonged. This decision has been arrived at in the public interest and is a matter of military necessity.

It is requested that the particulars above referred to may not be mentioned or published in obituary notices sent to the Press by relatives or friends.

All casualties mentioned in these columns were reported prior to the issuing of this order.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Intimation has been received that Private Finton, whose mother resides in Mill Street, has been seriously wounded. Private Finton is attached to the 7th Battalion Royal Inniskillings.

Strabane Weekly News

1st April 1916

TWO CASTLEDERG MEN WOUNDED

John Speer, son of Mr John Speer, Mill Row, Castlederg and James Burke, Crawfordstown, Castlederg, two privates of the 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers are in hospital suffering from shell wounds. Both are members of the Castlederg U.V.F. before volunteering.

Strabane Chronicle

1st April 1916

STRABANE MAN KILLED IN ACTION A GALLANT MEMBER OF THE IRISH BRIGADE

Private Felix McKinney, of B Coy., 6th Battalion, Connaught Rangers, one of the many Belfast (late of Strabane) who in the ranks of the Irish Brigade went out to fight for the cause of human liberty, has met a hero's death in France. The brief announcement to the effect that he was "killed in action on March 5th", received by his widow, Mrs. Ellen McKinney, of No 15 Reilly's Place, off Cromac Street, Belfast, has been supplemented by a letter from Captain Stephen Gwynn, MP, which bears testimony to the courage and self-sacrifice displayed by the late Private McKinney in common with his comrades of the Irish Brigade. Captain Gwynn in his letter to Mrs. McKinney states:-

"No loss in the company has grieved me so much. He was so gentle and kindly and so perfectly courageous in his quiet way that it was quite impossible not to feel affection for him. I made him a stretcher-bearer because I knew the wounded could not be in kinder hands, and he was actually relieving suffering when death struck him - suddenly and instantaneously. Word came to me that a machine-gunner of our company was wounded at a point outside the company's lines. I was asked to send bearers. I ordered three to go. They got the wounded man, Private McGuinness dressed and lifted, but owing to the nature of his wound could not put him on the stretcher. One man, Private O'Neill, carried him and a second followed to assist. Your husband set out to return to our lines with the stretcher. On his way he was stopped and asked to treat a man of another battalion who lay wounded, and though this was outside his duty he stopped and was bandaging him when a shell struck a box of bombs close by and the whole exploded, killing both outright. The officer who found them says your husband was leaning on the other with a dressing pad still in his hand. He died, intent on a work of mercy in a most dangerous spot, not heeding his own life. There never was a more honourable or Christian death. He was buried today (i.e. March 8th) by his comrades, beside another poor fellow of ours, with a cross over his grave. All his effects are being forwarded to you through the War Office, with his identity disc and his pay book, containing a will, leaving all he possessed to you, and two photographs - one of himself and a comrade, and the other of your family group. May God have tenderness for you and the five children whose likenesses went with him into deadly peril. They will, I hope, always remember to be proud of their father, the gentlest of men, who none the less volunteered for this terrible war and played a part in it than which none could be finer. I hope and trust that our chaplain, Father O'Connell will be able to say a prayer over his grave, which is made only a few hundred yards from the battle line where he fell. I am, in deep sympathy -

Yours very truly

Stephen Gwynn

Captain Commanding B Coy

Mr. McKinney was a brother-in-law of Mr. John Mellon, draper and clothier, Butcher Street, Strabane.

Sincere sympathy will go out to the relatives of the deceased in their sad bereavement.

Strabane Chronicle

1st April 1916

THE CONSCRIPTIONIST DEMAND

The Conscriptionists' demand for compulsion of all married men of military age now dominates the minds of Parliamentarians of all parties and will continue to do so until the question is decided in one way or the other, says the London correspondent of the "Freeman". The Northcliffe and other conscriptionist organs make it even more clear than did the report of the proceedings of the Unionist war group on Tuesday that the demand is now to be pushed for all it is worth, so as to force a crisis at the earliest possible moment. The "Daily Mail" wants Mr. Bonar Law to rush the Cabinet into a decision, whilst Mr. Asquith is away. As a rule its contemporaries are a little more modest in their expectations. The "Morning Post", for instance, looks forward to a decision within a fortnight, this, one may add, being a widely accepted view. The "Times" is rather more vague, expressing the view that, either "a broad solution of the recruiting problem or a crisis

is at hand," the broad solution, of course being a surrender to the conscriptionists' opinions as to how the issue will eventually be solved are extremely varied, more so than one remembers to have been the case in connection with any similar situation for a long time past. Some hold strongly that the conscriptionists will win; others hold equally strongly that they will not.

Strabane Chronicle

8th April 1916

The Strabane Urban Recruiting Committee has just completed the task of handing illuminated certificates to persons having relatives serving in the war. The distribution was amicably carried out by Mr. R K Malone, postmaster. There were upwards of 200 certificates issued, these serving being attached to all units of the forces, including the Royal Navy.

Strabane Chronicle

8th April 1916

D.C.M. FOR GORTIN MAN

Sergeant High Campbell, of the Royal Engineers and third son of Mr John Campbell, Minaduff, Gortin, County Tyrone has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and recommended for a commission on account of meritorious service. Sergeant Campbell, who is the eldest of three brothers in the army was in private life a foreman in Messers. Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson's shipbuilding yard, Wallsend-on-Tyne. He joined the Royal Engineers at the beginning of the war and when in charge of advanced communications during the recent British attack at Ypres succeeded, after several failures in making good the signal lines through the German curtain of fire.

Strabane Chronicle

8th April 1916

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE LOCAL PRISONERS OF WAR

A meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs. Trimble, Newtown street presiding. There was a good attendance.

NEW MEMBERS

The secretary read a letter. From Mrs. Baillie, of Carricklee and Mrs. Herdman, of Carricklee, intimating their willingness to act on the committee. Both were elected on same.

GARMENTS FOR THE FRONT

Miss McCrea, of the Dispatch Committee, reported that she had a large assortment of garments ready for transmission to the front.

GIFTS FOR LOCAL SOLDIERS

A letter was read from Lieutenant E Gallagher, France, thanking the committee for their generous gifts sent him for distribution amongst the Strabane men in his company. He stated that he had divided the comforts amongst the men and they were indeed greatly appreciated

BELGIAN REFUGEES

The Belgian refugees in Strabane wrote the committee thanking them for their kind gifts of money.

COLLECTION OF EGGS

The meeting considered the suggestion of Mrs. J. Elliott, relative to the collection of eggs at Easter time, for preserving for the use of the wounded at the military hospital during the winter, and the committee expressed the desire that those interested in the welfare of the hospital would assist in the collection.

STRABANE PRISONERS OF WAR

Regarding the prisoners of war in Germany from the Strabane district, it was decided to send them tobacco every fortnight.

REST CLUB

It was intimated that a number of subscriptions had been received and promises of sums of money to be paid monthly, to assist in maintaining the Rest Club recently opened for sailors and soldiers.

DAFFODIL FETE

It was also decided to hold a Daffodil fete on Friday, the 28th inst. in the Town Hall, to raise funds for the Rest Club, and further particulars regarding same would appear in the local press.

Strabane Weekly News

15th April 1916

LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED UP TO DATE

10895 Private H. Cowan, No. 3 Company on 19 March 1916 killed by sniper. His cousin is Mrs. Mary McClean, Ballinasaggart, Tyrone. Private Cowan was one of the first men to join on the formation of the battalion (Sion Mills)

11249 Private T. Johnston No2 Company, killed in railway accident, January 21st 1916. His wife Mrs E. Johnston, lives at 22 Albert Street, Sion Mills.

19830 Lance-Sergeant J.M. Laird No 2 Company killed by shell, March 18th 1916. His father is Mr. Andrew Laird, Ardstraw, Newtownstewart. A fine soldier, deceased was grenadier-sergeant to the battalion and was ever ready to carry out whet ever task was assigned to him.

19302 Private Patrick Magee No2 Company killed by sniper 10th February 1916. His wife is Mrs. M. Magee, Brickfield, Strabane.

23768 Private J. McCarron, No 2 Company killed by shell, March 3 1916. His wife (Mrs. M. McCarron lives at Listymore, Castlederg. He had only been a few days with the battalion, having recently come from the base.

DIED OF WOUNDS

13877 Private J Kerrigan, No 2 Company shell wounded, March 3 1916. His wife (Mrs. J. Kerrigan) lives at Creevy, Upper, Castlederg

WOUNDED

11455 Private W. Alexander, No 2 Company bullet wound February 1916. His father is Mr. John Alexander, Ballykeel, Newtownstewart

12931. Private J. Burke, No.2 Company, shell wound, March 10th 1916. His mother is Mrs M. Burke.

16275 Private A. Braiden, No 2 Company, shell wound March 10th 1916. His mother is Mrs. M. Braiden, Milltown, Ardstraw, Newtownstewart.

19354 Private D. Burke, No. 2 Company, gas poisoning, March 11 1916. His wife is Mrs. Lizzie Burke, Crew, Fyfin, Tyrone.

12289 Private R. Lusty, No 1 Company, shell shock, February 26th 1916. His mother Mrs Maggie Lusty lives at Ballygolan Road, Whitehouse.

17863 Private J.J. McCutcheon No 2 Company, shrapnel wound March 10 1916. His wife (Mrs J McCutcheon) lives at Meeting House Lane, Castlederg.

14534 Lance-Corporal S. Murphy, No.2 Company, shrapnel wound, March 10 1916. His wife (Mrs S Murphy) lives at Bridge Cottage, Newtownstewart. Wounded in several places.

13944 Private M Nelson, No 2 Company, gas shell, 12 March 1916. His wife resides at 11 New Street, Sion Mills

19814 Private J Stark, No 2 Company, shell wound, 26 February 1916. His father (Mr John Stark) lives at Derbrough, Plumbridge.

21289 Private J Speers, No 3 Company, shell wound, 19th March 1916. His father (Mr John Speers) lives at Mill Row, Castlederg.

13951 Sergeant O.L. Walsh, No 2 Company, gas poisoning 13th March 1916. His father (Mr James Walsh) lives at the Terrace, Newtownstewart. (Worked in Sion Mills – our addition)

Strabane Weekly News

15th April 1916

GALLANTRY ON THE FIELD COMPLIMENETED BY COMMANDING OFFICER

The following have been personally congratulated by the Commanding Officer, who made records as under:

13654 Private D. Little, No 2 Company. His mother lives at Leckpatrick, Strabane

13635 Private J.J. Young, No 2 Company. Comes from Newtownstewart and his father residing at Archill, Drumlegagh

Strabane Weekly News

15th April 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT SPECIAL COURT

A special court was held in Strabane on Wednesday when Mr Eugene Conroy, J.P. presided. A private named Patrick Floyd, attached to the 3rd Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and who resided at Scotstown near Strabane was charged with being an absentee from his regiment.

Strabane Weekly News

15th April 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Mrs Lavery, Railway Street, Strabane acted as housekeeper for the week and Mrs. Cochrane, Lifford officiated as nurse. There was one patient discharged during the week and he was replaced by a member of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Weekly News

15th April 1916

Mr Eugene Conroy, JP, presided at a Special court on Tuesday when Constable McMahon of Sion Mills on instructions received from Enniskillen, arrested and charged 23656 Pte. Andrew Harpur of Sion Mills with being an absentee from his regiment since 2nd April. The prisoner who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was remanded pending the arrival of a military escort.

Strabane Weekly News

15th April 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs Trimble presiding.

Strabane Chronicle

15th April 1916

STRABANE WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

DAFFODIL FETE

In aid of SOLDIERS AND SAILORS REST CLUB

will be held in the

TOWN HALL, STRABANE

on

Friday 28th April 1916

From 3.30 to 9 o'clock

Flowers, Fruit, and Farm Produce

MUSIC AND AMUSEMENTS

ADMISSION 6d. TEA 6d.

Dancing from Nine to Eleven p.m. 6d.

COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Strabane Chronicle

15th April 1916

DAFFODIL FETE IN STRABANE

From our advertising columns it will be observed that the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee are holding a daffodil fete in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club, on Friday 28th April, in the Town Hall, Strabane, commencing at 3.30p.m. The fete is in support of a worthy object and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance. A good house would at least show the committee that all they have done for the wounded soldiers in the past has been appreciated and give them encouragement to continue their good work.

Strabane Chronicle

15th April 1916

STRABANE ROLL OF HONOUR

LIST OF MEN SERVING WITH THE COLOURS

The Strabane Recruiting Committee have just completed the distribution of certificates to those who have relatives serving in the war. The certificates are beautifully illuminated and no small credit is due to Mr. R K Malone, Postmaster, for the activity displayed by him in this patriotic movement, and for the very capable manner in which he has had the certificates delivered to the proper parties. The following are serving with the colours from Strabane:-

Private Patrick Arbuckle, Royal Irish Regiment, Private John Arbuckle, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Lieutenant Thomas Britton, RAMC; Private George Blair, Canadians; Lieutenant WW Blair, RAMC; Private Ross Blair, Canadians; Private William J Blackburn, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Bonner, Field Artillery; Private Neill Byrne, Irish Brigade; Private John Barr, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Breslin, Irish Guards; Private Thomas Connor, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Joseph Campbell, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Joseph Coneyglen, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Cunningham Campbell, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private William Curran, Royal Garrison Artillery; Private John Clarke, Royal Irish Rifles; Private Chas Campbell,

Highlanders; Private George Cooke, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Robert Cooke, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private J Cunningham, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private George Craig, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Craig, Royal Field Artillery; Major RJ Craig, Army Service Corps; Private J Donnell, Field Artillery, Private John Diver, Connaught Rangers; Private Patrick Devlin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Gunner Dennis Devlin, R.G.A.; Private Michael Devine, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sapper P.A. Devlin, Royal Engineers; Private Harry Doherty, Canadians; Lance-Corporal James Doherty, Royal Irish Rifles; Private Hugh Devine, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Farrier-Corporal Francis Duddy, ASC; Stoker Hugh Devine, Royal Navy; Private Thomas Doherty, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Lieutenant John Doherty, Dublin Fusiliers; Private Joseph Duncan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Edward Duncan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private James Duncan, Leinsters; Private Edward Devlin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William Devenney, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Hugh Duncan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Early, A.S.C.; Private James Ellis, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private TCM Elliott, Royal Dublin Fusiliers; Private Hugh Early, RFA; Private Pat Early, R.G.A.; Private Joseph Forbes, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Joseph Forbes Jun. Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Arthur Forbes, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William Forbes Jun., Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William Forbes, A.S.C.; Private Michael Forbes, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Flood, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Edward Flood, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William Foley, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William J Finlay, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Fred Fricker, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private George Foster, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Robert Foster, Royal Navy; Private George Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Thomas Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Griffin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Graham, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Joseph Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Trooper Samuel A Gibson, NIH; Private Francis Gallagher, Dublin Fusiliers; Lieutenant Edward Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Corporal Daniel P Gillespie, Irish Guards; Private Eugene Gallagher, Connaught Rangers; Private James Gordon, R.A.M.C.; Corporal Frank Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Corporal John Gormley, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Charles Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Peter Gallagher, Royal Irish Rifles; Private John Gallagher, ASC; Private Edward Gallagher, A.S.C.; Private John Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Daniel Hagan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Hegarty, Munster Fusiliers; Private John Harte, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Hugh Hoynes, Irish Regiment; Private Edward Hone, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Peter Higgins, R.G.A.; Private Patrick Henderson, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Joseph Henderson, R.G.A.; Private Thomas Hughes, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Hughes, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Bernard Houston, Royal Field Artillery; Private Frank Houston, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Harte, Irish Regiment; Private F. Hatrick, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Lieutenant James Rowland Hill, R.A.M.C.; Lieutenant John McAdam Hill, R.A.M.C.; Private William H. Ingram, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sergeant Ernest Ingram, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Jack, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Ingram, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William Ingram, Connaught Rangers; Private C. Keatley, New Zealanders; Private William Kyle, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Hugh Long, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Long, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private George Long, Connaught Rangers; Private Charles Lynch, Connaught Rangers; Private John James Leiter, Scottish Division; Lieutenant Howard Lavery, Royal Irish Rifles; Sergeant Sydney Lavery, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William J Murray, Connaught Rangers; Private John Milligan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Corporal John Malone, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private J.J. Mahon, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Alexander Miller, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Meehan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Joseph Meehan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Thomas Meehan, Connaught Rangers; Private Danaiel J Maguire, Irish Regiment; Private John J Milligan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sergeant Thomas P. Mullin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Joe Mullen, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Thomas Mullen jun., Royal Dublin Fusiliers; Private William J Maguire, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Edward Maguire, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Edward McGowan, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Hugh McGowan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private James McNally, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Francis Joseph McColgan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William McGinley, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sapper John McGinley, Canadians; Private John McGeehan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sergeant James McGeehan jun., Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Hugh McGeehan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Driver Frank McBeth, Heavy Brigade; Private James McMenamin, Scottish Rifles; Sapper William Harpur McClay, Royal Engineers; Private Bernard McCool, Connaught Rangers; Private Thomas McCool, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Michael McGlinchey, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private daniel McGarrigle, A.S.C.; Private Matthew McConomy, Irish Regiment; Private Frank McLaughlin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Paul McLaughlin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Francis McGoldrick, Irish Brigade; Private John McGlinchey, Irish Brigade; Private Patrick McLaughlin, Connaught Rangers; Private William McLaughlin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private James McGlinchey, Connaught Rangers; Private Patrick Joseph McFadden, Irish Regiment; Private Thomas McGurk, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private James McGrath, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sapper E. McCosker, Canadians; Private John James McMahan, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John O'Neill, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Edward O'Hare, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick O'Brien, Light Infantry; Private Edmund Purdon, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Quinn, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Felix Quinn, A.S.C., Private John O'Reilly, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private James Rouse, Connaught Rangers;

Private William J Rankin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Charles Rankin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Patrick Rouse, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William Scanlon, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sergeant Drummer Stevenson, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private James Slevin, A.S.C.; Private James Slevin, A.S.C.; Private Patrick Stewart, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John. Slevin, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Corporal John Timoney, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Shipwright Thomas Andrew Walls, Royal Navy; Private James Walsh, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private William T Wilson, Surrey Regiment; Private Percy John Wilson, R.A.M.C. (Welsh Brigade); Bertie Wilson, Royal Navy "Hibernia"; Private George Albert White, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private Samuel E. White, (Inniskilling Fusiliers; Private John Walshe, Inniskilling Fusiliers; Sergeant Thomas Walshe, Division Ammunition Corps;

Since the above list was completed many promotions have taken place, and then rank given in each case is not necessarily that held by the soldier now.

Strabane Chronicle
15th April 1916

RECRUITING IN STRABANE
POSTMASTER

In consequence of the endeavours made by Mr. K.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane, the Controller of Areas, Mr. H. McLaughlin of the Department of Recruiting in Ireland has written him a letter of congratulations on his splendid efforts on behalf of recruiting, and particularly the manner in which he handed out the certificates of honour to the relatives of the men serving from Strabane. Mr. McLaughlin alludes with pride to the number who are serving from the town.

Mr. Malone has taken a keen interest in all matters relating to recruiting in the district and has been most energetic on behalf of soldiers' dependents.

Strabane Chronicle
15th April 1916

NAVAL RECRUITING MEETING IN STRABANE

On Tuesday night a Naval recruiting meeting was held in Strabane Town Hall.

On the motion of Mr. P.H. O'Brien, solicitor, Strabane, Mr. Edward Gallagher, D.L., was moved to the chair

Strabane Chronicle
22nd April 1916

RETURNED FROM THE FRONT

Sergeant C.J. Keeny, Irish Guards, son of Mr Patrick Keeny, ex-R.I.C., Ardaghey, Inver has returned to the front after spending his short furlough with his parents. Sergeant Keeny, who has been decorated for his excellence as a hand grenade thrower, was a policeman in Belfast, and responded to the first call made to that force for volunteers, proceeding some months later to France, where as is now well-known, this famous regiment distinguished itself.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd April 1916

DESERTION CHARGE IN STRABANE

Mr P McMenamin, JP, presided at a Special court when a private named R. Logue of Gallony, Strabane was charged with desertion. Sgt. Latimer deposed that he arrested the prisoner on instructions received from the officer commanding 3rd Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. The court ordered prisoner to be remanded pending thye arrival of a military escort and he was subsequently conveyed to his regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd April 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART MAN PROMOTED

Information just to hand from the seat of war that Sgt. O.L. Walsh 13951 has been promoted to the rank of Acting Company Quartermaster Sgt.to No. 2 Company 9th Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Strabane Chronicle
22nd April 1916

Mr. Henry Ellis, son of Sergeant James Ellis, Strabane, has received a commission in the Australian Expeditionary Force. Mr. Ellis was on active service in the Dardanelles, and his conduct there merited the highest praise from his superiors, who recommended him for lieutenancy. He is at present in France. Prior to emigrating, Second Lieutenant Ellis was well-known in Derry City and the North West generally. At the latter place he held a responsible position on the Donegal (Midland) Railway, but later joined the Royal Irish

Constabulary, where he was popular amongst his fellow police. The only two other sons of Sergeant Ellis are also serving with the colours - one is on the Royal Engineers and the other is on the South Irish Horse.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd April 1916

STRABANE LIEUTENANT'S EXPERIENCE
GREEN FLAG O'ER THE TRENCHES
GERMAN SHELLS FAIL TO LOWER IT
"A GOOD OMEN"

Mr. Henry T. Gallagher, Crown Solicitor, Donegal, has received the following letter from his brother at the front with his battalion:-

9/4/16

Dear Harry,

I received the parcels of socks for the Ballybofey and Stranorlar boys and have distributed same; every man got two pairs. The boys have asked me to convey to the Committee their sincerest thanks for their kindness. I told the boys to write home and say they got the socks. Poor Anderson has "gone West". Crown is wounded, but doing well; Doherty, McCunie, Kelly, P., Toorish, Traynor, McIntyre, McCarron, Coyle, Duffy, M., Duffy, J., McConwell, Smith, Doney, and McConnell are still here and well. There are still a few lads to get the socks. I also received your 30,000 cigarettes for the Battalion. Please convey to the Committee the very best thanks of the Colonel, Officers, NCOs of 7th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers for the cigarettes. Your Committee have been very decent to our men since we came out, and have sent us many comforts, and our men are delighted. One hears them say "Well, we are up against it out here, but thank God our people at home have not forgotten us". They are real good men and have gone through awful times and still come up smiling every time. The officers cannot too much in praise of the men, 76% of whom are from Donegal, Tyrone and Derry. I cannot give you any further particulars at present, but in the near future you will hear and see things in the paper and you will find that our boys have not been behind when there was big work to be done, but went into it with a will, and will be duly rewarded. Near us there is a high tower; some of our boys put up a green flag on it months ago, and though the old Boche has shelled it day by day that old flag flies proudly and no shell can touch it. It is marvellous, and we look on it as a good omen. I was at the burial of some of our poor lads at six this morning. The day was lovely, if one could forget the war. We had Mass, general Absolution and Communion. Did I tell you we have a little graveyard of our own a few miles behind the firing line? Alas! It is getting to be rather a big graveyard but it is better to have our poor Irish lads together in "God's Acre". With renewed thanks to your Committee; if you could hear the cheers when the cigarettes were distributed or see the looks of joy with which the socks were regarded, you would spend your days organising funds for the same purpose. With best wishes to all,
Yours etc.

Eddie

Strabane Chronicle
29th April 1916

OBITUARY
DEATH AND FUNERAL OF MR PATRICK DEVLIN, STRABANE

We deeply regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Patrick Devlin, Strabane, which occurred on Good Friday at his father's residence, Newtown Street. For some time past Mr. Devlin was in declining health, and the end was not altogether unexpected. The deceased who was a son of a popular member of the Strabane Constabulary, Sergeant James Devlin, was entering on the threshold of manhood when his career was cut short. A good Catholic his life was an exemplary one and up to a few months ago he attended daily the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Morning after morning he served Mass to the Rev Bernard McWilliams, CC, Leckpatrick with fervent piety, and rain or snow did not keep him in the house, so full was he of love for God, and all that is good. His bereaved father, brothers and sisters have the consolation of knowing that they had such a faithful son and brother, who at all times, followed the straight and only path that leads to Heaven where, it is hoped he is now enjoying eternal bliss. A few years ago the deceased lost his mother, and shortly before that his sister, Lilly, a teacher in the Convent of Mercy School, Strabane, and so an already bereaved father and family have another sorrow to mourn over. But even in death there is joy as well as sorrow, which is but natural. Mr. Patrick Devlin had not yet passed out of his teens. He was well educated and was a bright boy. Those who remember him at school will remember his devotion to study; nevertheless he was good humoured and witty. His brother, Sapper Peter Devlin, Royal Engineers, was formerly a clerk in the Strabane Post Office, and is now on active service in France. Mr. James Devlin, another brother is also with the colours and attached to the Irish Guards. Like the deceased all the members of the family are gifted with educational talents and have made their mark in life. The deceased

was a favourite everywhere he went, and his kind, genial, good nature contributed in making hosts of friends for him. Now that he has gone, he will be sadly missed, but more so in his own home than any place else.

PANEGYRIC

On Sunday morning Requiem Mass was celebrated at the deceased's residence by Rev Bernard McWilliams CC, who in the course of an eloquent panegyric thanked those who had paid their tribute of respect to the memory of him, whose remains were lying there. He referred to the good life led by the deceased young man, and of his fitting preparation for the end that must come to all. Mr. Devlin had the privilege of frequently receiving the Sacraments while on his death bed, as he had done through his short but useful life, and they hoped that he was now enjoying the reward of his labours, as they had every reason to believe he was. In conclusion he asked them to remember the deceased. In their prayers and prayed that God might have mercy on his soul.

THE FUNERAL

The funeral took place immediately afterwards to the family burying-ground, Cloughcor, and there was a large attendance of the general public. Members of the RIC attended from various parts of the country and marched in processional order behind the hearse. All along the funeral route window blinds were drawn, and there was evidence of deep sorrow.

The chief mourners were: - Sergeant Jas. Devlin, RIC (father), Private Jas. Devlin, Irish Guards and Master Edmund Devlin (brothers).

Strabane Chronicle 29th April 1916

WAR RELIEF

On Friday night 28th April, the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee are holding a dance in the Town Hall, Strabane, in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club, dancing to commence at nine o'clock. For such a good purpose there is sure to be a large attendance, and a good night's enjoyment may be anticipated.

Strabane Weekly News 29th April 1916

The following have been slightly wounded 13654 Pte. Little D., No 2. His mother is Mrs J. Little, Leckpatrick, Strabane. Pte Little remained on duty.

Strabane Weekly News 29th April 1916

DONEMANA MAN WOUNDED

The relatives of Pte. John McCrossan who resides at Donemana have received intimation that he has been wounded. Pte McCrossan is attached to the Inniskillings. He was a member of the U.V.F. prior to enlisting and was also a member of the local LOL.

Strabane Weekly News 29th April 1916

THE 9th INNISKILLINGS

The Commanding Officer of Tyrone Battalion UVF has received the under-noted sums collected for the benefit of the 9th Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. At the request of Colonel Ricardo, D.S.O. this sum is being spent on clothes-brushes for the men.

Ballyfolliard Camp	£11	4s	6d
Drumquin	<u>£ 5</u>	<u>0s</u>	<u>0d</u>
Total	£16	4s	6d

Strabane Weekly News 29th April 1916

On the graves of Irish Soldiers in France by an Irish Mother.

'Twas but a k
Little shamrock spray
Culled from its native moss
Transplanted to a grave in France
Beneath a wooden cross
Its tiny tendrils day by day
With vigour gathered bloom

And wove a pall of fairest green
To veil a soldier's tomb

Love was the gardener! Well he knew
The mission of the spray
The mother tears that gleamed with pearls
Each petal green and fay

France welcomes warm the strange plant
That came its own to seek
Now 'Ireland's' is each emerald grave
'Neath pall of shamrock meek

Strabane Weekly News
6th May 1916

LECKPATRICK MAN WOUNDED

The relatives of Private D. Lyttle, Leckpatrick, Strabane have been notified that he has been wounded. Private Lyttle is attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division). Prior to his enlistment he was a most prominent member of the U.V.F. He is also a member of the local L.O.L. and an active member of the Conservative Band. It is understood that his wounds are of a slight nature.

Strabane Weekly News
6th May 1916

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Mr. Edward Gallagher, D.L. has received an intimation that his son, Lieutenant Eddie Gallagher, has been wounded. At the outset of the war Lieutenant Gallagher enlisted as a private in the Dublin Fusiliers, afterwards he received a commission as a Second-Lieutenant in the Inniskillings and subsequently was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Gallagher was company commander of the National Volunteers in Strabane and was most popular with with the entire community. He was one of the keenest sportsmen in the North-west being a brilliant player of football, cricket, hockey, etc. it is hoped his wounds are of a slight nature.

Strabane Weekly News
6th May 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening, Miss Hepburn presiding

Strabane Weekly News
6th May 1916

CASTLEDERG OFFICER WOUNDED

Lieutenant J.T. Verner, wounded, is a son of Rev. W. Verner, Lisnacloon House, Castlederg, rector of Termonamongan and Rural Dean (Diocese of Derry). He was associated with the U.V.F. movement and obtained his commission in a battalion of the Inniskillings at Finner in October 1914, serving subsequently at Randalstown and in England

Strabane Chronicle
6th May 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Gunner James Gordon, Royal Field artillery, son of Mr. Thomas Gordon, Eden Terrace, Strabane, has died from the result of wounds. Gunner Gordon enlisted about a year ago, being previously employed as a clerk and typist in Keady, County Armagh. Deep regret is felt for his relatives, who are well known and respected in Strabane. News has been received her that Lieutenant Edward Gallagher is suffering from effects of gas in France.

Strabane Chronicle
6th May 1916

INNISKILLINGS GASED
ULSTER JOURNALIST'S DEATH
SERGEANT PP FINNEGAN

Mr. Henry T Gallagher, Crown Solicitor, Strabane, has received the following letter from his brother, Lieutenant E Gallagher, of the Inniskillings (Irish Brigade):-

30.4.16

Dear Harry,

Just on my way somewhere, we are in a hospital train, and it's like our own officers' mess, so many of the old Skins are here, gassed. As for the Irish, they easily carry the day, men and officers. I was gassed in the second attack (gas) after having a good half hour bowling over Bosch and looking forward to another good time. My platoon sergeant - poor Finnegan - was with me, and he did buck us up; he kept shouting on the Bosches "Come on, Fritz, we have some lovely presents for you" and they got them. Then when the Bosch saw he had failed he sent us over more gas, and it was terrible seeing poor fellows dropping on all sides. Then I felt my own time coming; words could not describe it. I had my helmet on, but it must have had some defect. However I began to feel the gas, first it made me gasp, then it turned me blue, my chest and tummy weighed a ton and my head was ready to crack, and I coughed until I thought I would cough my inside up. I thought I would try to find the dressing station. On my way I came across old Finnegan. He was as bad. We got on about 100 yards when we both collapsed. We just clung on to one another, and old Finnegan said, "Sir, we have no chance". I agreed, as I was exhausted. Finnegan shouted out, "My God, Sir, isn't it terrible to die like this; if we only got a sporting chance, but no one could beat this". After half lying, half standing, clinging to one another for about ten minutes, and going through terrible agony I said to Finnegan, "come on, let us make one last effort," and we did. I helped poor Finnegan along. At last he said "Go on, Sir, I am done". However, we plodded along, creeping and walking, in a trench with two feet of mud. I found myself at the dressing station about done out. I sent out a party for Finnegan but he could not be found. He was found that night dead. A plucky soldier - he had no fear.

Our boys did well. Harry, if you could have seen them it would have delighted you. There was no pause, every man went at it, and after the first attack the men actually fought as to which company had the best "bag", outside their parapet and to hear them "bagging" that fellow's helmet beside your big shell hole, this side of the wire. It was glorious, and I was just thinking how pleased our people at home will be, when this would be told in full. Then, in a day's time, I got a paper, and what did I see? This terrible rebel rising in Ireland. Poor old Ireland! Betrayed again!

I am getting along as well as can be expected. It takes time to get the gas out of one's system. However, a few weeks will make me fairly up to the knocker.

Best love to all in Dunwiley,

Yours,

EDDIE

May be home sooner than expected.

Sergeant Finnegan was prior to joining the Inniskillings, a member of the reporting staff of the "Ulster Herald" and was well known all over the North West. He was an able and reliable journalist and was held in the highest esteem by his colleagues and by everyone who came in contact with him in the discharge of his professional duties. He was a prominent member of the National Volunteers, and as Lieutenant Gallagher says, was a plucky and fearless soldier. He was typical Celt, genial, kindly, and good-natured, and his sparkling wit, his gifts as a raconteur, and his mellow brogue made him a warm favourite in social circles. He was a splendid Gaelic scholar and was able to report the most fluent Gaelic speaker, an accomplishment which few Pressmen possess. His remains now rest in France - far from Kilkenny and the banks of the silvery Nore, where his childhood days were spent. That his soul may rest in peace is the earnest prayer of his former colleagues. We tender our sincere sympathy to his relatives in their bereavement.

Strabane Chronicle

13th May 1916

STRABANE MAN KILLED

Private Andrew Rush, Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mrs. Margaret Rush, Strabane who has been reported missing for the past twelve months, has been officially reported killed in action in Hill 60 on the 16th May 1915, his mother receiving the sad intelligence on Friday morning last. Private Rush was a former member of the local National Volunteer Corps and his death has caused deep regret in the town.

Strabane Chronicle

13th May 1916

RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart wrote asking the co-operation of the Council in the promotion of recruiting in the district.

The Chairman said the members of the Council would no doubt, give all the assistance they could

Strabane Weekly News
13th May 1916

HOME FROM THE FRONT

Sergeant S.E. Stevenson, Strabane has been at home from the front for a few days.

Strabane Weekly News
13th May 1916

STRABANE OFFICER PROMOTED

The people of Strabane will learn with pleasure that Lieutenant Wallace Blair attached to the R.A.M.C. has been promoted to the rank of Captain. Captain Blair is a son of the late Mr. R.J. Blair, newsagent, Strabane. Captain Blair is a very keen athlete, being a fast runner, a good football player and at cricket is considered the best bowler in the North-West. He is at present serving in Mesopotamia. He has two brothers serving with the colours, both of whom are attached to Canadian units.

Strabane Weekly News
13th May 1916

AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER HOME ON LEAVE

After many months on the battlefield, Mr. Cecil Keatly, son of Mr. William Keatly C.P.S., Bowling Green, Strabane has arrived home for a short holiday.

Strabane Chronicle
13th May 1916

His many friends will be glad to learn that Corporal Dan Gillespie, Strabane, has been promoted to the rank of lance-sergeant. Prior to joining the Irish Guards about a year ago, Lance-Sergeant Gillespie was a prominent member of the National Volunteers.

Strabane Chronicle
13th May 1916

THE CASUALTIES

124 OFFICERS AND 388 MEN OF ARMY AND R.I.C. KILLED AND WOUNDED

In the House of Commons on Tuesday, Mr. Asquith said - I may perhaps take this opportunity of stating the number of casualties sustained by the troops and the Royal Irish Constabulary during this affair:-

Officers - killed 17; wounded 46

Other ranks - killed 86; wounded 311; missing 9.

Royal Irish Constabulary - killed 3; wounded 23.

Dublin Metropolitan Police - killed 3; wounded 3.

Royal Navy - killed 1; wounded 2.

Loyal Volunteers - killed 5; wounded 3.

Total - killed 124; wounded 388; missing 9. This makes 521 in all.

An Hon. Member - You ought to shoot Carson for this!

In the House of Lords, replying to Viscount Midleton, Earl Kitchener gave details of the military casualties in Ireland in corroboration of the figures stated in the Commons.

Viscount Midleton asked if the figures included members of the Royal Irish Constabulary who were wounded in other parts of the country besides Dublin.

Earl Kitchener said the information was received by telegraph that day, and he believed it referred to all parts of Ireland.

Strabane Weekly News
13th May 1916

GALLANT LIFFORD SOLDIER

After many months of anxiety the parents of Private Joe Early have received intimation that he is a prisoner of war in the hands of the Bulgarians.

The following letter was received by Private Early's mother from a commanding officer, regarding how he was taken prisoner:- "In reply to yours of the 16th inst., I regret to say your brother was taken prisoner on December 11th. It may be of some interest to state the circumstances. On the retirement from Serbia in December last, C Company of the battalion was almost the last to fall on Dorrian. Etc

Strabane Weekly News

13th May 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss. J. Parker, Ballindrait, officiated as nurse at the hospital for the week.

Strabane Weekly News

13th May 1916

STRABANE SOLDIER HONOURED

Our readers will learn with pleasure that No. 64704, Sapper Peter Devlin, attached to the Guards Division, has been recognised for his devotion to duty and for consistent good work on all occasions on the battlefield. Sapper Devlin will be remembered as a courteous official in the Strabane Post Office. Sapper Devlin is a son of Sergeant James Devlin, and he has two other brothers serving in His Majesty's forces. Etc

Strabane Weekly News

13th May 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Relatives in Newtownstewart have received intimation that Private James McCloskey, of the Inniskillings (Irish Brigade) has been wounded on one of his arms whilst on active service. In the same regiment Drummer John McIlhatton, coach painter has sustained a bad knee wound. Mrs Elkin, Dublin Street, has received a letter from Captain Cruickshank, stating that her son, Private J.A. Elkin, of the Inniskillings, has been wounded in a recent engagement.

Strabane Weekly News

20th May 1916

STRANORLAR MAN KILLED IN ACTION

Intimation has been received that Private James Crown, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Irish Brigade) has died from the effects of gas poisoning. Private Crown has been at the front for a considerable period.

Strabane Chronicle

20th May 1916

Intimation has been received that Private James Crown of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Irish Division) has died from gas poisoning. Deceased belonged to Stranorlar.

Strabane Weekly News

20th May 1916

STRABANE MAN DIES OF WOUNDS

Mr. Thomas Gordon, Eden Terrace, Strabane has received intimation that his son Private J. Gordon who was attached to the A.S.C. has died of wounds received. Private Gordon volunteered at the commencement of the war.

Strabane Weekly News

20th May 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private John Gormley, who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers have received information that he was wounded in action. He is now in hospital and on his way to recovery. Private Andrew Rush, Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mrs. Margaret Rush, Strabane who was reported missing for a considerable time has been officially reported as killed in action at Hill 60 on 16th May 1915. Private Rush was a member of the National Volunteer Corps, and his death has occasioned much regret.

Strabane Chronicle

20th May 1916

The relatives of Private John Gormley, Strabane, Inniskilling Fusiliers, have received information that he has been wounded in action.

Strabane Weekly News

20th May 1916

BALLINDRAIT MAN KILLED IN ACTION

Mr. James Gallagher, Gort, Clonleigh near Ballindrait, has received official intimation from the War Office that his son, Private William Gallagher, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has died in hospital as a result of wounds received in action and also from the effects of gas poisoning. Private Gallagher enlisted about

twelve months ago and prior to that took a prominent part in the Clonleigh National Volunteers. His officer, writing home to his mother states that he died a noble death and was a fine specimen of Irish manhood.

Strabane Weekly News
20th May 1916

DONEMANA CASUALTIES

Intimation has been received that Pte. John McGarrigle of the Royal Inniskillings (Ulster Division), youngest son of Mr. George McGarrigle, Binelly, Donemana, has died in consequence of wounds received. Prior to the war Pte. McGarrigle was an energetic member of the Ulster Volunteer Force in Donemana. Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Samuel Sayers from the Donemana district that he has been seriously wounded in a recent engagement. Private Sayers was also a member of the Ulster Division and a prominent member of the Ulster Volunteers. He was a member of the local L.O.L.

Strabane Weekly News
20th May 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
NEWS FROM LIEUTENANT GALLAGHER

The many friends of Lieut. Eddie Gallagher will be pleased to hear that he is recovering satisfactorily. Our readers will recollect that Lieut. Gallagher some weeks ago was severely gassed with Sergeant Finnegan, when the latter died.

Strabane Weekly News
20th May 1916

LIFFORD FAMILY'S FINE RECORD

Mr. Porterfield, an extensive farmer near Lifford has just received intimation that his son John Porterfield has joined the colours at Winnipeg and is attached to the Fort Garry horse regiment. This is the third son of Mr. Porterfield to join the army since the commencement of the war a fact that constitutes a fine record for a farmer. The names of Mr. Porterfield's other two sons serving are S.R. who is a signaller with the 43rd Cameron Highlanders and Albert attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, both of whom are on active service.

Strabane Weekly News
20th May 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The wife of Private John Pollock, who resides in Lifford Street, Strabane has been notified that he has been wounded about the head and is at present in an hospital in Perth. Private Pollock is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and was formerly employed as a mechanic in Strabane. Intimation has been received by Mrs. Hughes, Factory Row, Strabane that her husband, Private John Hughes, attached to the Royal Inniskillings, has been wounded by shrapnel. Private Hughes is a member of the Ulster Division. Prior to enlistment he was a member of the U.V.F. He is also a prominent member of the Strabane L.O.L and R.B.P.

Strabane Weekly News
20th May 1916

HEAVY LIST OF WOUNDED
FURTHER PARTICULARS OF BRILLIANT COUP

We are now in a position to publish the full list of wounded, with their next-of-kin, as follows:-

- 14595 Pte. J. Gallagher No.2 (Wife Mrs Lizzie Gallagher, Ardstraw, Co Tyrone)
- 27509 Pte. R. Glass, No 3 (Brother Mr. J. Glass, Plumbridge, Tyrone)
- 13592 Corporal T. Hughes No. 2 (father Mr J. Hughes, Townhall Street, Strabane)
- 24348 Pte. J. Hughes No.2 (Wife Mrs J Hughes, 14 Factory Road, Strabane)
- 13639 Sergeant E. Ingram, No 2 (Mother Mrs M Ingram, Derry Road, Strabane)
- 13654 Pte. D. Little, No. 2 (Mother Mrs J Little, Leckpatrick, Strabane)
- 26985 Pte. J Morris No 2, Mother Mrs L. Morris, Ballygowan, Strabane)
- 22828 Pte. J. Nickle, No 1 (Mother Mrs Catherine Nickle, Tullyard, near Strabane)
- 22921 Pte. J Pollock, No 2 (Wife Mrs J. Pollock, 135 Main Street, Strabane)
- 13664 Pte. J. Sproule, No 2 (Mother Mrs S.J. Sproule, Kilcleen, Castlederg)
- 14603 Pte. J. Stinson, No 2 (Mother Mrs M. Stinson, Mill Street, Newtownstewart)
- 20160 Pte. J. Sinclair, No 2 (Father Mrs J Sinclair, Birnaughts, Newtownstewart)
- 19306 Private S. Semple, No 2 (Father Mr. W. Semple, Kilcleen, Caastlederg)

19798 Private J. Milligan, No 2 (Wife Mrs Lizzie Milligan, Castlesessagh, Castlederg

Strabane Chronicle
20th May 1916

Private Andrew Rush, Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mrs. Margaret Rush, Strabane, who has been reported missing for a considerable time past, has been officially reported as killed in action at Hill 60 on the 16th May 1915. His mother receiving the sad intelligence just now. Private Rush was a member of the National Volunteer Corps.

Strabane Chronicle
20th May 1916

LIFFORD SOLDIER'S FATE

After many months of anxiety, the parents of Private Joe Early are now aware of the fact that he is a prisoner of war in the hands of the Bulgarians. In a letter the officer commanding his company states that it might interest his parents to know the circumstances which are as follows:- On the retirement from Serbia last December last C Company of the battalion was almost the last to fall back on Dorrain. The company of Private Early was detailed to remain in the trenches till the last and try to deceive the enemy, and Private Early was one of the twenty who volunteered to remain with them. As the last of the troops left the place heavy firing was heard from the direction of the party left behind, and it was feared that they had been killed. Since official information is to hand that the twenty gallant volunteers are well and prisoners in Bulgaria.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd June 1916

LATEST ENNISKILLEN LOSSES
KILLED

P Doherty, 22982 (Castlefin): M Kelly, 20273 (Strabane): P Ward, 18306 (Donemana

WOUNDED

J McConnell, 25294 (Castlefin): W McCunnie, 22643 (Sion Mills: H McKenna, 20524 (Strabane):
J Coniglen (Strabane): J McIlhatton (Newtownstewart: W Toland (Newtownstewart)

Strabane Weekly News
3rd June 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Intimation is to hand that Private C. Gallagher, Strabane attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has died of wounds received in the firing line. Enlisted twelve months ago.

Notification is to hand that Private J Nicholl, Tullyard, Strabane attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has been wounded. Private Nicholl, prior to enlistment, was an agriculturalist and was a member of Artigarvan U.V.F.

The parents of Private H McKenna attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers have been notified that he has died from wounds received whilst in the firing line.

News has been received regarding the fate of Pte. B. McGowan, Strabane that he was killed in action in a recent engagement. Private McGowan was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and enlisted shortly after the outbreak of hostilities.

Intimation has been received that Pte. George Craig, Lifford Street, Strabane has been gassed in a recent attack. Pte. Craig was in the original Expeditionary Force and was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. This is the fourth occasion in which he has been put out of action having been wounded three times before – twice at the Dardanelles and once in Flanders. He has had some miraculous escapes. He has another brother Pte. John Craig attached to the Royal Field Artillery and he has also been at the front since the commencement of the war

Intimidation is to hand that Lance-Corporal J Forsythe attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action. Corporal Forsythe enlisted about ten months ago and prior to that date he was in the employment of the Great Northern Railway Company. He is a member of the U.V.F., and also of the L.O.L. and R.B.P.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd June 1916

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss Stewart, Bunrana acted as nurse for the week and Miss Joyce, Derry Road officiated as housekeeper.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd June 1916

HOME FROM THE FRONT

The first members of the Ulster Division to arrive in Strabane home from the front this week were Captain John Weir and Corporal Robert Coole both of whom are attached to the 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrones). Captain Weir was one of the officer selected to take part in the great raid made on the enemy trenches a short time ago. He was a member of the Strabane U.V.F. and held the position of a section leader. He was one of the first to volunteer at the commencement of the war.

Corporal Robert Cooke also has seen a good deal of active service since he was last in Strabane. He has another brother Private James Cooke serving with the same battalion. He was a member of the Strabane Volunteers prior to the war. His father, Private James Cooke, also served with the same battalion but shortly after his enlistment it will be remembered that he contracted a severe illness which caused his death.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd June 1916

STRABANE MAN KILLED IN ACTION

The widow of Private Samuel McDermott has received intimation that he has been killed in action. Private McDermott was attached to the Royal Irish Fusiliers and enlisted about nine months ago. In addition to his widow he leaves a child and a widowed mother to mourn his loss. The deepest sympathy is felt for them.

Strabane Chronicle
3rd June 1916

STRABANE MAN PRISONER OF WAR

Lance-Corporal Peter Gallagher, son of Mr. James Gallagher, tailor, Main Street, Strabane, is a prisoner of war in Giessen, Germany. He enlisted in the Royal Irish Rifles shortly after the outbreak of war. Lance-Corporal Gallagher was a popular young man, who was well known in Strabane. Prior to the outbreak of war he belonged to the Irish National Volunteers. His father is a prominent local Nationalist.

Strabane Chronicle
3rd June 1916

STRABANE BOYS AT THE FRONT

Private Patrick McMenamin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, a native of Sion Mills, writing to the "Strabane Chronicle", on behalf of the Strabane and Sion Mills boys, thanks to the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee for their splendid aid and help. He states that the boys read with delight in the columns of the "Chronicle" what the townspeople are doing for them. The weather in France, he remarks, is at present remarkably good, and he hopes it will continue. The boys from the old town on the Mourne are as jolly and bright and full of fight as ever, concludes Private McMenamin.

Strabane Weekly News
10th June 1916

TRIBUTE TO STRABANE SOLDIER

The relatives of Private J. Reilly, who reside at Urney Road, Strabane, have received intimation that he has been killed in action in France. Private Reilly was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and has been at the front since the departure of the Battalion last year. He was killed immediately by a shell. Private Reilly was a general favourite in the district, and his death is deeply regretted by all who knew him. Letters testifying to his abilities have been received from the captain of his company, and also from the chaplain of his company who conducted the funeral service. The following are extracts:-

Captain Cruickshank writes:- "I regret to have to inform you that your son was killed in action on 24th inst. Your son was hit by a shell and instantly killed along with one of his comrade, Private Gourley of Ballindrait, both being laid to rest side-by-side. Although under fire at the time, the chaplain was present and conducted the funeral service, marking the grave that the pioneers may put a cross on it. Your son's comrades joined with me in sending deepest sympathy on your sad bereavement. You have lost a gallant son, and we a noble soldier and comrade".

The chaplain attached to the division (Rev. M. Clifford) writes:- It is with pain that I write this letter to you, knowing that it must bring you grief. God knows the world is very full of sorrows at this time. I write because your son, Private Reilly, was killed in action on the field of honour. The captain of his company was present with a party of his comrades. Though the thought that your son gave his life in this holy cause may not do much to lessen your grief at present, yet I am sure that in time, it will help you. You may well believe that

God is looking down on all these many sacrifices so nobly made. Even though that the boys may not realise it – they are showing that love, that which there is none greater in giving their life for others. Let us remember that this life is not the whole of life, and that death is just the passing over into a higher, glorious life, where through our Lord Jesus Christ, every noble quality we gain here will be of use and turned to high account. May the God of mercy and compassion comfort and support you and strengthen you to bow to his will, yes, and to do his will.

Strabane Weekly News
10th June 1916

HOME FROM THE FRONT

The many friends of Sergeant Sydney Lavery, Railway Street, son of George Roe Lavery, the popular station agent, at Strabane, were pleased to welcome him home from the front during the week. Sergeant Lavery is attached to the 9th Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrones) and has seen a good deal of active service since the Ulster Division was sent to the firing line. He enlisted at the outbreak of hostilities and was soon after promoted to his present rank. Sergeant Lavery was a prominent member of the Strabane U.V.F. and evinced a lively interest in its welfare. He brings a good report of the welfare of his comrades at the front, who, he states, are in excellent spirits. (He was wounded in action on 13th July 1916. He survived the war and died on 11th September 1919)

Strabane Weekly News
10th June 1916

ROLL OF HONOUR

Kerr 31st May 1916 on board *H.M.S. Defence* sunk in action in naval battle. Robert Kerr engine room artificer only and dearly loved son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Kerr, Dublin Street, Newtownstewart.

Strabane Weekly News
10th June 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
THANKS FOR GIFTS

Private Patrick McMenamin who hails from Sion Mills has written an interesting letter expressing his thanks on behalf of his comrades and himself to the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee for the splendid gifts forwarded to them. He states that the boys from Strabane are very jolly and full of fight.

Strabane Weekly News
10th June 1916

CAPTAIN THOMAS A. WALLS, D.S.O.

The news of the death of Captain Thos. A Walls, D.S.O. was received in Strabane on Sunday last with general regret. The sad tidings were conveyed to his father, Mr. Thomas Walls, Townparks, Strabane, by telegraph from the Admiralty which intimated that this gallant sailor went down with the *Invincible* to which ship he was attached. Deceased had over fifteen years' service and won many honours for gallantry, his decorations including four medals.

Prior to his taking to sea, Captain Walls was a first-class engineer. He was much respected and esteemed in Strabane and district and many of our readers will remember him as a keen debater, whilst a member of the local Y.M.C.A. he was very successful in all his examinations for promotion and was beloved by all on board his vessel. Captain Walls was a brother-in-law of Mr. Robert Gormley, merchant, Townparks, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
10th June 1916

CONVOY VOLUNTEER WOUNDED

The name of Corporal Robert Clarke, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has appeared in the official list of wounded. A short time prior to the war Corporal Clarke was employed in Convoy district and acted as a drill instructor of the Convoy U.V.F. of which Captain Boyton, 11th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was company commander. He was wounded in the breast in a hand-to-hand fight during the raid made on the German trenches by a party of Tyrone boys.

Strabane Weekly News
17th June 1916

CASTLEDERG MAN KILLED

Lance-Corporal Charles Robinson, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been killed in action. He was a son of Mr. S. Robinson, Main Street, Castlederg

After a brilliant intermediate course Mr Robinson was appointed monitor in the Edward's Boys' School, Castlederg, where he gained a high name for thoroughness and efficiency. On August 17th 1915 he volunteered joining the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Early in March he went to France and on the 28th ult. was killed in action.

Strabane Weekly News
17th June 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Private William Toland of the Inniskillings who is at home on sick leave at present had a remarkable experience in the trenches. He with a number of others was badly gassed and was regarded as dead. He lay unconscious in the trench for three days. Preparations were being made for internment of those who had made the supreme sacrifice when a helper noticed Private Toland moving slightly. He was subsequently removed to hospital and after making steady progress towards recovery he is back again in Newtownstewart looking almost as well as ever.

Private Samuel T. Sinclair, 20162, of the Inniskillings, son of Mr. Samuel Sinclair, Birnaghs, has been wounded in France. In consequence of the serious nature of the injury it was found necessary to amputate one of his legs. The injured man's brother James was also wounded a few months ago. There are three members of this family on active service.

Strabane Weekly News
17th June 1916

DEATH OF ARTIFICER ROBERT KERR
AN APPRECIATION

In your last issue sympathetic reference was made to the death, in action of that gallant young engineer Robert Kerr, of Newtownstewart whilst serving on board H.M.S. Reliance in the North Sea battle.

Strabane Weekly News
17th June 1916

IRISH GUARD WOUNDED

Mrs Devine who resides at Greenbrae, has been notified by the War Office that his son Private P. Devine attached to the Irish Guards has been wounded in action on 10th May. The wounds were received about the leg and arm and he is now in a hospital in France. Pte. Devine joined the Army at the commencement of hostilities. He has another brother serving with the colours.

Strabane Weekly News
17th June 1916

BALLYBOFEY MAN KILLED

Mrs. James Hannigan, Ballybofey has received intimation that her son Private Philip Hannigan attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Irish Brigade) has died in consequence of wounds received in action on 28th April last in France the sad tidings being conveyed to her from the War Office. Private Hannigan enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war and has seen a great deal of active service.

Strabane Weekly News
24th June 1916

PLUMBRIDGE U.V.F. MAN HOME

Corporal R.F. Lunney, late Commander of the Plumbridge Half-Company U.V.F., has lately been home for a few days leave from the front where he has been since the Ulster Division went to France. He describes some stirring scenes that took place in the trenches and makes light of the hardship of a soldier's life. The only thing that troubles him and his comrades of the 9th is lest recruits should fail in joining the 12th (Reserve) Battalion in sufficient numbers and that English and Scotch would be required to fill up the gaps. He makes a strong appeal to the young men of Ryland and Plumbridge not to hold back but join at once and assist their comrades in keeping up the glorious reputation that the Tyrone Volunteers have already gained.

Corporal Lunney was one of the first to enlist when the call was made to the U.V.F. and his good example got upwards of forty young men from Ryland and Plumbridge to follow him.

Strabane Weekly News
24th June 1916

GALLANT DONEGAL VOLUNTEER

Sergeant D.M. Bogle of the 11th Battalion (Donegal and Fermanagh) Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has had the high honour conferred on him of being specially commended by Sir. Douglas Haig Commander in Chief of the British Forces for gallant and distinguished conduct in the field. Sergeant Bogle is only about 22 years of age and is a son of Mr. David Bogle a very popular and courteous official of the County Donegal Railways Joint Committee at Stranorlar. Mr Bogle was a prominent member of the Stranorlar U.V.F. and joined the Ulster Division on its formation. He obtained the rank which he presently holds by merit. Sergeant Bogle was an assistant teacher in Stranorlar Robertson National School and before the war was employed in the engineering department of the Donegal Railway in Stranorlar. His many friends in Donegal will read of the distinction with pleasure and will follow his future career with interest.

Strabane Weekly News
24th June 1916

CASTLEFINN MAN KILLED

Captain William D. Holmes, D.S.O. Canadian Infantry who fell in the desperate fighting of last week and was one of many officers of Ulster descent in the Canadian Infantry. A grandson of Mr. Alexander Holmes formerly of Meenahoney, Castlefin and now in Dublin, he was a cousin of Mr. George McCurdy the present owner of Meenahoney, which has been in the possession of the family for over 200 years. When war broke out Captain Holmes was in Victoria, B.C. he received a commission in the first contingent from the Dominion.

Strabane Weekly News
24th June 1916

DONEGAL'S ROLL OF HONOUR

In the last ten days two families connected with the Grand Jury of the county had been bereaved. Lieutenant-Colonel A.G. Stuart son of the rector of Bogay a most promising staff officer died in France last Sunday week in defence of this country. The other was the only surviving son of Mr. Hamilton of Coxtown naval officer who went down in the recent naval battle and who served repeatedly on the Grand Jury of that county. They deeply sympathised with the families of these officers.

Strabane Weekly News
24th June 1916

CASTLEDERG MAN HONOURED

A series of despatches from Sir. John Maxwell, K.C.B., on military operations in Egyptian command prior to his return to England before he was sent to Dublin was issued on Wednesday evening. Amongst the officers mentioned therein for good service is Sir. David Semple, son of the late Mr. W. Semple, Castlederg who is now an official of the Egyptian Government.

Strabane Chronicle
24th June 1916

JUTLAND NAVAL BATTLE STRABANE MEN ENGAGED

In the recent naval battle off the Jutland Islands, Captain Thomas A. Walls, DSO, of his Majesty's ship *Invincible*, was killed. Captain Walls was a son of Mr Thomas Walls, Castletown, Strabane. In the Falkland Island engagement he showed unparalleled daring and heroism, as a result of which he received the DSO medal. On that occasion the *Invincible* was badly damaged and despite heavy enemy fire he safely reached harbour with it. Captain Walls had fifteen years good service to his credit and held four medals. He leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss. They reside in the South of England. Stoker Hugh Devine, son of Mr. David Devine, Canal Street, Strabane, was also in the naval engagement. He took part in the fighting on his Majesty's ship, *Plymouth*, and had the good fortune to come out of it unscathed. In the course of a letter to his mother, Stoker Devine says:- "My ship was amongst those which took part in the battle, but thank God, we returned safely to harbour after a most exciting time. I reckon we have proved what the Grand Fleet is composed of".

Strabane Chronicle
24th June 1916

WOUNDED

Private Denis McCrossan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded and gassed in France. He has returned home. His brother, Sergeant-Major John McCrossan, Royal Engineers, is also on active service, while another brother has been killed in action.

Upon this Rock
24th June 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private George Cooke, who was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), have been informed that he has died of wounds. Great sorrow is expressed at this young soldier's early demise. Deceased was a member of the Baden Powell Scout movement in Strabane. He was also a member of the Strabane U.V.F., prior to enlistment. Some years ago, his father was drowned into the River Mourne whilst endeavouring to save a comrade who fell into the same river, who was also drowned.

Strabane Chronicle

1st July 1916

Private Cooke was a son of the late John Cooke, Strabane who lost his life in a manly endeavour some years ago to rescue from drowning another young man named Thomas McGarrigle in the river Mourne but both were drowned. Now Mrs Cooke has to mourn the loss of her son. She is residing in Australia. Private Cooke's uncle William Cooke lives in Bridge Street, Strabane and the sympathy of a large circle of friends will go out to him.

The death occurred in hospital in France on Sunday of Private George Cooke, of the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone's) who was mortally wounded the previous day. He resided at Bridge Street, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News

1st July 1916

**STRABANE AND DISTRICT
SION MILLS VOLUNTEER WOUNDED**

Intimation is to hand that Corporal J. Maxwell attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action recently. Corporal Maxwell has been in action for a long period. Prior to enlistment he was connected with the Ulster Volunteer movement.

Strabane Weekly News

1st July 1916

COMMISSION FOR STRABANE MAN

Mr. Henry Ellis, son of Sergeant James Ellis, Strabane has received a commission in the Australian Expeditionary Force. Mr Ellis was on active service at the Dardanelles and his conduct there merited the highest praise from his superiors, who recommended him for a commission. Mr Ellis is at present in France. Prior to emigrating the new officer was well known in the Derry City and in the North West as a prominent athlete. He held a responsible position on the Donegal Railway, but later joined the Royal Irish Constabulary. He has two brothers also serving with the colours, one attached to the Royal Engineers and the other in the South Irish Horse.

Strabane Weekly News

1st July 1916

STRABANE VOLUNTEER PROMOTED

Corporal R. Cooke, Strabane of the Tyrone Battalion (Ulster Volunteers) has been promoted to the rank of sergeant. Sergeant Cooke was a member of the Carricklee U.V.F. prior to the war.

Lance-Corporal R. Pollock of the same battalion has been promoted to the rank of sergeant and appointed Lewis gun sergeant. Sergeant Pollock was an active member of the Artigarvan U.V.F., and was a member of the local L.O.L.

Private D. Lyttle, of Leckpatrick has been promoted to the rank of corporal. Corporal Lyttle was a keen supporter of the U.V.F. and was also a member of the Sinclair Brass and Reed Band.

Private J. Hughes has been appointed to the rank of lance-corporal. Lance-corporal Hughes is well known in Strabane being a member of Strabane L.O.L. and R.B.P.

Strabane Weekly News

1st July 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private George Cooke who was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) have been informed that he has died of wounds. Great sorrow is expressed at this young soldier's early demise. Deceased was a member of the Baden Powell Scout movement in Strabane. Some years ago his

father was drowned in the river Mourne whilst endeavouring to save a comrade who fell in the same river who was also drowned

Intimation has been received that 2583 Private J. Arbuckle who resides in Strabane has been wounded in action. Private Arbuckle is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and formed one of the Expeditionary Force to go to France at the commencement of the war. He also has another brother serving in France. Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Joseph Coneglen of Strabane that he has been wounded in action in France and is at present in an hospital in Cardiff. Private Coneglen was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

The relatives of Private Denis McCrossan have received intimation that he has been wounded and gassed whilst in action in France. Private McCrossan is a native of Sion Mills district and is attached to the Inniskillings

Intimation is to hand that Private Patrick Meehan attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded for the third time. Private Meehan came through the entire Gallipoli campaign. He also has another brother serving with the colours.

Sergeant-Major James Hamill, Strabane attached to the Royal Field Artillery has been reported as wounded in France and in an hospital. Sergeant-major Hamill was well known in the North-West as a first class bandmaster.

The relatives of Private Charles Gallagher have received intimation that he has died in an hospital from the effects of gas and wounds received in action in France. Private Gallagher belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

The relatives of Private Michael Molloy have been notified by the War Office recently that he has been killed in action. Private Molloy was attached to the Royal Irish Rifles. He has two brothers with the colours, one with the Garrison Artillery and another with the Dublin Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News

1st July 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Amidst a multitude of articles from special correspondents at the Front one misses contributions from Mr. Robert McHugh. This is accounted for by the fact that that Mr. McHugh has taken up the sword for the pen for the present at any rate. He is a native of Newtownstewart hence our interest in his welfare. He entered the army at the outbreak of war and is now lieutenant-colonel of the 341st Brigade Royal Field Artillery. Etc Sergeant T.B. Hyslop, 6th Cameron Highlanders, brother of Private R. Hyslop, Baronscourt has been mentioned in General Haig's despatches for bravery. Private Hyslop is at present in the Machine Gun Corps, 11th Depot Company, Harrowby Camp, Linsolnshire.

Company Sergeant-Major Fairley, 18th Battalion London Regiment T.F., brother of Mr. Thomas Fairley Newtownstewart Model School has been awarded the D.C.M. "for conspicuous gallantry under heavy fire during repairs to trenches which had been blown in"

Strabane Weekly News

1st July 1916

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Corporal J. Maxwell (10986) Sion Mills has been reported wounded

Amongst the casualties in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers published in the 23^{rs} inst. is the name of Private J. McSorley (22786). Castlederg, wounded.

Strabane Chronicle

1st July 1916

Notification has been received by the parents of Private William John Murray, Strabane that he has been wounded in action in France. He is attached to the Royal Irish Fusiliers and volunteered for service shortly after the outbreak of hostilities. He has been in the firing line for over twelve months.

Strabane Chronicle

1st July 1916

Sergeant Diver, of Glenmornan has been wounded in action. He was with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He took a practical interest in the Volunteer movement and through his exertions the Glenmornan corps attained a high efficiency in drill. Sergeant Diver is at present in hospital.

Strabane Chronicle

1st July 1916

Information has been received by Mrs. J. Arbuckle that her son Private John Arbuckle has been wounded while doing his bit in France and is now in hospital. Private Arbuckle is married and has one son. He is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Etc

Strabane Chronicle
1st July 1916

KILLED

Captain Wm. D. Holmes, D.S.O., Canadian Infantry who fell in the desperate fighting of two weeks ago was one of the many officers of Ulster descent in the Canadian Infantry. A grandson of Mr. Alexander Holmes, formerly of Meenahoney, Castlederg and now in Dublin, he was acousin of Mr. George McCurdy, the present occupier of Meenahoney which has been in the possession of the family for over two hundred years.

Strabane Chronicle
1st July 1916

Private Michael Molloy, Royal Irish Rifles, Strabane, has been killed in action.
Sergeant-Major James Hamill, Strabane, Royal Field Artillery, has been wounded.
Private Patrick Meehan, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, has been wounded for a third time.
Private Denis McCrossan, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, has been wounded and gassed.
Private Joseph Coneglen, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, has been wounded.
Private Charles Gallagher, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, has died in hospital from the effects of gas and wounds received in action.

Strabane Chronicle
1st July 1916

The death occurred in hospital in France on Sunday of Private George Cooke, of the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone's) who was mortally wounded the previous day. Prior to the outbreak of war he resided in Bridge Street, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
1st July 1916

WOUNDED

His relatives at Sion Mills received notification from the War Office that Corporal J Maxwell, who is well known in the village, has been wounded, and now lies in a military hospital. He is attached to the Royal Irish Regiment. His name appeared amongst the list of casualties on Saturday.

Strabane Chronicle
1st July 1916

Mr. Robert McHugh, a native of Newtownstewart, and formerly was correspondent for the "Daily Telegraph" (London), is now a Lieutenant-Colonel of the 341st Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. At the conclusion of the review, prior to his departure with his men for the front a few days ago, Lieutenant-Colonel McHugh was presented to the King, who shook hands with him and wished him every possible success. His brother, James, a large farmer in Rhodesia, also joined the army at the outbreak of war. He is attached to the 2nd Rhodesian Regiment in British East Africa. They have four nephews in the army, one of which is Sergeant James Orr, of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, a son of Mr. George Orr, Newtownstewart.

Strabane Weekly News
8th July 1916

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

The relatives of Private W.J. Blackburn, Strabane have received a notification that he was wounded in action a few days ago in the recent advance made by British troops. Private Blackburn is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), Tyrone Battalion) and has been in the firing line since September of last year.

Intimation has been received that Pte. 2282, William McCarter, son of Mr Joseph McCarter, of Milltown, Ballymagorry has also been wounded in the recent advance. Private McCarter is attached to the Ulster Division (Tyrone Battalion). He was a member of the Artigarvan U.V.F. and is well known in local cricket circles

Strabane Chronicle
8th July 1916

The relatives of Private William John Blackburn, of Patrick Street, Strabane, have received official notification that he has been wounded in action in France, and now lies in a military hospital in London. He enlisted in the Ulster Division after the outbreak of hostilities and has been through several engagements. Mr. Blackburn was a general favourite in Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
8th July 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss Trimble was the nurse in charge for the week

Strabane Weekly News
8th July 1916

BALLINDRAIT MAN KILLED

Mr. Andrew Gourley, of Ballindrait has received news that his son Private John Gourley, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been killed in action. Private Gourley was a member of the Ulster Division and was a member of the Ballindrait U.V.F. before the war. Lieut.-Colonel Ricardo, Officer commanding the battalion, states in a letter that deceased was a fine soldier and he met his death manfully with a comrade.

Strabane Weekly News
8th July 1916

TRIBUTE TO STRABANE SOLDIER

The relatives of Private J. Reilly, who reside at Urney Road, Strabane have received intimation that he has been killed in action in France. Private Reilly was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and has been at the front since the departure of the battalion last year. He was killed immediately by a shell.

Strabane Weekly News
8th July 1916

SION MILLS MAN WOUNDED

Intimation has been received by his mother, who resides near Sion Mills, that Private James Love, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrones) has been wounded in action. He served with the battalion at Finner, Randalstown, Ballycastle, and Seaford before going to the front.

Strabane Chronicle
8th July 1916

Mr. Thomas Porter, Bridge Street, Strabane, received a telegram on Thursday evening that his son, Private R Porter, Inniskilling Fusiliers, was dangerously ill. Private Porter joined the colours shortly after the outbreak of hostilities. Prior to enlisting he resided in the Asylum Road, Letterkenny, and worked in a coach-building factory. He was a popular young man.

Strabane Chronicle
8th July 1916

Private Joseph McLaughlin, Townsend Street, Strabane, has been reported killed in action in France. He was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and prior to the outbreak of war was a member of the Strabane National Volunteers.

Private Samuel Stuart, Liskinbuoy, Strabane, who belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been killed in action. As a young man he gave great promise of a bright and successful career. The news of his death has been received with regret and sympathy for his relatives in the locality.

Private John Reilly, Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone's) who resided at Urney Road, Strabane, has been killed in action in France. The sad news was conveyed by the War Office intimation to his mother, Mrs. Bella Reilly. The clergyman who officiated at his graveside wrote her a sympathetic letter on the occasion.

Private John Gourley, killed, was the fourth son of Mr Andrew Gourley, an extensive farmer and milk purveyor, of Shannon, Ballindrait. Private Gourley was well-known in the neighbourhood. Private John Gourley, killed, was the fourth son of Mr. Andrew Gourley, of Shannon, Ballindrait.

Strabane Chronicle
8th July 1916

On Thursday Mr. Sandy Weir, manager of the Convoy Woolen Mills, County Donegal received a telegram from the War Office announcing that Captain Jack Weir, his brother, and a member of the firm of Messrs. Alexander Weir & Co., Ltd., auctioneers, Strabane had been missing since the 1st July and are believed to have been killed.

After the declaration of war he joined the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division – Tyrone's). Captain Weir was a relative of Mr. John S. Weir, J.P., Drumbuoy House, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

8th July 1916

Among the officers reported wounded is Second-Lieutenant C.L. Porteous, Royal Irish Fusiliers. His relatives reside at Ballyarr House, Donegal.

Strabane Chronicle

8th July 1916

The relatives of Private William John Blackburn, of Patrick Street, Strabane, have received official notification that he has been wounded in action in France, and now lies in a military hospital in London. He enlisted in the Ulster Division after the outbreak of hostilities and has been through several engagements. Mr. Blackburn was a general favourite in Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

8th July 1916

Writing from the front to his brother Mr. Hugh McCloskey, hairdresser, Tyrconnell Street, Sergeant Bernard McCloskey, Inniskilling Fusiliers (Irish Brigade) states "there are as many boys from Donegal in the trenches as from any other town of its population in Ireland". They are doing their bit out there, and when the war was over no one could say they were lagging behind. "They can always", he concludes, "be found in the firing line".

Strabane Chronicle

8th July 1916

The relatives of Private George Cooke, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, have been informed that he has died of wounds. Some years ago his father was drowned in the River Mourne.

Strabane Chronicle

15th July 1916

STRABANE RECRUITING COMMITTEE

The following is an extract from a letter written by Captain R. H. Fowler, of the Central Recruiting Committee, Dublin, to Mr. R. K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane: - "I am desired by the General Officer Commanding-in Chief to thank you for your patriotic efforts in the cause of recruiting during the past year, and shall be much obliged if you will convey his thanks to the other members of your Committee. It is hoped that you and your Committee may be in a position to continue your very valuable services in this connection, and I am to thank you in anticipation of your kind effort and support".

Strabane Chronicle

15th July 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mr. Thomas Porter, Bridge Street, Strabane, has been notified by the War Office of the death of his son, Private R Porter, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, in hospital, as a result of wounds. Private Porter was found lying on the battlefield after a fierce engagement and was conveyed with all haste to a French military hospital.

Strabane Weekly News

15th July 1916

THE LATE CAPTAIN WEIR

Much regret is felt in Strabane district at the death of Captain Jack Weir in the big push that has made the Ulster Division famous. Colonel wrote to Mr. Alexander Weir, deceased's brother Captain Weir was one of the managing directors of Messrs. Alexander Weir & Co., Ltd, auctioneers of Strabane

Strabane Chronicle

15th July 1916

ROLL OF HONOUR

Mr. Thomas Porter, Bridge Street, Strabane received a telegram that his son, Private R. Porter, attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers is dangerously ill. Private Porter enlisted at the commencement of the war and prior to that resided at Asylum Road, Letterkenny and worked in a coach factory.

Private Joseph McLaughlin, of Townsend Street, Strabane has been reported killed in action. Attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Member of Strabane National Volunteers.

The relatives of Private Samuel Stewart, Liskinbuoy, Strabane have been notified that he has been killed in action. Was with Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Corporal Maxwell of Sion Mills, attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action in France. He was in the firing line for a long time and was member of Ulster Volunteers.

The relatives of Lieut. W.H. Wagentrieber have been notified that he has been wounded and in a hospital in England. He resides at Inchenagh near Lifford and is attached to the Donegal and Fermanagh Battalion of the Ulster Division. Was a company commander of the Lifford and Ballindrait U.V.F. He is a son of Rev. J Wagentrieber who resides in England.

The relatives of Sergeant R. Cooke have been notified that he is in hospital suffering from shell shock. Sergeant Cooke resides in Strabane and has another brother attached to the Ulster Division (Tyrone's).

The wife of Private John Hughes who is attached to the Tyrone Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been informed that he has been wounded in action for a second time in the recent advance. He is a member of the Strabane L.O.L and Strabane R.B.P.

Strabane Chronicle 15th July 1916

A SURVIVOR'S STORY MEN WHO KNOW NO FEAR MET DEATH SINGING

The first man of the Tyrone Volunteers to arrive in this District after their wonderful attack on the German lines on the 1st July was Private Moses Gordon, Bearney, Sion Mills and when seen by a Press representative on Tuesday last on his way home he retained traces of the fray supporting himself on a stick and having a shrapnel wound in his back. "Words," he said "could scarcely describe the scenes which came in quick succession on the eventful morning which broke fair and bright. Etc.

Amongst the officers he saw killed was Lieutenant Stevenson and he says Captain Cruickshank was killed by a shell.

Strabane Chronicle 15th July 1916

SION MILLS CASUALTIES

The following casualties are reported from Sion Mills:-

KILLED

Private John McConaghey, Church Square

Died of Wounds.- Private James Love, whose mother resides at Glentown

WOUNDED

Privates Stewart Hamilton and Samuel Hamilton, Albert Place (brothers), Thomas Hamilton, Albert Place; John McConaghey and Samuel McConaghey, both of the village. Robert Patterson, New Street; and James Worling of the village.

All of the above were in the Tyrone Volunteer Battalion and were formerly members of the Sion Mills Company U.V.F.

Strabane Chronicle 15th July 1916

GALLANT LIFFORD SOLDIER

Lance-Corporal Samuel R. Porterfield (signaller) attached to the 43rd Battalion Canadians, who enlisted at the commencement of the war and has been through many engagements has arrived in England suffering from shell shock received in one of the recent engagements. In that attack he pluckily volunteered to act as stretcher bearer to bring some of his comrades back. Whilst engaged in this perilous task he was buried by a shell and did not remember anything he found himself in an English hospital. He has received and expects soon to rejoin his regiment in France. Lance-Corporal Porterfield has a brother named Albert serving with the 9th Inniskillings and another brother names John attached to the Fort Gary Horse. He is a son of Mr. John Porterfield an extensive farmer in the Lifford locality.

Strabane Chronicle
15th July 1916

STRABANE SERGEANT'S WOUNDED

The relatives of Sergeant R. Pollock attached to the Inniskillings (Ulster Division) have been notified that he has been wounded in action and in hospital in England. Sergeant Pollock was promoted in the field a few weeks ago. He is in charge of a Lewis gun. Prior to the war he was a prominent member of the U.V.F. and a member of the local L.O.L.

The relatives of Sergeant Sydney Lavery who reside at Railway Street, Strabane have been informed that he has been wounded in action and is at present in hospital. Sergeant Lavery is a son of Mr. George Roe Lavery, stationmaster at Strabane. He was a member of the Strabane U.V.F.

Strabane Chronicle
15th July 1916

DONEGAL VOLUNTEERS CASUALTIES

Private Robert James Robinson who resides at Stranorlar and is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has been wounded in the recent advance. Prior to enlistment Private Robinson was an assistant in the firm of J.J. Pollock & Co., Derry. He was a member of the U.V.F.

Intimation has been received that Sergeant Henry Foy has been wounded. Sergeant Foy was a member of the Stranorlar U.V.F. prior to the war and brought the battalion up to a high state of efficiency.

Intimation has been received that Pte. George Gregory, Ballybofey has been killed in the recent advance. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone and Fermanagh Volunteers) and prior to enlistment was a member of the U.V.F. He has another brother serving with the colours.

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private John Lucas who reside at Cavan, Killygordon and who is attached to the 11th battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division). He is at present in hospital in Liverpool. He was a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force.

Strabane Chronicle
15th July 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Newtownstewart district has a goodly representation on the casualty list of the past few days. Those who took part in the ordeal of fire by the Somme will be forever proud of their participation in an attack which a special correspondence described as "one of the greatest revelations of human courage ever known in history. Life-long regret will surely be felt by the men at home who were unwilling or unable to be with their comrades in the firing line. The majority of the men mentioned are members of the Ulster Volunteer Force and belong to the Inniskillings (Tyrone Battalion):-

Lance-Corporal Fred Adams, wounded, son of Mr William Adams, Baronscourt.

Private James Anderson, wounded, Back Street.

Lance-Corporal John Barton, wounded, son of Mr William Barton, Dublin Street, Newtownstewart

Sergeant W.J. Beattie, slightly gassed, son of Mr David Beattie, Knockree.

Private W. Black, wounded, son of Mr J. Black, Ardstraw.

Private R. Crimpton, wounded, son of Mr R Crimpton, Archill.

Private John Hyndman, gassed, son of Mrs McCausland, Deerpark.

Sapper George Johnston, wounded, belongs to Ardstraw.

Private James Moorhead, wounded, son of Mr A Moorhead, Dublin Street, Newtownstewart

Private John McBride, wounded, son of Mr J. McBride, Kilstrule.

Private Thomas McCombe, slightly gassed, son of Mrs McCombe, Main Street, Newtownstewart

Private R. McNickle, wounded, belongs to Letterbratt, Plumbridge.

Private Henry Robinson, wounded, husband of Mrs Annie Robinson, Back Street.

Private Samuel Smyley, wounded, belongs to Baronscourt.

Private D. Smyth, gassed, son of Mr William Smyth, Plumbridge.

Private W. Wilson, wounded (in six places), son of Mrs Jamison, Hollow Road

Private R Semple, wounded, son of Mr R Semple, Moyle., and Stewart who is with the Canadians.

Private James Moorhead, mentioned in the above list, arrived home on Thursday afternoon for a few days' leave.

At the time of writing several of the men are in English hospitals and are progressing favourably. Private Henry Robinson mentioned above is son of Mr. James Robinson, who has two other sons in the army. William who is serving with the Australians and is in England at present, and Stewart, who is with the Canadians.

Strabane Chronicle

15th July 1916

**LEEDS AIRMAN KILLED IN FRANCE
BELONGED TO CASTLEDERG FAMILY**

Second-Lieutenant J.C.M. Stewart of the Royal Flying Corps who has been killed in action was the eldest son of Dr. Joseph Stewart, of Lovell House, North Street, Leeds and grandson of the late Mr Joseph Stewart, Ergenagh, Castlederg. Second-Lieutenant Stewart met his death while on a flying expedition. Second-Lieutenant Stewart's father was brought up in the Castlederg district and the family belonged to County Tyrone for many generations.

Strabane Chronicle

15th July 1916

**TYRONE'S HEAVY LOSS
13 OFFICERS KILLED OR MISSING
BATTALION DISTINGUISHES ITSELF**

While no official news has as yet come to hand of the extent of the casualties in the Tyrone Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers we are in a position to state that the battalion has distinguished itself beyond all measure of praise in the big advance on the 1st inst. and that both officers and men covered themselves with glory in assailing the strongest position of the German line at the point where they were faced with heavy machine gun fire.

Captain Jack Weir. Missing since the 1st inst. and is probably dead

Strabane Chronicle

22nd July 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Second-Lieutenant JFD McCay, wounded, is the son of Rev James McCay, Castlederg
Private Frank McNamee, Strabane, has been reported wounded in action in France. Mr. McNamee is a popular young man in Strabane, and the news of his being wounded has been received with regret. Prior to the outbreak of war he belonged to the Strabane Corps of the Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Weekly News

22nd July 1916

STRABANE CASUALTY

Mr. Thomas Porter, Bridge Street, Strabane has been notified by the War Office of the death of his son. Private R. Porter who was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was in hospital as a result of wounds. Private Porter was found lying in the battlefield after a fierce engagement and was conveyed to a hospital in France where he subsequently died. He had seen many months of active service.

Strabane Weekly News

22nd July 1916

DONEMANA CASUALTIES

Intimation has been received that Pte. Jacob Laughlin, of the Ulster Division has died of wounds. He was a member of the L.O.L. 503 and also of the U.V.F.

Notification has been received that Pte. Edward Laughlin has been wounded in action. He was a member of L.O.L. No 627 and also of the U.V.F.

Pte. Alexander Taylor, Ulster Division has been reported wounded. Was member of U.V.F.

Pte. Steen Doherty, Ulster Division, has been reported wounded. Member of the U.V.F and of Lodge No. 287 and also a member of Killycurry R.B.P.

Pte. George Doherty, brother of Steen Doherty, who is also attached to the Ulster Division is reported wounded. He was a member of the local L.O.L. and a member of the U.V.F.

Pte. David Nixon and Pte. Andrew McKane, attached to the Canadians, have been reported wounded.

Strabane Weekly News

22nd July 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Intimation that Private Francis McNamee, Strabane and attached to Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Irish Brigade) has been wounded in battle

It is reported that Private W. Devenny of Strabane who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been killed in action. He was one of the original Expeditionary Force and has been wounded on several occasions.

D.McCrossan, Inniskilling Fusiliers, has died at Strabane from the effects of gas poisoning. His two other brothers joined the colours and one of them has made the supreme sacrifice.

Private Charles Griffin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded. Private Griffin has been in continuous action since the outbreak of hostilities and has taken part in numerous engagements. In a letter to his father he received his wounds on Monday 10th July. In the same letter he states that a relative of his, Ned Griffin, was also in the thick of the fight. Private Griffin is in a hospital in Perth

Strabane Weekly News
22nd July 1916

WITH THE TYRONE VOLUNTEERS
SION MILLS MAN'S INTERESTING LETTER

Letter from Sergeant John MacConaghy, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteer) who was wounded in the great offensive on 1st July (now known as the battle of the Somme). He is at present in General Hospital, Sheffield, England. In reply to a letter which he had received from his mother in Sion Mills, he says:- "Glad to say that my wounds are doing well and I am looking forward to seeing you all soon. Etc
Sergeant John MacConaghy is the eldest son of Mr. William and Mrs. McConaghy, Sion Mills. The youngest son Bob, also of the Tyrone Volunteers, is still in France and although in the action of the Somme, escaped without a scratch.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd July 1916

TYRONE VOLUNTEER CASUALTIES
CASTLEDERG

Second-Lieutenant J.F.D. McCay, Royal Irish Rifles (North Belfast Volunteers) and son of the Rev. James McCay, Castlederg has arrived home. He had an almost miraculous escape from death, a bullet passing through his steel helmet and grazing the skull but inflicting no injury.

Private Robert Monteith, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, whose wife resides at Froughlough, Castlederg is reported killed.

Private Gilchrist, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Tyrones, is reported killed. Prior to enlistment he was a farm servant in Castlederg district.

Private Thomas Wilson, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrones) a son of Mr. W.J.Wilson, Magheracreggan, Castlederg is reported killed.

Strabane Weekly News
29th July 1916

SION MILLS CASUALTIES

Mrs. McConaghey of Sion Mills has received an official notification of the death in action of her husband, Private John McConaghey. Deceased was a member of the Tyrone Volunteers (Ulster Division). In addition official intimation has been received of the death in action of deceased's brother, Private George McConaghey who was also attached to the same regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
29th July 1916

DONEGAL MAN WINS MEDAL

Lance-Corporal George T. Boyd, 90th Winnipeg Rifles who has been awarded the Military Medal for devotion to duty in the field, is a native of Castlefin, Co Donegal his other brother Mr. J.J. Boyd residing in Derry. He is attached to the Red Cross department as a stretcher-bearer.

Strabane Weekly News
29th July 1916

STRABANE SOLDIERS WELL

Pte. James Doherty, Newtown Street, Strabane with Royal Irish Rifles writes from the front line to a friend. He has come across some Strabane boys who took part in the recent advance and that they are all well. He has another brother named Harry Doherty at present in England who is attached to the Canadians.

Strabane Weekly News
29th July 1916

D.C.M. FOR STRABANE MAN

The honour has been won by Driver Edward McManus, Royal Field Artillery, who resided in Townsend Street and who performed a conspicuous feat of bringing down a German aeroplane with his first shot. He

also wears a gold medal given him by the French Humane Society for saving a French officer from drowning and a gold watch presented to him by the grateful officer himself. He is a clever all-round athlete and an expert boxer. He is well known in football circles around Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
29th July 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Official intimation has reached Plumbridge of the death of Corporal Robert, Lunney, on the battlefield on 1st July. Deceased was the first member of Plumbridge U.V.F. to volunteer and his action influenced many to follow him. Lieutenant-Colonel Ricardo wrote to Mr. Samuel Dunn, merchant, Plumbridge on the death of Corporal Lunney.

The official lists this week also contains the name of Private S. Falls, 24857, Plumbridge, as wounded and missing.

Strabane Weekly News
29th July 1916

INNISKILLINGS CASUALTIES

The following casualties have been officially reported:-

Wounded. – Crowe, 11447, W. (Newtownstewart)

Foy, 11047, A.-C.-S.-Maj. H (Stranorlar)

Wounded, Shock-shell.- Blackburn, 23657, W.J. (Strabane)

Strabane Weekly News
29th July 1916

PLUMBRIDGE HEROES
LETTER FROM COLONEL RICARDO

In a letter received by Mr. J. McFarland, J.P., from Colonel Ricardo in answer to his enquiry regarding the fate of Corporal R. Lunney and Private T. Warnock who it appears have died heroic deaths in the great charge of 1st July, Private Warnock was a member of Rylands half company and was only 17 when he enlisted – B company.

Strabane Chronicle
29th July 1916

HEROIC STRABANE MAN WON D.C.M.
BRINGS DOWN GERMAN AEROPLANE AND SAVES FRENCH OFFICER'S LIFE

The "Glasgow Observer" states:- Another Catholic soldier has been granted the D.C.M. , his conspicuous feat being to bringing down of a German aeroplane with his first shot. He is Driver Edward McManus, Royal Field Artillery, residing at 45 Levenhaugh Street, Dumbarton. The gallant fellow is a native of Strabane (Co Tyrone) and wears, in addition to the D.C.M., a gold medal, given him by the French Humane Society for saving a French officer from drowning, and a gold watch presented to him by the grateful officer himself. McManus is a clever all-round athlete and a particularly expert boxer.

McManus's mother is well known in Strabane for many years past, where she at present presides. Driver McManus was while in Strabane an enthusiastic footballer and played for Convent Court.

Strabane Chronicle
29th July 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mr. Patrick McFadden, Strabane, has received intimation from the War Office that his son, Private Joseph McFadden, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in France. Private McFadden was prior to joining the colours a member of the Strabane Irish National Volunteers.

Private William Devenney, Orchard Street, Strabane is reported killed in action. He has been in active operations since August 1914 and came through several exciting engagements unhurt. The official intimation conveys the sad intelligence that he made the supreme sacrifice on July 1st. With his bereaved parents there is much sympathy. Deceased was a well-known figure in Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
5th August 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Private John Jack, Bridge Street, Strabane, is officially reported missing and the news is causing much anxiety to his wife and relatives. Captain M Conachie writing to Mrs. Jack on the subject regrets that he

cannot throw any light on the whereabouts of her husband. Colonel Ricardo has also written Mrs. Jack to the same effect. Private Jack took part in the recent big offensive and has not been heard from since. It may be that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. Shortly after the outbreak of hostilities Private Jack joined the colours. Prior to this he held an important and responsible position in Strabane and was a very popular young man. His genial, kind and endearing disposition gain for him many friends amongst all creeds and classes. We hope that the worst has not happened to the young man, and that good tidings of him will soon be forthcoming.

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
LIFFORD CASUALTY

Private James Hunter attached to the Inniskillings (Ulster Division) has also been wounded in action. The wounds have been caused by shrapnel received on the ankle, hands, head and body.

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

STRABANE'S ROLL OF HONOUR

At the monthly meeting of the Strabane L.O.L. Brother John Davison presented to the lodge a roll of honour containing the names of those serving with the colours also those serving who are member of the Strabane Black Preceptory. As well as presenting the roll of honour, Bro. Davison also supplied a suitable frame and it was proposed and seconded that the warmest thanks of the lodge be accorded to him for the presentation.

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

DONEMANA CASUALTIES

Intimation has been received that Pte. J. Cummins attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has been wounded in action. He was a member of the U.V.F. and enlisted after the declaration of war. The relatives of Lance-Corporal William Holmes who reside in the Donemana vicinity is missing. He was attached to Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and a supporter of the U.V.F

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

LIFFORD VOLUNTEER MISSING

After much anxiety and exhaustive enquiries the relatives of Lance-Corporal D. Albert Porterfield who resides at Mountview, Lifford have received the sad intelligence that he is missing believed killed in action. . He was attached to the Ulster Division (Tyrone's) was only 17 years of age and was highly popular. He was the youngest son of Mr. John Porterfield a very extensive farmer in the Lifford district.

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Mr Patrick McFadden, Strabane has received intimation from the War Office that his son Private Joseph McFadden, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in France. He was a member of Strabane National Volunteers.

Private William Devenny, Orchard Street, Strabane is reported killed in action he has been in active operation since August 1914 and came through several exciting engagements unhurt. He made the supreme sacrifice on 1st July.

The relatives of Private B. Mullin attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers have been notified that he has been wounded. He has been in action since the commencement of the war.

Intimation is to hand that Private J. Campbell of Strabane who is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been wounded in action. He has been in action since the start of the war.

Intimation is to hand that Constable B. Dwyer, a brother of Constable Dwyer of Strabane R.I.C. has been killed in action. He was attached to the machine gun section of the Irish Guard. He was one of 200 police

constables who volunteered to join the Guards and was affine fellow and popular in every section of society.

After weeks of weary waiting the relatives of Private John Jack jun, Bridge Street, Strabane have been notified that he has been notified as missing. He was with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and enlisted after the outbreak of war. Private Jack was employed by Messrs. James McClay, contractors, Strabane.

Intimation has been received that Sergeant Willie McBeth (Y.V.F.) Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was killed in action on 1st July. He was second son of Mrs. McBeth and the late Joseph McBeth, Monien, Ballindrait, Strabane and nephew of the Rev. W.J. McAskie, Seskinore. He was educated in Raphoe Royal school and studied practical engineering in Coombe & Barbour's, Belfast.

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

FUNERAL OF RAPHOE SOLDIER.

On arrival of the six o'clock train on Saturday 29th ult. The funeral of Lance-Corporal Joseph Allen (son of Alexander Allen, Craigs, Raphoe) took place. The station was crowded and seldom has such a funeral cortege so representative of all the classes been seen in this town. The place of internment was First Raphoe Burying-ground and the Rev. S Meek officiated.

Lance-Corporal J. Allen belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Donegal and Fermanagh Volunteers) he was wounded in the head at the great advance on 1st July.

Strabane Chronicle
5th August 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

In the Strabane Military Hospital, Private William Foster, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has regained his speech, which he had completely lost. He had been invalided home in consequence of severe shell-shock, and for over four weeks he was unable to speak. The matron, on resuming her duties in the morning, was agreeably surprised to observe that he quite plainly bade her "Good morning!"

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

SOLDIER REGAINS SPEECH

Private W. Foster, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who has been under treatment at the Strabane Military Hospital and has completely lost his power of speech regained same during the past week. He was invalided home in consequence of severe shell shock received. For over four weeks he was unable to speak. The matron on resuming her duties one morning recently was agreeably surprised to observe that he quite plainly bade her "good-morning" Private Foster is now able to talk freely. Foster has been at the front for a considerable period and has been suffering from the effects of severe shell shock.

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

SION MILLS CASUALTIES

The parents of Private M. Hanratty who reside at Sion Mills have been informed that he has been wounded. He is attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers.

The relatives of Private R. Patterson who reside in Sion Mills district have been informed that he has been wounded in action. He is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He was a member of the U.V.F. and the local L.O.L.

Information has been received by the relatives of Private W. Quigley who reside at Sion Mills that he has been wounded in action. He has been in the firing line for a long period.

Strabane Weekly News
5th August 1916

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Second-Lieutenant A.W. Craig, South African Infantry, wounded in the attack on Delville Wood, is a son of Mr and Mrs Craig, Finn View, Killygordon, County Donegal. He is now in hospital in Chelsea and doing well. He obtained his commission in the Cape of Good Hope Regiment on 9th September 1915.

Mrs. E. Lindsay, Lurganshanny, Ballindrait has received official intimation that her son Private Andrew Lindsay (Donegal and Fermanagh), Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was killed in action on the 30th of June, the eve of the "great push."

Sergeant W. Goodwin. Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers), killed in action.

Strabane Chronicle
5th August 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mr. James Delaney, Bridge Street, Strabane, has been officially notified that his son, Private William Delaney, is missing. Private Delaney has not been heard from since the 1st July.

Strabane Weekly News
12th August 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss Maggie Russell, Main Street, Strabane acted as nurse for the week

COUNTY DONEGAL CASUALTIES

Mr Patrick Keeny, ex-sergeant R.I.C., Ardaghey, Inver, Co Donegal has been officially notified that his son Sergeant Charles J. Keeny, Irish Guards, has been wounded in action and is in hospital in England. Intimation has been received that Act-Company-Sergeant-Major H. Foy, of Stranorlar has been wounded. He was attached to the (Ulster Division) Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He served through the South African campaign as well as the Burmese campaign.

Mrs. Fleming who resides at Stranorlar has received an intimation that her son Private Thomas Fleming who was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has been missing since 1st July. He volunteered at the commencement of the war. He was a staunch member of the local U.V.F. Much sympathy is felt for his mother who is a widow.

The relatives of Private Thomas Henderson who reside at Stranorlar, have received an intimation that he has been wounded in action. He was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He is at present in an hospital in England.

Strabane Chronicle
12th August 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Intimation has been received in Strabane that Mr. Thomas McCrossan, C.E. (London County Council) who is attached to the Royal Engineers, lies in the military hospital.

The relatives of Private John Jack, Bridge Street, Strabane, who is missing, are still without news as to his fate.

Private J McFarland, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane is missing

Private William Delaney, Bridge Street, Strabane, Inniskilling Fusiliers, is missing since the 1st July.

Sergeant William MacBeth, Inniskilling Fusiliers, was killed in action on the 1st July. He was the son of Mrs. Macbeth and the late Joseph Macbeth, Momien, Ballindrait.

Strabane Weekly News
12th August 1916

WAR CASUALTIES
THE OFFICIAL LIST

The following casualties are announced by the Official Press Bureau:- Private unless otherwise stated. The town against each soldier's name is the home of his next-of-kin, except when followed by the abbreviation "Enlt,." When it is his place of enlistment.

Many of these have already reported in these columns

Strabane Weekly News

12th August 1916

WOUNDED

Hamilton, 10881, S (Sion Mills)
Moorehead, 27007, J. (Newtownstewart)
Semple, 27008, R. (Newtownstewart)

Strabane Weekly News

12th August 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Official intimation has been received by relatives that Corporal D.P. Smyth and Pte. John Dunbar, of the Inniskillings are missing since the big battle of July 1st

Strabane Weekly News

12th August 1916

PHOTOGRAPH

Engine Room *Artificer* only and dearly loved son of Robt. and Martha Kerr, Dublin Street, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone who lost his life in the sinking of *H.M.S. Defence* in the Naval Battle of Jutland, May 31st 1916. Aged 24 years. Deceased was the writer of several popular poems for this paper under the nom de plume of "Arkay".

Strabane Weekly News

12th August 1916

**TYRONE CASUALTIES
FURTHER LIST OF KILLED, WOUNDED AND MISSING**

The following casualties in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers have been officially announced:-
KILLED.

P. Gallagher, Castlefinn.
R. Monteith, Castleberg

WOUNDED

T. Bustard, Sion Mills

Strabane Chronicle

12th August 1916

**STRABANE SOLDIER'S SPEECH
RECOVERS IT A SECOND TIME**

A remarkable incident has occurred at the Strabane Military Hospital during the past few weeks, resulting in a soldier regaining his speech for a second time. Private William Foster had been at the front for a considerable period and had been invalided home in consequence of severe shell shock. He had been unable to speak. About 14 days ago the matron, on coming downstairs to her duties, was much pleased to hear the man say "Good morning", For the following few days Foster was able to speak fairly well, but in the course of the next few days, to his disappointment, he again lost his speech. On Tuesday morning Foster again received his speech, and this time much plainer than on the previous occasion.

Strabane Weekly News

19th August 1916

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

The relatives of Private James McGlinchey, who reside in Strabane, have received information that he has been wounded in action. He is attached to the 1st Battalion Cameronians. His brother Michael was wounded at the Mons retreat and lost his leg and another brother John has been missing since the Dardanelles campaign.

Strabane Weekly News

19th August 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Martin, Sgt.-Major T, Royal Irish Rifles, Strabane, wounded.

Mrs. Gillespie, Townhall Street, Strabane has received intimation that her son, Sergeant D. Gillespie who is attached to the Irish Guards has been wounded. He enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war and was a member of the Strabane National Volunteers.

Intimation has been received in Strabane that Mr. Thomas McCrossan, C.E. (London County Council) who is attached to the Royal Engineers is in a hospital in Malta. He is a brother of Mr. Joseph McCrossan, journalist, Strabane.

Private G. Craig, attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who belongs to Strabane is on leave having been put out of action for the fifth time. He was twice wounded in the Dardanelles, twice wounded in France, and once gassed. He was a member of the original Expeditionary Force and has another brother serving.

The relatives of Private D. Sheerin, who reside in Strabane have received notification that he has been wounded. He is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He is a noted football player having played for Belfast Celtic, Shelbourne (Dublin, and Derry Celtic. He is an all-round athlete. Information to hand that Sergeant-Major T. Martin, Strabane has been wounded. He was attached to the Royal Irish Rifles.

Private Joseph Watt, Tyrone Volunteers, who has lost his left eye as a result of the fighting on 1st July and is now in hospital at Guilford, is a son of the late Mr. Thomas Watt, Aghraskea, Cappagh, Pomeroy and a brother of Constable William Watt, Brown Square Barracks, Belfast. He had emigrated to New York but returned home to join the Ulster Division. He enlisted into the County Regiment and had only been a fortnight at the front when wounded. He is 19 years of age.

Strabane Weekly News
19th August 1916

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES
ANOTHER HEALY LIST

The following Tyrone and Donegal casualties were reported in a heavy official list issued on the 12th inst.
WOUNDED

Campbell 4710, B. (Newtownstewart)
Duggan 4253, E (Sion Mills)
Forbes, 18284, J. (Strabane)
Fricker, 23569, F. (Strabane)
Haire, 13927, A. (Sion Mills)
Jones, 23579, H.H. (Strabane)
Keys, 23982, J. (Strabane enlt.)
McGranaghan, 11426, D. (Strabane)
Monteith, 4155, A. (Ballindrait)
Moore, 11543, L. (Sion Mills)
Murdock, 4050, Lance-Cpl. (Strabane)
Patton, 3922, T. (Strabane)
Slavin, 3300, J. (Strabane)
Walker, 22831, J (Strabane)
Ward, 17706, M. (Donemana)
Wilson, 3719, W. (Newtownstewart)
Stewart, 3193, P. (Strabane)
Baxter, 4239, J. (Castlederg)
Divine, 24282, J. (Strabane)
Forbes, 17297, W. (Strabane)
Griffin, 12397, J. (Strabane)
Long, 3791, J. (Strabane)
McGurk, 19284, T. (Strabane)
Robinson, 14577, H. (Newtownstewart)
Rouse, 2199, P. (Strabane)

KILLED

McGonigle, 3720, Corporal M. (Newtownstewart)
Sproule, 26068, Corporal R. J. (Castlederg)

Strabane Weekly News
19th August 1916

THE TYRONES IN THE BIG ADVANCE
RECORD OF UNPARALLELED HEROISM

STORY OF VALOUR AND SACRIFICE NOTHING LIKE IT WAS EVER SEEN

The following account of the part taken in the big advance by the County Tyrone Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers on 1st July last, has been specially written for the "Tyrone Constitution" and "Strabane Weekly News" by Lieut-Colonel Ricardo, D.S.O., the soldierly Commander of the Battalion:-
Etc, Etc.

Corporal Thomas McClay, Laghey, Co. Donegal assisted Second-Lieutenant Lawrence to take 20 prisoners; he conveyed them, single-handed over "no man's land etc

Lance-Corporal Daniel Lyttle, of Leckpatrick, near Strabane when trying to save two machine guns from the enemy, found himself cut off, he fired one gun until his ammunition was exhausted, he then destroyed both guns and bombed his way back to his party. Etc

Private James Sproule, Castlederg (and three others) were part of a blocking party. Their officer and more than half their party were killed but they held on and covered the retirement of the main party and eventually retired in good order fighting every inch.

Lce-Cpl. John Ross Graham, Ardstraw, Co Tyrone all carried messages continuously. Owing to five days bombardment and during the 1st and 2nd July always under heavy shell fire their gallant work greatly assisted the keeping up of communication.

These are just a sample.

Strabane Weekly News 19th August 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Second-Lieutenant R.J. MacIvor, Royal Irish Regiment (attached Royal Irish Rifles), son of the late Hugh MacIvor, Newtownstewart received shell-shock on 4th inst. lieutenant MacIvor got his commission in the 5th Battalion Royal Irish Regiment, in November 1915, through the O.T.C., Belfast University. Prior to entering the Army he resided at Cullybackey, Co. Antrim. His sister is on the nursing staff at the U.V.F. Hospital, Belfast.

Intimation has been received by relatives that Private Frank McTeggart of the Inniskillings, whose parents reside in Dublin Street has been gassed in a recent engagement. Corporal M. McGonigle of the Inniskillings has been wounded and is at present in a hospital in England.

Strabane Weekly News 26th August 1916

INNISKILLING LOSSES LONG LIST OF MISSING MEN LATEST CASUALTY LIST

The following casualties amongst warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men are reported under various dates. (All are privates except where otherwise shown) :-

MISSING

Dunbar 11293, Cpl. J. (Newtownstewart)
Forsythe, 19446, W.J. (Castlederg)
Kerrigan, 22701, G. (Castlederg)
Kerrigan, 20809, T. (Castlederg)
McConaghie, 13938, J. (Castlederg)
McCutcheon, 19443, J. (Castlederg)
McKinley, 24770, W. (Donemana)
Mulligan, 13886, S. (Castlederg)
Porterfield, 235708, A.D. (Lifford)
Smyth, 16333, Cpl. D.P. (Newtownstewart)
Walker, 11095, J.H. (Newtownstewart)
Worling, 19979, J. (Sion Mills)

Strabane Weekly News 26th August 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

News has been received in Strabane that Private Jack McIvor, son of the late Mr. James McIvor, wine and spirit merchant, Strabane who is attached to the Princess Patricia's Light Infantry has been wounded in a recent engagement. He is at present in a hospital in Keighley, Yorkshire and is making satisfactory

progress. His wounds are in his legs and thigh and were inflicted by shrapnel. Private Mclvor left Strabane shortly after his father's death a few years ago. His speedy recovery will be welcomed by many friends.

Strabane Weekly News
26th August 1916

GALLANT TYRONE VOLUNTEER

Lieut-Colonel Ricardo, O.C. 9th battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) relates an act of gallantry displayed by Lance-Corporal Daniel Lyttle who resides at Leckpatrick, near Strabane. Lieutenant H. Gallagher, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who also receives the D.S.O., is a son of Mr. J. Gallagher, Manorcunningham, Co Donegal. He obtained his commission in the Donegal and Fermanagh Volunteers on 21st September 1914 and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on 4th June 1915.

Strabane Weekly News
26th August 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Intimation has been received by Mr. George Wasson, Carrigans, that his son George a private in the Inniskillings is missing.

Mrs. McBeth, Droit, has received official intimation that her grandson, Private J.H. Walker is missing and believed to be killed since the big battle on 1st July.

A few days ago Mr. A. Moorehead, Dublin had news from the War Office that his son, Joseph, a private in the Inniskillings had died as a result of being severely gassed in a recent engagement. Private Moorehead was a member of the Hamilton Pipers' Band and of No.5 L/O.L. This is the second son of this family to make the supreme sacrifice, and sympathy is felt for the bereaved parents.

Private William Black of the Inniskillings who was taken from France to an English hospital suffering from an injury in the leg, received in the big advance on 1st July succumbed last week. He was a son of Mr. George Black, Ardstraw and was the first man to volunteer for active service from Ardstraw district. He was a member of Ardstraw L.O.L. No. 502.

Mr. J. Ellis, Beltony, has had official tidings that his son William, of the Scottish Rifles is missing.

Lieut.-Colonel Ricardo's account in last week's issue of the big advance of 1st July and of the heroism of the Tyrone men, will be read with interest. Amongst others he mentions the name of Corporal John R. Graham, son of Mr. T. Graham, Carnkenny, Ardstraw who he said, "carried messages continuously during a five days' bombardment and during 1st and 2nd July, always under heavy shell fire." Corporal Graham is at present in his native district for recruiting purposes.

Strabane Chronicle
26th August 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Private Jack Mclvor, son of the late Mr. James Mclvor, wine and spirit merchant, Strabane, who is attached to the Canadians, has been wounded in the legs and thigh. He joined the colours in Canada shortly after the outbreak of hostilities. Private Mclvor lies in hospital in York.

Mrs. Gillespie, Town Hall Street, Strabane, has received intimation that her son, Sergeant D. Gillespie, of the Irish Guards, has been wounded. Sergeant Gillespie enlisted shortly after the outbreak of the war, and was a member of the Strabane National Volunteers.

Private G. Craig, attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, is home on leave, having been invalided for the fifth time. He was twice wounded in the Dardanelles, twice in France, and once gassed. He was a member of the original Expeditionary Force. He has another brother serving.

The relatives of Private D Sheerin, Strabane, have received notification that he has been wounded. Private Sheerin is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He is a noted footballer, and has played for Belfast Celtic, Shelbourne (Dublin), and Derry Celtic. He is an all-round athlete.

Information is to hand that Sergeant-Major T Martin, Strabane, has been wounded. He was attached to the Royal Irish Rifles.

Strabane Chronicle
26th August 1916

MILITARY SERVICE ACT
CASES AT STRABANE

Mr. Eugene Conroy, J.P., presided at a special Court held in Strabane on Tuesday evening, when Sergeant Weir, of Sion Mills, charged three men named George Sharkey, Glebe, Sion Mills; John McGrath, Ballyfatton, Sion Mills; and Bernard O'Donnell, Sion Mills, with failing to report themselves at the Recruiting Office in Scotland and coming to Ireland to evade military service.

Great interest was evinced in the proceedings, which are the first of the kind in Strabane.

Mr. P. H. O'Brien, Solicitor, defended, and stated that although these men were registered they could not be considered either as conscripts or deserters. He quoted the Military Service Act in support of his contention. He said that the prisoners were resident in Sion Mills and had gone away some time in August 1915, that they came back in February, and could only be treated as migratory labourers. His clients had never intended to be fixed residents of Great Britain.

Thomas McGrath, father of the prisoner, John McGrath, stated that the three men charged only left this country on account of slack work at Sion Mills, and returned in February. Witness said that it was customary for the workers in the mills to occasionally leave there and go to Belfast, Portadown and Scotland for work.

Head Constable Wright asked that the prisoners be remanded.

Mr. O'Brien said that the Military Service Act did not apply to Ireland. He hoped that the prisoners be treated as Irishmen and discharged.

Mr. Conroy held that there was no other course open to him than to discharge the prisoners. These men were in the habit of going away to other places when work was slack.

Strabane Chronicle
26th August 1916

MILITARY SERVICE ACT
CASES AT STRABANE

At a special Court in Strabane on Wednesday, before Mr. Patrick McMenamin, J.P.

Sergeant Latimer, Strabane, charged Jas. McConnell, Main Street, Strabane, "that, on the 25th April 1916, being registered under the Military Service Act, he failed to report himself at 139, Bath Street, Glasgow, and having failed to do so is now deemed an absentee from the reserve".

Complainant gave evidence of arresting the accused who said "I don't know anything about it".

It was stated that McConnell had resided in Scotland for the past fourteen years."

Defendant was remanded to Derry Jail for seven days, pending the arrival of a military escort.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd September 1916

Private John Toorish, son of Mr. John Toorish, Nationalist Registration Agent, Strabane, who is attached to the Canadians, arrived in Strabane on Friday evening from Canada. Private Toorish joined the colours early in the present year. He held an important and responsible position in Canada prior to joining the army. On his arrival in Strabane he received a warm welcome. Private Toorish went to Canada over four years ago, and his genial, good-natured and gentlemanly disposition gained for him there as many friends as he left behind him in his native place. He was a pupil of the Bridge End National School, taught by the Sisters of Mercy, and as a student won many distinctions. We wish him every success.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd September 1916

The parents of Private Samuel McGarrigle, Strabane, who is attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers, have received intimation that he has been wounded in France. He is a son of Mr. Charles McGarrigle, and is well known and popular in Strabane.

Driver Patrick McBeth, Royal Garrison Artillery, Patrick Street, Strabane, has been wounded by falling off his horse.

Private D. McAteer, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, has been wounded.

Private P. Gallagher, Inniskillings, Sion Mills, has been wounded.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd September 1916

Private P. Cassidy, Inniskillings, Sion Mills, has been wounded.

Private William Delaney, Bridge Street, Strabane, who belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been reported killed in action. Private Delaney joined the colours a short time ago. He was a blacksmith, who carried on a business with his bereaved father in Bridge Street.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd September 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
A GRATEFUL SOLDIER

Private J. Foster who it will be recollected lost his speech and regained same at Strabane Hospital has left here. He pays tribute to manner in which he was treated during his stay. He wrote thanking everyone for the kindness during his stay. I shall never forget how he was treated.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd September 1916

DONEGAL OFFICER MISSING

Mr. R. Tyler Bustard, who resides at Tyrcallen, Stranorlar has been notified that his son, Lieutenant Cecil Bustard has been missing. He joined his Majesty's forces shortly after the outbreak of war, received a commission and was despatched to Mesopotamia and served there for a considerable period. Prior to enlistment he was an apprentice in the office of Mr. A. Stubbs, solicitors, Ballyshannon. His father took a leading part in the U.V.F. movement in Stranorlar.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd September 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss. Ellis, Lifford Street, officiated as nurse during the week. Ten patients were discharged during the week

Strabane Weekly News
2nd September 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private P. Cassidy who reside at Sion Mills have been notified that he has been wounded in action. He was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Private D. McAleer who resided at Strabane has been wounded in action. He is attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Relatives of Private P. Gallagher who resided at Strabane have received notification that he is missing. He was with Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been in the firing line since the commencement of the war.

Mrs. McVeigh, who resides at Patrick Street, Strabane has been notified that her husband, Driver Frank McVeigh has met with an accident by falling from his horse. He is at present undergoing an operation. He is attached to the Royal Garrison Artillery and has been in the firing line for two years. He took part in the battles of Neuve Chappelle and Loos.

The parents of Private Samuel McGarrigle, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, on Saturday received intimation that he was wounded on the knee by the explosion of a shell. Prior to the war he was a mechanic in Scotland and volunteered from there.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd September 1916

LOCAL CASUALTY LISTS
AS ISSUED BY PRESS BUREAU

The casualty lists issued by the Official Press Bureau contain the following:-

WOUNDED

Royal Irish Regiment, Shearer, 3417, D. (Strabane), Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Boyle, 20525, J (Donegal), Cassidy, 3784. P. (Sion Mills), McAteer, 22529, D. (Strabane), McCallum, 25586, J. (Newtownstewart), McNamee, 24982, P. (Convoy)

MISSING

Gallagher, 3982 (Strabane), Kelly, 4285, D (Castlederg)

WOUNDED

Kerrigan, 27795, D. (Castlederg), McKinney, 10319, J. (Sion Mills), McSorley, 22786, J. (Castlederg), Patton, 2602, W. (Ballybofey)

Strabane Weekly News

9th September 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss Dorothy Moody acted as nurse for the week

Strabane Weekly News

9th September 1916

CASUALTIES

Private D. Spence, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of William Spence, Raphoe has died from the effects of gas poisoning. He enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war.

Relatives of Lance-Corporal J. Murdock, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who reside near Strabane have been notified that he has been wounded. He was wounded on a previous occasion.

The relatives of Private Thomas Fleming, who reside at Stranorlar have received notification that he has been killed in action. He served with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and prior to enlistment was an active member of the local U.V.F.

The relatives of Private J. McKinney who reside at Sion Mills near Strabane have been notified that he has been wounded in action. He was with Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

The relatives of Private W. Patton who reside at Ballybofey have been notified that he has been wounded. He served with Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Private Albert Jack, Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Jack, formerly of Ringsend, Castlefin and brother of Miss Margaret Jack, 7 Bellview Avenue, L'Derry has been killed in action.

Strabane Weekly News

9th September 1916

A BRAVE LIFFORD SOLDIER

Mr John Porterfield, who resides near Lifford has received official intimation that his son Lance-Corporal David Albert Porterfield, who was formerly reported as missing, was killed in action on the 1st July. He was only 17 years of age belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News

16th September 1916

STRABANE AND DISTRICT STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Mr Patrick H. O'Brien, solicitor, Strabane had recently received an intimation that his brother Mr. Frank W. O'Brien, in a general hospital suffering from wounds received, also shell shock. Mr O'Brien is attached to a unit of the Australians. Mr O'Brien also fought in the Spanish-American war and the Philippines in the services of the United States. He is a son of the late Mr. P. O'Brien, J.P. Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News

16th September 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Mrs. Lavery, Railway Street, Strabane acted as housekeeper for the week and Miss Ingram, Derry Road, officiated as nurse.

Strabane Weekly News

16th September 1916

SECOND-LIEUT. J.H. DAVIDSON

Second-Lieutenant J.H. Davidson, wounded, is a son of Mr. W.J. Davidson, Laurel Villa, Castlederg, secretary and manager of the Castlederg and Victoria Tramway and has a brother in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He has held a commission in the Royal Irish Rifles.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd September 1916

SECOND-LIEUT. R.W. MCKINLAY

Second-Lieutenant R.W. McKinlay, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who has been awarded the Military Cross is a son of Mr. Robert McKinlay, Woodside, Manorcunningham. He was wounded during a successful raid on the enemy trenches in May and was mentioned in a special order. During the great attack he forced his way with remarkable determination to the ultimate objective. He held on gallantry as long as possible and successfully withdrew his men when the position became untenable. Although much exhausted he then gave splendid assistance to Major Peacocks

Strabane Weekly News

23rd September 1916

**LOCAL CASUALTIES
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS**

Wounded E. McDevitt, No 28204 Strabane
Wounded-Shell shock McBride 28177? Newtownstewart

Strabane Weekly News

23rd September 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurse in charge for the week was Miss McGowan, Bridge Street, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd September 1916

STRANORLAR MAN KILLED IN ACTION

Mrs. Heron, school teacher, Stranorlar has received intimation that her son Corporal William Heron has been killed while under shell fire in France. He belonged to the 1st Munster Fusiliers and had been through the Gallipoli and Suvla Bay campaigns and the recent big push in France.

Mrs Heron has another son serving in the Inniskilling Fusiliers in France. He was seriously wounded in the first year of the war.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd September 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A largely attended meeting in connection with the Strabane Women's' War Relief Committee was held in the Townhall on Thursday evening at which Mrs Trimble presided.

Strabane Weekly News

30th September 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurse in charge for the week was Miss. Keatly, Bowling Green.

Strabane Weekly News

30th September 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Mr John McCrossan, head clerk at the Goods Department of the Great Northern Railway Company, Strabane has received intimation that her brother Pte. Thomas McCrossan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers is a prisoner of war and is at present at Dulmen Camp, Germany. He is missing since the 27th August. His mother resides at Mountjoy Terrace, L'Derry. He was an old soldier and served at Crete, Malta, China and numerous other places.

Corporal John Breslin, Orchard Street, Strabane who belongs to the Irish Guards has been wounded in the Somme. His wounds consist of shrapnel received in the back of the head. He is now in the Western

General Hospital, Manchester. In a letter home to his mother he mentions other Strabane soldiers: Private Daniel Shearer, Private Patrick McLaughlin and Private Harte.

The mother of Frank Houston, who resides at Strabane, has received official intimation from the War Office that he has been killed in action. He served with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and volunteered at the commencement of the war. He has two brothers named Bernard Houston and William Houston serving with the Inniskillings.

Strabane Weekly News
30th September 1916

LOCAL CASUALTIES
SECOND LIEUT. HUGH M.A. OLPHERT

Second-Lieut. Hugh Montgomery Archdall Olphert, Royal Munster Fusiliers, whose death on 9th inst. was reported in Thursday evening's official list, was the second son of Canon John Olphert, Urney Rectory, Sion Mills and grandson of the Very Rev. Thomas Olphert, M.A., Dean of Derry who died in 1901. The deceased was 18 years of age and obtained a commission in the Munster Fusiliers in October 1915. At the time of his death he was serving with a battalion of the Leinster Regiment.

Strabane Chronicle
30th September 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Mr. John Maguire, Factory Row, Strabane, has received intimation that his son, Private Dan Maguire, has been wounded in action in France, and now lies in a military hospital in Eastleigh, England. Private Maguire is one of the youngest soldiers in the British Army. He has been in the firing line for a considerable time past. He is well-known in Strabane and was a prominent member of the Strabane Irish National Volunteers, prior to joining the colours. Writing home to his father he states that he was wounded on a Sunday by shrapnel, which came right through his helmet, and went in through his ear. He describes the fighting at the Somme where he was wounded, and how his company captured four lines of trenches and a village from the enemy. He says the Irish troops are something to be proud of. Major Redmond was with them, and their Irish pipers played "A nation once again" when the Irish soldiers charged the Germans. The German dead were piled up in heaps. Private Maguire hopes to be home soon.

Strabane Chronicle
30th September 1916

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Mr. P.H. O'Brien, solicitor, Strabane, has just received intimation that his brother, Mr. Frank W. O'Brien, is at present in the General Hospital, British Expeditionary Force, France, where he lies wounded and suffering from shell-shock. He belongs to the Australians. Mr. O'Brien was formerly well-known in athletic circles in the North West, prior to emigrating. We understand that he fought through the Spanish-American war in the Phillipines in the service of the United States. He is the son of the late Mr. Partick O'Brien, J.P., Strabane and a member of family who distinguished themselves in the educational world. His father was a respected, popular and amiable gentleman. We wish Mr. O'Brien a speedy recovery.

Strabane Chronicle
30th September 1916

Mr. John McCrossan, head clerk, goods department, Great Northern Railway, Strabane, has received a postcard from his brother, Private Thomas McCrossan, informing him that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. He is missing since the 27th August. His mother resides at Mountjoy Street, Derry, where the family are well known and popular. Lieutenant Lendrum in forming Mr. McCrossan that his brother was missing, wrote:- "He was a splendid soldier and is the greatest loss to my company. Please accept my most profound sympathy I will write if you will do the same as he was so popular with everyone". Rev. John Coghlan, chaplain, also wrote speaking in high terms of Private McCrossan as a good Catholic soldier.

Strabane Chronicle
30th September 1916

STRABANE AND THE RED CROSS

Captain J.C. Herdman presided at a meeting in the Strabane Town Hall on Tuesday to make preliminary arrangements in connection with the forthcoming sale of agricultural produce in aid of the British Farmers' Red Cross Fund.

Mr. R Bell, Baronscourt, stated that the Duke of Abercorn who had given an Abercorn Angus cow to the sale at Baronscourt last year, had intimated his intention to give the same to the Strabane sale.

The meeting expressed its appreciation of the offer.

Mr. James Clarke, J.P., said that he would open the subscription list with a £5 note if nineteen others do the same. It was stated that two £5 subscriptions had already been received.

The Chairman said that he would follow suit with another £5.

It was unanimously decided to organise a sale of farm produce etc. Within the boundaries of the Strabane No. 1 and No. 2 districts, and Strabane Union district, and to formulate an executive committee to make all the necessary arrangements, including the appointments of collectors in each district, the fund to be called the Strabane Union of Farmers Red Cross Fund.

Strabane Chronicle
30th September 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mrs. Breslin, Orchard Street, Strabane, has received notification that her son, Corporal John Breslin, who is attached to the Irish Guards, has been wounded in action in France. Corporal Breslin joined the colours about a year ago and received rapid promotion. Prior to joining the Army he, along with his brother, Joseph, was an instructor to the Strabane Corps of the Irish National Volunteers, and was a general favourite. He is a well-known athlete and prominent footballer. He played in the summer football league last year for the Allies team. Corporal Breslin now lies in the Western Hospital, Manchester, as a result of his wounds, which his many friends will be pleased to hear, are not of a serious nature. In a letter home to his mother he states "I am getting on splendid and hope to be alright in a short period. I was wounded in the big charge on Friday at the Battle of the Somme. It was a terrible battle. I am in hospital along with Dan Shearer, Patrick McLaughlin, assistant in Messrs. O'Doherty's shop, and young Harte, Main Street. I have a shrapnel wound on the back of my head but I will not be anything the worse".

Strabane Chronicle
30th September 1916

Intimation has been received by Mrs. Houston, Barrack Street, Strabane, that her son, Private Frank Houston, Strabane, Royal Inniskilling fusiliers, has been killed in action in France. He joined the colours shortly after the outbreak of the war, and previous to this was a member of the Strabane Irish National Volunteers. A witty and pleasant man, he was very popular in town. He was a barber's assistant. The news of his death has been received with regret.

Strabane Weekly News
7th October 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS
STRABANE CASUALTIES

Mr. John Reilly, flax buyer, Bowling Green, Strabane has received an intimation that his brother Captain P.J. Reilly has been wounded for a second time. About twelve months ago he was wounded in the leg. As far as can be ascertained the wounds now received are not of a serious nature

Mrs. Plummer, Bridge Street has received an intimation that her husband Private James Plummer, Royal Irish Regiment (Irish Brigade) has been wounded and is at present in hospital.

Strabane Chronicle
7th October 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mr. John Reilly, flax buyer, Bowling Green, Strabane, has received intimation that his brother, Captain P.J.Reilly, R.A.M.C., Norfolk Regiment, has been wounded in France for a second time.

Strabane Weekly News
7th October 1916

The nurse in charge of Strabane Military Hospital this week was Miss Kealty, Bowling Green. Two patients were discharged during the week and two admitted. The men were entertained to motor drives during the week by Mrs. Herdman, Camus. They were also invited to Strabane Pallidrome by Mr. Cooper. Mrs Trimble, who has taken a keen welfare in the interests of the institution has purchased new gramophone, and needless to say, the instrument is greatly appreciated. A number of contributions were also received during the week.

Strabane Weekly News

7th October 1916

COMMISSION FOR DONEMANA MAN

The Many friends of Mr. Fred Arbuckle, son of Mr William Arbuckle, Donemana will learn with pleasure that he has been appointed to a commission in the army. Lieutenant Arbuckle is presently at Finner Camp with the Ulster Division where he is undergoing training.

Strabane Weekly News

7th October 1916

STRABANE SERGEANT KILLED

The relatives of Sergeant George O. McCutcheon have been informed that he has been killed in action. He belonged to the Inniskilling Fusiliers. He took part in the first fighting in the Balkans and on account of his bravery was recommended by his officer for promotion. He was an officer of the U.V.F. (Carricklee Company). He was employed in the Strabane Estates office under Colonel J.R. Baillie. A photo of Sergeant McCutcheon will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Strabane Weekly News

7th October 1916

CLOUGHCOR MAN KILLED

Mrs Lowry of Cloughcor, Strabane has received intimation of the death of her eldest son, Harry Lowry, who was killed in action at the front. Mr Lowry served his time in the business house of McCay & Co., Ferryquay Street, L'Derry. Health considerations forced him to abandon a most promising career and emigrate to New Zealand. Later he was removed to France and took part in the fierce fighting that began on 1st July, escaping unhurt until he fell on the 15th September. But he had never regretted volunteering and was glad to be doing his duty where he was.

Mr Lowry's younger brother served with the first New Zealand contingent in Gallipoli greatly distinguishing himself and being recommended for the D.C.M. for conspicuous gallantry. He has been discharged from active service through disablement caused by wounds.

At the close of the service in First Donagheady ... the Rev. J. Rutherford paid a tribute to the memory of the deceased and expressed the deep sympathy of the congregation with the bereaved mother, sister and brothers Etc

Strabane Weekly News

7th October 1916

DEPARTURE OF MRS. TRIMBLE

It was learned with regret by a wide circle of her friends that Mrs. Trimble, widow of the late Dr. J.M. Trimble has decided to leave Strabane for residence in England. We understand that she intends to resume her profession as a nurse under the auspices of Queen's Jubilee Nursing Society in Birmingham.

Strabane Weekly News

7th October 1916

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Captain J.H. Verner, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who has just been appointed to the command of a company is a son of Rev. William Verner, rector of Termonamongan and rural dean of Castlederg. . He was severely wounded some months ago in France.

Strabane Weekly News

7th October 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Mr. John Brogan, Gallon, has received the sorrowful tidings that his son, Patrick, has been killed in the battlefield. This is the second son of the household to make the supreme sacrifice. Private Patrick Brogan belonged to the Inniskillings. His death took place on September 15th.

The news of the death on the battlefield of Will MacLurg, son of the Rev. A. MacLurg, formerly of Ardstraw was received this week with feelings of sorrow in the district where he spent his boyhood and deep sympathy will go out to the bereaved family in Toronto. The young soldier who enlisted in the "Princess Pats," a famous Canadian regiment – on his 18th birthday, less than two years ago had already passed through two or three engagements prior to laying down his life for his country.

Strabane Weekly News

14th October 1916

CASUALTIES

Thursday morning's official list of casualties contained the following:-

KILLED

Harkin J.J. 2723 (Strabane) Royal Irish Regiment

Burns P. 9873 (Castleberg) Royal Irish Fusiliers

WOUNDED

Breslin Lance-Corpl. J. 8368 (Strabane) Irish Guards

Prisoner of War in Germany- Kerrigan G. 22701 (Castleberg)

Strabane Weekly News

14th October 1916

THE LATE PRIVATE PORTER

A comrade of the late Private Porter, Strabane who recently died from wounds received in action writing to deceased's mother.

Strabane Weekly News

14th October 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private P. Devine who reside at Townparks, have been informed that he has been killed. He belonged to the Irish Guards and a few months ago was wounded. He has another brother serving with the colours in France.

Mr Joseph Doherty, Newtown Street, Strabane has received intimation that his son, Private James Doherty, Royal Irish Rifles, has been wounded in a recent engagement and is at present in a hospital. Wounds consist of shrapnel about the feet. Has another brother with a Canadian unit.

Notification has been received by the relatives of Private J. Quinn who reside in Strabane that he has been wounded. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

The relatives of Private P. Doherty, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who reside at Sion Mills, Strabane have been informed that he has been wounded.

The parents of Private R. Semple, Inniskilling Fusiliers have been notified that he has been wounded. Private Semple also comes from the Strabane district.

News is to hand that Lance-Corporal Reid, Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded. He resides at Lifford.

Strabane Weekly News

14th October 1916

GALLANT VOLUNTEER

The winning of the British Military Medal by Lance-Corporal Daniel Lyttle, has given general satisfaction in the Leckpatrick district. The heroic act of trying to save two machine guns from the enemy, the firing of one gun until his ammunition was exhausted, the destroying of both guns and afterwards bombing his way back to the rest of the party is just in keeping with the pluck of Lance-Corporal Lyttle.

Strabane Weekly News

14th October 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Porterfield, Lifford and Miss Dorothy Moody, Railway Street.

Strabane Weekly News

14th October 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The Rev. D. Morton, The Manse, has been officially notified that his son Captain D.H. Morton, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded. Recent messages show that he is making progress towards recovery. He was transferred to a hospital in England a few days ago.

Private W.J. Robinson, son of Mr W. Robinson, Strawletterdallion, who is attached to a Canadian regiment has been wounded and is at present in a London hospital.

Second-Lieutenant Carl O. Crawford, R.I.R. (Londonderry) who has distinguished himself on the battlefield is a grandson of Mr. Oliver Crawford and a nephew of Mr. James Crawford, Strawhulter. He won the Military Cross last July and has now been awarded a bar to that distinction, which is the equivalent of a second Cross. The act for which he got the Cross originally consisted of organising a party in the dark and getting up ammunition to the front line. Later he led a charge in order to rescue some bombs which had fallen into the enemy's hands and were badly needed. He also done fine work against enemy bomb attacks.

Lance-Corporal John R. Graham who has been awarded the British Military Medal is a son of Thomas Graham, Carnkenny, Ardstraw. He distinguished himself by carrying messages continually under fire, his gallant work assisting to keep up communication.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

ROLL OF HONOUR

Brogan - Killed in action, 15th September 1916. Rifleman Hugh Brogan, Rifle Brigade, New Zealand Expeditionary Force; age 26 years, youngest son of the late Hugh Brogan, Ballaughalair, Donemana.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Private Jack Graham, Canadian Contingent, wounded and in hospital in England, belongs to Ardagh, St Johnston. He had twelve wounds on the back and three on the right arm. In a letter home he says he is going on well.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

GALLANT TYRONE MEN
AWARDED MILITARY MEDAL

The Military Medal has been awarded to the following:

Corporal Thomas McClay, 9/13603, Laghey, Co Donegal. During the great offensive he assisted an officer to take twenty prisoners. He conveyed them single-handed over "No Man's Land" and then returned to the German third line, all under very heavy fire, and when he returned he had been fighting hard for ten hours. He worked for Messers. J.B. Anderson & Co, Omagh.

Lance-Corporal Daniel Lyttle, 9/13654, belongs to Leckpatrick, near Strabane. When trying to save two machine guns from the enemy he was cut off. He fired one gun until his ammunition was exhausted, and then he destroyed both guns and bomber his way back to the rest of the party.

Lance-Corporal John Ross Graham, 9/20231, hails from Ardstraw. He distinguished himself by carrying messages continually under fire, his gallant work assisting to keep up communications.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

INNISKILLING CASUALTIES
KILLED

Donnelly, 13213, J. (Strabane), Houston, 16484, F. (Strabane), Kelly, 22776, J. (Killygordon)
McGeshan/McGeehan, 21251, J. Corporal (Strabane), Stevenson, 26418, P. (Raphoe)

WOUNDED

Brogan, 21303, J. (Donegal), Davenney, 16963, D (Sion Mills), Doherty, 23140, P. (Sion Mills), Duffy, 28140, J. (Killygordon), Keenan, 17175, P (Newtownstewart), Kenney, 22783, E. (Castledearg), McCarron, 21101, J. (Ballybofey), Reid, 21009, J. Lance-Corpl. (Lifford), Semple, 27491, R. (Castledearg)

PRISONERS OF WAR

Kerrigan, 22701,(Castledearg).

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

DONEMANA CASUALTIES

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private J. McCrossan, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who reside near Donemana that he has been wounded.

The parents of Private R. McGovern, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, have been informed that he has been wounded. He resided at Castlemellon, Donemana.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

LIFFORD SOLDIER WOUNDED

News has been received that Private Wilkinson, Irish Guards, who resided at Lifford has been severely wounded. Pte. Wilkinson is a son of Sergeant Wilkinson, Royal Irish Constabulary, Maguiresbridge, Co. Fermanagh. Prior to the war he was engaged as a clerk at the offices of the Great Northern Railway at Strabane. Private Wilkinson is at present in a hospital in England.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

STRABANE AND THE RED CROSS

A largely attended meeting in connection with the Red Cross was held in the Town hall on Thursday evening. Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee, who is in charge of the arrangements, explained as to the procedure to be adopted to realise funds for the society.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

Captain J.C. Herdman presided at the meeting of the Strabane Guardians on Thursday last. On the instructions of the guardians the master invited quotations from firms for the supply of margarine to the house. And two tenders were submitted, one at 8³/₄d per lb. And one at 1/- per lb. The chairman explained how the matter had arisen and said that margarine was used for cooking in his own house and he considered it would be quite good enough for the inmates. Mr Perry said the margarine grind had been substituted for butter in the Belfast workhouse with the result that there was a saving of £1,000 per year. Mr. McCrea – But that was in a city. The Master – They have many more inmates. Mr. Rankin – I move that we don't touch margarine at all. Mr. McCrea seconded.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

Second Lieutenant Carl O. Crawford P.I.R. (Londonderry) who had distinguished himself on the battlefield, is a nephew of Mr. James Crawford, Strawhulter, Newtown Stewart. He is well known to a good many in this district as he was a frequent visitor here. The distinction won by this young officer is unique in the records of his division in as much as he won the Military Cross last July, and he has now been awarded a bar to that distinction, which is the equivalent to a second Cross. The act for which he got the Cross originally, consisted of organizing a party in the dark and getting up ammunition to the front line.

Strabane Weekly News
14th October 1916

The Military Medal has been awarded to the following Tyrone and Donegal men, all of whom were mentioned in Lieutenant Colonel Ricardo's dispatch, which we published some weeks ago:-
Corporal McClay, Lance-Corporal Daniel Lyttle, Lance-Corporal John Ross Graham.

These gallant Ulstermen were all members of the Ulster Volunteer Force and were serving in the same battalion at the front. Corporal McClay belongs to Laghey, Co. Donegal. During the great offensive he assisted an officer to take 20 prisoners. He conveyed them single-handedly over 'No Man's Land'; and he then returned to the German 3rd line, all under heavy fire and when he returned he had been fighting hard for 10 hours.

Lance-Corporal Daniel Lyttle belongs to Leckpatrick, near Strabane. When trying to save two machine guns from the enemy he was cut off. He fired one gun until his ammunition was exhausted and he then destroyed both guns and bombed his way back to the rest of the party.

Lance-Corporal John R. Graham hails from Ardstraw, Co. Tyrone. He distinguished himself by carrying messages continually under fire, his gallant work assisting to keep up communications.

Strabane Chronicle
14th October 1916

STRABANE MAN KILLED IN ACTION

The mother of Private William Devine, of the Irish Guards, who resides at Green Brae, Strabane, is officially informed that her son has been killed in action in France. He joined the colours about nine months ago, and prior to that, was a fireman in the employment of the Great Northern Railway company. He was well-known and popular. The Rev. SS Knapp, chaplain, writes as follows to Mrs. Devine:- "You will already have heard the sad news of your elder boy. The younger, I am happy to say, is quite well. I know I can say nothing to console your mother's heart at his loss. But at least I can remove any anxiety you may feel for the welfare of his soul. He was, I do not doubt, prepared to go to God. We had had daily Mass with Rosary and Benediction in the evening for a fortnight before taking part in the battle, and only a few hours before going into the line, I gave them all Absolution and the Holy Father's blessing and Plenary Indulgence. He gave his life to God in the fulfilment of his duty, which is the Will of God – 'obedient like His Divine Master unto death'. May God comfort you, and may Our Blessed Lady, the condoler of the afflicted, who understands so much, be with you in your sorrow. With heartfelt sympathy."

Strabane Chronicle
14th October 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mr. Victor Vernon has secured the Town Hall for the winter months for pictures and dancing. Amongst the chief films booked is 'The Battle of the Somme', the only original picture filmed by the War Office. The date of opening will be announced later. A dancing class will be held every Saturday, commencing October 14th. Mr. Dan Connolly's orchestra will be in attendance.

Strabane Chronicle
14th October 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

At a special court held in Strabane on Tuesday, before Mr. Eugene Conroy, J.P., Private Daniel Doherty, of the 3rd Inniskilling Fusiliers, was charged by Sergeant Latimer with being an absentee and was handed over to a military escort.

Strabane Chronicle
14th October 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

We would like to call the attention of our readers to the fact that the management of the Pallidrome, Strabane, commence their three nights per week performances (Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, including matinees on Saturday afternoons at 3p.m.) from next week. We understand that, through the enterprise of the manager, Mr. HF Cooper, a series of pictures entirely new to Strabane, will be screened. The hall is crowded each night of opening by enthusiastic audiences. Look out for the Battle of the Somme.

Strabane Chronicle
21st October 1916

**FARMERS, BE PATRIOTIC BY HELPING THE STRABANE UNION
FARMERS' RED CROSS FUND**

A huge auction

JUMBLE SALE

Will be held on

Tuesday, 31st October 1916

At the

CORN MARKET, STRABANE

At 11.00 o'clock a.m.,

Of all descriptions of Live Stock, Implements, Furniture,
Farm Produce, &c. The sale will be conducted by the
Auctioneers of the district free of charge.

The Proceeds will be handed over intact to the above by
Early Entries for Publication will be thankfully received by:-

Alex. Weir & Co., Ltd., Hon Secretaries

Strabane Weekly News
21st October 1916

A largely attended meeting connection with the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs. Clarke, The Manse, presiding. Miss McCrea reported having a large parcel of comforts ready for Monday, and also that a quantity of socks was sent to Mrs Feely to be put into

parcels for the interned prisoners of war from Strabane district, in Germany. Mrs Feely also reported that up to the present 72 parcels had been sent to Germany and that numerous cards of thanks had been received from the recipients. A letter was read from Private John Arbuckle, thanking the committee for the parcel of comforts sent to him. Private Arbuckle, in his letter, stated that there were few Strabane men where he was stationed, and the kind gift was greatly appreciated. On the motion of Mrs. William King, seconded by Mrs. Toner, Bank House, a vote of thanks was passed to the ladies who carried on the duties of housekeeping at the Military Hospital.

Strabane Weekly News
21st October 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge of Strabane Military Hospital for the week were Miss Lizzie Stewart, Dergalt, with Miss Chapman, Carricklee. Two men were discharged during the week and two were admitted. Mrs. Sinclair invited the men to a concert held in the Town Hall and Mrs. Cooper also invited them to the Strabane Pallidrome. The patients and staff were entertained to tea at the sale of work in the Abercorn Schools by Mrs. Herdman, Camus. Mrs. Herdman also gave the patients motor drives during the week. A number of contributions were also received.

Strabane Weekly News
21st October 1916

LIFFORD OFFICER KILLED

Second-Lieutenant William Gaston Boyd, who has died of wounds was the only son of Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Boyd of Lifford. The gallant officer who was only thirty years of age was severely wounded in action on Thursday and died the following day. Went to Canada in 1907 where he took up survey work. He belonged for some years to a British Columbian regiment which was mobilised in August 1914 and came to England with the Second Canadian Contingent in June 1915 and went to France in the signalling section of the Second Canadian Mounted Rifles. In August of this year he obtained a commission in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
21st October 1916

STRABANE URBAN COUNCIL
GAS MANAGER VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Eugene Conroy, J.P. (chairman, presided at a special meeting of the council on Monday night. The chairman said the reason he had called the meeting was that on Friday last the gas manager (Mr. Gripton) had called on him about a letter he had received from Lieutenant Buchanan, Londonderry, with reference to him giving his services to the Government.

Strabane Weekly News
21st October 1916

LATEST CASUALTIES

The following casualties are given in the latest official list:-

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS
WOUNDED

Caldwell, 27987, C. (Baronscourt, Newtownstewart)
Hamilton, 20159, C. (Sion Mills)

MISSING

Caulfield, 23267, D. (Strabane)

Strabane Weekly News
21st October 1916

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Private W.J. Hazlett, Lisnacloon, Castlederg, has been reported wounded. He is serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Intimation has been received of the death on the battlefield of Private Christopher Hamilton, Auckland Infantry Battalion, New Zealand Expeditionary Force. He was the son of Mr. W.J. Hamilton, Urblereagh, Ardstraw and emigrated to New Zealand ten years ago.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Intimation is to hand that Sergeant A. Nelson, Sion Mills has been wounded. He is attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division)

Intimation is to hand that Pte. J. Smith, Ballybofey has been wounded. He is attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

CASTLEFINN MAN KILLED

Mr. W.J. Stewart, J.P. Laurel Hill, Castlefinn has received intimation of the death on active service on the 2nd inst. of his youngest son Lance-Corporal Thomas Ernest Stewart of the Canadian Mounted Rifles. He was twenty three years of age and had been in the service of the Ulster bank in Belfast and Downpatrick and subsequently in 1913 secured an appointment in the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Montreal. He joined the Canadian Mounted Rifles in January 1915 and went to the front in the October following. He was almost constantly in the fighting till the time of his death

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

STRABANE SOLDIER HONOURED

School of Bayonet Fighting and Physical Training, Barrifield, Ontario presented Corporal Hawthorne with a gold-headed cane in appreciation of his interest in them. Corporal Hawthorne is a son of Mr. T. Hawthorne who resides near Strabane. He joined the colours after the outbreak of the war. He has been given credit for being one of the best tenor singers in the North-West and displayed great talent in this direction in connection with Strabane Choral Society.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

DONEMANA AND THE RED CROSS

One of the largest concerts ever held in Donemana took place on Monday in the hall. The funds were devoted to the Red Cross Fund and as on previous occasions the people of this patriotic village and surrounding district responded heartily to the appeal.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS PRISONERS OF WAR FUND

In response to an appeal some days ago by Mr. John Elliott, solicitor, a meeting was held in Strabane on Wednesday 25th inst. Mr Elliott presided and briefly stated the object of the meeting and dwelt on the hardships the men would suffer during the coming winter in Germany.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Joyce, Derry Road and Miss Feely, Derry Road, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

LATEST CASUALTIES **KILLED**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. McCutcheon 11382, Sergt, G (Strabane)

WOUNDED

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Hamilton, 76288, T. Pte. (Raphoe), Harley, 3789, F. Pte. (Plumbridge)
Kelly, 4460, W. Pte. (Raphoe)

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

LATE SECOND LIEUTENANT BOYD, LIFFORD **STRABANE GUARDIANS SYMPATHY**

At the meeting of Strabane Guardians on Tuesday last at which Mr. Robert Stevenson presided.

Mr. Andrew Lowry, J.P., said he was sure they had all heard since they last met of the death from wounds received in action of Second-Lieutenant Wm. Gaston Boyd, the only son of their respected medical officer of the workhouse, Dr. Boyd.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

LANCE-CORPORAL WILL MacLURG

Referring to the death on the battlefield of Lance-Corporal Will MacLurg the "Toronto World". Last week a notable instance occurred at the front in connection with the death at the front of Lance-Corporal William MacLurg, a splendid young Irishman who came to Toronto with his parents a few years ago.

Strabane Weekly News
28th October 1916

ULSTER BRIGADE CONGRATULATED

The Brigadier commanding the (Ulster) Infantry Brigade of the Irish Division has issued the following order:- The Brigadier wishes to express his admiration for the conduct and gallantry of all ranks of the Infantry Brigade during the recent operation during which they have added greatly to the honour of their regiments and corps and also their country. The discipline displayed and the bravery exhibited were most marked. The Corps Commander has sent the following congratulatory message to the Division :- I heartily congratulate G.O.C. and all ranks of the Division on their capture of Ginchy which followed on the capture of Guillemont, adds fresh laurels to that already gained. The gallantry and devotion of all ranks during the recent operations have been beyond praise.

Strabane Chronicle
28th October 1916

LIFFORD OFFICER KILLED

Second-Lieutenant William Gaston, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who died of wounds on the 13th inst., was the only son of Dr. DC Boyd, Lifford, Co. Donegal. He was 30 years of age and had emigrated to Canada some years ago. Enlisting in the ranks of the Canadian Mounted rifles, he rose to the rank of sergeant, and was promoted last month to a commission in the Ulster Division for service in the field. He was wounded on the 12th inst. and succumbed the following day. The deceased had a promising career before him. There is wide-spread sympathy with Dr. Boyd in his bereavement, and the sympathy of all sections of the community, irrespective of creed and class, is extended to him. He is the oldest doctor in the neighbourhood, of which he is a native, and holds several public appointments.

Strabane Weekly News
4th November 1916

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening at which the Duchess of Abercorn presided.

Strabane Weekly News
4th November 1916

WAR CERTIFICATES

Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane has just completed the issuing of a large number of certificates to the relatives of those who are serving at the front. Up to the present he has issued upwards of 1,200 certificates in the districts of Strabane, Lifford, Killygordon, Donemana, Newtown Stewart, Castlederg, Stranorlar, Ballybofey, Plumbridge, Castlefin, Ardara and Glenties. Mr. Malone has neither spared time nor expense in the preparation and distribution of the certificates and his patriotic action has stimulated recruiting in the districts, as verified by letters he has received from the authorities.

Strabane Weekly News
4th November 1916

DEATH OF CAPTAIN GERALD IRWIN

The sad news has reached Strabane that Captain Gerald Irwin has died in hospital from wounds received on the 24th ult. whilst in action. He was attached to the Warwickshires. He was a brother-in-law of Mr. W. W. Barnhill, D.L., of Brickfield, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
4th November 1916

GALLANT STRABANE SOLDIER

Private James Rouse, Dock Street, who is a member of the Irish Brigade has been mentioned in despatches from the front for his gallant conduct and devotion to duty on the battlefield.

Major-General W.B. Hickie commanding the Irish Division presented him with a certificate "The Irish Brigade No. 21094 Private J. Rouse, Royal Irish Fusiliers

Strabane Weekly News

4th November 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss White, Bowling Green, Strabane and Miss Smith, Ballyduff House, Lifford.

Strabane Weekly News

4th November 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

A wire received on Tuesday morning conveyed the sad news of the death of Captain Hamilton Mathewson, R.A.M.C., as a result of wounds received in battle last week. Captain Mathewson was the son of the late Mr. Andrew Mathewson of Dunbunraver who had no less than five sons in the medical profession, one had been wounded slightly but no further tidings were received until the fateful telegram came on Tuesday morning. He was attached to the 2nd Northhamptons. Prior to joining the army he practised in England.

Strabane Weekly News

4th November 1916

DEATH OF CAPTAIN H. MATHEWSON, R.A.M.C.

Information has just been received from the War Office of the death of Captain H. Mathewson, aged 35 years, who died from wounds on 27th October.

He was son of the late Mr. Andrew Mathewson of Dunbunraver, Newtownstewart and brother of Dr. John Mathewson of London, Dr Sam Mathewson, Dr. Robert Mathewson and Dr. Andrew Mathewson and brother-in-law of Dr. Evans, Plumbridge.

He was assistant surgeon to Portsmouth infirmary and resident medical officer to the Children's Homes in Norwich.

He joined the R.A.M.C. in March 1915 and went to the front in September of the same year with the Yorkshires and later was transferred to the Northampton Regiment.

He was slightly wounded on 27th September but remained on duty and on 23rd October while he himself was endeavouring to relieve the suffering of others he received the fatal wounds from which he died.

Strabane Weekly News

4th November 1916

OMAGH MAN WOUNDED

Sergeant Thomas McClay, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, formerly of Raneeny, Laghey, Co Donegal and who before joining the colours worked at Messers. J.B. Anderson & Co. Omagh has been wounded in action. It will be recalled that Sergeant McClay performed acts of conspicuous bravery on the field which gained him the highest praise of his commanding officer.

Strabane Weekly News

4th November 1916

The Women's Missionary association, on account of its members being so much engaged in knitting for the Army and Navy has been unable to hold its usual sale of work. Being determined that the cause of missions should not suffer in consequence, the association organized a provision sale and afternoon tea function, which was arranged for October 26th, in the assembly Hall, but owing to the lamented death of Rev. CK Toland, was postponed till November 2nd. The weather being fortunately favourable, the sale was largely patronised by the people of Strabane and surrounding country, and the stalls laden with all kinds of edible necessities and dainties were soon removed their burdens. The proceedings were enlivened with musical selections kindly rendered by Miss Britton, Mrs Leay, Miss Mabel Hay and Miss Blair and the Pathophone manipulated by Miss Rita Britton. The soldiers from the Military Hospital and the Belgian refugees, were entertained by tea by Mrs Clarke (The Manse). The bean board competitions arranged by Miss McClements were an attraction at the sale.

Strabane Chronicle

4th November 1916

MILITARY SERVICE ACT CASES IN STRABANE

At Strabane Petty Sessions, on Monday before Mr. James Harte J.P., Sergeant Gorman of Lifford charged William Sheerin, of Toberoneill, with being an absentee under the Military Service Act. (Mr. RS Magee (Messrs. Moody and Magee) defended.

Head Constable Long, Raphoe, stated that the defendant resided in Glasgow for ten months before coming back to Ireland in June last. He registered himself while in Scotland at 15 Church Street, Paisley. He contested that his Worship had no other alternative but to remand Sheerin. The question of whether he was exempt or from military service was not one for him, but that would be decided, and only could be decided by the military tribunal in Scotland.

Sergeant Gorman said that he questioned the defendant, who told witness that he registered himself for service at 15 Church Street, Paisley. He asked the defendant if he had an exemption from military service card, and he replied in the negative.

In cross examination by Mr. Magee, Sergeant Gorman said that he was stationed in Lifford since last March. He knew the defendant's family, who were agricultural workers and resided in a labourer's cottage. The father of the accused was about seventy years old, and he would not be able to do much work. The defendant had an invalid brother, and the boy now before his Worship was practically the only support of the house. He was told that the defendant went over to his uncle in Paisley; that the uncle took ill and sent for the boy; and that he had no intention of staying in Scotland permanently. The boy was a native of the neighbourhood.

A farmer by the name of McGettigan stated that prior to going to Scotland, the defendant worked for him, and was at present employed by him. He knew that the boy was the only support of the house.

The defendant's father stated that he was seventy years old, and the defendant was about twenty years old. Except for ten months he was in Scotland his son worked and lived at home. The boy was an agricultural worker. When he went to Paisley he expressed his intention of remaining there only a short time and coming home again.

Head Constable Long asked that the boy be returned for trial.

Mr. Magee quoted the magistrate's decision in cases brought up elsewhere and asked that Sheerin be dismissed.

Mr. Harte held that the defendant was only in Scotland temporarily, and discharged the accused.

William Friel of Rosgier, was also charged with failing to report himself under Military Service Act at Clydebank.

In this case Messrs. John McDermott and Hugh O'Donnell adjudicated with Harte.

Head Constable Long said that the defendant went to Scotland in May 1915, remaining until June 1916. He registered at 108 Glasgow Road, Clydebank.

Sergeant Gorman gave evidence of arresting Friel.

Defendant said that when he left Braid, Rosgier, he had no intention of going to Scotland, but eventually went there with a friend, who got work in one of the shipyards. When the registration papers came round everyone signed, including landladies and police (laughter). "Of course", added the defendant, "there was no talk of conscription or military service then."

Mr. McDermott – You signed as a lodger?

Defendant – Yes.

Mr. McDermott - I had to sign a paper myself when I went to Bundoran, and I was only there a week. I was kept a prisoner at the counter until I signed it.

Friel was discharged, the magistrate holding that he was not ordinarily resident in Great Britain.

Mr. R.S. defended.

Strabane Chronicle 4th November 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mr. James McGeehan, Fountain Street, Strabane, has been notified of the death in action of his son, Corporal John McGeehan, in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Writing to Mr. McGeehan on the death of his son, Lieutenant Colonel Stewart says:- "In reply to your letter of the 27th inst., re: your son, Corporal McGeehan, who met his death during the big advance like a true soldier, a true Irishman, working at his gun under very trying and difficult circumstances. I understand he was proceeding to take cover in a shell-hole when a German bullet entered the back of his neck. Death followed instantaneously. I am informed that you have given four sons to the Army; you are to be congratulated on making such a sacrifice which so many fathers are making during this great war, and with them you have the satisfaction that your sons have done their task and duty nobly. I trust the sacrifice you have made will bring the full reward. I offer you my deepest sympathy.

Mr. McGeehan's other sons with the colours are:- Private James McGeehan, Inniskillings (who has been wounded twice); Private Hugh McGeehan (wounded once and now at Solonica); Private Joseph McGeehan, Inniskillings.

The brothers McGeehan were, prior to the war, prominent members of the Strabane Irish National Volunteers, and Corporal John was an instructor, the boys' father is a well-known Nationalist.

Mrs. A. Gallagher, Fountain Street, Strabane, has received intimation that her son, Private John Gallagher, has been missing since the 10th July, where he was serving with the Inniskillings in France. He was a reservist and was called to the colours after the outbreak of war. He was an Irish National Volunteer instructor and was exceedingly popular.

Mr. Thomas Gallagher, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Fountain Street, Strabane, brother of Patrick, was also with the colours in France, but being wounded seriously in action, was invalided home. He was a member of the Irish National Volunteers, prior to the outbreak of hostilities.

Mrs. Gallagher, Fountain Street, Strabane has received intimation that her son, Private George Gallagher, (brother of Thomas) lies in Lord Derby's War Hospital, Warrington, as the result of wounds and shell-shock received in France. He took an active part in the Volunteer movement.

Private Slevin, Strabane, who has been through the greater part of the present conflict is now enjoying a well-deserved holiday. He first served in France, and was there wounded next at the Dardanelles, and again in France, where he was, once more, wounded and sent to an English hospital. He is shortly returning to France.

Private Felix Quinn A.S.C., has arrived from Salonica on furlough, and a large number of his friends met him at the station. Private Quinn, prior to joining the colours, was a commander of the Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Chronicle **4th November 1916**

GALLANT STRABANE SOLDIER MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

Private James Rouse, Back Street, Strabane, who is a member of the Irish Brigade, was mentioned in recent despatches, from the front, for his gallant conduct and devotion to duty on the battlefield.

Major-General W.B. Hickie, Commanding the Irish Division, has presented Private Rouse with the following parchment certificate:- The Irish Brigade-No 21094 Private J. Rouse-I have read with much pleasure the reports of your regimental commander and brigade commander regarding your gallant conduct and your devotion to duty in the field from September 4th to the 9th. 1916, and have ordered your name and deed to be entered in the record of the Irish Division.

Private Rouse writes home to his wife that during the time mentioned above the company were in action in very heavy fighting. He adds – I am sure you will share with me in the pride that the service I have rendered has not been in vain, and that I have been able to do a little to achieve that which we are fighting for-liberty and civilization. I sincerely hope that I will be given health and strength to serve my country until victory- a victory for humanity and all that is good-is achieved."

Private Rouse is well-known in Strabane and the official recognition of his services on the battlefield adds another honour to those achieved by Strabane soldiers in the present war.

Strabane Chronicle **11th November 1916**

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Driver Felix Quinn, A.S.C., Strabane, returned to Salonica on Tuesday. He was a former National Volunteer commander.

Strabane Weekly News **11th November 1916**

STRABANE GAS MANAGER ENLISTS

Mr. H.C. Gripton, gas manager. Strabane has just left to join the colours. He takes up his duties in Cornwall, England where he will use his skillful knowledge as a chemist. Mr Gripton had a good send-off at the railway station on his departure.

Strabane Weekly News
11th November 1916

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mr James McGeehan, Fountain Street, Strabane has been notified of the death in action of his son, Corporal John McGeehan, machine-gunner, in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Mr McGeehan's other sons serving are Private James McGeehan (who has been wounded twice), Private Hugh McGeehan (wounded once), and Private Joseph McGeehan.

Mrs A Gallagher, Fountain Street, Strabane has received intimation that her son Private John Gallagher has been missing. Private Gallagher was a reservist. Mrs Gallagher has also another son Thomas who also was wounded. She has also received intimation that her son Private George Gallagher (Irish Brigade) lies in Lord Derby's War Hospital, Warrington as the result of wounds and shell shock.

Strabane Weekly News
11th November 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss McCarter, Mourne View, Strabane with Miss Quinn, Glentown, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
11th November 1916

THE LATE CAPT. H. MATHEWSON, R.A.M.C.

Mrs Mathewson of Dunbunraver has just received from their majesties the King and Queen, the following wire of sympathy on the death of her son in France

"The King and Queen deeply regret the loss you and the Army have sustained by the death of your son in the service of his country. Their Majesties truly sympathise with you in your sorrow".

Strabane Chronicle
11th November 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mrs. H Devine, Castle Place, Strabane, has received intimation from the War Office, that her nephew, Lance-Corporal Francis Larkin, of the Cameron Highlanders, has been killed in action. The deceased was a brilliant young man and was very popular in this district. He was a native of Glenmornan. In Motherwell where he held an important and responsible position, he joined the army.

Sergeant Russell, of the Cameron Highlanders, has written Mrs. Devine as follows:-

"I regret to inform you of the sad news of Lance-Corporal Larkin's death on the night of the 11th inst., Frank and I have known each other since we enlisted together; we were in the same company and got our stripes together. We were also in the same company out here (France). He was a good soldier and well-liked by us all. On behalf of myself and his chums, I wish to express our sincere sympathy for your sad loss. He suffered no pain, being killed instantly. His grave has been marked properly. I will close now. Again expressing my deep sympathy.

Lieutenant Norman Sim writes that he found Lance-Corporal Larkin to be an excellent soldier, and that his death was sincerely regretted by all his comrades, who wished to join with him in expressing their sympathy.

Other letters from friends, including one from the deceased's employer in Motherwell, expressing appreciation of the Lance-Corporal's worth and deep sympathy at his early death have been received by Mrs. Devine, to whom the sympathy of the general public will be extended in her sad bereavement.

Strabane Weekly News
11th November 1916

On Tuesday a large sale in aid of the British Farmers' Red Cross Fund was held in the Corn Market, Strabane, and was very largely attended by farmers. The sale, which consisted of cattle, fowls, farm implements, farm produce etc. commenced at 11 o'clock in the forenoon and continued until the evening, the contributions given being most generous and plentiful, and shows the appeal made to farmers in the Strabane Union was not made in vain. The bidding was keen and everything went at a high price.

Strabane Weekly News

11th November 1916

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening, at which the Duchess of Abercorn presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the honorary secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) and confirmed. Miss McCrea, on behalf of the Despatch Committee reported having sent 78 pairs of socks, 42 mufflers, and a dozen mittens to the Omagh Depot, for distribution since their last meeting. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery had reported that nine men had passed through the Rest Club during the month, also 41 sailors, the survivors of the crew of a ship, on their way to Dublin. The officers and men expressed their highest appreciation and gratitude for the hospitality extended to them and were highly grateful for the warmth and comfort of the Rest Club after their trying experience.

Strabane Weekly News

11th November 1916

Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane, has just completed the issuing of a large number of certificates to the relatives of those serving at the front. Up to the present he has issued upwards on 1,200 certificates in district of Strabane, Lifford, Killygordon, Donemana, Newtownstewart, Castlederg, Stranorlor, Ballybofey, Plumbridge, Castlefin, Ardara, and Glenties. Mr. Malone has neither spared time nor expense in the preparation and distribution of the certificates and his patriotic action has stimulated recruitment in the district, as verified by letters he has received from the authorities.

Strabane Chronicle

11th November 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Intimation has been received in Strabane that Matthew Connor, Fountain Street, Strabane has been killed in action.

Strabane Chronicle

18th November 1916

LOCAL WAR NOTES

Private David Hutchinson, Bready, Strabane, has been promoted corporal and awarded the military medal for bravery.

Mr. Edward Coyle, Ballinalecky, Raphoe, has received notice from the War Office, that his son, Patrick Coyle, Canadian Infantry, died in St. John Ambulance Brigade Hospital in France. Mr. Coyle has received a sympathetic letter from Captain Gordon Doe, Catholic Chaplain, who was with the young Donegal man when he died from the effects of a severe thigh wound. A brother of the deceased is in the Red Cross Hospital, Torquay, suffering from a wound received in action.

Strabane Chronicle

18th November 1916

STRABANE POSTAL OFFICIALS AND THE WAR

On Thursday evening week, in the Post Office, Strabane, Mr. Whiteman, surveyor for the Northern District Post Offices, unveiled a roll of honour upon which the names are inscribed of the Strabane Postal officials who have joined the colours since the outbreak of the war.

The meeting was organized by Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane. The chair was occupied by Mr. Eugene Conroy, J.P., Chairman of the Strabane Urban Council, who delivered an address and read letters of apology for unavoidable absence from the Very Rev. John O'Doherty, P.P., V.F., Strabane, and the Rev. Edward Clarke, M.A., The Manse, Strabane.

Mr. R.K. Malone, Postmaster, said that the roll of honour had been got up by the contributions of the entire staff of the Post Office. There were twenty-two names on it.

Speeches were also delivered by Mr. Edward Gallagher, D.L., Rev. Canon Delap, Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor, Mr. John W. Buchanan, Mr. John Elliott, solicitor, and Sergeant James Devlin.

A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman on the motion of Mr. John Perry, U.D.C., P.L.G., Strabane, seconded by Mr. James Smyth, manager Belfast Bank, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

18th November 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

The Postmaster General announces that letters and parcels intended for delivery to the troops by Christmas Day should be posted as long as possible in advance of the following dates:- British

expeditionary Forces, France and Belgium, parcels 11th December; letters 16th December; Egyptian Expeditionary Force and Salonika Forces, letters 2nd December; and parcels 23rd November.

Strabane WeeklyNews
18th November 1916

DEATH OF CONVOY SOLDIER

Miss Ramsey, Convoy, has received intimation that her brother Private Jerry Ramsey, Canadian Infantry, has been killed in action. Private Ramsey emigrated to Canada over three years ago. He came over to England about a year ago with a Canadian contingent and was at his home in Convoy in August last.

Strabane WeeklyNews
18th November 1916

A MILITARY MEDALIST

Mrs. A Robinson, Bready, Strabane has received intimation that her brother, Private David Hutchinson, Canadian Infantry, has been promoted Corporal, and awarded the Military Medal for gallantry. He joined the Canadians at the outbreak of the war and after undergoing training in England proceeded overseas where he has been ever since. He has two other brothers, Alexander and James, serving with the Ulster Division.

Strabane WeeklyNews
18th November 1916

STRABANE MILITARY MEDALIST

Mr. Thompson of the Victoria Hotel, Strabane has just received the pleasant news that her only son Pte. Stanley Thompson has been awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery and coolness while under very heavy shell fire. He emigrated to Canada about four years ago and when war broke out, he joined the Army Service Corps.

The time he earned his honour, he was engaged in transport work and assisted in picking up the wounded in a place known as "Death Valley." In a letter it appears that his teamster was killed and the orderly sitting alongside him was severely wounded. Pte Thompson picked them both up and conveyed them to the ambulance although the shells were falling around him thickly. On the occasion Private Thompson's coat was torn to shreds.

Strabane WeeklyNews
18th November 1916

STRABANE CORPORAL KILLED

Mrs H. Devine, Castle Place, has had the sad tidings conveyed to her from the War Office that her nephew, Lance-Corporal Francis Larkin, of the Cameron Highlanders has been killed in action. He formerly resided in the townland of Glenmornan. He was in a comfortable position at Motherwell, Scotland. His relatives have received letters from his superior officers all of which testify to deceased's bravery and capabilities as a soldier.

Strabane WeeklyNews
18th November 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss McGowan, Bridge Street, Strabane and Miss May Quinn, Foyfin.

Strabane WeeklyNews
18th November 1916

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Mr Thomas Clarke, Magheracolton, Newtownstewart has received intimation that his son, Robert, a corporal in the Canadian Highlanders has been wounded in a recent engagement.

Strabane Chronicle
25th November 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Captain Patrick Joseph O'Reilly, R.A.M.C., son of the late Mr. John O'Reilly, J.P., flax merchant, Strabane, has been awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty on the battlefield whilst under heavy enemy fire. Driver O'Reilly, although wounded himself, stuck to his post, and attended to the

wounded and dying. He is well-known, and popular in his native town, and is a brother of Mr. John O'Reilly, J.P., flax merchant, Bowling Green, Strabane. We hope that he will soon recover from his wounds.

Strabane Weekly News
25th November 1916

COMMISSION FOR STRABANE MAN

General satisfaction will be felt in Strabane district that Mr Jack Stuart, son of Mr William Stuart, Railway Road, Strabane, has received a commission in the Army. The new officer expects to be attached to the siege artillery. Lieutenant Stuart was educated at the Prior Schools, Lifford, and afterwards proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin, where he obtained a valuable scholarship, which took him to Cambridge. He is an all-round athlete but was particularly identified with football and cricket.

Strabane Weekly News
25th November 1916

STRABANE MAN'S GALLANTRY

The list of war honours appearing in the "Gazette" on 14th November contained the award of the Military Cross to Captain Patrick Joseph O'Reilly, R.A.M.C.

'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. he tended the wounded under intense fire, displaying great courage and determination. Later, although wounded he stuck to his post.

Captain O'Reilly is a son of the late Mr. John Reilly, J.P., Strabane and had held a commission in the R.A.M.C. since October 1914. He was married on 25th ult at the Church of the Holy Martyr, Streatham, to Miss. Sybil Olive, daughter of Mr. John Collins, West Wellow, Romsey.

Strabane Weekly News
25th November 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses acting for the week were Miss. Waggentreiber, Inchenny and Miss Woods, Glentimon.

Strabane Weekly News
25th November 1916

DONEGAL MAN HONOURED

The Military Medal has been awarded to Corporal Edward Rodgers, Glasgow Yeomanry. He is a son of Mrs Catherine Rodgers, Carrickdawson, Raphoe. Prior to enlisting he was employed with the Glasgow Post Office. His brother Lance-Corporal John Rodgers, Royal Army Medical Corps. is serving in Glasgow.

PROMOTION OF SERGEANT J.R. GRAHAM, ARDSTRAW

Sergt. J.R. Graham, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, of Ardstraw, Co Tyrone who has been awarded the Military Cross for gallantry during the big advance of 1st and 2nd July is the eldest son of Mr. Thomas Graham, Carnkenny, Ardstraw. Before enlisting he took a special interest in the U.V.F. work.

Strabane Chronicle
25th November 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Mr. Thompson, Victoria Hotel, Strabane, has received intimation that her son, Private Stanley Thompson, has been awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery and coolness whilst under very heavy shell fire.

Strabane Chronicle
25th November 1916

STRABANE WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE
PALLIDROME

Strabane

Wednesday 6th December

In aid of

THE INNISKILLINGS' COMFORTS FUND
GRAND PERFORMANCE BY THE
MERRY INNISKILLING PIERROT TROUPE
FULL PROGRAMME, concluding with an
Original episode, entitled:
LIFE IN THE TRENCHES

By kind permission of Col. J.K. McClintock and Officers
3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Also TWO SPLENDID PICTURES
Kindly shown by Mr. Herbert Cooper.
Full Orchestra
Conducted by Mr. W.M. Berry
Doors open at 7.30 o'clock-to commence 8.00
Balcony and Stalls, 2/- Second Seats, 1/- Front Seats 6d
Numbered and reserved 6d extra. Tickets and Plan of Hall at Mr. H Cooper's Studio

Strabane Chronicle
2nd December 1916

TYRONE WAR PENSIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. H.de F. Montgomery, D.L., presided at a meeting of the County Tyrone Military and Naval War Pensions Committee on 24th ult. Also present:- Mrs. L.I. Scott, Mrs. Stevenson, Mrs. Carmichael-Ferrall, Col. H Irvine, C.B., Messrs. WT Millar, J.P., J. Given, E. Gallagher, D.L., A.E. Donnelly, L.I. Scott, J.P., G. Mulholland, and C.C. Hamilton, secretary.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Gallagher, Mr. J.B. Gunning-Moore, D.L., was appointed chairman of the committee.

Mr. Gallagher moved that Col. Irvine be appointed hon. Secretary of the Committee, with power to employ a competent assistant at a salary not exceeding £1per week.

Mr. Mulholland seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

Mr. Gallagher moved, and Mr. Stevenson seconded, that the Provincial Bank of Ireland, Omagh, be appointed treasurer to the committee, and that the hon, treasurer be empowered to draw cheques on the account in his own name.

The question of appointing district committees, one for each petty sessions district in the county, was adjourned to enable the hon. Secretary to make enquiries in each of the districts as to suitable persons to serve on these committees.

The following were appointed as to executive committee to confer with the hon. Secretary as to the appointment of above committees, and full powers were delegated to them to make the appointments:- Messrs. A.E. Donnelly, L.I. Scott, and T. Thompson.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd December 1916

STRABANE FAMILY'S RECORD

Mr. Daniel Jones, Carricklee, Strabane has received news that his son Sergeant Daniel Jones, Scottish Rifles has been wounded for the second time and is now in hospital. Five other sons are serving. Patrick has been wounded and is now with the Salonika Army with three other brothers all in the same regiment. The sixth boy is a prisoner.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd December 1916

STRABANE DOCTOR WOUNDED

Captain H.P. Harpur, R.A.M.C. a young Strabane doctor is reported by the War Office wounded on the 21st inst. Captain Harpur is the youngest son of the late Mr. William Harpur, Milltown House, Strabane. Previous to the war was practising in England. He received a commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps in January 1915. He is attached to the South Staffordshire Regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd December 1916

STRABANE MAN GRANTED COMMISSION

Mr. Archy McClay, son of the late Mr. E.B. McClay, veterinary surgeon, has been granted a commission from the ranks and is now attached to the Leicestershire regiment. Served for six or seven years in the famous 6th Inniskilling Dragoons. He volunteered for services at the front and came back to England with the Australian Expeditionary Force when he joined his old regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd December 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Mr James McSorley of Coolaghey has received official intimation that his son Andrew a private serving with the Canadians has been killed in action.

Official intimation has also been received that of the death on the battlefield of Private J. Harkin, Douglas Bridge, and Private J. McNulty, Lisnatunney.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd December 1916

CASUALTIES

Private Alexander Scarff, Inniskillings, son of the late Mr. Charles Scarff, Mullinbuoys, Inver, County Donegal is in hospital in England, suffering from wounds received in action.

Corporal Robert Clarke, 9/17614, Inniskilling Fusiliers who has been awarded the Military Medal for services in the field, was drill instructor to the Convoy U.V.F. He displayed gallantry which won him the medal. He was wounded in the breast but has now recovered.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd December 1916

On Friday evening a patriotic assemblage gathered at Mr. Daniel McAnaw's Restaurant, Main Street, Strabane, for the purpose of handing over a sum of money to Mr. John Elliott, solicitor, who in turn, will forward same to Mr. Hanna, K.C., Dublin. The amount was collected and raised by a number of local gentlemen from Strabane and district and will be devoted to comforts for the purpose of D Company, 7th Battalion, Dublin Fusiliers. The fact that the late Private Cecil Elliott was attached to this company was the occasion for the interest evinced in the object. On the motion of Signor Caffola, seconded by Mr. Daniel McAnaw, Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, was moved to the chair.

Strabane Chronicle
9th December 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS
STRABANE BANKER KILLED

We regret to announce the death in action of Private William Wadham Robinson, of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, eldest son of the late Mr. James Robinson, merchant, Strabane. The sad event took place in France on the 13th ult., and the official intimation reached his mother on Saturday morning last. Private Robinson was an exceptionally brilliant young man and gave promise of having a very successful career. He entered by examination the services of the Belfast Bank, and soon gave evidence of great ability. He speedily obtained promotion and was cashier in the Portadown branch when he joined the colours. Here, as in his own native town he made himself hosts of friends. Every place he went he was popular. He will also be remembered in Moville, Saintfield, Limavady, Newtownards, and Derry City. Like all the other members of his family, he was gentlemanly, and affable, and was esteemed by everyone. His mother, Mrs. R. Robinson, resides at Patrick Street, Strabane, and with her, his brothers and his sisters, there will be wide spread sympathy.

Strabane Chronicle
9th December 1916

BACK FROM THE FRONT

Private Dan Sheerer, Royal Irish regiment, Barrack Street, Strabane, has arrived home from hospital in Manchester, where he lay for eighteen weeks suffering from wounds received in action in France. He was in the firing line for nine months. He enlisted after the outbreak of war. Private Sheerer is one of the best known footballers in the North West. He has played for Derry City, Belfast Celtic, Shelbourne team, Dublin and the Ayr United, Scotland. On several occasions he saved his team from defeat. He is also a splendid cricketer, and an all-round athlete, being the holder of numerous prizes.

Strabane Weekly News
9th December 1916

A high-class entertainment was held in the Pallidrome on Wednesday evening last in aid of the Comforts Fund for the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Entertainment of this sort are generally well patronized by the public, no matter what sort of programme is submitted, for the people of the district are deeply interested in this regiment and naturally take great pride in the heroic deeds. When it was made known, however, that the Merry Inniskilling troupe, by kind permission of Colonel J.K. McClintock D.L., and officers of the Third Inniskilling Fusiliers were to participate in the programme and when then services of Mr. W.M. Berry's orchestra were procured, it was not surprising that there was a very large and distinguished attendance, every seat in the large building, which accommodates over 800, being occupied.

Strabane Weekly News

9th December 1916

A large attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, at which Mrs. John Devine presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) and confirmed. Miss McCrea on behalf of the Despatch Committee reported that she would have a large supply of mufflers ready for Monday's dispatch. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery reported that 34 men had passed through the Rest Club during the past fortnight and all spoke highly of the attention which they received.

Strabane Weekly News

9th December 1916

A very largely attended concert in aid of funds for the provision of comforts for the 9th Battalion of the Inniskillings (Tyrones) was held in Leckpatrick National Schools on Friday night. The two presidents on the occasion were Rev. W.G. Rennison and Rev. Joseph Morrison, who have evinced a lively interest in the work of the Battalion. The hall was packed with many visitors attending from Derry City, Donemana and Strabane. The Pierrot troupe of Inniskillings from Derry were in attendance and came in for rounds of applause.

Strabane Weekly News

9th December 1916

DONEGAL & TYRONE CASUALTIES

Private Jack McClay, Inniskillings, Carrick, Laghey, County Donegal has been wounded in action.

Mr. Joseph Hamilton, Kilcleen, Castlederg has received official notification that his son William J. Hamilton, was killed in action on 28th ult.

Strabane Weekly News

9th December 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for this week were Miss. Daisy McAnaw, Main Street and Miss. Lowry, Artigarvan

Strabane Weekly News

9th December 1916

STRABANE BANK CASHIER KILLED IN ACTION

Private William Wadham Robinson, of the 'Pals' Battalion, Dublin Fusiliers has been killed in action. The sad intelligence was conveyed to his sorrowing relatives who reside at Patrick Street, Strabane. He was a prominent official in the Belfast Bank. Before proceeding overseas, Private Robinson took part in the suppression of the Dublin rebellion. He was a brother of Mr. James Robinson, secretary of Herdman's, Ltd., Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News

16th December 1916

GALLANT TYRONE VOLUNTEER

Great satisfaction is felt in his native district of Leckpatrick that Corporal Daniel Little has been awarded the military Medal for bravery displayed on the Battlefield. He is with the Ulster Division (Tyrone's) and acquitted himself admirably by rescuing two machine guns from the enemy and afterwards bombing his way back again to his company.

Strabane Weekly News

16th December 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

During the week were Miss. Joyce, Derry Road and Miss. Keatly, Strabane Bowling Green acted as nurses.

Strabane Weekly News

16th December 1916

THE GALLANT INNISKILLINGS MANY MILITARY MEDALS

A Supplement to the "London Gazette" issued on Sunday evening, contains a large number of awards of the Military medal for bravery in the field.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

9/20231 Lance Cpl. J.R. Graham, Ardstraw, Co Tyrone
9/13654 Lance-Corporal D. Lyttle, Leckpatrick, Strabane
14735 Private A. Taylor, St Johnston

Strabane Weekly News 16th December 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The 'Northern Whig' Shilling Fund to provide Christmas puddings for the boys at the front and taken up locally by the leaders of the U.V.F. was a huge success, realising as it did three or four times the amount aimed at by the promoters.

We are pleased to learn that the Military Medal for special services on the battlefield has been awarded to Corporal A. Myles of the Kings Own Scottish Borders. His mother Mrs Mary Myles, lives at Bruckless, Ardstraw but formerly resided in Omagh. Corporal Myles' father was a soldier who fought through the South African war and died shortly after it.

Strabane Chronicle 16th December 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Information has reached his father, Mr. Dan Jones, Carricklee, Strabane, that his son, Sergeant Jones, has been wounded and lies in hospital in France. Mr. Jones has six sons with the colours. Lance-Corporal Jones has been wounded twice. Three other sons are with the forces in Salonica, and another is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Strabane Chronicle 16th December 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Private Andrew Rush, Connaught Rangers, Strabane, is officially reported wounded, and lies in the Springburn Woodside Hospital, Glasgow.

Strabane Weekly News Saturday 16th December 1916

The poorer classes of Strabane will be very grateful to Mr. Cooper for his special invitation to all of them to see the picture 'Battle of the Somme', free on Wednesday evening and in the afternoon all the children had a like treat. He was sorry the convent little ones could not come but they are always welcome at any time. It is very encouraging to know that they all enjoyed the pictures immensely and are deeply thankful to Mr. Cooper for his kindly action.

Strabane Chronicle 16th December 1916

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

Mrs. J. Devine, 'The Barn', Ballycolman, Strabane, presided at the monthly meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee.

Mrs. J.C.Herdman, hon. Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were adopted.

Miss G. McGowan, Bridge Street, wrote apologizing for her unavoidable absence.

Miss McCrea, on behalf of the District Committee, reported that she would have a large supply of mufflers ready for Monday's dispatch.

Mrs. T.B.Feely and Mrs. Lavery report that thirty-four men had passed through the Rest Club during the past fortnight, and all of them spoke highly of the attention they had received.

On the motion of Mrs. E.C. Herdman, seconded by Miss McCrea, the committee tendered their hearty thanks to Mr. Herbert Cooper, The Pallidrome, Strabane, for his kindness in giving the free use of the Pallidrome for the entertainment; and to the Pallidrome orchestra.

The Strabane Urban Council were also thanked for the free use of the chairs, on the motion of Mrs. W. King, seconded by Mrs. R. Toner.

The meeting discussed the holding of a dance in aid of war relief on Wednesday, 3rd January 1917, and made preliminary arrangements.

Strabane Weekly News 23rd December 1916

BALLINDRAIT SOLDIER'S DISTINCTION

Sergeant William Laird of Lismontigley, Ballindrait has received another bar to his military medal for gallantry displayed in the raiding of the enemy trenches. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and some time ago he received the military medal for conspicuous bravery. He was an active member of the Ballindrait Company of the U.V.F.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd December 1916

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Dorothy Moody, Railway Street and Miss Lizzie Stewart, Dergalt.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd December 1916

PATRIOTIC MINISTER

Mr. Joseph Hamilton, Barrack Street, Strabane has been notified by his brother Captain William John Hamilton that he intends visiting his native town in a short time. He is at present a chaplain of an overseas battalion, Edmonton Highlanders, and before receiving his commission was a Presbyterian minister of Calgary.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd December 1916

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private Andrew Rush who reside at meetinghouse Street, Strabane have been informed that he has been wounded. He belongs to the Connaught Rangers and is at present lying in Springburn Woodside Hospital, Glasgow.

Mr. Daniel Jones, Carricklee, Strabane has received information that his son Sergeant Jones has been wounded and lies in a hospital in France. Mr Jones has six sons serving with the colours, one having been twice wounded. Three are with the forces at Salonica.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd December 1916

WAR RELIEF

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town hall on Thursday evening, Mrs John Elliott presiding.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd December 1916

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Private J. Bradley of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who belongs to the Gallon district was killed in action on the 22nd ult. Official intimation was received a few days ago.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd December 1916

GALLANT CASTLEDERG MAN

The Military Medal has been awarded to First-class Air Mechanic Thomas Murray (7330) R.F.C., for bravery in the field. Murray is a wireless operator is a son of Mr. John Murray, Chapel Terrace, Castlederg. Before he enlisted in the army, he was employed in the Post Office at Letterkenny.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd December 1916

SOLDIERS' CHRISTMAS LEAVE

The Secretary of State has authorised the publication of the following statement regarding Christmas leave for soldiers on home service:- Leave to spend Christmas at home is exactly the same position as it was last year. Only ten per cent of soldiers are allowed to be away from any unit on a given day, solely owing to it being necessary to have an adequate home defence force ready to meet any emergency. The Army Council desire that these men shall be assured of spending their Christmas Day at home as far as possible. Accordingly the whole of the ten per cent will start their leave on Thursday 21st. this will avoid soldiers having to travel on Saturday and Christmas Day, when connections might easily be missed, and then time wasted at railway stations. Officers or soldiers employed by the Ministry of Munitions both at the present

time and after civil restrictions may be imposed will be considered as extraneous to the military establishment and their leave will conform to any instructions which the Ministry of Munitions may order. There is no intention of interfering in any way with draft leave- that is leave given to men before they go abroad, which is not bound by the ten per cent. Applicable to the home service force. Arrangements will be made to give New Year instead of Christmas leave to Scotch regiments. There is no intention of preventing men getting leave of absence on Christmas Day or any other day provided they can reach their destination by tram, bicycle or any other means which will enable them to rejoin their unit immediately if recalled. It is hoped the arrangements made with regard to troops in France will enable many more to visit their homes at Christmas than was the case last year.

Strabane Chronicle **23rd December 1916**

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee met on Thursday evening, Mr. J. Elliott presiding.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, and were approved of.

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were read from Mrs. R. Toner, Mrs. Black, Miss Black, N.T., Mrs. P. Gallagher and Mrs. T. McElhinney.

Mrs. McCrea, of the Despatch Committee, reported having sent away a large parcel of comforts last week. Since January last, she said, the Despatch Committee had sent out 635 pairs of socks, 261 mufflers, 171 pairs of mittens, 22 helmets and 1 belt. These were sent to the depot in Omagh for dispatch to the local soldiers of the various regiments. A large parcel had been sent to Lieutenant Gallagher for distribution among the local men of the Irish Brigade. Since February last there had been despatched to the latter 29 mufflers, 49 pairs of socks, 1 helmet, 5 pairs of mittens, 78 pairs of shirts and 42 pairs of pants. The Committee expressed high appreciation of the foregoing splendid output and resolved that in the coming year they would try to increase their efforts in this direction. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery reported that only five men had passed through the Rest Club during the past fortnight. Mrs. W. King presented the monthly hospital accounts, which were passed for payment.

Strabane Weekly News **23rd December 1916**

A special meeting of the Strabane Technical Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday, at which Rev. Edward Clarke, M.A., presided. There were also present Rev. Mr. Freckleton, Messrs. Eugene Conroy, J.P. James White J.P., and John Perry. The chairman said the business of the meeting was to consider the advisability of allowing a room in the Strabane Technical School to the ladies of the War Work Committee. He understood that there were some difficulties to get a room in the town. The room would not be required during the hours of class meetings at the school.

Strabane Weekly News **30th December 1916**

The soldiers and staff at Strabane Military Hospital enjoyed a very happy Christmas. The work of decorating the hospital was voluntarily and cheerfully taken up by the wounded men with the result that a pretty decorative scheme was evolved and the place presented a very gay appearance with flags and bunting, while appropriate mottos adorned the walls and were a complimentary character, not only to the matron and nursing staff. The usual Christmas fare was partaken during the day and at night Mrs. J.C. Herdman generously entertained the soldiers and staff with friends to supper.

Strabane Weekly News **30th December 1916**

On Thursday evening a most enjoyable function was held in the Abercorn Schools, when the wounded soldiers and staff of Strabane Military Hospital were entertained. After tea games were taken up and greatly enjoyed and a splendid programme was submitted, consisting of piano on and a violin duet. The company afterwards engaged in dancing and a pleasant evening terminated with the singing of auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

Strabane Chronicle **30th December 1916**

ENTERTAINMENT IN STRABANE

On Thursday evening an entertainment was given in the Abercorn School, Strabane, to the wounded soldiers of the local military hospital, the local soldiers at home, the Belgian refugees and others, by Miss

Nellie Doherty, Mrs. P. Gallagher, Mrs. Lavery, Mrs. O'Brien, Miss McCrea, Mrs. McFeeters and Miss Freckleton. Tea was partaken of, and then games were indulged in. Afterwards a musical programme was gone through, those contributing being Mrs. A. Doherty, Mrs. W.M. Berry, Miss Daisy McAnaw, Miss McKeagh, Miss Ramsey, Master Freckleton, Miss Freckleton, Miss Nellie Gallagher, Miss G. Keatley and Private Gaffney. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. W.M. Berry, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. A. Doherty and Miss Magee.

Strabane Chronicle
30th December 1916

LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Intimation has been received in Strabane that Private Joseph Meehan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who resided in Ballycolman Avenue, was wounded in action in France a month ago, and now lies in hospital.

Strabane Chronicle
30th December 1916

FIGHT FOR KISLAH DAGH
BALKANS 1915

Sergeant Gallagher, of D Company of the Inniskillings, which was transferred to the Munsters and went into action with them, got a bullet in his right eye and was made stone blind.

"I have a confession to make," he writes from hospital to the recruiting officer at Strabane, "I deceived you when you enlisted me. I had a glass eye, and now I have lost the other. I hope to be back in Strabane soon, but I will never see the glen again, and watch the trout leaping behind the bridge. But I am happy, and we showed those Turks what Irishmen can do. No matter what happens I have done my bit and I would not exchange with the best man at home".

1917

Strabane Weekly News
6th January 1917

STRABANE OFFICER WOUNDED

Mrs Britton, Hazelwood, Strabane has been informed that her son Second-Lieut. W.K.M. Britton, Munster Fusiliers, has been wounded. Lieut. Britton entered the army in April 1916 from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst and some months afterwards was attached to the Flying Corps. He was educated at Foyle College, L'Derry and was very popular with his comrades. Mrs Britton has another son, Mr. Thomas Britton serving as an officer in the R.A.M.C. Both officers are sons of the late Dr. Britton, J.P., Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
6th January 1917

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Miss Porterfield, Lifford and Miss Dorothy Moody, Railway Street, officiated as nurses for the week.

Strabane Weekly News
6th January 1917

MILITARY CROSS FOR STRABANE MAN

Captain William McElrea Snodgrass, M.B., R.A.M.C., who has been awarded the Military Cross is a son of Mrs. Snodgrass of Fir Grove, Strabane. He had completed his course at the University College, Dublin when the war broke out and at once offered his services.

Strabane Weekly News
6th January 1917

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

The relatives of Private Joseph Meehan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who reside at Ballycolman has received intelligence that he has been wounded in action. For the past six months he has fought side by side with his brother, Private Patrick Meehan, who has been through the greater part of the present campaign. His brother Patrick was one of the first to leave England after the outbreak of war for the seat of hostilities. Both brothers fought in the Dardanelles campaign and were wounded on a previous occasion.

Strabane Weekly News
6th January 1917

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening at which Miss Maud Herdman, Sion House, presided.

Strabane Weekly News
6th January 1917

NEW YEAR HONOURS
TYRONE MEN IN THE LIST
C.M.G. FOR BRIGADIER-GENERAL RICARDO

The North-West figures well in the list of New Year Honours.

Brigadier General Ambrose St. Q. Ricardo, D.S.O., of Sion Mills has received recognition in the shape of the C.M.G. He was the late commanding officer of the Tyrone Volunteers, a battalion which he was chiefly instrumental in recruiting from the Ulster Volunteer Force in the county, and the announcement that he has thus been honoured has been received with the liveliest satisfaction, for he was a most popular officer, and greatly beloved by officers and men alike.

Brigadier-General J.K. Forsyth, Australian Imperial Force, awarded the C.M.G. is a son of the late Mr. William Forsyth, formerly of Aghyarron, near Castlederg, County Tyrone and a cousin of Mr. John Wilson, Newtownstewart. He paid a visit recently to the old homestead.

Strabane Weekly News
6th January 1917

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL

The Distinguished Conduct Medal has been awarded to 7231 Quartermaster-Sergeant T. Gregory, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He is now Regimental Sergeant-Major. A native of Ballybofey and was married at Stranorlar on 12th ult. To Miss Agnes Virtue, daughter of Mr. Robert Virtue, Ballybofey. Has fought in Gallipoli and France.

Strabane Weekly News

6th January 1917

The Strabane Women's War Relief Committee are to be congratulated on the success of their second annual dance which was held under their auspices in the Town Hall on Wednesday night last. The event brought together a very large concourse of ladies and gentlemen, many of whom came from Castlederg and Omagh and Derry. The ladies' committee had worked hard for several days in preparation for the creative comforts of the dance patrons, and the entire refreshments were distributed through the generosity of various ladies and gentlemen, who can always be relied onto give bountifully for war relief philanthropy. Great pains had also been taken with the decoration of the hall and supper room and it would seem almost impossible to exceed the refinement and artistic taste displayed in this direction.

Strabane Weekly News

6th January 1917

The VAD nurses, who have been giving their services to the wounded soldiers who have passed through the Strabane Military Hospital since its establishment, as a local war institution, made a happy hit in selecting New Year's Day for giving a party on a large scale to the men at present in the hospital, and a large number of the other invited guests. The Abercorn Schools presented a rather unique spectacle when, on Monday afternoon, the nurses assembled to receive their numerous guests.

Strabane Chronicle

6th January 1917

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Many hours of entertainment were given at the Abercorn Schools, Strabane, to the wounded soldiers of the local military hospital, the local soldiers at home, the Belgian refugees and others by Mrs. Nellie Gallagher, P. Gallagher, Mrs. Lavery, Mrs. O'Brien, Miss McCree, Mrs. McFeeters, and Mrs. Freckleton. Tea was partaken of and then games were indulged in.

Afterwards a musical programme was gone through, those contributing were A. Doherty, W. Berry, Daisy McAnaw, Miss McKeagh, Miss Ramsey, Master Freckleton, Miss Freckleton, Nellie Gallagher, G. Keatley, and Private Gaffney. The accompaniments were played by Miss W. Berry, Mrs. O'Brien, A. Doherty, and Miss Magee.

Strabane Weekly News

13th January 1917

RAPHOE STUDENT WOUNDED

Second-Lieutenant J.W. Wallace, Royal Irish Rifles, wounded on 2nd inst., is the second son of the Rev. J.C. Wallace, Raphoe, County Donegal. He is an old student of the McCrea Magee College and Trinity College, Dublin and received his communication with Mr. Malone who will see that any razors given him are forwarded to the proper quarter.

Strabane Weekly News

13th January 1917

DONEGAL CAPTAIN'S DISTINCTION

General satisfaction will be felt in Strabane district that Captain W.M. Snodgrass, R.A.M.C. has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in the field. Captain Snodgrass has now been at the front for over eighteen months, and as medical officer to a regular infantry battalion, he has been through most of the heavy fighting around Ypres, Loos and the Somme.

Captain Snodgrass is a son of the late Mr. John G. Snodgrass, The Alt, Castlefin and of Mrs. Snodgrass, Fir Grove, Ballindrait. He is well known in Irish Rugby football circles.

Strabane Weekly News

13th January 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss E. Perry, Urney and Miss G. Keatly, Bowling Green.

Strabane Weekly News

13th January 1917

**STRABANE AND DISTRICT
MISSING STRABANE SOLDIER**

After months of waiting and anxiety, the wife and family of Private Hugh Dunn, who reside at Strabane, have received official notification from the War Office that he has been missing since the 13th November last. Private Dunn was a reservist of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers when hostilities commenced and took part in the first battles of the war in which the British troops were engaged in France. Some six months ago his time expired as a soldier and after a few weeks leave of absence he again responded to the call as a volunteer. Private Dunn also fought in South African campaign and held a medal with clasps for bravery displayed.

**Strabane Weekly News
13th January 1917**

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses taking charge for the week were Miss McGowan, Bridge Street, and Miss Feely, Derry Road.

**Strabane Weekly News
13th January 1917**

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting in connection with war relief was held in the Town Hall, on Thursday evening at which Mrs Paul Gallagher (Gourville Terrace) presided.

It was reported having sent 30 pairs of socks and 29 mufflers during the week to the Depot at Omagh for distribution amongst the men of the Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Reported that 14 soldiers and one sailor had passed through the Rest Club since the last meeting.

**Strabane Weekly News
13th January 1917**

PATRIOTIC DANCE NEAR CASTLEDERG

A very enjoyable and highly successful patriotic dance to aid in providing comforts for the soldiers, was held on the 5th inst. in the Grannary, Rockwood. This commodious building was kindly given for the occasion through the courtesy of Mr. C. Love mainly to whose untiring efforts may be attributed the success of the evening.

**Strabane Weekly News
13th January 1917**

The nurses in charge of the Strabane Military Hospital for the week were Miss E. Perry, Urney, and Miss G. Keathley, Bowling Green. Two men were discharged during the week and two admitted. Contributions were received from various people.

**Strabane Chronicle
13th January 1917**

STORY OF THE SOMME OFFENSIVE

The Commander in Chief of the British Forces in France, General Sir Douglas Haig, has forwarded a further despatch dealing with the operations of the forces under his command since the 19th May, the date of his last report.

The story of the Somme offensive is vividly depicted.

To relieve the enemy pressure on the Italian front the Russian offensive was opened early in June. The Russian effort had the desired effect of easing the pressure on the Italian front.

The offensive had a three-fold object:

- (1) To relieve the pressure on Verdun;
- (2) To assist the Allies on the other theatres of war by stopping any further transfer of German troops from the Western front;
- (3) To wear down the strength of the forces opposed to the Allies in France.

The first phase of the Big Push opened on the 1st July and by the 14th of the same month the British were in possession of the southern crest of the main plateau between Delville Wood and Razentin-Le-Petit.

Continuing his despatch, General Haig, vividly describes the capture of the now famous places: Mametz Wood, Ginchy, Guillemont (where the Irish regiments performed their herculean feats of valour), Thiepval, Combles, etc

No mention is made of any individual units in the course of the despatch.

Strabane Weekly News

20th January 1917

A patriotic entertainment was held in the Abercorn Schools, Strabane, on Thursday evening and was largely attended. The hostesses of the evening were Mrs. White, Mrs. Britton, Miss Hepburn and Miss McGowan. Miss Connolly's band was in attendance and rendered selections. A musical programme was submitted, consisting of :- Song: Miss Mabel Hoy, songs at the piano by Miss V. Elliott, song: Private Kyle. The wounded soldiers added greatly to the evening's entertainment by singing songs and a sketch was given by them and so well it was received that in response to repeated encores, they had to contribute another playlet. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. Britton and Mr. B Connolly. Dancing was afterwards taken up the music being supplied by Miss Connolly, assisted by Mr. John Reilly.

Strabane Weekly News

20th January 1917

A meeting in connection with war relief was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening at which Mrs. Paul Gallagher (Gourville Terrace) presided, Miss McCrea, on behalf of the Despatch Committee, reported having sent 30 pairs of socks and 29 mufflers during the week to the Depot at Omagh, for distribution among the men of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery reported that fourteen soldiers and one sailor had passed through the Rest Club since the last meeting. The committee had made arrangements for holding a daffodil fete at a future date.

Strabane Weekly News

20th January 1917

Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane, has received interesting letters from postal clerks serving in Mesopotamia. We give extracts from letters written by Mr. J.T. McCrossan and Mr. W. Adams, both of whom are well known to readers. Mr. J.T. McCrossan says "I am now settled down to GHA telegraph office work. We have a large staff here and plenty to do." After giving illustrations of the voyage out, Mr. McCrossan proceeded to say "He found himself at the scene of his labours, 300 miles from the sea. Some of the scenes appear like illustrations from the Bible or the 'Arabian Nights' – the veiled women, the bazaars, the flat-roofed houses and temples. The lower part of the country is fertile but the upper part is barren desert, except for stripes along the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates.

Strabane Weekly News

20th January 1917

The nurses in charge at Strabane Military Hospital for the week were Miss McGowan, Bridge Street, and Miss Feely, Derry Road. Two men were discharged and during the week and two were also admitted. A number of contributions were greatly received from several people from across the district.

Strabane Chronicle

20th January 1917

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

A very largely attended meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee was held in the Town hall, Strabane on Thursday, Mrs P. Gallagher presiding.

Strabane Weekly News

27th January 1917

DISTINCTION FOR DONEGAL SOLDIER

The many friends of Regimental Sergt.-Major Thomas Gregory will learn with pride that he has been awarded the Serbian Cross of Karageorge (1st class with swords). He was engaged as a clerk in the service of the Donegal Railway Company at Stranorlar.

He enlisted in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers as a private and has been promoted to his current rank. Sergeant-Major Gregory's other brother, George, enlisted in Lord Kitchener's Army, in the Inniskillings (Ulster Division) and was unfortunately killed in action on the 1st of July last year.

Strabane Weekly News

27th January 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses taking charge for the week were Miss Dorothy Moody, Railway Street, and Miss E. White, Bowling Green

Strabane Weekly News

27th January 1917

A new institution has been founded in Strabane in connection with the war, which will further enhance the reputation of the town for the manifold activities in which the ladies have taken such a prominent part. The latest movement takes the form of a War Supply Depot for the supply of various requisites in connection with military hospitals. A large number of local ladies from the surrounding district have volunteered their services and are at present at work three days in the week in suitable rooms, which have been secured free of rent in the Technical School. A considerable amount of money was required for the purpose of defraying the necessary initial expenses, and the amount necessary was freely subscribed locally.

Strabane Weekly News

27th January 1917

The fortnightly entertainment which is given by the ladies interested in war relief was held in the Abercorn School. There was a large attendance including the wounded soldiers from the military Hospital and the Belgian refugees. The company sat down to tea, which was greatly enjoyed, the tables being beautifully decorated with chrysanthemums and numerous other flowers and plants. Whilst tea was being partaken, Miss Connolly's band discoursed Irish airs. After tea a splendid programme was submitted.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd February 1917

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening., Mrs. Coxwall presiding. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the honorary secretary, Mrs. Herdman, and confirmed. Miss McCrea reported having purchased a quality of wool since the last meeting, which was being knitted up and would be ready for forwarding in a short time together with a consignment received from the War Supply depot, which had been given to the War relief Committee for distribution. Mrs. Lavery and Mrs Feely reported that sixteen sailors, who belonged to the Laurentic, had passed through the Rest Club, and that eight soldiers from the front had also availed themselves of the use of the club, and that all had spoken highly of the hospitality received.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd February 1917

STRABANE CORPORAL'S GRATITUDE

Corporal J. Conaghan, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who it will be remembered, was taken prisoner after the Mons retreat and until last month when he crossed the frontier into Switzerland was interned in Lamberg Camp writes Mr R.K. Malone, postmaster Strabane thanking him for his kindness. In the letter he enclosed two photographs showing the state in which he left the prison camp. The photograph shows Corporal Conaghan with a beard almost six inches long.

As a recognition of Mr Malone's kindness Corporal Conaghan has sent him a beautiful Swiss pipe

Strabane Weekly News

3rd February 1917

SECOND LIEUTENANT WEIR

Second Lieutenant Weir 6th Reserve Regiment Cavalry, Dublin has been awarded the Military Cross. Before the war the gallant lieutenant whose home is "The Park." Ballindrait, Strabane was connected with the well-known firm of Ferrier Pollock & Co., Dublin. Going to the front he served with his battalion in the July offensive and was wounded on the 8th of that month. He rejoined his battalion, after his recovery and was transferred to the regiment in which he is now serving.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd February 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Chapman, Carricklee and Miss Woods, Glentimon.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd February 1917

BRIGADIER-GENERAL RICARDO.

Brigadier-General A.St. Q. Ricardo O.M.G. (Sion Mills) who was recently transferred from one of the Inniskilling battalions of the Ulster Division on promotion to command a brigade in another division, has, his

many friends in Ulster will be glad to learn, returned to his old division on appointment to command a brigade in succession to Brigadier General Shutter. Brigadier-General Ricardo commanded his battalion with great ability and was rewarded with the C.M.G. in the New Year list.

Strabane Weekly News
10th February 1917

STRABANE AND WAR PENSIONS

A meeting was held in the Town Hall on Thursday for the purpose of forming a sub-committee for the petty sessions district of Strabane. The business of the committee will be to investigate all cases of disabled soldiers and sailors, and the requirements of their dependents, with a view to supplementary pensions.

Strabane Weekly News
10th February 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Russell, Main Street, and Miss Feely, Derry Road

Strabane Weekly News
10th February 1917

STRABANE AND DISTRICT CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private Edward Hone who reside in Strabane have received official notification from the War Office that he has been killed in action in France, on 23rd January last. Private Hone joined the colours after the outbreak of war and served fourteen months in France with the Connaught Rangers. Mr. George McCurdy, Meenahoney, Castlefin has received notification from the War Office that his son, Private George McCurdy was killed in action on the 9th January. Private McCurdy, some years ago, emigrated to Australia and when war broke out volunteered and came over with the first Australian contingent.

Strabane Weekly News
10th February 1917

AMERICA AND GERMANY DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SEVERED CONSEQUENCE OF SUBMARINE TERRORISM AMBASSADOR HANDED HIS PASSPORTS

Diplomatic relations between Germany and the United States of America have been severed. Count Bernstorff has been given his passports and Mr. Gerard, the United States Ambassador in Berlin, has been recalled.

Strabane Weekly News
17th February 1917

At an investiture at Buckingham Palace Brigadier-General A. St. Q. Ricardo of Sion Mills was invested by his Majesty with the C.M.G., awarded him in the New Year honours.

Strabane Weekly News
17th February 1917

PRISONERS' FUND 9th BATT. ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

I beg to acknowledge with much gratitude, the following sums of money, subscribed to our Prisoners' Fund during the last four months.

Strabane Weekly News
17th February 1917

BALLYBOFEY MAN'S BRAVERY

7231 Q.M.S. T. Gregory, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He has performed consistent good work throughout and has at all times under fire set a splendid example.

Strabane Weekly News
17th February 1917

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting was held in the Town Hall, Strabane in connection with women's war relief.

Strabane Weekly News
17th February 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses acting for the week were Miss Joyce, Derry Road and Miss Ellis, Lifford Street.

Strabane Weekly News
17th February 1917

MILITARY MEDAL FOR STRABANE

Private John Harte, Royal Irish Regiment, whose parents reside at Lifford Street, Strabane has been awarded the military medal. He earned his distinction by taking a despatch to the Brigade Headquarters under heavy shell fire, although a good many men were killed and wounded beside him. On the occasion Private Harte, was wounded, but is recovering. This is the second time for Private Harte to be wounded. He has been in France since the commencement of the war. This is the fifth military medal won by Strabane men. Private Harte joined the colours about two years ago and prior to this he was a member of the Strabane Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Chronicle
17th February 1917

STRABANE CONSTABLE KILLED

Intelligence has reached Strabane that Constable Gilbane, formerly stationed in this town has been killed in action in France. He was a young man and volunteered for service about a year ago from Belfast, where he was then stationed. He was a native of County Leitrim and when in Strabane his genial disposition gained for him many friends.

Strabane Chronicle
17th February 1917

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

Mrs J Reilly presided at the fortnightly meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee and there was a large attendance.

Strabane Weekly News
17th February 1917

STRABANE WAR PENSIONS SCHEME

Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor, preside at the first meeting of the local committee just formed for the purpose of enquiring into the cases of disabled soldiers, sailors who receive pension and who have been discharged.

Strabane Weekly News
24th February 1917

STRABANE AND DISTRICT STRABANE CONSTABLE KILLED

The sad intelligence has reached Strabane that Constable Gilbane, formerly stationed in this town has been killed in action in France. Constable Gilbane volunteered for service a little over a year ago from Belfast where he was then stationed. He was a native of County Leitrim

Strabane Weekly News
24th February 1917

STRABANE NURSE HONOURED

Nurse Isabella Wright, Strabane has gone to England. Nurse Wright was for the past fifteen years connected with Strabane Workhouse Infirmary. When war broke out, she volunteered and after obtaining leave of Absence rendered excellent service at Pau Hospital, France in connection with the U.V.F. hospital. It was fitting that her services should be recognised, and the officials of Strabane Union met and paid her an appropriate tribute.

Mr J.A. Stewart, son of Mr William Stewart, B.E., of Railway Street, Strabane has been promoted to the rank of officer commandment of a siege battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery. This young officer has risen rapidly since he received his commission some six months ago.

Strabane Weekly News
24th February 1917

DONEMANA AND THE WAR

A record response was made by Donemana to the War Loan. At the Post Office, Mr Fulton has had to deal with applications for the new 5 per cent loan amounting to £3,358 5s 0d all consisting of new money

Strabane Weekly News
24th February 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge this week were Miss Wagentrieber, Inchenny, and Miss Russell, Main Street.

Strabane Weekly News
24th February 1917

AMERICA AND GERMANY
MR. ROOSEVELT TO RAISE 200,000 MEN

The "Evening Standard" states that in London diplomatic circles the view taken was that the United States and Germany are very near a state of war certain information has lately come to hand which points to this conclusion.

Strabane Weekly News
24th February 1917

Nurse Isabella Wright, Strabane, has gone to England. Nurse Wright was for the past fifteen years Connected with Strabane Workhouse Infirmary and held the position of head nurse for the past seven years, during which period she discharged her responsible duties with great devotion to the sick. She was a great favourite at the institution and was greatly esteemed by the guardians and officials. When war broke out, she volunteered and after obtaining leave of absence rendered excellent service at Pau Hospital, France, in connection with the U.V.F. hospital there. Her services will be of the utmost value in the noble work in nursing the wounded soldiers across the Channel.

Strabane Weekly News
Saturday 3rd March 1917

A most patriotic enjoyable entertainment was held in Abercorn Schools on the evening of 22nd ult., to which were invited the wounded soldiers at the Military Hospital, the discharged soldiers from the surrounding districts and the Belgian refugees. The hostesses for the evening were Mrs. Toner, Bank House, Mrs. C. Browns, Mrs. McElhinney, Mrs. John Devine, Mrs. Black, and Miss Hepburn. While tea was being served Miss Connolly's band, which attended, rendered selections from the 'Bing Boys' and to imperative encores repeated some of the items. A full musical programme was submitted. The accompaniments were played by Miss Maggis Russell. The enjoyable function terminated with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National anthem.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd March 1917

Through the untiring efforts of Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, upwards of 860 certificates have been presented to soldiers in the districts of Strabane, Ardara, Ballybofey, Cloghan, Donegal, Convoy, Raphoe, Stranorlar, Douglas Bridge, Newtownstewart, Artigarvan, Donemana, and Castlederg, as well as many soldiers from Australia, New Zealand and various parts of Canada. Through his efforts the Strabane Post Office has the proud record of possessing one of the largest rolls of honour in the country.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd March 1917

STRABANE VOLUNTEER KILLED

The wife of Private William Finlay, who resides at Bridge Street, Strabane has received the sad official intelligence from the War Office that he has been killed in action. Private Finlay, before the war was a member of the U.V.F. and a native of the Sion Mills district. He was a member of the local L.O.L.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd March 1917

LOCAL CASUALTIES

The parents of Private H, Clarke who reside at Sion Mills have been informed that he has been wounded in action in France. He is a member of the Inniskilling Fusiliers and joined up shortly after war commenced. It is understood that his wounds are not of a serious nature.

The friends of Private William Patton, who reside at Ballybofey, have been notified that he recently has been wounded in action. He belongs to the Inniskilling Fusiliers and has seen a good deal of service. He is well known in the Ballybofey district, where he is extremely popular.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss MacGowan, Bridge Street, Strabane and Miss Perry, Urney.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd March 1917

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Captain P.J. O'Rielly, R.A.M.C., a Strabane officer, who was recently awarded the Military Cross, is posted to the Irish Command for duty.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd March 1917

Newtownstewart district has been doing well in its subscriptions to the Red Cross. A very successful subscription dance in aid of the Red Cross funds was held in the Orange Hall on Wednesday evening 28th February.

The financial result has been most gratifying, no less than £31 2s 6d being raised for the good object in view.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd March 1917

CERTIFICATES OF HONOUR IN TYRONE

Colonel Irvine, C.B..Omagh is making arrangements to supply to the relatives of all men from County Tyrone, serving with the colours, or those who have been killed and wounded, certificates of honour which have been issued by the Government. The Government is most anxious that these certificates should be in the hands of all persons entitled to receive them and in order to facilitate their distribution, relatives are requested to make application direct to Colonel Irvine or to the local R.I.C.

Strabane Weekly News

3rd March 1917

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening. Mrs. Clarke (the Manse) presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the honorary secretary Mrs. J.C. Herdman and signed.

Strabane Chronicle

3rd March 1917

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening, Mrs. E. Clarke presiding.

Strabane Chronicle

3rd March 1917

WAR BONUSES FOR DOCTORS

The fortnightly meeting of Castlederg Board of Guardians was held under the chairmanship of Dr. James Leitch. With reference to the proposal of the guardians to allow the doctors a war bonus of £10 per year, from January 1 until the termination of the war, the Local Government Board wrote a letter pointing out that the system of war bonuses was designed to meet the financial pressure upon officers with salaries not exceeding £3 per week, caused by the abnormal prices of foodstuffs, and was not intended to apply to doctors, each of whose income is in excess of that amount. If the board wished to meet the claims of doctors, the proper way to do so would be by means of a graded scale of salaries. Taking the proposal into consideration, the guardians gave notice of motion to consider adopting a graded scale for medical officers of the union and the workhouse

Strabane Chronicle

10th March 1917

ENTERTAINMENT IN STRABANE

A very pleasant evening was spent in the Abercorn Schools, Strabane on Thursday when the wounded soldiers of the military hospital, Belgian refugees and other were entertained

Strabane Chronicle
10th March 1917

POTATO SHORTAGE IN THE NORTH

The Department has warned that the scarce potato supply in the North means that there is only the smallest margin for export. Furthermore, the military have been instructed to commandeered potatoes if middlemen and farmers do not market them freely throughout the 26 counties. A warning issued by the department stated, according to reports received, it appeared that, in some districts, farmers were holding up their potatoes without reasonable excuse. Unless farmers marketed their potatoes freely from 6 March 1917, the military authorities in Ireland have been instructed by the War Office, to requisition as many potatoes as necessary to meet the department's needs. Potatoes could be requisitioned from both the merchant's stores and directly from farms.

Strabane Weekly News
10th March 1917

A very pleasant time was spent in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday evening, the occasion being the fortnightly entertainment to the wounded soldiers from the Strabane Military Hospital. The Belgian refugees and the discharged soldiers, with those on leave, were also present. During tea, Miss Connolly's band rendered selections, for which they received hearty applause. Pianoforte duets were also rendered. The young performers acquitted themselves in excellent style.

Strabane Weekly News
17th March 1917

STRABANE SERGEANT ILL

It is reported that Sergeant Thomas Cunningham, son of Mr Thomas Cunningham lies in hospital in France seriously ill. He is attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers and has had over sixteen years' service. Sympathy will be extended to his wife and family in their anxiety.

Strabane Chronicle
17th March 1917

REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA
CZAR ABDICATES
DUMA IN POWER
TWO EX-MINISTERS MURDERED

Mr. Bonar Law announced in the House of Commons on Thursday night that a message had been received from the British Ambassador in Petrograd, to the effect that a message had been received from the Duma stating that the Czar had abdicated and that the Grand Duke Michael had been appointed Regent.

Strabane Weekly News
17th March 1917

STRABANE'S ROLL OF HONOUR

Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane has received a communication from Captain Fowler, Dublin stating he appreciated the work of he has done in connection with the distribution of certificates of honour and is pleased to note that the numbers are satisfactory. Mr Malone has dealt with and distributed upwards of 800 of these certificates around Strabane, Castlederg, Newtownstewart, Donemana, and in County Donegal.

Strabane Weekly News
17th March 1917

STRANORLAR MAN WOUNDED

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Joseph Deasely who reside at Shan, Creggan, Stranorlar that he was wounded in action on 9th February. He is attached to the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division). He joined up at the commencement of the war and went out with the first contingent of the Ulster Division and went successfully through the advance on 1st July last. He is at present in a hospital in England. He formerly showed great interest in the local U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News
17th March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Chapman, Carricklee and Miss Quinn, Glentown, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
17th March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS. February 1916 till January 1917

STRABANE WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS. February 1916 till January 1917

PRISONERS OF WAR FUND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS. February 1916 till January 1917

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' REST FUND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS. February 1916 till January 1917

Strabane Weekly News
24th March 1917

STRABANE WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

Our Strabane correspondent says:- Our advertising columns contained last week the audited statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st January last, in connection with the various branches of patriotic work carried out under the auspices of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee and elsewhere in our columns of this week the list of subscribers to the Military Hospital is published.

The accounts published last week reveal the remarkable activities of the committee and yet the published accounts fail to do full justice to the committees or to give the public an adequate conception of the magnitude of the truly beneficial work which has been done in the past twelve months by a number of ladies in one small urban area.

Strabane Weekly News
24th March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Quinn, Fyfin, Castlefin, and Miss White, Bowling Green.

Strabane Weekly News
24th March 1917

GORTIN MAN RECEIVES D.C.M.

Private Robert Warnock who has lately been discharged from hospital has been awarded the D.C.M. for conspicuous gallantry during a counterattack of the Germans on a captured trench. He was a member of Ryland U.V.F., Emigrated to Canada about the commencement of the war. He immediately joined the Canadian Infantry and was attached to a machine gun section. When holding a section of the trench his comrades being all killed but one, a German suddenly rushed out of a dugout and bayoneted him in the side, which might have proved fatal, but from his waist belt, as the bayonet first went through it, and the force of the thrust was lessened. His comrade immediately shot the German down. Then a discharge of shrapnel killed his comrade and wounded Private Warnock.

Strabane Weekly News
24th March 1917

STRABANE GOLF CLUB

A competition was held on Monday 24 inst, in aid of Strabane War Hospital Supply Depot. Lunch and tea were provided by the ladies and the sum of £4 14s 6d was realised.

Strabane Weekly News
24th March 1917

GRANDSON OF STRABANE RECTOR KILLED

Second-Lieutenant R.P. Hemphill, Leinster Regiment and Royal Flying Corps died on 24th March – one week after his 23rd birthday- from injuries received in an accident. He was the second surviving son of Rev. Samuel Hemphill, D.D., chaplain of the Magdalen Church and Asylum, Dublin and a grandson of Rev. Canon Alexander Delap, B.A., Camus-juxta-Mourne, Strabane. Deceased saw foreign service continuously from 17th May 1915, when he transferred to the Leinsters, then at Ypres.

Strabane Weekly News
24th March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Joyce, Derry Road and Miss McCarter, Mourne View.

Strabane Weekly News
24th March 1917

The official casualty lists include the following :- wounded, Private T. Nolan, 23359, Bedfordshire Regiment, Strabane

Strabane Chronicle
24th March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge of the military hospital for the week were Miss. Quinn, Foyfin, Castlefin, and Miss White, Bowling Green, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
24th March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL
LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Rev. W. Devine B.a., B.D., Catholic chaplain to the Australian Forces has been awarded the Croix de Guerre for his gallant conduct and devotion to duty under fire.

He is a son of the late Mr. Geo. Devine, J.P., Castlederg. Some years ago he was attached from Derry diocese to Melbourne, Australia.

Strabane Weekly News
31st March 1917

A meeting in connection with the Strabane Distress Scheme for distressed persons was held in the Town Hall on Monday, Mr Eugene Conroy JP, presided. The chairman said that some time previously there had been a meeting of the Distress Committee but at that time there had been few applications received. At that time the lists were left open. Afterwards Mr Robinson, in charge of the Department, came to Strabane and the inspector and he went around the people whose names were on the list. They interviewed them as to their means, house rent, coal etc. They visited something like 50 houses.

Strabane Weekly News
31st March 1917

MILITARY CROSS FOR STRABANE OFFICER
CAPT. ROBERT ANDREW KERR. M.B.

Monday night's "London Gazette" announced that his Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to confer the Military Cross on the undermentioned officer in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the field. The Royal Army Medical Corps, attached to Royal Warwickshire Regiment. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He succeeded in rescuing his three bearers, who were entombed when the aid post was blown in he constantly visited the most dangerous parts of the line in order to tend the wounded.

Captain Kerr, who was born in March 1888, is a son of Mr. A.E. Kerr, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
31st March 1917

The last of the season's entertainments in connection with the wounded soldiers at the Strabane Military Hospital was given at the abercorn Schools on Wednesday evening. During tea Miss Connolly's band rendered selections of music which were appreciated. Mrs William King subsequently presided at the presentation ceremony and paid a high tribute to Miss Doherty's services. Mrs JC Herdman (Commandment of the hospital) made the presentation to Miss Doherty and added an appreciative reference to her worth and to her invaluable services rendered by her to the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee since its formation in every sphere. On behalf of the committee and herself, she wished Miss Doherty long life and happy days.

Strabane Weekly News
31st March 1917

A competition was held on Monday 24th inst. in aid of the Strabane War Hospital Supply Depot. Lunch and tea were provided by the ladies and the sum of £4-14-6d was realised. Prizes were kindly provided by Miss Roulston. Messrs A Gallagher (captain), J Smyth, A Weir, and JS Weir. Then on Monday 26th inst. the soldiers of Strabane Military Hospital were entertained to tea at the links. A competition was arranged by the captain, Mr A Gallagher, with members acting as caddies.

Strabane Chronicle
31st March 1917

STRABANE UNION CLERK AND THE ARMY

The Clerk (Mr. Ingram) informed Mr. Rankin that he had received orders to rejoin the army on that day week.

Strabane Chronicle
31st March 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses for the week were Miss. Joyce, Derry Road, Strabane and Miss McCarter, Mourne View, Strabane

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Porterfield, Lifford and Miss Elsie Wilson, Cloughard, Castlefin.

Strabane Chronicle
31st March 1917

STRABANE WOMENS' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Strabane Womens' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening, Mrs. T. McElhinney presiding.

Strabane Chronicle
31st March 1917

DAFFODIL FETE FOR WAR FUNDS

The daffodil fete, organised by the ladies of Strabane women's war Relief Committee, which was held for the purpose of raising funds for war charities to be utilised at their discretion, was held in delightful weather. Hosted in the Town Hall it was attended largely by people from the counties of Tyrone and Donegal. It was, in every respect, a most successful function, and the ladies whom laboured so consistently for the last few weeks were well pleased at the success of their efforts.

The stalls were charmingly laid out, and great liberality was shown by people all present in purchases, as was anticipated. The result will be that a large credit balance will be in the hands of the Committee of War Relief for the patriotic work.

The strains of the popular Connolly band which was present in full strength, were delightful.

The wounded soldiers from the military Hospital and Belgian refugees were interested spectators during the entire proceedings.

Strabane Weekly News
7th April 1917

**BRAVE INNISKILLING DECORATED
BATTALION ORDERS CONGRATULATION**

The gallantry of Lance-Sergeant Daniel Lyttle, of a battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, whose doings have been the pride and attracted the interest of Tyrone folk and in particular is still we are glad to say, being recognised in a manner which is sure to act as an incentive to other members of his battalion. Lance-Sergeant Lyttle was first mentioned by his commanding officer for excellent work and this was followed by the award of the Military Medal. His gallantry attracted the attention of the King of Italy and he was awarded the Bronze Medal for Military Valour of the Italian Army.

No. 13654. Lance-Corporal (now Lance-Sergeant) D. Lyttle, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers is a native of Leckpatrick, Strabane and prior to the war took an active part in U.V.F. work in the district.

Strabane Weekly News
7th April 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Porterfield, Lifford; and Miss Elsi Wilson, Cloughard, Castlefin.

Strabane Weekly News
7th April 1917

STRABANE DISTRESS SCHEME

Mr Eugen Conroy, J.P., of the Urban Council, presided at a meeting in the Town Hall on Thursday for the purpose of considering the necessary arrangements with reference to the distribution of funds to those who are in distress caused by the war.

Strabane Weekly News
7th April 1917

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Woman's' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs John Elliott presiding.

Strabane Weekly News
14th April 1917

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Intimation has been received by the relatives of Private Thomas Furey, who reside at Patrick Street, Strabane that he has been killed in action in France. He belongs to Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and volunteered shortly after the outbreak of war. He was considered to be one of the best signallers in his company and was held in high regard by his comrades as is evidenced by many letters received both from officers and men.

Mystery surrounds the fate of Mr. Willie Delap, an officer on a vessel recently torpedoed. He was the second son of the Rev. Canon Delap. Mr Delap was a first-class seaman, having adopted same as his profession for some years past. His brother and many other near relatives hold high rank both in the army and navy.

Strabane Chronicle
14th April 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL
THE WEEKLY REPORT

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Feely, Derry Road, and Miss Woods, Glentimon.

Strabane Weekly News
14th April 1917

AMERICA ENTERS WAR

The House of Representatives passed the war resolution at three o'clock on Friday morning after 17 hours of continuous session, by 373 votes against 50. There was no demonstration.

The opponents of the resolution were mostly representatives from the North-West States.

Strabane Chronicle
14th April 1917

THE STRABANE CHRONICLE IN THE BALKANS

Private Thomas Maguire, Main Street, Strabane, who is attached to the Royal Munster Fusiliers, Salonica writes an appreciation of the "Strabane Chronicle" in the Balkans. He states that the Strabane boys out there get the paper every week and they will read no other but the "Chronicle" it is o interesting and newey.

Strabane Chronicle
14th April 1917

STRABANE DOCTOR'S GALLANTRY
AWARDED THE MILITARY CROSS

The "London Gazette" announces that the Military Cross has been conferred on Captain Robert Andrew Kerr, M.B., Royal Army Medical Corps, attached to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He succeeded in rescuing his three bearers, who were entombed when the aid post was blown in. he constantly visited the most dangerous parts of the line in order to tend the wounded. Captain Kerr, who is a son of Mr. A.E. Kerr, Strabane was educated at the Academy, Strabane, and Queen's University, Belfast.

Strabane Chronicle
14th April 1917

MR. JOHN J. McMENAMIN

It is with deep regret that we chronicle the death of Private John James McMenamin, Strabane, nephew of Mr. Patrick McMenamin, J.P. He was attached to the Australian Imperial Forces and was recently wounded in action in France from which he died on the 26th ult. The news has been received in Strabane and district with deep regret, as Private McMenamin was well known, respected and popular in the district. He was but a young man with bright hopes and promise for the future and his death while in the bloom of young manhood has cast a gloom over the district of his boyhood days. With his uncle Mr. Patrick McMenamin, J.P., Strabane there is widespread sympathy in his sad bereavement.

Strabane Weekly News
21st April 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Porterfield, Lifford; and Miss Elsi Wilson, Cloughard, Castlefin.

Strabane Weekly News
21st April 1917

STRABANE DISTRESS SCHEME

Mr Eugen Conroy, J.P., of the Urban Council, presided at a meeting in the Town Hall on Thursday for the purpose of considering the necessary arrangements with reference to the distribution of funds to those who are in distress caused by the war.

Strabane Weekly News
21st April 1917

A meeting of the Strabane Woman's' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs John Elliott presiding.

Strabane Weekly News
21st April 1917

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
STRABANE MAN DIES FROM WOUNDS

Deep regret has been felt in the district at the death of Mr. John James McMenamin, from wounds received on the battlefield in France. He was well known in sporting circles and was enthusiastic at football and cricket. He left Strabane a few years ago and joined the Australian forces shortly after the commencement of war. Deceased is a nephew of Mr. Patrick McMenamin, J.P.

Strabane Weekly News
21st April 1917

ONCE GASSED FOUR TIMES

The relatives of Private George Craig, Lifford Street, Strabane have been notified that he has been wounded again in action in France. He belonged to the original expeditionary force and at the outbreak of war was sent to the firing line and took part in the Mons retreat. Has been through the Dardanelles campaign where he was twice wounded. This is the second occasion he has been wounded in France and on another occasion, he was severely gassed. He has another brother with the colours and up to the present has come through unhurt.

Sergeant John Hunter (19132) Royal Irish Rifles, who has won the Military Medal for bravery on the battlefield, is a native of Douglas Bridge, County Tyrone and the fifth son of Mr Robert Hunter, sexton of Douglas Bridge Presbyterian Church. He was an Army Reserve man before the outbreak of the war and although his services completed in the Army, he volunteered again at Belfast and enlisted in the Royal Irish Rifles. He was a good footballer and played in the matches in the surrounding districts. His brother, Marshall, is serving with the colours in a Scottish regiment in France.

Strabane Weekly News
21st April 1917

TYRONE CANADIAN CASULTIES

We understand that Lieutenant Charles Stevenson, Canadian Infantry, son of the late Mr. John J Stevenson, Magheragar, Sion Mills has been wounded in the neck in the recent fighting. He has had rather a distinguished military career, first serving in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers for a period of seven years during which time he was promoted from the ranks to that of a non-commissioned officer and saw considerable foreign service. At the expiration of the term for which he enlisted he emigrated to Canada

where he was successfully engaged in business when the war broke out. He promptly volunteered in the Canadians, was appointed to the warrant rank of sergeant-major and came over with the first contingent of Canadians who took part in the severe fighting over two years ago when the Germans were defeated in their efforts to reach Callias. He distinguished himself for bravery and organising ability and about a year and a half ago received well merited promotion to the commissioned rank and at the same time being invalided home owing to a slight breakdown due to a long and arduous work in the trenches. For a considerable time he was engaged in the work of training Canadian troops in England but returned to the fighting line at the end of the year. Another brother, Oliver Stevenson, who is well known in Strabane is also serving with the Canadians.

Private David Monteith, Canadian Infantry, son of the late Mr. Thomas Monteith, blacksmith, formerly of Fearn, Castleterg has been slightly wounded. The family of which Private Monteith is a member, emigrated to Canadas some years ago and other brothers are also serving with the Canadian forces.

Strabane Weekly News 21st April 1917

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town hall on Thursday evening at which Mrs Feely, Derry Road, presided.

Strabane Weekly News 21st April 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Feely, Derry Road and Miss Woods, Glentimon, Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News 21st April 1917

A high-class concert was held in the Pallidrome, Strabane, on Friday evening in aid of funds for the Boys Scouts movement, which is making good progress in Strabane district. A concert in aid of a matter of this sort is generally well-patronised by the public, but when it became known that Mrs. E. Gallagher, wife of Lieutenant Eddie Gallagher, was to participate in the programme, as well as local talented performers, and when Mr WM Berry announced that the orchestra under his charge would also take part in the programme, the success of the event was assured. It was the unanimous opinion of the large audience that the concert was the best ever held in the town.

Strabane Weekly News 21st April 1917

Mr Eugene Conroy JP, chairman of the urban council presided at a meeting in the Town Hall on Thursday for the purpose of considering the necessary arrangements with reference to the distribution of funds to those who are in distress caused by war. The chairman read a letter from the Local Government Board, enclosing a cheque for £75 for this purpose as a grant made to the local relief committee. They suggested that relief should only be given to eligible cases. After some discussion on the motion the cheque was ordered to be handed over to Mr Michael Kennedy, Strabane, to be lodged by him to the credit of the funds.

Strabane Weekly News 21st April 1917

It will be learned with great satisfaction in Strabane that Private James Snodgrass, of Townsend Street, at present serving with the service battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has won the bantam weight championship for boxing in a tournament recently held in France which carries with it a substantial sum of money. During the tournament, which was keenly contested by competitors from the counties of Tyrone, Donegal and Derry, he fought successfully ten fights of a severe nature, three of the hardest being with Corporals Belis and Campbell, and in his final bout, he knocked out Private Diamond in three fast rounds.

Strabane Weekly News 21st April 1917

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, at which Mrs Feely, Derry Road, presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the honorary secretary, Mrs. Herdman, and passed. Miss McCrea reported, on behalf of the Despatch committee, that a consignment of comforts was ready for despatching and same was directed to be forwarded to the Omagh Depot for distribution among the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Mrs Lavery and Mrs

Feely reported that six men had availed themselves of the kindness extended to them at the Rest Club. A letter was received from Miss McKillip, Victoria High School, Derry, thanking the members of the Committee for their kind donation of £10 towards the purchase of hot water bottles for the benefit of the troops at the front.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

CASUALTIES

Mr. John Cromie, Convoy has received intimation from the War Office that his son William, a corporal in the Canadian Infantry has been wounded and is now in hospital. He emigrated to Canada five years ago and previous to this was employed as a chemist in Mr. Nichol's High Street, Belfast. Private James McConnell, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mr Robert McConnell, Killoan, Convoy has been wounded.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Corporal Robert Cunningham Clarke, Royal Highlanders, was killed during the advance on the Vimy Ridge on 9th April. He enlisted in Toronto in 1915 was wounded last November and had been previously in the Toronto Police Force. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Clarke. His younger brother Corporal Ernest Joseph Clarke has been serving in the North Irish Horse since the beginning of the war and has been in France two years and eight months.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
MR WILLIE DELAP SAFE

Rev Canon Delap of the Strabane Rectory has been informed that his son Mr. Willie Delap is now a prisoner. Mr Delap was engaged prior to and during the war on voyages around the world. Some few weeks ago the ship on which he was engaged was torpedoed and as no tidings have been received of his whereabouts his parent's experienced great anxiety.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

STRABANE TROOPER WOUNDED

Mr James White, J.P., Bowling Green, Strabane has received intimation that his son, Trooper Bertie White, has been wounded in the leg whilst in action and is at present in hospital in Northampton. Trooper White was in Canada but after the outbreak of war returned to this country and enlisted in the Inniskilling Dragoons. He received his wounds in the present rush. Trooper White has another brother, Trooper Ernest White, also with the Inniskilling Dragoons.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

TYRONE MEDALIST WOUNDED

Mr. John Hutchinson who lives in Bready near Strabane has received intimation that his son, Sergeant David Hutchinson, Canadians, was wounded on the 9th April last and that he is at present in a hospital in England. Sergeant Hutchinson has taken part in many big battles and was some time ago decorated with the military medal for bravery on the battlefield. He has two other brothers with the colours, Alexander and James, both of whom who are serving with the Ulster Division. The latter is at present in a hospital. All three brother before the war were popular members of the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

STRABANE ENTERTAINMENT

A highly enjoyable entertainment was held in Strabane on the evening of the 20th inst, when the V.A.D. nurses in connection with the Strabane Military Hospital entertained the wounded soldiers, the discharged soldiers, and the Belgian refugees.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

STRABANE LIEUTENANT KILLED

Intimation has reached Strabane that Lieutenant Henry Ellis, son of Sergeant James Ellis, recruiting sergeant for this district. After school he entered the employment of Donegal Railway Company and subsequently joined the Royal Irish Constabulary, being stationed at Derry City for a number of years. At the outbreak of war, he joined the Australian Forces and for services and bravery displayed on the battlefield, he was promoted from the ranks to be lieutenant. In the North West he was well known in sporting circles and holds upwards of fifty trophies for flat races, including gold medals and cups.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Kathleen Shannon, Carnone and Miss E. Smith, Ballyduff House, Lifford.

Strabane Weekly News
28th April 1917

HELPING THE WOUNDED AT LECKPATRICK

A patriotic endeavour has been initiated by the loyal people of Leckpatrick in connection with the war which, in the course of a few weeks will be a source of usefulness and comfort for wounded soldiers. Upwards of thirty young men and women meet at the local Orange Hall, where benches are erected, thoroughly equipped with carpentry tools, each evening in the week, and according to plans, make bed rest, foot rests, crutches etc which in due course will be presented to the local military hospitals

Strabane Chronicle
28th April 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL **THE WEEKLY REPORT**

The nurses in charge of the hospital for this week were Miss Kathleen Shannon, Carnowen, Castlefin and Miss E. Smith, Ballyduff House, Lifford.

Strabane Chronicle
5th May 1917

DRINK FOR WOUNDED SOLDIER **INTERESTING STRABANE CASE**

At Strabane's Petty Sessions on Monday last, before Captain Gessolin, R.M., and other magistrates, District Inspector Heggart summoned Louis Roy, Strabane, under the Defence of the Realm Regulations, for having supplied drink to a wounded soldier.

District Inspector Heggart, in opening the case, said it was one in which the defendant was charged with procuring a half pint of whiskey for a soldier undergoing medical treatment in Strabane Military Hospital. It was the first case of the kind they had had there, although the hospital has been open for a long time, and that fact reflected the greatest credit on the discipline and management of the hospital.

The Chairman said the magistrates were of the opinion that the defendant committed the offence unknowingly but they could not absolve him from blame. They would inflict the substantial fine of £1, with court costs, and he gave warning that if a like case was proved to the magistrates in the future, that drink had been wilfully and knowingly supplied to a wounded soldier, the maximum penalty the law allowed, with imprisonment, would be imposed.

Strabane Chronicle
5th May 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. McGowan, Bridge Street, and Miss E. White, Bowling Green.

Strabane Chronicle
5th May 1917

THE BUDGET **INCREASED TAXATION**

There is no new taxation in the Budget introduced on Wednesday, but three existing duties are increased, viz.:-

1. Tobacco;
2. Excess Profits;

3. Entertainments.

Strabane Weekly News 5th May 1917

STRABANE MEDALIST KILLED

The relatives of Private Hugh Dunn, Strabane, have been informed that he has been killed in action in France. Private Dunn, who belonged to the Inniskillings, was a reservist. He took part in the first battles of the campaign. While in France his time expired, but after a few months' holidays, he again volunteered. Deceased also served right through the South African war and held a medal with many clasps. The deceased leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss.

Strabane Weekly News 5th May 1917

The Rest Club recently started in Strabane at Railway Road is proving a signal success. The club was organised by the ladies of the War Relief Committee who deserved no small measure of praise for their efforts and thoroughness. During the past few days, upwards of thirty sailors etc. Have passed through the club. Each of them was provided with warm clothing and their necessary wants were attended to. The guests of the club have expressed their warm gratitude for the treatment.

Strabane Weekly News 5th May 1917

The Strabane Women's War Relief Committee are to be congratulated on the gigantic success achieved in connection with their daffodil fete held recently. The balance to credit will now come in most useful as the committee has decided to assist the Rest Club Committee in providing for comforts of crews who have been torpedoed in Irish waters.

Strabane Weekly News 12th May 1917

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Intimation has been received by Mrs. Noble, Mulvin that her son Pte. David Noble, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been killed. He was in the employment of Mr David Beattie, Douglas Bridge, before the outbreak of the war. He was a member of the U.V.F. and L.O.L No. 205.

Strabane Weekly News 12th May 1917

GALLANT DONEGAL MAN

Private Matthew Hutchinson, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who as already announced has been awarded a certificate for gallantry, was employed at the Donegal Railway Station at Stranorlar in the engineering department. He also has two other brothers serving with the colours.

Strabane Weekly News 12th May 1917

STRABANE VOLUNTEER KILLED

The relatives of Private John Jack, who reside at Bridge Street, Strabane have received the sad intelligence that he has been killed in action on 1st July last. Private Jack was formerly officially reported as missing. He was fighting with the Ulster Division (Tyrones), in which battalion he volunteered at the commencement of the war. He was an active member of Strabane U.V.F., also the local L.O.L. he leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss. His brother, Private George Jack, is also serving with the same battalion of the Ulster Division.

Strabane Chronicle 12th May 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Joyce, Derry Road, Strabane, and Miss Keatley, Bowling Green, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle 12th May 1917

SOLDIERS KILLED IN WAR

The relatives of Private John Jack, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Bridge Street, Strabane, have received news that he has been killed. He has been missing for a couple of months and was in the U.V.F.

Information has also been received by Mrs. Noble, Mulvin, Victoria bridge, that her son, Private David Noble, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been killed. He was in the employment of David Beattie, Douglas Bridge, before the outbreak of the war. He was a member of the U.V.F., and deceased belonged to LOL No 206, Johnston's Purple Heroes, Douglas Bridge.

Strabane Chronicle
19th May 1917

POSSESSION OF MILITARY CLOTHING

At Newtownstewart monthly court, before Messrs. W Miller and J Mellon, R Atchinson, Mill Street, Newtownstewart, was prosecuted for having in his possession, a soldier's kit containing regimental necessaries and clothing. Constable Martin stated that on the day in question, he was enquiring about a man named Ferguson. He was told that Ferguson could be found in Atkinson's house, and so went there. During his visit he found a full soldier's kit (produced) with the exception of the shirt, belonging to Ferguson. Ferguson had apparently asked Mrs Atkinson's permission to leave his kit in her house until he returned for it. The case was dismissed.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

On Monday and Tuesday, the hiring fair in Strabane was continued and on both days there was a great deal of businesses transacted. Large crowds of servants who did not engage at the May Fair or at later fairs, attended looking for employment. Many farmers, who were anxious for labour, engaged the various class of servants required by the. Large wages were demanded and especially where the Labour Union is strong, farmers found it impossible to accede to labourers' requests.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

GALLANT RAPHOE VOLUNTEER

No. 15199, Lance-Corporal Thomas Dodwell, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers has been awarded the military medal for gallantry on 1st July. While under heavy rifle and shell fire he succeeded in carrying dispatches. He has two other brothers serving in the same regiment, one of them Private John Dodwell has been invalided home twice and is in Tipperary at present. The three brothers were members of the Raphoe U.V.F. and Lance-Corporal Dodwell has been the first from the company to gain this honour.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

WOUNDED ENTERTAINED

The Strabane wounded soldiers and staff at the Military Hospital had a most enjoyable evening on Wednesday when prominent ladies of the town entertained them to a whist drive.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

GALLANT STRANORLAR SERGEANT

The relatives of Sergeant Howard White, who reside at Castlebane, Stranorlar have been informed that he has been presented with a certificate for bravery and devotion to duty on the field of battle. He is in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and has been in the firing line since the division went to France. He took a lively interest in the welfare of the local U.V.F. He has another brother, Horace White, presently also serving with the colours, and he took part in stamping out the Dublin Rebellion. This is the second honour won by Stranorlar men who belonged to the local U.V.F. force prior to the war.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

DONEMANA CASUALTY

Regret will be felt in the Donemana district at the death of Private Hamilton Robinson who belonged to the Highland Light Infantry, the sad event taking place in one of the General Canadian hospitals. Prior to emigrating to Canada, he resided at Tamnaclare and assisted his father in extensive farming operations. Private Robinson received wounds in the recent fighting from which he died. Deceased evinced much interest in Ulster Unionist work and was a member of the Orange Institution.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Quinn, Fyfin and Miss C. Stoney, Oakfield Park, Raphoe.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, 17th inst. The meeting was well attended and was presided over by Mrs Lavery.

Strabane Weekly News
19th May 1917

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday night, 17th inst. The meeting was well attended and was presided by Mrs Lavery. Miss McCrea, on behalf of the Despatch Committee, reported having forwarded a supply of mufflers and socks to the Depot at Omagh for distribution among the troops at the front. Mrs King presented the monthly accounts which were ordered to be paid. Mrs Toner, Hon Treasurer, announced that the recent daffodil fete had been a signal success. Mrs Feely and Mrs Lavery reported that upwards of 100 men, all soldiers, had passed through the Rest Club. The meeting expressed the opinion that this was the most reserving organisation at the present moment

Strabane Weekly News
26th May 1917

CASTLEFINN VOLUNTER KILLED

After many months of weary waiting and anxiety the parents OF Private George Colhoun, who reside at Castlefinn, County Donegal have been recently notified that he has been killed in action in France. He was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and took part in the 1st July push.

Strabane Weekly News
26th May 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss McCarter, of Mourne View, and Miss L. Stewart.

Strabane Weekly News
26th May 1917

STRABANE OFFICER KILLED

The sad intelligence reached Strabane on Thursday that Second-Lieutenant William K. Britton, son of the late Dr. Britton, J.P., of Hazelwood, Strabane was killed as the result of an aeroplane accident in England. Shortly after the outbreak of war he applied for and received a commission being attached to the Royal Flying Corps. He subsequently served in France where he was wounded. Deceased has two brothers serving their country, one of them, Captain Thomas Britton, who belongs to the R.A.M.C and who is at present in France, the other Master Jack Britton, who is engaged in munition works in Belfast. Captain the Hon. L.E. Bingham, R.F.A., wounded is the youngest son of the late Earl of Lucan and brother of the Duchess of Abercorn.

Information has been received to the effect that Private Hugh Davis, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers is wounded. He is a son of Mr and Mrs William Davis, Bearney, near Douglas Bridge, County Tyrone. He belonged to L.O.L. No. 25, Johnston's Purple Heroes, Douglas Bridge and was prominent member of the U.V.F. At a recent meeting of Newtownstewart L.O.L. No. 5, the secretary was asked to convey to Bro. Thomas Clarke, the sympathy of the lodge in the death of his son, Robert, who was killed in action last month.

Strabane Weekly News
26th May 1917

On Friday evening last a large audience attended at the Town Hall, Strabane, to witness a concert presented by Mr & Mrs WM Berry. Part proceeds of the amount realised will be devoted to local war relief charities. Mr & Mrs Berry deserve to be congratulated on the success of the achievement and it was pleasing to record that their many services were appreciated, as on any occasion when required at any patriotic function, they can always be relied on. A feature of the programme was the splendid band conducted by Mr Berry himself.

Strabane Weekly News
26th May 1917

Mr Andrew Lowry, JP, presided at the meeting of Strabane No 2 Council on Tuesday. A letter was read from Mr WH Ingram, clerk of the council, at present stationed with his regiment at Finner, thanking the council for their generosity in deciding to allow him full salary during his absence. He stated that he would like to keep in touch with the affairs of the council, and, if he could, at any time, supply them with any information they required he would only be too pleased to do so.

Strabane Chronicle
26th May 1917

STRABANE MAN IN BAGDAD

Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane has received an interesting letter from Sapper J.T. McCrossan, at Bagdad. Mr McCrossan before joining the Royal Engineers, was very well known in County Tyrone and Donegal, and was employed in Strabane Post Office. The following are extracts giving an account of the city of Bagdad: - "I never imagined I would be reading a letter from you in the city of the Arabian nights, but I am now billeted with an Armenian family and getting quite accustomed to Oriental customs. "“We've lived on belly (sic.) beef, biscuits, and black tea (without milk or sugar) for weeks, and we were always on the move.”

“We have now everything we require, and can purchase anything at a comparatively small cost – such as fruit, which is plentiful”

Strabane Chronicle
26th May 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. McCarter, Mourneview and Miss L. Stewart, Dergalt.

Strabane Chronicle
26th May 1917

STRABANE OFFICERS KILLED **LIEUT. HARRY ELLIS**

Throughout the North West where the deceased was well known and popular, there is deep regret at the death in action in France of Lieutenant Henry Ellis, Australian Infantry, son of Sergeant James Ellis, Recruiting Officer for the Strabane district. He was educated at the Prior Schools, Lifford after which he entered the employment of the Donegal Railway Company as clerk, and subsequently joined the Royal Irish Constabulary. He was a familiar figure in sporting circles and an expert player of Association football.

Strabane Chronicle
26th May 1917

LIEUT. WM. BRITTON

Intimation has reached Strabane that Second-Lieutenant William K. Britton, son of the late Dr. Britton, was killed in an accident in England on Wednesday. He was an instructor in the Royal Flying Corps, and saw active service in France, where he was wounded.

Information has been received to the effect that Private Hugh Davis, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is wounded. Private Davis is a son of Mr and Mrs William Davis, Bearney near Douglas Bridge, Co. Tyrone. He belonged to LOL No 25 Johnston's Purple Heroes, Douglas Bridge, and was a prominent member of the Ulster Volunteer Force.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd June 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Perry, Urney and Miss Ellis, Lifford Street

Strabane Chronicle
2nd June 1917

MILITARY FUNERAL IN STRABANE

On Sunday afternoon the remains of Lieutenant William K.M. Britton, Royal Flying Corps, who was killed in an aviation accident in England were brought from Yeastbury, Wilts, to Strabane for interment in the New Cemetery. The funeral which took place with full military honours left the residence of the deceased's mother, 'Hazelwood, Strabane', at 3.30p.m. followed by an immense concourse of sympathisers. The streets en route to the cemetery were lined with a dense throng of people. The band of the 3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, the V.A.D. nurses of the Strabane military hospital, the R.I.C., the Boy Scouts and the members of the Masonic Order in the district were prominent in the funeral procession. The Rev. Edward

Clarke, M.A., Presbyterian minister, officiated at the graveside. The chief mourners included Mrs Britton (mother), Mr. G.H. Britton and Master G.W. Britton (brothers)

Strabane Chronicle
2nd June 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss D. McAnaw, Main Street, and Miss Hadfield Sion Mills, with Miss Joyce, Derry Road, as housekeeper

Strabane Chronicle
2nd June 1917

Sergeant John Woods, R.G.A., son of Mr. John Woods, Finn Lodge, Castlefin, County Donegal, has been promoted lieutenant on the field, and is retained on the artillery.

Lieutenant James Shaw Allen, 10th (S) battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers) Ulster Division, eldest son of Mr. James Allen, Trensalla, St. Johnston, has been promoted captain. He received his commission early in 1915, when he was attached to the 10th Inniskillings in France. He was mentioned in despatches.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd June 1917

LONDON BOMBED
OVER 500 CASUALTIES
ABOUT 100 KILLED
FIFTEEN AEROPLANES TAKE PART
THE RAIDERS FIRED AT

Such was the result, so far as reported, up to midnight on Wednesday, of the latest German air raid in England, which took place at noon on Wednesday on London, in the densely populated East End districts and on the city of London.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd June 1917

The remains of Second-Lieutenant Wm. K.M. Britton, Royal Flying Corps, were laid to rest in Strabane Cemetery on Sunday last. The gallant young officer met his death in the air as a result of an unfortunate accident whilst he was engaged in teaching an officer pupil to manipulate an aeroplane in circumstances.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd June 1917

GENERAL AND INNISKILLINGS

The General Officer Commanding has sent the following communication to the officer commanding the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers:- "Will you please convey to all officers and men of the battalion under your command my good wishes to them in this the first anniversary of the defeat of the Bavarian attack at Hulluch? On that occasion the battalion nobly kept up the traditions of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. I take this opportunity of expressing to all ranks my appreciation of the present spirit and smartness of the battalion."

Strabane Weekly News
2nd June 1917

It is officially announced that Sergeant J. Hunter, Douglas Bridge has been awarded the Military Medal. He belongs to the Royal Irish Rifles.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd June 1917

The following casualties appear in the official lists from the ranks of the Inniskillings :- Killed: 28153 D. Noble, Victoria Bridge. Wounded: 27243 Johnston, Spamount. Shell-shock 27656 F. McTaggart, Newtownstewart.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd June 1917

Captain J. Watson, Londonderry and Strabane, has been mentioned in despatches.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd June 1917

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Private J. McConnell, 19792, of Sion Mills who belonged to the Highland Light Infantry, has been wounded.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd June 1917

Private D. Caldwell, 13868, Donemana and Private S. Mulligan, 13886, Castlederg, both of whom belong to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who were previously reported as missing, are now reported killed.

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

A big effort is being made by the Duchess of Abercorn, the Marchioness of Londonderry, Lady Carson, Mrs. James Craig, Mrs. Kerr-Smiley, and other well-known North of Ireland ladies to raise funds for the provision of comforts for men of the Ulster Division, particularly those who are prisoners of war in Germany. It will take the form of a sale of work to be held at the Duchess's London residence, Hampton House, Green Street, W., in the first week of July and hopes are entertained that a large sum of money will be realized.

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

Mr. Eugene Conroy, J.P., and subsequently Mr. John Perry, presided at the monthly meeting of Strabane Urban Council on Monday. Resolutions calling for better prison treatment for the Countess Markievicz, a 'real' leader, who was sentenced to penal servitude, were adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Mr. Perry remarking:- You cannot expect us to approve of everything in these resolutions. Mr. Kelly – are you not an Irishman?

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses for the week were Miss D. McAnaw and Miss Hadfield, with Miss Joyce as housekeeper.

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Saturday morning's casualty list contains the following names:- Died of wounds: Private J. Doherty, 31129, Castlederg.

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

NEWTOWNSTEWART HEROES

A correspondence writes:- Although the war's horrors, devastation, and death are ever present to our minds, yet at certain times, we have if possible a clearer and more vivid conception of the awful tragedy which is being enacted on the battlefields of Europe. Thus, as we read in your last issue of the death of Corporal David P. Smyth, of Newtownstewart, we think of that frank, fearless, manly youth leaving position, friends, and all that made life dear, and going forth at his country's call to die in its defence. When reported at first as only "missing", one hoped that it might be true but as the weary months passed slowly by and no further tidings came, hope gradually gave way to the feelings of despair that perhaps the worst had happened, and then our fears were realised when, quite recently the official announcement came "believed killed"

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

STRABANE AND DISTRICT COMMISSION FOR A DONEGAL MAN

Sergeant John Woods, R.G.A. son of Mr John Woods, Finn Lodge, Castlefin, County Donegal has been promoted lieutenant on the field, and is retained on the artillery. He went out with the first Expeditionary Force, took part in the Mons retreat, the subsequent advance and took part in the very severe fighting in and around Ypres.

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

DONEGAL OFFICER PROMOTED

Lieutenant James Shaw Allen, 10th (S) Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers), Ulster Division, eldest son of Mr James Allen, Trensalla, St. Johnston has been promoted captain. He joined the colours when war "broke out" receiving his training at the O.T.C, Queens University, Belfast. He took part in the big push last July and was mentioned in despatches. He was a prominent member of St Johnston U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News

9th June 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss A. Quinn, Glentown and Miss Wisheart, Main Street.

Strabane Chronicle

9rd June 1917

MILITARY FUNERAL IN STRABANE

The remains of Lieutenant William K.M. Britton, Royal Flying Corps, who was killed in an aviation incident in England, were brought from Eastbury Wilts to Strabane for interment in the New Cemetery.

The funeral, which took place with full military honours, left the residence of the deceased's mother, Hazelwood, Strabane, at 3.30p.m., followed by an immense concourse of sympathisers.

The streets, en route to the cemetery, were lined with a throng of people. The band of the third Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were prominent in the funeral processions.

Chief mourners included Mrs. Britton (mother), G.H. Britton and Master G.W. Britton (brothers).

Strabane Chronicle

9th June 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss D. McAnaw, Main Street, and Miss Hadfield Sion Mills, with Miss Joyce, Derry Road, as housekeeper

Strabane Chronicle

16th June 1917

Sergeant John Woods, R.G.A., son of Mr. John Woods, Finn Lodge, Castlefin, County Donegal, has been promoted lieutenant on the field, and is retained on the artillery.

Lieutenant James Shaw Allen, 10th (S) battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers) Ulster Division, eldest son of Mr. James Allen, Trensalla, St. Johnston, has been promoted to captain. He received his commission early in 1915, when he was attached to the 10th Inniskillings in France. He was mentioned in despatches.

Strabane Weekly News

16th June 2017

The official casualty list contains the following: wounded 43384 Lce-Cpl R. McGuinness, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) who belong to Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News

23th June 2017

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening. Mrs. E.C. Herdman presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the honorary secretary and confirmed. Miss McCrea reported having forwarded 40 pairs of socks since the last meeting. She made an appeal to the meeting for more wool for the purpose, a sum of £10 was voted.

Strabane Weekly News

23th June 2017

A successful open competition took place in connection with Strabane Golf Club at the Links, Carricklee, Strabane, in aid of Lyons Military Hospital on Saturday 16th inst. and a satisfactory sum was realized for the deserving object. Lunch and tea in aid also of the hospital were also kindly presented by the members. It was a keenly contested competition which was witnessed by a large number of interested spectators.

Strabane Chronicle

23rd June 1917

NOTES

The Military Cross has been awarded to Lieut. Charles Stevenson, Canadian Infantry, son of Mr. J.J. Stevenson, Magheragar, Sion Mills for bravery in the attack on Vimy Ridge.

Strabane Weekly News
23th June 2017

DONEMANA SERGEANT WOUNDED

The relatives of Sergeant W. Browne, who resides at Donemana have been informed that he has been wounded in action. He has been with the colours since the commencement of the war.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd June 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Chapman of Carricklee, and Miss M. Adams of Glebe Upper, Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd June 1917

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The people of this district are gratified at the announcement of the Military Cross being awarded to Captain Daniel McKelvey, R.A.M.C., son of Mr J. McKelvey, Dunbunraver. The distinction has been given for conspicuous bravery on the field at the latter end of April. He was attached to the Gordon Highlanders.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd June 1917

We regret to announce the death of Private John Duncan, through wounds received in action. He passed away in a French hospital. He was a son of Mr. John Duncan, Baronscourt.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd June 1917

Two additional casualties to Baronscourt men have also been notified this week. Samuel Smyley, wounded son of Mrs. Bella Smyley and Corporal Matthew Livingstone, wounded, son of Mr. James Livingstone. Corporal Livingstone is at present in a Dublin hospital.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd June 1917

HONOURS FOR TYRONE MEN MILITARY AWARDS

Lieut. Charles Stevenson, son of the late Mr. John J. Stevenson, Magheragar, Sion Mills who has been serving with the Canadian Infantry, has been awarded the Military Cross, and is offered a staff appointment. He formerly served abroad as a non-commissioned officer with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and at the termination of his period of service emigrated to Canada where he was engaged successfully in business at the outbreak of the war. He volunteered in the new Canadian Army and was with the first Canadian contingents were sent to France and took part in the severe fighting in which they were involved during 1915. About a year ago he attained commissioned rank and it was at the attack on Vimy Ridge that he won his latest honour. He has been twice wounded – the last being at Vimy Ridge – but he has quite recovered and returned to duty. Another brother is also serving with the Canadians.

Captain Daniel McKelvey, R.A.M.C., eldest son of Mr John H. McKelvey, Dunbunraver, Gortin has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery, displayed on 23rd and 24th April and has been further honoured by receiving a letter from the General commanding the division, complimenting him on his gallantry. He is presently attached to the Gordon Highlanders.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd June 1917

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Nixon – In sad and loving memory of our two sons who were killed in action; Andrew, killed in France, 21st October 1914, aged 25 years, and Thomas, killed in the Dardanelles, 19th June, 1915, aged 20 years. Both belonged to the Orange Institution, Park Head branch, Glasgow, where they were highly esteemed. Three more brothers are still serving with the Colours. Inserted by their sorrowing parents Alexander and Emily Nixon, Culmore, Omagh; also, their brothers and sisters.

Strabane Chronicle
30th June 1917

STRABANE IRISH GUARD WOUNDED

Sergeant James Devlin, who resides at Newtown Street, has been notified of the fact that his son, Private Jim Devlin, of the Irish Guards, has been wounded in action in France in the recent fighting. Pte. Devlin is well known in police circles, serving in the Force for a considerable period before the war, being last stationed in the city of Belfast. He has two other brothers with the colours – one named Peter Devlin, serving with the Royal Engineers and who recently was awarded a certificate for bravery and devotion, and the other brother serving in a Scottish regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
30th June 1917

The nurses in charge for the week at Strabane Military Hospital were Miss Wagentrieber, Inchennagh and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square. There were three men discharged during the week and three admitted. The beds at the hospital have now been filled up, the present number of patients being the largest since the institution was opened. The men were entertained by Mrs. Dicky, Killygordon, at her residence, and also by Mrs. EC Herdman, Carricklee. They were also entertained to tea by Miss Connolly, at the Town Hall on Thursday evening, when invited to the entertainment.

Strabane Weekly News
30th June 1917

KILLYGORDON SOLDIER'S DEATH

Ex-Head Constable William Lucas of Cavan House, Killygordon and formerly of Windsor Terrace, Derry has been notified of the death from wounds received in action of his son Frederick James Lucas, Royal Scots Fusiliers. Corporal Lucas was wounded on the 5th inst and died on his way to the Field Hospital the following day. A letter of sympathy to the parents from the Commanding Officer testifies to deceased's qualities as a soldier. Two of his brothers are also serving. one Private John Lucas was wounded on 1st July last and the other Private Eddie Lucas, Australian Light Horse, is again on active service, having recovered from wounds.

Strabane Weekly News
30th June 1917

THE LATE CAPTAIN GALLAUGHER D.S.O.

Mr J. Gallagher, Ballieighan, Manorcunningham, has received the following telegram from their Majesties the King and Queen with reference to the death in action of Captain Henry Gallagher, D.S.O.:- "The King and Queen deeply regret the loss you and the army have sustained by the death of your son in the service of his country. Their Majesties truly sympathise with you in your sorrow. (Signed), Keeper of the Privy Purse.

Strabane Weekly News
30th June 1917

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

McConaghy - In sad and loving remembrance of my dearly-beloved husband, Pte. John McConaghy, 9th Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who was killed in action on 1st July 1916.
Sadly missed by his loving widow, Margaret McConaghy, 31 Church Square, Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News
7th July 1917

MILITARY CROSS FOR STRABANE

News reached Strabane on Friday that Captain Chas. Bannigan, of the R.A.M.C., son of the late Mr. Michael Bannigan, potato and fruit merchant. Townsend St. has been awarded the Military Cross for services rendered, and gallantry displayed on the field of battle. This is the second Military Cross awarded to the town, another one being won by Captain Joe Reilly some months ago. Captain Bannidemy, and afterwards St. Columb's College, Londonderry, subsequently graduating at Dublin. He has received notice that in the course of a few days he will be decorated with the Military Cross by his Majesty the King, but already wears by his Commanding Officer. He has been serving in France for a lengthy period and received his commission at the commencement of the war.

Strabane Weekly News
7th July 1917

DONEMANA VOLUNTEER KILLED 1917

Mr. Samuel Doherty, of Altrest, Donemana, has received the sad tidings that his son, Private Steen Doherty, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), has been killed in action a few days ago. Private Doherty took part in the advance on the 1st July last, and was wounded. He also has another brother, Private George Doherty, serving with the colours, who was also wounded. Private Doherty was the leading member of the U.V.F. in his district and also was an officer in the local L.O.L. and Black Preceptory and was also the principle member of the Conservative Band. He drilled at Baronscourt with the U.V.F. and represented his company at the camp.

Strabane Weekly News
7th July 1917

NECESSITY FOR NURSES

The demand of V.A.D. nurses in military hospitals is still very great. Mrs. Macafee, Dublin Road, Omagh. Commandant for County Tyrone will be glad to enrol suitable young women for this service. The following are some of the most important regulations of the services: -

1. Selected nursing members must be thoroughly recommended as in every way suitable to be employed in the wards Military Hospitals and must be willing to be so employed under the following the conditions. 2. They will be required to work under fully trained nurses and will be under the direct control of the officer in charge and matron of the hospital in which employed. Their duties will be similar to those carried out by probationers in civil hospitals. 3. They must be between 21 and 48 years of age for home service and 30 and 42 for Foreign Service. 4. They will be required to live in quarters provided for the nursing staff of the military hospitals, under the control of supervision of the matron. 5. They will be required to adhere strictly to the time tables in force in the military hospitals and to the regulations and standing orders for the services, so far as such orders concern them. 6. They will wear the washing uniform of their detachments at all times when on duty. 7. The uniform allowance of paid V.A.D. nursing members employed in military hospitals will in future be issuable at the rate of £2 10s. 0d half-yearly, instead of £2 as at present. The allowance will be issuable in advance at the beginning of each six months' engagement (i.e., no allowance will be issuable in respect of the month's probationary services).

Strabane Chronicle
7th July 1917

The nurses of the week were Miss MacGowan, Bridge Street, and Miss Livingstone, Carricklee. There were ten patients discharged during the week and ten admitted, their names were -Private John Neeson, Royal Inniskillings; Private Patrick McGoldrick, Royal Inniskillings Fusiliers, Private Jas. Donaghey, Royal Inniskillings Fusiliers, Private Peter Ward, Royal Inniskillings Fusiliers, Lance Corpl. Fitzsimmons, Royal Inniskillings Fusiliers, Private Joseph, Royal Irish Rifles, Private Douglas McCallum, 8th Black Watch, Private George Coman, Royal Irish Fusiliers, Private James Neill, Royal Inniskillings Fusiliers, Private Robert Carnmichael, Royal Irish Rifles.

The men were entertained at Menellen, Killygordon, by Miss Delap. They were also entertained to tea and games by Mrs. Clarke, Inchennagh, and Miss E.C. Herdman, of Carricklee. Miss Thompson of Main Street, Strabane also invited and entertained them to tea at the tennis court.

Contributions were received from his Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt; Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee; Miss Lewis, Belfast, Mr. Aiken, Edymore; Miss Chapman, Carricklee; Mrs. Herdman, Camus; Mrs. James Hill, Hazelwood; Mrs. William Wilson, Greenfield; Miss McGowan, Bridge Street; Miss Wagentreiber, Inchennagh; Mrs. Healy, Patrick Street; Miss Gillespie, Newtown Street; Mrs. Boyle, Bearney; Mrs. Lyttle, Newtown Street.

Contributions towards the egg collection were received from Mrs. Maxwell Thompson, Main Street, and Mrs. Wm. King, Main Street.

Strabane Chronicle
7th July 1917

Lieut. Alex Mc Crea, R.G.A., who has been killed in action, was the second son of Mr. A. Mc Crea, Dungannon. There are four of his brothers serving with the colours.

Strabane Chronicle
7th July 1917

Private Edward Young, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who was dangerously wounded on June 27th, and died in hospital, was a native of Castlederg. He was a brother of Mrs. McKenzie, the Hotel, Castlederg, and volunteered at the outbreak of war. A brother, Thomas, is serving with the Canadians at the front.

Strabane Chronicle
7th July 1917

**MONSTER ALL-IRELAND MEETING
PROTESTS AGAINST PARTITION
THE PROPOSALS DOOMED
NOMINATED CONVENTION CONDEMNED
ENTHUSIASTIC GATHERING
IMPORTANT SPEECHES**

In no unmistakable terms the National demonstration held in the Phoenix Park, Dublin, on Sunday last, has sounded the note of warning against any proposal to dismember the country. Partition, temporary or permanent, must form no condition of an Irish settlement. That was the unanimous verdict of over thirty thousand Nationalists representing the four provinces at the great gathering. Twenty-four speakers gave their views on the partition proposals and the Convention to the gathering. Four platforms were arranged for the speakers, representative of Munster, Leinster, Connaught, and Ulster, each with its chairman. The proceedings throughout were of a remarkably enthusiastic character, and when the resolutions which were passed at the meeting were put simultaneously, on the signal of a trumpet blast, from the platforms they were carried amid prolonged cheers. The singing of "A Nation Once Again" followed in a giant chorus, and the proceedings terminated with cheers for Ulster.

Strabane Chronicle
14th July 1917

CELEBRATIONS IN STRABANE

When the announcement reached Strabane on Wednesday afternoon that Mr. De Valera had been elected M.P. for East Clare by the magnificent majority of 2,975, there were wild scenes of enthusiasm, and intense delight was expressed with the grand result. In the evening a ceilidh was held in the Barrack Street Rooms, which was filled on the occasion to overflowing. Many were present from the surrounding country – Sion Mills, Glenmornan, Clady, Castlefinn, Rossgier, Bearney, etc. – while there was a very large attendance from the town. Patriotic songs and Irish dances were contributed, and a highly enjoyable time was spent. Before the ceilidh came to a conclusion, it was decided amidst loud and prolonged cheering that congratulations be wired to Mr. de Valera. At night tar barrels were burned on the streets, surrounded by large crowds who cheered themselves hoarse for the victor of East Clare. A procession of Irish Volunteers marched through the town, the men presenting a good military appearance. "The Soldier's Song" was frequently sung, and along the route the Volunteers received a hearty reception. Houses were illuminated. The men were dismissed in the Bowling Green.

Strabane Chronicle
14th July 1917

**AN COMAIRLE NAISIUNTA
(THE NATIONAL BRANCH)**

The Sinn Fein Organising Committee for Strabane and District met during the week. Reports as to the successful formation of clubs at Ballybofey, Castlefinn, Clady, Donemana, and Sion Mills, were received. Arrangements were concluded for establishing clubs in Strabane, Murlog and Glenmornan this weekend. It was decided to postpone the establishment of clubs in Leck, Rabstown, Castlederg etc. until the third week in July.

Thanks was accorded to the Editor of the Strabane Chronicle for the virile spirit of Nationality, preached in the columns of the paper, for the Irish Ireland tone of all the articles, and for the revival of the Irish Language column. Hopes were expressed that when the paper shortage has passed the Irish column may increase to half a page, and that more conversational Irish may be introduced, thus making the "Chronicle" a text-book for schools and Gaelic League classes.

Strabane Chronicle
14th July 1917

URNEY SINN FEIN CLUB

On the 5th July, at a meeting held in Clady, it was decided to start a Sinn Fein Club for East and West Urney. After a statement of the aims and policy of Sinn Fein by Mr. J. Gallagher, all those present were enrolled, and the following officers appointed :- President, Mr. J. McKinney, D.C., Vice President, Mr. P. Lennon, D.C., Secretary, Mr. J. Gallagher; Treasurer, Mr. C. Gallen. The following resolutions were then

passed :- 1. That we take this opportunity of welcoming back the Irish prisoners of war. 2. We regard the proposed Convention as a sham, intended to delude the Irish people, as it is unrepresentative, and as the Unionists have been given a pledge, and in this connection we desire to place on record our appreciation of our patriotic Bishop, Dr. McHugh, in his efforts to keep our country one and undivided. 3. That we call upon the M.P. for East Donegal to resign, since he does not represent the views of his constituents as long as he remains in Westminster. 4. That we ask our countrymen elsewhere to be calm and free of provocation, and not to be led into violence on our cause.

Strabane Chronicle

14th July 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were:- Miss Russell, Strabane, and Miss White, Bowling Green, Strabane.

There were eight men discharged during the week, and seven admitted. The latter were – Private Robert Matthews, 12th Royal Irish Rifles, Private Patrick Walsh, 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers, Private Robert Makapeace, 4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Michael Boyle, 1st Scottish Rifles, Private Robert Blyth, 3rd Royal Irish Rifles, Private Francis Mulhern, 14th Scottish Rifles, and Private Thomas Lennon, 3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Contributions were received from the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Herdman, Camus, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee, Miss Clarke, Porthall, St. John's Ambulance Warehouse, London, Mr. Aiken, Edymore, War Supply Depot, Strabane, Mr. John W. Russell, Main Street, Miss McGowan, Bridge Street, Mrs. W. Wilson, Greenfield, Mr. Wm. Russell, Townshall Street, Miss Livingstone, Carricklee, Miss Lewis, Belfast, and Mr. James Hill, Hazelwood.

Eggs were sent by Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus: Mrs. Maxwell, Mourne View, Strabane: Mrs. Maxwell Thompson, Main Street, Strabane, and Mrs. Wm. King, Main Street, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

14th July 1917

SINN FEIN CLUB FOR STRABANE

As may be seen from our advertisement columns, a meeting will be held next Sunday for the purpose of forming a Sinn Fein Club in Strabane. Clubs have already been formed or are in the course of formation in all the districts around the town, notably Sion Mills, Clady, Castlefinn, Clonleigh, Glenmornan, Ballybofey, Donemana and Leckpatrick. So, if Strabane wishes to retain its claim of being "to the front", it must wake up, get into line immediately, and lead the van. The Sinn Fein policy is sweeping like a prairie fire from end to end of Ireland. The voice of the country which before the war was pleading for a modest form of home rule, now swells into a roar, and demands Complete Independence. The war has accomplished many things in Ireland; it has succeeded to some extent in widening the national mind and outlook. Before the war the person who talked of Freedom was a visionary or a lunatic, a sorehead or a crank! Now with the examples of Poland, Belgium or Serbia, etc. before them, the majority of the Irish people look upon the idea of a Free Ireland as quite within the bounds of probability, and why not? If Poland, after centuries of oppression and suffering, is to come into her own, why not Ireland? If Belgium, Serbia and other countries, which have lost their independence in this war, are to regain it, at the Peace Conference, why not Ireland, "a small nation" also, and at the same venue? If Belgium must not be held in the grip of Germany, "for strategical reasons", nor Poland remain under Russia for similar reasons, nor Mesopotamia be retained by Britain, why, under heaven, should Ireland remain in the grip of England "for strategical reasons? To the Peace Conference then with Ireland's case! Sinn Fein is the road that will lead us there. Get on it then, via the Sinn Fein Clubs; influence all around you; capture the seats at the local boards, at Parliamentary elections, support only candidates pledged to abstention from Westminster; support Irish manufacturers by buying only Irish-made goods; learn your own language, games and dances; and we will become a self-contained, self-supporting nation.

Bail o Dia ar an obair.

Strabane Chronicle

14th July 1917

News has been received that Pte. Charles McAleer, who is a native of Newtown Stewart, has been wounded in action. Private McAleer was a former pupil of the Christian Brothers' Schools, Omagh, and joined the colours early last year. Mr. Donald J.O'Hara, C.E., who has been assistant county surveyor under the Tyrone County Council since 1903, and was stationed first at Castlederg and latterly at Omagh has received a commission in the Royal Engineers. Mr O'Hara relinquished his civic duties from the 1st inst.

Strabane Chronicle
14th July 1917

CASUALTIES IN THE WAR
NORTHERN OFFICERS AND MEN

Captain C.E. Cole Hamilton, Royal Scots, (accidentally killed in England), was a nephew of Lieut-Col A.R. Cole Hamilton, D.L., Beltrim, Newtownstewart.

Captain Thomas Britton, R.A.M.C., third son of the late Dr. Britton, J.P., Hazelwood, Strabane, is suffering from fever contracted in France, and is at present in an hospital in London.

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers:- missing- C. Mc Aleer, Newtownstewart; R. Mc Daid, Burndennett; Lance-Corporal J. Austin, Tyrone Volunteers, Artigarvan, Strabane, has been wounded.

Captain Charles Brannigan, R.A.M.C., has been awarded the Military Cross. He is a son of the late Mr. Michael Brannigan, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
14th July 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Russell, Main Street, and Miss White, Bowling Green. There were eight patients discharged during the week, and seven admitted, their names being: - Pte. Robert Matthews, Royal Irish Rifles; Pte. Patrick Walsh, Royal Munster Fusiliers; Pte. Robert Makepeace, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; Pte. Michael Boyle, Scottish Rifles; Pte. Robert Blythe, Royal Irish Rifles; Pte. Francis Mulhern, Scottish Rifles; Pte. Thomas Lennon, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
14th July 1917

CASUALTIES

Intimation has reached Strabane that Captain Thomas Britton, of the R.A.M.C., and third son of the late Dr. Britton, J.P., Hazelwood, Strabane, is suffering from fever, and is at present in a hospital in London. Captain Britton was educated at Strabane Academy, afterwards graduating in several colleges in Ireland and England. After taking his degrees for the medical profession, he joined the army, and has been a great amount of service. Another brother, an officer in the R.F.C., was killed accidentally recently.

Information has been recently by the relatives of Pte. T. P. Darragh, who reside at Leckpatrick, that he has been wounded. Pte. Darragh belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), and was a member of the U.V.F. and the L.O.L.

The parents of Private J. Gordon and M. Gordon, who reside at Sion Mills, have been informed that they have been wounded. Both soldiers belong to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and were prominent members of the U.V.F. before the war.

Intimation has been received in Strabane that Pte. H. Jameson, of the Royal Inniskillings, has been wounded. Pte. Jameson has been on active service since the commencement of the war.

Lance-Corporal J. Austin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Artigarvin, Strabane, has been wounded. Lance-Corporal Austin was in the advance on 1st July 1916 and came through uninjured. Prior to the he was an active member of the L.O.L. and the U.V.F.

Intimation has been received that Pte. J. Walker has been wounded in action. He resides at Ballymagorry, near Strabane, and belongs in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Information is to hand that Lance-Corporal J. Sproule, of Strabane district, has been wounded and sustained shell shock in action. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), and has had another brother killed in the present war.

The relatives of Private S. Noble, who reside at Sion Mills, have been notified that he has been wounded in action. Pte. Noble belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and was a member of the U.V.F.

The relatives of Pte. W. McCallan have been informed that he has been wounded in action. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and was a member of the U.V.F. and L.O.L.

Information has been received that Pte. W. Donnelly, of the Sion Mills District, has been wounded in action. He belongs to the Royal Irish Rifles.

Strabane Weekly News
14th July 1917

STRABANE AND DISTRICT
HIGH PRICE FOR CATTLE

Within the past few days a large price has been paid for cattle in the district of Clady. A farmer named Woods was paid the enormous price of £35 for a fat heifer for beef. The same man sold on-and-a-half-year-olds to a local man, for which he received the large price of £17 each.

Strabane Weekly News

14th July 1917

DONEMANA VOLUNTEER WOUNDED

The relatives of Private D. Fulton, who reside at Bready, near Donemana, have been informed that he has been wounded in action in France. Pte. Fulton belongs to the Royal Irish Rifles and has seen a great deal of active service since his enlistment at the commencement of the war. He was a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force, and also a member of the L.O.L.

Strabane Weekly News

14th July 1917

DONEMANA VOLUNTEER TWICE WOUNDED

Mr. A. Cummings, of Benowen Cottage, Donemana, has again been informed that his only son, Private Robert Cummings, who is a member of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has been wounded in action for the second time. Prior to enlistment, Private Cummings was in the employment of Mr. R. J. Smyth, Strabane, and was extremely popular in the town and district. He was also a prominent member of the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News

14th July 1917

PRIVATE JAMES HENDERSON

The following Casualties amongst non-commissioned officers and men are reported under various dates. Except where otherwise shown, the men are privates:-

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers-missing-Browne, 29930, C. (Lifford; Kerr, 27143, Cpl. G (Omagh); McAleer, 23108, C. (Newtownstewart);

The following casualties in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers are officially reported under various dates: - Wounded -S. Anderson (27596), Letterkenny; Lee-Cpl. J. Austin (14545). Strabane; J. Beattle (20790). Coagh; J. Cairns (11283), Moy; T. P. Darragh (27189), Strabane; H. de Zeeuw (30550), Ardstraw; J. Dougan (11734), Dungannon; R. Gallagher (16348), Castlederg; J.Gordon (13924), Sion Mills; M. Gordon (13925), Sion Mills; S. Hegarty (11268), Dungannon; H. Jamieson (13646), Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

21st July 1917

SINN FEIN CLUBS STRABANE

Much interest was taken in a meeting which was held at the Barrack Street Hall, Strabane, on Sunday night, and which was specially convened for the purpose of starting a club in connection with the Sinn Fein movement. Mr. P. McKenna presided at the meeting, which was also addressed by Messrs. John Gallagher (Clady), O'Flaherty (Castlefinn), M. Geehan (Lifford) and Grieves (Glenmoran). The speakers impressed upon the meeting the necessity for the establishment of a club in Strabane, with a view of presenting Ireland's case at the forthcoming Peace Conference. It was unanimously agreed to send congratulations to Mr. De Valera. One of the speakers declared that they must rid North Tyrone of British Liberalism, and when the next election came they would see that they would properly be represented. At the end of the meeting the question of enrolment took place, and a large number enrolled and signified their intention of being members. The attendance included a very large number of young men from the town and surrounding district, and during the past few weeks several clubs have been started in the immediate neighbourhood of Strabane.

The following committee were appointed :- President, Mr. D.J. O'Doherty, Vice Presidents, Mrs. R. Gallagher, and P. McBrearty, Treasurer, Mr. Edward Devine, Secretaries, Messrs. B. McKee and James Kennedy. Committee - Miss Toal, Miss Gormley, Miss McDevitt, Miss Geehan, Messrs. Wm. Foley, Daniel Loughend, H. Calvert, James McGranaghan, P. Collins, J. McDonnell, P. McDevitt, Joseph McAleer, M. Geehan.

URNEY

At a meeting of this club, held in Clady, on Friday 13th, the following resolutions were proposed by the Chairman, Mr. M. McKinney, D.C., seconded by Mr. W.J. McLaughlin, and passed:-1. That we heartily congratulate the electors of East Clare on their magnificent victory for Sinn Fein 2. That we strongly condemn the actions of the Committee of the General Council of County Councils in trying to deprive the men and women of Ireland of the franchise privileges to which they are entitled.

SION MILLS

A meeting of the "O'Rahilly" Sinn Fein Club, Sion Mills, was held in the Hall, Rabstown, on Tuesday night, when the following resolutions were passed:- "That we denounce, in the strongest possible manner, the coming Convention as a fraud, perpetrated to weaken Ireland's case at the Peace Conference". "We call upon the member for North Tyrone, Sir Thomas Russell to resign, as he no longer represents the views of the people."

Strabane Weekly News

21st July 1917

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs. PH O'Brien presiding. Miss McCrea reported that she had procured £15 worth of wool for the purpose of knitting socks for troops at the front. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery reported that seven soldiers had passed through the rest club since the last meeting, four of whom stayed overnight also an Austrian for the weekend. They also reported that a shipped-wrecked crew had passed through from Killybegs which included a number of Russian soldiers on their way back from America.

Strabane Weekly News

21st July 1917

EGG COLLECTION FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Throughout the district we are informed, a very successful system of house-to-house egg collecting is being worked out at present. For several miles around the town the country is divided into small sections with two or three young ladies in charge of each section. These ladies call once a fortnight at each house in their allocated area and the result is most gratifying. All creeds and classes are joining most heartily in this most worthy effort to secure some little comfort for our brave soldiers and sailors who have been wounded in this war for universal honour, liberty and righteousness.

Strabane Weekly News

21st July 1917

TAKING EGGS TO CHURCH

Another correspondent writes:- Various methods have been tried in the past in the collection of eggs for wounded soldiers, but none of these have shown such continuous results as in the cases where collections have been organised through the churches. Locally, Castlederg district is the best example of this.

Strabane Weekly News

21st July 1917

STRABANE SINN FEINERS

Much Interest was taken in a meeting which was held at the Barrack Street Hall, Strabane, on Sunday, and which was specially convened for the purpose of starting a movement. Mr. P. McKenna presided at the meeting which was also addressed by Mr. John Gallagher (Clady), O'Flaherty (Castlefin), M. Geehan (Lifford), and Grieves (Glenmornan). The speakers impressed upon the meeting the necessity for the establishment of a club in Strabane with a view of presenting Ireland's case at the coming Peace Conference. One of the speakers declared that they must rid North Tyrone of British Liberalism, and stated that the constituency of North Tyrone was a dumping ground for job hunters and job seekers in the past, and when the next election came they would see that they would properly be represented. At the end of the meeting the large number enrolled and signified their intention of being members. The attendance included a very large number of young men from the town and surrounding district, and during the past few weeks several clubs have been started in the immediate neighbourhood of Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

21st July 1917

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday night. Mrs. P.H. O'Brien presided at the meeting. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Mrs. Toner, Mrs. King, Miss Joyce, Mrs. White, Miss Mayne, Mrs. Black, Miss Black, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Miss Herdman, and Mrs. McElhinney. A letter was received from Mrs. Hill, Hazelwood, thanking the members of the committee for their vote of sympathy passed on the occasion of the death of her son, Lieut. W. Britton, of the Flying Corps. A similar letter was received from Mrs. Keatly, Bowling Green, for condolences passed on the death of her husband, the late Mr. Wm. Keathly. Miss McCrea reported that she had procured £15 worth of wool for the purpose of knitting socks for troops at the front. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery reported that seven soldiers had passed through the Rest Club since the last meeting, four of whom had stayed overnight, also an Australian for the weekend. They also announced that a crew had passed through from

Killybegs, which included a number of Russian soldiers on their way back to Archangel. The report stated that these Russian soldiers had been prisoners in Germany and had been put in the front line of the German trenches. They were in a battle re-captured by the French and were on their way back to Russia. The hospital accounts were presented to the meeting and considered satisfactory and passed for payment.

Strabane Weekly News

28th July 1917

At a large and enthusiastic meeting held at Murlog on Sunday evening a Sinn Fein Club was formed. Mr. Peadar MacCionaidh, Strabane, said it was necessary for them after the failure of the Irish Parliamentary Party to put their programme before the country. They claimed the right of right, a small nation, to be represented at the Peace conference, just as well as Serbia, Belgium or any other small nationalities, and under Sinn Fein policy the humbug of sending embers to a hostile assembly where they got nothing would cease.

Strabane Weekly News

28th July 1917

Mr. Andrew Lowry, J.P., presided at the meeting of the Strabane No. 2 Council on Tuesday. Mr James Harte J.P. had given notice to consider the salary of Mr. A.R. Carters, rent collector, but stated that he believed the motion was out of order. He moved, however, that he be granted a bonus of £20 for the duration of the war and six months after. In reply to Mr. Galbraith, the clerk said that Mr. Cathers was allowed 5% on the money collected and lodged. He had been paid £20 for the last half-year.

Strabane Weekly News

28th July 1917

On Saturday afternoon, 21st inst., some excitement was caused in Newtownstewart by a report that a man had jumped from the parapet of the old bridge into the River Mourne. A crowd gathered and William Crowe, an ex-soldier, went into the river and brought out the man. Fortunately, the river is not too deep at the spot but sufficient depth to prevent the man from being injured by the drop of at least 20 feet from the range wall to the water.

Strabane Weekly News

28th July 1917

DONEGAL VOLUNTEER CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private Rea. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and of Ballindrait, have been informed that he has been wounded. Before the war, he was a member of the U.V.F.

Information has been received by the relatives of Private J. Coventry, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who reside at Castlefin, that he has been wounded. Before the war, he was a member of the U.V.F., the local L.O.L., and the Conservative Band.

Strabane Weekly News

28th July 1917

MILITARY MEDAL FOR DONEGAL VOLUNTEER

14481 Sergeant J. Parke, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Donegal and Fermanagh Volunteers), Ulster Division, who has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry in the Messines battle, is the only son of Mr. Thomas Parke, J.P. Rosebank, Moville, County Donegal. He was severely wounded on the 1st July. 1916.

Strabane Weekly News

28th July 1917

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The name of Pte. J. McCrossan, 26005, Mountcastle, Burndennett, appears as killed in Wednesday's list. Pte. W. Rea, 15237, Ballindrait, who belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is reported wounded. Lance-Corporal J. Devlin, 10646, Strabane who is serving with the Irish Guards, is also reported wounded. Pte. Harry Quenton, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Ballindrait, County Donegal, missing since 1st July 1916, is now reported to have been killed in action on that date.

Corporal J. Fisher, Machine Gun Corps, son of Mr. J. Fisher, Canrigart, County Donegal, is awarded a bar to the Distinguished Conduct Medal, for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of a machine-gun in a very exposed position. During an enemy bombardment and raid he continued to serve his gun, though repeatedly struck and bruised by shrapnel, until the situation became normal. Though dazed and deafened, he stuck to his post until relieved, and his splendid example had a far-reaching effect on N.C.O.'s and men of his company. This gallant N.C.O., who was awarded the D.C.M. on 22nd September

1916, for gallantry during the attack of the Ulster Division on 1st July of that year, is a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force.

Pte. T. Roulston, 29065, Castleberg, who is serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is officially reported wounded.

Wednesday morning's casualty list contains the name of Pte. E. Young, 28270, Castleberg (Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) died of wounds.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

CASUALTIES IN THE WAR

We regret to report that Northern Officers and men who are casualties in the war include:-

Captain C.E. Cole-Hamilton, Royal Scots who was accidentally killed in England. He was nephew of lieutenant A. R. Cole-Hamilton, Bertram, Newtownstewart.

Sergeant T. Harper, Inniskilling Fusiliers, who had been wounded by shrapnel in the left arm and is in hospital in Dublin. He was an assistant in Duke Street, Derry. E. Fulton, Wapping Lane, Derry, has been notified that her husband, Lance Corporal R. Fulton, Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Regiment) has been wounded.

Mrs. Wylie, Edenmore Street, Derry, received a postcard from her husband, B. Wylie, stating that he has been injured in the left arm and shoulder. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers missing are C. McAleer, Newtownstewart, W. McSherry, Derry, J. Mullan, Derry, E. Sheeran, Derry and J. Taylor, Derry.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

STRABANE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL
DOCTOR AND MILITARY SERVICE

Captain J.C. Herdman presided at the meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians on Tuesday, and the other members present were:- Messrs. J. Brolly, David Craig, R.J. Fleming, William Glenn, James Harte J.P., Alex Lyons, W.H. Galbraith, Robert Bell, David McCrea, Hugh O'Donnell, J.P., P. O'Neill, William Rankin, J.P., William A. Sheldon, M. McKinney, Robert Stevenson, Robert Vance, William Lowry, C.R.V. Stoney, J.P., John Perry, John Henderson, and John Arthurs.

With reference to the employment of A.M. Staunton as temporary medical officer in the Newtownstewart and Strabane dispensary districts, the Local Government Board stated that he was apparently of military age but having regard to the fact that his period of employment had been completed, they had sanctioned payment of his fees. The Local Government Board, however, requested the Guardians, when again appointing a temporary medical officer to bear in mind that there was an urgent need for doctors with his Majesty's forces, and select a practitioner who is not eligible for employment in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

The Chairman said that Dr. Staunton was 45 years of age, but he would have gone long ago if he could have got away.

Moving the adoption of the recommendation of the Committee regarding the salaries of officials, Mr. Lowry said the increases were of a particularly modest description. Officials should bear in mind the recommendation that no further applications would be entertained.

Mr. Rankin seconded the motion, which was adopted, an amendment by Mr. Craig, seconded by Mr. Kelly, to further advance the wages of seamstress, Miss O'Hagan, by £1 a year, was defeated.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

Mr. John Toorish, Jun., Bridge Street, Strabane has forwarded home as a souvenir a German helmet and part of a machine gun belt.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

A large number of wounded soldiers arrived at the Strabane Military Hospital for treatment. The men were met at the Railway Station by the staff of the hospital and representatives of the hospital committee and conveyed to the institution at Newtown Street.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

SINN FEIN CLUBS

STRABANE

The second meeting of the "Roger Casement" Sinn Fein Club, in the Barrack Street Hall, on Sunday evening last, proved an even greater success than the first, and it is most encouraging to the promoters to find that their efforts to bring Strabane into line with the rest of Ireland on the manly and national policy of Sinn Fein should have met with such gratifying success. The President, Mr. Daniel O'Doherty, on taking the chair for the first time, said he wished to say a few words on the policy generally, and offer advice as to the best means of spreading the gospel of Sinn Fein.

MURLOG

At a large and enthusiastic meeting held at Murlog on Sunday evening, a Sinn Fein Club was formed. Mr. Peadar Mac Cionnaidh, Strabane, presided and ably explained the Sinn Fein policy. He said that after the failure of the Iris Parliamentary Party, it was necessary for them to put their programme before the country, and the only way to do that was through Sinn Fein Clubs, so as to educate the people what their policy really was. They claimed the right of Ireland, a small nation, to be represented at the Peace Conference, just as well as Servia, Belgium or any of the other small Nationalities whose case would be considered at the Conference. Mr. Samuel O'Flaherty, Castlefin, who lucidly explained the Sinn Fein policy, pointed to the failure of Parliamentarism, and spoke of the increased taxation of the country and the decline of the population. He admitted that there had been reforms won, but he refused to admit that the Irish Party had won them, and asserted that they had been won by the Irish people themselves with the threat of revolution. Mr. John Gallagher, Clady, warmly expounded the Sinn Fein policy, and said that they stood for complete independence. Unless they demanded the latter, they could not go to the Peace Conference.

CLADY

Rousing speeches were delivered at a public meeting of the "William Pearse" branch, Clady, on Wednesday night, when Mr. Michael Mc Kinney D.C., president, occupied the chair, and a large number were enrolled members. Amongst the speakers were-Messrs. John Gallagher, Clady; Saml. O'Flaherty, Castlefin; Michael Geehan, Lifford; Peadar Mac Cionnaidh, Strabane; and Daniel O'Doherty, president of the Strabane branch.

Strabane Chronicle

28th July 1917

A large number of wounded soldiers arrived during the week at the Strabane Military Hospital for treatment. The men were met at the railway station by the staff of the hospital and representatives of the hospital committee and conveyed to the institution at Newtown Street.

Strabane Chronicle

28th July 1917

THE WAR

The greatest war that has ever devastated the world continues with unabated fury, human beings are being slaughtered in thousands week by week, and the objects for which the belligerents are fighting is still a matter of controversy. One fact is, however, clear, and it is that it is not the people of the several nations that are at war that desire its continuance. In Russia the call for peace on terms of no annexations and no indemnities is made by a very large section of the people. It is much to be regretted that the partial chaos which has followed the recent revolution in that great country has prevented the voice of the people from being translated into effective action. In Germany the demand of the people for a declaration of war aims was so strong that Bethman Hollweg, the Chancellor, was obliged to resign his office. The new Chancellor, Dr. Michaelis, made his first statement in the Reichstag on Thursday last, and while he tries to appease the public clamour by declaring the willingness of the Government to open peace negotiations at once he makes it clear that the terms of peace must be such as would be consistent with the success with which Germany claims to have prosecuted the war. The new Chancellor's hope of ultimate victory, like that of his predecessor, is based on the success of the submarine campaign against British merchant vessels, which he claims has up to the present exceeded their expectations, and which he predicts will compel England to sue for peace.

Strabane Chronicle

28th July 1917

The sad intelligence is to hand that Private H. Caterson, who resided at Castlefin, has died from wounds received in action recently in France. Private Caterson belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and enlisted at the beginning of the war. He also took part in the advance of 1st July 1916 and came through unhurt. Private Caterson was an active member of the Castlefin U.V.F., and also a member of the L.O.L.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

A meeting of delegates attended at the Barrack Street Hall, Strabane, on July 21st, Mr. Leo Mulhern presiding. Delegates reports from outside branches showed that the Scutchers' Union was in a flourishing condition, and that a large majority of the men were employed a Union terms for 1917 and 1918 term.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

THE COST OF THE WAR
EXPENDITURE INCREASES

The new Vote of Credit for £650,000,000 was introduced in Parliament on Tuesday by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. This, the largest individual vote yet asked for (£150,000,000 over the highest) will bring the total granted for the current financial year (which is only four months old) to £1,500,000,000, an amount which exceeds the entire provision for 1915-16, and it is estimated to carry on till the autumn session.

Strabane Chronicle
28th July 1917

FOOD PRICES TO COME DOWN
CONTROLLERS NEW ARRANGEMENTS

The Food Controller announces that arrangements are being made to fix, as from September 1 next, the prices of cattle and meat required for military and civilian consumption, in agreement with the Army Council and the Agricultural Departments of England, Scotland, and Ireland. The Press Association is asked by the Ministry of Food to issue the following:- A statement has appeared in certain papers on Wednesday morning to the effect that sugar and bread rationing will shortly commence. This statement is inaccurate. There is no intention at present to introduce a general compulsory bread ration. As regards sugar, it is proposed to arrange for a distribution based on the registration of consumers with retailers controlled by local authorities. This cannot, of course, come into operation for some time.

Strabane Chronicle
4th August 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were:- Miss Joyce, Derry Road and Miss McAnaw, Main Street. There were three patients discharged during the week.

Contributions were received from the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. J. Herdman, Camus, Mrs. Wm. Wilson, Greenfield, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Lifford, Miss A. Stewart, London, Miss Elsie Wilson, Castlefin, Mr. Aiken, Edymore, Miss Lewis, Belfast, Miss Joyce, Derry Road, Strabane, Mrs. Toner, Bank House, Strabane, Miss Clarke, The Manse, Strabane, Miss Livingstone, Carricklee, Mrs. Healy, Patrick Street, Mrs. Lyttle, Newtown Street, Mrs. Boyle, Bearney, and Miss Gillespie, Newtown Street.

The wounded soldiers were entertained to tea and games in the Strabane Glen on Thursday, by Miss Clarke, The Manse, Strabane, and by members of the Strabane Golf Club, to tea and games at the Golf Links on Friday.

Strabane Chronicle
4th August 1917

Private Robert Finlay, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, of Lisnatunny, near Douglas Bridge, has died in hospital from gas poisoning. Private Finlay was an Army Reserve man, and had been employed by Mr. Wm. Fulton, Beaghs,

Sergeant James Devlin, R.I.C., Newtown Street, Strabane, has been informed that his son, Peter A. Devlin, Royal Engineers (Irish Guards Division), has been wounded and gassed in action on 17th July last. He was formerly in the Strabane Post Office, holding an important position, and was highly popular with the staff.

Mrs. Worling, Drumeagle, Sion Mills, Co. Tyrone, has received a telegram from the War Office that her son, Private John Jas. Worling, was killed in action on July 1st, 1917. Private Worling was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Machine Gun Section. He volunteered at the outbreak of the war.

Strabane Chronicle
4th August 1917

CLUB MEETINGS
STRABANE

The usual weekly meeting of the "Roger Casement" Sinn Fein Club, Strabane, was held in the Barrack Street Hall on Sunday last, Mr. D.J. Doherty presiding. The Organising Committee reported that Sinn Fein was making great progress in all the districts of North Tyrone, also in East Donegal, and that arrangements were being completed for the organizing of several new clubs. A number of speakers then dealt in a clear and able manner with various points in the Sinn Fein programme, after which a large number of new members were enrolled. A short concert followed in which Miss M.A. McDevitt, Miss M. Madden, Mr. B. McKenna, and Mr. P. McGrade took part. The Chairman announced that, instead of the usual meeting on the following Sunday (August 5th) a concert would be held, commencing at 8.00 p.m. The meeting closed with the singing of "The Soldier's Song".

In the report supplied to us by an officer of the Strabane Sinn Fein Club, of the Chairman's remarks, at last week's meeting, dealing with the withdrawal of the Irish members from Westminster and the setting up of a National Assembly in Dublin, he was given as saying:- "Therefore, instead of going to Westminster, Sinn Fein demanded that Ireland's representatives should remain at home and, in conjunction with delegates from the various elected bodies, set up a National assembly in Dublin, and there deliberate as to the best means of advancing Ireland's interests, by way of lectures and papers dealing with the Sinn Fein policy". The omission of a sentence after the word "interests" in the foregoing alters the sense of the whole, and should read: "and there deliberate on the best means of advancing Ireland's interests politically, industrially, etc. but as it was intended by means of lectures and papers, dealing fully with the various aspects of the Sinn Fein policy, he would not go into further details."

Strabane Chronicle 4th August 1917

HAY AND STRAW PRICES

A new army Council Order, dated 17th July, fixing hay and straw prices for Great Britain and Ireland, has now been issued. The rates are:- Hay £5.10s, rising to £6.1s at 1st April (dryage at 2.5%). Oat straw, £3, rising to £3.6. Wheat straw £2.10s, rising to £2.15s. Producers are now allowed to deliver hay, oat or wheat straw direct to consumers, and will be allowed the extra £2 which was the merchant's payment. If the merchant services are employed, and the producer does the delivery etc., the dealer gets 5s per ton as commission. There is no longer any restriction in the use of wheat straw, and the same remark applies to oat straw, except in England and Wales, where its use is confined to consuming purposes.

Strabane Chronicle 4th August 1917

STRABANE QUARTERLY FAIR

Strabane quarterly fair was held on Wednesday, and there was a large attendance. In the hiring fair men obtained from £9 to £12 for the quarter. Boys over 16 years of age asked and received from £8 to £9, boys under 16 got from £6 to £8. Girls over 16 years of age asked from £6 to £8, and girls under 16 years of age got from £5 to £6 for a like period. There was a good demand for labour, and flax-pullers demanded for pulling flax from 7s 6d to 8s per day. A feature of the fair was in the townland of Ballindrait. A number of members from the Labour Union, comprising upwards of thirty in number, met a member of the union pulling flax, and demanded that he should attend the fair. He replied that he was working per the acre, whereupon they threw off their coats and pulled the remainder of the flax for him in the course of an hour.

Strabane Chronicle 4th August 1917

DONEGAL NEWS

Mr. David Wray, N.T., Winterhill, recently received the certificate of bravery awarded to his son, Lieutenant Percy H. Wray, who was killed in action early in June.

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SINN FEIN

The Sinn Fein policy is making rapid progress in every part of the country and only requires to be better understood to be universally adopted by the Irish People as the policy under which present circumstances is most likely to gain for them the objects for which their forefathers have fought and died, and for which our own day thousands of brave Irishmen have been found willing to lay down their lives. The Sinn Fein policy has been systematically misrepresented by the Irish Party and by their controlled newspapers as a policy of physical force and open rebellion against established authority. Many of those who are disposed to be friendly are labouring under a misconception of true objects and aims of the Sinn Fein party as expounded

by its responsible leaders. That the country is ripe for a new and vigorous policy has been demonstrated beyond all doubt by the results of the elections in Roscommon, Longford, and Clare.

Mrs. Finlay, Lisnatunny, Newtownstewart, has received intimation that one of her three soldier sons, Robert, of the Inniskilling Fusiliers, died in a French Hosoidal on 24th ult., as a result of gas and shell shock. One of her other sons is a prisoner of war in Germany, whilst a third son is in hospital.

Strabane Weekly News
4th August 1917

ULSTER VOLUNTEER CASULTIES

The relatives of Private A. Haire have been informed that he has been killed in action in the recent fighting in France. Private Haire belonged to Sion Mills, and was employed by Messrs. Herdman, Ltd., before the war. He belonged to the Ulster Division, and was a member of the U.V.F.

Mr. A. Cummings, who resides at Benowen, near Donemana, has been informed that his son. Pte. R. Cummings, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in action. Pte. Cummings was wounded on a previous occasion. Before enlisting he was a member of the Strabane U.V.F.

Intimation is to hand that Pte. W. J. Taylor, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Donemana, has been wounded recently in France. He was a member of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and was a general favourite in the district.

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FARM LABOURER'S STRIKE IN DONEGAL

A new development of the labour trouble has taken place in Raphie district of Co. Donegal, where about 200 farm hands, who recently became members of the National Amalgamated Labour Union. Newcastle-on-Tyne, went out on strike on Monday last, and have not since resumed their employment. The demand is for payment of 25s, per week, the union rate of wages, but the farmers are not inclined at present to accede to this large increase. The strikers are moving about in small hoodies, but for so far no disturbance has taken place. A meeting of the farmers interested was held in Raphoe Courthouse on Tuesday night, but it is understood no terms of settlement have yet been arrived at.

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HIGH PRICE FOR CATTLE

Mr. W. Stevenson, a farmer in the Artigarvan district, has just sold a number of excellent cattle to Mr. Joseph Patterson, Strand Road, Londonderry, at £100. The cattle consisted of six one and a half year olds, reared by vendor.

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CASTLEFIN SOLDIER'S DEATH

Private R. Coventry, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, of the Castlefin district, who a short time ago was reported as wounded, has died from wounds received in action in France. Deceased was a member of the U.V.F. and the local Unionist band.

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4th August 1917

SION MILLS MAN KILLED

Mrs. Worling, Drumeagle, near Sion Mills, has received a telegram from the War Office that her son, Private John James Worling, was killed in action on July 1, 1917. Private Worling was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Machine Gun Section. He volunteered at the outbreak of war. He was a member of the Sion Mills L.O.L. No. 386, and a prominent member of the Ulster Volunteer Force there. Another brother is serving with the colours. Private Worling's sister resides at Shannoney West, near Douglas Bridge. The deceased's end is very deeply regretted by the loyalists of Sion Mills.

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STRABANE OFFICER IN HOSPITAL

The relatives of Captain W. W. Blair. R.A.M.C., have been informed that he is at present in Kilwa, East Africa, where he is in a hospital suffering from malarial fever. This is this third attack since he proceeded to Africa some five months ago. Prior to that he was stationed in Egypt, where he was attacked with dysentery. Captain Blair is a son of the late Mr. R. J. Blaire, newsagent, Hillmount, and has two other brothers serving in the Army, one named George, who has been serving in France for the past 19 months, and the other at present in England. Captain Blair is well known in North-West cricket circles, being considered the best bowler in the North-West League.

Strabane Weekly News

4th August 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Joyce and Miss Daisy M'Anaw. There were three patients discharged during the week. The patients and staff at the hospital were entertained to tea and games in Strabane glen on Thursday evening by Mrs. Clarke, the Manse, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News

4th August 1917

STRABANE QUARTERLY FAIR

Strabane quarterly fair was held on Wednesday, Notwithstanding the pulling of the flax there was a large attendance of people from the district. In the hiring fair men obtained from £9 to £12 for the quarter. Boys over 16 years asked and received £8 to £9. Boys under 16 got from £6 to £8. Girls over 16 years of age asked from £6 to £8, and girls under 16 years of age got from £5 to £6 for a like period. There was a good demand for labour, and flax-pullers, demanded per day for pulling flax from 7s, 6d to 8s.

Strabane Weekly News

4th August 1917

STRABANE SOLDIER'S FATE

The sad news has been received by Mrs. Michael Devine, 47, Barrack Street, Strabane, that her husband. Private Michael Devine, died in the Australian Hospital in France on 26th July last, from the effects of being gassed, on the previous day. Pte. Devine belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and had seen a great deal of active service. The deceased leaves his widow and a family to mourn his end. The matron at the hospital writes to Mrs. Devine as follows: - "It is with much regret that I am writing to let you know about your husband. He was admitted to hospital on July 25th, suffering from the effects of being gassed". He was very ill when he came to us, but we hoped he might improve. He was quite conscious, and was talking to us in the morning, but gradually became worse, and passed away before mid-day on 26th July. I know how very much you will feel this, and only wish I had other news for you, but felt you would like to know a few more particulars that can't be given in a wire. The R.C. chaplain saw your husband the evening before he came to the hospital, and he was buried by the chaplain in a little cemetery where so many of our brave men and boys have been laid. The number of the grave is 1783. Accept our sincere sympathy, and will you feel that your husband was amongst friends who tried to help him in every way."

Strabane Weekly News

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LOCAL CASUALTIES

The following appears in Monday's casualty list: - King's Own Scottish Borderers.

Previously reported missing, now reported prisoner of war in German hands McDonald, 24635, R. (Newtownstewart).

The following local casualties are officially reported:- Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers – Killed, 13927, A. Haire, Sion Mills; 25705, R. McKeown, Ballygawley; 13664, J. Sproule, Castleberg; 28498, S. Young, Coagh. Wounded – 17615, R. Cummings, Donemana; 27995, J. Henderson, Castleberg; 11448, J. Hyndman, Newtownstewart; 29257, W. J. Taylor, Donemana; 13895, Corporal T. Wasson, Newtownstewart; 16327, T. Watt, Castleberg.

Private R. Semple, 40914, Newtownstewart, who is serving with the Royal Irish Rifles, is officially reported wounded.

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11th August 1917

EXCITING INCIDENT IN STRABANE

An exciting affair occurred at Strabane on Friday evening when a member of the telephone department attempted to take down the Sinn Fein flag and the draped flag in memory of Sir Roger Casement. The flags

were reached with great difficulty, being suspended on the telephone wires, and after the official had performed his duty, on descending to the ground, he proceeded towards the station on his bicycle. A large number of Sinn Fein sympathisers followed his whereabouts closely, and when some distance down Railway Street, one of the numbers demanded the flag. Being refused, the official, it is said, was knocked to the ground with a box and the flags taken from him. The captor of the flags succeeded in escaping, but before doing so the flags were waved in the air amidst terrific cheering by the Sinn Fein party. The police had to protect the telephone official on his journey.

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Private Charles Mc Aleer, a native of Newtownstewart, who was reported missing, is now reported as a prisoner of war in Germany.

Strabane Chronicle

11th August 1917

CHINESE DECLARATION OF WAR

A Reuter's message, dated New York, Monday, says:- An Associated Press telegram from Peking states that the Acting President approved on Thursday of the unanimous decision of the Cabinet declaring war on Germany and Austria-Hungary.

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STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss E. Perry, Urney, and Miss R. Clark, Bowling Green, Strabane.

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STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss E. Perry, Urney, and Miss R. Clark, Bowling Green, Strabane. Contributions were received from the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt; Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee; Miss Lewis, Belfast; Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus; Mrs. James Toner, Bank House, Strabane; Mrs. Clarke, The Manse; Miss Joyce, Derry Road, Mr. William Wilson, Greenfield; Mr. Aiken, Edymore, Miss A. Quinn, Glentown; Mrs. Sinclair, Holyhill; and Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Tallot House, London; Eggs were sent by Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus, Miss McCarter, Mourne View; Mrs. Maxwell Thompson, Main Street, Strabane; and Mrs. W. King, Main Street, Strabane.

Mr. James Hill entertained the men to tea and fruit at the Farm, Milltown.

Mrs. Sinclair entertained them at Holyhill on Saturday.

They were the guests of Mrs. J.C. Herdman at Camus on Wednesday.

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18th August 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were:- Miss A. Quinn, Glentown, and Miss Mona Russell, Main Street, Strabane.

Contributions were received from the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt; Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee; Miss Lewis, Belfast; Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus; Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Tallot House, London; Mr. Aiken, Edymore; Mrs. William Wilson, Greenfield; Mrs. Clarke, The Manse; Miss Ellis, Lifford Street, Strabane, Mrs. Delap, The Rectory, Strabane, Mrs. Healy, Patrick Street, Mrs. Boyle, Bearney, and Miss Gillespie, Newtown Street.

Eggs were sent by Miss Herdman, Sion Mills, Miss McCarter, Mourne View; Mrs. Maxwell Thompson, Main Street, Strabane; and Mrs. W. King, Main Street, Strabane.

There were 9 men discharged during the week and 8 admitted.

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Private Patrick Mc Hugh, Royal Irish Rifles, son of Mr. Charles Mc Hugh, Mullans, has died of wounds received in action. Another brother is serving with the colours. The Rev. P.J. Kilduff, Army Chaplain, who officiated at the graveside, in a letter to a sister of the deceased, stated that he was comforted in his last moments by receiving the Last Sacraments.

It was always England's game to crush Irish industries and to create famine in a land of plenty. In "Black Forty-seven" there was food in abundance in the country, "but the Government said it should not be touched unless in accordance with the teachings of Adam Smith and the "laws of political economy". The corn exported from Ireland that year would alone have sufficed to feed a larger population. At a great meeting in Ennis in the year 1880, Parnell advised the farmers to keep a firm grip of their homesteads. A similar advice to the people not to let all this year's food supply out of the country should not be ignored.

Strabane Chronicle
18th August 1917

SEIZURE OF ARMS

In connection with the seizure of arms all over the country by the Government on Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, the following official announcement has been issued:-

"In view of recent events, the Competent Military Authority has decided that, for the purpose of securing the public safety, it has become necessary to take possession, under Defence of the Realm Regulations 2 (e), of the RIFLES, REVOLVERS and AMMUNITION now stored in certain places, and insufficiently protected against falling into undesirable hands. These Arms will be retained in Military custody on behalf of the owners".

The dishonesty of this announcement is made plain by the fact that no seizure of Ulster Volunteer area has taken place. It is only the old story, one law for the Ulster Orangeman another for the Nationalist. It is stated that in some quarters that these seizures have been made with the connivance of the Irish Party. Some colour is lent to this view by the fact that only a few days ago the National Volunteers threw Mr. Redmond overboard and decided to join the Irish Volunteers.

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MILITARY RAIDS IN THE NORTH RIFLES AND AMUNITION SEIZED NATIONAL VOLUNTEER PROPERTY

On Tuesday night and early on Wednesday morning the military and police seized arms and ammunition belonging to the National Volunteers in different parts of the country. Between 11 and 12 o'clock on Tuesday night the premises of Mr. J.P. Gillin, Enniskillen, were raided by a detachment of military and the local police force, in charge of District-Inspector Murnane. Rifles and a quantity of ammunition belonging to the National Volunteer Corps were found and taken to the military barracks.

On the same night a similar raid was made by the police and military on the National Volunteer headquarters in Dungannon. Rifles and blank cartridges found on the premises were carried off. The National Volunteer Headquarters in Dublin were also raided on Tuesday night, and a big number of rifles and some ammunition carried off by the military.

The premises of Mr. Charles O'Neill, D.L., Derry, were surrounded and a number of rifles belonging to the I.N.V. were discovered and removed. The Parochial Hall in Letterkenny was the scene of a raid by the Donegal County Inspector and a force of police, who forced their way into the Literary Institute, smashing two doors of a room supposed to contain firearms. Seizures were made in the districts of Shantallow, Muff, Claudy, Magilligan, and ther parts of County Derry.

Amongst those who received the Royal Red Cross decoration from the King at Buckingham Palace, and were afterwards presented to Queen Alexandra at Marlborough House, was Miss Ruby Mc Laughlin, a daughter of the late Mr. James Mac Laughlin, St Johnston.

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SINN FEIN CLUB

An inaugural meeting addressed by Mr. P. M. Gallagher, solicitor, was held in Strabane on Sunday in connection with the formation of a Sinn Fein Club. Several young men attended, and after an expression of views it was decided to formally establish a branch of the movement. The secretary pro. tem. is Mr. Hugh Britton, Main Street.

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CASUALTIES

Private Charles Mc Hugh, Highland Light Infantry, wounded, is a son of Mr. James Mc Hugh. Private Patrick Doherty, Inniskilling Fusiliers, wounded, is a son of the late Mr. Charles Doherty. Private Joseph Gillen, Dublin Fusiliers, wounded, is a son of Mr. James Gillen, and Private James Mc Hugh, Royal Irish

Regiment, wounded, is a son of the late Mr. Peter Mc Hugh-all of Water Lane, Strabane. Private Michael Hegarty, Royal Irish Rifles, wounded, is a son of Mr. Patrick Hegarty, Main Street.

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LIFFORD SOLDIER'S DEATH

Mrs. Kathleen Quinn, Albert Terrace, Lifford, has received intimation that her son, Private Edward Quinn, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, who has been missing since 9th of September last, is now officially reported killed in action on that date. Private Quinn was wounded in the early stages of the war, and after a short leave at home he again proceeded overseas. Before enlistment he was a faithful servant to Dr. John C. Boyd, Lifford.

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18th August 1917

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The monthly meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Miss G. McGowan presiding.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, and adopted. Letters of apology for no-attendance were received from the Duchess of Abercorn, Miss McCrea, Miss Joyce, Mrs. McElhinney and Miss Hepburn.

Mrs. Berry wrote, enclosing a cheque for £1, part proceeds of her concert, to be devoted to war relief. Mrs. C. Browne reported that the Buying Committee had purchased a substantial supply of wool.

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18th August 1917

STRABANE VOLUNTEER KILLED

Mr. James Hughes, of Bridge Street, Strabane, has received the sad intelligence that his son, Private James Hughes, jun., has been killed in action in France in the last advance. Private Hughes belonged to the Tyrone and had been in the fighting line for a considerable time. He was a member of the local L.O.L. and Royal Black Preceptory. He was also a first-class band teacher and instructed many Unionist bands in the counties of Tyrone and Donegal. The deceased has also two other brothers serving with the Ulster Division, one of them Private John Hughes, being wounded in the same advance, and the other, Corporal Thomas Hughes, who took part in the advance of 1st July 1917. And on that occasion received shell shock. The deceased leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss.

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ROLL OF HONOUR

Hughes – Killed in action, August 14th, Private James Hughes, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

“What though in lonely grief, I sigh
For one I love no longer nigh;
Submissive still would I reply,
Thy will be done”

When last we saw him smiling,
He looked so strong and brave;
We little thought how soon he'd be
Laid in a hero's grave.

Inserted by his loving wife and family,

- A.M. Hughes, Lifford, Co. Donegal

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DONEMANA OFFICER WOUNDED

Captain J. H. C. Gatchell, Royal Army Medical Corps. Wounded is a son of Rev. Dr. Gatchell, incumbent of Donagheady, Donemana. He was formerly a surgeon in the Elderf-Dempster Line and has been serving with the R.A.M.C. since September 1915. He was promoted to his present rank after a year's service and is now attached to a battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

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COMISSION FOR STRABANE MAN

Cadet John K. Clarke, elder son of Rev. E. Clarke, M.A., Strabane, has been gazetted second-lieutenant and posted to the Connaught Rangers. He was educated at Campbell College, and served for a year and a half in France in the Pioneer Bailalion of the Ulster Division. His brother. Second-Lieutenant Thomas V. Clarke, who is also a Campbell College boy, is with the Indian cavalry in France.

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LIFFORD MAN KILLED

Mrs. Kathleen Quinn, Albert-terrace, Lifford, has received intimation that her son, Private Edward Quinn, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, who has been missing since the 9th of September last, is now officially posted as killed in action on that date. Private Quinn was wounded in the early stages of the war, and after a short leave at home, he-again proceeded overseas. Before enlistment he was in the employment of Dr. John C. Boyd, of Lifford.

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DONEMANA VOLUNTEER WOUNDED

Mrs. Allen, Gobnascale, Donemana, has received notification from her son, Robt. Mitchen Allen, of being admitted into hospital from wounds received in arm and shoulder. Private Allen, who went some years ago to Canada, joined the Winnipeg Rifles, and has been with his regiment in France for over twelve months. His brother John, who arrived in England with the first contingent of the Winnipeg Rifles, was wounded some time ago, causing his right leg to be amputated.

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RIFLES AND AMMUNITION SEIZED

A sensation was caused in Strabane early on Wednesday morning when it became known that a raid had been made by the local police authorities in conjunction with the military. A little after 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning the police called at the quarters of the National Volunteers and informed prominent members that the military would search the premises if the rifles and ammunition were not delivered up. There were about 50 military waiting outside in motor cars. As a result of the search a considerable quantity of ammunition and rifles were handed the authorities, who in turn handed same to the military, and they immediately drove off with the seizure

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WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening; at which Miss MacGowan, Bridge Street, presided. The minutes of last meeting were read by the hon. secretary (Mrs. J. C. Herdman) and confirmed. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from the Duchess of Abercorn. Miss McCrea, Miss Joyce, Mrs. McElhinney, and Miss Hepburn.

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STRABANE CASUALTY

Intimation is to hand that Sapper Geo. Blair, of Hillmount, Strabane, son of the late Mr. R. J. Blair. Strabane has been admitted to hospital. Sapper Blair, who was in Canada at the outbreak of war, volunteered and came over with his first contingent of the Canadians. He has been in the firing line during the past year and nine months. Sapper Blair's brother, Captain Wallace Blair, is also in an hospital, having got indisposed in East Africa. Another brother, Ross Blair, is also serving with the Canadians.

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25th August 1917

STRABANE VOLUNTEER WOUNDED

The relatives of Pte. William J. Blackburn, who reside at Patrick Street, Strabane, have been noticed that he has been wounded in action, and is at present in an hospital overseas. Pte. Blackburn belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and has been at the front for a considerable period. He took part in the big battle of 1st July 1916, being then wounded. He was a member of the U.V.F., and also the local L.O.L. Prior to enlistment Pte. Blackburn was in the employment of the Great Northern Railway Company.

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SECOND-LIEUT. CHARLES HOLMES

Second-Lieutenant Charles Holmes, R.I.R., wounded in action, is the second son of Mr. William Holmes, J.P., Ballybogan, Lifford, County Donegal, and brother of Mr. R. B. Holmes, Brook Hill, Omagh. He was formerly in the service of the Belfast Banking Company, Ltd., and received his commission in December 1916, from Fermoy Cadet Battalion. Second-Lieutenant Holmes is now in hospital in France.

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THE RANK AND FILE

Private J. F. McNamee, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Machine Gun Section), son of Mr. R. McNamee, C.P.S., Donemana, has been wounded by shrapnel, and is at present in hospital in England. He was a member of the U.V.F. Private McNamee came through the big attack on 1st July 1916, without a scratch.

Corporal Andrew Young, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, killed in action, was the youngest son of Mrs. Young, Meetinghouse Lane, Castlederg, and held a position as barman with William J. Young, The Hotel, Castlederg. His father, Mr. Robert Young, contractor, died in March 1917.

Information has reached Mrs. Bridget Duffy, Knockaniller, near Douglasbridge, Co. Tyrone, that her husband, Private Hugh Duffy, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been gassed, and is now in hospital. Private Duffy prior to his enlistment was engaged at the flax mills of Mr. R. Dick, as a scutcher, and was a member of the Douglasbridge Irish National Volunteers.

The sad intelligence has been conveyed to the relatives of Private M. Devine, who reside at Strabane, that he has died from wounds received in France. Private Devine enlisted more than two years ago in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and came through many important engagements unhurt. He leaves a widow and family to mourn his loss.

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25th August 1917

THE IRISH CONVENTION
DOMINION HOME RULE DISCUSSED

The following official report from the Irish Convention is issued for publication:-

The fifth meeting of the Irish Convention was held on Tuesday, 21st August, in the Regent House, Trinity College. The chairman (Sir Horace Plunkett) took the chair at eleven o'clock.

The minutes having been read and signed, the Convention entered upon the consideration of certain draft schemes based upon the Dominion principle of self-government, and the discussion lasted throughout the day.

The convention adjourned until eleven o'clock this (Wednesday) morning.

The sixth meeting of the Irish Convention was held on Wednesday, 22nd August, in the Regent House, Trinity College.

The chairman (Sir Horrace Plunkett) took the chair at eleven o'clock.

The convention adjourned until eleven o'clock on Thursday, 23rd August.

The seventh meeting of the Irish Convention was held on Thursday in the Regent House, Trinity College.

The chairman (Sir Horrace Plunkett) took the chair at eleven o'clock.

The Convention continued the consideration of draft schemes based upon the Dominion principle of self-government which had formed the subject of discussion at the two preceding sessions.

The Convention adjourned at 2 o'clock in order to enable the Grand Committee to meet in the afternoon.

The Convention will re-assemble in Dublin at eleven o'clock on Tuesday, 28th instant.

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A meeting of the Strabane Woman's Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening, at which Miss McGowan, Bridge Street, presided. Mrs. Berry wrote enclosing a cheque for £1, party proceeds of the concert. Mrs. C. Browne reported that the buying committee had purchased a substantial supply of wool to be utilized for socks and mufflers for the troops at the front. Mrs. Lavery reported five men had passed through the rest club since the last meeting. The hospital; accounts were presented by Mrs. W. King, and passed. Mrs. C. Herdmann reported that the egg collection taken up by the nurses for the military hospital had been a great success and were highly appreciated by the patients.

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LOCALS CONTRIBUTE TO MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge of the Strabane Military Hospital on the week of August 25, 1917, were Mrs. Perry, Urney and Mrs. Ellis, Lifford Street, Strabane. Contributions were received from the Duke of Abercorn, E. Herdman, Carricklee, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Miss Lewis, Belfast, Ellis, Lifford Street, Strabane, Miss Perry, Urney, J.C. Herdman, Camus and Mrs. Maxwell Thompson, Strabane.

Eggs were sent by Mrs. William King, Strabane, and Mrs. Thompson, Strabane.

There were two patients discharged during the week, and five admitted. The latter being Corporal Samuel Proaction, 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, rifleman William McKinney, 3rd Royal Irish Rifles, Private John Johnston, 12th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, rifleman Herbert Patterson, 3rd Royal Irish Rifles and rifleman Robert Braithwaite, 2nd Royal Irish Rifles.

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25th August 1917

LOCAL CASUALTIES IN WWI

We regret to announce the death in action of the 2nd Lieutenant John Doherty (Royal Dublin Fusiliers, son of the late John Doherty, Main Street, Strabane, and nephew of Edward Gallagher, the Strabane, and brother-in-law of James Toner, Clerk of the Crown and Peace for County Tyrone, has been killed in action.

Strabane Chronicle

25th August 1917

Sapper George Blair, Hillmount, Strabane, son of the late Mr. R.J. Blair, Newsagent, Strabane, has been admitted to hospital in France.

Strabane Chronicle

25th August 1917

Well done, Strabane!

The Roger Casement Sinn Fein Club is to be congratulated on the magnificent success that attended their splendid meeting in the Corn Market last Sunday.

Strabane Chronicle

25th August 1917

Never was such determination and enthusiasm witnessed at any previous gathering in the town. No further proof is wanted of the progress of the Irish Revival Movement in North Tyrone. As far as this part of the country is concerned daily events in the national life go to show that Redmondism and Liberalism are dead. The patriotism of the young manhood of the country was never healthier, purer, and more exalted state in having Mr. Dan Doherty, President of the Strabane Sinn Fein Club, as its chairman on Sunday, the meeting made a wise choice. Mr. Doherty is one of those who suffered imprisonment for his connection with the movement, and it is only fitting that his signal and grand service in the past should not be lost sight of. He is worthy of any honour that can be conferred on him.

Strabane Chronicle

25th August 1917

OUR READERS' VIEWS MILITARY RAID IN STRABANE

To the Editor "Strabane Chronicle"

Dear Sir- With reference to the above, on Tuesday night, the 14th inst., after I had gone to bed Mr, Haggart, D.I., called on me and informed me that a number of the military had come from Derry to assist in seizing ammunition and guns, and that he was aware there were some things stored in our factory, and if the military went there they would be likely to upset the place and do harm. He said that he was anxious to prevent any commotion or excitement. At his suggestion I gave him a note to Mr. Hackett, who had the key. It seems Mr. Hackett thought it right before handing over anything to consult some members of the committee, and with this view called on Mr. Daniel Mc Anaw, Mr. Eugene Conroy and Mr. Johnny Gallagher. Six guns and some ammunition were the sole fruits of the raid. As I understand there has been a great deal of most unjustifiable gossip part in circulation regarding this matter. I consider it my duty to put these facts before the public.

Yours faithfully,

Edward Gallagher

Ballycolman.

Strabane Chronicle
25th August 1917

ATTACKS ON THE POPE

Throughout the world the peace proposals of the Holy Father seem to have drawn on him a hurricane of abuse and vilification. The spirit of Jingoism, which is the spirit of Antichrist, does not want peace, but a sword. The voice of Rachel mourning for her children reaches its ears in vain. This nation fears that its war aims may be unrealised and that it may be confronted with the indignation of a disappointed people, that nation is lusting for increased trade at the expense of its neighbours, another is zealous for its "prestige". Towering above the innumerable and irreconcilable and squalid dreams and desires of combatants is the splendid form of the Holy Father, praying for all and alone desirous of the spiritual and material advantage of all. He is told by the corrupt forces of the world that it is too soon to discuss the question of peace.

Strabane Chronicle
25th August 1917

THE POPE AND PEACE HOW THE PONTIFF'S NOTE WAS RECEIVED ALLIES TO CONFER

It is significant notwithstanding the generally unfavourable view which has been taken of the Pope's Peace Note by the Allied Press, that no definite hostility to it has been announced by any responsible Minister of the Allied Governments. This is all the more remarkable in view of the prompt responsible declarations of hostility which were made in connection with the German peace proposals. Most of the enemy newspapers express sympathy with the Note, but Protestant organs declare they want a "German peace" and not a Pope's peace".

Strabane Chronicle
25th August 1917

MEMORIAL TO THE KING

A memorial urging King George to seek the earliest opportunity of promoting peace negotiations, with the object of securing a just and lasting peace, signed by 221,617 persons, and endorsed by organised labour bodies representing more than 900,000 members, has been presented to the Prime Minister, according to the Peace Negotiations Committee.

Strabane Chronicle
25th August 1917

AMERICA'S REPLY

Mr. Lansing says the Washington correspondent of the Associated Press has indicated that the reply of the United States to the Pope will be sent independently of any other belligerent, but it is generally believed he will consider the opinions of the Allies on making his reply. The President and Mr. Lansing have had a preliminary consultation, and the Note has been considered by the Cabinet. The Executive Committee of the U.S. League to Enforce Peace, while it welcomes the Pope's Note in regard to the principle of a League of Nations, urges vigorous prosecution of the war in order to make the League of Nations really effective.

ATTITUDE OF BRITAIN

It was announced on Wednesday that Comdt. De Salia, the British Minister, has presented Cardinal Gasparri with a Note stating that the British Government would examine the Pontifical Note in a benevolent and serious spirit.

GERMAN VIEWS

The "Vossische Zeitung" and the "Tageblatt" (Berlin) do not think the German Government will reject the Pope's Note. The "Die Zeit" (Vienna) thinks the note would have more prospects if it had been undertaken before America entered the war and considers that the conflicting territorial questions leave the Central Powers in the lurch.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

ORGANISING TYRONE STRABANE

The usual weekly meeting of the "Roger Casement" Sinn Fein Club was held in the Hall, Barrack Street, Strabane on Sunday evening last, the President, Mr. Dan Doherty, in the chair. The Secretary (Mr. Bernard McKee) read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were adopted. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Doherty and Michael Geehan, and the latter paid a noble and touching tribute to the late Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, whose death occurred last week. The meeting was followed by a short concert.

On Sunday at 4.00p.m. an important meeting of delegates from the various clubs in North Tyrone will take place in the Barrack Street Hall.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

THE RECENT SEIZURE OF ARMS IN STRABANE

To the editor "Strabane Chronicle"

Dear Sir,

In last week's issue of your paper there appeared a letter from Mr. E. Gallagher in which the statement is made that before handing over anything Mr. Hackett thought it right to consult some of the members of the local committee, and with that view called on, amongst others, myself. I beg to state that I never had any consultation whatever with Mr. Hackett. The only occasion on which I saw him on the night of the raid was when he accompanied Mr. Heggart, D.I., to my house in quest of guns,

I remain, respectfully yours,

Eugene Conroy

Strabane, August 31st1917

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

NATIONAL UNION OF LABOUR MEETING IN STRABANE

A meeting of local delegates was held on Saturday last in the Rooms, Barrack Street, Strabane, Mr. John Gallagher presiding. There was a large attendance of delegates present, and after the usual routine business was transacted, the forthcoming public meeting was discussed. Mr. Bermingham, Irish Secretary Railway Union; Messrs. Gregg and Lockett, National Amalgamated Labour Union; and Mr. Eugene Conroy, J.P., wrote promising to attend. Several prominent speakers from Derry also wrote, promising support of the meeting. It was unanimously decided to advertise the public meeting and dance in the "Strabane Chronicle" and full particulars will appear in our advertising columns later.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

NEWTOWNSTEWART

The weekly meeting of the "Harry Avery O'Neill" Sinn Fein Club, Newtownstewart, was held in Liberty hall, on Friday evening, all members being in attendance

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

STRANORLAR RAILWAY MEN

The Stranorlar Branch of the National Union of Railwaymen have unanimously adopted a resolution protesting in the most emphatic manner against the treatment of the members of the society in Ireland, and demanding that the National Executive take the necessary steps immediately to obtain the outstanding 3s per week and the conversion of the present war bonus into wages as from the 1st August 1917.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

Colonel Ernest Irvine, Durham Light Infantry, elder son of the late Mr. John Irvine, J.P., of Coolkeeragh and brother of Mrs. W.W. Barnhill, Brickfield House, Strabane has been promoted Brigadier-General. He has had nineteen years' service and a few months ago received the D.S.O.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

STRABANE URBAN COUNCIL THE HIGH COST OF LIVING

The quarterly meeting of the Strabane Urban District Council was held on Thursday, Mr. John Kelly (vice-chairman) presiding

ADJOURNED

Employees in the Gas Works named Devine, Sweeney, Edward Logue, Jack Logue, Doherty and Kearney applied for an increase of five shillings per week stating that they could not possibly live on their present wages, owing to the prices of everything now and there being no prospect of a speedy improvement.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Madeline Boyd, Lifford and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square, Strabane

There was one patient discharged during the week and one admitted, the latter being Sergeant Ernest Downing, 3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

FORTHCOMING LABOUR MEETING IN STRABANE

All locally interested in the organisation of the working classes are invited to attend the public meeting to be held in the Town Hall, Strabane on the evening of the 14th inst., which will be addressed by some prominent Trades Union organisers, as well as local speakers. Organisation of the workers on Trades Union lines is highly essential in face of the present abnormal condition by which the workers are affected and in view of the contingencies which are likely to arise at the close of the war. The work of combining the labour forces in Strabane is no less necessary than in other provincial centres, and it has to be hoped that the workers of both sexes will attend the meeting.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

THE LATE LIEUT. JOHN DOHERTY, STRABANE THEIR MAJESTIES' CONDOLENCES

Mrs Doherty, Main Street, Strabane, mother of the late John Doherty, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, received the following telegram on Tuesday morning from the Keeper of the Privy Purse:- "The King and Queen deeply regret the loss you and the army have sustained by the death of your son in the service of his country. Their majesties truly sympathise with you in your sorrow."

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were:- Miss F. Keatly, Bowling Green, and Miss Hadfield, Sion Mills. There were two men discharged during the week and six admitted, the latter being Rifleman Andrew Boyle, Private Charles Brennan, Royal Irish Fusiliers, private John Canavan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Neil McCay, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers,

Private David Allen, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private John Bradley, Royal Irish Regiment.

At the present time the entire number of beds (15) at the institution are filled. This is the second occasion in which this has occurred since the opening of the hospital.

Contributions were received from the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt;

Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee; Miss Herdman, Sion Mills, Mrs. James Hill, Hazelwood, Mr. Aiken, Edymore; Miss Joyce, Derry Road, Strabane, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus; Miss Lewis, Belfast; Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Tallot House, London; Miss Ellis, Lifford Street, Strabane, Miss Perry, Urney, Mrs. William Wilson, Greenfield; Mr. Wm. Wilson, D.L., Cloghan, and Miss Keatly, Bowling Green, Strabane.

Contributions towards the eggs collection were received from Mrs. Maxwell Thompson, Main Street, Strabane; and Mrs. W. King, Main Street, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

REMARKABLE MANUSCRIPT WAR TO END IN DECEMBER RECEIVED BY STRABANE MAN

A prominent Strabane business man has received a copy of a manuscript which was discovered at the breaking down of a wall in the monastery of the Holy Ghost at Vismar (a city on the island of Gotland, in the Baltic) which contains a 200 year old prophecy of the war. The prophecy, which was written on parchment by a monk, in the year 1701, is now kept in the town hall of Vismar. The copy held by the Strabane man was received by him on Thursday from the head of a very large industry in England. The manuscript reads as follows:-

"Europe will some day, when the seat of the Pope is vacant, meet with a fearful punishment. Seven nations will turn themselves against a bird with two heads. The bird will defend itself with wings and talons. A monarch who always rides his horse from the wrong side shall be surrounded by a wall of foes. It will be a

tough struggle between East and West, and the lives of many shall be lost. War chariots shall roll forward without horses, and fire dragons shall fly through the sky and spew fire and Sulphur and destroy towns. Mankind shall not listen to the foreboding of God and He shall turn away from them. The war shall last three years and five months. Starvation and disease shall follow. Bread will be controlled and distributed among the people. Men will be lurking at the bottom of the sea for their prey. The war will start when the corn is ripening on the fields and reach its maximum when the cherry trees are blooming for the third time. Peace will be obtained about Christmas”.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

LOCAL CASUALTIES
STRABANE LIEUTENANT KILLED

The sad intimation reached Strabane on Friday morning last that Lieutenant John Doherty, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, had been killed in action in France, and the news caused deep regret and sorrow in the town and district, where he was well known and popular. Lieutenant Doherty joined the colours as a private, and having come through Gallipoli, campaign safely, he was recommended by his superior officers for a commission, which he obtained. In France he showed the same heroism and bravery that marked him at the Dardenelles, and in June last he was awarded the parchment certificate. In sporting circles Lieutenant Doherty was a familiar figure. As a good, practical Catholic he was an exemplary one. He was son of the late Mr. John Doherty, Main Street, Strabane, and a nephew of Mr. Edward Gallagher, D.L., Strabane, and brother-in-law of Mr. James Toner, Clerk of the Crown and Peace for County Tyrone, Bank House, Strabane. To his bereaved mother and relatives we extend our sincere sympathy.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

Official information has been received by Mrs. Ward at Douglas Bridge Co. Tyrone, that her son, Private James Ward, Connaught Rangers, is wounded and in hospital. Private Ward was a carpenter by trade and worked at his own shop at home, with the rest of his brothers. He was a member of the Douglas Bridge Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

EDITORIAL

In Ireland, alone in the world's nations, no loud and determined demand is put forth for the cessation of hostilities on the carnage plains of the Continent. It is meet that Ireland, a Catholic country in spirit as well as reputation, should evince its loyalty towards the Supreme Pontiff in his noble efforts to stop the fratricidal strife. We recognize difficulties in the way of a national declaration – difficulties created by years of slavish teaching and by martial law, - but nevertheless the Catholics of Ireland, not to speak of the many who are true to Irish ideals and are not of the Catholic faith, should exhibit as much courage as, say, the Socialists of England and other countries. Notwithstanding the great wave of regeneration that is sweeping over the land, Ireland is shy of to enter the list of those who call for peace, and for the reason that she has been told by those who till recently masqueraded as National Leaders that she is a small nation, an important nation with no standing, except so far as the supply of soldiers, is concerned, in the ranks of powerful nations engaged in conflict; that her voice would not be listed to and that it is better for her to keep quiet and be satisfied with anything that England does. Now the only way in which an Irish National demand for peace could be productive of harm is this – the giving of a false impression as to the country's ability to keep clear of chaos should present circumstances continue. There is no danger before Ireland in this respect. Ireland is being taxed beyond every decent limit for the prosecution of the war, and should she continue after the war as a handmaiden of England she will be bled as white as England is able to bleed her.....

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

Lieutenant Charles Stevenson, Canadian Infantry, wounded, is the son of Mr. J.J. Stevenson, Magheracar, Sion Mills, and brother of Mr. J. Stevenson, Duke Street, Derry. He was formerly in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been previously wounded. During the present year he was awarded the Military Cross.

Strabane Chronicle
1st September 1917

Information has reached Mrs. Bridget Duffy, Douglas Bridge, Co. Tyrone, that her husband, Private Hugh Duffy, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been gassed, and is now in hospital. Private Duffy, prior to

enlistment, was engaged in the flax mills of Mr. R. Dick, as a scutcher, and a was member of the Douglas Bridge Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Chronicle

1st September 1917

The sad intelligence has been conveyed to the relatives of Private M. Devine, who resides at Strabane, that he has died from wounds received in action in France. Private Devine enlisted more than two years ago in Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and came through many important engagements unhurt. He leaves a widow and family to mourn his loss.

Strabane Chronicle

1st September 1917

The parents of John Harte who resides at Main Street have been informed that he has been wounded and is in hospital in England. He got his wounds on Thursday night in the right leg, caused by an explosive bullet/ Private Harte belongs to the Royal Irish regiment, and prior to the war he was a member of the National Volunteers, being one of the instructors. On an occasion some time ago in the present war, he won the military medal for conspicuous gallantry and bravery on the battlefield in the conveying of despatches to the headquarters of the Irish Brigade.

Strabane Chronicle

1st September 1917

A strike by labourers in the town of Strabane has been averted. The laboring classes of the town and district are of the opinion that they are entitled to higher wages. Negotiations have been going on between the representatives of the employees and the employers. Members of the Labour Union are gratified to learn that a good many of the employers are adopting a most reasonable attitude, and they hope that the outstanding ones will fall into line with the more generous employers. It is expected that a satisfactory arrangement will be arrived at as soon as possible.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

STRABANE MAN DIES OF WOUNDS

The relatives of Private M. Devine, Strabane, have been informed that he has died from wounds received in action recently in France. Private Devine enlisted more than 2 years ago in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

MISSING STRABANE VOLUNTEER

Private John Pinkerton of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has been reported missing since the 19th August. He took part in the recent big attack and had had been in the firing line only four months. Before enlisting he was engaged in the Engineering department of the County Donegal railway. He was a member of the U.V.F. and joined the colours in August of last year.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

STRABANE STRIKE AVERTED

A strike of labourers in the town of Strabane has been averted at the present time and will not come off. The labouring classes of the town and district are of the opinion that they are entitled to higher wages. Negotiations had been going on between the representatives of the the employees, and employers. Members of the Labour Union are gratified to learn that a great many of the employers are adopting a most reasonable attitude and they hope that the others will fall into line with the more generous employers. It is expected that a satisfactory arrangement will be arrived at soon

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

STRABANE SOLDIER HONOURED

Mr. Michael McGlinchey, Bridge Street, Strabane was on Thursday agreeably surprised when he was handed a parchment certificate for bravery and devotion to duty displayed on the field of battle. Mr. McGlinchey was a reserve man at the outbreak of the war and was a member of the first Expeditionary

Force to be despatched to France. He fought with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and took part in the Mons retreat in which he lost one of his limbs and was subsequently discharged. Another brother Pte. John McGlinchey took part in the Suvla Bay landing and has been reported as missing, and a third brother named James is at present serving with a Scottish regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

STRABANE VOLUNTEER KILLED

Mr James Hughes of Bridge Street Strabane has received the sad intelligence that his son Private James Hughes, jun, has been killed in action in France in the last advance. Pte Hughes belonged to the Tyrone and had been in the firing line for a considerable period. He was a member of the local L.O.L. and Royal Black Preceptory. He was also a first-class band teacher and instructed many Unionist bands in the counties of Tyrone and Donegal. The deceased also has two other brothers serving with the Ulster Division, one of them, Private John Hughes, being wounded in the same advance and the other Corporal Thomas Hughes who took part in the advance of the 1st of July 1917 and on that occasion received shell shock. The deceased left a wife and family to mourn his loss.

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

MILITARY MEDAL FOR CASTLEFIN

Lance-Corporal George T. Boyd, Castlefin, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery. Lance-Corporal Boyd shortly before the war emigrated to Canada. On the 5th day of August 1914 he was a sergeant with the Winnipeg Rifles undergoing training in connection with the Ulster Volunteers and in response to an appeal he volunteered he volunteered with the entire battalion to come to France with the first contingent of the Canadians. Since that period, he has taken part in many important engagements, having been gassed in April 1915, wounded in May 1915 and again wounded on 27th November 1916, during the raid at Souchez. He also took part in the battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917 and in the recent battle of August 1917 when the Canadians took Hill 70. Before the war whilst in his native district lance-Corporal Boyd was in the employment of County Donegal railways Joint Committee and acted as a station master at Church Hill, Letterkenny, on the Lough Swilly Railway. He was very popular and is a member of the Castlefin L.O.L. No774, Strabane R.B.P. No. 184 and Letterkenny Masonic Lodge, No. 271.

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. F. Keatly and Miss Hadfield. There were two men discharged during the week and six patients admitted, their names being – Rifleman Andrew Boyle, Royal Irish Rifles; Pte. Charles Brennan, Royal Irish Fusiliers; Ptes John Canavan, Neil M'Kay and David Allen of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and Pte John Bradley, Royal Irish Regiment. At the present time the entire number of beds (15) at the institution are filled. This is the second occasion in which this has occurred since the opening of the hospital

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

LIFFORD PARISH-WAR MEMORIAL

An interesting little ceremony took place in Lifford Parish Church last Thursday afternoon when the mural Tablet Erected by Dr. and Mrs. Boyd to the memory of their son, the late Second Lieutenant W.G. Boyd (and which includes the names of eight other men of the parish who have made the great sacrifice) was unveiled by the Ven. Archdeacon Gould-Adams at the usual weekly service of prayer for our soldiers and sailors. After an appropriate and touching address by the Archdeacon and the singing of the hymn "For all the saints who from their labours rest." He proceeded down the aisle accompanied by the Rev. Samuel Chadwick, reciting the 23rd Psalm and dedicated and unveiled the memorial which is placed on the north wall of the porch.

"In proud and loving memory of William Gaston (Tony) Boyd, Second-Lieutenant 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born in Lifford September 20th 1886, the only surviving son of John C. Boyd, M.B., M.Ch., surgeon of the County Donegal Infirmary and Phyllis, his wife. He died in France October 13th 1916, of wounds received in action the previous day and was buried at Bailleul. On the declaration of war 1914, he joined the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles, and served at the front in their ranks for a year previous to receiving a commission. Also to perpetuate the memory of the following soldiers of this parish who like him gave their lives in their country's service:- Captain John Weir, Lieutenant W.J. Humfreys, Sergeant W. M'Beth, Lance-

Corporal D.A. Porterfield, Corporal H. Quinton, Private J.R. Gourley, Thomas Roulston. A. Lindsay. Faithful unto death."

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

**LECKPATRICK SOLDIER KILLED
FIVE BROTHERS WITH THE COLOURS**

General regret will be felt in Leckpatrick Parish and surrounding district at the death in action on 8th inst of Pte. Wm. Walker who resided before the war in that district. Private Walker enlisted in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and had seen a considerable period of service in the firing line. He had four other brothers serving with the Ulster Division their names being Private John Walker, who took part in the advance on 1st July, 1916, and then reported as missing, he subsequently having been reported as killed. Private James Walker who is at present in hospital suffering from wounds received recently in France. Private Robert Walker who is also at the front in France and Private Thomas Walker who is at present undergoing training in Newtownards. Etc.

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

**TYRONE AND DONEGAL CASUALTIES
STRABANE AND SION MILLS MEN KILLED
LIEUT. CHARLES STEVENSON, M.C.**

Lieutenant Charles Stevenson, M.C., Canadian Infantry, wounded for the second time, is a son of Mr. J.J. Stevenson, Magheragar, Sion Mills and brother of Mr. J. Stevenson, Duke Street, Londonderry. During the present year he was awarded the Military Cross. He has been in the fighting line for more than two years and a half, and has ever proved himself a brave, resourceful and efficient officer

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

SECOND-LIEUT. JOHN DOHERTY

Second-Lieut. John Doherty, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, killed in action was a son of the late Mr. John Doherty, Main Street, Strabane. He enlisted in the Royal Engineers, shortly after the commencement of the war and saw service at Gallipoli. He was promoted to a commission in the Dublin Fusiliers. He was a nephew of Mr. Edward Gallagher, D.L., of Strabane and a brother-in-law of Mr. James Toner, Clerk of the Crown and Peace for Co. Tyrone

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

SECOND-LIEUT. HUGH ANDERSON

Second-Lieut. Hugh Anderson, Dublin Fusiliers, wounded, is a son of Mr. Jas. Anderson, meal and flour merchant, The Diamond, Donegal. He relinquished a lucrative position and joined the colours as a private and was severely wounded at the Dardanelles.

Strabane Weekly News
1st September 1917

THE RANK AND FILE

Sergeant Ross Graham, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, eldest son of Mr. Thomas Graham, Carkenny, Ardstraw was wounded in the great battle on the 16th inst. He has however been fortunate enough to only receive a slight wound on the foot and is now in hospital in England. Sergeant Graham is only 22 years of age and was through the big battle of the Somme with The Ulster Division on July 1st, 1916 and was subsequently awarded the Military Medal for his daring and enduring courage in carrying dispatches. He was afterwards promoted and was again heavily engaged on June 7th last. His many friends are glad to hear of his lucky escape and wish him a continuance of his success and good fortune.

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1st September 1917

Mr. William Keys, Tyrkernaghan, Donemana has been informed that his son, Private Thomas Keys, has been wounded in action. Private Keys belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and enlisted shortly after war commenced. Prior to enlistment he was a member of the local U.V.F.

The relatives of Private John Pollock, Lifford Street, Strabane has received notification that he has been wounded. Pte. Pollock belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) and enlisted three years ago. The wounds consist of shrapnel wounds in the left hand. He is at present in a hospital in England.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

Information has reached Mrs Bridget Duffy, Knockaniller, near Douglasbridge Co Tyrone that her husband Private Hugh Duffy has been gassed and is now in hospital. Private Duffy, prior to his enlistment was engaged at the flax mills of Mr. R. Dick, as a scutcher and was a member of the Douglasbridge Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

Official information has been received by Mrs Ward at Douglas Bridge, Co Tyrone that her son Private Jas. Ward, Connaught Rangers, is wounded and in hospital. Private Ward was a carpenter by trade and worked at his own shop at home with the rest of his brothers. He was a member of the Douglas Bridge Irish National Volunteers.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

The death from wounds took place on the 18th inst of Charles McGillicuddy Christie, seventh son of the late Rev. W. J. Christie, rector of Newtown Stewart. Deceased was 33 years of age.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

Mr. John Maxwell, Prospect, Sion Mills has been notified that his son Sapper Chas. Maxwell, Royal Engineers, was killed in action on 11th inst. His brother Sapper John Colhoun Maxwell, R.E. is at present in hospital suffering from wounds received in June last.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

Mr. Francis Elliott, 49 Main Street, Sion Mills has been notified of the death of his son, Lance-Corporal Wm. Elliott, Machine Gun Company, Royal Munster Fusiliers. Previous to enlistment he was employed by Messrs. Herdmans Ltd

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

Private Robert Patterson, Joseph Mills, Andrew Lindsay, James Haire (all of the Inniskilling Fusiliers) and Samuel Elliott, Royal Irish Rifles, all of Sion Mills have been wounded.

Strabane Weekly News

1st September 1917

PLUMBRIDGE U.V.F. MAN KILLED IN ACTION

A letter has been received by Mr. James Lunny, Aughalane, Plumbridge reporting the death of his brother, Pte. Wm. Lunny which took place on the 10th August. Pte. Lunny joined the Inniskillings on March 1916 and was afterwards attached to the Derry Battalion. Before enlisting he was manager of Eden Auxiliary Creamery and was highly respected by all who knew him. He was a member of the Orange Order. He is the second of his family who has made the great sacrifice, as his brother, Corporal R. Lunny (who has been company commander of Plumbridge U.V.F.) was killed in the great advance of the 1st July 1916. Both were fine gentlemanly young men and their untimely deaths are greatly deplored in the locality.

Strabane Chronicle

8th September 1917

SPECIAL COURT

A special court was held in Strabane on Saturday before Mr. Patrick McMenamin when Private John Hyndman, Sion Mills, attached to the 20th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles stationed at Newtownards was charged with being an absentee. The evidence showed that the defendant had been escorted by the police to the Railway Station to join his battalion on the previous Thursday but on the following day he again appeared in the town and was arrested. Prisoner was remanded pending the arrival of the military escort.

Strabane Chronicle
8th September 1917

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Charles Dooher and Family of Cavanalee, Strabane desire to return their sincere thanks to the many kind friends who sent letters and messages of sympathy in their recent sad bereavement in the death of their son and brother, through wounds received in action in France and hope they will accept this acknowledgement as they find it impossible to reply personally to all.

Strabane Chronicle
8th September 1917

Lance-Corporal George T. Boyd, Canadians, a native of Castlefin, Co. Donegal has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry. He was formerly employed by the County Donegal Railways Joint Committee and acted as a stationmaster at Churchill. A brother works in the Derry Shipyard.

Strabane Chronicle
8th September 1917

NOTES

Chief Petty Officer Clifford Joseph Campbell, Ulverston, whose parents formerly belonged to Sion Mills and whose uncle Mr. George Campbell, is the postmaster at Bearney, Sion Mills has won the Distinguished Service Medal, and Chief Petty Officer Campbell has been presented with a bar and star to be attached to the medal, "for the splendid manner in which he has performed duty in dealing with submarines."

Strabane Chronicle
8th September 1917

STRABANE

Strabane Sinn Fein Club held its weekly meeting in the Hall, Barrack Street, Strabane, on Sunday evening, the Vice President, Mrs. R. Gallagher, in the chair. There was a good attendance of members. After transacting the business, the meeting appropriately closed by all present singing "The Soldier's Song".

CLADY

The usual weekly meeting of the "William Pearse" Sinn Fein Club, Urney, was held on Friday night in the Hall, Clady, the President in the chair. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were unanimously approved of. It was announced that the ceilidh, held under the auspices of the Clady and Castlefin clubs, in aid of the Irish Volunteer Dependents' Fund, was a huge success, and that a large amount of money had been realized. Intense satisfaction was expressed by the members at the happy outcomes of the ceilidh. Routine business having been transacted, the meeting terminated.

Strabane Chronicle
8th September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Madeline Boyd, Lifford, and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square, Strabane.

There was one patient discharged during the week and one admitted, the latter being Sergeant Ernest Dowling, 3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Contributions were received from His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus, Mrs. W. Wilson, Greenfield, Miss Lewis, Belfast, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, London, Mr. Aiken, Edymore, Mrs. James Hill, Hazelwood, Miss McCarter, Mourne View, Strabane, Mrs. Healy, Patrick Street, Mrs. Boyle, Bearney, Miss Gillespie, Newtown Street, and Miss Herdman, Sion Mills.

Eggs were sent by Mrs. Wm. King, Main Street, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
8th September 1917

It's understood that an organization known as the Ulster Discharged Soldiers' and Soldiers' Association has been formed for the purpose of placing discharged service men in employment. This association will work in harmony with the Pensions Committee but will be an entirely unofficial body. It will be entirely non-sectarian and non-political. The association will embrace the whole of Ulster in its organization. The province will be divided into districts by taking in the existing parliamentary constituencies as a suitable division.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

STRANORLAR MAN WOUNDED

The parents of Private J. Doherty who reside at Stranorlar have been notified that he has been wounded in France. Pte. Doherty belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

DONEGAL SOLDIER KILLED.

The relatives of Private David Temple, who reside at Killygordon have been informed that he has been killed in action in France. Private Temple emigrated to Australia some five or six years ago and enlisted at the outbreak of hostilities arriving with the first contingent of the Australians in France.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

BALLYBOFEY SOLDIER WOUNDED

Mr James McCarron, fruiterer, Ballybofey has been notified that his son, Pte Jim McCarron has been wounded recently in France in the recent advance. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been in the firing line since the commencement of the war. He was previously wounded in 1916.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

STRABANE BANKER WOUNDED

Mr William Hoy, manager of the Ulster Bank, Strabane has been informed that his son, Acting-Corporal Alfred Hoy has been wounded in the hand by shrapnel and is at present in a hospital in France. Corporal Hoy belongs to the Royal Irish Fusiliers and has been in the firing line since September of last year. He is well known in banking circles.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

STRABANE SPECIAL COURT

A special Court of Petty Sessions was held in Strabane on Thursday when a soldier named John Hanratty, from the Sion Mills district, was arrested and charged on a warrant by his wife with alleged assault and using threatening language. The Court allowed him out after giving him a caution and advised both parties to go home and live peaceably.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

SPECIAL COURT IN STRABANE

A special court was held on Saturday when a private named John Hyndman of the Sion Mills district who belongs to the Royal Irish Rifles was charged with being an absentee from his regiment. The evidence showed that Hyndman was an absentee and had been escorted by the constabulary to the railway station to join his regiment on the previous Thursday. On the following day he appeared home and was arrested by the authorities. Prisoner was remanded pending the arrival of a military escort.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

THE LATE LIEUT. JOHN DOHERTY

Mrs Doherty, Main Street, Strabane on Tuesday received a telegram from the Keeper of the Privy Purse to the following effect:- "The King and Queen deeply regret the loss you and the army have sustained by the death of your son in the service of his country. Their Majesties truly sympathise with you in your sorrow." From intimidation received from various sources evidence is daily accumulating of the respect and esteem held for the deceased officer. He was genial and courteous to everyone, most courageous in all his dealings and actions and his death is keenly felt by all who knew him.

Strabane Weekly News

8th September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Madaline Boyd, Lifford and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square. There was one patient discharged during the week and one patient admitted, named Sergeant Ernest Downing, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
8th September 1917

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private J. Arbuckle, who reside in Strabane have been informed that he has been wounded in action. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been in the firing line since the commencement of the war. Up to the present he has come through many battles unscathed.

The relatives of Lance-Corporal J. Ward, who reside at Sion Mills, near Strabane have been notified that he is wounded and at present in hospital. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and prior to the war he was employed at Sion Mills. He is well known in the North-West football and cricket circles

The relatives of Private J. McCaffrey, who reside at Strabane, have been informed that he has been wounded in action in France. Private McCaffrey, belongs to the Royal Irish Fusiliers and has seen considerable service at the front

Strabane Weekly News
8th September 1917

SION MILLS CASUALTIES

Mr Henry and Mrs Hamilton, Albert Place, Sion Mills have been notified from the War Office that their son Private Samuel Hamilton, Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) has died from wounds received on 16th August, 1917. Prior to volunteering, the deceased was employed as a flax-dresser in Messrs. Herdman's Ltd., and was an energetic member of the U.V.F., being a section leader in the Sion Mills Company. Both he and his brother (Private Stewart Hamilton) were seriously wounded in the big Ulster push on 1st July, 1916, when after several months' treatment in hospital the former returned to the front and the latter was passed for home service and is now engaged in South Wales. Sincere sympathy is extended to the parents, brothers and sisters in their sorrow at losing such a noble son and brother, who freely gave his young life for the cause of liberty and freedom.

Mrs Sarah Worling, Church Square, Sion Mills, whose husband, Private James Worling, Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) was reported as missing since the 1st July 1916 has now received intimation from the War Office that his body has been found and identified. He was killed in action on the memorable 1st July 1916. Private Worling who before enlistment was employed by Messrs. Herdman's Ltd, was an active member of the Sion Mills first X1. Cricket team and was noted for his excellent bowling. He was an energetic member of the Sion Mills Company U.V.F. The greatest sympathy is extended to his wife and three children who mourn his loss.

Strabane Weekly News
8th September 1917

HONOURS FOR SION MILLS MAN
NAVAL GUNNER WINS THE D.S.M.

Under the headings "How an Ulverston Naval Gunner won the D.S.M.," "The way to deal with Enemy Subs.," the Ulverston News" (England) of 18th ult. says:- One of the proudest men in the British navy today is Chief Petty Officer Clifford Joseph Campbell son of Mr. John Campbell, saddler of Soutergate, Ulverston who has had the honour of winning the Distinguished Service Medal, which is next to the highest decoration to which a Jack Tar can aspire. How this gallant young seaman, both of whose parents are natives of the Sion Mills district, and who is a nephew of Mr George Campbell, postmaster, Bearney was in the first instance recommended for the D.S.M. (which by the bye, has been presented to him on board ship is detailed in a letter sent home in May last in which the C.P.O. writes:- The game here is very exciting and no room for shirkers, every man must do his bit or go under. It puts me in mind of the hunts when I was a kiddy-plenty of excitement at the kill. Well they (the enemy) have kept up at it. I can tell you and we have come out on top. I think they must now say that the "subs" have had a drubbing which Old Nick won't forget. We wanted them to fight up. Well they have tried and failed this time. I am glad for Carson's sake for me he has had rather a rough time of it lately etc etc

Strabane Chronicle
8th September 1917

BREAD AND MEAL PRICES
THE NEW ORDERS
TO PREVENT PROFITEERING

In connection with the introduction of the 9d loaf on the 17th inst., the Food Controller has fixed the following maximum retail prices:- Bread – 4lb., 9d; 2lb., 4 1/2; 1lb, 2 1/2; flour 280lb. sack, 50s; 140lb. i/2 sack 25s; 7lb. or more (but less than 1/2 sack, 2s8d per st.; quartern (3 1/2 lbs.) 8 1/2d; 1/2 quartern (13/4 lbs.) 4 1/2d.; 1lb, 2 1/2d;

self-raising 3 1/2d. per lb. A reasonable additional charge may be made for credit or delivery. For special brands higher prices may be permitted by licence. No retailer may charge for proprietary breads unless he has bread on offer at the same time at or below the maximum price.....

Strabane Chronicle
15th September 1917

WORLD WAR ONE RAGES ON

The war drags on its weary and tragic course, and the most optimistic Jingo cannot say that prospects are improving for the Allies.

The casualty list brings sorrow and mourning into thousands of homes daily. For personal losses that no victory could ever make up for.

The enormous expense of the campaign must soon become impossible to meet and then, if not sooner, hostilities must cease.

The collapse of Russia has given the Germans fresh hope and courage, and their armies still appear to be fighting with as much determination and bravery as they did in the early stages of the war.

The submarine menace shows no sign of weakening, notwithstanding the fact that the whole strength and ingenuity of the British and American navies are being used to combat it.

Peace is inevitable before many more months pass, and in the interests of the suffering people of the belligerent nations who have had no voice in the making of the war, the sooner it comes the better.

Strabane Chronicle
15th September 1917

SION SOLDIER CHARGED

A special court was held in Strabane before Patrick McMenamin, when Private John Hyndman from Sion Mills, attached to the 20th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles, stationed at Newtownards, was charged with being an absentee.

The evidence showed that the defendant had been escorted by the police to the Railway Station to join his battalion on the previous week, but the following day he again appeared in the town and he was arrested.

Prisoner was remanded pending the arrival of a military escort.

Strabane Chronicle
15th September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss M. Adams, Glebe Upper, Sion, and Miss Feely, Derry Road. Seven patients were discharged during the week, and seven admitted, the latter being Rifleman John Foley, Royal Irish Rifles, Lance-Corporal James Magill, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Patrick Hannon, Royal Irish Fusiliers, Corporal Joseph McCullagh, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Charles Burns, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private James Armstrong, Royal Irish Rifles; and Rifleman Edward Monksfield, Royal Irish Rifles.

The patients were entertained at Camus to tea, fruit, and cigarettes, and games on Monday by Mrs. Herdman, of Camus, and they were also entertained by Mr. and Miss Connolly to a musical programme at the hospital on Monday evening.

Contributions were received from the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Miss E.C. Herdman, Miss Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. Feely, Miss Chapman, Miss Livingstone, Miss Lewis, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Mr. Aiken, Miss Quinn, Miss M. Adams, Mrs. Healy, Miss Gillespie, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Greer, and Mrs. Keatly.

Strabane Weekly News
15th September 1917

STRABANE AND DISTRICT BALLINDRAIT SOLDIER MISSING

The relatives of Pte. Daniel McLucas, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, have been informed that he has been missing since the last big advance. He resided at Ballindrait and before the war was an active member of the Murlog Brass and Reed Band. He has another brother serving with the colours.

Strabane Weekly News
15th September 1917

STRABANE CASUALTY

News has been received of the death in action of Corporal Charles M'Corkell, of a Manchester regiment. Corporal M'Corkell, who was a native of Strabane, fought in France and at the Dardanelles, coming through

the latter campaign unhurt, afterwards returning to France. Deceased was an active member of the Loyal Orange Lodge, Royal Black Preceptory, and took a prominent part in the U.V.F. He has another brother serving with the colours with an English regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
15th September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Smyth, Lifford and Miss Wisheart, Main Street. There were nine patients discharged during the week and nine admitted in their stead their names being - Private Samuel Wilson, Private Thomas Barker, Private John O'Neill and Private Robert Church, all of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. Private John Rush, Northumberland Fusiliers, Private James Smith M.T., A.S.C., Rifleman William Braithwaite, Private John Mills, and Private Michael O'Reilly, of the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
15th September 1917

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Corporal McLoughlin, Strabane, writes us from Cirencester Hospital to say that he was somewhere that Pte. Snodgrass, whose parents reside at Townhall Street, Strabane had been killed at Ypres, but this is not a fact as he was talking to him in Cirencester Hospital. He has been wounded in the legs and all ranks wish him a speedy recovery, a wish that will be shared by Pte. Snodgrass's many friends. Thanks are due to Corporal M'Loughlin for setting the matter right but we cannot find any trace of the report he refers to in the previous issues of this papers.

Strabane Weekly News
15th September 1917

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Sapper C. Maxwell, 64444, Sion Mills is officially reported killed

Sapper Hugh Robb, son of Mr Thos. Robb, Drumbuoy, Newtowncunningham, killed in action has a brother Lance-Corporal Thomas Robb, Royal Irish Regiment, serving in France for two years. The latter has been awarded the certificate for bravery.

Mr. James McSorley, Magheracolton, Newtownstewart has received official intimation of the death on the battlefield of his son, Gunner Edward McSorley of the Machine Gun Section of the Inniskillings. He was killed on 17th August. This is the second of Mr McSorley's sons to make the supreme sacrifice. Pte. Wm John Robinson, of the Canadian Infantry, son of Mr. Wm Robinson, Strawhill, Newtownstewart, is reported missing.

The following casualties are reported in the latest official list:- Royal Irish Regiment-Wounded. Pte. J. M'Fadden, 2650, Strabane. Previously reported missing, now reported killed-J. McFarland, 27443, Strabane; Lance-Corpl. M. Noble, 17636, Victoria Bridge. Irish Guards-Wounded, P. O'Donnell, 9579, Strabane. Royal Irish Fusiliers-Died of Wounds, PJ Doohen, 21056, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
22nd September 1917

The Strabane Women's Relief Committee are to be congratulated on the signal success achieved by them in connection with the collection of eggs for the wounded soldiers at the military hospital. As will be noted by our advertising columns, upwards of 200 dozen eggs have been collected through the medium of the willing volunteers. In addition, a handsome sum of money has been subscribed by the patriotic people in the various localities. The object is indeed most deserving, and the committee's work is appreciated. The committee takes here the opportunity of thanking most sincerely all the contributors.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd September 1917

STRABANE CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private J. McFadden, Royal Irish Regiment, have been informed that he has been wounded in action. Prior to enlistment he was employed in the firm of Messrs. Elliott & Sons, Strabane. The parents of Private P.J. Doohar, Royal Irish Fusiliers, who reside at Cavanalee, Strabane have received the sad tidings that he has been killed in action. He was in the employment of Messrs Devine & Co., whilst in Strabane and also worked in Belfast. His father is a registration agent for North Tyrone.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd September 1917

STRABANE SERGEANT KILLED

The sad news has just reached Strabane that Sergeant Columba McGoldrick has been killed in action in France on the 16th of last month, whilst taking part in the big attack at that time. Sergeant McGoldrick belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Irish Brigade). He volunteered more than two years ago. Before enlisting he was a member of the Irish National Volunteers and was an assistant in the firm of O'Doherty Ltd., in the boot department. His father resides at Canal Street, Strabane. Great sympathy is extended to his sorrowing relatives, the deceased being a most prominent young man.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd September 1917

CASTLEDERG NOTES **LISLEEN MAN KILLED**

Pte. Charles Clarke, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and a native of Lisleen, Castlederg, has been killed in action. He was a bomber and prior to his enlistment was a member of Killen L.O.L. 1278 and Killen company of the U.V.F. Highly respected by all who knew him he took an active part in the social life of his district being a member of Lisleen Methodist Church and a member of the choir He is one of three brothers, another of whom is still serving with the colours, and to his sorrowing father, sisters and brothers the heartfelt sympathy of the community has been extended.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd September 1917

MILITARY FUNERAL CASTLEDERG

The funeral with full military honours took place last week of Pte. John Speer, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and a native of Castlesessiagh, Castlederg. Pte Speer answered the call of King and country by joining the Ulster Division and with that Division he saw active service giving of his blood in two engagements. Some time ago he was invalided home and recovering a little he was attached to the 12th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at Finner. His health again broke down however and he was admitted to Ballyshannon hospital where the end took place. It might be mentioned incidentally that he is the eighth past pupil of Edwards Boys' School to make the supreme sacrifice in the cause of right and justice.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

Captain D.H. Morton, Inniskillings, son of Rev. D. Morton, Newtownstewart, had been reported wounded and missing last month, is now officially reported as a prisoner of war.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss M. Adams, Glebe Upper, Sion and Miss Feely, Derry Road. Seven patients were discharged during the week and seven admitted, the latter being Rifleman John Foley, Royal Irish Rifles: Lance-Corporal James Magill, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers: Private Patrick Hannon, Royal Irish Fusiliers; Corporal Joseph McCullagh, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers: Private Charles Burns, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers: Rifleman James Armstrong, Royal Irish Rifles: and Rifleman Edward Monksfield, Royal Irish Rifles.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

THE LATE LIEUT. JOHN DOHERTY **VOTES OF CONDOLENCE**

The monthly meeting of the Strabane Ladies War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall Strabane on Thursday evening, the Duchess of Abercorn presiding. Votes of condolence were passed in silence, all the members standing with Mrs. Toner and Mrs Feely, on the death of their brother, Lieutenant John Doherty, Main Street, Strabane, who was killed in action.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

The casualty lists this week contain the names of the following:- Wounded-Privates J.E. Elkin, Newtownstewart: R. Gallagher, Castlederg, T. McBride, Newtownstewart. The above named were attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

NOTES

Captain D.H. Morton, Inniskillings, son of Rev. D. Morton, Newtownstewart had been reported wounded and missing last month is now officially reported as a prisoner of war

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

**STRABANE DISTRICT FARMERS ORGANISE
AN ASSOCIATION FORMED**

A large and representative meeting of Leckpatrick and Donagheady farmers was held on Monday evening in Leckpatrick School for the purposes of discussing the desirability of promoting a Farmers' Union for the district

On the motion of Mr Robert Stevenson, R.D.C., seconded by Mr Thomas Boyd, Mr John S M'Laughlin took the chair

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

**SOUVENIOR FROM THE FRONT
STRABANE SOLDIER'S PRECIOUS FIND**

Private John Toorish has sent home from "somewhere in France" a very precious and valuable statue of the Blessed Virgin that he unearthed in the ruins of a church in France that was destroyed in the present war.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were:- Miss Clark, Bowling Green, Strabane and Miss A. Quinn, Glentown.

There were seven patients discharged during the week and six admitted, the latter being – Corporal George Harris, R.A.M.C.; Private Robert M'Kenna, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; Driver Edward Mordicai, A.S.C.; Private John Quinton, A.S.C.; Private Norman Barmly, R.A.M.C.; Private William Smetham, M.T.A.S.C.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

Sergeant Columba McGoldrick, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, killed, was a member of the I.N.V., and was an assistant in the firm of O'Doherty, Ltd., Strabane. His father resides at Canal Street, Strabane, and is in the employment of the Great Northern Railway Company.

Strabane Chronicle
22nd September 1917

**STRABANE WORKERS ORGANISE
BIG MEETING AND INTERESTING SPEECHES**

A largely attended meeting under the auspices of the National amalgamated Union of Labour and Allied Trades Council was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Friday evening.

On the motion of Mr. Samuel McGuinness, Strabane, seconded by Mr. John Kelly, U.D.C., P.L.G., Strabane, Mr. John Gallagher, Meetinghouse Street, Strabane was moved to the chair.

MR GALLAGHER'S ADDRESS

The Chairman thanked his fellow-workers very sincerely for the honour that they had conferred on him in electing him to the chair, at that large and representative meeting of workers.

They were there that night to proclaim their adhesion to the principles of trade unionism (applause). It was necessary that every worker – whether male or female – should be a member of their union. He could not understand why men could remain trade unionism and yet, at the same time, hold out their hands for remuneration that society men had fought for and won. It was his opinion that no man with any principle would stand outside the ranks and look on while his fellow workers fought his battle. He appealed to those who had not yet become members to do so without delay.

Strabane Chronicle
29th September 1917

SOUVENIR FROM THE FRONT STRABANE SOLDIER'S PRECIOUS FIND

Private John Toorish has sent home from "somewhere in France" a very precious and valuable statue of the Blessed Virgin that he unearthed in the ruins of a church in France that was destroyed in the present war. He expressed the greatest possible surprise at the fact of this beautiful statue remaining safe and unscathed, although on the top of it lay tons of debris.

Private Toorish is the son of Mr. John Toorish, Nationalist Registration agent, Strabane. He is well-known and popular in his native town and district.

Strabane Chronicle
29th September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were :- Miss Clark, Bowling Green, Strabane, and Miss A. Quinn, Glentown.

There were seven patients discharged and six admitted, the latter being – Corporal George Harris, R.A.M.C., Private Robert McKenna, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Driver Edward Mordicai, A.S.C., Private John Quinton, A.S.C., Private Norman Barmly, R.A.M.C., Private William Smetham, M.T.A.S.C. Contributions were received from his Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mr. Aiken, Mrs. J. Herdman, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. Hamilton, Lady Cynthia Hamilton, Miss Lewis, Mrs. C.W. T. Tennent, Mrs. Greer, Mrs. Delap, Miss Ellis, Miss Gillespie, Mrs. Healy, Mrs. Boyle, and Mrs. Booth. Mr. and Mrs. Berry gave the staff and patients of the hospital a very enjoyable evening's entertainment.

Strabane Chronicle
29th September 1917

On Saturday week Mr. Michael McGoldrick, Strabane, father of Sergeant Columba McGoldrick, Irish Brigade, received intimation that his son had been killed in action. The family went into mourning and were deeply depressed at the sad tidings. A post card arrived from Sergeant McGoldrick to his parents on Saturday last stating that he was wounded and now a prisoner of war in Germany. Sergeant McGoldrick is a nephew of Mr. Patrick McGoldrick, Forthill, Enniskillen.

Strabane Chronicle
29th September 1917

NOTES

Major General the Hon. Francis Richard Bingham, C.B., Director-General of Munition Design, late Deputy Director of Artillery, is made a Commander of the Ordre de la Couronne. He is a son of the fourth Earl of Lucan and brother of the Duchess of Abercorn.

The following Strabane casualties are reported:- Missing-Private John Pinkerton, Town Parks. Wounded-Lance Corporal J. Hughes, and Private John Hughes. All three are in the Inniskillings.

Strabane Chronicle
29th September 1917

SINN FEIN CLUBS STRABANE

The weekly meeting of the "Roger Casement" Sinn Fein Club, Strabane, was held in the Rooms, Barrack Street, Strabane, on Sunday evening, when there was a large attendance. The President, Mr. Dan Doherty, occupied the chair. The President reminded the members that a concert and meeting would take place in Newtown Stewart on Sunday next, at which Mr. Herbert Pim and others would speak. As the Newtown Stewart club had always patronized any function of theirs he hoped all of them who attended would do so. Some matters of importance having been dealt with, a short concert followed, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of "The Soldier's Song".

CLADY

The Hall, Clady, was filled to overflowing on Friday evening, at eight o'clock, on the occasion of the weekly meeting of the "William Pearse" Sinn Fein Club, Urney. The Vice President, Mr. Patrick Lennon, P.L.G., R.D.C., occupied the chair. The Secretary, Mrs. Molly O'Flaherty, was also in attendance. Several new members were enrolled. The weekly contributions were taken up, amounting to a large sum. In point of membership the branch is in a strong position. Mr. Michael Geehan, Strabane, who was present, addressed the meeting, and gave a lucid explanation of the Sinn Fein policy.

Mr. Lennon said that there was an invitation from the Laghtmorris Club to attend a concert and dance on Friday evening, the 28th inst., and suggested that as many as possible should go.

The meeting having concluded, a programme of Irish dances was gone through. An Irish dancing class has been formed in connection with the club.

Strabane Weekly News
29th September 1917

STRABANE SERGEANT'S FATE

The news has been received in Strabane by the parents of Sergeant Columba M'Goldrick who was officially reported as killed by the War Office, that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. His mother has received a postcard from him stating that he has been wounded.

Strabane Weekly News
29th September 1917

BALLINDRAIT SOLDIER PRISONER

The parents of Private Daniel M'Lucas who reside at Ballindrait have been informed that he has been wounded and is a prisoner of war in Germany. Private M'Lucas belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He was a member of the I.N.V. and was also a prominent member of Murlog Brass and Reed Band. He has another brother, Private Adam M'Lucas, serving with the colours.

Strabane Weekly News
29th September 1917

A BELGIAN DECORATION

Among the decorations conferred by the King of Belgium for distinguished service during the war is the Ordre de Leopold (Commandeur) awarded Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred Ernest Irvine, D.S.O., Durham Light Infantry, son of the late Mr. John Irvine, Coolkeeragh House (principal of the firm of Wm. Thompson & Co., Derry) and brother of Mrs Barnhill, Brickfields, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
29th September 1917

CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private John Pinkerton (Ulster Division) who reside at Townparks, Strabane have been informed that he has been missing since the last big advance in France. The relatives of Lance-Corporal J. Hughes, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division) have received information that he has been wounded in action. Private John Hughes, Strabane, Inniskillings (Ulster Division) has been wounded in action. His brother, Private James Hughes, was killed in the same advance. Another brother is serving with the Ulster Division.

Strabane Weekly News
29th September 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Clarke, Bowling Green and Miss. A. Quinn, Glentown. There were seven patients discharged during the week and six admitted, their names being- Corporal George Harris and Pte Norman Barmby, R.A.M.C.; Pte Robert McKenna, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers: Driver Edward Mordecai, Pte. John Quinton and Pte. Wm. Smetham, A.S.C.

Strabane Weekly News
6th October 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge were Miss Woods, Glentimon and Miss Russell, Main Street. Four patients discharged and four admitted – Lance Corporal David Eakin, RIF; Pte. Adam Brown, Royal Scots; Sergeant Christopher Doignan, Royal Irish Rifles; Rifleman James Suddaby, Royal Irish Rifles.

Strabane Weekly News
6th October 1917

IN MEMORY OF STRABANE OFFICER

Boy Scouts Presented with Colours.
On Saturday afternoon the 25th Belfast Troop of Boy Scouts were presented with colours in memory of the late Lieut. W. K. M. Britton, R.F.C., Strabane who was accidentally killed in the beginning of June last, and a Union Jack, the gift of Mrs. J.O. McCleery.

Strabane Weekly News

6th October 1917

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Pte. Fras. McNamee, Strabane has been wounded in action and is at present in a hospital at the base. He belongs to the Royal Irish Regiment and has been in the firing line for almost three years. He was wounded on another occasion early last year. He is well known in football and cricket circles and was prominently identified with the Strabane Star Dramatic Club.

Private F. Fricker, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane has been wounded

Strabane Weekly News

6th October 1917

TYRONE AND DONEGAL CASUALTIES

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Killed – Daley, 21100, Pte F., Castlederg: McGlynn, 30982, Pte. P., Claudy: McSorley, 23572, Pte. E., Newtownstewart: Walsh, 27792, Pte. R., Castlederg: Scott 24686, Pte. J.F., Letterkenny.

Died of wounds – Gallagher, 24853, Corporal J., Letterkenny.

Wounded – Boyle, 20525, Pte. J., Donegal: Gallagher, 27557, Pte. P., Ballyshannon: Long, 24178, Pte. G., Strabane: McGrath, 20271, Pte. J., Strabane: McLoughlin, 21116, Pte. P., Strabane: Cochrane, 3916, Pte. R., Newtownstewart: Crompton, 10841, Lce-Corpl. R., Castlederg: Tucker, 23569, Pte. F., Strabane: Kerr, 12330, Lance-Corporal. R., Castlederg.

Royal Irish Rifles.

Wounded – Hegarty, 40084, Pte. M., Donegal: Rainey, 284, Pte. R., Castlederg

Royal Irish Regiment.

Wounded – McNamee, 3416, Pte. F., Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News

6th October 1917

TYRONE DOCTOR'S CONSPICUOUS GALLANTRY MILITARY CROSS FOR CAPT. GATCHELL

The Military Cross has been awarded to Temporary captain J.H.C Gatchell, R.A.M.C., attached to the Royal Sussex Regiment, son of the Rev. J.H. Gatchell, D.D., rector of Donemana, County Tyrone.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in the Battle of Ypres on July 31st and August 1st and 2nd. This officer worked with great zeal under most difficult conditions, working for many hours in the open under heavy shell fire.

The other day Captain Daniel McKelvey, R.A.M.C., son of Mr. J.H. McKelvey, Dunbunraver, Gortin who recently won the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry on the battlefield was decorated with the distinction by the King.

Strabane Chronicle

6th October 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss McCarter, Mourne View, Strabane, and Miss Lizzie Stewart, Dergalt.

There were four admissions and four discharges during the week. Those admitted were:- Private Thomas Duckett, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Jacob Ruddy, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Thomas Gormley, Royal Irish Fusiliers, and Private John Harvey, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Contributions were received from his Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mr. Aiken, Edymore, Mrs. James Hill, Miss Watson, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Miss Lewis, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Mrs. Wm. Watson, Miss Thompson, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Healy and Miss Gillespie.

Strabane Chronicle

6th October 1917

STRABANE URBAN COUNCIL EMPLOYEES' WAGES INCREASED

The monthly meeting of the Strabane Urban District Council was held on Monday.

GAS WORKERS' WAGES

The adjourned application of a number of employees in the Gas Works for an increase in wages was again before the Council.

It was decided to grant them an increase of 3s per week each, bringing the stokers' wages up to 33s per week.

INCREASED IN PRICE

Owing to the recent increase in wages granted to workers in the gas department, the opinion was expressed that the price of gas would have to be increased. Mr Gallagher proposed that the price of gas be raised 5d per 1,000 cubic feet, also that the slot meters be reduced two cubic feet per penny.

Strabane Weekly News
13th October 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were – Miss McCarter, Mourne View, Strabane and Miss. Lizzie Stewart, Dergalt.

Those admitted were Private Thomas Duckett, R.A.M.C., Private Jacob Ruddy and Private John Harvey Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Thomas Gormley, Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
13th October 1917

STRABANE WOUNDED ENTERTAINED

The first party of the season for the entertainment of our wounded heroes in the Strabane Military Hospital was held on Thursday evening in the Abercorn Schools when the wounded soldiers, the staff at the institution, together with discharged soldiers from the town and district, as well as the Belgian refugees and those interested in the welfare of our wounded, attended in large numbers to participate in the function.

Strabane Weekly News
13th October 1917

FORMER OMAGH JOURNALIST KILLED

As briefly announced in the Second Edition of this newspaper on Saturday last, the sad news was received on Friday of the death in action of Rifleman James Parke, of the London Regiment, whose parents reside at Inniscleen, Castlederg and who was also a brother of Mr. R.A. Parke, editor of this paper and of C.Q.M.S. Thomas Parke, formerly of "Derry Journal" but now on active service in the Dublin Fusiliers.

Strabane Chronicle
13th October 1917

FIXING LABOURERS' WAGES

From inquiries addressed to the office of the Agricultural Wages Board it is apparent that the Agricultural Wages Board has fixed a minimum rate of wages for certain classes of agricultural workers throughout the country.

Strabane Chronicle
13th October 1917

There is no valid explanation of the shortage of all kinds of tea and there is reason to believe that supplies are being held up. The Government price for the regulation tea is fixed at 2s 4d a lb but as a representative of one tea supply company explained, there is nothing to prevent retailers mixing their stock and demanding any figure they like. No fixed price is put on blended teas, and, apparently no penalty attaches to dealers fixing their own prices.

Strabane Chronicle
13th October 1917

Irish branches and district executives of the N.U. Railwaymen are joining in the demand of the British branches for a new increase in wages of £1 a week, owing to the further increase in prices of food and fuel, an eight hour day, and 2 weeks annual leave, with pay.

Strabane Chronicle
13th October 1917

IRISH LABOURERS TREATMENT IN SCOTLAND

The question of the housing of Irish farm workers who go to Dundee district for the potatoe lifting was discussed at the last meeting of the local District Committee of Forfar County Council. The matter was raised by Dr. Sinclair the medical officer who said the conditions in which these people were in the habit of living were absolutely disgraceful. He wished to get more definite powers to deal with the matter. Dr Sinclair said he wanted to have power so that premises to be occupied would be inspected before they were occupied.

It was finally agreed that the medical officer and a couple of members of the Committee should consider the matter.

Strabane Chronicle
13th October 1917

IRISH WAR PRISONERS

We strongly protest against the Irish war prisoners being treated as other than war prisoners and trust that the reforms that have been announced will be put into operation as speedily and completely as possible. We cannot understand why there should have been so much shilly shallying following the announcement that they would be no longer treated as criminals. The concessions have been won at a great cost to the Irish nation – the death of Thomas Ashe, one of the most brilliant and heroic sons – and it is the duty of the Irish nation to see that the prisoners get nothing less than what has been fought for and to which they would be entitled under any civilized government in the world. A rumour of a very disturbing character has been circulated during the past week to the effect that the prisoners are to be moved to England. That rumour has been circulated by the Government organ, the Freeman's Journal, and considering how reliable are the "Freeman's" secret sources of information, there is every possibility that the transfers will be effected – if not now, in the near future. Those who uphold English rule in Ireland frequently make the statement that there is equality of treatment between England and Ireland, but in a case of this sort it is plain to be seen that who is the "Predominant Partner" and who the Cinderella. Englishmen are never transferred to Irish prisons for any offence whatsoever, but Irish political prisoners are reminded that it is their country that rules and it is England that has the power to rule. To us England is a foreign country and we protest against the idea of conveying Irish men there for the purpose of punishing them. The least that can be expected, even from the mere diplomatic point of view of our governors, is the maintenance of a semblance of proper government in Ireland.

Strabane Chronicle
20th October 1917

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

Mrs. Stewart Harpur presided at the monthly meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee on Thursday evening.

A vote of condolence was passed in silence, all the members standing with the relatives of the late Mr. S.R. Smyth, Strathfoyle, Strabane, who was a Vice President of the Committee.

Miss McCrea, Despatch Committee, reported that 67 mufflers and 33 pairs of socks had been despatched to the Central Comforts' Fund, Omagh, for distribution amongst the men of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Mrs. Feely, Rest club Committee, reported that 20 men had passed through the Club since the last meeting.

The Committee voted the sum of £5 for the Prisoners of War Fund to assist in the purchase of parcels for then prisoners of war from the district. The names of Messrs. McGoldrick and McDaid were added to the list.

Mrs. Wm. King presented the monthly hospital accounts, which were considered satisfactory, and passed for payment.

Strabane Chronicle
20th October 1917

WANTED IMMEDIATELY 800 LABOURERS FOR WORK AT LIVERPOOL WAGES, NINEPENCE PER HOUR

Free Tickets to Liverpool by applying to any Labour Exchange, or to Trollope & Colls Hag Farm, Aintee, Liverpool.

Strabane Chronicle
20th October 1917

ORGANISING LABOUR STRABANE

A large and representative meeting of delegates, agricultural workers and members of the National amalgamated Union of Labour was held in Strabane on Saturday last. The delegates present represented upwards of 3,500 agricultural workers in the counties of Tyrone, Derry and Donegal. It was proposed "That a claim for a higher flat rate minimum wage be forwarded and also calling for a proper proportion of labour representatives on the Wages Boards in order that the interests of the agricultural workers may be, in some measure, looked after by men who understand their circumstances"

Strabane Weekly News
20th October 1917

WAR RELIEF MEETING

A largely attended meeting in connection with the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Mrs Stewart Harpur (The Hill), presided.

The committee voted a sum of £5 for the Prisoners of War Fund. Two additional prisoners from the District named McGoldrick and McDaid have been added to the list.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

STRABANE AND THE RED CROSS

A preliminary meeting was held in Strabane on Tuesday evening, which was convened by Captain J.C. Herdman, chairman of the Strabane Board of Guardians, and col. J.R. Baillie, to make arrangements for the Red Cross. Mr. E.T. Herdman, J.P., D.L., (Sion Mills), presided, and amongst those present were – Captain Herdman, Col. Baillie, Edward Gallagher, D.L., James Stewart, J.P., Wm. Rankin, J.P., J.F.A. Simms (solicitor), John S. Weir, J.P., David Craig, D.C., Joseph Farrell, D.C., Archibald Moore, and C. Entrican. The object of the meeting was explained, and it was expressed that Co. Tyrone should do its part in response to the friendly challenge given by the South and West of Ireland.

A suggestion was made and adopted that the district councilors of each of the electoral divisions should make a canvass of their districts for the purpose of making a canvass for farm produce such as corn and potatoes, the produce to be converted into money and the entire amount to be handed to the Red Cross Funds, and Colonel Baillie received instructions to enter into communications with the proper parties with a view to getting the matter into working order. A Sion Mills gentleman at the meeting, well known for his generous assistance in this matter and other matters generally, announced his intention of contributing £199. This lead was followed by others present with handsome donations.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss F. Keatly, Bowling Green, Strabane, and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square, Strabane.

There were eight patients discharged during the week, and eight admitted, the latter being Rifleman James Green, Royal Irish Rifles, Sapper John McGill, Royal Engineers, Private Hugh Whiteside, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Joseph Alderman, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private James Diver, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Harry Davis, A.S.C., Lance Corporal Daniel Rogan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and Driver John Kelly, A.S.C.

Contributions were received from his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. Aiken, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Healy, Mrs. Boyle, and Miss Gillespie.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

The Royal Red Cross (2nd Class) has been awarded to Miss Ruby Gregory Magee, matron, St John's V.A.D. Hospital, Strabane for services in connection with the war.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

By the death on the battlefield of Sir Barton Robert Williams, Captain Frederick L. Williams of Mourneleigh, Newtown Stewart (Tyrone), comes into the title and estate. Captain Williams, now Sir Frederick J. Williams, Bart., has resided at Newtown Stewart for the past 17 years. He has been doing duty in the Records Office in Dublin.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

NOTES

A largely attended meeting of the Donemana Labourers' and Scuthers' Union was held under the chairmanship of Mr Thomas McGonagle. Fifteen new members were enrolled which leaves the district without a scutcher not being a member of the Union, and few labourers. The Chairman explained as to the necessity of every member holding fast to the Union, as working people can only receive decent wages by

being members of same. Reports were received from the scutchers present which were considered satisfactory, all the mill-owners having agreed to pay the fixed wages laid down by the Union.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

A large and representative meeting of agricultural labourers, under the auspices of the National Amalgamated Union of Labour was held at Strabane on Saturday.

A resolution was passed protesting emphatically against the proposals of the Irish Agricultural Wages Board in their attempt to fix three different minimum rates in the district, whereas at present their union had an established minimum rate of 25s, and demanding a higher flat minimum rate than the existing one, and protesting in the strongest possible manner against the composition of the Wages Board, as labour was not proportionally represented.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

LABOURERS WAGES IN TYRONE
FARMERS APPROVAL OF NEW SCHEME
ENCOURAGEMENT FOR EFFICIENCY ESSENTIAL

Mr H. de F. Montgomery, D.L. (chairman) presided at a meeting in Omagh of the County Tyrone Agricultural Committee on Monday afternoon.

The Chairman, in authorising that he had authorised that meeting to be specially summoned to consider the new Act of Parliament and Order fixing a minimum rate of wages for agricultural labourers in the county, mentioned that at their last special meeting they had asked that the price of beef be increased by 10s per cwt. To March, and had got it increased by 7s to July, so they had done fairly well. He mentioned under the new Order fixing a minimum wage, Tyrone was placed in group two.

Strabane Chronicle
27th October 1917

TYRONE NATIONAL TEACHERS
CLAIMS OF THE PROFESSION
NEW AGITATION METHODS
TRADES UNIONISM ADVOCATED

The usual quarterly meeting of the Tyrone Central Teachers' Association was held in Omagh on Saturday, Mr. J. Hutton, B.A. (chairman), presiding. There was a large attendance of teachers present.

CONGRESS MEETING

The three delegates at the special Congress meeting in Dublin-Messrs. H. McElhill, Slevin, and P. McDonald, B.A., submitted a report of the proceedings. Disappointment was expressed at the fact that so little was given to the delegates, but they believed that Congress had done good work, inasmuch as it had aroused the attention of the Press and people in Ireland to their claims.

Strabane Weekly News
27th October 1917

STRANORLAR MAN TWICE WOUNDED

Private Joseph Taylor, Liskerran, Stranorlar has been wounded in action. Pte. Taylor belongs to the Australian Imperial Force and this is the second occasion he has been wounded. He had a marvellous escape on the last occasion he was wounded, being working near a big gun with a number of his companions when a German shell burst overhead and killed the entire company, except himself. Private Taylor before enlistment was in the employment of Messrs. Andrew Magee & Co, Drapers, Ballybofey.

Strabane Weekly News
27th October 1917

STRABANE NURSE DECORATED

A supplement to the "London Gazette" of last night contains the names of ladies of the Nursing Services to whom the King has been pleased to award the Royal Red Cross Decoration in recognition of their valuable services in connection with the war. Among those to receive the award is Miss Ruby Magee, matron of St John's V.A.D. Hospital, Strabane, a sister of Mr. R.S. Magee, solicitor, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News

27th October 1917

DONEMANA AND RED CROSS

Elaborate arrangements have been made this year by the patriotic and loyal inhabitants of Donemana and district for the realisation of funds for the Red Cross. The canvas was arranged in a most up-to-date fashion by Mrs Hamilton, of Glencush House, Donemana, wife of Dr. W.F. Hamilton and she was assisted by a large number of popular ladies in the immediate vicinity.

Strabane Weekly News

27th October 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Frances Keatly, Bowling Green, and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square. Eight patients admitted – Rifleman Jas. Greer, Royal Irish Rifles; Sapper John Gill, Royal Engineers; Pte. Hugh Whiteside, Pte. Joseph Alderman and Pte. James Divers, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; Pte. Harry Davis, A.S.C., Lance-Corporal Daniel Rogan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; and Driver John Kelly, A.S.C.

Strabane Weekly News

27th October 1917

MILITARY MEDAL FOR DONEMANA

Satisfaction will be expressed in Donemana and the surrounding district at the news that Private John F. McNamee, son of Mr. Robert McNamee, Clerk of Donemana Petty Sessions, has recently been awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field. Private McNamee received this decoration for remaining at his post after being wounded for a period of four hours whilst the Germans were making a counter-attack. He is now in hospital in England and is recovering. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division). He volunteered in August 1914 and came through all the important engagements in which the Division was engaged.

Strabane Chronicle

10th November 1917

PRICE OF COKE IN STRABANE COUNCILLORS SURCHARGED

At the monthly meeting of the Strabane Urban District Council on Monday, the Local Government Board wrote enclosing the auditor's report on his recent audit of the Council's accounts. The sum of £14 10s 6d was surcharged against four Urban Councillors by whose action the coke was sold below its actual value. The gas manager had on several occasions requested the price of coke to be increased, but without success. The matter had been repeatedly before the Council, and ultimately a motion to increase the price was defeated by the action of the members in question.

It was decided to ask the Local Government Board to remit the surcharge.

Strabane Chronicle

10th November 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss White, Bowling Green, Strabane, and Miss McAnaw, Main Street, Strabane.

There were five patients discharged during the week, and five admitted.

Contributions were received from His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. W. Wilson, Mrs. P. Ellis, Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Delap, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. McCarter, Miss Keatly, Mrs. W. King, Miss McAnaw, Miss Boyd, Mrs. McGowan, Mrs. Hamilton, Miss Russell, Miss Feely, Mrs. J. Stewart, Mrs. Healy, Mrs. Boyle, Miss Gillespie, and the Editor of "Bibby's Annual".

Strabane Weekly News

10th November 1917

A very enjoyable time was spent in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday 8th inst. on the occasion of the usual fortnightly party to the wounded soldiers and staff at the Military Hospital. The discharged soldiers from the district, the Belgian refugees, as well as a large number of those interested in the hospital and its work, were also present. The tables were beautifully decorated with chrysanthemums and plants. An excellent tea was served during which time Miss Connolly's band rendered several selections. After the tables were cleared, games were taken up, then followed musical items.

Strabane Chronicle

17th November 1917

THE WAR CONTINUES

Reports of considerable successes on the part of the allies on the Western Front continue to be received. The casualty lists are also very heavy.

The Germans are apparently devoting the greater part of their attention to other theatres and are satisfied with a defensive attitude for the time being in the west. The first nation to declare war, Russia, has been the first to back out.

Italy is in a sorry state. A big proportion of the German army has been thrown against her, with the result that the richest part of the Nation – the Venetian plains – have fallen into the hands of the Central Powers, and even the historic city of Venice is threatened.

The capture of prisoners amounts to a quarter of a million.

Strabane Chronicle

17th November 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Chapman, Carricklee Strabane, and Miss Quinn, Fyfin.

There were three patients discharged during the week, and two admitted.

Contributions were received from His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. W. Wilson, Mr. James Aiken, Mr. J.W. Russell, Miss Joyce, Mrs. Healy, Mrs. Boyle and Miss Gillespie.

Strabane Chronicle

17th November 1917

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A largely attended meeting in connection with the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Mrs. J. Black (Derry Road) presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the hon. Secretary Mrs. J.C. Herdman and signed.

Letters of apology were read from Mrs. Toner, Mrs. J. Elliott, Mrs. Feely, Miss Joyce, Miss Maude Herdman, and Mrs. McElhinney.

Mrs. J.C. Herdman gave notice that at the next meeting she would move that a vice president be appointed in room of the late Mrs. Smyth, Strathfoyle.

A letter was read from Miss Smyth, Strathfoyle, thanking the meeting for their vote of condolence passed in connection with her bereavement.

Mrs. McCrea reported that 15 pairs of socks were sent to the Strabane Military Hospital, and that there were 28 mufflers now ready for the rest Club, and also that khaki mufflers were also ready for dispatching to Omagh for the Inniskilling Fusiliers.

The meeting also decided to perform some knitting for the Red Cross Society, the Society to supply the necessary wool for the purpose. These garments when completed to be sent to the various war fronts when completed by the Red Cross Society.

Mrs. Lavery, on behalf of the rest Club, reported that 12 soldiers and one sailor had taken advantage of the hospitality afforded them since the last meeting. She also reported that she had received two parcels of clothing, one from Miss Maude Herdman, and the other from Mrs. Clarke (the Manse) for the use of torpedoed crews.

Mrs. E.C. Herdman read the results of the house to house collection taken up in connection with the Red Cross, which was considered highly satisfactory.

These amounts appear in our advertising column.

A letter was read from Colonel Stewart, acknowledging the receipt of the sum of £5, which was voted by the Committee at the previous meeting for the Strabane prisoners of war fund in connection with prisoners interned in Germany. In his letter he stated that these men would receive a special Christmas parcel, together with an extra supply of smokes.

The usual monthly accounts in connection with the Military Hospital were presented by Mrs. William King, and passed for payment.

Strabane Chronicle

17th November 1917

STRABANE AND THE RED CROSS

At a recent meeting held in the Town Hall, Strabane, Mr. E.T. Herdman, in the chair, it was decided to make a fresh appeal for funds for the Red Cross and St. John's Ambulance collection in the Strabane No. 1 Rural and Urban Districts.

Arrangements were made with Messrs. Weir & Co., Ltd., Railway Street, Strabane, to accept delivery of all contributions of farm produce and other contributions for sale, such should be sent to Mr. J.B. Baillie, hon. Secretary, Strabane. The hope was expressed that the district would raise at least £1,000.

Saturday last was "Our day" in Strabane and house-to-house collections in aid of the Red Cross were made. Several young ladies from the town and district assisted in the work, and in the town the sum of £18-3-3d was realized. The house-to-house in Sion and Lifford realized the sum of £5-10-1d and £8-7s respectively. On Monday, the half-yearly hiring fair in Strabane, the collectors were again busy for the same purpose and £29-8-1d was obtained. The "Flag Days" collection, organized by Mrs. E.C. Herdman amounted to £110-8s-5d. The total amount subscribed up to date is £178-7s-5d.

Strabane Chronicle **17th November 1917**

COUNTY HOSPITAL MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Committee of management of the Tyrone County Hospital was held under the chairmanship of E. Herdman, D.L.

The other members present being Rev. McGrorty, P.P., Rev. A. McQuade, Rev. J. O'Kane, P.P., Colonel Alexander, Messrs. P.J. McMenamin, J.J. George Murnaghan, J.P., James Lyons and A. Donnelly. Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Right Rev. Monsignor O'Doherty, P.P. and Rev. H. Morrow.

Dr. E. Thompson (House Surgeon) and T. McAdams (House Registrar) were also in attendance.

The Registrar intimated that the wounded soldiers had been allowed $\frac{1}{2}$ sugar per day by the Government and they had very generously agreed to divide the allowance with the other patients in the institution.

Colonel Alexander said that $\frac{1}{2}$ sugar per day was a very large allowance. Sometimes he could not even get an ounce per day.

Dr. Thompson mentioned that Dr. Shillington of Dungannon had very generously left the sum of £100 in his will to the hospital, and this was to be known as the 'Shillington Trust'.

Dr. Thompson continued to suggest that the claims of the hospital should be urged on persons by solicitors when making their wills.

Dr. Thompson said that the hint could also be given to Tyrone people in America.

Strabane Weekly News **24th November 1917**

The usual fortnightly party which is given by the ladies of the Women's War Relief Committee in turn to the soldiers, in connection with the military hospital, with the staff, was held in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday evening, the 22nd inst., the hostesses on this occasion being Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. J. Elliott, Mrs. Coxall, Mrs. Harpur and Miss Black. The attendance included the Belgian refugees, the discharged soldiers from the district, and those home on leave. A sumptuous tea was served. The tea tables were tastefully decorated with flowers and Miss Connolly's band rendered several selections of music during tea. After tea games were taken up to the enjoyment of all, and afterwards dancing was indulged in, those not participating being entertained to games of cards.

Strabane Chronicle **24th November 1917**

NOTES

Private John F. McNamee, Tyrone Volunteer and son of Mr Robert M'Namee, C.P.S., Donemana has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery.

Strabane Chronicle **24th November 1917**

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss A. Quinn, Glentown and Miss Hadfield, Sion Mills.

There were eight patients discharged and seven admitted.

Contributions were received from His Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Miss Clarke, Miss McAnaw, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mr. James Aiken, Mr. C.W. T. Tennant, Miss Lewis, Mrs. Healy, Mrs. Boyle and Miss Gillespie.

Strabane Chronicle **24th November 1917**

STRABANE IRISH VOLUNTEERS **1785 REVIEW RECALLED**

On Saturday, 23rd July 1785, General Earl Charlemont reviewed the Strabane, Lifford, Raphoe and other Donegal and Tyrone Corps of the Irish Volunteers in the Bowling Green, Strabane, numbering twelve hundred men. The account of the review states that the Volunteers acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of his Excellency, as well as a large concourse of spectators. On the occasion General Earl Charlemont presented the Strabane Battalion with a flag, which is at present (in the year 1917) preserved by a Dundalk lady as a treasure of inestimable value.

Strabane Chronicle
1st December 1917

NOTES

Mr Lloyd George's statement that drastic food restrictions are to be imposed "upon the people of the British Isles" is taken by the "Daily News" to indicate that Ireland is to be included in the scheme. This paper foresees difficulties in rationing Ireland and says: "Imagine Dublin Castle in the present state of the country rationing Home Rulers, not to speak of Sinn Fein."

Strabane Chronicle
1st December 1917

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Ellis, Lifford Street, Strabane and Miss Sayers, Castletown. There were six clients discharged during the week and six admitted

Strabane Chronicle
1st December 1917

HAVE YOU HELPED YOUR COUNTRY?

**Thousands of our bravest and best are willing to GIVE their lives for Britain. Is it too much to ask you to LEND your money to help them in their fight for freedom?
YOU CAN BUY WAR BONDS.**

Strabane Chronicle
1st December 1917

NOTES

Mr Arthur Donnelly, Castlefin, Co. Donegal has received the sad intelligence that his son Lance-Corporal C. Donnelly, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has just died as the result of wounds received in action.

Strabane Chronicle
8th December 1917

IRISH DOCTORS OF MILITARY AGE

The "Irish Supplement to the Medical Press." is an article on "Administrative Conscription in Ireland," says – "If we are to be conscripted let us be conscripted but let us share and share alike with our fellow Irishman. As a nation we are notoriously well able to look after ourselves. But if individual distinctions are brought in against us by the Czarish ideas of the bureaucrats, we will as Irish medical men giving a right and renewed? Judgement on a question that concerns our utmost interests. Let the mandarins of the L.G. Board know with whom they have to deal. The L.G. Board have lighted a fire that shall not easily be put out."

Strabane Chronicle
8th December 1917

IRELAND'S COAL SUPPLY

In the House of Commons Mr Lynch (for Mr Byrne) asked the Chief Secretary if he would state what steps if any had been taken to procure a supply of coal for the Irish people; and if he was aware that the poor had to pay 3s 2d per bag for coal in Dublin, and even at that price found difficulty in obtaining supplies. Mr Wardle- I am not aware of any difficulty in regard to the supply of coal to Ireland; but I shall be glad if the Hon. Member will forward to the Controller of Coal Mines any complaints which he has received. A communication will shortly be addressed by the Controller of Coal Mines to local authorities in Ireland with regard to the limitation of retail coal prices.

Strabane Chronicle
8th December 1917

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

400 Labourers

For work at various factories in England
Waged range from 9d to 10d per hour
Free tickets to whatever Destination they are required for by applying to the nearest Labour Exchange or
Trollope & Colls,
New Factory, Aintree, Liverpool

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

100 Bricklayers
For work at various factories in England
Wages from **1s 1d** to **1s 2d** per hour
Free tickets to whatever Destination they are required for by applying to the nearest Labour Exchange or
Trollope & Colls,
New Factory, Aintree, Liverpool

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

50 carpenters
For work at various factories in England
Wages **1s 2d** per hour
Total Hours over 70 per week
Free Tickets to whatever Destination they are required for by applying to the nearest Labour Exchange or
Trollope & Colls,
New Factory, Aintree, Liverpool

Strabane Weekly News

8th December 1917

Nurses from Strabane Military Hospital, Miss Ellis and Miss Sayers, Miss Connolly and Mrs. Boyd entertained patients and staff to a music concert on Wednesday. Other people who took part in the musical programme were Miss Cochrane, Miss Madeline Boyd, Miss Mona Russell Mr. Jim Gallagher, Private George Bell and Private Frank McDonald. Contributions were received from His Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton (Baronscourt), Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. Jas. Hill, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Sayers, Miss Wagentreiber, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Healy, Mrs. Boyle and Miss Gillespie.

Strabane Weekly News

15th December 1917

The usual fortnightly party in connection with the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held on Tuesday evening in the Abercorn schools, Strabane, and was largely attended. A sumptuous tea was served during which time Miss Connolly's band rendered choice selections of music. The hostesses of the evening were Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. McElhinney, Mrs. Charles Browne, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Lavery, and Mrs. John Devine. After tea, games were indulged in and a musical performance was being contributed, those taking part were:- Duet by Mr. & Mrs. McGuinness, song Master Louis McGuinness, song, Miss Delaker. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. O'Brien And Miss Maggie Russell. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem concluded the function.

Strabane Weekly News

15th December 1917

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening at which Miss Hepburn (Bridge Street) presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the honorary secretary Mr. J.C. Herdman and passed. Several new members were proposed for election on the committee. Miss McCrea reported that she had a substantial parcel for dispatching to the depot at Omagh and would forward same immediately. Mrs. Herdman read a lengthy report from the Central Comforts Fund giving the total number of articles sent to the various battalions of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. These included shirts, socks, mittens, cigarettes, tobacco and other comforts.

Strabane Chronicle

22nd December 1917

STRABANE LADIES' WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT

The monthly meeting of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Miss Hepburn in the chair.

ADOPTED

The hon. Secretary, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were adopted.

SYMPATHY

A vote of sympathy was passed in silence with Mrs. T.B. Feely, Strabane, on the death of her eldest daughter, Miss May Feely.

A VICE PRESIDENCY

In accordance with notice of motion, Mrs. Toner proposed that Miss McCrea, Derry Road, Strabane, be elected a vice-president in room of the late Mrs. Smyth, Strathfoyle. In doing so, she referred to Miss McCrea 's work in connection with all matters relating to the war and especially her valuable service to the Buying and Dispatch Committee since the formation of the War Relief Committee. She hoped that Miss McCrea would be long spared to continue to render to them her most valuable services.

The Chairman declared Miss McCrea elected.

The new Vice President returned thanks for the honour conferred on her, and said it always gave her great pleasure to assist in any way she could.

THE REST CLUB

Mrs. Lavery stated during the past month fifty men had passed through the Rest Club, and they stated that they found it most useful whilst travelling in the cold weather.

Strabane Weekly News

29th December 1917

The Abercorn Schools, Strabane, were packed to capacity on Thursday evening when the V.A.D. nurses attached to the military hospital gave an interesting entertainment to the wounded soldiers and staff of the institution. Her grace and the Duchess of Abercorn, with ladies Mary and Cynthia Hamilton were present and took a lively interest in the proceedings. The school was beautifully decorated with plants and flowers, the work being executed by the nurses. Whilst refreshments were being partaken of Miss Connolly's splendid band rendered choice selections of music. The programme was varied and interesting and consisted of:- Miss Hadfield, song; Mrs. Boyd, (Lifford), song; Mr. Jim Gallagher, song; Mrs. McGuinness, song; Miss Colhoun; duet Mrs. Boyd and Miss Herdman; sketches were given with much acceptance by Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. Cochrane, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Hamilton (Baronscourt) and M.E. Herdman, Sergeant Gallagher gave an interesting display of physical exercise and bayonet drill, accompanied with music. Afterwards dancing was taken up and highly enjoyed.

Strabane Chronicle

29th December 1917

NO CONSCRIPTION IN AUSTRALIA THE REFERENDUM

Up till yesterday the Australian Conscription Referendum showed the following figures:-

Against Conscription	1,050,000
For Conscription	<u>870,000</u>
Majority Against	180,000

The foregoing includes the first returns from the overseas forces, showing 17,000 for and 23,000 against. The electors on rolls number 2,733,000, and so far, 1,920,000 votes have been counted.

1918

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

**CLADY LABOUR MOVEMENT
ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING**

A very large and successful meeting under the auspices of the Urney Branch of the National Amalgamated Union of labour, was held in the Hall, Clady on Wednesday evening, to re-organise the labour movement in the district.

On the motion of Mr. Edward M'Cutcheon, seconded by Mr Patrick Carlin, Mr Patrick Lennon, R.D.C., was moved to the chair amidst acclamation. He briefly addressed the meeting.

Mr Albert Lockett, Official Delegate, Belfast, delivered a lengthy and interesting speech. Speaking of the Wages Boards set up in Ireland, and the fixing of a minimum wage for agricultural labourers, he said that minimum rates were all right, but the workers where organised dared the Boards to say what the maximum would be - that was reserved to the workers in all places (Applause).

Mr John Love, Derry said that as far as the Wages Boards were concerned, they would never have been set up in Ireland only for the fact that the Government knew that the farm labourers were becoming organised (Applause).

Mr Francis Friel, Derry, appealed to the labourers of Urney not to lag behind in the struggle. Their interests and that of their families were at stake.

Mr Michael M'Naught, Derry asked the labourers to beware of these farmers organisations that were being formed in every district, which the farmers stated were for the purpose of seeing that they get a fixed price for the product of their land.

Mr John Gallagher, Meetinghouse Street, Strabane said they were establishing a Trades Union Council in Strabane and he asked that two delegates from the Urney branch be appointed to it.

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

Sergeant James Devlin, of the Royal Irish Constabulary, Strabane has been notified that his son Corporal Sapper Peter Devlin, Royal Engineers, attached to the Guards Division, has been awarded the Military Medal.

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

NATIONAL TEACHERS' CLAIMS

The claims of the Irish National Teachers were approved by the Central Council of the catholic Managers' Association at a meeting in Dublin on Wednesday, the withdrawal of the White paper (Duke scheme) being advocated, together with the setting up of a Committee similar to the Craik Committee in Scotland

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

**IRELAND'S FOOD SUPPLIES
DANGER OF SHORTAGE. SITUATION IN NORTHERN TOWNS
"ALLIES' LARDER NEAR EMPTY"**

The continued export of foodstuffs out of Ireland is giving rise to fears of a shortage in this country unless steps are taken to lessen the export trade.

Lord Rhondda has sent the following cablegram to Mr. Hoover, the American Food Controller:- "All good wishes for Christmas. The Allied larder is dangerously near empty but we are carrying on in the resolute belief that we can rely upon the American people and yourself to prevent our food supplies from becoming so diminished as to imperil the issues for which we are all fighting."

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

BUTTER CRISIS

The gravity of the butter shortage is now such, and the unfair influences operating against the Irish merchant and consumer so much complained of, that it is not unlikely that butter factors in Dublin may refuse to handle the article until fair conditions have been obtained from the Food Controller. The predictions of an impending butter shortage in Ireland which has been rife during the last two months seem to have "come true" in Belfast sooner than elsewhere. Since before Christmas the difficulty of obtaining regular supplies of butter has been manifest to retailers and householders in the city but the situation has now reached the gravity of a crisis.

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

STRABANE URBAN COUNCIL STATE OF THE GAS WORKS COAL SUPPLY

It is reported that by the Acting Gas Manager that their coal supply was becoming exhausted and they could not get in any at present. Mr Perry moved that the Council write the Coal Controller and see if he would place a boat at their disposal. There was a danger of the town being in darkness shortly if the coal did not arrive. Mr Gallagher said it was going to be a serious matter. The motion was passed unanimously.

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

STRABANE NO.1 RURAL COUNCIL THE RATES INCREASED

The Clerk submitted his estimate for the coming year, which showed an increase of £405, due to the fact that the credit balance with which the year was started had dropped from £200 to £80. Other large items of expenditure were £160 bill of costs Messers. Wilson & Simms, for defending malicious injury claims and £120 for repairs to the labourers' cottages. The increase was 11/2 d in the £. The estimate was adopted.

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

ALLEGED PROFITEERING CASTLEDERG MERCHANTS FINED

At Castlederg Petty Sessions on Saturday before Captain Gosselin, R.M. and other magistrates ... for failing to display price lists of meat for sale in the stalls in the street. D.I. Taggart said the defendants had stalls on the street of Castlederg during the Christmas week, and had a quantity of meat exposed for sale, but no price list was exhibited. Sergeant Carr stated that on the 22nd December these two men had stall in Castlederg street and were selling beef by retail and had no price list as required by the Food Controller's Order. The order was issued in August last

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

STRABANE WAR PENSIONS' COMMITTEE THE LATE MRS. MALONE

The monthly meeting of the Strabane War Pensions' Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Monday evening. Mr. J.A. Simms, solicitor, presiding. There were also present – Mrs. Ricardo, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. Leahy, and Mr. T.VB. Feely. On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mrs. Herdman, the following resolution was passed in silence:- "that we, the members of the Strabane War Pensions' Committee, beg respectfully to offer to our colleague, Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane, our sincere sympathy in his recent sad bereavement occasioned by the death of his wife, and that we request our secretary to convey to Mr. Malone the terms of this resolution".

Strabane Chronicle

5th January 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Clark and Miss Keane.

There were ten men discharged during the week and the same number admitted.

On Christmas Evening, Mrs. Herdman (Camus) entertained the men to supper and games. The entertainment was immensely enjoyed. Songs were rendered by Captain J.C. Herdman, Miss Sylvia Boyd, and Miss Mona Russell, the accompaniments being played in masterly fashion by Miss Maggie Russell. During the week contributions were received from His Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Snodgrass, Miss E. Perry, Miss Boyd, Miss Ellis, Miss Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. William Wilson, Mrs. Hamilton, Miss. Clarke, Miss M. Adams, Mrs. J.W. Russell, Mrs. William King, Miss Chapman, Mrs. Boyd, Mr. James Aiken, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Healy, and Miss Gillespie.

Strabane Chronicle

5th January 1918

STRABANE AND NORTH TYRONE

9TH BATT. ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS' COMFORTS & PRISONERS' FUNDS

A sale of work and Provisions will be held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on February 5th, from 2 to 9p.m. in aid of the above.

There will be a Country Produce Stall, a Pound Stall, a Utility Stall, a Millinery and Slipper Stall, and a Fancy Stall.

Contributions or subscriptions to all these especially to the Country Produce and Pound Stalls, are earnestly asked for, from all who are interested in our Co. Battalion, which has covered itself with glory on many occasions during the past two years, and of which we are justly proud.

Contributions to the Country Produce Stall will be collected in the different districts or will be gratefully received by the lady representing each district. Contributions to the Pound Stall will be received by Mrs. King and Miss Hepburn, Strabane. To the Millinery and Slipper Stall, by Mrs. F.M. Hamilton, Baronscourt, and Miss G. Herdman, Sion Mills, To the Stall for Useful Articles, by Miss Maud Herdman, Sion Mills. To the Fancy Stall, by Mrs. Herdman, Carricklee, and Mrs. Baillie, The Red House, Strabane.

Secretary – Miss Maud Herdman

Treasurer – Mrs. Ricardo

Strabane Chronicle

5th January 1918

THE WAR

The Peace Proposals adumbrated by the Central Powers have not found anything like the unanimous appreciation among the Entente Powers, but that, behind all the references to the "Peace Trap", there is a big body of opinion favourable to the opening of negotiations with a view to the termination of the war is certain.

In England, at all events, there is a longing for peace among all, but the privileged classes and the profiteers, for the submarine campaign, not to mention other aspects of the war situation, have affected the cost of living, and even the procuring of the bare necessities of life, to such an extent that the people are tired of the struggle. It is recognised now, in the words of Lord Lansdowne, that the early objects of the Allies cannot be attained to the full extent, and that an early cessation of hostilities are most desirable. England, from being the world's mistress in finance and trade and on the seas, is now dependent for the carrying on of the war on America, and it does not appear that America's aims are completely in accord with England's, for President Wilson has stated that one of the reasons for the entry of the States into the war was to obtain the freedom of the Seas, whereas England holds that she has been divinely ordained to rule the seas. In England the Labour Party are pressing for a declaration of the Entente war policy, and a general expression of opinion from Mr. Lloyd George has been received very coldly. The discourteous manner in which the Entente Powers have treated His Holiness, the Pope, with regards to his efforts for peace have produced considerable dissatisfaction, even among those who acknowledge no allegiance to the Holy See, and now at the eleventh hour, it will not be surprising if a declaration of war aims is forthcoming in a short time. All opposed to the Central Powers, who have treated the Pope with the utmost respect, realise now that it is impossible to smash up the German Empire, and few there are who will take the responsibility of promising anything like a decisive defeat in any of the war theatres. The Entente Powers have been most unlucky, and there is no indication that if they prosecute the war any longer that they will be able to improve on the past.

Strabane Chronicle

5th January 1918

**IRELAND'S FOOD SUPPLIES
DANGER OF A SHORTAGE
SITUATION IN NORTHERN TOWNS
"ALLIES LARDER NEAR EMPTY"**

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Lord Rhondda has sent the following cablegram to Mr. Hoover, the American Food Controller:- All good wishes for Christmas. The Allied larder is dangerously near empty, but we are carrying on in the resolute belief that we can rely on the American people and yourself to prevent our food supplies from becoming so diminished as to imperil the issue for which we are all fighting.

BUTTER CRISIS

The gravity of the butter shortage is now such, and the unfair influences operating against the Irish merchant and consumer so much complained of, that it is not unlikely that butter factors in Dublin may refuse to handle the article until conditions have been obtained from the Food Controller. The latter situation may, quite probably, arise at any time. Every possible device has been resorted to by Cross channel buyers to entice Irish producers to part with their supplies, while in Ireland heavy fines inflicted on traders, who sold to their own people at 3/4d above the controlled price.

The predictions of an impending butter shortage in Ireland which have been rife during the past two months have become true in Belfast sooner than elsewhere. Since before Christmas the difficulty of obtaining regular supplies of butter has been manifest to retailers and householders in the city; but the situation has now reached the gravity of a crisis. Some days during the week butter, or even margarine, was wholly unobtainable in many, if not in most districts. Of course the shortage has an all-round effect, but it is the very poor who are suffering most, because in the first place, the scarcity is more marked – it is indeed absolute famine -in the working class quarters; while in the second place, butter is a much more important element in the dietary of the poor., many of whom subsist almost exclusively on "bread and butter and tea". Bread with butter is a sustaining food of sorts, but bread without that nourishing condiment cannot be regarded as such, and those who are driven by necessity to adopt it will suffer heavily in personal health. It may be noted that margarine, which itself is practically unobtainable has never taken the place as a substitute for butter, amongst the people here which it achieved in England.

Strabane Chronicle
5th January 1918

THE FOOD PROBLEM

Now so serious will become even more acute as the months go on. The Great war has reduced the Food production of some of the most fertile lands in belligerent countries. Bad harvests in some countries have also helped towards a general scarcity. The War's demands on the World's shipping have been enormous and have caused a shortage of tonnage for the food carrying, made still more serious by the submarine campaign. Less food abroad and fewer ships to bring it home have led to our food problem.

HOW TO SOLVE IT

is a matter almost entirely for our Farmers and Landholders. **They must grow more food in Ireland this year than was ever grown before in their time.** **In no other way** can the crying need of our cities and towns, our industrial population and our poor be met.

LAND HOLDERS

It is up to **you** to see that we are not short of food this year. You have had ample notice of what the country expects

in this crisis.

BEGIN YOUR PLOUGHING NOW
For
YOUR NEW YEAR CROPS
And
PLOUGH THE UPMOST ACRE

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, Dublin.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

The Strabane Women's War Relief Committee are to be congratulated on the success of their second annual dance, which was held under their auspices in the Town Hall on Wednesday night last. The event brought together a very large concourse of ladies and gentlemen, many of whom came from Castlederg, Omagh and Londonderry. The ladies' committee had worked hard for several days in preparation for the creative comforts of the dance patrons, and the entire refreshments were distributed through the generosity of various ladies and gentlemen, who can always be relied upon to give bountifully for war relief philanthropy. Great pains had also been taken with the decorations of the hall and supper room and it would seem almost impossible to exceed the refinement and artistic taste displayed in the direction.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Clark, Bowling Green, and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square. Ten men were discharged during the week, and a similar number admitted.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

SION MILLS MAN KILLED

The casualty lists contain in the name of Private J. McConnell, Sion Mills, killed in action. He belonged to the Connaught Rangers.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

HIGH PRICE FOR DONEGAL LAND

Unusual interest was taken in the sale of a farm of land in Ballybofey on Thursday evening, 27th ult. The farm in question is situate at the end of the town, and contains a little over four acres, the property of Miss Margaret Magee. In the course of a few minutes, after spirited bidding, Mr. Francis Callaghan, J.P., of Castlebane, Stranorlar, was declared the purchaser at the extraordinary figure of £580. The price works out at a little over £129 per acre. This part of Donegal is famed for the high prices obtained for land, which are unequalled in any other part of the country.

Great interest was taken in the sale of a farm of land on Friday evening at Stranorlar, County Donegal. The farm which contains about seven acres, was the property of a Mr. Meehan, Londonderry. Spirited competition took place and in a short time the farm was purchased by a local gentleman for the extraordinary price of £900, working out at over £128.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

MILITARY MEDAL FOR STRABANE

Sergeant James Devlin, Royal Irish Constabulary, Strabane, has been notified that his son; Corporal Peter Devlin, of the Royal Engineers, attached to the Guards Division, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery displayed on the battlefield in connection with the recent engagement at Cambrai. On another occasion this gallant soldier was presented with a certificate for gallantry and devotion to duty, and he was also mentioned in despatches. He enlisted in the year 1914, from the staff of the Post Office. His distinction will be received with general satisfaction by his many colleagues. Corporal Devlin has a brother sorvir with the Irish Guards, and another with a Scottish regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

CASUALTIES

Acting-Sergeant W. Johnston, Castlefin, has been wounded in action. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and worked with the County Donegal Railways Joint Committee. Prior to the war he was a member of the U.V.F.

Private A Friel, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Ballubofey, has been wounded in action. He was employed in the postal service for more than 15 years.

Intimation has reached Strabane that Lance-Corporal J. Lynch has been wounded in action. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and joined the army in Glasgow.

The relatives of Private J. McCorkell, who reside in the Strabane district, have been notified that he has been wounded in action recently in France. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News

5th January 1918

STRABANE URBAN COUNCIL INCREASED COST OF LIVING

Mr. John Perry presided at a meeting on Thursday evening, and there were also present – Messrs. James Toorish, Thomas K. Howie, Edward Gallagher, D.L., Patrick McCollum, Michael Bradley, and John Kelly. A joint application was received from the street men, the carters, and the quarrymen, requesting another increase of wages owing to the increased cost of living.

Mr Gallagher – How are the wages compared with other workmen in town?

Mr. Kelly – In the town they are getting 23s, 24s and 25s.

Mr. Gallagher – And some are getting 22s.

Chairman – I would be in favour of postponing the application owing to the black outlook, and the struggle of many people in the town for existence. There are even ratepayers who find it hard to live.

Mr. Gallagher – There is no doubt there is a difficulty in the way, but at the same time I would be prepared to give them something. Continuing, Mr. Gallagher proposed that the men who had not got 24s, per week be raised to that figure, and that those who had that amount receive an increase of 1s, per week.

The parents of Private J. Morris, who reside at Ballymagorry, near Strabane, have been notified that he has been wounded in action. He belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News

5th January 1918

CLADY LABOURERS ORGANISE

Under the auspices of the Clady (Co. Tyrone) Branch of the National Amalgamated Union of Labour, a large meeting was held in the Hall, Clady, on Wednesday night. The chair was taken by Mr. Patrick Lennon. Mr. Lockett (Belfast) said that they were all agreed that if there was one class of men in Ireland who required organisation it was the agricultural labourer. (Cheers.) The reasons for this were many. In the first place he was not in as good a position as any of the workers in the industrial centres to organise, because he was the last man in the world to join an organisation. The agricultural worker by not being organised was a menace to the worker who was organised in industrial centres. He contrasted the wages of the agricultural labourers earned by English and Scottish labourers with that earned by the Irish worker, which was due to the fact that the English and Scottish workers were better organised than the Irish worker. In conclusion, he appealed to the workers of Clady and district to organise.

Strabane Weekly News

5th January 1918

THE MILITARY LIST DISTINCTIONS AND PROMOTIONS K.C.M.G

Major-General Hon. C. E. Bingham, C.B., brother of the Duchess of Abercorn.

Brigadier-General A St. Q Ricardo, C.M.G., D.S.O., Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News

5th January 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

In this list of New Year military honours is included Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Maturin, R.F.A., son-in-law of Mr. D. B. Maturin-Baird, who has been awarded a Bar D.S.O.

Official intimation has been received of the death of Corporal John Hall, of the Inniskillings, son of Mr. J. J. Hall, Mill Street. Corporal Hall died in hospital from wounds received in action.

In common with many other districts in the North-West, this district is beginning to feel the pinch caused by short supplies of flour. Fortunately, the bakers, except on one or two days lately, have been able to get bread supplies forward. Another scarce item is butter, due partly to so many people sending supplies by parcel post to their much more needy relatives across the Channel.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

IRELAND AND CONSCRIPTION

Sir Hugh H. Stewart, Hon. Brigadier-General, who has served thirty years in Irish regiments, expresses the belief that without any great disturbance the necessary men can be got in if the Military Service Acts are applied. "Volunteer they will not, but I firmly believe that they are only waiting to be fetched," says Sir Hugh in a letter to the "Morning Post." They want to be able to save their faces. Did anybody ever hear of an Irishman who did not really want to join in a fight that was toward? There might be a little trouble here and there at first, but it would very soon blow over, and when the war is finished, with the help of these Irish reinforcements, there is no part of the British Islands that will be more proud and grateful for having effort and success than Ireland. Let the Government promptly abolish voluntary enlistment in Ireland, call out the men, and I venture to say that the result will justify my information.

In a leading article, the "Morning Post" says, in deciding to release Ireland from a duty which is enforced throughout the rest of the United Kingdom, the Government are inflicting a profound injustice upon Ireland, but they are also playing fast and loose with Great Britain. They may escape present inconvenience; they cannot avoid the day of reckoning.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

IRELAND AND MAN POWER

The subject of man-power has again become one of the most pressing questions of the hour and is certain to occupy the attention of Parliament for a considerable time after the re-assembly. In order that the strength of the armies on the field may not be impaired, and that there may be ample reserves maintained to fill up the wastages in the ranks, it is essential that more men must be secured and trained, and it has been suggested that the only means by which these can be obtained is by a further combing out of the lesser skilled workmen employed on the less important industries in the country, which might either be further restricted or carried on by women and by men ineligible for military service. The weight of opinion at present would appear to favour this method of raising the required number of men, and although the question of conscription for Ireland is being kept prominently to the front as a means of providing ample reserves, it is not meeting with that support from British statesmen that it deserves. Admittedly Ireland possesses a reservoir of men of military age, fine physique, and capability, which should be the envy of any nation involved in the war. Had Ireland belonged to Germany, or any of the Central Powers for that matter, it would long ago have been obliged to play its full part in the war, and the thousands of shirkers would have been compelled to do their share of the fighting whether it pleased them or not. There would have been none of that kid-glove treatment and spoon-feeding to which this country has become so accustomed. The Government is not too late yet to repair the mistake they made more than two years ago by acquiescing to Ireland being struck out of the Military Service Act, and now that the question of man-power has become more acute with the transfer of British and French troops to the Italian front, and the practical cessation of hostilities on the Russian front, the Government will be practically compelled to look to Ireland for more support than it has hitherto given in the prosecution of the war. It is difficult to understand why the Government, in matters of this kind, yields so complacently to the clamour of the Nationalists, as if the latter possessed some hidden terror by means of which they hoped to paralyse the nation. If the Nationalists are wholeheartedly interested in the successful prosecution of the war, as they have so often professed, they cannot deny that the men are urgently required. Likewise, they must know perfectly well that there is a vast body of men in Ireland to fill up the gaps and it is their duty to see that they are secured for national service. The South and West teems with shirkers who would never hear the call of duty if the war is to continue for the next ten years. There are thousands of men of military age in Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Waterford, and all the Southern towns, and the vast majority of these are not engaged in any very important work.

The South and West could spare thousands, where the North could only spare hundreds on account of the bigger response to voluntary recruiting, and the fact that so much work of national importance is being carried on in Ulster by skilled workmen. No doubt when conscription for Ireland is mentioned, the Nationalists will fume and rage. De Valera and the Sinn Feiners throughout the country will become quite frantie, but so accustomed have the people of this country become to all these things, that no one will pay

the least attention to them except, perhaps, the Government, who are always inclined to yield to the Nationalists' "warnings," rather than to pay attention to military necessities.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss. Boyd and Miss Maggie Russell. One patient was discharged during the week and one was admitted.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

THE GOVERNMENT'S DUTY

It is plainly the duty of the Government to enforce conscription in Ireland, and to do so resolutely and fearlessly. It is their bounden duty to the people of England, Scotland, and Wales to see that Ireland shall not escape all responsibilities while reaping all the advantages of the war in wealth, and it is, moreover, the duty of the Government to all the brave fellows from Ireland who have voluntarily gone to fight, and who fill many a soldier's grave in every theatre of war, to see that there shall be equal service for all. We know of instances where the entire male members of some families in Ulster have been completely wiped out, while others have refused to give even one son to the fighting ranks. One family whose members are brave, suffers the sacrifice, the next, because its members are cowards lose nothing and on the other hand, probably enrich themselves by the war. Can any man say that such a system is fair?

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

STRABANE OFFICER'S DISTINCTION

Captain James Watson, son of Mr. Jas. Watson of Victoria Mills, Londonderry, and son-in-law of Mr. John Elliott, solicitor and coroner, Strabane, has been promoted to the rank of major. This officer's promotion has been rapid since he entered the army at the outbreak of hostilities. He received his commission as a lieutenant and in short time rose to the rank of captain, and now holds the rank of major in the A.S.C. This brilliant young officer is highly popular, and last year he was mentioned in despatches. His wife, who resides in Strabane, has just received information that in addition to the honours already conferred upon him. Major Watson has been awarded the Military Cross, and universal satisfaction will be felt at this additional honour. Major Watson also has another brother, Captain John Watson, serving with the Forces and attached to the R.A.M.C.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Private John Hughes, Bridge Street, Strabane has been wounded, and is in an hospital in England. He belongs to the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division). One of his brothers, James Hughes, also of the Ulster Division, was killed some time ago. Another brother, Corporal Thomas Hughes, also belongs to the Ulster Division, and was previously wounded.

Private D. Burke, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, has been killed in action.

Private J. Doherty, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, has been wounded.

Corporal H. Quigley, Strabane, has been wounded. He belongs to the Highland Light Infantry.

Private J. McPhilemy, Royal Irish Rifles, Strabane, has been wounded in action recently. He had been at the front since the commencement of hostilities and was honoured in the early stages of the war for bravery.

Private J. Doherty, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Donemana, has been wounded.

Strabane Weekly News
5th January 1918

MEDALS FOR TYRONE MEN

The following N.C.O.'s and men of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers have been awarded the Military Medal: -

13659 Sergeant H. Hetherington.

16365 Lance-Sergeant S. Crawford.

15351 Lance-Sergeant J. Branigan.

13610 Corporal W. McGeown.

26303 Lance-Corporal W. G. Knox.

23302 Lance-Corporal J. Riddell.

16324 Private S. Culbert.
23304 Private W. Lecky.
26664 Private J. W. Radcliffe.
26374 Private J. Hunter.
17544 Private R. Kane.
14523 Private T. A. Brown.

These men are mainly from the ranks of the old Tyrone Regiment of the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News **5th January 1918**

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Functions for the public presentation of Certificates of Honour to the relatives of those who have had men on active service, have been held in many places throughout the country. It may not be generally known that these are similar certificates to those distributed individually in this district during 1916. At that time about 90 certificates were issued here. This number represents only about half the number of men who are serving from this town and neighbourhood. If relatives will make immediate application similar certificates can still be had. The certificates are very neat, and well worth keeping as a family record of its contribution to the war.

Strabane Weekly News **5th January 1918**

The VAD nurses, who have been giving their services to the wounded soldiers who have passed through the Strabane Military Hospital since its establishment as a local war institution, made a happy hit in selecting New Year's Day for giving a party on a large scale to the men at present in the hospital, and a large number of other invited guests. The Abercorn Schools presented a rather unique spectacle when, on Monday afternoon the nurses assembled to receive their numerous guests.

Strabane Chronicle **12th January 1918**

Private J. Mc Philemy, R.I.R., Strabane, has been wounded.
Private J. Doherty, Inniskillings, Donemana, has been wounded.

Strabane Chronicle **12th January 1918**

When Dr. P. McCartan, says the "New York World" was held on bail in New York on a charge of forging a passport, Attorney J.J. Conway, who was McCartan's schoolmaster in Tyrone, entered a plea of "Not guilty", stating that his client, in order to return to Ireland, merely resorted to the subterfuge of giving the wrong name.

Strabane Chronicle **12th January 1918**

FAMINE!

"The right of each nation to the defence of its own economic interests, and the conservation for its own people of its own supplies of food stuffs and raw material cannot be denied"
(British Labour Party Manifesto)

The time has long since arrived when the question of Ireland's food supply should obtain the most earnest consideration on the part of the whole nation. Thanks to the courage and masterly activities of Sinn Fein, Ireland's enemies have sustained many signal and damaging defeats, but nobody who views the whole situation, especially that part of which relates to the food supply, can say it is satisfactory. Sinn Fein has succeeded in defeating the subscriptionists, in maintaining the integrity of the nation, and fixing the eye of the world on the system of "morality" which obtains in the government of Ireland, but it has not succeeded in taking the hands of foreigners out of our pockets and out of our cupboards. All things considered Ireland's food position is infinitely worse than that it should be. Ireland is, more than anything else, a food-producing country, and if people suffer hunger in England or anywhere else, there is no legitimate reason why people should be confronted with the spectre of starvation here. It is opposed to all the principles that England and her allies are said to be fighting to maintain that the food supply of one nation should be controlled by another nation, and that foreigners should have the power to offer to the food growers of a nation prices that so deplete the national larder as to render serious consequences inevitable to the people, among whom the food is raised, but whose circumstances are such as to rebar them from competing commercially for the vital commodities that are being shipped from their shores. That is the state of affairs

here. Ireland's food is not controlled by the people of Ireland. It is controlled from London, and we know – at least all who are not helplessly blind should know – from the experience of the last few weeks alone – that the control of the Irish food is more than accidental in its results – that it is in accordance with a scheme that looks on England as entitled to the first and last fruits of Irish soil and Ireland as the humble handmaiden who should be satisfied with the crumbs that fall from the table of her mistress.

Strabane Chronicle
12th January 1918

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The usual monthly meeting of the Strabane War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Miss Joyce (Derry Road) presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the hon. Secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) and confirmed after which letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Miss McCrea, Mrs. E. Herdman, Mrs. J. Elliott, Mrs. Cooper, and Mrs. McElhinney.

The Despatch Committee reported sending 49 mufflers and two pairs of mittens to the central depot. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery, on behalf of the Rest Club, reported that 16 men had passed through the club since last meeting, and they were highly pleased at the treatment received.

Mrs. William King presented the usual monthly accounts, which were passed for payment.

Mrs. Toner (hon. Treasurer) announced that she would have the yearly accounts ready to present at the next meeting.

Postcards were received from several prisoners of war from the town, thanking the Committee for the special Christmas parcels which they had received in good condition.

Mrs. J.C. Herdman collected the envelopes given out at the last meeting in connection with Sir Arthur Pearson's blinded soldiers' fund. There was a generous response to same, and Mrs. Herdman announced that at the next meeting she would have all the envelopes collected and later would announce the amount received.

Strabane Chronicle
12th January 1918

FLAX INDUSTRY IN TYRONE
DEPARTMENTAL INQUIRY IN OMAGH
THE SCUTCHING AND TOW QUESTIONS
FARMERS' AND MILL-OWNERS' INTERESTS

The Departmental Committee .. appointed to inquire into the charges for scotching flax, and the disposal of tow, held a sitting at Omagh on Monday afternoon.

Mr. Robert Orr Clements, president of Omagh Farmers' Association, was the first witness examined. He said at the beginning of the season the farmers in that district had agreed to pay the mill-owners 3s per stone for scotching flax, provided they got the tow, for 2s per stone if the tow was retained but there was no agreement because the mill-owners claimed 3s 3d and 2s 3d and at the end they were not willing to give up the tow. The farmers were not satisfied to allow the mill-owners to keep the tow, as they considered that a huge profit was being made out of it by the mill-owners. What the farmers wanted was that their tow should be given to them scotched and ready for the market, just the same as the flax. No mill-owner in the district had adopted the principle of scotching the tow with the flax and when that was not done the farmers had to take it away and bring it back at the end of the season for scotching which meant very great inconvenience. His point was that the tow should be scotched simultaneously with the flax, and there should be a market for the tow established. They had a market for it at the present time., if it was scotched and ready for sale.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

A meeting in connection with the War Relief was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening at which Mrs. Paul Gallagher (Gourville Terrace) presided. Miss McCrea on behalf of the Despatch Committee reported having sent 30 pairs of socks and 29 mufflers during the week to the Depot in Omagh for distribution among the men of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. Mrs. Feely reported that fourteen soldiers and one sailor had passed through the Rest Club since the last meeting. The committee made arrangements for holding a daffodil fete at a future date. Mrs. Feely who was honorary treasurer of the Prisoners of War Fund read a lengthy report of the work done from July to November when the care committee of each regiment took over their own prisoners and were supplying them with parcels direct, this being decided upon to prevent overlapping. The report showed that, during the period, the committee had forwarded 132 parcels to Germany consisting of tea, sugar, bread, tobacco, along with other necessary comforts. Mrs. Herdman, on behalf of the committee, thanked Mrs. Feely for her kindness and energetic words. It was decided that the

money in the bank to the credit of the prisoners of war be handed over to the Colonel-in-Command of the Inniskilling Fusiliers to be sent to their care committee in London.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

STRABANE FLAX MARKET

Small supply owing to the storm. The fibre consisted of all qualities, and was graded from Nos. 1 to 5, the prices paid being from £10 to £13.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

STRABANE VOLUNTEER WOUNDED

Private J. Nicholl, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded recently in action. He has been at the front since the war commenced, and was formerly a member of the Artigarvan U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss McCarter (Mourne View), and Miss F. Kearty (Bowling Green). Five patients were discharged during the week, and five admitted.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Mr. Andrew Hamilton, Ivy House, Strabane, has received a notification from the War Office that his son, Private William Hamilton, has been wounded in action, and is at present in the Canadian Field Hospital. He received his wounds in the left shoulder. Private Hamilton belongs to the Canadian Mounted Rifles and joined up in Canada shortly after the commencement of the war. He is a very popular young man, and it is hoped he will soon recover.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

The monthly meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Miss Joyce (Derry Road), presided. The Despatch Committee reported sending 49 mufflers and two pairs of mittens to the Central Depot. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery, on behalf of the Rest Club, reported that 16 men had passed through the Club since last meeting, and they were highly pleased at the treatment received. Postcards were received from several prisoners of war from the town thanking the committee for the special Xmas parcels which they had received in good condition.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

OFFICIAL CASUALTIES
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

Killed – Jeffrey, 10443, C., Omagh; McConnell, 14703, J., St. Johnston.
Wounded – Lance-Corporal R., Castlederg; Hill, 13645, Sergeant R.J., Newtownstewart; Hughes, 22820, J., Strabane; Jamieson, 14563, R., Newtownstewart; Nicholl, 22828, J., Strabane; Symth, 20151, D., Newtownstewart.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

IRISH GUARDS

Wounded – McGrath, 12024, E., Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News
19th January 1918

MILITARY MEDAL FOR GALLANT DONEGAL VOLUNTEER.

Strabane Weekly News

19th January 1918

NORTH TYRONE SINN FEINERS ALARMED

At a meeting of the North Tyrone Sinn Fein Divisional Executive, held in Strabane on Saturday, 12th inst., the following resolution was passed : - "That, in view of the great danger of a famine and a repetition of the horrors of '47, we appeal to the patriotism and humanity of the farmers to do their part in averting such a calamity by holding sufficient of their potatoes, oats, and other crops as will tide the country over till the harvest."

Strabane Weekly News

19th January 1918

URGENCY FOR FOOD ECONOMY

The situation with regard to the supply of certain foods is so serious that the Food Control Committee for Ireland consider it desirable to appeal to the people of the country, and more particularly to the well-to-do portion of the community, to aid them in reducing the consumption of certain essential foods which form the staple nourishment of the working classes.

The particular articles of food which the Committee have in view are bread, butter, milk, sugar.

Any reduction which can be made in the amount consumed of these foods by those who can afford to purchase, or are themselves producers of, alternatives, is so much saved for the use of the working man and his family, and the Committee trust they have only to bring the matter before the public, and to explain that it is one of extreme importance, in order to have it dealt with by all heads of households, hotels, restaurants, clubs and institutions.

The Committee suggest that bread or butter should only be served at breakfast; the habit of eating bread at luncheon and dinner is merely a habit, as where fish, meat and vegetables are served at such meals, bread is unnecessary. Butter is so very scarce at present that any saving which can be made in the amount hitherto used would be of assistance; its use should be restricted to a very small quantity. Moreover, bread, butter, sugar and milk should only be partaken of very sparingly by people who follow sedentary occupation or are not actually employed in manual labour. The Committee appeal to all responsible men and women in the country to help them in their effort to save the essential food of the people, so that the working man may be enabled to maintain his power of production and provide for the proper feeding of his family.

Strabane Weekly News

19th January 1918

STRABANE URBAN COUNCIL PROBABLE CURTAILMENT OF LIGHTING

Mr Charles Browne presided at the monthly meeting of Strabane Urban Council on Monday last.

The acting gas manager, in his report, stated that the stock of coal was running low and it was difficult to get in a fresh supply.

Mr Perry said the Gas Manager should write immediately to the Coal Controller in London pointing out their difficulty and see if he could not get them a boat to bring the coal.

The acting Gas Manager said the street lighting, he was afraid, would have to be curtailed. It might eventually come to that.

Strabane Weekly News

19th January 1918

A patriotic entertainment was held in the Abercorn Schools, Strabane on Thursday evening last and was largely attended. The hostesses for the evening were Mrs. White, Mrs. Britton, Mrs. Reilly, Mrs. S. Harpur, Miss Hepburn, and Miss McGowan. Miss Connolly's band was in attendance and rendered selections. A musical programme was submitted, consisting of:- song Miss Mabel Hoy, songs at the piano by Miss V. Elliott, song Pte. Kyle, The wounded soldiers added greatly to the evening's entertainment by singing songs and a sketch was given by them, and so well was it received that in response to repeated encores, they had to contribute another playlet. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. Britton and Mr. B. Connolly. Dancing was afterwards taken up, the music being supplied by Miss Connolly, assisted by Mr. John Reilly.

Strabane Weekly News

19th January 1918

The fortnightly entertainment which is given by the ladies interested in war relief was held in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday evening. The hostesses of the evening were Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Carricklee; Mrs. John Elliott, Bowling Green; Mrs. William King, Main Street; Mrs. Feely, Derry Road; Miss Maud Herdman, Sion House; and Miss Joyce, Derry Road. There was a large attendance including the wounded soldiers

from the Military Hospital and the Belgian refugees. The company sat down to tea which was greatly enjoyed, the tables being beautifully decorated with chrysanthemums and numerous other flowers and plants. Whilst tea was being partaken of, Miss Connolly's band discovered Irish airs. After tea a splendid programme was submitted. A feature of the programme was a Limerick reel, danced by Miss Maggie Russell, Miss Dorothy Moody, Miss E. White and Miss G. Keatly. The dance was well received and to an imperative encore the dancers responded with an Irish jig. Mrs. Andrew Doherty also sang in her usual finished style and was obliged to respond to an encore. Miss Hadfield sang very sweetly and Mr. D.D. Guinness also contributed to a song. A sketch was staged by Mr. Victor Vernon and Master L. Guinness entitled: "Death of Little Willie". Dancing was afterwards taken up the music being rendered by Miss Connolly's band and local talented ladies. The evening's enjoyment was concluded by singing of auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

Strabane Chronicle
19th January 1918

DOCTOR DID NOT ATTEND SICK BABY

At the bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians, with Captain Jack Herdman as Chairman, presiding, the Clerk read the following letter from Mary Mulholland, Carrick Road, Newtownstewart. "I want you to give this letter during your next Board day to the Guardians", Mary wrote. "I hereby make a complaint against Dr. Evans, Plumbridge, for not attending my sick child when called upon. I gave him a 'red line' when he gave me some medicine but he said it was 'not necessary' for him to come down on such a cold day, for it was only the touch of a cold that the child had. "If it was to be any worse I was to send him word. So I sent him word on a Wednesday morning at about 8.00a.m. It was nearly 4.00p.m. in the evening when he came, and my child was dead. When he came in he never examined my child to see what it died with. It might have been a disease for all he knew. I was a poor, desolate woman; my husband is at the war and has been missing since 16th August 1917, so I think I had trouble enough without Dr. Evans trying to give me more. It was decided to write to Dr. Evans for an explanation.

Strabane Chronicle
19th January 1918

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The usual monthly meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Miss Joyce (Derry Road) presided. Mrs Feely and Mrs Lavery on behalf of the Rest Club, reported that 16 men had passed through the club since the last meeting, and they were highly pleased at the treatment received. Postcards were received from several prisoners of war from the town, thanking the Committee for the special Christmas parcels which they had received in good condition.

Strabane Chronicle
19th January 1918

STRABANE AND NORTH TYRONE
9TH BATT. ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS' COMFORTS & PRISONERS' FUNDS

A Sale of Work and Provision will be held in the Town Hall, Strabane on February 5th from 2 to 9pm in aid of the above. There will be a Country Produce Stall, a pound Stall, a Utility Stall, a Millinery and Slipper stall, and a Fancy Stall.

Strabane Chronicle
19th January 1918

THE FAMINE DANGER

The Redmonite Party is so engrossed in the cause of the British Empire, so enthusiastic in its efforts to see that the Grand Masonry will come out of the war triumphant, so absorbed in the English campaign of T.P.O'Connor, who is "working heaven and earth" in America, and getting money from the enemies of Irish freedom, whom he describes as Irish-Americans, to fight Sinn Fein, that it has no time or inclination to consider the question of Ireland's food supply. Mr Dillon, who but a short time ago was praising the Russian revolution and chanting the praise of Ninety Eight, is now abusing the Russians in all the moods and tenses-probably because Russia has declared that no people should be compelled to live under any form of government but that of their own selection-and saying that Ninety Eight is something about which (notwithstanding the U.I.L. membership card reminder) people should fear to speak.

The new Militant Service Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on Monday night by Sir. Auckland Geddes who in the course of his statement, after declaring against the raising or lowering of the age limit, said:- "The third possibility is to apply compulsory service to Ireland, but the Government are satisfied that the reasons which led to the exclusion of Ireland from the Military Service Acts has lost none of their cogency. They have decided for the present not to ask for powers to introduce compulsory service in Ireland."

Strabane Weekly News
26th January 1918

STRABANE GUNNER MISSING

Gunner H. Gormley, Royal Garrison Artillery, of the Strabane neighbour, has been reported as missing.

Strabane Weekly News
26th January 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss White (Bowling Green) and Miss Stewart (Dergalt). Five patients were discharged since the date of the last report, and five more admitted in their stead.

Strabane Chronicle
26th January 1918

THE I.A.O.S. CONFERENCE IN STRABANE GRAVE FOOD SITUATION

The annual district conference in connection with the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Tuesday, and was largely attended by representatives from the surrounding societies of Tyrone and Donegal. Etc

He (Mr. Adams) was charged by the I.A.O.S. to impress on the members of the societies generally the extremely grave situation with which the country was faced at the present time. He was sorry to say that there were people in the country on the verge of starvation and liable to die from hunger. This was the state of affairs, as plainly and as briefly as he could put it before them. The only means of improving this state of affairs lay in the hands of the farmers. One of the objects for convening the conference was in using the organisation as far as it could be used to bring the truth home to the farmers, and particularly to the members of the Society, and endeavour to get every man to do everything possible in his power to meet the situation. The farmers had, generally, grievances regarding the restrictions under which they were labouring at the present time, but he asked them to try and economise in their homes, and also with regard to feeding stuffs, and to impress on their neighbours to save every bit of food possible, so as to help their country in this time of need. He would ask them to use the machinery of the Society to solve the problem. In some districts in Ireland, co-operative societies were being formed for the purpose of dealing with the supplies of the country, which would be the means of keeping food in the country which might be exported. The farmers should be facilitated as much as possible and get a free sale for the surplus stuff they have to sell.

Etc, Etc

Strabane Chronicle
26th January 1918

EXIT CARSON

The chief political events of the week are the resignations of Sir. Edward Carson and Sir. James Craig from the cabinet. What developments these resignations may portend is not very clear, but sufficient is known to indicate that the pressure from America which is being brought to bear on the British Government to settle the Irish question, has been too much for Sir Edward Carson. Lloyd George's Convention, which has been sitting in Dublin for many months past, it is understood, is now about to terminate its sittings, and various rumours have gone the round of the English newspapers as to what is taking place and what is about to take place. We are precluded from discussing the proceedings of the Convention, nor have we any desire to do so. We are quite satisfied to "wait and see"

Strabane Chronicle
26th January 1918

PRESIDENT WILSON AND IRELAND STRONG AMERICAN FEELING A TWENTY MILLION LOAN

The Washington Correspondent of the "daily Mail" wiring on Monday from Washington, says:-

President Wilson, while refraining with scrupulous care from any public expression of opinion is known to sympathise most deeply with the aspirations of the majority of the Irish people for the fullest measure of Home Rule, and it can be said that neither Mr. Balfour nor Lord Bryce has been left in any doubt by the President of the hopes and feelings of America in the matter. Not only did President Wilson take occasion during Mr. Balfour's visit to emphasise the great importance a satisfactory solution of the Irish question must have on the attitude of the American people towards Great Britain but the former British Ambassador at Washington, has received numerous expressions of opinion along the same lines from the most prominent men of both parties in America.

Quite recently President Wilson accepted a Robert Emmet statuette and last week he received Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington at the White House most cordially.

EFFECT OF WAR FEELING

Among the mass of the American people it is true there has been widespread feeling that the Irish Convention was "hand picked," but the general belief is whatever the majority decides will be ratified by the Irish people, and that Ireland will soon take her place among the self governing Commonwealths of the British Empire under some form of Colonial autonomy as is enjoyed by Canada.

Strabane Chronicle
26th January 1918

THE LLOYD GEORGE CONVENTION GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION SIR EDWARD CARSON

A dramatic development in the situation created by the Irish Convention is the resignation of Sir. Edward Carson from the War Cabinet. In a letter to Mr. Lloyd George the leader of the Ulster Unionists explains that as the results of the Convention may demand a decision by the Government "on grave matters of policy in Ireland," he considers it best to leave the Cabinet free to discuss this policy without his presence. Sir Edward also appears to consider that his dual position as a member of the War Cabinet and "leader of the Ulster Unionist party" are incompatible in the circumstances and desires to be free to form a judgement as to this new situation.

Divergent views are expressed as to whether Sir Edward's retirement will really help to bring about an early settlement.

"It is no secret," writes a Press correspondent, "that the Government is at its wits end to know what to do if the Convention should fail. At no time has the Irish question assumed so imperatively a position of international urgency that is fraught with a life or death influence, not only on the Empire, but on the whole future of the Allies."

Strabane Weekly News
2nd February 1918

STRABANE WAR HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT

Then above Depot completed its first year of work on January 8th. It is affiliated to the Derry Depot, and has, during the year/sent to it a total of 6,261 finished articles; 921 gifts have also been distributed.

The amount of money received during the year was £472 18s, 4d, of which £184 10s, was contributed in subscriptions.

The total expenses for 1917 were £310 10s. There are 80 registered members, and 40 in the Moss' Department – total 120.

The Depot is open three days in week. New members are welcome.

Further details can be supplied on application to the Hon. Secs. or to the Treasurer, P. A. Mayne, Esq, Belfast Bank, who will also gratefully receive subscriptions towards this important work.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd February 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Pte. J. Hall, 11300, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Newtownstewart, is officially reported to have died of wounds, and Pte. J. McAnney, 20718, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, of Sion Mills, appears in the wounded list. The parents of Private Michael Taggart, Newtownstewart, have received intimation that he received severe gunshot wounds on the left arm and knee on 11th January. Private Taggart, who belongs to the Dublin Fusiliers is at present at a base hospital.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd February 1918

It is now definitely ascertained that the transmission of butter from Ireland by post to friends across the Channel is contrary to the spirit of the Butter Order, and if any packets thus forwarded are intercepted the authorities will be communicated with.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd February 1918

Private J. McPhilemy, R.I.R., Strabane, has been wounded. Private J. Doherty, Inniskillings, Donemana, near Strabane has been wounded.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd February 1918

TEACHERS' DEMANDS
ENDORSED BY CASTLEDERG ASSOCIATION

The quarterly meeting of the Castlederg National Teachers' Association was held on Saturday. The demands of the Teachers' Executive were fully endorsed by the meeting, namely (1) the withdrawal of the White Paper; (2) the setting up of a Committee as in Scotland; (3) the provision of immediate relief by the distribution of the present Equivalent Grant on the lines asked for by the Executive, and the granting of a war bonus on full Civil Service terms. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd February 1918

9th Batt. Royal Inniskillen Fusiliers
Comforts & Prisoners of War Funds
A SALE OF WORK & PROVISIONS

WILL BE HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, STRABANE,

In aid of the above on

Thursday, 7th February

from 3 to 9-30 P.M.

The Sale will be opened by Brigadier-
General Ricardo C.M.G, D.S.O

At 3 o'clock.

North Tyrone Produce Stall

Strabane Pound Stall

Fancy Stall

Millinery and Slipper Stall

Utility Stall

Several Interesting Competitions, etc.

Shooting and Bombing Matches in the
Evening from 7 o'clock.

Sergeant Ryan's Character Reading
By Psychometry

Admission, 6d

Tea, 6d

Strabane Chronicle
9th February 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss May Quinn and Miss Mabel Sayers. Five patients were discharged during the week and five admitted.

Contributions were received from His Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss Hepburn, Miss White, Miss L. Stewart, Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Miss Lewis, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. J.C. Boyd.

Strabane Chronicle
9th February 1918

SALE OF WORK IN STRABANE

A sale of work and provisions was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, in aid of the 9th Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, on Thursday evening, and proved an enormous success. The hall was densely packed when the sale was opened at three o'clock by Brigadier-General Ricardo, C.M.G., D.S.O. The different stalls were well patronised, and everything on them was bought up rapidly. There were several interesting

competitions and shooting and bombing matches in the evening. Brigadier-General Ricardo, in declaring the sale open, said Miss Herdman told him that since the autumn of 1915 she had been able to send out to the regiment 4,099 socks, 2,481 mufflers, 1,641, gloves, a cinema, games bagatelle board, and many other things too numerous to mention.

The following were the stall holders:-

Utility Stall – Miss Herdman, Miss Joyce, Mrs. H.C. Cochrane, Miss Lena McFarland, Miss White, Miss Frances Keatley.

Fancy Stall – Mrs. Ricardo, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Herdman, Miss Lavery, Mrs. Coleman, Miss Chapman.

Hat and Shoe Stall – Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Miss G. Herdman, Miss Robinson.

Provision Stall – Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Millar, Newtownstewart, Miss Briggs, Mrs. Hamilton, Donemana, Mrs. Perry, Urney, Miss McCormick, Castlederg, Miss Clarke, Maghereagh, Miss McCarter, Miss Stewart, Miss McFarland, Gortin, Mrs. Morrison, Leckpatrick, Mrs. Roulston, Sion, and Mrs. Woods, Sion.

Pound stall – Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. Wm. King, Miss Hepburn, Mrs. McFeeters, The Misses Mahaffy, Miss Isobel Russell, Miss F. Keatley, Miss Queenie Snodgrass, Miss May Rule, Miss Evelyn White, Miss Ona Herdman, and Miss Mills.

Tea Rooms – Mrs. Harpur, Mis. A. Weir, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. White, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. W.J. Weir, Mrs. Weir (Sessaghmore), Mrs. Hoy, Mrs. Orr, Mrs. Simms, Mrs. J.S. Weir, the Misses Roulston, The Misses Clarke, Miss M. Ballantine, The Misses Thompson, Miss Wagentreiber.

A Flower Stall in connection with this department was under the charge of Miss Young.

The Entertainments – Brigadier-General Ricardo, Rev. M.F. Hamilton, Captain Herdman, Mrs. Ingram, Miss Madeline Boyd, and Miss Russell.

The following ladies acted as pianists during the afternoon:- Mrs. Herdman, Miss G. Herdman, Miss Elliott, and Miss Russell.

Strabane Chronicle

9th February 1918

IRELAND'S FOOD SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL STATEMENT A SERIOUS OUTLOOK

With a view to explaining the exact position of Irish food production and supply so far as that question concerns the Department of Agriculture, a statement has been issued which says – There can be no doubt that the food situation in the United Kingdom is already serious, and is likely to become much more grave as affecting this country. Any heavy dislocation of trade across the Channel reacts immediately upon Ireland, where, whatever some people may think, any policy of isolation in this connection is altogether out of the question.

Strabane Weekly News

9th February 1918

A very pleasant evening was spent in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday evening, 8th inst., when a patriotic entertainment was given by Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Coxall, Mrs. O'Brien, Miss Black and Miss McCrea, Strabane. The Belgian refugees from Strabane and Lifford, the wounded soldiers and the discharged soldiers from the surrounding districts were also guests. Connolly's string band rendered selections of music with much acceptance during tea. The following contributed to the programme – Miss Daisy McAnaw, Miss Hadfield (Sion Mills), and Mr. Victor Vernon. Dancing and games were also indulged in the music being played by Miss Connolly, Mrs. O'Brien and Miss Maggie Russell, the latter acting as accompanist to the singers. The singing of Auld Lang Syne and the national anthem terminated a most successful function.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd February 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss May Quinn and Miss Mabel Sayers. Five patients were discharged during the week and five admitted.

Strabane Weekly News

9th February 1918

STRABANE GUNNER KILLED

Mr. Samuel F. Wisheart, merchant, Strabane, on Saturday, received the sad intimation that his brother, Gunner Geo. H Wisheart, son of Mr. James Wisheart, Gallony, Strabane, has been killed in action. Gunner Wisheart belonged to the Canadian Field Artillery. He enlisted at the outbreak of the war. The deceased

emigrated to Canada some eight or nine years ago. The information to hand states that he was wounded in the head, and only survived a few hours.

Strabane Weekly News
9th February 1918

STRABANE QUARTERLY FAIR

Strabane quarterly fair was held on Friday. The supply of stock was not as large as was expected, but for good qualities there was a good demand, and business was transacted quickly. The hiring fair was also well attended, and servants demanded and received good wages for the term. Some of the farmers refused to engage, the prices asked being considered exorbitant.

In the hiring fair for good strong men the wages for the term were from £7 10s, to £11; strong youths about 16 years of age from £6 to £9; boys of 14 years of ages demanded and received from £4 10s, to £5 10s; and female labour averaged from £5 5s, to £7 10s, for a like period.

Strabane Weekly News
9th February 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

A Sinn Fein contemporary says: - During the next few weeks everyone over 18 years of age in Tyrone will be asked to sign the following: - "We appeal to the Peace Conference to secure the establishment of Ireland as an Independent State." This appeal will be made through the Sinn Fein clubs in like method to that adopted over the food stocktaking fiasco a couple of months ago. A warm reception will, no doubt, be accorded those who wait on Unionists and orthodox Nationalists for their signatures to the memorial. It would not be surprising to find the names of a good many of those who have never been requested to sign, and who have no sympathy with the appeal, attached to it, but we are likely to be kept in the dark on that aspect of the question.

Strabane Weekly News
9th February 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Company Sergeant-Major J. J. Patterson, of this town, has been awarded the D.C.M. His many friends in Newtownstewart district will be glad to hear of this service C.S.-M. Patterson was an indefatigable worker in the U.V.F. movement, and an energetic member of the L.O.L.

We regret to learn of the death from wounds received in action of Sergeant Robt. Arbuckle, a native of Newtownstewart, and brother of Mr. Thomas Arbuckle (who formerly carried on a tailoring business here). Sergeant Arbuckle, who had been three times wounded, was called up at the outbreak of war. A very popular N.C.O., he was an instructor to the U.V.F. in Londonderry, and a member of the L.O.L. and R.B.P. Sympathy will be felt with his widow who lives at Ivy Terrace, Londonderry.

The death took place on Monday, 4th inst, of Mr. Charles McFarland, Corrick Lodge, one of the best known residents of the extensive district lying between Newtownstewart and Plumbridge. Possessed of a large-hearted, generous nature, he found his way into the hearts of everyone and we think we are safe in saying he hadn't an enemy in the world. He belonged to the religious body known as the Plymouth Brethren, and took a deep and practical interest in their affairs. His Christianity however was broad and by no means exclusive. The funeral which took place to Newtownstewart churchyard on Wednesday was very largely attended.

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A very enjoyable evening was spent in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday 14th., the occasion being the usual fortnightly party for the wounded soldiers and staff at Strabane Military Hospital. There was an exceptionally large and representative gathering. A sumptuous tea was served during which period Miss Connolly's band rendered selections of music. After tea the tables were cleared and a sketch was ably contributed by three young ladies from Sion Mills – Miss Clements, Miss Walker and Miss Farquer. The sketch was of a laughable nature and the audience were highly pleased with the manner in which these ladies acquitted themselves.

Strabane Weekly News
16th February 1918

STRABANE MAN KILLED

The relatives of Private J. Hagan, Royal Munster Fusiliers, Strabane, has received the sad intelligence that he has been killed in action recently in France. Before enlisting he was employed in a hotel in Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
16th February 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for last week were Miss L. Wood (Glentimon), and Miss E. Smith (Lifford). There were four patients discharged during the week and four admitted in their stead.

Strabane Weekly News
16th February 1918

GALLANT STRABANE CONSTABLE

The Royal Irish constabulary at Strabane have received notification that Constable R. J. McConnell, Irish Guards, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery displayed on the battlefield. Constable McConnell, at the outbreak of the war, volunteered in Strabane. He has been in the firing line since that period and was once wounded. In addition to the honour conferred upon him, he has also been promoted to the rank of sergeant whilst on active service. His many friends and well-wishers will be pleased to learn of this double distinction.

Strabane Weekly News
16th February 1918

STRABANE MAN IN PALESTINE

A letter has been received from a Strabane soldier named "Jim" Higgins, extracts from which will be interesting to many of our readers. Private Higgins was well known in the district prior to his enlistment with the Royal Irish Fusiliers at the commencement of hostilities. The following are extracts: - "The nights here are very cold. We are now amongst the hills, a short distance from Jerusalem. Of course, the city is occupied by our troops for some time past. We are now amongst the places of interest, as every village has some sacred history. The place is the most interesting for those versed in sacred history. I was at a lecture given by the Presbyterian chaplain one evening. He made it very clear with maps of his own drawing. The situation around Jerusalem is hilly, which makes it very difficult for an army operating, but we have succeeded in driving the Turk from the last range of hills, and our guns now dominate the country. When we take any of the enemy's country, we hold it until the roads are made and completed, in order to allow our transport to come up. I saw some Arabs who passed down here through our camps. They are very friendly to our people and a bitter enemy of the Turk. They are a fine lot of men, with a great dash which one has to admire, having a look of determination in their eyes that fear no law. They are a race of people that we have often read about, who roam the desert, free as the wind that blows over them, recognising no law, only that of might, depending on their rifle and their food horse for safety, and the horses which look so beautiful, are just as proud as their masters. The villages of Palestine are all of flat roof, and are generally situated on the slope of a hill. The houses seem to be built any place, there being no idea of general construction. Pte. Higgins requests to be remembered to all his friends in Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
16th February 1918

DEMONSTATION IN STRABANE

A large crowd attended a demonstration in Strabane on Sunday evening to welcome the leader of Sinn Fein (Mr. De Valera). Many Sinn Fein flags were exhibited, and there was considerable activity on the part of members of the movement. A large force of police was drafted in from the surrounding towns, but their services were not required. Three bands took part in the demonstration, and contingents came from Sion Mills, Cloughcor, Murlog, Newtownstewart, Ballyfoley, Omagh, Londonderry, and Strabane. All marched in military order, and the majority were armed with hurleys. There were also contingents of Boy Scouts, and a number of women. The procession which numbered several thousand, formed up at the Bowling Green, and made a parade of the principal streets, finally assembling at Bridge Street to await the coming of De Valera from Ardara. The arrival of Mr. De Valera was the cause of much cheering. His motor was guarded by volunteers. The procession again reformed and marched to the Grain Market, where a meeting which lasted several hours, was held. Immense crowds attended, and the speeches delivered were of the usual flamboyant character.

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16th February 1918

STRABANE TRADERS PROTEST

Mr. P. McBrearty presided at a largely attended meeting of the Strabane Traders Association on the evening of the 20th inst. The secretary announced that he has received a reply from Messrs, Spiller and

Baker with reference to a complaint made by local merchants that they thought they were not receiving a fair allowance of flour. The reply denied the grounds of complaint as to unequal distribution of flour to the merchants of the town as compared with merchants in Londonderry. The matter was discussed at considerable length, and the secretary was directed to communicate with the Food Controller in the matter with a view of having the grievance remedied. The question of the reduced price of tea was discussed, and also the shortage of bacon, which was stated seemed to be monopolised by a few people who, prohibitive premiums received this article of commodity and shipped same but of the country. The question of the creameries still withholding supplies of butter from the local merchants also came up for consideration, and it was decided to bring these matters before the Food Controller, the meeting being of the opinion that the supplies of farm produce such as bacon and butter was a matter for careful controlling by the Food Controller.

The question of complying with the Food Controller's regulations regarding the display of the various commodities as the prices by merchants in their shops, was also dealt with, and orders were given for the carrying out of these rules.

Strabane Weekly News
16th February 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

14723 Sergeant Alex Porterfield, Royal Inniskillings, who hails from Strabane district, and 23156 Lance-Corporal Hugh Classidy, who won a parchment certificate for service with the Derry Volunteers in 1917, have also been awarded the Orix de Guerre.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd February 1918

SION MILLS SOLDIER'S ADVENTURES
HOW HE ELUDED THE AUTHORITIES

At a special Court of Petty Sessions in Strabane on Tuesday, before Messrs. J. McMenamin and Eugene Conroy, Private J. Harkin, Bearney, Sion Mills, belonging to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was charged by Constable McDonagh, of Sion Mills, with being a deserter. The constable said that he went to his house but did not find him there and afterwards saw him on the road and arrested him. The accused resisted arrest, but in the barracks said he did not mind. The prisoner was wearing plain clothes at the time. Private Harkin, who enlisted in October 1914, was charged for the fifth time of being a deserter, and with the exception of serving six months at Arbour Hill, Dublin, he has only served a few months with the colours. After serving his period in Arbour Hill, he was dispatched with two other offenders to Londonderry to be sent to France and had just arrived there when he again escaped. He related that he had endured many hardships whilst eluding the authorities, and on one occasion he escaped arrest for almost a year hiding in the mountains and hills, between Strabane and Plumbridge, going from house to house, passing as a labourer. On that occasion he was exposed to the heavy fall of snow which took place in April of last year. In another instance, when being searched for he was lying under cover in a field of oats which was being mowed by the reaper, and remained in hiding there until the authorities went away, and at the same time remained unobserved by the harvesters who were only some yards away from his hiding place. He adds that his position on that date was more precarious than if he had been in France. One of his amusing adventures, which caused much merriment to the authorities, was that one day while feeling exhausted, he went to a house in Glenroan, seeking a drink of water. He knocked at the door and whilst waiting, he happened to look up, and was horrified to discover that he had made a huge mistake and was actually knocking at the door of the Royal Irish Constabulary premises there. Seeing his mistake, he again bolted, not waiting for an answer, and escaped. The accused was handed over to an escort at Strabane on Wednesday morning, and was taken to Derry handcuffed.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd February 1918

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

The annual meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. The chair was occupied by the vice-president (Miss McCrea), and there was a large attendance. The minutes of last meeting were read by the secretary (Mrs. Herdman), after which letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Mrs. Toner, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. J. Elliott, Mrs. J. Devine, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, and Miss Joyce.

A vote of condolence with Mrs. J. Reilly on the death of her brother (Mr. Cullen) was passed in silence. It was proposed by Mrs. Feely, seconded by Miss Maud Herdman.

A letter was read from Mr. Paul Gallagher (Messrs. Gallagher and Egan), Abercorn Factory, Strabane, enclosing a cheque for £10-12s-7d. being the surplus balance from a dance recently held by the employees of his factory. The meeting expressed their thanks for the gift.

Miss McCrea, on behalf of the dispatch committee, reported having received a good supply of wool for socks from the Red Cross Society. She also intimated that she had a good supply of mufflers on hand.

Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery, on behalf of the Rest Club, reported that 11 men had passed through the club, since the last meeting, one of whom had enjoyed their hospitality the entire night.

Mrs. J.C. Herdman reported the result of the collection in connection with Sir Arthur Pearson's appeal for blinded soldiers, in which she stated that the collection had exceeded their expectations. The amount realized totalled the handsome figure of £13-19s-2d.

Postcards were received from several prisoners of war in Germany, and one from Corpl. Conaghan in Switzerland, thanking the committee for the parcels sent to them at Christmas. One of the soldiers, writing from Essen, stated that he had an enjoyable Christmas day by reasons of the parcels sent him.

The meeting considered the question of having a daffodil fete, and arranged for same for the 11th April, of which due notice will be given in the local press. It was also decided to have a dance following the daffodil fete.

Mrs. J.C. Herdman, in the unavoidable absence of the Mrs. Toner, the hon. Treasurer, read the statement of accounts dealing with the War Relief Committee, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club, and the Military Hospital. The meeting expressed its satisfaction with the different accounts, and it was decided to have same published in the local Press next week.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Miss McCrea, seconded by Mrs. Harpur, to Mr. Lloyd, of the Provincial Bank, for auditing the accounts.

Mrs. William King proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Toner, the hon. Treasurer, which was seconded by Mrs. Lavery, for the trouble taken by her and her excellent services in connection with the keeping of the various accounts.

Mrs. J.C. Herdman read a lengthy report on the financial statistics in connection with the V.A.D. Hospital, showing the number of patients, resident during the year and the number of beds available etc.

The Hospital accounts for the month were presented by Mrs. William King, and passed for payment.

A vote of thanks to Mrs. Herdman for her work in connection with war relief was proposed by Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, seconded by Mrs. Harpur.

A vote of thanks was also proposed to Mrs. William King by Miss McCrea, seconded by Miss Maud Herdman, for her patriotic work performed by her during the past year in connection with the committee.

A hearty vote of thanks was also accorded to everyone who assisted in the working of the several committees during the year, and also to Miss McCrea, the vice-president, on the motion of Mrs. J.C. Herdman, seconded by Mrs. Cooper.

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2nd March 1918

Rev. W. Devine, B.A., B.D., Chaplain with the Australian forces, has sailed for Australia on duty. Father Devine is a native of Derry Diocese, and has been at the front for nearly three years. Last February he was awarded a French decoration (the Croix de Guerre, with palm) and seven months ago promoted to the rank of Major.

Strabane Chronicle

2nd March 1918

THE WAR INCREASED SHIPPING LOSSES

The Germans in W. Russia and the Ukraine continue meeting with further successes, 2 retreating Russian regiments being captured in the former. Less than a day's march will take the Germans into Petrograd, when they have collected sufficient forces. News from Tokio indicates that the final conclusion of a Russo-German peace will force Japan to take prompt steps to defend her interests in Manchuria from German aggression.

Last week 14 British ships over 1,600 tons were sunk, and 4 under that tonnage, with 7 vessels, an increase of 3 steamers and 6 fishing craft on the previous week.

Strabane Chronicle

2nd March 1918

WAR WORK IN STRABANE

The ladies and gentlemen in Strabane and district who are actively interested in the work of providing for the comforts of the soldiers – those incapacitated and those on active service – have reason to feel satisfied that their exertions in this direction are gratefully recognized by all concerned. Such an undertaking is, indeed, meritorious and worthy of the cordial support of the public. The balance sheets of the year's working published in our columns this week show that the outlay in some respects has been exceptionally heavy by reason of the increased demands on local resources, but at the same time it is satisfactory to note that a good balance is being carried forward to the account for the coming financial year. Persistent effort is necessary on the part of the promoters of such a commendable undertaking to provide the funds necessary for the effective continuance of the work, and in few, if any, provincial towns has such energy been displayed as in Strabane, where representative committees composed of all classes have co-operated with an earnestness that bespeaks success. In such a deserving project it is to be hoped that during the coming year to people of the district will support the efforts of the local committees in that generous spirit that has characterized them at all times.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd March 1918

On Thursday afternoon the usual fortnightly party for the wounded soldiers and staff at the Military Hospital took place in the Abercorn Schools. The hostesses on the occasion were Miss Hepburn, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Gripton, Mrs. McFeeters, Miss McCrea and Mrs. P. H. O'Brien who catered for their guests in a most generous way. Tea was served during which period Miss Connolly's band rendered choice selections of music. A highly musical programme was submitted, those taking part being:- Song, Mrs. W.M. Berry; song, Miss Porter; song, Miss McKee; song, Mr. Jack McAnaw; song, Mr. Bolton. The accompaniments were played by Miss Maggie Russell, Mrs. W.M. Berry, and Miss B. Connolly. The singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' and the National Anthem concluded a very enjoyable function.

Strabane Weekly News

2nd March 1918

The Military Cross has been awarded to Lieutenant Robert Semple, Royal field Artillery, for conspicuous gallantry in action. Lieutenant Semple is the son of a notable Castlederg man, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir David Semple, Director-General of the Public Health Department in Egypt and is a nephew of Professor Semple of McCrea, Magee College, Derry. Sir David Semple, who is an old student of Foyle College and Queen's College, Belfast, is one of the most eminent doctors in the army, and a well-known writer of medical subjects.

Strabane Chronicle

9th March 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were – Miss Perry (Urney), and Miss Adams (Sion Mills). Contributions were received from his Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton (Baronscourt), Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Miss Lewis, Miss Joyce, Mrs. Throne, Miss Boyd (Lifford), Miss Gillespie, Mr. Aiken, Mrs. James Toner, Miss Porterfield, (Sion Mills), Amalgamated Society, Mr. Cooper.

Strabane Chronicle

9th March 1918

STRABANE PETTY SESSIONS OVERCHARGING FOR TEA

Strabane Petty Sessions were held on Monday, before Mr. Edward Gallagher, D.L., presiding, and subsequently Captain Gosselin, R.M.

ABOVE THE PRICE

D. I. Haggart, Strabane, prosecuted Moses J. Adams, Merchant, Sion Mills, for selling half a pound of tea to Minnie Connolly at 2s, a sum exceeding that fixed by the Food Controller.

Strabane Chronicle

9th March 1918

BUTTER PROSECUTION AT CASTLEDERG MANAGER OF SPAMOUNT CREAMERY CONVICTED

At Castlederg Petty Sessions on Saturday, before Capt. Gosselin, R.M., and other magistrates, D. I. Haggart, Strabane, charged James Carson, manager of Spamount Creamery, on three counts, for having sold butter in excess of the price fixed by the Food Controller.

Strabane Chronicle
9th March 1918

STRABANE RELIEF COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Strabane War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Miss McCrea, Vice President in the chair. Apologies for non-attendance were read from the following:- Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. McElhinney, Mrs. Lavery and Mrs. J. Elliott.

Miss McCrea reported having 90 pairs of socks and a number of mufflers ready for dispatching.

Mrs. Feely, on behalf of the Rest Club reported that 20 men had passed through the Club for the past two weeks.

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. and Mrs. Lavery and Mrs. Feely for their services rendered in connection with the Rest Club.

Final arrangements were made for Daffodil Fete and also for Rummage Sale on the Saturday following Daffodil Fete, particulars of which will appear in our columns next week.

Strabane Weekly News
9th March 1918

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OUR READERS

Owing to the Shortage of Paper Supplies there will be no papers supplied to our Agents "On Sale or Return" after 31st March.

It will therefore be necessary for readers to give definite orders to their Newsagents or to the Office of this Paper

Strabane Weekly News
9th March 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Mr. and Mrs. White, Castlebane, Stranorlar, have been notified that Lieutenant Howard M.T. White, their third son has been wounded in action. Lieutenant White belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division). Two of his brothers are also serving.

Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918

STRABANE GUARDIANS
MR. REDMOND'S DEATH
VOTE OF SYMPATHY
A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY LOST

The bi-monthly meeting of Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday., Mr. William Rankin, J.P., presiding. There were also present:- Messrs. John Conway, David Craig, Wm. Lowry, Robert S. Johnston, Wm. Lowry, Cuthbert Entrican, Edward McCullow, J.P., Robert Scott, Wm. A. Sheldon, Charles Boyle, Joseph Farrell, J.P., and Francis Toner.

Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918

SUCCESSFUL STRABANE ENTERTAINMENT

A grand and successful cinematograph and concert entertainment was given by Mr. Victor Vernon in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday night, when the spacious building was filled to overflow. The programme was an excellent one. A first class set of pictures was shown and the artistes who appeared acquitted themselves admirably and were encored several times. The following contributed:- Mr. & Mrs. D.D. McGuinness, Strabane; Harry McGhee, Omagh; Hugh Toorish, Kathleen, Kathleen McMenamin, Cissie Gillespie, Misses Susan and Mary Scott, and Mr, Victor Vernon, Strabane

Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918

"THE FAITHFUL GARRISON"

Although Ireland is in a peaceful condition, except in districts where unrest has been given rise to by the existence of local economic problems mainly in connection with the ranching system, still we find the old inveterate enemies of the country-the reactionary Tories, landlords, and ex-landlords who comprise the Grand Juries in most countries-expressing horror at the present state of lawlessness and calling for a policy of active suppression.

Strabane Chronicle

16th March 1918

**CO. TYRONE DOCTORS
QUESTION OF A STRIKE**

A large and influential meeting of Tyrone doctors was held in the Tyrone County Hospital on Monday, Dr. Thompson presiding. The chairman explained that the meeting had been called at the instance of the joint secretaries of the Irish Medical Committee and the Irish Medical Association to appoint five delegates to attend a general meeting of the Irish medical profession and to consider the advisability of extending medical benefits under the Insurance Act to Ireland, and finally to review the very unsatisfactory condition of the profession generally, chiefly in relation to Boards of Guardians, and the difficulty of obtaining from these Boards any reasonable consideration of the claims of the Poor-law medical officers to increased remuneration in consequence of the greatly increased cost of life and of taxation.

Dr. Bradley, Fintona, strongly urged a general strike of the profession if their claims to reasonable remuneration were not listened to.

**Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918**

STRABANE TRADERS' ASSOCIATION

Mr. Samuel Rule resided at a meeting of the Strabane Traders' Association in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening.

SUGAR

The question of the delivery of sugar to merchants in town short of weight as the result of the bags being pilfered in transit by reason of the bags not being properly sewn, was under discussion, and a requisition signed by members of the Association was ordered to be sent to the Secretary of the Sugar Commission requesting his attendance to the matter.

STARCH

The Secretary reported that he had written to the Minister in charge of the Vegetable Department in Dublin in reference to the proposed starch and farina factory, pointing out a suitable site, but had not yet received a reply.

FLOUR

Regarding the distribution of flour, the Secretary intimated that he had written Messrs. Spillers and Baker's agent at Derry complaining that the traders in town were not receiving a fair share of the available supplies and that this firm were supplying Derry agents, and also sending the commodity of the district to the detriment of Strabane consumers.

BUTTER

It was decided to write the Food Controller relative to the refusal of the local creameries to supply Strabane merchants with butter and ask him to see that the traders receive a fair share of the available supplies.

HIGH PRICE

It was agreed to bring under the notice of the Sugar Commission the high price of sugar to merchants.

**Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918**

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held on Thursday evening, Miss McCrea (vice-president) in the chair.

**Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918**

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were – Miss Chapman (Carricklee), and Miss Ellie (Lifford Street). There were five patients discharged during the week, and four admitted.

On Tuesday evening the patients and staff were entertained to a musical entertainment at the hospital, those contributing being – Miss Colhoun, Miss Perry, Miss E. Perry, Miss Gourley, and Private Lanning. Contributions were received from His Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton (Baronscourt), Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Miss Perry (Urney), Miss Chapman, Miss Adams, Miss Hepburn, Miss Porterfield, Mrs. Grippon, Mr. Cooper, and Mrs. James Toner.

**Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918**

BUTTER SHORTAGE IN STRABANE

At a special meeting of the Strabane Urban Council held on Friday night – Mr. Charles Browne (Chairman) presiding – arising out of a resolution passed by the Council at the former meeting with reference to the refusal of the local creameries in not supplying the merchants of the town with butter, thereby depriving the inhabitants of the commodity, a letter was read from Sir Thomas Russell, saying that the matter was outside the function of his department, and was one in which he could not effectively, or indeed properly intervene with the Irish Food Control Committee, who are charged with the duty of seeing to the distribution of butter, and saying that Strabane is in no exceptional position in suffering from the scarcity of butter, as the same difficulty was experienced in most of the other towns throughout the country, and as regards any complaint as to local creameries or other butter producers who normally supply Strabane, if they are acting irregularly, the facts should be communicated to the Food Control Committee.

Strabane Chronicle
16th March 1918

STRABANE GUARDIANS
MR. REDMOND'S DEATH
VOTE OF SYMPATHY
A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY LOST

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday, Mr. Wm. Rankin, J.P., presiding. There were also present:- Messrs. John Conway, David Craig, Wm. Lowry, Robert S. Johnston, Wm. Lowry, Cuthbert Entrican, Edward McCullow, J.P., Robert Scott, Wm. A Sheldon, Charles Boyle, J.P., Patrick Lennon, Joseph Farrell, J.P., and Francis Toner.

Mr. Wm. Walker, Derry, was re-appointed stock-taker for the half-year at the usual fee. The Master reported that there were 144 inmates in the house at the end of last week, as compared with 145 last year. There were 12 admissions of night lodgers, seven of this, and five of other unions.

Mr. Conway moved a vote of condolence with Mrs. Redmond and family on the death of Mr. John Redmond, M.P. Needless to say he was a gentleman who was highly respected by all creeds and classes. It was not necessary to enlarge on the deceased's good qualities as they were well known.

The Chairman (Unionist) seconded the resolution. He said that, although differing from Mr. Redmond politically, he had to acknowledge he was a first-class leader and a true gentleman. His death was a great loss to Ireland.

Mr. Lennon said that Mr. Redmond was one of their leaders who missed his opportunity; he had the ball at his feet and missed the goal. He did not wish to disassociate himself with the expressions of regret to his widow – they were all sorry when anyone died - but again he repeated that he was a leader of the Irish race who missed his golden opportunity.

Mr. Boyle, in associating himself with the resolution, said that it afforded him a melancholy pleasure to join in this expression of regret and sympathy with the relatives of great leader, who gave the best energies of a lifetime towards the welfare of their country. Mr. Redmond was a gentleman who commanded the respect and esteem of those who knew him, and their only regret was that he did not live to see the aim and subject of his efforts accomplished. Mr. Redmond might have made mistakes – there were few leaders of men who did not – but after all he was a great Irishman and a great statesman.

The resolution was passed in silence, all the members standing, with the exception of Mr. Lennon and Mr. Toner.

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16th March 1918

HONOURS FOR TYRONE OFFICERS

Captain James Harcourt Cecil Gatchell, R.A.M.C., Donemana, had been awarded the Military Cross, for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He worked with great zeal for many hours in the open under heavy shell-fire. He frequently dressed wounded men on the spot where they were hit, and when he was wounded he refused to leave his post until ordered to do so by his commanding officer. His contempt of danger and devotion to duty were an example to all ranks.

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STRABANE AND DISTRICT
GAS ECONOMY

A public meeting under the auspices of Strabane Urban Council, will be held in the Town Hall on Monday, 25th March, at eight o'clock, to consider the advisability of shutting off the gas supply from all consumers for certain hours, owing to the coal shortage.

Strabane Weekly News
16th March 1918

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge this week were Miss Wagentrieber (Inchenagh) and Miss R Clark (Bowling Green). Contributions were received from his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. Herdman, Mrs. J. C. Herdman, Miss Chapman, Miss Ellis, Miss Wagentrieber, Miss Gillespie, Mrs. Toner, and Captain Herdman.

Strabane Weekly News
16th March 1918

CONVOY VOLUNTEER HONOURED

The members of the Convoy U.V.F. turned out in full force to honour their former drill instructor, Sergeant Robert Clarke, and Mrs. Clarke, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, at a social on Thursday evening. Mr. Weir, Convoy Mill, who presided, in presenting a testimonial from the U.V.F., spoke of the pride which the Volunteers felt in the gallantry of their drill instructor, who had won the Military Medal and Distinguished Conduct Medal on the battlefield. Sergeant Clarke was twice wounded and had some narrow escapes from being made prisoner. Songs and dances filled up the time till a late hour, when the company parted after giving three cheers for Sergeant Clarke and his bride.

Strabane Weekly News
16th March 1918

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening. Miss Mc Crea (vice-president of the association) presided. The minutes of last meeting were read, after which letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Mrs. Wm. King, Mrs. E. Clarke, and Mrs. H. Cooper. On the proposition of Mrs. Toner, seconded by Miss McCrea, a vote of condolence was passed to Mrs. Wm. King on the occasion of her bereavement, caused by the death of her sister. The vote was passed in silence. A letter was read from Mrs. John Reilly thanking the members for their vote of condolence on the occasion of the death of her brother. Miss Mc Crea announced that she had a large parcel of knitted articles ready for despatch to Mrs Mc Mordie (Belfast), for the Red Cross Society. She also intimated that she had ordered more wool through the Red Cross, but same had not yet arrived. Mrs. Lavery and Mrs. Feely, on behalf of the Rest Club, reported that since the last meeting 34 men had passed through the Club, and that a single ticket had been provided for a soldier who was travelling there. They were all highly satisfied with the treatment at the Club. Further arrangements were made for the Daffodil Fete to be held on 11th April next.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd March 1918

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE
VOTE OF CONDOLENCE

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held on Thursday evening, Miss McCrea (vice president) in the chair. Apologies for non-attendance were read from Mrs. Wm. King, Mrs. E. Clarke and Mrs. H. Cooper.

On the motion of Mrs. Toner, seconded by Miss McCrea, a vote of condolence was in silence with Mrs. Wm. King on the death of her sister.

A letter of thanks was received from Mrs. John Reilly, Bowling Green, for the Committee's kind resolution of sympathy on the death of her brother.

On behalf of the Dispatch committee, Miss McCrea stated that she had a large parcel of knitted articles ready for dispatch to Mrs. McMordie, of Belfast, for the Red Cross Society.

Mrs. Lavery and Mrs. Feely, Rest Club Committee, reported that since the last meeting thirty four men had passed through the Club, and that a single railway ticket had been provided for a soldier who was travelling to Strabane. The soldiers and sailors were all highly pleased with the treatment which they received at the Club.

Further arrangements were made for the Daffodil Fete to be held on 11th April next.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd March 1918

MR. DILLON'S "NEW POLICY"

Mr Dillon made his first appearance on a public platform since his selection as chairman of the Irish Party at Enniskillen on Saturday last. The greater part of his speeches, both at Enniskillen on Saturday and

Kingscourt on Sunday, were devoted to criticism of the Sinn Fein Party and its policy. This may be considered good party tactics, just as under some circumstances it is considered good policy for a lawyer to pick holes in his opponent's case, particularly when his own case is not a very good one. There are many who expected that Mr. Dillon would have had the courage to formulate a bold and military policy, as many of his old political friends alleged that Mr. Dillon was not in agreement with the late Mr. Redmond in the Imperial policy which he (Mr Redmond) adopted in the late years of his leadership.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd March 1918

The nurses in charge were Miss Wagentrieber (Inchenagh) and Miss R. Clark (Bowling Green). Contributions were received from his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss Chapman, Miss Ellis, Miss Wagentrieber, Miss Gillespie, Mrs. Toner and Captain Herdman.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd March 1918

The Strabane Women's War Relief Committee are to be congratulated on the signal success achieved by them in connection for the collection of eggs for the wounded soldiers at the Military Hospital. As will be noted by our advertising column, upwards of 200 dozen eggs have been collected through the medium of the willing volunteers. In addition, a handsome sum of money has been subscribed by the patriotic people in the various localities. The object is indeed most deserving, and the committee's work is appreciated. The committee takes here the opportunity of thanking most sincerely all the contributors.

Strabane Weekly News

23rd March 1918

WARNING TO FLAX GROWERS SHORTAGE OF FLAXSEED

Owing to the need for extending largely the area under flax, all available seed will be required for sowing in the coming season. Farmers are, therefore, urged to take every care of the flax seed saved by them off the eighth part of their 1917 crops.

If the seed, on testing, is suitable for sowing, they should sow it themselves. If they have more home-saved seed than they require they should dispose of the surplus to other flax-growers.

Failure to take proper care of such seed, or to dispose of it as the Department of Agriculture may direct, constitutes a breach of the Flax Seed (Ireland) Order, 1917.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, Dublin. March 1918

Strabane Weekly News

23rd March 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The following are prisoners of war in German hands:- Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers – Kerrigan, 24683. W. (Castleberg); Corr, 25599 E. (Letterkenny); Haire, 23655 J. (Sion Mills); Loughrey 26272, Lance Corporal O (Buchanan); Riley 21872 C (Strabane).

Strabane Weekly News

23rd March 1918

CASTLEBERG WOMEN'S PATRIOTISM SUCCESSFUL KNITTING CLUB

Castleberg women have since the beginning of the war conducted with signal success many undertakings to alleviate the conditions in which their kinsmen are fighting their country's battles, and it is interesting to learn a few facts about one of these which has been quietly and unostentatiously proceeding during the winter months. Soldiers on leave will inform anyone that the greatest boon they can have is a dry, warm pair of socks after a sojourn in the trenches. To provide these a knitting club was commenced in Castleberg, with Miss Wilson as president; Miss L. Hamilton as treasurer, and Miss J. Harper as secretary. Their funds were drawn from three sources - £24 19s 3d, part proceeds of a collection; £2 10s from the Castleberg Athletic Club, per Messrs. Holman and Baxter, and £4 1s, proceeds of a cinema entertainment, per Rev. J. B. Templeton or £31 10s 3d. With this money 549 cuts of wool were bought, and given to those willing to undertake the task of turning them into socks and mufflers. The work was well done, and resulted in 150 pairs of socks and three mufflers being sent to soldiers from the district in France and Salonika, which provided a source of comfort to the men, and gave them to feel that whatever might be the condition of Ireland they were not forgotten. Twenty-six parcels of food were also despatched, and doubtless much

appreciated as the socks and mufflers. A small balance still remains on hands. This is a record which any town may well be proud of and should be an incentive to the ladies to further efforts. A word of praise is due to Miss Wilson, Miss Hamilton, and Miss Harper for their interest and time they devoted to the work.

Strabane Weekly News
30th March 1918

STRABANE TOWN LIGHTING
THE GAS SUPPLY AND COAL SHORTAGE

A public meeting of the gas consumers of Strabane, convened by order of the Chairman of the Strabane Urban District Council.

The Chairman said their business was to consider the best means of economising the gas. They were all aware of the great shortage of coal, owing to some steamers used for carrying their coal supplies having been withdrawn for other purposes.

Strabane Weekly News
30th March 1918

STRABANE URBAN COUNCIL
THE RATES INCREASED

A special meeting of the Strabane Urban District Council to consider the Clerk's draft estimate of rates for the year was held in the Council Chamber.

The Clerk explained that the increase was due to the fact that a sum of £438 had been taken out of the Reserve Fund last year, also the County Council demand this year was £357 in excess of last year, and the cost of new siphon and additional sum for maintenance of streets, £275, making a total of £1,070 in excess of last year, representing a difference of 1s 10d in the £1

Strabane Weekly News
30th March 1918

Tyrone have been awarded the Military Medal:- 75631 L.-Cpl. T. Fiskin, R.E., Newtownstewart.

Strabane Weekly News
30th March 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The Baronscourt Branch of the Hospital Supplies Depot, Londonderry, has been very busy doing good work since November last. The Duchess of Abercorn very kindly gave the use of a room in the Castle, and here week after week Mrs. F. M. Hamilton and a devoted band of workers have met, and the result of their labours is now visible to the extent of 190 pairs of soft carpet slippers, and 15 pairs of soft boots, suitable for poor fellows suffering from "trench feet". These comforts are greatly appreciated by soldiers in the hospitals. This footwear will be forwarded in due course to the Derry Depot.

Lance-Corporal Wasson, son of Mr. Andrew Wasson, Letterbin, has been wounded in action. A wire to this effect was received on Tuesday.

Strabane Chronicle
Saturday 30th March 1918

DAFFODIL FETE

In aid of Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club and War Relief Fund will be held in
TOWN HALL, STRABANE

on

THURSDAY 11th APRIL 1918

from 3.p.m. to 7p.m.

ENTRANCE (without tax),.....7d

The various stalls will be:

PROVISION STALL

FLOWER STALL

FANCY STALL

TEA STALL

In connection with the Fancy Stall, there will be shilling Competition Stall,
War Relief Bond Surprise Packets, Doll's House and Toy Stall

Mr. D. Connolly's Band will perform selections during afternoon

The Fete will be followed by

CINDERELLA DANCE, from 8 to 12

Ladies 1/-. Gentlemen 2/-. Refreshments extra

THE CONSCRIPTION CRY
ENGLISH PRESS CLAMOUR
“THE PRICE OF HOME RULE”

“The demand for the application of conscription to Ireland continues to agitate the English Press of all sections”, and according to a statement in the Dillonite Party, Dublin, began, - “Daily Mail and Evening News. Adopt a more or less non-committal attitude. The Star, declaring that conscription won’t work in Ireland, deals with the [position of the Irish Party on the matter, while it is reported a big fight in the Cabinet on the question is in progress. Irish Unionists M.P.s are said to be against forcing compulsion at the moment. Appended are some English Press views.”

“The Globe” – “As we anticipated, the voice of official Nationalism is making itself heard on the subject of conscription for Ireland. Mr. Devlin boasts that his party has thus far prevented it and will never allow it. That is the declaration quite in accordance with Nationalist traditions. We do not value its worth a farthing. Ireland must be compelled to contribute its just proportion of men to the defence of the Empire”.

The London correspondent of the” Birmingham Post “wrote – “It is understood that the extension of the Military Service Acts of Ireland will be part of a large and generous scheme of self-government, mainly based on the conclusion of the Convention. The Cabinet recognize that to introduce conscription simply as coercion would be fraught with danger; but they consider that, accompanied by a spontaneous and simultaneous measure of devolution, peril would be avoided. There, in this new and important factor in the situation to be borne in mind – that no American assistance in any form will be forth coming for aIrish attempt stand out of the great struggle.”

The London correspondent of the” Manchester Guardian “wrote – “I am sure that the Government know that they cannot now apply conscription to Ireland, but it is just possible that they can apply it pari passu with a measure of Home Rule for Ireland. That would be as great a mistake as the Irish Party will not fail to tell them and would simply present us with another western front.”

“The Morning Post” says – “We are told that the Government are still considering the question. If they are considering what will be the political effect in Ireland if they

.....
It is not easy for the Party to explain the position. They have at present to see that Sinn Fein does not sweep the country and hence we find Mr. Devlin declaring in E. Tyrone that the Nationalists will never consent to conscription. Mr. Girvin, in “The Observer” proposes that conscription for Ireland should be placed on the Statute Book as a ‘principle’ but held up, suspended like the Home Rule Act, and come into operation as the price of the latter. It is an attractive looking scheme in London, but in Ireland it won’t work. Sinn Fein would like to wreck the Home Rule Act, and it is very probable that the Catholic Hierarchy shares the same feeling. Why should Sinn Fein consent to conscription, which they hate as the price for Home Rule. Which they do not want. It would be possible after violent Nationalist protests, to force conscription for Ireland through the House of Commons, but to enforce it, ‘aye, there’s the rub. It could be done by sufficiently large armed forces in France and not in Clare. A fight against conscription would be a struggle between Great Britain and almost all Ireland. It would be a fight in which Sinn Fein would find on its side the farmers and their sons, the shopkeepers the clergy, and the Nationalist M.P.s. as a large part of Belfast Orangemen are shipyard workers, and therefore protected, the outcry might not be quite so strong there, but the support of conscription in agricultural Ulster would be no stronger among the Protestants than among Catholics. If such a measure were passed the Convention would break up at once, and the Government would be thrown back on the old, old plan of naked coercion. It is a dilemma in which Mr. Lloyd George needs the wisest counsels.”

HELD OVER FOR CONVENTION

“it is expected“ says the Parliamentary correspondent of the “Telegraph”, “that the question of extending the new man-power measure to Ireland will be held over until the Irish Convention has been completed. The report may be ready at an early period, and the Government will then consider the subject in all its ramifications. Both the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Chief Secretary are in London and in constant touch the War Cabinet.

“NO INTENTION OF CONSCRIPTING IRISHMENT”

The London correspondent of the “Irish Independent” writing on Wednesday night, says – “All the evidence at present bearing on what is going on behind the scenes in connection with the man-power situation justifies the conclusion that the Government has no intentions of submitting to Parliament proposals for the conscription of Irishmen. A great mass of pressure from powerful newspapers is being applied to the Government to force upon it a decision to conscript the manhood of Ireland in order that is may, as far as possible, replace the casualties on the Western Front. I am assured, however, on reliable authority that no

political party, and no set of responsible politicians, is urging on the Government a policy so mad as that of placing Ireland under conscription.

Strabane Chronicle

6th April 1918

STRABANE DAFFODIL FETE

As was announced in our advertising columns, the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee held a daffodil fete and dance in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday evening. The hall was decorated with flags etc. Mr. Dan Connolly's orchestra supplied the music. The attendance was large, the following assists with the stalls:-

Provision Stall – Mrs. Toner, Mrs. King, Miss McCrea, Miss Hepburn, Mrs. Black, Mrs. Harken, Mrs. J. Elliott, Miss Woods, Miss McCarter, Mrs. Perry, Mrs. T. Perry, Miss Young, Mrs. Sayers, Miss Wilson, Miss K. Feely, Miss L. Toner, and Mrs. K. Fulton.

Fancy stall – Mrs. McElhinney, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. John Reilly, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. P. Gallagher, Mrs. F. Browne, Mrs. Keenan, The Misses Reilly, Miss Hadfield, and Miss N. Gallagher.

Shilling Competition Stall – Miss Joyce, Miss L. Perry, Miss F. Keatley, Miss M. Adams, and Miss Bates.

Flower Stall – Miss Herdman, Mrs. Coxall, Mrs. McFeeters, Miss M. Russell, and Miss F. Herdman.

Tea Stall – Mrs. Feely, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Lavery, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. Gripton, Miss Griffen, Miss D. Reilly, Miss K. O'Brien, Miss Mehaffy, Miss Pauline Feely, and Mrs. McDaid.

War relief Bond stall -Mrs. H.C. Cochrane, Miss Lavery, Miss Orr, and Miss Porterfield.

Doll's Stall – Miss Connolly, Miss G. Herdman, Miss Mills, Miss Chapman, Miss M. O'Brien, Miss e.

O'Brien, Miss N. Feely, Miss P. Topham, Miss T. Herdman, Master Pat Herdman, Miss Daisy Magee, Miss F. Flanagan, Miss R. Fletcher, Miss M. McIntyre, and Miss Ivy Russell.

Palmistry – Mrs. Keane, Abercorn, Strabane, and Mrs. McAnaw, Main Street, Strabane.

As a protest against conscription, a member of the Women's War Relief Committee has tendered her resignation and refrained from attending the daffodil fete.

Strabane Weekly News

6th April 1918

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

The relatives of Private Fred Fricker, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Bridge Street, Strabane, have received notification that he has been wounded in action in the recent severe fighting. Private Fricker was wounded on two previous occasions.

The parents of Sergeant W. T. Barclay and Private R. Watson, both of the Inniskilling Fusiliers, have received news that they have been wounded in the German advance and are in hospital. Both were members of the Convoy U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News

6th April 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

14536 Company Sergeant-Major J.J. Patterson, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Newtownstewart, has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal. The enemy attacked a trench which his company was holding. Although under very heavy rifle fire he rushed to that part of the trench in which the enemy was gaining a footing, and with great courage led an attack which drove them out. It was mainly owing to his promptitude and fearlessness that the enemy attack was repulsed.

Mr John Wilson, Main Street, received a welcome letter from his son, Second-Lieutenant A. Wilson, R.F.A. on Thursday morning, from which it appeared that the writer was alive and well in a rest camp after three weeks hard fighting. This letter was written the day after the War Office had stated that Lieutenant Wilson was missing, in a wire received here on Wednesday.

Pte W.H. Toland of the Inniskillings, son of Mrs. Toland Dublin Street, has been wounded.

Rumours and false reports as to casualties at the front are very freely circulated here. In many cases there are no foundation for the reports. We have still difficulty in getting relatives to inform us promptly of any official intimation they receive.

Strabane Chronicle

6th April 1918

THE FUEL SHORTAGE

The decision of the Government to reduce by 25 per cent. the amount of coal coming to Ireland, will, it is certain, cause grave inconvenience and serious loss to Irish industries if steps are not promptly taken to meet the situation by economy in the use of coal and the use of other fuel where practicable.

Strabane Chronicle
6th April 1918

FURTHER SACRIFICES LLOYD GEORGE AND WAR SITUATION

The Premier has issued the following statement on the war situation: -

“For the past few days, after the German Army had launched upon our lines and attack unparalleled in its concentration of troops and guns, the situation was extremely critical. Thanks to the indomitable bravery of our troops, who gradually stemmed the enemy advance until reinforcements could arrive, and our faithful Ally could enter into the battle, the situation is now improved.

The struggle, however, is still only in its opening stages, and no prediction of its future course can be made.”

Strabane Chronicle
13th April 1918

CONSCRIPTION

Ireland is today confronted with the proposal of the Government to force into military service the manhood of this country for the prosecution of the war – a war which we are told is waged in the interests of small nationalities. If the self-styled protector of small nationalities is as sincere as she professes, her duty to this country is a plain one and easy of effect. But the disclosure in the Prime Minister’s address in the House of Commons on Tuesday confirmed the belief that we have repeatedly espoused, and which were the settled convictions of all right-thinking Irishmen, except those duped by the platitudes of our misrepresentatives that the Lloyd George Convention and the promises of British Statesmen were merely intended to side track the National Question and to kill time. Today we are informed by the Prime Minister that the Convention Report is ready but as the status of “substantial agreement” has not been reached, the Government intend to take the initiative and introduce a measure itself. Surely an encouraging feature for Ireland’s future! When Sinn Fein was asked to take part in the deliberations of that Convention certain guarantees were demanded to ensure that the majority findings of the assembly would be given effect to by the Government, but these were refused. Who, today, can fail to see the genuineness of the course adopted by the Sinn Fein Party? Even in recent election contests those who were misled by the members of the Dillonite Party and their organisers were assured that it was only a matter of a few months until Irishmen would be working together under a satisfactory system of home government. What estimate will be put on such professions at the present time? The game of intriguing politics is worn out!

Strabane Chronicle
13th April 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART SOLDIER KILLED

Sincere regret was felt in Newtownstewart and District when the sad news became known of the death in action of Private McElhatton, Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McElhatton, Dublin Road. The deceased, who was very popular with all classes of the community, was home on leave only a few weeks ago, and the news of his death must have come as a great blow to his parents and relatives, who are highly respected and esteemed. Some years ago deceased took a prominent part in football affairs in Newtownstewart and he was a capable member of the Newtownstewart Harmonised Flute Band, his efforts being largely responsible for the band’s magnificent victory in securing the shield at the Omagh Band Contest in 1911. Of a cheery and amiable disposition, he was a warm favourite with all those who knew him, and his sad death at an early age has occasioned much regret among his former friends and acquaintances. The sincere sympathy of the general public will be extended to Mr. and Mrs. McElhatton in their sad bereavement. May his soul rest in peace.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

The relatives of Private William Henderson, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane, have received notification that he has been wounded. He enlisted in Glasgow and has two other brothers serving with the colours.

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13th April 1918

STRABANE ENGINEER WOUNDED

Sergeant William H. McClay, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Bridge Street Strabane, has been wounded in action. He is a son of Mr. James McClay, contractor, of Strabane, and has been on active service since the commencement of the war. His brother, Thomas McClay is also with the colours.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

WAR RELIEF MEETING

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, at which Miss Mc Crea (vice-president) presided. A letter was read from Mrs. Wm. King thanking the members of the committee for passing their kind vote of condolence on the occasion of her recent bereavement.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

SION MILLS CASUALTIES

Pte. Jack Moore, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mrs. John Moore, Sion Mills, was wounded on 23rd ult. and is presently in Netley Hospital England. His brother, Leonard, is on active service in France. He belonged to the U.V.F. Pte. Wm. McCallion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, killed in action on 26th March, is a son of Mr. Hugh Mc Callion, Sion Mills. He was a member of the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

EMPLOYMENT FOR EX-SOLDIERS

It will be of interest to a large number of men who have served their country, and are not total incapacitated, to learn that if they desire employment in the Post Office as caretakers, porters and postmen if they register their names with the local pension committee in Strabane, they in turn will register their names and should suitable employment be found they will be informed. Large numbers of men now discharged seem to be unaware of this fact. If they adopt the course suggested some suitable employment can be found for them instead of applying through any labour exchange. For the Strabane district Mr. T.B. Feely, Clerk of the Urban Council will be pleased to receive the names of all ex-soldiers desirous of employment.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

BIRTHS MARRIAGES DEATHS IN MEMORIAM

GORDON – In loving memory of Gunner Jim Gordon, aged 18 years and 7 months, Royal Field Artillery, who died in hospital of wounds on 13th April 1916, and was interred in Military Cemetery, Mesopotamia.
“And with the morn those angel faces smile,
Which I have loved long since and lost awhile”
10 Eden Terrace, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

EQUAL SERVICE

The proposals put forward on Tuesday in the House of Commons by Mr Lloyd George to enable the Government, by means of an order in Council, to apply the Military Service Act to Ireland, will be heartily welcomed by all having the highest interests of the country at heart. It has been a reproach and scandal to the Government that Ireland has been exempt from compulsory military service so long, and it is generally admitted that a big blunder was made some two and a half years ago by the Asquithian Government in declining to apply to Ireland the same military obligations as those imposed on every other part of the United Kingdom. Had the Government then acted firmly on the question, and given Ireland to understand that it must bear its share of the burden of the war, Ireland would have accepted the measure without demur, but the Government then chose to yield to wild Nationalist clamour and threats which had very little, if any, force behind them, and the result is visible to-day in the condition of the country. The folly of the Government at that time was indirectly responsible

The 'London Gazette' reported, "Captain Charles O'Reilly, M.C., M. D., R. A. M. C., Strabane has been awarded a bar to his Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in personally supervising the evacuation of wounded, passing and re-passing through heavy barrage fire. When a neighbouring M.O.

was killed, he attached himself to the battalion and dressed and supervised the evacuation of the wounded."

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

CASTLEDERG OFFICER KILLED

Rev. James McCay, Castlederg has received official notification that his son, Lieutenant J.F.D. McCay, Royal Rifles, was killed in action on 27th March.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

KILLETER MAN KILLED

Corporal Thomas J. Mc Cormick, N.J.H., killed in action on 27th ult., was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. McCormick, Woodside, Killeter. A company commander in the Killeter U.V.F., he went overseas in August 1914 and saw hard service with the North Irish Horse in the retreat from Mons. His lieutenant writes – "I wish to express my sympathy and grief at the loss of your son. I have had the pleasure of being his troop officer now for nearly two years, and it has been a very sad blow to all of us that he should have been taken away. I regret that I have not been able to hear the circumstances of his death as yet, as he was on detached duty with one of his troop mates carrying messages for a brigade of heavy artillery, and the man with him has not been recalled to the regiment yet, but this I am sure of, that he met his end as the most gallant fellow he was. No one could have desired a better corporal – always cheerful and willing to do his best. I know how hard it will be for you to bear his loss, and I know that every officer and man in this squadron feels deeply for you." In the Orange Order Corporal McCormick was a member of the Killeter L.O.L 370 and R.B.P., Lisleen, 191. His parents, brothers, and sisters have the sincere sympathy of the entire community in their great loss.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Pte. John Mc Master, of the R. I. Fusiliers, son of Mr. Joseph Mc Master, Main Street, received an arm wound in the recent fighting and is at present in an English hospital.

Pte. James Mc Closkey, of the Inniskillings, son of Mr. James Mc Closkey, has been wounded for the second time. He lies in a Bristol Hospital.

Strabane Weekly News
13th April 1918

V.A.D. ENTERTAINMENT

The Town Hall Strabane was packed to its utmost capacity on Thursday evening when the V.A.D. nurses of Strabane and district gave their annual entertainment to the soldiers and staff at the Strabane Military Hospital. The spacious hall was elegantly decorated for the function with spring flowers and plants and when the company sat down to a sumptuous tea the building presented a very animated appearance. Whilst tea was being partaken of, Miss Connolly's orchestra discoursed selections of a patriotic nature. A very enjoyable concert programme was submitted, the contributors being:- Song, Mrs. Andrew Doherty: song: Miss Hadfield; recitation: Miss Bettie Joyce (Larne); duet: Miss and Mr. Hadfield; song: Mr. Jim Gallagher; song: Miss Hadfield; song: Mr. Hadfield. Mrs. Boyd (Lifford) delighted the audience with her rendering a song entitled "All by the Baltic Sea". A pleasing item which was well received was a Spanish dance by Miss Gladys Cooper and to imperative encores she was obliged to repeat the dance. For the dancing which followed the accompaniments were admirably played by Miss Connolly, Miss Maggie Russell and Mr Bernard Connolly. The entertainment which was the last of the season in connection with the wounded soldiers was well organised and special praise is due to Miss McGowan, Miss Joyce, and Miss Maggie Russell. The happy entertainment concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem. The following were the V.A.D. nurses responsible for the entertainment:- Miss Joyce, Miss Russell, Miss MacGowan, Miss McCarter, Miss Woods, Miss Ellis, Miss A. Quinn, Miss L. Quinn, Miss May Quinn, Miss Chapman, Miss Perry, Miss Rule, Miss Wagentrieber, Miss Hadfield, Miss Adams, Miss Wilson, Miss Sayers, Miss McAnaw, Miss F Keatly, Miss White, Miss Smyth, Miss Stewart and Miss Porterfield.

Strabane Chronicle
20th April 1918

**COAL SHORTAGE
URGENT NEED FOR ECONOMY**

Owing to tonnage and other difficulties the supplies of coal imported from Great Britain to Ireland are greatly reduced. Notice is therefore given that it is of the most importance that every economy be used in the consumption of imported coal. Substitutes such as peat, wood, and coal from Irish collieries should be availed of as far as possible.

**Strabane Chronicle
20th April 1918**

KILLED IN ACTION

Mr. William Fodey, Butcher Street, Strabane, has received a letter from the Rev. John Muir, British expeditionary Force, France, intimating that his son, Private Bernard John Fodey, Highland Light Infantry, was killed on the 22nd March last. The chaplain states that Private Fodey went into action on the 21st March and went through very heavy fighting and concludes by paying a tribute to the deceased.

**Strabane Chronicle
20th April 1918**

LATEST WAR NEWS

The Germans, by an advance on Armentieres, France have converted that town into a dangerous salient for the allies. According to a German military expert, the Germans are now reaping the immediate strategical results of their recent success, as they can make themselves felt anywhere from Flanders to the Adriatic. The Germans assert that they have captured the first British and Portuguese positions between Armentieres and the La Bassee Canal and have captured 6,000 prisoners and taken 100 guns. This brings the total of the prisoners claimed by them to 98,000. They also state that they have thrown the French back across the Oise-Aisne canal.

A message from the German headquarters, France said "The battle is continuing on the whole front from La Bassee canal to the Ypres-Commines Canal. Severe fighting has taken place between the Lawe and the Lys canal, from about Lestrem to Armentieres, which is full of gas. Heavy fighting continues in the neighbourhood of Floegsturt".

**Strabane Weekly News
20th April 1918**

STRABANE MATRON DECORATED

Sister Magee, who has been matron of the Strabane Military Hospital since it was opened after the outbreak of the war has had the honour of being called to Buckingham Palace where this week she was decorated by His Majesty the King with the Royal Red cross (second class decoration) in company with a large number of other hospital nurses throughout the United Kingdom. Sister Magee was afterwards presented to Queen Alexandra at Marlborough House where she was presented with a photograph and picture of Queen Alexandra and book. Sister Magee is highly deserving of the honour conferred upon her for her invaluable work in connection with the local military as it is well known that her duties as matron have carried out with assiduity and care. Her services have been highly appreciated by all who have come into contact with her in discharge of her duties, which at times have been exceptionally generous and the soldiers who have passed through the hospital have invariably left with regret.

**Strabane Weekly News
20th April 1918**

At the meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee held in the Town Hall, Strabane, on Thursday night Miss McCrea (vice president) in the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were read by Miss J.C. Herdman. A letter of apology was read from Mrs. Clarke (The Manse) Miss McCrea reported having received a quantity of wool from the Red Cross committee for knitting into comforts. It was decided to have a collection for prisoners of war in Germany on Strabane show day. The accounts for the military hospital were presented by Mrs. William King and passed for payment. Mrs. J. O. Herdman announced that the Daffodil Fete had been an immense success and that a very substantial sum would be available for the soldiers and sailors rest club and war relief.

**Strabane Weekly News
20th April 1918**

STRABANE OFFICER PRISONER

Mr William Stuart, B.E., Strabane, has received intelligence that his son Lieutenant Jack Stuart, is a prisoner of war. Lieut. Stuart joined the Army at the commencement of the war and received a commission

with the Royal Siege Artillery. He was captured in the recent battle. Another brother, Vernon T. W. Stuart, has just passed his final examination as a wireless operator.

Strabane Weekly News
20th April 1918

ROMAN CATHOLICS AND CONSCRIPTION URNEY

The Very Rev. James O'Kane, P.P., V.F., Urney at Mass at St Mary's Church, Melmount, Strabane, strongly denounced the Military Service Act for Ireland, and told the young men to resort to passive resistance, and thus defy an unjust law. Conscription for Ireland was unlawful and unjust. Refuse to do everything was his advice if they tried to conscript them. He declared that the Irish people had been long enough slaves and taxed to the ground. The Rev. George Ryan, C.C., Urney, also strongly denounced the measure, and counselled passive resistance at the last Mass in Melmount. After Mass and devotions, a number signed the covenant against conscription. In North Tyrone, a big crowd attended the different protest meetings, accompanied by hands and banners, bearing the motto, "No Conscription".

Strabane Weekly News
20th April 1918

THE ULSTERMAN

Did they lag in the testing day
And chatter loud of a bribe?

Kin with the breed that mocked our need
With a foul-mouthed rebel jibe.
With a jibe and a coloured rag,
And gold from the kindly Hun.
And a windy scorn of the Ulsterborn
Whom God, of old, made One.

They were Twain when they crossed the sea,
And often their folk had warred;
But, side by side, on the rampart's wide.
They cheered, as the gates were barred.
And they cheered as they passed their King
To the ford that daunted none,
For, field or wall, it was each for all,
When the Lord God made them One.

Thistle and rose, they twined them close,
When their fathers crossed the sea,
And they dyed them red, by Ulster's dead,
Where the blue-starred lint grows free;
Where the blue-starred lint grows free,
Here in the Northern sun,
Till His way was plain, He led the Twain,
And he forged them into One.

But the years of the menace fled,
And the travail of Empire came,
And they went then forth to the ends of earth,
With the flag of ancient fame:
Till, East and West, the far-flung bounds
Were widened by one,
And foremost still, when the day went ill,
Were the Twain whom God made One.

For the God who had made them great,
And the Mother who made them men,
They are side by side on the ramparts wide,
And the gates are barred again;
And the gates are the gates of France,

Barred in an autumn sun,
But the speech is the speech of the Derry men
Whom the Lord or God made One.

In the mist came a smashing blow,
They are bent-but the way is barred;
No carpet foes are the sons of those
Who sleep in Columb's yard.
In blood and tears, they bridge the years
From site to knightly son.
As the grimy grey tide breaks far and wide,
On the Twain whom God made One.

No laggards they is testing day
With a brazen call for a bride
No kin to the breed who mocked our need,
With a foul-mouthed rebel jibe.
With a jibe and a coloured rag
And gold from the kindly Hun,
And a windy scorn for the Ulsterborn,
Whom God, of old, made One.
Rev. W. F. MARSHALL

Strabane Weekly News
20th April 1918

CASTLEDERG
MISSING OFFICER

Acting-Captain Fred W. Davidon, Iniskilling Fusiliers, eldest son of Mr W. J. Davidson, manager of the Castlederg and Victoria Bridge Tramway Company, has been reported by the War Office as missing since the commencement of the German offensive. He joined the army obtaining a commission in April 1915 and has been on active service for almost two years. He was previously employed in the Sligo and Leitrim Railway. The family has a fine war record, two other brothers being officers, one of them at present recovering from a serious wound, whilst two sisters are engaged in munition work.

Strabane Weekly News
20th April 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Mr. W. J. Sproule, Rakelly, Newtownstewart, has received official intimation that one of his soldier sons, Pte. James Sproule, of the Irish Fusiliers, has received a severe gunshot wound. He is at present in the No 5 General Hospital at Rouen.
Sapper Joseph Mc Farand, of an Australian Regiment, son of the late Charles Mc Farland, Corrick Lodge, Newtownstewart, has been gassed, and is at present in hospital in England.

Strabane Weekly News
27th April 1918

STRABANE SOLDIERS PRISONERS

Pte. Fras. Mc Namee, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is a prisoner of war in Germany. Pte. Mc Namee has been at the front since August 1914 and was twice wounded.
Pte. P. Arbuckle, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is also a prisoner of war in Germany, being captured in the recent battle.
Notification has been received that Pte. Ellis, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, of Bridge Street, Strabane, has been made a prisoner of war.
Pte. J. Slevin (Hicky) Strabane, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is a prisoner of war.
Mr W.J.Davidson, manager of the Castlederg and Victoria Bridge Tramway Company has received an intimation from the War Office that his son Acting-Captain Fred W. Davidson, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who was reported in these columns last week as missing, is a prisoner of war in Germany, this relieving the anxiety which prevailed as to his fate.
Pte Wm Hamilton, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Fearn, Castlederg, is reported a prisoner of war in Germany, and has sustained a wounded arm.

Strabane Weekly News

4th May 1918

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Mac Gowan and Miss McAnaw. There were nine patients discharged during the week and eight admitted in their stead. Contributions were received from his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. Hamilton (Baronscourt), Miss Joyce, Miss McCarter, Miss E. Perry (Urney), Mrs. Lavery, War Supply Dept., Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mr. Aiken and Miss Gillespie.

Strabane Weekly News

4th May 1918

LETTER TO THE EDITOR STRABANE AND THE MILITARY

Dear Sir,- As we have now a number of soldiers in our midst, and as, from all reports, Strabane is likely in the near future to become a military centre, might I bespeak the real Irish welcome to which they are entitled to from the true patriots, and which in some instances, has not been extended to them in all quarters of our town for one reason or another, as it should have been.

It should be understood that these soldiers are not here for any fell purpose, but in order that the law may be respected, and the balance of justice held evenly between man and man.

As in other centres, the Young Men's Christian Association here have decided to throw open their rooms on the Derry Road to all soldiers, for reading, writing, smoking and amusement, and have further arrangements in hand for making their quarters more useful and comfortable by the addition of other papers, supply of writing materials, and in other ways, while a number of ladies are interesting themselves in the men so as to make life as pleasant for them as possible during their sojourn here.

Let us, especially those of military age, remember the golden rule, doing unto others as we would be done by, knowing that they are somebody else's sons, or brothers, or friends, and that a sense of duty alone has placed them where they are. – Patriotically yours. R. M'C. BLAIR

Strabane Weekly News

4th May 1918

IRELAND & CONSCRIPTION NATIONALIST "CONSPIRACY" THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE AWAITING DEVELOPMENTS

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, Major Newman asked the Chief Secretary whether he was aware that 17 of His Majesty's Counsel in Ireland had pledged themselves to resist the application of the Military Service Act to Ireland, and whether it was intended to take any notice of their action.

Mr. Duke-This matter is under the consideration of the Attorney-general for Ireland.

Strabane Weekly News

4th May 1918

TYRONE CASUALTIES

Lance-Corporal S. Semple, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and a native of Castlederg, is a prisoner of war in Germany. He was previous to enlisting a shop assistant in Mr. D. Scott's, Castlederg

Private R. Sproule, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, whose relative reside in Castlederg, is also a prisoner in Germany.

The following men of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, are officially reported wounded:- Hyndman, 11448, J., Newtownstewart; McElhill, 21876, J., Newtownstewart; Morris, Act-Corp, J., Strabane Pte. Joseph Doherty, Innis. Fusiliers of Chapel Street, Stranorlar, is reported wounded

Strabane Weekly News

4th May 1918

ULSTERMEN AT THE SOMME FAMOUS WRITER'S TRIBUTE

In the course of a vividly-written and detailed story of the Battle of the Somme which commences in the current number of the Strand magazine, Sir A. Conan Doyle pays an eloquent tribute to the gallantry and dash of the Ulster Division on that unforgettable 1st July.

He says the Division was composed of magnificent material for the blend of Scot and Celt to be found in the North of Ireland produces a soldier who combines the fire of the one and solidity of the other.

"These qualities," writes Sir Arthur, "have been brought to a finer temper by the atmosphere in which they have lived, and the difficult economical circumstances which they have overcome in so remarkable a way.

Long ago in unhappy civil strife they had shown their martial qualities, and now upon a nobler and wider stage they were destined to confirm them. It might well seem individuou to give the palm to any of the bands of heroes who shed their blood like water on the slopes of Picardy, but at least all soldiers would agree that among them all there was not one which could at its highest claim more than equality of achievement that day with the men of Ulster.”

Strabane Weekly News

4th May 1918

Mr. John Crosbie, jun., son of Mr John Crosbie, The Villas, Sion Mills, who was a Building Trades Instructor under the Co. Cavan Technical committee prior to his joining the army in November 1917 has now received a commission in the Royal air Force. He was a warrant officer in the Royal Navy Air Service up till 1st April. Second-Lieutenant Crosbie was attached to the Airships (Design) section at Westminster. His many friends in Cavan and Sion Mills will be pleased to hear of his promotion.

Mr. Samuel Hamilton, 4 Albert Place, Sion Mills has received a postcard from his son Pte. Thomas Hamilton of the Inniskillings, intimating that he is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Cadet David Alexander Mackey, Sion Mills has been gazetted to a Second-lieutenancy in the Somerset Light Infantry.

Strabane Weekly News

4th May 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Last week Mr. W.J. Sproule, Rathkelly, received news that his son Pte. James Sproule, who has been reported seriously wounded, has died as a result of his injuries. There appears to have been some mistake in the report for a few days ago Mr. Sproule received a letter from his boy dated several days after the first intimation. Pte. Sproule was in hospital only a short time, and in his letter stated that he expected to be getting into action in a short time again.

Pte. Wm. Wilson, who is attached to a Scottish regiment, son of Mr. Wm. Wilson, Mills Street, is officially reported a prisoner of war.

Strabane Chronicle

4th May 1918

Mrs Mary Magee, Church St., St Johnston, has a postcard from her eldest son, Private Thos. Magee, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, to say that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. Private Magee has been serving in France in the Regular Army since the war began. Of Mrs. Magee's sons, two are in the army, her youngest, William being invalided home from France, where he was seriously wounded at the Somme on the 1st July last. This latter has since underwent an operation on one foot in the U. V. F. Hospital, Belfast.

Strabane Weekly News

11th May 1918

PATRIOTIC STRABANE FAMILY

Mr. John Hall, Flushtown, Strabane has received word that his son Pte. Samuel Hall, Scottish Rifles has been killed in action on 28th March 1918. Prior to the war he was in Scotland and joined up there to serve his King and country. His brother, Ephraim, was wounded on 12th September 1917, at Cambrai while serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Another brother Robert is still serving with the Motor Transport at Salonica.

Strabane Weekly News

11th May 1918

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Mr Constantine Connolly, merchant, Strabane received the sad intelligence that his brother Lte.-Cpl. Francis Connolly of the Royal engineers has been killed in action. Lte.-Cpl. Connolly was a son of the late Mr James Connolly, Strabane enlisted in the year 1914 and took part in many engagements. The Letter from his officer, conveying the tidings states that the deceased was proceeding from the line when a shell burst and killed him instantaneously. Before the war the deceased was employed at the building department of Messrs. J. M'Clay and Sons., Strabane.

Mr John McGurk of Lifford Street, Strabane has been notified that his son Private Thos. McGurk, is a prisoner of war in Germany. He belongs to the Inniskilling Fusiliers, had been serving in France for three years and was wounded at the battle of the Somme in the advance of 1st July.

Mrs Gillespie of Market Street, Strabane has been notified that her son Sergeant Daniel Gillespie has been wounded. He belongs to the Irish Guards and was previously wounded.

Mr John Elliott, solicitor and coroner, Strabane has received the sad intelligence that his nephew Ernest Sibbald Elliott, aged 19 years, was killed in action on 6th April last. The deceased was a son of Mr. Archibald M'Dowell Elliott of Carleton Terrace, Milton Road, Liverpool, whose eldest son Arthur Elliott was killed in action about two years ago, and another son, Donald Elliott, has been wounded.

Strabane Weekly News
11th May 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Pte. John McGuigan of the Inniskillings writes to his father, Mr. P. McGuigan, Mill Street that he has been wounded and is at present in a French hospital.

Strabane Chronicle
11th May 1918

OUT OF ACTION

Mrs. Gillespie, Market Street, Strabane, has been notified that her son, Sergeant Daniel Gillespie, Irish Guards, has been wounded in action in the recent offensive.

Mr. John Elliott, solicitor and coroner, Strabane, has received the intelligence that his nephew, Ernest Sibbald Elliott, aged 19 years, was killed in action on the 6th April last. The deceased was the son of Mr. Archibald McDowell Elliott, of Carleton Terrace, Milton Road, Liverpool, whose eldest son, Arthur Elliott, was killed in action about two years ago, and another son, Donald Elliott, who is also serving with the colours, has been wounded.

Mr. John Hall, Flushtown, Strabane has received word that his son, Private Samuel Hall, Scottish Rifles, was killed in action on the 28th March 1918. Prior to the war he was in Scotland and joined up there. His brother Ephraim was wounded on 12th September 1917, at Cambrai, while serving with the Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers). Another brother, Robert, is still serving with the Motor Transport at Salonika. The relatives of Mr. Francis Connolly, Lifford, have learned with deep regret that he was killed in action in France in the recent heavy fighting. He belonged to the Royal Engineers and enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war. He was well-known and popular in the district. Much sympathy is felt for his bereaved mother, brothers and sisters.

Private Robert Coyle, of Ballyfatton, has been reported missing; and his brother, Private William Coyle, is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Strabane Chronicle
11th May 1918

NOTES

Lieut. J. F. D. Mc Cay R.I.R., son of Rev. Jas. Mc Cay, Castlederg, has been killed in action.

Strabane Weekly News
18th May 1918

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening 16th inst., Miss McCrea (Vice President) in the chair. In the unavoidable absence of Mrs. J.C. Herdman (Honorary Secretary) the minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. William King and confirmed. Letters of apology from non-attendance were read from Mrs. J.O. Herdman, Miss Joyce and Mrs. O'Brien. Miss McCrea reported having received a supply of wool from the Red Cross which she stated was of good quality for the purpose of knitting into socks. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery reported that two men had passed through the Rest Club and two men had stopped overnight.

The meeting selected Mrs. Feely, Tulagh-na-Greine and Mrs. Gripton, Townparks, to look after the prisoners of war for the town and district and it was decided that any person who has a friend a prisoner of war should hand the name to either ladies who will forward to the Honorary Lady MacDonnell, London, secretary for the Irish Women's Association, through whom parcels etc. is sent to prisoners of war in Germany.

Letters of thanks were read from Miss O'Callaghan (Dublin), winner of the £5 note and Mrs. Patton, another winner, in connection with the raffle at the recent Daffodil Fete. Miss D. Grove, Ballycastle, was the lucky winner of Captain Herdman's air raid puzzle drawn for a recent Daffodil Fete. The monthly accounts in connection with the Strabane Military Hospital were presented by Mrs. William King and passed for payment.

Strabane Weekly News
18th May 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses officiating for the week were Miss Adams (Sion) and Miss Lizzie Stewart (Dergalt).

Strabane Weekly News
18th May 1918

STRABANE SOLDIER KILLED

Mr William Fodey, who resides at Butcher Street, Strabane has received the sad intelligence that his son, Private Bernard John Fodey, has been killed in action. Deceased enlisted in Scotland about two years ago in the Highland Light Infantry. He has been in many engagements. The deceased has two other brothers with the colours, Patrick James Fodey, Highland Light Infantry and Charles Edward Fodey, Royal Flying Corps.

Strabane Weekly News
18th May 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The following appears in the official casualty list. Royal Engineers wounded:- sapper W. McClay, Strabane 40323.

Pte. Robert Snodgrass, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who belongs to Strabane and before the war was a member of the Carricklee Volunteers, was posted as missing since 22nd March. His parents who reside at Newmains, Lanarkshire, have however received from him a postcard informing them that he is wounded and a prisoner of war

Strabane Weekly News
18th May 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Lance.-Cpl. James McSorley, son of Mr Thomas McSorley, Rateen, is now a prisoner of war in Limburg camp. He had been over two years in France and was attached to a machine gun section when the last German offensive began.

Mr John Boyle, Dublin Street, has received a card from his son Pte. J.J. Boyle, of the Inniskillings indicating that he is now a prisoner in Germany.

Strabane Weekly News
25th May 1918

STRABANE AND DISTRICT CASUALTIES

The relatives of Private J. Kane, who reside at Meetinghouse Street, Strabane have received notification that he is a prisoner in Germany. Private Kane belongs to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and has been in the firing line for a considerable period.

The relatives of Pte. Alexander Murray, who reside at Tyboe, near Donemana have received intelligence that he died from wounds on 28th April. Pte. Murray belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and had been in the firing line for a lengthy period. Rev. Mr Paton, C.F. in a letter to deceased's relatives, states that the deceased was a brave and courageous soldier who gave his life willingly for his country.

Strabane Weekly News
25th May 1918

MILITARY MEDAL FOR ARDSTRAW MAN

Lce.-Cpl. James Hamilton of the Royal Engineers, son of Mr Stewart Hamilton, Ardstraw has been awarded the Military Medal. Corporal Hamilton's Company was deputed to blow up three bridges. Two of the fuses failed to act, and when the remainder of the men retired Corporal Hamilton with his officer returned and effected the explosion of the bridges just in time.

Strabane Weekly News
25th May 1918

BARONSCOURT RAIDED
DISGRACEFUL SINN FEIN OUTRAGE
BIG CONCENTRATION OF MAN AND MOTORS
EMPLOYEES CAPTURED – CASTLE RANSACKED FOR ARMS
MOONLIGHTERS MEET WITH FAILURE

On Friday night or Saturday morning last an outrage of the most diabolical character was committed at Baronscourt the beautiful country seat of his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, the roads and demesne being seized by a band of armed and masked Sinn Feiners and the castle raided in search of firearms. Fortunately the raid was most unsuccessful, no rifles or arms of any kind being found except a few rusty

swords which were valuable as antiques, but served no other purpose. The raid would appear to have been fairly well planned and the belief is generally entertained that a good many of those who participated in it had a knowledge of the grounds as well as the internal disposition of the castle.

Strabane Chronicle
1st June 1918



"Irish Independent" photograph

Mr. Dan Doherty, President of the Strabane Sinn Fein Club, who was recently arrested and now interned in Birmingham. Following the Easter Week Rebellion, he was also arrested and interned, being released three months afterwards.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

The remains of Second-Lieutenant Wm. K.M. Britton, Royal Flying Corps, were laid to rest in Strabane Cemetery on Sunday last. The gallant young officer met his death in the air as a result of an unfortunate accident whilst he was engaged in teaching an officer pupil to manipulate an aeroplane in circumstances.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

GENERAL AND INNISKILLINGS

The General Officer Commanding has sent the following communication to the officer commanding the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers:- Will you please convey to all officers and men of the battalion under your command my good wishes to them in this the first anniversary of the defeat OF THE Bavarian attack at Hulluch? On that occasion the battalion nobly kept up the traditions of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. I take this opportunity of expressing to all ranks my appreciation of the present spirit and smartness of the battalion. It is officially announced that Sergeant J. Hunter, Douglas Bridge has been awarded the Military Medal. He belongs to the Royal Irish Rifles.

The following casualties appear in the official lists from the ranks of the Inniskillings:- Killed: 28153 D. Noble, Victoria Bridge. Wounded: 27243 Johnston, Spamount. Shell-shock 27656 F. McTaggart, Newtownstewart.

Captain J. Watson, Londonderry and Strabane, has been mentioned in despatches.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Private J. McConnell, 19792, of Sion Mills who belonged to the Highland Light Infantry, has been wounded.

Private D. Caldwell, 13868, Donemana and Private S. Mulligan, 13886, Castlederg, both of whom belong to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who were previously reported as missing, are now reported killed.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

STRANORLAR OFFICER WOUNDED

Lieutenant David Bogle, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who is reported wounded, is a son of Mr. David Bogle, Main Street, Stranorlar. Prior to joining the forces Lieut. Bogle was engaged in the engineering department of the County Donegal Railway Joint Committee. He was a company commander in the U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Smith (Lifford) and Miss McCarter (Mourne View)

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

STRABANE SERGEANT MISSING

The relatives of Sergeant R. Pollock who reside at Artigarvan, near Strabane have received intimation that he has been missing after taking part in the recent offensive in France. Sergeant Pollock before the war was engaged as a mechanic in Strabane. He volunteered with the members of the U.V.F. of which he was a prominent member and enlisted with the Tyrone Battalion of the Ulster Division. He took part in the advance of 1st July 1916 at the Somme and was wounded.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

STRABANE OFFICER WOUNDED

Official intimation has been received by the Rev. Edward Clarke, The Manse, Strabane that his son Lieut. John K. Clarke, of the Royal Air Force has been wounded in France on the 20th inst. Lieut. Clarke was educated at Campbell College, Belfast. He volunteered at the outbreak of hostilities and served in France after training for a year and a half and came through the battle of the Somme with the Ulster Division. Afterwards he received his commission and was attached to the 16th Irish Division, fighting and coming through the battle of Cambrai. Subsequently Lieut. Clarke volunteered for the Royal Air Force and after a course of training in England returned to France, as an observer, where he was wounded after serving for two weeks. Lieutenant Clarke has another brother who is also an officer, T. V. Clarke, serving with the colours.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

In the "London Gazette" it is noticed that Capt. Gerald F.V. Leary, R.A.M.C. of Castlederg, youngest son of Dr Leary, J.P., has been promoted to the rank of major.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Pte. W.C. Hamilton, of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, son of Mr. Claud Hamilton, Woodbrook, Liscable, is reported missing.

Strabane Weekly News
1st June 1918

DEATH OF OMAGH MAN IN FRANCE

News has come to hand of the death of James John Frederick Hunter. He was a son of Mr. James Hunter, formerly of Drum, near Omagh. Over a decade ago Mr Hunter emigrated to Canada and took up farming at

Earl Grey, Seskatchewan. –volunteered for service. Soon after the war broke out his eldest boy—a young man of about 20 years of age.

Sincere sympathy will be extended to his father and family in Canada and to his uncles and aunts in Castlederg, Merville, Kircubbin and Newtownstewart.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

STRABANE PRISONERS OF WAR

The relatives of Pte. Slevin (Hicky) who reside at Strabane have been notified that he has been taken prisoner and is at present in Germany. He has been at the front since the year 1914 and has another brother with the colours. Pte. Slevin is well known in football circles having played in the final on more than one occasion in connection with the North-west Junior Cup. He is also a noted boxer and appeared in many boxing tournaments in the North-west.

The relatives of Pte. Francis McNamee, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who reside in Strabane have been notified that he is a prisoner in Germany. On a former occasion he was wounded. He is well known in cricket and football circles and took a lively interest in the Strabane Dramatic Company.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Mr James Stewart Taylor, Tyboe, Donemana has received information from the War Office that his son Pte. Alexander Murray Taylor, Derry Volunteers, has died of wounds received in action in France. The chaplain, in a letter to Mr. Stewart says the deceased was a brave soldier and always did his duty like a man. Pte Stewart was a member of L.O.L.1060. He has a brother and six cousins all serving with the colours.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

Second-Lieut. Charles Holmes, Royal Irish Rifles who has received an immediate award of the M.C., is a son of Mr. William Holmes, J.P., Ballybogan, Lifford and brother of Mr. R.B. Holmes, Brookhill, Omagh. He was on the staff of the Belfast Bank prior to joining the Queen's University O.T.C., from which he was gazetted to a commission in December 1916. He was wounded two months ago.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Mr W.J. Hamilton of Milltown (and formerly of Clady Hill) has received intimation that his son Pte. Wm. Hamilton of Wellington (New Zealand) Battalion has been killed in action. There are five brothers of this family serving in the army, and this is the second of them to make the supreme sacrifice. Pte. Hamilton enlisted for service at the outbreak of the war from New Zealand, whence he had emigrated 10 years ago. He was a member of Ardstraw "Death or Glory" L.O.L. , on whose roll of honour are to be found many who were willing to die for their native land.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses for the week were Miss D. McAnaw and Miss Hadfield, with Miss Joyce as housekeeper.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Saturday morning's casualty list contains the following names:- Died of wounds: Private J. Doherty, 31129, Castlederg.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART HEROES

A correspondence writes:- Although the war's horrors, devastation, and death are ever present to our minds, yet at certain times, we have if possible a clearer and more vivid conception of the awful tragedy which is being enacted on the battlefields of Europe. Thus as we read in your last issue of the death of Corporal David P. Smyth, of Newtownstewart, we think of that frank, fearless, manly youth leaving position,

friends, and all that made life dear, and going forth at his country's call to die in its defence. When reported at first as only "missing", one hoped that it might be true but as the weary months passed slowly by and no further tidings came, hope gradually gave way to the feelings of despair that perhaps the worst had happened, and then our fears were realised when, quite recently the official announcement came "believed killed"

Strabane Chronicle

8th June 1918

INCREASED COAL PRICES

The Board of Trade has made an Order increasing the price of all coal from Monday 2s 6d per ton, except in shipments to France and Italy, where the increase is 3d. The increase is due to increased cost of working at the collieries.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

STRABANE AND DISTRICT COMMISSION FOR A DONEGAL MAN

Sergeant John Woods, R.G.A. son of Mr John Woods, Finn Lodge, Castlefin, County Donegal has been promoted lieutenant on the field, and is retained on the artillery. He went out with the first Expeditionary Force, took part in the Mons retreat, the subsequent advance and took part in the very severe fighting in and around Ypres.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

DONEGAL OFFICER PROMOTED

Lieutenant James Shaw Allen, 10th (S) Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers), Ulster Division, eldest son of Mr James Allen, Trensalla, St. Johnston has been promoted captain. He joined the colours when war "broke out" receiving his training at the O.T.C., Queens University, Belfast. He took part in the big push last July and was mentioned in despatches. He was a prominent member of St Johnston U.V.F.

Strabane Weekly News

8th June 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss A. Quinn, Glentown and Miss Wisheart, Main Street.

Strabane Chronicle

8th June 1918

VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENT OR CONSCRIPTION LORD FRENCH'S CALL FOR RECRUITS

Voluntary recruiting will be tried in Ireland and if unsuccessful conscription will probably be attempted. On Monday night Viscount French, Lord Lieutenant and Military Governor in Ireland, issued a Proclamation which states: - In pursuance of our promise we now make our offer which, if successful, will ensure that Ireland will play part fully and freely in the world struggle for liberty. The offer we make is that Ireland should voluntarily furnish the number of men required to establish ratio when compared with all other parts of the Empire. In order to establish that ration Ireland can fairly be asked to raise 50,000 recruits before October 1st to replenish the Irish Divisions in the field, and after that date to raise 2,000 to 3,000 recruits per month, in order to maintain those Divisions. This is what we ask Ireland to do. We wish to make it quite clear to everyone that there is no intention to disturb farming interests, or food production, or to do anything which would hamper or curtail the essential industry of the country. It is not expected that many of the rural population will be available for military purposes. The Government look almost entirely to the large number of young men in the towns, far greater than is required to carry on ordinary retail trade, to furnish the necessary contingent. As was done in England, Scotland and Wales, we propose first to call upon the younger men and those who can best be spared to come forward to fight for their motherland. The limit of age in the present appeal is, therefore, fixed at 18 to 27. This is not intended to preclude older men from coming forward who may be specially fitted for military service or animated with a desire to serve their country in the field. We recognise that men who come forward and fight for their motherland and entitled to share in all that their motherland can offer. Steps are therefore being taken to ensure, as far as possible, that land shall be available for men who have fought for their country, and the necessary legislative

measure is now under consideration. Full details with regard to pay, separation allowance, positions, etc., will be published in due course.

Strabane Chronicle

8th June 1918

The workmen in Mc Pherson's Saw Mills at Newtownstewart have gone out on strike, having asked 2s per week increase which was refused.

Strabane Weekly News

15th June 1918

The official casualty list contains the following: wounded 43384 Lce-Cpl R. McGuinness, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) who belong to Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News

15th June 1918

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Pte. P. Arbuckle, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Strabane has been captured in the recent offensive and is in Germany. He had been at the front for more than two years. His other brother Pte. J. Arbuckle is with the colours since 1914.

The relatives of Pte. Fred Hughes, who reside at Strabane, have received intimation that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. Before enlisting he was a good member of the local Boys Scouts. His brother who was twice wounded, is with the Ulster Division.

Pte. Wm. Woods, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Bready, Strabane was seriously wounded on the 23rd March and is at present in hospital at Rouen. He is suffering from a compound fractured thigh. This is the second time he has been wounded.

Strabane Weekly News

15th June 1918

STRABANE SERGEANT GASSED

Mrs. Gillespie, Townhall Street, Strabane has received notification that her son, Sergeant Daniel Gillespie, has been gassed in action. Sergeant Gillespie is April 1915 enlisted in the Irish Guards as a private and afterwards was promoted from the ranks. He was wounded in August 1916 whilst taking part in the battle of the Somme and again in March 1918. At present Sergeant Gillespie is lying in an English hospital. Writing a few days ago to his mother, he states that when he was lying in France awaiting removal to England, and many of his comrades were killed and wounded. Prior to enlistment Sergeant Gillespie was engaged as a mechanic by the firm of Mr. J.A. Anderson, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News

15th June 1918

Mr. Patrick M'Gill, the well-known novelist and poet, was an interested visitor at Strabane Show on Thursday. In his "Children of the Dead End" Mr. M'Gill has used with powerful effect scenes and incidents of his early life in Donegal and Tyrone. Mr M'Gill returned from the front some time ago after a long spell of active service in the ranks, and on Thursday he was still in the uniform of the famous Irish Regiment which he joined as a volunteer.

Strabane Weekly News

15th June 1918

Lieutenant-Colonel C.G. Cole Hamilton, C.M.G., Royal Irish Rifles, who is officially reported as a prisoner of war, is a son of the late Captain W.C. Cole Hamilton, 88th Regiment (afterwards a Resident Magistrate) of Beltrim, Newtownstewart, County Tyrone, and a brother of the late Lieutenant-Colonel A.R. Cole Hamilton, D.L., of Beltrim who was killed in action on the Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915. He went to the front with the Ulster Division.

Strabane Weekly News

15th June 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Private John Duncan, of the Inniskillings, son of Mr William Duncan, Baronscourt, was wounded in recent engagement.

Strabane Weekly News

22nd June 1918

STRABANE CASUALTIES

Lance-Corporal John Craig, R.F.A., Lifford Street, Strabane has been wounded in action in France. Gunner Craig was a reserve man and went to France in 1914 with the first Expeditionary Force. Several other brothers are serving, one having been wounded for the sixth time.

Although the name of Pte. J. Mullen has been returned in the list as missing in many of the papers, it will be learned with satisfaction that his father Mr. Thomas Mullen, Meetinghouse Street, Strabane on Monday received a letter from him saying that he was quite well. Pte. Mullen has been at the front since 1914 with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

TYRONE AND DONEGAL CASUALTIES

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers: Wounded J. McGuigan, 4089, Newtownstewart: J. McPeak, 14841, Castlefin. Wounded and Missing-W.J. Hazlett, 18086, Castlefin: T Lecky, 19798, Castleberg: G. Porter, 21752, Castleberg: Missing- Lance-Sergeant J.R. Graham, 20231, Ardstraw: J. Millen, 3438, Strabane Royal Irish Rifles-Missing: J. Kane, 9194, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

DONEMANA SERGEANT WOUNDED

The relatives of Sergeant W. Browne, who reside at Donemana have been informed that he has been wounded in action. He has been with the colours since the commencement of the war.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Chapman of Carricklee, and Miss M. Adams of Glebe Upper, Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

WAR RELIEF IN STRABANE

A largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief committee was held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening. Mrs E.C. Herdman, presided.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The people of this district are gratified at the announcement of the Military Cross being awarded to Captain Daniel McKelvey, R.A.M.C., son of Mr J. McKelvey, Dunbunraver. The distinction has been given for conspicuous bravery on the field at the latter end of April. He was attached to the Gordon Highlanders. We regret to announce the death of Private John Duncan, through wounds received in action. He passed away in a French hospital. He was a son of Mr. John Duncan, Baronscourt. Two additional casualties to Baronscourt men have also been notified this week. Samuel Smyley, wounded son of Mrs. Bella Smyley and Corporal Matthew Livingstone, wounded, son of Mr. James Livingstone. Corporal Livingstone is at present in a Dublin hospital.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

HONOURS FOR TYRONE MEN MILITARY AWARDS

Lieut. Charles Stevenson, son of the late Mr. John J. Stevenson, Magheragar, Sion Mills who has been serving with the Canadian Infantry, has been awarded the Military Cross, and is offered a staff appointment. He formerly served abroad as a non-commissioned officer with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and at the termination of his period of service emigrated to Canada where he was engaged successfully in business at the outbreak of the war. He volunteered in the new Canadian Army and was with the first Canadian contingents were sent to France and took part in the severe fighting in which they were involved during 1915. About a year ago he attained commissioned rank and it was at the attack on Vimy Ridge that

he won his latest honour. He has been twice wounded – the last being at Vimy Ridge – but he has quite recovered and returned to duty. Another brother is also serving with the Canadians.

Captain Daniel McKelvey, R.A.M.C., eldest son of Mr John H. McKelvey, Dunbunraver, Gortin has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery, displayed on 23rd and 24th April and has been further honoured by receiving a letter from the General commanding the division, complimenting him on his gallantry. He is presently attached to the Gordon Highlanders.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

NIXON. – In sad and loving memory of our two sons who were killed in action; Andrew, killed in France, 21st October 1914, aged 25 years, and Thomas, killed in the Dardanelles, 19th June 1915, aged 20 years. Both belonged to the Orange Institution, Park Head branch, Glasgow, where they were highly esteemed. Three more brothers are still serving with the Colours. Inserted by their sorrowing parents Alexander and Emily Nixon, Culmore, Omagh, also their brothers and sisters.

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The following casualties in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers are officially announced: Wounded; 11290 Sergeant Brown (Donemana).

Strabane Weekly News
22nd June 1918

On Thursday afternoon the usual fortnightly party for the wounded soldiers and staff at the Military Hospital took place in the Abercorn Schools. The hostesses on the occasion were Miss Hepburn, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Gripton, Mrs. McFeeters, Miss McCrea and Mrs. P.H. O'Brien, who catered for their guests in a most generous manner. Tea was served during which Miss Connolly's band rendered choice selections of music. A highly musical programme was submitted, those taking part being:- Song, Mrs. W.M. Berry, song, Miss Porter, Song, Miss McKee, Song, Mr. Bolton. The accompaniments were played by Miss Maggie Russell, Mrs. W.M. Berry and Miss B. Connolly. The singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' and the National anthem concluded a very enjoyable function.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

STRABANE SINN FEINERS
WANT IRELAND TO BE FREE
HOW THE RANK AND FILE ARE GULLED

On Sunday last a meeting of protest against the arrest and deportation of Irishmen was held at the Grain market, Strabane. Contingents came from different parts. Mr Patrick McBrearty, vice-president of Roger Casement Sinn Fein Club, Strabane presided.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Wagentrieber and Miss Hadfield

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

V.A.D. NURSE VOLUNTEERS

Miss Maggie Russell, daughter of Mr J.W. Russell, Strabane left town on Thursday 20th inst. to take up an appointment as a V.A.D. nurse in the Cambridge Military Hospital at Aldershot. Everyone wishes Miss Russell success as she was deservedly popular with all classes. Miss Russell's services as a pianist were always sought in connection with all musical functions for a number of years past. She was also a zealous and energetic war worker and was amongst the first of the young ladies in Strabane to render services as a V.A.D. nurse in connection with the local military hospital.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

On Saturday June 15, open competitions were held in aid of the Strabane War Hospital Supply Dept. Lunches and teas were provided by the lady members and some of their friends. The Ladies Committee return sincere thanks to all who contributed to the success of the day.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Wagentreiber and Miss Hatfield, Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Berry entertained the patients to tea and cigarettes at their residence on Tuesday evening. Afterwards a good musical programme which was greatly appreciated was contributed. Contributions were received from his Grace, The Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. Herdman, Mrs. J.O. Herdman, Mrs. James Perry, Mr. Aiken, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. Throne and Mrs. Healy.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

At a meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee held in the Town Hall, Strabane on Thursday evening, Miss McCrea (Vice-President) in the chair, the minutes of minutes of the last meeting were read by Mrs. Clarke (The Manse) Mis McCrea reported having received a quantity of wool from the Red Cross Committee for knitting into comforts. It was decided to have a collection for prisoners of war in Germany on Strabane Show day. The accounts for the Military Hospital were presented by Mrs. W. King and passed for payment. Mrs. J.O. Herdman announced that the daffodil fete had been an immense success and that a very substantial sum would be available for the soldiers and sailors club and war relief.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

STRABANE IRISH GUARD WOUNDED

Sergeant James Devlin, Newtown Street, has been notified that his son Private Jim Devlin, of the Irish Guards, has been wounded in France. Pte. Devlin is well known in police circles, serving in the force for a considerable period before the war, and being last stationed in Belfast. He has two other brothers with the colours. Peter serving with the Royal Engineers, was recently awarded a certificate for bravery and devotion to duty and another brother serving in a Scotch regiment.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

KILLYGORDON SOLDIER'S DEATH

Ex-Head Constable William Lucas of Cavan House, Killygordon and formerly of Windsor Terrace, Derry has been notified of the death from wounds received in action of his son Frederick James Lucas, Royal Scots Fusiliers. Corporal Lucas was wounded on the 5th inst and died on his way to the Field Hospital the following day. A letter of sympathy to the parents from the Commanding Officer testifies to deceased's qualities as a soldier. Two of his brothers are also serving, one Private John Lucas was wounded on 1st July last and the other Private Eddie Lucas, Australian Light Horse, is again on active service, having recovered from wounds.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Wagentreiber, Inchennagh, and Miss Keane, Abercorn Square.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

THE LATE CAPTAIN GALLAUGHER D.S.O.

Mr J. Gallagher, Balieighan, Manorcunningham, has received the following telegram from their Majesties the King and Queen with reference to the death in action of Captain Henry Gallagher, D.S.O.:- "The King and Queen deeply regret the loss you and the army have sustained by the death of your son in the service of his country. Their Majesties truly sympathise with you in your sorrow. (Signed), Keeper of the Privy Purse.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

McConaghy - In sad and loving remembrance of my dearly-beloved husband, Pte. John McConaghy, 9th Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who was killed in action on 1st July 1916.
Sadly missed by his loving widow, Margaret McConaghy, 31 Church Square, Sion Mills.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

WAR RAGES ON

There is no guarantee that the war will end this year or even next, said Sir Auckland Geddes at Manchester. He said that the Government's policy was to broaden the basis from which men for service should be drawn.

The German offensive is being maintained and the latest reports state that in desperate fighting between the Oise and the Marne, that the Germans have gained ground west and south west of Soissons, and north west of Chateau Thierry.

A German force crossed the Marne about seven miles east of Chateau-Thierry but were driven back again by French and American troops.

And in consequence of the great havoc on American shipping, wrought by German submarines off the American coast, the secretary of the Navy, offered that the ports of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and others along the coast be closed for the present.

It was further announced at Washington that the American transport named '*President Lincoln*', had been torpedoed and sank within an hour of being struck.

The President Lincoln was an 18,000 tons vessel, built by Harland and Wolff, Belfast, in 1907.

Strabane Weekly News
29th June 1918

STRABANE RAILWAY FATALITY
DISCHARGED SOLDIER'S FATE

On Saturday John Elliott, coroner for North Tyrone, held an inquest at the Strabane Railway Station on the body of Joseph Byrne, who was killed by a goods train on Friday. John McCloskey said he knew the deceased, who had been working in Scotland, and was a discharged soldier. He was returning from Scotland to his home in Ballybofey. The deceased was married and leaves a widow and two children. The deceased belonged to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Thomas Blee said that, while he was on the platform of the Great Northern Railway near the entrance gate, he saw the deceased coming through the little wicker gate from the Railway Road. He ran up the platform and put his hand to one of the wagons of the moving train. It was a low coal wagon. The deceased tried to get on the wagon but fell into the space between two wagons. Witness cried out, and when the guards' van was passing, he told him that there was a man in the wheel. Witness saw the man being dragged along. Patrick McAleer, having given evidence, Dr. Stevenson said the cause of death was shock and hemorrhage. Drs. Boyd and Bannigan arrived before he died, but nothing could be done for deceased. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence
Mr. J.F.A. Simms, who appeared on behalf of the Great Northern Railway Company, expressed his sympathy with the relatives.

Strabane Chronicle
29th June 1918

STRABANE GUARDIANS

Captain J.C. Herdman (Chairman), presided at thebi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians on Tuesday. There were also present:- Messrs. Cuthbert Entrican, William A. Sheldon, John Toorish, John Conway, Andrew Lowry, J.P., and Robert Vance.

APPOINTMENT

Miss Maggie Birney, Northern Nursing Home, Derry, was appointed wards maid in the workhouse.

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS

The Tyrone Tuberculosis Committee forwarded the scheme for the treatment of advanced cases of tuberculosis, as drawn up at their last meeting, and approved by the local Government Board.

It was decided to reply that the Guardians were prepared to accept the scheme provided Dr. Lyons and Dr. Boyd could come to an arrangement on the matter.

The Master reported that there were 134 inmates in the workhouse, as compared with 137 at the same period last year.

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

NEW INSURANCE BENEFITS

On the 1st July the new National Insurance Act came into operation. Under it several changes of importance to insured persons are made

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

HOME RULE AND CONSCRIPTION

Mr Barnes, the Labour member of the War Cabinet, told the House of Commons on April 4th that the then promised Home Rule Bill would be produced and pushed forward before conscription was brought into operation in Ireland. A good deal was made of this pledge at Friday's meeting of the Labour Conference, in connection with the resolution on the Home Rule question. It is another of the Ministerial utterances on the Irish policy which looks curious in the light of recent events. There is however, whatever the Labour Party may say or do, a much more general feeling in Great Britain to know more about conscription for Ireland than Home Rule, and major Sir Henry Havelock Allan (grandson of the hero of Lucknow) who is a good friend of the government intends to ask the Prime Minister on Monday to name a definite date when, if necessary, conscription will be applied.

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

Brevet Lieut.-Colonel A. St. Q. Ricardo, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (of Sion Mills) who recently vacated command of an infantry brigade, has been appointed a base commandant of the temporary rank of colonel.

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS ROLL OF HONOUR IN MEMORIAL

JACK- In fond and loving memory of our dear son, Pte. John Jack, jun., Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), Machine Gun Corps, reported missing, now reported killed on July 1st, 1916

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

News has been received that Sergeant J. H. Graham, eldest son of Mr. Thomas Graham, Carnkenny, Ardstraw and nephew of the late Mr. Wm. Graham, J.P., Grahamstown, Castletown, who was previously reported missing, is a prisoner of war in Germany. Sergeant Graham has distinguished himself throughout this war and for gallant services on 1st July 1916 at Thiepval, was awarded the Military Medal. He was one of the many pupils of the Prior Schools, Lifford, who have distinguished themselves in this conflict.

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses for the week were Miss Hadfield (Sion) and Miss Wagentreiber (Inchanagh)

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

STRABANE AND DONEGAL CASUALTIES

Private T. Lindsay (Inniskillings) Castlefin has been wounded. Before enlisting he was a member of the local U.V.F., and in addition was a member of the L.O.L. and Conservative band.

The sad news has been conveyed to Dr. Nelson, solicitor, Strabane that his younger son, Sapper T.A. Nelson, Royal Engineers, has been killed. Sapper Nelson enlisted in August 1914 and served three and a half years in France. His other brother, John E. Nelson, is serving with the army, holding the position of lieutenant with the Inniskilling Fusiliers, having served in France on two occasions, and at present is serving in Egypt.

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

MOURNED AS DEAD ULSTER VOLUNTEER'S FATE

An agreeable surprise was given to Mr. Pollock, postmaster, Artigarvan, Strabane on Saturday morning, when he received a card from his son, Sergeant R. Pollock, from Germany saying that he was wounded and a prisoner of war. Sergeant Pollock who took part in the battle of the Somme on 21st March last was reported as missing, and the gravest doubts were entertained as to his welfare, it being felt by his relatives that the worst had happened. Sergeant Pollock enlisted in the Ulster Division in August 1914 and took part in the famous offensive of 1st July 1916 in which he was wounded. Before being wounded and captured on March last, Sergeant Pollock displayed wonderful bravery on the battlefield; and it has just transpired he has been mentioned for the military medal for his gallant services. He was a most useful member of the U.V.F. before the war.

Strabane Weekly News

6th July 1918

THE "SPANISH" INFLUENZA SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT

Everybody thinks of it as the "Spanish" influenza today. The man in the street having been taught by that plagous arbilus war, to take a keener interest in foreign affairs, discussed the news of vthe epidemic which spread with such surprising rapidity through Spain a few weeks ago and cheerfully anticipated its arrival here. He is sometimes inclined to believe (says a writer in "The Times") it is really a form of pro-German influenza- the unseen hand is popularly supposed to be carrying test-tubes containing cultures of all bacilli known to science, and many as yet unknown.

Strabane Chronicle

6th July 1918

FLAX-SCUTCHERS' PAY

A representative meeting of flax-scutchers in connection with the Derry and Antrim was held in Ballymena on Saturday last for the purpose of extending the operation of the organisation in the district and fixing prices for scutching flax for the ensuing season.

It was unanimously decided that each member of the Association charge the scotch mill-owner to whom he worked 2s 6d per stone and £5 per week for time mills, with £3 of a bounty. A committee was subsequently formed for each branch of the Association to look after the interests of its membership

Strabane Chronicle

13th July 1918

COAL PRICES INCREASED

The Board of Trade has ordered an increase of 1s 6d per ton in the price of all coal for consulation in the United Kingdom from Monday last, this being the cost of the increased war wage recently granted to the miners.

Strabane Weekly News

13th July 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses for the week ending 13th July are:- Miss Joyce and Miss Chapman.

Strabane Weekly News

13th July 1918

STRABANE AND THE "FLU"

Influenza has been raging recently in Strabane and surrounding district. The local doctors are very busily engaged attending to the patients and no deaths have occurred up to the present. In one house on Friday there were seven of the occupants affected.

During the week almost 50 new cases have been reported, and in some instances places of business have been affected on account of the assistants being indisposed.

Strabane Weekly News

20th July 1918

ULSTER VOLUNTEER DEAD

The sad tidings have been received by Mr Pollock, Postmaster, Artigarvan, Strabane that his son Sergeant Robert Pollock died in Germany after being captured, as a result of severe wounds on the thigh. The news was received from a chaplain in Germany.

Strabane Weekly News

20th July 1918

**STRABANE AND THE "FLU"
BROTHERS DIE ON THE SAME DAY**

The influenza malady is still raging in Strabane and district. The medical profession in the district are extremely busy fighting the scourge and generally speaking with great success as the deaths up to the present are very few.

A most pathetic case occurred at the end of the week when two boys of one family, one a few days old and the other aged three years died on the same day. Both were buried in the same coffin. The mother was also stricken, but happily is recovering.

**Strabane Chronicle
27th July 1918**

MUNITION WORKERS ON STRIKE

Thousands of munition workers in Coventry, Birmingham and other English centres are on strike because of an embargo by the Ministry of Munitions regarding the distribution or "rationing" of skilled labour, which some places is short in others there is said to be a surplus. The situation is considered critical. Mr. G.H. Robert's, Labour Minister, at London Master Printers Association Luncheon, said if the workers persisted in withholding their labour at a time of extreme national emergency it was only right that they should lay themselves open to being in the army.

**Strabane Chronicle
27th July 1918**

**AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS' WAGES
THE MINIMUM RATES
WARNING TO FARMERS**

A meeting of the Agricultural wages Board for Ireland was held at the offices of the Board, 14 St. Stephens Green, Dublin on 19th instant, Mr Charles H. O'Connor, the chairman, presiding.

The Chairman reported to the Board that from the date of the last meeting, on the 7th June, 375 cases had been investigated by the inspectors, 179 had been settled, and arrears of wages paid through the Board's agency amounting to £1,105 14s 4d. The Board decided a number of exemption cases and ruled on a number of points that had arisen in correspondence since their last meeting.

A motion to fix minimum rates of wages for casual labourers was also considered, and it was decided that this matter should also wait until the issue of new proposals in regard to minimum wages.

**Strabane Chronicle
27th July 1918**

**FLAX WORKERS WAGES
THE NEW SCALE
RESULT OF ARBITRATION**

An award dated 15th July 1918, has been made under the Munitions of War Acts, 1915-1917, in an arbitration as to rates of wages, etc, of persons engaged in Ireland in the pulling, wetting, spreading, gathering, and stacking of hay during the season of 1918. The difference was referred to a Court of Arbitration, which however failed to agree, whereupon the duty of making the award devolved upon the chairman of the Court, Mr. James Andrews, K.C.

**Strabane Chronicle
3rd August 1918**

"A STARVATION WAGE"

At the meeting of the Fermanagh Joint Technical Instruction Committee on Friday, a letter was read from the Department stating that the applications for war bonuses for three teachers (in the rural districts) had been fully considered by them, and the decision given on the 30th May last must be considered as final. Mr. Mc Govern, J.P., said it was a great hardship on Miss Drumm and the other teachers that they had not got war bonuses.

**Strabane Weekly News
3rd August 1918**

Miss Joyce was the nurse in charge at Strabane Military Hospital during the week and contributions were received from His grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Miss Porterfield, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, and Miss Joyce. The patients were entertained to tea, fruit

and games by Mrs. James Hill, Hazelwood, Mrs. Clarke, the Manse, Miss Herdman, Sion Mills; and Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Camus, and thoroughly enjoyed the kindness and generosity of their hostesses on each occasion.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd August 1918

HIGH PRICE FOR OATS

Exceedingly high prices have been paid for oats during the past few days in some parts of County Tyrone. A field containing over two acres was sold at Curley Hill, Strabane and realised £30 per acre and another field adjoining brought £28 10s per acre for a second crop of oats. Perhaps the largest price obtained in the county or district was at Melmount when a fine-looking field of oats was sold for £33 per acre.

Strabane Weekly News
3rd August 1918

STRABANE AIRMAN MISSING

Lieutenant John K. Clarke, Royal Air Force, missing since 22nd July, is a son of Rev. Edward Clarke, The Manse, Strabane. He was educated at Campbell College, Belfast and volunteered on the outbreak of war. He served in France for a year and a half taking part in the Battle of the Somme with the Ulster Division in 1916. Having obtained a commission, he was subsequently posted to the 16th (Irish) Division and was through the Battle of Cambrai in November last. He then volunteered for the Royal Air Force and after undergoing a course of training in England returned to France in May last, being wounded a fortnight after his arrival. His brother, Second Lieutenant Thomas V. Clarke, is serving in the Indian Army.

Strabane Chronicle
10th August 1918

So far, no settlement of the dispute between the employers and women employees of the Chapel Factory, Omagh, has been affected. Over 40 women and girls are unemployed.

Strabane Chronicle
10th August 1918

A strike has occurred in the townland of Ballindrait, and also in the vicinity of Lifford, which, if not settled, it is stated, will have far-reaching effects on the harvesting of crops in the localities' names. The friction has arisen over a dispute about wages. The casual labourer is paid 33s per week, and the worker employed by the term demands to be paid at the same rate. The men are members of the Labour Union. Negotiations for a settlement are pending, and it is hoped that an amicable arrangement will be come to, as a continuance of the strike would have a seriously prejudicial effect on the flax and other crops.

Strabane Chronicle
10th August 1918

FUTURE OBLIGATIONS

If the war lasts till next March the British net public obligation will probably be £6,000,000,000, Lord Inchcape stated in the House of Lords on Monday in calling attention to the deplorable effect of present taxation on professional men and people with fixed income. On that debt interest and sinking fund would amount to about £330,000,000 a year. Assuming that the war was ended by March or earlier, he calculated that the National expenditure would not be much under £700,000,000 a year. Direct taxation had reached its limit. They had lost 8,000,000 tons of shipping.

Strabane Chronicle
10th August 1918

ULSTER VOLUNTEER ARMS

So far as he was able to obtain information, Mr. Shortt told Mr. Field in Parliament, it was believed that the Ulster Volunteers were in possession of 50,000 rifles of different patterns and 11 machine guns. Mr. F. E. Meehan asked the Chief Secretary whether the Government had, in accordance with his promise, taken any steps to lift the arms and ammunition in Ulster, and if he would explain why there was any differentiation made between the rebels of Ulster and those of the other three provinces. Mr. Shortt- As I have already stated, in reply to previous questions, I cannot make any general statement in regard to the matter referred to beyond stating steps are in progress to secure the surrender of arms throughout the entire country.

Strabane Chronicle

10th August 1918

Col. Arthur Lynch, M.P., of the Irish Recruiting Council, is at present making a tour of Tyrone. He visited Omagh on Tuesday last.

Strabane Chronicle**10th August 1918****AN UNSPEAKABLE DISEASE**

The question of the treatment of an unmentionable class of disease, foreign to this country and bred of a degrading vice that has dogged the footsteps of the war occupied the attention of Tyrone County Council on Tuesday. The L.G.B. submitted a scheme for the treatment of infected persons, which provides that 25% of the cost must be borne by the county, and the Unionists members who were in a majority at the meeting, approved of the scheme. It is bad enough to impose on the rates of the county the cost of restoring to health victims of a disease contracted beyond the borders of Ireland, but provision for the treatment of the disease that is worse than leprosy at centres in our county constitutes a danger to the moral and physical well-being of the people and is an insult to the fair fame of our country. The Catholic members of the Council were emphatic in their protest against this scheme, and rightly emphasized that the place to cure such diseases is the place where they were contracted. The Bishop and priests of the Diocese of Derry have already referred to this subject, which, from a religious standpoint is one of great concern. The proposal to establish disseminating centres for this most depraving disease is glaring in the extreme, and the Catholic people of Tyrone, we have no doubt, will join with their clergy and public representatives in offering their determined opposition to the scheme.

Strabane Weekly News**10th August 1918**

The nurses in charge for the week at Strabane Military Hospital were Miss Smith (Lifford), and Miss Wisheart (Main Street). Contributions were received from His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Clarke, The Manse, Mrs. J.C. Boyd, Lifford; Mrs. Throne, Portnure; Miss Greer, Camus; Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss McCrea, Leckpatrick; Miss E.C. Herdman, Miss Chapman, Carricklee; Miss Lewis, Belfast; Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt. The committee of Sandville sports entertained men to tea and cigarettes at Sandville on Thursday last.

Strabane Chronicle**10th August 1918****FUEL SUPPLY**

It is quite evident that a serious position, by reason of a reduced fuel supply, will arise in this country during the coming months. Imported coal supplies have been largely curtailed during the year, and at present the shortage is being keenly felt, especially in towns. Early in the season we pointed out the importance of the farming community making provision for a larger supply of turf this year.

Strabane Weekly News**10th August 1918**

The nurses for the week were:- Miss Rule, Main Street, and Miss Fulton, Edymore. Contributions were received from His Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Hill, Miss Lewis, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. C.W.T. Tennant, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. Greer, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss Herdman, Miss Chapman and Miss McCarter.

Strabane Weekly News**10th August 1918****NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES**

Mr Claud Hamilton, Liscable, received a welcome letter a few days ago, from his son Pte. W.C. Hamilton 41463, of the Inniskillings indicating that the latter is a prisoner in Germany. Pte Hamilton who has been in the battle line since the war began was reported missing on 26 May. In his letter from the prison camp he speaks of being treated well by his captors.

Strabane Weekly News**10th August 1918**

Mr Toland, Dublin Street has received a Parchment Certificate "relating to the gallant conduct and devotion to duty on the field" of her son Pte. Wm. Toland, of the Inniskillings.

Strabane Weekly News

10th August 1918

**MONDAY NEXT, AUGUST 12th
PALLIDROME SPECIAL NOTICE**

N.B. – ALL THE LATEST AND BEST PICTURES WILL BE SCREENED

There will be Two Houses Nightly for a short term. First house commences prompt 7 o'clock to 8.50p.m. Second House 9p.m. to 11p.m. Popular Prices: 3d, 5d, 8d, Balcony 1/-, including tax. Change of Programme every Monday and Friday.

Strabane Chronicle

17th August 1918

DONEGAL NEWS

Mr. James Gillen, Water Street, has been officially informed that his son, Private Joseph Gillen, Dublin Fusiliers, who had been a prisoner of war in Germany since the Spring offensive, has died in that country, the cause of death, according to the communication, being unknown. Deceased, who was aged 22, joined the colours 3 years ago, and had been wounded, returning to the Western Front a second time.

Strabane Chronicle

17th August 1918

WHISKEY PRICES TO BE REDUCED

The "Times" says:- A new order, which will have the effect of reducing the price of whiskey to the consumer, may be expected, almost immediately. Under the existing order the result has been that in practice whiskey has been unobtainable except at the maximum figure of 9s 6d. This maximum figure will be reduced under the amended order. It is not, we understand, proposed to change the price at which whiskey may be sold to the distiller, but it has been thought necessary in the interest of the consumer to adjust the profits which are now being made by intermediary sellers.

Strabane Chronicle

17th August 1918

LABOURERS DISPUTE SETTLED

As the result of a conference held on Saturday between representatives of the farmers in the North-West district and the Labourers Union the strike of farm labourers has been settled. Under the terms of the arrangement, labourers over 21 years of age are to receive an advance of 5s a week, those between 18 and 21 years of age an advance of 3s and those under 18 an increase of 2s. The new scale is to continue in existence until May 1919.

Strabane Chronicle

17th August 1918

Mrs. George Stewart, Bridge Street, has received official information that her son, Private John Stewart, Royal Garrison artillery, is a prisoner of war in Germany. He had previously been reported missing.

Strabane Chronicle

17th August 1918

ARRESTS IN STRABANE

Several arrests have been made in connection with recent meetings with Sinn Fein auspices held without permission.

Eugene Gormley, Strabane, was arrested in connection with the recent acridheacht mor. The police previously told the promoters of the acridheacht that it would not be allowed without a permit.

Joseph Devine, Loughash, has also been arrested in connection with a meeting also held in the district. Meanwhile the successful acridheacht mor was hosted in a field in the Bog Road, Strabane, under favourable weather conditions.

There was a large attendance from the town and surrounding districts.

Eugene Gormley, Vice President, occupied the chair. Songs were attributed in good style by the following: Misses McDevitt, M. Gallagher and Messrs. P. McGrade, B. McKenna, John Boyle, J. Kennedy and R. Ferris. M. Geehan gave a fine recitation.

Splendid exhibitions of step dancing were given by Ellen McGill of Paisley.

Michael Geehan delivered a spirited and enthusiastic address, punctuated with applause.

The proceedings concluded with the singing of the 'Soldier's Song'. At night a grand ceilidh was held in the Barrack Street Hall.

Strabane Chronicle
17th August 1918

THE RECRUITING SCHEME

According to a statement issued by the Irish Recruiting Council, the number of recruits expected from the Counties of Tyrone, Derry, Donegal and Fermanagh is 5,700.

Strabane Chronicle
17th August 1918

THE PALLIDROME, STRABANE

At the request of our numerous Patrons, I have decided to re-open the above hall a little earlier in the season than usual.

The Hall will be open every Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday each week until further notice, commencing

Strabane Chronicle
24th August 1918

The nurses in charge for the week were :- Miss Ellis, Lifford Street and Miss Porterfield, Lifford. Mr. and Mrs. Berry entertained the patients and staff to a most musical programme on Wednesday at the hospital. Contributions were received from His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton (Baronscourt), Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant and Mr. Cooper.

Strabane Chronicle
24th August 1918

A meeting of the County Donegal Pensions Committee in connection with war pensions which was recently formed was held in the Grand Jury Rooms, Lifford, on Friday evening. Mr. David Wilson, solicitor occupied the chair. There were a number of claims as received from the sub-committees, put forward on behalf of discharged soldiers. These were considered and dealt with. The meeting decided to adjourn the question of an election of vice-chairman until the next meeting

Strabane Chronicle
24th August 1918

STRABANE GUARDIANS TROOPS FOR THE TOWN CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE MEDICAL OFFICERS' SALARIES

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday, Captain J.C. Herdman (chairman) presiding. There were also present – Messrs. John Kelly, Robert Bell, William A. Sheldon, Robert Stevenson, David McCrea, James Arbuckle, James H. Dunn, Edward McCullow, Oliver Stewart and Charles McAleer.

Strabane Chronicle
24th August 1918

A DOCTOR'S REMUNERATION

The Local Government Board acknowledged receipt of replies to queries respecting Dr. James Devlin, whom the Guardians propose to employ as temporary substitute for the medical Officer for the Plumbridge area, and stated that they had no objection to the employment of Dr. Devlin as proposed, but they considered that the usual remuneration of £4-4-0d per week ought not to be exceeded.

At Strabane Guardians meeting on Tuesday, the Clerk read a circular from the Irish medical Committee to have a graded scale of salaries fixed for dispensary doctors. The initial salary proposed was £200 per annum, increasing to a maximum of £300 per annum after fifteen years of service.

The Chairman said that he must say that the doctors had his sympathy, but he did not say they should adopt this scale.

Mr. McAleer – Didn't we give the doctors a rise of salary recently?

The Chairman replied that they had given an increase before the war but what they did do recently was to alter the scale of modified fees. Mr. McCrea said he did not see why they should adopt the circular. There was no complaint from the doctors.

The Chairman – There seems to be a big complaint.

Mr. McCrea – But none from the local doctors.

Strabane Chronicle

24th August 1918

SINN FEINERS ARRESTED

Numerous arrests have already taken place throughout Ireland in connection with Sinn Fein meetings held on Lady Day

For his taking part in an aeridheacht mor, held at Strabane, Mr. Eugene Gormley, Vice-President of the local Sinn Fein Club, was arrested on Friday morning, as was also Joseph Devlin, Loughash, Donemana, Co. Tyrone, who presided at a local Sinn Fein meeting. Mr. Devine was brought to Strabane in a motor car on Friday evening, and cheered through the streets by crowds who booed the police. Mr. John Curran, foreman, printer and secretary of the Letterkenny Sinn Fein Club, was taken into custody on Friday, no charge being made against him. It is understood that the arrest arises out of the reading of the Sinn Fein manifesto at St. Fiacre's Holy Well, Conway, on Lady Day. The removal of the two first-named prisoners from Strabane by motor to Ebrington Barracks, Derry, about midnight on Saturday, was the scene of a demonstration by a large crowd of men and women who gathered at the police station and cheered the prisoners. There were shouts of "Down with England", and "To Hell with England" while cheers were given for "Dublin" and "the rebels". Mr. John Curran, Letterkenny, was also taken to Derry, whence subsequently all three were removed under strong military escort to Belfast.

Strabane Chronicle

24th August 1918

Captain G. M. Devine, R. A. M. C., son of the late George Devine, J. P. Castlederg, has been invalided from the army due to ill health contracted on active service and he has been granted the military rank of Captain.

Strabane Chronicle

24th August 1918

IRISH RECRUITING COUNCIL

All men who have previously been rejected for the Army or Navy, should at once present themselves at this Office for fresh examination, as there are now Vacancies open in the Navy, Royal Air Force, and Army, in all categories in which they may be placed.

All men finally rejected will be presented with a Certificate which will exempt them from any other kind of Military Services if Conscription be enforced, or otherwise.

Irish Recruiting Council,
Headquarters,
Elliott House,
Omagh.

H Irvine, Colonel, No 1 Sub-Area Organiser

Strabane Weekly News

24th August 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

News has been received by Mrs. J. Arthur, Shannoney-West, Douglas Bridge, Co Tyrone that her youngest son Pte. Frederick Arthur, formerly of the North Irish Horse, now attached to the Royal Irish Fusiliers, is reported missing. Pte Arthur was drill-instructor in the Douglas Bridge U.V.F., And prior to the war was engaged in the clerical department of Messers. Herdman, Ltd., Sion Mills

Strabane Weekly News

24th August 1918

PRISONER OF WAR INTERNED IN HOLLAND

Mr. J.F.A. Simms, solicitor has received news that his brother Mr. M.W. Simms who was a prisoner of war in a German camp, has been released after four years there. Mr Simms at the outbreak of war held an important position in Belgium carting on business for the firm of Messrs, Herdman, Ltd., Sion Mills. He was one of the first to be interned after the invasion by the Germans. Mr Simms writes that he is now well and fit and is delighted with his surroundings in Holland.

Strabane Weekly News

24th August 1918

STRABANE MILITARY HOSPITAL

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss F. Keatly (Bowling Green) and Miss. A. Quinn (Glentown)

Strabane Weekly News

24th August 1918

IRISH RECRUITING COUNCIL, OMAGH AREA

Headquarters: Elliott House, Omagh

Strabane Councillor W. M'Gahey, J.P., Recruiting Office, Estate Office, Strabane

Wanted ---5,700 MEN

Will you join now as free men, able to choose your own Unit in the Army, Navy or the Air Force, or will you wait till you have to join and have no choice as to where you are sent.

Read Lord French's speech in which he says in most unmistakeable words what will happen if the quota is not reached and this he emphasised most emphatically in his speech at Londonderry on August 21st. your quota is 5,700.

Strabane Chronicle

31st August 1918

IRISH RECRUITING COUNCIL

All men who have been rejected before should at once be persuaded to present themselves to this office for fresh examination, as there are now vacancies open in the navy, R.A.F., and Army in all categories in which they may be placed.

Any man finally rejected will be presented with a certificate, which will exempt him from any kind of Military Services if Conscription is enforced, or otherwise,

Irish Recruiting council

Headquarters, Elliott House

Omagh

No. 2 Sub-area

Strabane Weekly News

31st August 1918

The nurses in charge for the week were :- Miss F. Kealty, (Bowling Green), and Miss A. Quinn (Glentown). Contributions were received from – The Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Greer, Camus, Mrs. E.C. Herdman, Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Miss Lewis, Belfast, Mr. C.W.T. Tennant, London, Mr. E.C. Stewart, London, Miss A. Quinn, Mr. Cooper, Miss Ellis, Mrs. J.C. Boyd. The staff and patients were entertained to a high-class musical entertainment organized by Mr. and Mrs. Berry which was greatly appreciated.

Strabane Chronicle

31st August 1918

Mr. Simms, solr., Strabane, has received intimation that his brother, Mr. M.W. Simms, who was interned in Germany for four years, has been released.

Strabane Chronicle

31st August 1918

(Poster)

IRISH RECRUITING COUNCIL

OMAGH AREA

HEADQUARTERS: ELLIOTT HOUSE, OMAGH

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE ORGANISATION: MAJOR J.E. GUNNING

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE ADMINISTRATION: CAPTAIN F.J. LAMBERT

Sub-Area	Name	Address	Out-Stations
OMAGH	Colonel H. Irvine, C.B.	The Courthouse, Omagh	Newtownstewart, Castlederg, Fintona, Beragh, Sixmilecross, Gortin & Dromore
STRABANE	Councillor W. McGahey J.P. (Late Coy.-Sergeant-Major Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers	Recruiting Office Estate Offices Strabane	Ballybofey, Castlefin, Convoy, Colghan, Brockagh, Raphoe, Dunnamanagh, Sion Mills

LONDONDERRY

COLERAINE

MAGHERAFELT

DUNGANNON

IRISH RECRUITING COUNCIL.

OMAGH AREA.

Headquarters: Elliott House, Omagh.

OFFICER IN CHARGE ORGANISATION: MAJOR J. E. GUNNING.

OFFICER IN CHARGE ADMINISTRATION: CAPTAIN F. J. LAMBERT.

Sub-Area.	Name.	Address.	Out-Stations.
1. - OMAGH	COLONEL H. IRVINE, C.B.	THE COPTHOUSE, OMAGH	NEWTOWNSTEWART, CASTLEBERG, FINTONA, BEE CROSS, GORTIN, AND DRUMOGH.
2. - STRABANE	COUNCILLOR W. M'GAHEY, J.P. (Late Coy-Sergeant-Major Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers)	RECRUITING OFFICE: ESTATE OFFICES, STRABANE	BALLYBOFFEY, CASTLEFIN, CONVOY, COLGHAN, BUNNAMANAGH, AND SION MILLS.
3. - LONDONDERRY	LIEUTENANT R. ECCLES BUCHANAN	RECRUITING OFFICE: LONDONDERRY	DUNGIVEN, FEENY, MANORCUNNINGHAM, BUN
4. - COLERAINE	CAPTAIN C. STRONGE	RECRUITING OFFICE: COLERAINE	KILREA, GARVAGH, LIMAVADY.
5. - MAGHERAFELT	LIEUTENANT MITCHELL	RECRUITING OFFICE: MAGHERAFELT	MONEYMORE, CASTLEDAWSON, MAGHERA, DRAFF RONAN.
6. - DUNGANNON	CAPTAIN H. KNOX BROWNE	RECRUITING OFFICE: RANFURLEY ARMS, DUNGANNON	CALEDON, AUGHNACLOY, MOY, BALLYGAWLEY.
7. - COOKSTOWN	LIEUTENANT N. C. P. GRAVES	RECRUITING OFFICE: LOY STREET, COOKSTOWN	STEWARTSTOWN, COAGH, COALISLAND, POMER
8. - ENNISKILLEN	LIEUTENANT R. GARDINER	RECRUITING OFFICE: TOWN HALL, ENNISKILLEN	TIVEMILETOWN
9. - DONEGAL		RECRUITING OFFICE: DONEGAL	ARDARA, GLENTIES.
10. - LETTERKENNY	DR. WALSH, K.C.	RECRUITING OFFICE: LETTERKENNY	RATHMULLEN, DUNFANAGHY, BURTONPORT, C

WANTED—5,700 MEN

FROM THIS AREA, COMPRISING DONEGAL, FERMANAGH, LONDONDERRY AND TYRONE.

Strabane Chronicle
7th September 1918

MILITARY HOSPITAL DEALINGS

The nurses in charge for the week were Miss Kealty, Bowling Green, Strabane, and Miss Hadfield, Sion Mills.

There were two men discharged during the week, and two admitted – the latter being Rifleman Andrew Boyle, Royal Irish Rifles, Private Charles Brennan, Royal Irish Fusiliers, Private John Canavan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Private Neil McKay, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, private David Allen, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and Private John Bradley, Royal Irish Regiment.

At the present moment all 15 beds at the institution are filled, which is the second occasion since the hospital was opened.

Strabane Chronicle
7th September 1918

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Official intimation has been received by his parents that Lieutenant J. Clarke has been killed in action in France. He was previously reported as missing. He was the eldest son of the Rev. Edward Clarke M.A., Presbyterian Minister, Strabane, and was attached to the Ulster Division.

Lieutenant D.M. Bogle, son of Mr. D. Bogle, Chief Clerk, County Donegal Railway, Joint Committee, Stranorlar, is officially reported dead from wounds. In 1917 he was mentioned in despatches.

Strabane Chronicle
7th September 1918

NORTH TYRONE MAN COURT-MARTIALED SEQUEL TO LOUGHASH CONCERT

Major Crabbe, North Irish Horse, was president of a district court-martial held at Victoria Barracks, Belfast, on Thursday at which Joseph Devine, of Strabane, was charged (1) with having, on then 15th August last at Loughash, Co. Tyrone, unlawfully taken part in a meeting held contrary to the order of the competent military authority under the Defence of the Realm Regulations; (2) having made statements likely to cause dissatisfaction to his Majesty, in contravention of Regulation 27 and (3) having in his possession a document containing statements the publication of which would be likely to cause disaffection to his majesty.

Captain E.V. Longworth was prosecutor, and Mr. J.H. Campbell (instructed by Mr. B. Campbell) appeared for the accused, who pleaded not guilty to all three charges.

Sergeant Bernard Foley, R.I.C., stated that, on the night of the 15th August he went out to Loughash, situated at the extreme north of County Tyrone, and in a field there saw a crowd of men, women, and children, in all numbering about 120. A concert was being held, over which a Mr. James Lynch presided. The programme consisted of singing, dancing and music, and at the conclusion of this the accused read a proclamation regarding Sinn Fein and its object.

Mr. Campbell made a lengthy objection to the witness being asked to a document placed in his hand in order to refresh his memory as to what words the accused had used on the occasion in question.

Captain Longworth said the witness had read the proclamation before and after the meeting, and now verified the document as the one read by the accused.

The court permitted the reading of the document, the President pointing out that he did not consider any injustice was being done the accused.

The sergeant read aloud the document, which, he said, accused, on the date in question, had told those present, was to be read at all Sinn Fein meetings on that day. It was a proclamation, setting forth the object of the Sinn Fein movement, and endeavouring to show why "Ireland" should be freed from military domination.

Proceeding, witness said he arrested the accused on the following day at Dunamanagh, and on searching him found the document produced, which contained the words he had uttered at the meeting.

Cross examined by Mr. Campbell, witness had an idea before commencement of the meeting that such a gathering would be an illegal one, but he did not inform those present. By watching, listening, and waiting, he was acting on instructions. He was not so sure, although the people at the meeting were quiet, that the crowd would not interfere with him if he had arrested accused immediately after the latter had read the document referred to.

Constable Andrew Keatley, R.I.C., was the next witness and corroborated the sergeant as to what had occurred at the Sinn Fein concert. The platform, he said, had been placed against a ditch, and over it floated two Sinn Fein flags.

This closed the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Campbell intimated that he called no witnesses for the defence.

Captain Longworth addressing the court said the documents which had been read by the accused at the meeting, and which the members of the Court had before them, was a malicious attempt to sow sedition by mixing up truth with falsehood, and by suggestions of various kinds. If that document had been read before a crowd of "innocent people on pleasure bent" to quote defending counsel) then he (the prosecutor) asserted that that added to the gravity of accused's offences.

For the defence, Mr. Campbell said the police would not have exceeded their duty if, instead of waiting, watching, and saying nothing they had informed the people gathered in the field that the meeting they proposed holding would be an illegal one. There was no suggestion that the people present were actually aware that the meeting constituted an illegal assembly, or that it was a seditious meeting for which the police authorities had issued no permit. In passing, he pointed out that Mr. Shortt, in the House of commons had stated that no permit was required in the case of a religious meeting, a prayer meeting, or an open-air concert which did not partake of the nature of a political meeting. He (Mr. Campbell) urged that there were every reason to conclude that the concert in question was of a most harmless character, and that the document specified contained more poetical language than seditious sentiments.

The findings of the Court will be promulgated in due course.

Strabane Chronicle

7th September 1918

WAR NEWS

REMARKABLE ALLIED PROGRESS

During the week the Allied Forces on the Western Front have continued to make remarkable progress. The Germans according to official reports are retiring practically along the whole front. On Monday alone it is stated that over 10,000 prisoners were captured. The advance since Monday has attained a depth of over four miles

The Germans admit that the British by use of superior forces thrust their line back on both sides of the Arras-Cambrai road and that their line was also pressed back between the Ailette and Aisne. Their movement between the Scarpo and the Somme they assert has been completed in accordance with their plans.

Strabane Weekly News

7th September 1918

STRABANE OFFICER KILLED

The sad news has reached Strabane that Lieutenant J. Clarke, eldest son of Rev. Edward Clarke, The Manse, Derry Road, Strabane who was previously reported missing has been killed in action whilst engaged in the recent operations in France. Lieut. Clarke was educated at Campbell College, Belfast where he had a most successful career and shortly after the outbreak of war he volunteered with the Ulster Division for active service. He took part in the battle of the Somme in 1916 in which the Ulster Division was engaged and came through the many battles unhurt. Some time ago he applied for a transfer to the Flying Corps which branch of the Service he was engaged in till the time of his death. He has another younger brother serving as an officer in the Indian Army. The greatest sympathy will be extended to his parents in their sad bereavement.

Strabane Weekly News
7th September 1918

LIFFORD CANADIAN KILLED

Mrs. Taylor of Legnaneil, Lifford has received the sad news from the Canadian Records Office that her son Private Harry A. Taylor, of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada, was killed in action in France on 8th day of August last. The deceased soldier saw considerable active service on the Western Front since the outbreak of war, and had been wounded at Ypres on 22nd June 1916, afterwards was wounded at Courcellette and was again wounded for the third time at the Somme on 8th October 1916. After recovery he was again on the firing line and came through many still engagements up till his recent death. Before emigrating to Canada shortly before the war he was a most useful member of the Lifford U.V.F. The deceased also had another brother, Corporal William Thompson, with the Royal Engineers, and he is also on active service.

Strabane Weekly News
7th September 1918

RECRUITING AT STRABANE CONFERENCE HELD

Councillor William M'Gahey, J.P., late Company Sergeant-Major, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, officer in charge of No.2 sub-area under the new recruiting of the Irish Recruiting Council, presided at a conference in Strabane on Wednesday evening

Mr Gunning said that the scheme was very simple. The whole of Ireland was divided into areas and this area comprised Donegal, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone which was divided into ten sub-areas in each of the sub-areas they have headquarters, from which radiated out-stations.

Strabane Weekly News
7th September 1918

CASTLEDERG SOLDIER KILLED

Mrs W. S. McKenzie, The Hotel, Castlederg has received news that her brother Corporal James Young Canadian R.F.A., was killed in action on 10th August. Deceased was one of the first Canadians to enlist. His brother Edwin who was attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers died from wounds received on June 29, 1917. Many of his Belfast R.I.C. comrades will regret the loss of one who had been a member of the force for 14 years, most of which he spent in the city. The deceased soldier is a brother of Mr Jos. Young, Castlederg and brother-in-law of Constable D. Sparks, Cootehill, Co. Cavan.

Strabane Chronicle
14th September 1918

RECRUITING IN THE NORTH WEST

Major J.G. Gunning, organizer, at a conference in Omagh on Monday, disclaimed on behalf of himself and the administration staff all knowledge of politics, and said they wanted to impress on the people that if they did not come in voluntarily they would undoubtedly be taken, and also that there was no use in one side holding back with the idea that they could enforce conscription on the other. They wanted 5,700 men to come in voluntarily in that area; if they did not come 15,000 would be taken.

Captain Lambert, administration Officer, stated that since 12th August 212 recruits from that area had been received, the sub area figures being – Derry 67, Enniskillen 41, Omagh 32, Cookstown 21, Dungannon 17, Coleraine 10, Magherafelt 7, Letterkenny 6, Strabane 6, Donegal 5. The majority of these had gone into the air Force.

Councillor William McGahey, J.P., late company Sergeant-Major, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, officer in charge of No. 2 sub-area, under the new recruiting scheme of the Irish Recruiting Council, presided at a conference in Strabane on Tuesday, and there were also present:- Major J.E. Gunning, officer in charge of administration; and Rev. Mr. Freckleton, Rev. Mr. Baird, District Inspector Heggart, Messrs, James

White, J.P., William MacKay, John S. Weir, J.P., Andrew Hamilton, P.K. Malone (postmaster), Daniel McAnaw and John Toorish.

Major Gunning said that the scheme was very simple. The whole of Ireland was divided into areas, and this area comprised Donegal, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone, which was divided into ten sub-areas. In each of the sub-areas they had a headquarters from which radiated out-stations. Councillor McGahey took over the Strabane sub-area, which included the out-stations of Ballybofey, Castlefinn, Convoy, Cloghan, Brockagh, Raphoe, Dunnamanagh and Sion Mills, and all this was under his (Councillor McGahey's) jurisdiction, and Councillor McGahey was responsible for the organization of the whole sub-area, and the speaker, and Captain Lambert were merely in Strabane to lend him a helping hand in the work. They were of the firm opinion that conscription was coming if the quota of men asked for was not got. If the men did not come forward, they must be prepared for conscription, and these men could not turn around afterwards and say they never heard that conscription was coming.

Captain Lambert said that he came there from the other side of the water to assist them and give what help he could in the new recruiting scheme. The men could now join as free men, able to choose their unit in the army, navy or the air force. In the air force they had a splendid opportunity of learning a trade. When conscription came, they would conscript according to the men's occupation, so that if a man had no real occupation he simply would go to the infantry. They had got almost three hundred men in this area since 12th August.

Colonel Baillie wrote apologizing for his unavoidable absence, and promising hearty support to the movement.

Strabane Chronicle
14th September 1918

STRABANE MAN ON TRIAL

Eugene Gormley, Strabane, also underwent court-martial for attendance at a similar gathering at Greenbrae, near the town, on the same date at which he was stated to have read the same proclamation as was deposed to in the other cases. The accused conducted his own defence. The Crown witness was Head Constable Wright, and Constable Dwyer, and Walshe. The finding of the Court will be made known later.

Strabane Weekly News
14th September 1918

STRABANE MAN WOUNDED

Private P. Harkin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in action. Private Harkin has been at the front for over two years. He was wounded on a previous occasion.

Strabane Weekly News
14th September 1918

STRABANE CANADIAN WOUNDED

Mrs. Hawthorne, Greenlaw, near Strabane has received official intimation from the Canadian Record Office that her son Corporal William Hawthorne, Canadians, has received gunshot wounds on the face. Corporal Hawthorne enlisted over two years ago in Canada. He was awarded a prize prior to his departure to the front for being the most efficient soldier in his camp.

Strabane Weekly News
14th September 1918

MRS. PEARSE IN STRABANE

Mrs Pearse, mother of Patrick and William Pearse, both of whom who were executed, passed through Strabane on Monday evening on a visit to Mrs J. O'Flaherty, The Grove, Urney. She was welcomed at the railway station by the president of Strabane Cumnanna mBan and presented with an Irish lace set. In addition, Mrs Pearse was presented with a magnificent bouquet of flowers by Mrs Agnes McDevitt, of Ivy Cottage, Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
14th September 1918

ARTIGARVAN POSTMASTER BEREAVED

General regret will be felt at the sad news conveyed to Mr. A.J. Pollock, postmaster, Artigarvan, Strabane to the effect that his eldest son, Sergeant Robert Pollock, has died from wounds received in April last in Germany, where he was a prisoner of war after being wounded and captured by the Germans in the offensive of March of the present year. Sergeant Pollock who was a mechanic in Strabane enlisted with the

Ulster Division in the year 1914, immediately after the outbreak of war, as a private and soon received his promotion. He took part in the offensive of the 1st July 1916 in which the Ulster Division was engaged at the battle of the Somme and came through unhurt and it was at the Somme where he received his wounds which proved fatal in the present year. Before the war he was a prominent member of the U.V.F. and also of the local Loyal Orange Order. His sorrowing relatives have received numerous letters of condolence in their bereavement.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

THANKS

Mr and Mrs A.J. Pollock and Family desire to return thanks to all those who sent letters of sympathy and condolence to them in their recent sad bereavement. Artigarvan 6 Sept. 1918

**Strabane Weekly News
14th September 1918**

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Pte. A. Hannay, 47924, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Newtownstewart is officially reported missing.

**Strabane Chronicle
21st September 1918**

**IRISH RECRUITING COUNCIL
OMAGH AREA
FIRST BATCH OF RECRUITS**

The following are the names of the men in the Omagh area who were in the first batch to offer themselves towards completing the quota of 5,700

COUNTY TYRONE

(Strabane only included)

NAME	ADDRESS	REGIMENT
John C. Ballantyne	Douglas Bridge, Strabane	R.I.R.
John Burke	Drumbuoy, Strabane	R.I.R.
Roderick Casey	Strabane	not acc'd posting
Alex Fletcher	36 Patrick Street, Strabane	R.I.R.
Andrew Harpur	44 New Street, Sion Mills	R.I.F.
Francis McKee	Moyle Road, Newtownstewart	R.A.F.
John Porter	Castleberg	R.I.R.
James Young	Factory Row, Strabane	R.I.R.

You can follow their example by enlisting at Omagh, Strabane, Londonderry, Coleraine, Magherafelt, Dungannon, Cookstown, Enniskillen, Donegal, Letterkenny, or you can Enlist in any area you choose

**Strabane Chronicle
21st September 1918**

CONSCRIPTION (Paper Editorial)

Everything points to the fact that the enforcement of conscription has been decided on. The 15th October the date of the re-assembling of the English Parliament is given as the date on which the Order in Council applying it will be made, and after the lapse of a fortnight from then, by the first November, the first conscripts will be "under orders"

**Strabane Weekly News
21st September 1918**

**PROGRESS OF RECRUITING
FIGURES FOR OMAGH AREA**

Recruits to the number of 514 have been attested and approved of in the Omagh recruiting area and it is understood that a number are awaiting examination, and these will bring the total up to 530.

The total recruits enlisted in Ireland under the scheme up to Wednesday was as follows:

Belfast 2,238; Dublin 1,727; Cork 508; Limerick 401; Waterford 497; Omagh 491; Galway 110; Armagh 200; Mullingar 218; Sligo 126. All told 6,516.

Inquiries at the Omagh headquarters on Thursday morning showed that the first 457 recruits had been raised from the sub-areas as follows:- Omagh 54; Strabane 27; Londonderry 148; Coleraine 35; Magherafelt 32; Dungannon 39; Cookstown 43; Enniskillen 59; Donegal 7; Letterkenny 13.

Strabane Weekly News
21st September 1918

ARDSTRAW MAN INTERNED IN SWITZERLAND

The many friends of Sergeant J.R. Graham, M.M., who was wounded and taken prisoner on 22nd March will be glad to learn that he has now quite recovered from his wound, and has arrived in Switzerland, where he will be interned for the period of the war. He is highly pleased at his change of fortune. Writing home he says:- Good news; arrived in Switzerland to-day-just like home. Everyone making a fuss about us. We had a great reception when we arrived. We got a good meal, the first we had in some time. Not sorry to part with the Germans.

Strabane Weekly News
28th September 1918

The nurses in charge of Strabane Military Hospital for the week were Miss Wagentreiber and Miss Hatfield, Mr. & Mrs. W.M. Barry entertained the patients to tea and cigarettes at their residence on Tuesday evening. Afterwards a good musical programme, which was greatly appreciated was contributed. Contributions were received from his Grace, the Duke of Abercorn, Mrs. Hamilton, Baronscourt, Mrs. Herdman, Mrs. J. O. Herdman, Mrs. James Perry, Mr. Aiken, Miss Lewis, Mr. C.W. T. Tennant, Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Healy.

Strabane Chronicle
28th September 1918

NOTES

Rev W. Devine, B.D., a native of Castlederg and chaplain with the Australian army has obtained his second decoration during the war having just won the M.C.

Strabane Weekly News
28th September 1918

Open competition was held on Saturday September 21 in aid of the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Prisoners of War Fund. Prizes were kindly presented by the following:- Miss Herdman, Mrs. F.M. Hamilton, Col. Baillie, Major E.C. Herdman and Mrs. A. Gallagher. The sum of £8-4s was realized. The ladies committee returned thanks to all who sent contributions of money or provisions. Men's singles – 1st Major Britton (10) 2 down, 2nd Mr. Alex Weir (20 11 down. Ladies singles – 1st Miss S. Boyd (25), 8 down, 2nd Mrs. J.S. Harpur (18) 10 down, Mixed Foursomes – 1st Mrs. Ingram and A. Gallagher (9) 83 net; 2nd Miss S. Boyd and Mr. Hodge (18.5) and 87.333.

Strabane Weekly News
28th September 1918

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mrs Gallagher, Main Street, Strabane has received the sad news that her son Private John Gallagher, has been gassed recently in action and that he lies in a hospital in France in a serious condition. Private Gallagher enlisted in November 1914, although only a boy well under 17 years of age and being a mechanic was in France a few weeks afterwards with the Motor Transport Division. He has been in the Western Front since that time. Another brother Edward is also in active service. They are grandsons of Mr Edward Gallagher, D.L.

Mrs M'Beth, Patrick Street, Strabane has received intimation that her husband, Gunner M'Beth has been admitted to a hospital in England, where he is ill. Gunner M'Beth has served since the beginning of the war.

Strabane Weekly News
28th September 1918

STRABANE FACTORY DISPUTE

Messrs. Gallagher, Egan and Co., Shirt and Underclothing Manufacturers, Strabane, writing under date 23RD September 1918, say:- A report of a public meeting held in connection with the trouble at our factory appears in last week's "Strabane Chronicle". One of the speakers fairly admitted that no demand had been made on us up till then for an increase of wages, but a demand would now be made for an increase. We have no objection, and never had to entertain such a demand and we think we cannot be blamed if the workers did not put their case before us

Strabane Weekly News
28th September 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

A few days ago, Mrs Wasson, Bearney, Douglas Bridge received official intimation that her husband Pte. Robert Wasson, attached to the New Zealanders, had been killed in action in France. Prior to emigration deceased was an active member of Douglas Bridge U.V.F. and L.O.L. and was employed by Mr Thomas Beattie, merchant. Another brother who was in the Army was recently awarded the Military Medal. A first-rate concert in aid of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers' Prisoners of War Fund was given by the military in the Orange hall on Monday evening.

At an interval in the programme Sergeant Dan Derry said he wished to make an appeal to the young men present to come and give them a hand in France. whose fault was it he said that the 10th Inniskillings was broken up - the fault of many in Ireland. In a few weeks there would be conscription in Ireland and for heaven's sake he hoped they would not have it said that Ulsterman had to be taken by the back of the neck and pushed into the army. "If you boys join up." Continued the sergeant, "your mother will be proud of you, and your sweetheart will be proud of you; now then you Newtownstewart ladies, make the boys get a move on".

Nothing has been seen or heard of Pte. Frederick Arthur who has been notified missing for the past month by the War Office. Private Arthur formerly belonged to the Ulster Division but later was transferred to the Royal Irish Fusiliers. His parents reside at Shannoney West near Douglas Bridge, Co Tyrone. Prior to enlisting he was employed by the firm of Messrs. Herdman Ltd., Sion Mills in the clerical department. Any news of his whereabouts will be greatly esteemed by his mother

Strabane Weekly News
28th September 1918

**BIG EFFORT TO AVERT CONSCRIPTION
RESPONSE FROM OMAGH AREA
SECOND LIST OF VOLUNTEERS
NOBLE EXAMPLE SET TO YOUNG MEN**

Last week we published the first list of those who volunteered from the Omagh Recruiting Area under the new Recruiting Scheme by which Ireland is called upon to provide 50,000 volunteers, and the Omagh Area which embraces the Counties Tyrone, Derry, Donegal and Fermanagh is asked to give its quota of 5,700 men, and underneath we publish the second instalment of this list, with the address of the volunteers, and the various units to which they have been enlisted.

James Craig, Rouskey, Donemana	R.I.R.
John Moore Milltown, Burndennet, Strabane	R.A.F.
Jack Lecky, Moygashel, Donemana	R.I.F.
William Bates, Brook Cottage, Derry Road, Strabane	R.I.R.
John Alexander, Newtown Street, Strabane	R.I.R.
William Strain, Mill Street, Newtownstewart	R.A.F.
Robert Mitchell, Ballyfatten, Sion Mills	Not acc'd posting
Dan Sproule, Spamount, Castlederg	R.I.R.
Charles Callaghan, Ballymacwilliam, Bready, Co Tyrone	R.I.R.
Thomas Kennedy, Creaghan, Dunamanagh	R.A.F.
Thomas Jeffrey, Dunamanagh	R.A.F.
William John Wolfe, 145 Main Street, Strabane	R.A.F.
Alfred Roy, Patrick Street, Strabane	R.A.F.
James Callan, Mill Street, Newtownstewart	Royal Marines
Hugh McGurran, Castlederg	R.G.A.
Hugh McClaskey, Castlefin, Co. Donegal	R.I.F.
James Black, jun, Douglas Bridge, Strabane	Not acc'd posting

Strabane Weekly News
5th October 1918

The military authorities in Strabane have requisitioned the Strabane Technical Schools, which will, it is stated, be used for the billeting of troops, owing to the wet weather prevailing in the district. It is expected arrangements will be made for the holding of the classes in some other building. The military authorities in Strabane have also requisitioned the Abercorn Schools, Strabane, with other public buildings for sleeping accommodation for the troops, until the Workhouse is put to order.

Strabane Chronicle
5th October 1918

**STRABANE WORKHOUSE
FOR THE MILITARY**

THE GUARDIANS END THE ARRANGEMENTS

A rumour was circulated in Strabane for the past few days that the Strabane Workhouse was about to be requisitioned by the military authorities, but the matter came to a head on Friday evening when an extraordinary meeting of the Board of Guardians was especially summoned in order to make arrangements for the evacuation of the premises, Captain John C. Herdman presiding at the meeting, and there were present a large number of members. The Chairman said the meeting must have come as a surprise. Yesterday morning he had the advantage of interviewing the military who came to see the premises and inspect same. There would be a difficulty in sending their inmates to other places, and he fought hard for the Guardians to get the use of the Infirmary but apparently there would not be sufficient room for the military in the body of the house, and they informed him that they required the entire place. Mr. Perry, their acting clerk, was of the opinion that Derry Guardians would be able to accommodate a number of their inmates. The Inspector (Mr. Robinson) had suggested that, perhaps they could use the fever hospital for ordinary sick cases, and if infectious cases occurred, they could be sent to Castlederg or some other neighbouring hospital who might have room for these cases.

Mr. Robinson of the L.G.B., said that the arrangements were that no extra costs should fall on the ratepayers of the Union to which they belonged, or who would receive them, as any difference in the cost of maintenance, etc. would be paid by the military authorities. Strabane ratepayers would pay the cost and would be recouped by the Local Government Board. It Strabane sent them to Derry, the average cost would be furnished by the clerk each month. Regarding the position of the officials in the institution, they would not be required, such as the master, matron, and porter, but they would receive their salary and money in lieu of rations, as well as money in lieu of apartments, and in addition might also be allowed for washing, fuel and light, but the military authorities would pay for that. They would, however, be under the obligation that if they were required in any other Workhouse, that they would assist, and if Derry Workhouse, for instance, gave their master an increase of salary or any of these officials, the Strabane officials would also come in for this allowance, for which the military would be responsible. Arrangements would require to be made with the Relieving Officer, that if any destitute person, applied to relief to send them away and procure the necessary tickets for their journey.

The Chairman :- If the patients were sent to the fever hospital, would we be allowed to use the laundry and drying apartments?

The Inspector – No!

Mr. Perry – Will they leave us anything?

Chairman – No, Nothing except where we are sitting to carry out our administrative work.

Mr. Perry – are they leaving us no hospital?

Chairman – Yes, the fever Hospital.

Mr. Stevenson – Is this a temporary arrangement?

Chairman – It is for the winter months.

Mr. Perry – Are they going to use the property of the Guardians?

Chairman – Anything they use such as the field or property we will be compensated for it.

Mr. Perry – What arrangements was come to with reference to the fuel etc. in other workhouses?

Inspector – In other workhouses there was a small amount of coal and the military authorities decided to pay the Guardians what they had paid for it.

Chairman – I would be inclined to sell our stock of turf around the town.

Mr. E. Gallagher – Yes, that would enable the people in the town to get some firing if you do that. The poor cannot get coal, but the military can!

Mr. Rankin – How many tons of turf have we?

Chairman – About 80 tons. Mr. D. Craig – The military will take the turf if they want them.

Mr. Gallagher – It is no advantage to give them to the military. It would be better to sell them to the poor of the town.

Mr. Perry – I would be inclined to sell them to the poor of the town, no person to get more than one ton.

Chairman – The military will require possession in about one week's time. I would like the idea of selling them to the poor of the town if permission could be obtained from the military after that time.

In reply to Mr. Craig, the acting clerk said there were 56 inmates in the hospital. He (the acting clerk) had been speaking to the doctor, who stated that some of these patients could be kept at the house of their friends. The cost would be about 7/6d per week.

Mr. Harte – Why not send some of these patients to Stranorlar Union?

Mr. Gallagher – Yes, there is plenty of room there.

Mr. Galbraith – Could some place in Strabane not be used as an infirmary?

Mr. Rankin – What about the Technical School? It is only a white elephant anyhow!

Mr. Gallagher – I don't think the Technical School should be talked about in that way! It is a useful institution.

Mr. Perry – It would be better to find out how many Derry could take. If they take 30, send them. And the balance to Stranorlar.

Mr. Toorish – Seeing that it is compulsory for us to turn out these poor creatures the neighbouring institutions should be as charitable as possible and take as many as possible

Mr. Rankin proposed that Derry take over as many as possible

Strabane Chronicle

Saturday 5th October 1918

FORMER STRABANE JOURNALIST BRILLIANT CAREER IN U.S.A.

Mr. James O'Duffy, LL.B., Philadelphia, was formerly a journalist in Strabane. He has been for a number of years past connected with one of the leading newspapers in the United States, on which he holds a responsible position. He is a member of the Bar, graduating at the University of Pennsylvania and for the past fifteen years he has been included in "Who's who? In America. He has dined as a guest with two Presidents of the United States. He was one of the guests to welcome James Bruce as British ambassador. One of his earlier friends was Lindsay M. Garrison, who afterwards became Secretary of War in President Wilson's first Cabinet and was accounted the ablest man in it. It is interesting to note that Mr. Duffy took lectures in civics from President Wilson at the University while the latter was Professor at Princeton. Mr. Duffy's only try for public office was when he ran with 141 other lawyers for Judge of the Municipal Court, and obtained a vote that was flattering, though unsolicited. In addition to journalism Mr. Duffy has much important business as a lawyer, especially as general counsel for a group of allied Corporations. He is the author of several well-known books in the United States, including the novel, "Glass and Gold", and "The String of Death", a mystery story which ran as aerial in his magazine.

Mr. Duffy is a nephew of Mr. John Toorish and Mr. James Toorish, Strabane.

Strabane Chronicle

12th October 1918

IRISH RECRUITING COUNCIL OMAGH AREA SECOND BATCH OF RECRUITS

The following are the names of the men in the Omagh area who were in the first batch to offer themselves towards completing the quota of 5,700

COUNTY TYRONE

(Strabane only included)

NAME	ADDRESS	REGIMENT
James Craig	Rouskey, Donemana, Strabane	R.I.R.
John Moore	Milltown, Burndennett, Strabane	R.A.F.
William Bates	Brook Cottage, Derry Road, Strabane	R.I.R.
John Alexander	Newtown Street, Strabane	R.I.R.
William John Wolfe	145 Main Street, Strabane	R.A.F.
Alfred Roy	Patrick Street, Strabane	R.A.F.
James Black Jun.	Douglas Bridge, Strabane	Not acc'd for service
Thomas Moore,	Sanville, Burndennett	Not acc'd for serv.
Jack Lecky,	Moygashel, Donemana	R.I.F.
William Strain,	Mill Street, Newtownstewart	R.A.F.
Robert Mitchell,	Ballyfatton, Sion Mills	R.A.F.
Dan Sproule,	Spamount, Castleberg	R.I.R.
Charles Callaghan,	Ballymacwilliam, Bready, Co Tyrone	R.I.R.
Thomas Kennedy,	Creaghen, Dunamanagh	R.A.F.
Thomas Jeffrey,	Dunamanagh	R.A.F.
James Callan,	Mill Street, Newtownstewart	Royal Marines
Hugh McGurran,	Castleberg	R.G.A.
Hugh McClaskey,	Castlefin, Co. Donegal	R.I.F.

You can follow their example by enlisting at Omagh, Strabane, Londonderry, Coleraine, Magherafelt, Dungannon, Cookstown, Enniskillen, Donegal, Letterkenny, or you can Enlist in any area you choose

Strabane Chronicle

12th October 1918

STRABANE GUARDIANS MILITARY OCCUPY WORKHOUSE

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday, Captain J.C. Herdman (chairman) presiding. There were also present:- Messrs. John Toland, Edward Gallagher, D.D., John Kelly, James Arbuckle, John Arthur, Arthur Bell, Andrew Lowry, J.P., William Lowry, David McCrea, Arthur O'Neill, William Rankin, J.P., William A. Sheldon, and Robert Stevenson.

With regards to the taking over by the military of the Workhouse, inquiry was made as to whether they were going to pay a rent for the field.

Mr. Robinson, Local Government Board Inspector – Whatever rent you are getting in.

It was decided to ask for £9 per acre for it.

The Clerk said, so far as he knew, military would not want the turf.

The Chairman said the military were getting in 170 tons of coal at the Workhouse.

The Clerk intimated that a relieving officer wished to know if the Board could sell him 5 tons.

Mr. Rankin – By all means.

The Chairman said Mr. Perry (The Clerk) suggested that a committee should be appointed to deal with matters like this.

Mr. Rankin proposed that the Chairman, vice-chairman and deputy vice-chairman, with Mr. Edward Gallagher, representing Strabane, be appointed.

The Chairman said that the Chairmen of No.1 and No 2 Councils should act on the Committee as well.

It was unanimously resolved that a committee consisting of the Chairman of the Guardians, Mr. Edward Gallagher D.L., and Messrs. William Rankin J.P., and Andrew Lowry J.P., be formed.

Nurses Brown and Duggan wrote asking for leave of absence for six months in order to take up training in mid-wifery and fever.

The Clerk said they could not provide substitutes less than 25/- each.

Mr. Robinson said that the nurses could go and provide the substitutes if necessary.

This was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Toorish said that Dr. Stevenson had asked him to bring before the Board the desirability of reserving a ward in the fever hospital for emergency cases whose removal as far as Derry or Castlederg would endanger their lives.

The matter was referred to a special committee.

The Master stated that of 118 inmates 62 had gone to Derry. During the transfer an inmate absconded.

The Chairman paid a tribute to the work of the Master and Matron during the transfer of the inmates to other workhouses last week, when the Master and Matron worked until three o'clock in the morning. Mr. Robinson joined in the tribute.

Strabane Chronicle

12th October 1918

STRABANE COUNCIL AND RECRUITING

A deputation on behalf of the Irish Recruiting Council, consisting of Sergeant Sullivan, K.C., Major, Gunning, and Councillor William McGahey, attended a meeting of Strabane Urban Council on Monday, and addressed that body. Sergeant Sullivan said he had never appealed to any man to take part in the war unless he was firmly convinced that in doing so he was serving his country. They had still the opportunity of being the only country that had not to resort to conscription to fill its ranks. Mr. James White proposed a cordial note of thanks to Sergeant Sullivan. Mr. Edward Gallagher D.L., seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously. Mr. Charles Brown, the chairman, joined in the tribute to Sergeant Sullivan. Major Gunning also addressed the meeting, saying if the quota was not obtained conscription would be put into operation.

Strabane Chronicle

12th October 1918

RECRUITING MEETING IN STRABANE

Major E.C. Herdman, D.L., presiding at a Strabane Recruiting meeting, said it was the greatest stain on Ireland that the country's Army Divisions were not kept up to strength. "The glass is running low", declared Col. Sir J. Lesbe, who re-affirmed that the Recruiting Council had done their best to avert conscription, and held that the meagre response to the Viceroy's appeal meant that Ireland preferred conscription to voluntary enlistment. Mr. W. McGahey, J.P., Derry, said the money that was being made by the farmers today was blood money.

Sergeant Sullivan stated that too much emphasis was laid on the fact that Ireland was not supporting the cause of the Allies, without at the same time, calling to mind that which should never be forgotten – that the action of Irishmen in going into the war was the noblest act ever recorded in the history of any nation. Ireland was then in a state of exasperation and annoyance at the trend of public affairs. What changed that? Six words uttered by an honest man, John Redmond!

Strabane Chronicle
12th October 1918

LET POLITICS REST

He contrasted the situation thus created, and that which existed today, and expressed a wish that Messrs. Asquith and Lloyd George had not invited Irishmen to re-open discussions on political differences. It would be easier to deal with the British Government if they had America on their side; and he asked them to let politics rest till after the war and fill up the army and win back American friendship by doing justice to their own flesh and blood whom they had sent to the battlefields.

Strabane Chronicle
12th October 1918

Mr. Dan Loughhead, guard, Strabane and Letterkenny Railway, has been notified that his nephew, Lance-Corporal Loughhead was severely wounded in the last big push, and is now in a London military hospital. This is the fourth time he has been wounded.

Strabane Chronicle
12th October 1918

IRISH MAIL BOAT TORPEDOED
BIG LOSS OF LIFE

The outward Irish mail boat, the *Leinster*, which left Kingstown on last Thursday morning, was torpedoed and sunk off the coast with great loss of life. The vessel carried 650 passengers and a crew of 70, and a large proportion of them lost their lives. The latest official figures state that 451 were lost and the saved numbered 237. The heavy death roll is partly accounted for by the upsetting of some of the ship's boats, but a great many are believed to have gone down in the ship.

Lady Alexander Phyllis Hamilton, sister of the Duke of Abercorn is amongst those lost.

At an early hour this (Friday) morning official news reached Derry of the sinking of the *R.M.S. Leinster*, bound from Dublin to Holyhead.

The vessel which had on board a large number of passengers, left Kingstown at the usual hour and was only a comparatively short time at sea when she was torpedoed with disastrous consequences. So terribly damaged was the *Leinster* that in less than a quarter of an hour after being hit she went down.

The death roll is very heavy. It is feared that almost 500 lives have been lost, many among them belonging to Ireland. The number saved is given about 200.

It is reported that the force of the explosion was terrific and caused many casualties, while the work of rescue was seriously impeded by heavy seas. This accounts for the fact that though speedy assistance was rendered to the passengers and crew of the stricken vessel, the loss of life is so appalling.

Strabane Chronicle
12th October 1918

Strikes at Convoy Woollen Mills and Letterkenny Corn Mills remain unsettled owing to the refusal of the millowners to dismiss 2 workers at each mill who remained during the disputes.

Strabane Chronicle
12th October 1918

CONSCRIPTION DANGER

According to the "Evening Standard" the order in council applying conscription to Ireland is to be laid on the table of the House of Commons immediately on the re-assembling of Parliament next Tuesday

The National Executive of the Labour Party at its meeting had under consideration the present position of the Irish question, and adopted the following resolution:—"The National Executive of the Labour Party views with deep misgiving the present policy of drift on the part of the Government in relation to Ireland, and the dangers that lie ahead unless a determined effort is made to settle the Irish question satisfactorily. It urges the Parliamentary Labour Party to make clear to the Government that any attempt to enforce subscription in Ireland will be vigorously opposed."

Strabane Chronicle
19th October 1918

NORTH WEST VICTIMS OF THE "LEINSTER"

On Friday evening Mr. Michael Early, Orchard Street, Strabane, received news that his son, Gunner P. Early, had been drowned on the *Leinster*, and that his body had been picked up. Gunner Early was well known in the district and had been in France almost since the commencement of the war and was badly

gassed and wounded in May last. He had been invalided home to England, had got leave, and was returning from Strabane to England, leaving Strabane on Wednesday evening by the three o'clock train. The remains were brought to Strabane from Dublin, and on Tuesday the funeral took place with full military honours. The firing parts came from the Lanarks, stationed in Strabane. Military carried the body to the New Cemetery. The prayers at the graveyard were recited by the Rev. Peter Tracy, C.C., Strabane. Lady Alexandra Phyllis Hamilton, sister of the Duke of Abercorn, is amongst those drowned. North West victims are Alderman McCarron, Derry, Gunner P. Early, Strabane; Miss O'Doherty, Derry; Private Thompson, do.; and Lieutenant-Commander Campbell, son of Rev. F. Campbell, Rector, Killyman, Co. Tyrone.

Strabane Chronicle
19th October 1918

**APPROACH OF PEACE
PRESIDENT WILSON'S CONDITIONS
REPORTED ACCEPTANCE BY GERMANY**

In answer to President Wilson's questions of last week, Germany, in a note to President Wilson, dispatched at noon on Saturday, accepts all the President's 14 points of peace as the basis of a peace Agreement, and to bring about an immediate armistice.

Strabane Chronicle
19th October 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART SOLDIER WOUNDED

Private R. McLoughlin, Guards Machine Gun Section, a native of Magheracolton, Newtownstewart who was rather severely wounded in action in August last, has been recently home on furlough. He was invalided home with frostbite in December 1914 but returned to the fighting line in France in 1914. He has had exciting experiences in several engagements. His brother Dan is serving with the Royal Engineers.

Strabane Chronicle
19th October 1918

CONSCRIPTION MENACE

On Tuesday in the House of Commons.

Mr King asks for the results of the voluntary recruiting campaign in Ireland and whether the Government had abandoned conscription in Ireland.

Mr Short said that the number of recruits was 9,629. He was not in a position to make any statement of policy.

The Press Association says-Current rumour that an Order in Council has been, or is about to be made applying military conscription to Ireland are without foundation. In view of the military situation and the condition of Ireland a decision on the matter has in fact been postponed.

The Parliamentary correspondent of *The Daily Chronicle* writes:-To attempt to enforce conscription in Ireland against the wishes of seven-eighths of its people would be an outrage. Given the same conditions conscription would have been impossible in Great Britain. The declaration sent to President Wilson signed by Sir Edward Carson and the leading Ulster Unionists in reply to an Irish nationalist manifesto would be more convincing if Ulster had furnished its full quota of voluntary recruits. It has done nothing of the kind.

Strabane Weekly News
19th October 1918

A meeting of the Strabane women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Mrs. P.H. O'Brien presiding. Miss McCrea reported that she had procured £15 worth of wool for the purpose of knitting socks for troops at the front. Mrs. Feely and Mrs. Lavery reported that seven soldiers had passed through the rest club since the last meeting, four of whom stayed overnight, also an Austrian for the weekend. They also reported that a ship-wrecked crew had passed through from Killybegs, which included a number of Russian soldiers on their way back to America.

Strabane Chronicle
19th October 1918

**STRABANE EX-SOLDIER CHARGED AT GORTIN
ALLEGED LARCENY
ACCUSED RETURNED FOR TRIAL**

Gortin Petty Sessions were held on Friday, before Messrs. Chas. Clarke, J.J. Fleming and J.A. Crawford.

D.I. Collins, Omagh charged a discharged soldier named William Clarke, 22, Kennedy Street, Strabane, with the larceny of two £5 notes, the property of Michael McAteer, grocer, Gortin.

Mr. Moody, (Messrs. Moody and Magee, solicitors, Strabane) appeared for the accused.

Evidence was given by Mr. McAleer to how that while he was settling an account with the accused, he took two five pound notes out of a box and laid them on the counter. When the accused left the place he missed the money. He had paid the prisoner £7-17s for jam supplied. Prisoner was an employee of a Mr. Russell. The money given to prisoner consisted of seven single £1 notes, one 10s note and seven shillings in silver. Mary McSwiggan deposed to having a conversation with the prisoner on the day after the transaction. Prisoner told her he knew nothing about the money, and said to her to go to Mr. Russell, that the money he got from her uncle was not counted on Friday night. Witness went to Mr. Russell who took the money out and counted it. The paper bag in which the money was contained seven single notes, one 10s note and seven shillings.

Bernard Slevin, van driver in the employment of Mr. Russell, Strabane, said the prisoner casually accompanied him on his rounds. He served the bread and the prisoner collected the money. On the 20th September he saw him collecting the money from Mr. McAleer but did not know how much. On their way home along the road they counted the money and there were two £5 notes in McAleer's bag. Prisoner gave witness one when he was going into Holmes' for cigarettes and asked him to get one of the £5 notes changed. Witness did so and handed him back £5 in single notes. Prisoner put two single £1 notes into McAleer's bag and said he would return the £8 to McAleer at Gortin. On the following Thursday night, he had a conversation with prisoner, who warned him not to speak about the £5 note he changed for him in Holmes' lest Holmes would get in trouble. He said he was going to return the money when he went back to Gortin. At that time witness had already made a statement about the changing of the £5 note to the police. Sergeant Cleary, Strabane, stated the prisoner came to the barracks at Strabane and made a voluntary statement and handed him £8 – one £5 note, three £1 notes and one 10s note and 7s in silver. He said McAleer's bag contained two £5 notes in addition to the other money already mentioned. Accused whom Mr. Moody stated was a discharged soldier was returned for trial to Omagh Quarter Sessions.

Strabane Chronicle

26th October 1918

Strabane Women's War Relief Committee have passed a resolution of condolence with the Duchess of Abercorn, President, on the death of her sister-in-law, Lady Hamilton, and Mrs. Clarke, on the death of her son, Lieutenant Clarke.

Strabane Chronicle

26th October 1918

The tender of Mr. John W. Buchanan, Strabane, for the supply of a motor ambulance to the Strabane Workhouse at £180, was accepted by the Board of Guardians at their meeting on Tuesday.

Strabane Chronicle

26th October 1918

Deep regret and sympathy with the bereaved and grief-stricken relatives were felt in Strabane and district when the news of the death in France of Captain Patrick Joseph Reilly, R.A.M.C., son of the late Mr. John Reilly, J.P., flax merchant, Strabane, reached it on Saturday. Dr. Reilly won several distinctions in the present war.

Strabane Chronicle

26th October 1918

IRISH LAND FOR SOLDIERS BILL IN PARLIAMENT

On the motion of the second reading of the Irish Land Provision for Soldiers and Sailors Bil on Tuesday, in the House of Commons.

Mr. Hazleton moved the rejection of the measure, which he said was an attempt to bribe Irishmen who had joined the army under Lord French's proclamation. The bill was unworkable and might wreck the whole foundation of land tenure in Ireland.

Strabane Chronicle

26th October 1918

THE TEACHERS' CLAIMS

The consideration by the Conciliation Arbitration Board of the Irish National Teachers' claim for a war bonus concluded on Monday and the result is expected in about a weeks time. The Teachers' Superannuation Bill

which passed the second reading in the House of Commons on Monday, places the teachers of the country on a Civil Service basis by giving them non-contributory pensions at a cost which in ten years' time will represent £2,000,000 a year. On the Goschen basis of nine-eighths for the Equivalent Grant the Irish teachers should get £225,000 a year for pensions.

Strabane Chronicle
26th October 1918

**IRELAND AND THE PEACE CONFERENCE
POSITION OF SMALL NATIONS
EXCLUSION OF IRISH QUESTION IMPOSSIBLE
ENGLISH JOURNAL'S VIEWS**

On its issue of Friday last the "Manchester Guardian says:-

In the course of the next few months, it is likely that we may be engaged along with most of the other Great Powers, in settling the affairs of Europe in the Peace Conference on the basis of freedom and nationality. Would it be too much to ask that before or at the same time as we apply ourselves to that task we should pay some passing heed to the settling of a precisely analogous and not at all less pressing problem of our own? Let it be realised at once that it will be entirely impossible to exclude the question of Ireland. There will be a demand of course-it has been made already-for direct representation of Ireland by the Irish at the Conference. This no doubt will be refused.

Strabane Chronicle
26th October 1918

IRISH CATTLE EXPORTS

The Publicity Branch of the Ministry of Food states that owing to the glut of live stock in the English markets which has caused thousands of both beasts and sheep to be sent back, instructions have been issued to the ports that from 20th October only the following numbers shall be accepted per week.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd November 1918

COMRADES OF THE GREAT WAR

A meeting was held in the Abercorn School Rooms, Strabane, on Thursday when a post of the Comrades of the Great War was formed. The chair was occupied by Sergeant - Major Pearse who, in a speech explained the aims and objects of the organization. Comrade W.R. Watkins, organizer, Belfast, addressed the meeting. He said, in regard to the pensions, according to the complaints he had heard the Strabane Pensions Committee wanted reorganizing as they seemed to be quite ignorant of the provisions of the Royal Warrant. The local secretary was Sergeant-Major Keane, Abercorn Square, who would give all information to intending members of the newly-formed post.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd November 1918

A very enjoyable time was spent in the Abercorn Schools on Thursday evening 8th inst. on the occasion of the usual fortnightly party for the wounded soldiers and staff of the Military Hospital. The discharged soldiers from the district, the Belgian refugees as well as a large number of those interested in the hospital and its work, were also present. The tables were beautifully decorated with chrysanthemums and plants. An excellent tea was served during which time Miss Connolly's band rendered several selections. After the tables were cleared games were taken up, then followed musical items.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd November 1918

WAR NEWS OF THE WEEK

General Allenby has inflicted another heavy blow upon the Turks by the capture of Aleppo, which was entered by our advanced cavalry and armoured cars on Saturday.

The British and French are still pressing forward in France and Flanders

Germany has replied to President Wilson's latest Note. He states that the peace negotiations are being conducted by a people's government, in whose hands rests the power to make deciding conclusions. The military powers are also subject to it. Germany now awaits proposals for an armistice which shall be a first step towards a just peace.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd November 1918

CREAMERY MANAGERS MEET SALARIES AND BUTER PRICES

An important conference of Ulster members of the Irish Creamery Managers' Association was held in the Town Hall, Omagh, on Saturday.

The Chairman referred to the difficulties which the Association had impressing on farmers the necessity of increasing the remuneration of managers. On the working of a concern a man may be reasonably worth £200 a year, still it is with difficulty that such a man secure £180.

The scale as submitted was adopted.

Strabane Weekly News 2nd November 1918

IRISH TEACHERS' DEMAND

The Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government employees have made an award to Irish national teachers that will bring the total amount to be received by way of war bonuses to £32 10s. per year for men and £26 per year for women, the payment to date from July 1918. This will bring the present payment up to 12s. 6d. in the case of men and 10s. 6d. in the case of women.

Strabane Weekly News 2nd November 1918

STRABANE AND DISTRICT CASUALTIES

Mr. A. A. Mc Lennan, who was a most popular official in the Strabane post office, has died of wounds received in action. He enlisted about two years ago and was attached to the Royal Air Force.

The relatives of Pte. J. Reid, Lifford, have been informed that he has been wounded in action and that he is at present in an hospital in England. Being a member of the U.V.F., he volunteered at the outbreak of war, and has been in the firing line since 1915. Before enlisting he was a member of the L.O.L. and R.B.P. and held in high regard by the members.

The relatives of Corporal Hawthorne, who resides at Greenlaw, have been notified that he has been wounded in action, receiving gunshot wounds in the leg. He belongs to the Canadians and had been wounded some months previously. Corpl. Hawthorne is a member of the local L.O.L.

Strabane Weekly News 2nd November 1918

PATRIOTIC DONEGAL FAMILY

Mr. John Porterfield, of Mount View, Lifford, has recently been notified that his eldest son, Trooper John (Jack) Porterfield, of the famous Fort Garry Horse, Canada, has died of wounds received in action. The deceased soldier joined up in the year 1916, and went through his training as Hughes Camp, Manitoba, and went to France during the autumn of that year, where he took part in a great many engagements, and had some very marvellous escapes. Prior to emigrating to Canada he was a trooper in the Yeomanry (now Irish Horse), and in their sports &c, was responsible in bringing many a trophy North. He was a keen sportsman and took a great interest in all games in the locality. In his boyhood days he was a staunch member of the old Strabane Boys' Brigade, and for proficiency won a great many medals and trophies. One of his chums writing from France to his sorrowing parents says: "He died as he always lived-a true soldier and an Irish gentleman". The deceased's younger brother, Albert, was killed during the Somme advance on 1st July 1916, and, his older brother, Samuel was severely wounded at Ypres, 1916, and since discharged.

Strabane Weekly News 2nd November 1918

TURKEY SURRENDERS GENERAL TOWNSHEND AS MEDIATOR DARDANELLES OPEN TO FLEET

In the House of Commons yesterday, Sir George Cave, Home Secretary, announced that an armistice had been signed with the Turkish plenipotentiaries, and came into operation at noon to-day.

Strabane Weekly News 2nd November 1918

AUSTRIA'S ANXIETY FOR PEACE APPEAL TO MR. LANSING THE EMPEROR'S KARL'S PACIFICISM

A Vienna telegram states that the Austro-Hungarian Government, simultaneously with the Note addressed to Mr. Lansing, communicated the contents of it to the French, British, Japanese, and Italian Governments,

with a request that they also should agree to the proposals contained in it, and support them in Washington.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd November 1918

**ALLIES AND AN ARMISTICE
THE BRITISH SCHEME
DRASTIC PROPOSALS**

A London correspondent states:- From an authoritative source to-night I gather that the armistice conditions which this country is submitting at the Paris Conference are on something like these lines:-

- (1) The Germans to lay down their arms in the Allied Territory, which they must now evacuate, surrender undamaged all ammunition dumps, guns, and aeroplanes, and march back to Germany without arms, exceptions being made in the cases of army commanders.
- (2) The Allied armies to occupy a line 30 miles inside the German frontier except where it infringes on the Rhine, in which case the Rhine line to be occupied.
- (3) The military occupation of Frankfort, Hamburg, and the whole of the North Sea coast up to and including Emden.
- (4) The German fleet to proceed to Heligoland, and, with that island, be given over to the custody of the British Fleet.
- (5) The submarines outside the Mediterranean to come to the surface with white flags, and be escorted to Southampton, Devonport, or Plymouth; those inside the Mediterranean to be taken to Marseilles or Toronto; and
- (6) The immediate and unconditional release of all Allied prisoners.

Strabane Weekly News
2nd November 1918

**THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC
CONDITIONS IN STRABANE
BOY DIES ON BED OF STRAW AND BAGS
COMPLAINTS BY URBAN COUNCIL**

At Strabane Urban Council on Monday, Mr. Charles Browne presiding, The Chairman referred to the epidemic raging at present in Strabane and district and the treatment meted out to the poor people at the hands of the Guardians, which he described as scandalous. There was a committee appointed by the Guardians to go into certain details arising out of the requisitioning of the workhouse by the military. He admitted that at the time there was no epidemic when this committee was appointed, and the report of the committee made no provision for an hospital.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd November 1918

**THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC
FATAL STRABANE CASES**

The influenza epidemic is raging in Strabane and district, and it is to be regretted that in some cases it has been followed by loss of life. Every street in the town is affected and has a big toll of sufferers. Whole families are laid up in bed. The disease spread in the town with alarming rapidity. News reached Strabane on Wednesday evening that Master Norman Ingram, son of the late Mr. William Ingram, Clerk of the Strabane Union and brother of the present clerk, Mr. Bertie Ingram, who is serving with the colours, had succumbed to pneumonia following influenza in Dungannon, where he was a student at the Royal Schools. Much regret and sympathy were felt with the deceased's widowed mother, brothers and sisters.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd November 1918

THE PARTY'S DILEMMA

Bereft of any programme to put before the country at the forthcoming General Election, Mr. Dillon and his party have, as an English journal puts it, "taken another plank out of the Sinn Fein platform" upon which they hope be an oratorical display in the House of Commons and perhaps a touch of mock heroics to secure something which would provide them with a "policy" for the coming electoral struggle.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd November 1918

**THE ARMISTICE PROPOSALS
GERMANY CONCEDED ALL POINTS
ALLIED LEADERS CONFER
AUSTRIA AND PEACE**

The peace pourparlers are being carried on between the United States and the Central Empires, and the probability of an early armistice will largely depend on the statement to be shortly issued by the Allied Conference at present sitting in Paris. In reply to the German proposal for an armistice (published in these columns last week), President Wilson replied on Thursday last. He stated that he had submitted the proposal to the Allied Governments with the suggestion that if those Governments are disposed to effect peace upon the terms and principles indicated,

Their military advisers and the military advisers of the United States be asked to submit to the Governments associated against Germany the necessary terms of such an armistice as will fully protect the interest of the peoples involved, and insure to the associated Governments the unrestricted power to safeguard and enforce the details of the peace to which the German Government has agreed, provided they deem such an armistice possible from the military point of view.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd November 1918

**IRISH TEACHERS' DEMANDS
THE ARBITRATION AWARD
NOT ACCEPTED AS FINAL**

The Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees has issued the following award in connection with the claims of the Irish National Teachers for a war bonus on full civil service terms:- In view of the continuance of abnormal conditions resulting from the war there shall be paid to teachers in the various grades and to junior assistant mistresses such temporary increases of remuneration by way of war bonus.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd November 1918

**PROLONGING THE DISPUTE
GUARDIANS' MOTION
THE DOCTORS' DEMANDS AND "RATEPAYERS INTERESTS"
SICKNESS INCREASES**

The special business at the meeting of the Board of Guardians on Saturday was the consideration of a notice of motion handed in by the Chairman to grant the medical officers of the Union an increase of £40 per annum, bringing their salaries up to £150, and quinquennial increases of £10 each until a maximum of £180 was reached. Mr Murnaghan presided, and the names of the other Guardians present will be found in the division list given below.

Strabane Chronicle
2nd November 1918

**ULSTER CREAMERY MANAGERS
SALARIES QUESTION AND APPOINTMENTS
THE ASSOCIATION AND THE LABOUR MOVEMENT
BUTTER PRICES**

An important conference of Ulster members of the Irish Creamery Managers' Association was held in the Town Hall, Omagh, on Saturday.

Mr. D. Hegarty, Cork, secretary of the Association, submitted the revised scale of salaries prepared by the Central Council.

The Chairman referred to the difficulties which the Association had on impressing on farmers the necessity of increasing the remuneration of managers. On the working of a concern a man may be reasonably worth £200 per year, still it is with difficulty that such a man can secure £180. For the time being a committee might gain a little by such methods, but persistent pursuance of such methods would eventually result in a loss to the concern.

Strabane Chronicle
9th November 1918

It has been stated that very soon the public will be able to purchase white bread once more.

There is a large amount of grain in the country and by the time stocks are falling supplies will be coming regularly from overseas.

There will also be offal available for pig feeding.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

BALLINDRAIT SOLDIER'S FATE

Pte. Adam Lucas, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, from the Ballindrait district, arrived home recently on leave from the front, and developed influenza, from which he afterwards passed away. He came through many engagements during the past four years. Pte. Lucas had many narrow escapes, and just before he obtained leave to visit his friends, whilst engaged with another comrade at the firing line, both horses which he and his comrade were leading were killed, and his comrades met a similar fate. The funeral of deceased took place on Tuesday and was attended by many sorrowing sympathisers. Deceased's death came as a great shock to the community.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

V.A.D. ENTERTAINMENT

A highly enjoyable function was held in the Abercorn Schools, Strabane, on Friday evening, when the V.A.D. nurses from the Strabane and Lifford districts, with Mrs. Cochrane (Lifford) in charge, entertained the wounded soldiers at the military hospital, as well as a large number of military, belonging to the Lanarkshire Yeomanry.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

LOCAL AND DISTRICT NEWS

The following are the recruiting figures for the ten Irish recruiting areas from the 1st June to Wednesday:- Belfast,4397; Dublin,2655; Omagh,1022; Limerick,617; Waterford,856; Armagh,386; Galway,261; Mullingar,358; Cork,817; Sligo,190.

The following appears in the official casualty lists;- Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers-Killed-Mc Kelvey, 27373, Sergt. H., Sion Mills; Mc Kelvey, 29627, Lance-Corp. S. Plumbridge; Reid, 19072 Corporal A., Donaghmore. Died of Wounds-Goan, 29098 J. Castlederg; Mc Coubrie, 20826, Sergeant T., Strabane. Now reported not wounded-Harkin, 27902, P., Strabane.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

LATEST WAR NEWS
A STEADY ADVANCE
FIGHTING AT AVESNES
TROOPS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE TOWN
FRENCH CAVALRY PUSHING FORWARD

The British official report issued on Thursday morning was as follows:
Our progress on the battle-front was continued yesterday evening.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

GERMAN PEACE MISSION
DEPARTURE OF GERMAN DELEGATION
HOPES OF AN IMMEDIATE SETTLEMENT
NO ARMISTICE YET SIGNED

Wireless news from Berlin transmitted through the wireless stations of the German Government contains the following:- The German delegation for the conclusion of an armistice and for the opening of peace negotiations have left Berlin for the West.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

GERMANS IN FULL RETREAT
PEACE COMMISSION APPOINTED

The British troops advanced on the whole front on Wednesday, keeping in contact with the German rearguards at various points. Cartignies, Marbaix, Leval, and Aulnoye have been captured, and the railway junction of Aulnoye is also in our possession. There has been stiff fighting near Bavai, also on the west bank of the Honnelle. Further north Canadian troops captured Baisieux and Quievrechain.

Continuing their pursuit of the Germans, the French made important progress yesterday, capturing guns and much material. Vervins and Fontainelez-Vervins have been occupied, which brings our Allies within nine miles of Hirson. Montcornet, Rozoy-sur-Serre, and Rethel have also been captured, and the day's advance amounts at some points to eight miles.

German armistice delegates left Berlin yesterday afternoon for the Western front. This action followed immediately upon the receipt of a Note from President Wilson, conveying the intimation that Marshal Foch had been authorised by the Allies to receive German representatives, and to communicate the armistice terms to them.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

**AUSTRIAN ARMY DESTROYED
ITALY'S CROWNING VICTORY
CENTRAL POWERS GOING TO PIECES**

The following was issued by the Press Bureau on Sunday night:-

10, Downing Street, Whitehall, Sunday-A telephone message has been received from the Prime Minister in Paris to say that the news has just come in that Austria-Hungary, the last of Germany's props, has gone out of the war.

An armistice was signed by General Diaz this afternoon and is to come into operation tomorrow (Monday), at three o'clock.

The terms of the armistice will be published on Tuesday.

The Austrian communique, dated Sunday, says:-

In the Italian theatre of war our troops have ceased hostilities on the basis of an armistice which has been concluded. The conditions of the armistice will be issued separately - Chief of the General Staff.

Strabane Weekly News
9th November 1918

**GREAT STEP TOWARDS PEACE
GRMAN ARMISTICE TERMS DRAWN UP**

A message from Paris says:- Another great step has been taken towards peace. The armistice conditions have been stated and agreed upon by the Allies. Recent events upon the French front leave but little doubt of German acceptance. The operations on this part of the front have been extraordinarily successful and will serve to indicate to Germany what awaits her if she does not now realise that her great sustained militarist experiment which she started in 1875 has collapsed.

Strabane Chronicle
9th November 1918

**THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC
STRABANE'S SUFFERING POOR
NO HOSPITAL PROVISION
PITIUL CONDITIONS
URBAN COUNCIL'S ACTION**

The serious and tragic aspects of the influenza epidemic which is raging in Strabane were referred to by the Chairman, Mr. Charles Browne, at the monthly meeting of the Strabane Urban District Council on Monday. He described the treatment which the poor of Strabane is receiving at the hands of the Board of Guardians as scandalous by their not providing an hospital for urgent cases. No doubt at the time the Committee appointed by the Board of Guardians met to go into matters connected with the Workhouse there was no epidemic, but it had broken out since and he thought there should be something done at once for the suffering of the town.

Strabane Chronicle
9th November 1918

PRICE OF TURF FIXED

The Chief Secretary has under the Board of Trade Regulations, fixed the price of turf at a figure which shall not exceed by more than 125 p.c. the ordinary selling price in 1914. A reasonable charge may be allowed for delivery or credit. The local authority in each district shall prepare a list of prices and submit them to the Fuel Controller for his approval.

Strabane Chronicle
9th November 1918

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
EMPLOYEES' WAGES INCREASED**

Mr. Charles Browne (chairman) presided at a meeting of the Finance Committee on Thursday night. The meeting had under discussion the question of the application received from the street men, quarry men, gas workers, and night watchmen for an increase of wages, which had been allowed at a previous meeting and appeared to be out of order by reason of an informality.

**Strabane Chronicle
9th November 1918**

**CASTLEDERG PETTY SESSIONS
AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS' CLAIMS
WAGES BOARD REGULATIONS "A GREAT FARCE"**

Mr. Arthur McSorley and subsequently Capt. Gosselin, R.M., presided at Castlederg Petty Sessions on Saturday. D.I. Heggart, Strabane, prosecuted Margaret Monteith, Edenreagh, for failing to pay to her workmen, William Johnston, John Curry, and Hugh Curry, the minimum rate of wages as fixed by the Agricultural Wages Board.

Dr. Burke appeared for defendant. James Moran, Inspector under the Agricultural Wages Board, said the total amount of arrears and to Wm. Johnston, from the 10th November, to the 10th February, was £5 14s 9d.

Miss Monteith stated that in addition to paying Wm. Johnston £13 per half-year she allowed him a bonus of £3 every half-year for services rendered.

The case was adjourned for a month, and if the bonus was paid the case would be dismissed.

**Strabane Chronicle
9th November 1918**

**NEARING THE END
AUSTRIA AND TURKEY OUT OF THE WAR
THE GERMAN TERMS
THE ALLIES AND THE "FREEDOM OF THE SEAS"**

An armistice has been concluded with Austria and Turkey, and hostilities ceased with these countries. The Italian midday communique on Monday reported the destruction of the Austrian army, and the capture of 300,000 prisoners and 5,000 guns.

The Allied Governments have replied to the German Peace Note, and the reply as transmitted to the German Government through the Swiss Minister, on behalf of President Wilson by the United States.

**Strabane Chronicle
9th November 1918**

**COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICIALS
BIG INCREASE IN SALARIES
MR. MURNAGHAN'S PROTEST
ANIMATED DISCUSSION**

At the meeting of the Finance Committee of the Tyrone County Council on Wednesday, Mr. Gunning Moore, D.L., vice-chairman, presiding.

The Council proceeded to consider an application from the County Council permanent staff for a war bonus on their salaries, as awarded to Government employees by this Conciliation and Arbitration Board.

Mr. C.C.Hamilton, secretary, said this was the first application made by the officials for a war bonus. Every Council in Ireland had already granted their officials a war bonus under the above award, dating from the 1st January 1918.

Mr. Murnaghan's motion to have the application rejected was defeated by six votes to three, the voting being on strictly Party Lines.

Mr. Murnaghan proposed, and Mr. Herdman seconded, that a war bonus be granted on the lines laid down by the Conciliation and Arbitration Board.

**Strabane Chronicle
16th November 1918**

At the opening of Strabane Petty Session on Monday, Mr. James Clarke, J.P., said they had just heard that the Great War had come to an end, and he thought it would not be out of place for that bench of magistrates to pass on a vote of congratulations to their soldiers and sailors, and all those who had anything to do with bringing about an end to hostilities. Dr. McNicholl, J.P., seconded. Mr. Thomas Elliott, on behalf of the Bar, supported the resolution, and which was passed. The military band turned out and

paraded the town, and the church bells were rung. Flags were displayed at the headquarters of the Unionist Association, and from businesses and private houses throughout the town. At night, houses were illuminated, and the Irish Street Fife and Drum Band parades the town.

Strabane Chronicle
16th November 1918

THE WAR ENDED

The world after four years of slaughter on the battlefields of Europe, has donned the mantle of Peace, and humanity breathes a sigh of relief. Never in history did human genius in the development of armaments play such an important part as during the progress of this terrible struggle. Powerful beyond description were the devices brought into effect for human destruction, and, unlike most wars in the past, thousands who were non-combatants have perished by the use of the scientific contrivances employed. Indeed, the fields of scientific research in the matter of providing the most powerful and deadly weapons of warfare have been explored to a degree hitherto inconceivable, but if the struggle with all its tragic results and enormous expenditure has prepared a course for the setting up of a better standard in the international relations between the different States, and if the visitors have now definitely united in a common purpose to establish such a peace as will satisfy the whole world by embodying such conditions in the settlement as will make for something better and more lasting than the selfish and competitive interests of the powerful States, then the great tragedy through which the world has passed, and the enormous sacrifice in men and money, will not be altogether in vain. The war, at the outset, while professed by the belligerents to be in the interests of "civilization and humanity", aimed at conquest and power, but the continuance of the conflict wrought such a change on men's minds and evolved such new conditions as have made it imperative to standardize power, not on the status of military autocracy, but in accordance with the dictates of democracy. The whole aspect of the world of policy and action became transformed when the President of the great Republic of the United States made his first declaration on the war aims of the belligerence prior to America's entry into the war. At the time the overthrow of the Central Powers seemed impossible unless by American aid. The President, at this stage, and subsequently, made it plain that the will of the people must prevail in the work of framing covenants for the better government of the world, and not the desire of statesmen playing for power and high stakes. American assistance being indispensable to the success of England and her Allies, the conditions in toto proclaimed by Mr. Wilson were accepted by responsible British Ministers and Allied diplomats America's effective power when utilized at full strength quickly turned the war scales, and the nations and peoples who are today triumphant, and who may well feel felicitous upon the outcome of the conflict, owe their deliverance to the great Republic of the West. The armistice terms imposed on Germany are such as make it impossible for that country to renew hostilities. Military domination has vanished, and restitution must be made for German excesses. In Germany ambitious autocracy must give way to the will of the populace, and the German people, like the people of the belligerent countries and of oppressed States, have awakened to the ideal of working out their own destinies in conformity with the expressed wish of the masses. Ireland has paid a heavy toll in the war, but the solidarity and unconquerable spirit of the nation saved the people from being coercively dragged into the conflict and defeated the attempt that was being made to tamper with the country's inviolable right to the status of nationhood. The war, being a war for the creation of a new world of freedom everywhere, the question of the liberation of Ireland as well as all the other small nations must and will engage the attention of the associated Powers that will meet to arrange for future peace and the reign of universal justice in the world.

Strabane Chronicle
16th November 1918

STRABANE GUARDIANS THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC SPREADING IN RURAL DISTRICTS

Captain J.C. Herdman (chairman) presided at the bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians on Tuesday.

EX-INMATES' APPLICATIONS

Application was received from a number of ex-inmates of the workhouse for an increase of the outdoor relief granted to them in the taking over of the workhouse by the military.

The Chairman said they should stand by the award, and if the applicants did not think it adequate, they should go to Derry Union.

No action was taken.

PLAGUE IN CLADY

Mr. Lennon stated that the influenza epidemic was getting worse in the Clady district. There was a large number of cases.

THE INFLUENZA PLAGUE LOCAL DEATHS

The influenza epidemic, it is regretted, has claimed a large number of victims in Strabane and district.

**Strabane Chronicle
16th November 1918**

THE WAR ENDED ARMISTICE SIGNED TERMS IMPOSED ON GERMANY EVACUATION OF BELGIUM & FRANCE SURRENDER OF SUBMARINES AND GUNS FLEET DISARMED

The world war, which lasted four years and three months, came to an end on Monday morning. Marshal Foch on Germany's acceptance of the armistice terms gave the order to 'cease fire'. On Monday afternoon Mr. Lloyd George gave the terms of the German surrender in a statement in the House of Commons.

**Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918**

STRABANE AND DISTRICT

Private J. Nealis, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been wounded in action.

News reached Strabane on Saturday that Lieut. Leonard Porterfield has died as a result of pneumonia. The deceased who had relatives in Strabane district was most popular and had seen considerable service in France. He belonged to the Royal Field Artillery and had been on the territorials at the outbreak of war.

**Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918**

STRABANE SERGEANT'S FATE

Mrs. Mary Myles, of Barrack Street, Strabane, has received official intimation that her son, Sgt. Myles, of the Highland Light Infantry was drowned on the "Leinster". He was three years and nine months in the firing line and won the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery on the battlefield and had been wounded at Mons and Ypres. The deceased took part in many fierce engagements and also served on the Italian front. He was a son of the late Sergeant Myles, of the R.A.M.C., who fought throughout the South African war.

**Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918**

STRABANE SERGEANT KILLED

Sergeant John Devlin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, formerly of Strabane, and son of Mr. Patrick Devlin, Strabane, has been killed in action in France on 3rd October, according to official information received by his relatives. Sergeant Devlin was in the firing line for the past three years and took part in many engagements without receiving a scratch. In addition to being in France, he was through the Dardanelles campaign, and also served in Egypt. Two weeks before he was killed, he was home on leave. He was a popular soldier, and has another brother Sergeant Denis Devlin, serving with the Royal Field Artillery.

**Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918**

END OF THE WAR STRABANE IN JOYFUL MOOD

The first news of the signing of the armistice terms by the Germans was conveyed from the military stationed at the Workhouse on Monday morning last and caused scenes of the greatest enthusiasm. Flags were immediately hung out from the business and private houses, whilst people rushed into the streets and jubilantly congratulated each other on the victorious result of the long-drawn struggle. The note of thankfulness was also on everyone's lips, whilst sympathy was often expressed for those whose relatives had made the supreme sacrifice. About mid-day the military band of the Lanarks, followed by the soldiers stationed at the Workhouse, paraded the streets, and their light-hearted display of joy caused the greatest amusement. The band afterwards proceeded to the military hospital and rendered a capital programme there. Joy bells were rung at Christ Church, Bowling Green, and at night a thanksgiving service was held in the sacred edifice and largely attended. It was conducted by the Rev. Thomas Baird, B.D., and special

music was rendered. The night was completely given over to celebrating the great event, bonfires being lighted, and private houses gaily illuminated.

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

PEACE AND VICTORY

Events have moved with extraordinary swiftness since our last issue. The war has been ended after four years, three months, and eleven days of the most terrible and stressful period in the history of the world.

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

LOCAL AND DISTRICT NEWS

Rev. Wm. Devine, B.A., B.D., Chaplain's Service (Australian Imperial Force), son of the late Mr. George Devine, J.P., Castlederg, County Tyrone, has been awarded the Military Cross, for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He followed closely up with an advance, assisting the wounded, and after the objective was captured, he remained with the front-line under heavy artillery fire. Later, during an enemy bombing attack, he went out and brought in a wounded man. He behaved splendidly.

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

GERMANY'S DAY OF DOOM
WAR ENDS IN VICTORY
ARMISTICE SIGNED – HOSTILITIES CEASE
ENEMY BEATEN TO A STANDSTILL
KAISER ABDICATES AND FLYS TO HOLLAND
CROWN PRINCE REPORTED TO BE SHOT
REVOLUTION IN GERMANY
KINGS DEPOSED AND REPUBLICS PROCLAIMED
ALLIES' ARMISTICE TERMS
SURRENDER OF GUNS, WAR MATERIAL
SUBMARINES, BATTLESHIPS, AND AEROPLANES
ALLIED TROOPS TO OCCUPY RHINELAND
"LAST OF ALL WARS" SAYS
MR. LLOYD GEORGE

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

SIR E. CARSON AND THE IRISH DEBATE
FOURPOINTS WHICH WERE MADE CLEAR

The "Morning Post" publishes the following letter from Sir Edward Carson:-
Sir,-Four points were made clear in the Irish debate on Tuesday:-

- (1) The Nationalist leader declared that his demands are the same as the demands of the Sinn Feiners. I quote his words- "As regards the demands of Ireland, we do not differ in the least degree and never have differed from the demand made by the present Sinn Feiners or by any of the Nationalist revolutionary parties in the past."
- (2) The Solicitor-General asked Mr. Dillon whether the settlement he claimed was in accordance with the Home Rule Act. To this he declined to give an answer, as, of course, it would not satisfy Sinn Feiners, who repudiates it.
- (3) The demands made by the motion for "self-determination" and supported by the Asquithian party are entirely inconsistent with the provisions of the Home Rule Act, that "notwithstanding the establishment of the Irish Parliament or anything contained in this Act the supreme power and authority of the Parliament of the United Kingdom shall remain unaffected and undiminished over all persons, matters, and things in Ireland, and every part thereof" (section 1, sub-section (2)).
- (4) Mr. Asquith and his followers have endorsed this policy, and will, I assume, ask the country to give them a mandate to compel Ulster to submit to the Sinn Fein programme.
That is the issue.

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The news of the signing of the armistice and the consequent cessation of the world-war reached Newtownstewart early on Monday forenoon. The welcome telegram was shown in the window of Henderson's Ltd.

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

STRIKE AT SPAMOUNT WOOLLEN MILLS

Work at the large and important mills of the Spamount Woollen Co., Ltd. near Castlederg, is at present at a standstill owing to a general strike for higher wages.

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

NATIONALISTS AND PRESIDENT WILSON

Mr. John Dillon, Chairman, presided at a meeting of the Irish Party. The Party considered the situation created by the attitude of the Government towards Home Rule as announced in the Parliamentary debate. It was unanimously decided to prepare an appeal to President Wilson to secure for Ireland the right of self-determination advocated by him for all subject nations, and to issue an appeal to the Irish race in America and the Dominions, asking them to use their influence with their Government towards the same end.

Strabane Weekly News
16th November 1918

CASTLEDERG NOTES

The news of the signing of the armistice was received by wire in Castlederg about mid-day on Monday, and the continuous whistling of the mid-day train from Victoria Bridge to Castlederg proclaimed the news over the whole neighbourhood.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd November 1918

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Sergeant John Devlin, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mr. Patrick Devlin, Strabane, was killed in action in France on 3rd October. He had been in the firing line almost continuously for three years and went through the Dardanelles campaign without receiving a scratch. He was home on leave a fortnight before he was killed.

Mrs. Mary Myles, Strabane, has been notified by the War Office that her son, Sergeant Myles, Highland Light Infantry, who was four years at the front, was drowned on the "Leinster".

Strabane Chronicle
Saturday 23rd November 1918

RED CROSS AND ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE COLLECTION STRABANE No. 1 RURAL AND URBAN DISTRICTS COLLECTED BY COL. J.R. BAILLIE AND JAMES WHITE, ESQ.

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. John Clarke & Co., Main Street,	10	0	0
A. Snodgrass, Main Street	5	5	0
Messrs. A. & J. Lowry, Main Street	5	5	0
Thomas Elliott, Abercorn Square	5	0	0
P. McMenamin, J.P., Castle Street	5	0	0
T.W. Sweeney, Main Street	5	0	0
William Harpur, Main Street	5	0	0
Jas. Elliott, Castle Street	5	0	0
Jas. Hill, Castle Street	5	0	0
J.W. Buchanan, Railway Road	5	0	0
W.F. McKee, Railway Road	5	0	0
James White, Railway road	5	0	0
J.F.A. Simms, Lifford	5	0	0
P.J. Byrne, Hibernian Bank	3	3	0
John W. Russell, Main Street	3	3	0
R.J. Smith, Main Street	3	3	0

Gallagher, Egan & Co. Derry road	3 - 3 - 0
E. Gallagher, J.P., Main Street	3 - 0 - 0
Messrs. O'Doherty Ltd., Main Street	3 - 0 - 0
W.P. Moody, Railway Road	2 - 2 - 0
W.H. McCaffrey, Main Street	2 - 2 - 0
William King, Main Street	2 - 2 - 0
The Misses Wade, Main Street	2 - 0 - 0
James Gailey, Main Street	2 - 0 - 0
H.T. Gallagher, Railway Road	2 - 0 - 0
Rev. Mr. & Mrs. Clarke, Derry Road	2 - 0 - 0
Robert Bruce, Main Street	1 - 1 - 0
J.E. Stevenson, Main Street	1 - 1 - 0
W.J. Taylor, Main Street	1 - 1 - 0
Jas. H. White, Main Street	1 - 1 - 0
Eugene Conroy, Main Street	1 - 1 - 0
Samuel Rule, Main Street	1 - 1 - 0
Wm. Wilson, Provincial Bank	1 - 1 - 0
Mrs. Coyle, Railway Road	1 - 0 - 0
W.E. Mahaffy, Abercorn Square	1 - 0 - 0
R. Hamilton, Abercorn Square	1 - 0 - 0
J. Ingram, Ulster Bank	1 - 0 - 0
Charles Browne, Castle Street	1 - 0 - 0
J.A. Anderson, Castle Street	1 - 0 - 0
A. Woods, Castle Street	1 - 0 - 0
John Colhoun, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
Messrs. Sayers, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
John Jarvis, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
J.W. Millar, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
Mrs. Blair, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
W.F. McConnell, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
S. Wisheart, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
Francis McMenamin, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
Wm. Russell, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
G. L'Amie, Belfast Bank	1 - 0 - 0
William Hoy, Ulster Bank	1 - 0 - 0
J.C. Bradley, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
H. Baxter, Bridge Street	1 - 0 - 0
S. Tynan, Bridge Street	1 - 0 - 0
T. McElhinney, Main Street	1 - 0 - 0
J. Gallagher, Townhall Street	1 - 0 - 0
J.A. Taylor, Bowling Green	1 - 0 - 0
Mrs. Robinson, Patrick Street	1 - 0 - 0
Mrs. Pollock, Abercorn Square	0 - 10 - 0
H.J. Maguire, Castle Street	0 - 10 - 0
John Davison, Main Street	0 - 10 - 0
The Misses McSwiggen, Railway Street	0 - 10 - 0
Mrs. McHenry, Railway Street	0 - 10 - 0
S.J. McGuinness, Railway Street	0 - 10 - 0
John McDougal, Main Street	0 - 10 - 0

Strabane Chronicle 23rd November 1918

The M.C. has been awarded to the Rev. W. Devine, C.F., Australians, son of late Mr. G. Devine, J.P., Castlederg. At Amiens Mass for the fallen soldiers of the Australians, and at which the Bishop of Amiens presided, a very eloquent and impressive sermon was preached by Father Devine.

Strabane Chronicle 23rd November 1918

**THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC
MORE STRABANE DEATHS**

The influenza epidemic shows signs of abatement in Strabane, but there are still numbers of people laid up with the malady and, unfortunately, further deaths have occurred in the locality. The rural districts, as well as the town, have been sorely hit by the epidemic. A Dublin physician says that this spell of severe frosty weather, with sunshine and clear air, will simply kill off the disease more thoroughly than any other agency. The people's prayers have been heard, he added.

Strabane Chronicle
23rd November 1918

PRESIDENT WILSON AND SELF-DETERMINATION

President Wilson, replying to a petition from thousands of American citizens of Danish descent urging that the people of Sleswig, annexed by Germany in 1864, should be given the right by self-determination, assures them that their appeal will not go unheeded, "for it founds itself wisely upon the rights of men to rule themselves, and to choose the manner in which that self-rule will be exercised. Not America alone, he adds but all peoples now quickened to a newer sense of values and of justice, must join in the relief of a grievance whose continuance would traverse the principles for which more than a score of nations are now fighting."

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

RETURN OF BRITISH PRISONERS AFFECTING SCENES AT HOME PORTS STORIES OF HUN BRUTALITIES

Eight hundred returning British Prisoners arrived at Dover on Sunday and had a great reception. The inhabitants turned out in thousands to greet the men, and the Prince of Wales took part in the welcome.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

M.M. FOR DONEMANA VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Robert Mc Namee, clerk of Donemana Petty Sessions, received the news a few days ago that his son, Pte. John F. Mc Namee, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Ulster Division), was presented with the Military Medal at a camp near Wigan. On the occasion a concert was held, at which this gallant soldier received many congratulations. Private Mc Namee received this coveted honour for bravery displayed on the battlefield on the 11th August at the battle of St. Julian, when badly wounded and whilst in charge of a machine-gun, when four of his comrades were killed and his superior officer, Cpt. Garstin, of Londonderry, was severely wounded, he persisted in putting his gun into action, refusing to leave same, until carried from his post through loss of blood. Pte. Mc Namee is now in a convalescent camp, where he is improving satisfactorily. His brother Bobby is with the Canadians, and was fighting around Arras and Cambrai before the armistice.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

MEMORIAL TO ULSTER DIVISION

The following circular has been issued to the members of the Ulster Unionist Council:-
Old Town Hall, Belfast, 15th November 1918.

Fellow-Members—The end of the war immediately recalls to our minds the gallant deeds of the Ulster Division, and particularly of those who have lost their lives in Flanders.

I suggest that a monument be erected on a suitable site on the battleground to commemorate for all time the heroic deeds of those men; and, to that end, that a fund be started in which all sympathisers may participate; and balance to be devoted to the U.V.F. Patriotic Fund.

If you desire to assist will you kindly fill in the enclosed form and hand it to Sir James Craig forthwith, that he may announce a preliminary list in the Belfast papers when inviting further subscriptions from the general public?

Contributions may be made payable and sent to him at the Old Town Hall, Belfast.

Yours faithfully,
Edward Carson.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

WAR RELIEF MEETING

A very largely attended meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall, on Thursday evening. Miss Mc Crea, vice-president, occupied the chair.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

CASTEDERG NOTES
CASTLEDERG MAN BEREAVED

Mr. Andrew Deery, County Councillor, Goland, Castlederg, has received authentic confirmation of the death of his son, Lte.-Cpl. Joseph Deery, 41244, of the 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers, who was killed in action on 11th October. Lte.-Cpl. Deery was killed instantly by a shell and his remains, with other comrades who made the supreme sacrifice, were interred near Dadizelle. He was 24 years of age and prior to joining up three years ago was a clerk in the Ulster Bank, College Green, Dublin. The young soldier's parents have received many tokens of sympathy in their bereavement.

Captain R. E. W. Semple, M. C., Royal Field Artillery, attached Trench Mortar Battery, Guards Division, died on 5th inst. In a hospital abroad of wounds received in action on 22nd October. This officer was the only surviving son of Lieut.-Col. Sir David Semple, M. D., a distinguished Castlederg man, and a nephew of Professor R. J. Semple, of the Mc Crea-Magee College, Londonderry. His elder brother Second-Lieut. W. D. Semple, King's Royal Rifle Corps, was killed in action in 1917 while serving on the western front.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

THE STRIKE AT SPAMOUNT FACTORY

The following statement has been submitted for publication in the Press regarding the strike at Spamount Woollen Mills, Castlederg.

"We desire from a worker's point of view to put before the public a statement as to the reasons why they have come out on strike. The management have ostentatiously placed before the public the statement that on average the workers have got a 100 per cent. increase on their pre-war wages. This is misleading as a very limited number of time workers have been so increased."

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

THE TROOPS' HOMECOMING
RECEPTION COMMITTEE PROPOSED

At the meeting of Omagh Urban Council, at which Mr. Thomas Johnston, J. P., presided, on Monday evening last, Dr. Duncan said now that the struggle had finished, and they anticipated a lot of those who had fought and suffered to be returning back to the town and neighbourhood, he through something might be done first by that Council to give the boys coming home a welcome. He thought it would come better from the Council than to start a private committee in the town. The Council might also suggest to those in authority that they might see their way to have the different battalions of the noble Inniskillings disbanded at their depot in Omagh.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

Thanksgiving services for the Allied Victory were held in the three Protestant churches in Newtownstewart on Sunday last. In the Presbyterian church Union Jacks were draped round the Roll of Honour and the pulpit. There was a much larger attendance than usual, and the service was an impressive one. The service opened with the National Anthem. A stirring sermon was given by the Rev. D. Morton.

Mrs. Murdock, of Mill Street, Newtownstewart, has received a letter from a chaplain conveying the sad news of the death of her son James in the battlefield on 14th October. The chaplain tendered his sincere sympathy on behalf of himself and the men of the platoon with which the deceased young soldier was connected.

Strabane Weekly News
23rd November 1918

STRABANE AND "FLU"

The influenza epidemic is still raging in the town and district, and several deaths have taken place during the week-end. On Tuesday morning two funerals left the town, one following the other. The poorer classes seem to be the hardest hit, as in some instances the father, mother, and children are all lying in the same house, and one case is cited where a medical man was obliged to warm milk in the house where he was attending, in order to relieve the suffering, none of the occupants being able to leave bed. All the public and Sunday schools are still closed.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

STRABANE MILK SHORTAGE

Not for the past 20 years has such a milk shortage existed in Strabane as at the present period. This applies to both buttermilk and sweetmilk. Inhabitants are left for several days at a time without this commodity, and in consequence the farmers' houses in the rural districts are besieged with townspeople looking for milk. When a cart appears in the town it is instantly surrounded, and almost taken charge of by the people.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

TYRONE VOLUNTEER HONOURED

Pte. John Darragh, a native of the Ballymagorry district, has just been decorated with the Distinguished Conduct Medal for services rendered. Pte. Darragh at the outbreak of war enlisted with the Ulster Division, and served with the 9th Battalion, Inniskilling Fusiliers. He came unscathed through some of the big engagements in the campaign. He is a member of the local L.O.L., who will be proud of his feats.

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30th November 1918

STRABANE MILK SCARCITY

There has been an extreme shortage of milk in Strabane during the week, and many inhabitants have been left without their supply. When a milk cart makes its appearance, it is surrounded by eager customers. On Saturday afternoon a buttermilk vendor had to lead his horse through a very large crowd, some of whom appeared most hostile on being refused. He was subjected to cheering and booing, and his cart was surrounded the moment he made a halt to serve a customer.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

PATRIOTIC STRABANE FAMILY SIX SONS SERVING ONE KILLED IN ACTION ANOTHER WINS M.M.

Mr. Daniel Jones, who resides at Newtownkennedy, Strabane, has just received the sad news that his son, Pte. William Jones was killed in action in France on the 4th November last. A sad feature of his fate has been that he was killed, one week before the armistice, although he had been fighting since the beginning of hostilities, and served in Egypt, the Dardanelles, Salonika, and eventually on the Western front, and came unhurt through all these campaigns. The deceased belonged to the 6th Royal Inniskillings. Mr. Jones has five remaining sons, all of whom served through the present war, and four of whom are still with the colours. Sergeant Daniel Jones is with the 2nd Inniskillings, and was wounded on four occasions. Corporal Patrick Jones is with the 6th Inniskillings, and was wounded once, whilst Pte. Joseph Jones, who belongs to the same battalion, was slightly wounded on one occasion. Corporal John Jones, of the 6th Battalion, Inniskillings, served through the entire war successfully, and Private Samuel Jones, who belongs to the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, was wounded on two occasions, after which he was captured as a prisoner of war and interned in Germany for three years. Mr. Daniel Jones has just received notification conveying the good news to him that his last-mentioned son was released a few days ago, and he hopes to have him home in a short period. Mr. Jones also feels proud of the fact that a few days ago he received the pleasing news that one of his sons, Sergeant Dan. Jones had won the Military Medal for gallantry on the battlefield, his achievement being that in a difficult position, he was successful in capturing an enemy machine gun, and in addition, brought in two prisoners who were working the gun.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

THE ULSTER DIVISION FINE WORK BY THE ENGINEERS

The following letter has been received by Colonel Mc Kenzie, officer commanding the 36th (Ulster) Division Engineers, from the Engineer Officer at General Headquarters, France:-
"Dear Mc Kenzie, -- I have just been reading the account of the bridging of the Lys by your gallant field companies. I have heard about it before. I am thankful to say that all our engineers have done good and gallant work all along the line, and we are all back here at G.H.Q. very proud of them. Please express our

admiration of their deeds to the officers and men concerned in the specially difficult task that fell to the 36th (Ulster) Division. The commander-in-chief is very interested to hear of all these doings. He cannot particularise, but I shall, if I get the opportunity, read him a few more extracts from your report. I fear you have had heavy casualties. Yours sincerely, G. M. Heath, R.E., G.H.Q.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

AMERICAN CASUALTIES
A TOTAL OF 236,117

General Peyton March on Saturday last announced that the total casualties of the American Expeditionary Force up to the signing of the armistice were—Dead, 53169; wounded, 179625; prisoners and missing, 3323. The Americans have taken 44,000 German prisoners and 1,400 guns. General March added that the casualties in the American Forces in Northern Russia were not severe, and that encouraging accounts of the situation there had been received.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

BRITISH PRISONERS
OVER 14,500 REACH HOME

The Inter-Departmental Committee on Prisoners of War issue the following statement:-The total number of British prisoners of war who have arrived in this country from Germany and Holland is 494 officers and 14,235 other ranks. Of these, 444 officers and 8358 other ranks have arrived at Rippon Camp and the rest at Dover. Three officers and 5,838 other ranks are expected to arrive at Rippon this week from Germany, Holland, and Norway, and 41 officers and 2004 men are arriving at Dover from Germany, Bulgaria, and Turkey. 2,500 civilians are also expected this week from Germany.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

BEATTY'S PROUDEST DAY
GERMAN FLEET SURRENDERED
70 SHIPS IN BRITISH WATERS
A STIRRING SCENE

The Grand Fleet, in command Sir David Beatty, on 21st inst, received the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet at an agreed rendezvous in the North Sea, 40 miles east of May Island. It was a moving scene, not so much from the spectacular point of view as for the significance which lay behind the last drama of four years of naval warfare. It meant the death of Germany as a first-class marine Power, and the triumph of the British Navy, and it was the more gratifying that it was achieved without a holocaust of human life.

Strabane Weekly News
30th November 1918

STRABANE OFFICERS' DEATH

Writing to Mrs. Reilly informing her of the death of her husband, Captain Patrick J. O'Reilly, of the R.A.M.C., who won the Military Cross, and subsequently won a bar to same, the officer commanding (G. East King) says it was a great blow to him at losing such a gallant officer, and there was not a man in the battalion who did not feel that they had lost one dear and near to him. He says deceased was one of the bravest officers he ever had, and everyone was overjoyed when he was awarded his well-earned bar to his Military Cross. Lieut.-Col. Frazer says:-It was a great blow to us all to hear of the death of your husband, and I never thought of him being hit, after all that he came through. He was one of the best officers I ever had. He was killed almost at once by a shell as he was doing his duty in a very deep ravine. I am quite sure he had no pain, and he was never really conscious after he was hit. He was buried at Audencourt, a little village near Inchy, three miles south-west of Le Cateau. As we were sweeping over the ground taken by us at the time, I asked the French people to look after the grave.

Mrs Reilly has also received a telegram from the King and Queen regretting the loss of such a gallant officer. Captain Reilly, who was killed in October 1918, was a son of the late Mr. John Reilly, flax merchant, Strabane, and brother of Mr. John Reilly, J.P., Bowling Green, Strabane, who is also a flax merchant. His mother and family resides at Farmhill, Ballymagorry, and they will have a full measure of sympathy from all shades and classes of the community.

Strabane Chronicle

30th November 1918

STRABANE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE

A very largely attended the meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Miss McCrea, vice-president of the Association, occupied the chair.

Before the business of the meeting was proceeded with, Mrs. Toner, the honorary treasurer, said that this being the first meeting they had since the death of Mr. Emerson T. Herdman, D.L., she wished that a vote of sympathy be conveyed to his relatives. All the Herdman family took an active part in war-work and evinced a keen interest in all matters relating to the war, and more especially in work connected with the War Relief Committee. Mrs. William King seconded the vote, which was passed in silence, all present standing. Mrs. E.C. Herdman and Mrs. J.C. Herdman, who were present at the meeting, thanked the Committee on behalf of themselves and the other members of the family, and stated that they felt deeply grateful for the Committee's kind sympathy.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Mrs. J.C. Herdman, after which letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Mrs. Feely and Miss Maud Herdman, Sion House.

A letter was read from the Duchess of Abercorn, the President of the Association, thanking the Committee for the vote of condolence passed to her at the last meeting on the occasion of the death of her sister-in-law, Lady Alexandra Hamilton.

A letter was also read from Mrs. E. Clarke (The Manse) thanking the Committee for their kind vote of sympathy addressed to her and family on the occasion of the loss of her son, Lieutenant Clarke.

Miss McCrea announced that she had received numerous letters requesting that the knitting for the Red Cross be continued, as the coming winter would likely be a severe one, and the meeting decided to still carry on with the knitting as heretofore for the necessary comforts.

Mrs. E.C. Herdman read a letter received from the Belgian Relief Committee and stating that the last lap of the journey was often the hardest, and although the end was now in sight, yet the Belgian Committee requested a further continuance of kind help. The meeting voted the sum of £5 for this object.

Mrs. E. C. Herdman reported that, as a result of flag selling the sum of £47-10s-1d

Had been collected for the Red Cross. This amount, she stated, did not include subscriptions that are being taken up in the town and rural districts.

Mrs. William King presented the monthly accounts in connection with the hospital which were considered satisfactory and passed for payment.

It was decided at the meeting to still continue the monthly meetings of the Committee, in order to carry on the good work which had been performed since the commencement of the war.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

The influenza epidemic shows signs of abatement, especially in the town of Strabane. The rural districts are suffering more acutely at the present time, especially around Clady., Sion Mills and the Ballindrait district. About 30 patients are being treated in the local hospital.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

MILITARY MEDAL FOR STRABANE

Mr. Robert Boggs who resides at Townparks, Strabane, has been informed that his son, No. 5994, Private James Boggs of the Second Royal Munster Fusiliers has been awarded the Military Medal for conscious bravery and gallantry, exhibited on the Western Front. Private Boggs has been in the thick of the fighting for the three years prior to the Armistice and whilst all the heavy engagements he came through unhurt. This gallant youth is well known in the Strabane and district and the people will be pleased to learn of his distinction.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

Mr. Willie Delap, Royal Navy, second son of Canon Delap, who almost two years ago was captured by the Germans, has been released and arrived at his home at Lifford. Despite his hard experiences he is looking fit and well. His other brother is serving with the Royal Navy since before the outbreak of war.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

The usual fortnightly party in connection with the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held on Thursday evening in the Abercorn Schools, Strabane and was largely attended. A sumptuous tea was served during which time Miss Connolly's band rendered choice selections of music. The hostesses for the

evening were Mrs. J.C. Herdman, Mrs. McElhinney, Mrs. Charles Browne, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Lavery and Mrs. John Devine. After tea, games were indulged in and a musical performance was being contributed those taking part being: Duet by Mr. and Mrs. McGuinness; song by Master Louie McGuinness; song Miss Delaker. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. O'Brien, and Miss Maggie Russell. The singing of 'Auld Lang sang' and the National Anthem concluded the function.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

WINDING UP THE WATCH ON THE RHINE

Bombardier John Craig, who is well known in Strabane and district, and who is attached to the Royal Field Artillery, has written to a friend in Strabane as follows:-"Just a line to say I am well. I am now well on my way to wind up the watch upon the Rhine after four years' hard fighting, but we put the screw on the Kaiser and his troops at the finish. I have already passed through some of the places we retired out of in the year 1914 but retiring now in the British Army is a thing of the past. The soldier and civilian prisoners are coming back daily, and they are not sorry to be free once more. It must have been a great surprise to those at home when they learned that Fritz had chucked his hand in. It was a bit of a surprise to ourselves but of course we could have kept going. Hoping to be back soon." Bombardier Craig, who has served since the beginning of the campaign, has another brother-George-on active service. The latter has been wounded four or five times and served through the Dardanelles campaign and in the other theatres of hostilities.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Pte. M. Mc Crossan, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Castlefin, is officially returned as wounded.

It has been learned by the relatives of Private R. Monteith, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who resides in the Castlefin district, that he has been wounded.

Lieutenant-Col. R.G.Maturin, D.S.O., R.F.A., son-in-law of Mr. D.B.Maturin-Baird, of Newtown Stewart, Co. Tyrone, and Kingston-on-Thames, has been awarded a silver medal for military valour.

Lance-Corporal Lynch, Inniskilling Fusiliers, of Strabane, has been wounded in France. He had been wounded previously in the war.

Private J. Moore, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Sion Mills, has also been wounded.

Amongst his many friends in Tyrone and Donegal it will be earned with much satisfaction that Sergeant Jones, of the 2nd Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery displayed on the battlefield. The gallant sergeant was wounded on four occasions. He gained his distinction by capturing a machine gun from the enemy and bringing into the British lines a number of prisoners.

The Military Medal has been awarded to the undernoted N.C.O.s and men of the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers(Tyrone):--426668 Company Sergeant-Major W. McNally, 19549 Sergeant R.J.Coke, 13626 Sergeant R. Harkness, 15263, Private J. Lunny, 43689 Private C. Watson, 22883 Private G. Wallace, 20268 Pte. J. Mc Gir, 45006 Private W.G.Bastable, 14104 Pte. J Montgomery.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

CASTLEDERG NOTES

PRISONER'S RETURN

Lieut. Fred Davidson, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of Mr. W.J. Davidson, manager of the Castlederg and Victoria Bridge Tramway Co., has returned from Germany where he was a prisoner of war since 21st March last. He was interned at Gronden and states that although badly treated at first with regard to food, conditions improved towards end of his captivity.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

PRAISE FOR ULSTER DIVISION

GENERAL'S TRIBUTE

Now that hostilities have ceased it is possible to publish the appended tribute to the Ulster Division from the Lieutenant-General commanding the corps of the Second Army, of which it formed a unit in the closing stages of the war. The G.O.C. of the division has received from the following message:-

The 36th (Ulster Division) has been fighting continuously since the 28th September in the operations in Flanders. The spirit, dash, an initiative shown by all ranks have been splendid and beyond all praise. The leadership displayed by yourself and your Brigade and other commanders could not have been better. The

conditions under which the men have had to fight have been trying, but nothing seemed to stop your gallant Division.

I have also been struck with the good Staff work of the Division, and it is very creditable to all concerned. Will you kindly express to the commanders, staffs, and all ranks of the Division my heartiest congratulations and thanks for their work?

When the history is written of what the Division has done in Flanders during the past month it will prove to be a record of magnificent fighting and wonderful progress, for during this period an advance has been made of about 25 miles over the worst of country and under the heaviest machine-gun fire ever experienced in this war. This advance has entailed constant fighting, but the 36th Division has overcome every obstacle, and has proved itself to be one of the best fighting Divisions of the Army—well commanded and well staffed.

My best wishes to you all.

The G.O.C. of the Division, in forwarding the remarks of the Corps Commander to the various units of the Division, congratulated all ranks on the magnificent way in which they have fought and worked.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

NEWTOWNSTEWART NOTES

The Rev. D. Morton on Tuesday evening received a welcome wire intimating that his son, Captain D. H. Morton, for a long time a prisoner in Germany, had now reached England.

Corporal W. J. Wilson, son of Mr. W. Wilson, Mill Street, has arrived from Germany, where he has been a prisoner for several months.

Saturday's official casualty list contained the following:—Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers —

Killed—Semple, 19306, T., Castlederg. Rifle Brigade

Cook, 49241, J., Omagh;

Selmes, 56556, C., Mountfield.

Wounded—Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers—

Corbett, 13617, W., Beragh;

Clarke, 24349, Corporal M., Lifford;

Hackett, 17858, J., Fivemiletown;

Harrigan, 21447, P., Raphoe;

Kane, 27416, Acting-Corporal A., Castlederg;

Semple, 19811, A., Castlederg;

Watson, 21953, J., Beragh;

Gillespie, 17913, J., Clady, Tyrone.

Strabane Weekly News

7th December 1918

PREMIER'S "SIX POINTS"

PUNISHMENT AND REPATRIATION

The policy of the Prime Minister and the Government in regard to the Peace Conference and post-war problems is stated concisely in two official communications. The first sent out from 12, Downing Street, gives the following as Mr. Lloyd George's "five points:"—

- (1) Punish the Kaiser.
- (2) Make Germany pay.
- (3) Get the soldiers home as quickly as possible.
- (4) Fair treatment for the returned soldiers and sailors.
- (5) Better housing and better social conditions.

The second communication—giving incidentally a sixth point—is the text of the following short letter, sent by the right honourable gentlemen in response to a number of telegrams received on the subject of conscription:— The policy of the Government is to abolish conscript armies in this and every other country, and they hope to be able to accomplish this at the Peace Conference.

Strabane Chronicle

14th December 1918

MILITARY AND THE WORKHOUSE

The military authorities in Derry wrote asking the Board when they would require the use of the workhouse now occupied by troops.

Mr. William Rankin moved that a committee be appointed to consider the question of the advisability of re-opening the workhouse again for the reception of paupers. He admitted that they should re-open it as a

hospital. Their clerk, Mr. Ingram would soon be home on a fortnight's leave, and he could assist them in going into the question.

Mr. Gallagher said that if that proposal was made, they should write to the Local Government Board to ascertain their status and power.

The Chairman said there was no doubt so long as they had the workhouse open for the reception of tramps there would be tramps coming to it looking for free board and lodging. Since the military came there not a single tramp had applied for relief.

Mr. Bell said there had been a meeting in Omagh about a year ago in regard to the closing of the workhouses, and it had been decided to close the Cookstown and Clogher Workhouses. Castlederg should also have been closed and had that been done, the poor people of the Union would have been sent to Strabane. That was a matter which should be taken into consideration, because Castlederg might be compelled to close later on.

The Chairman – and Stranorlar also.

Mr. Gallagher – said that his remarks were directed to ascertaining what the powers of the Guardians were in the matter.

Strabane Chronicle 14th December 1918

STRABANE GUARDIANS DOCTORS' SALARIES INCREASED MILITARY AND THE WORKHOUSE

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday, Captain J.C. Herdman (chairman) presiding.

The committee appointed to consider the application of the dispensary doctor for increase of salary recommended the following for the adoption of the Board: Dispensary doctors to start at £180 per annum, increasing £10 every three years, to a maximum of £250, the workhouse medical officer to start at £120, increasing by £10 every three years, to a maximum of £160. All salaries to be retrospective with respect to service of existing officers.

By 20 votes to 4, the committee's recommendation was adopted.

Strabane Chronicle 14th December 1918

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall at which Miss McCrea (Vice president) presided.

Mrs. Herdman read a letter which she had received from Captain Browne (Omagh) thanking the War Relief Committee for their kindness in giving a supply of paraffin oil for the men in the camps who were guarding the railway lines.

Mrs. King presented the monthly accounts in connection with the military hospital, which were considered satisfactorily, and passed the payment.

The meeting further discussed entertaining the prisoners of war, coming from Germany, and it was reported that seven men had used the club since the last meeting.

Strabane Chronicle 21st December 1918

THE INFLUENZA PLAGUE IN THE NORTH WEST

In several districts in the North the disease shows no signs of abatement. The Food Ministry has authorised special supplies of spirits for influenza patients in districts where there is a shortage and where medical opinion shows the need exists; but sales of distinctively labelled bottles can only be made on a doctor's certificate.

In the town of Strabane the disease is happily abating, but the surrounding districts in many places are simply seething with the malady. The districts of Sion Mills and Clady, which were severely hit, are now freeing themselves from the scourge, but it is in the rural district of Bready and the village of Donemana, a distance of five or six miles from the town, the disease has spread at an alarming rate.

Strabane Weekly News 21st December 1918

LAND FOR SOLDIERS RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The committee appointed by the Minister of Reconstruction under the chairmanship of Mr. Leslie Scott, K.C., to consider the question of land settlement for soldiers and sailors, recommend the immediate

appointment of an executive committee consisting of representatives of the Government Departments and agricultural organisations concerned. This committee would disseminate information among the troops, find out those who wanted work on the land, and arrange for work or training.

Other recommendations are:

The State to assume responsibility for finding capital for providing sufficient good houses with garden land; county councils should be the land-acquiring authority; State war grant to meet war prices of 10 per cent. of cost of equipping the holdings; two years' training course for officers and men suitable to qualify as farm managers or organisers; State to pay a training fee to farmers when inexperienced men are given work and paid at the local rate.

Strabane Weekly News
21st December 1918

STRABANE AND DISTRICT

Private James Gallagher, Strabane, has arrived home from Germany, where he had been incarcerated for two years. He enlisted in Scotland with an Irish regiment, and on one occasion was reported as killed. Corporal Conaghan, Strabane, who was a reserve man at the beginning of the war, and who was captured at the battle of Mons in 1914, has arrived in Strabane. He had been in Switzerland for more than 12 months after his captivity in Germany, where he received rough treatment. Corpl. Conaghan is in the service of the Strabane Post Office.

Strabane Weekly News
21st December 1918

STRABANE GAS AFFAIRS
PRICE INCREASED

Strabane urban Council some time ago made application to the Local Government Board for an order modifying the provisions of the gas order so as to increase the statutory maximum charge for gas supplied by them. The clerk of the Urban Council has received a sealed order giving the Council power to charge 6s. 6d. per thousand cubic feet. The previous price of the gas in Strabane was 5s.6d. per same number of feet.

Strabane Weekly News
21st December 1918

WAR RELIEF MEETING

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening.

The celebration of the Closing of the Gates of Derry was held in Omagh on Wednesday night, and the very inclement weather conditions by no means damped the enthusiasm of the demonstrators. The attendance was the largest seen at the event for years, many people coming long distances from the country, whilst the effigy of the traitor Lundy was an excellent piece of handiwork.

Strabane Weekly News
21st December 1918

STRABANE AND DISTRICT

Pte. J. Slevin (Hickey), Royal Inniskillings has arrived in Strabane from Germany. He was captured in March last and had been once wounded.

Pte. F. Hughes, Strabane (Royal Irish Rifles), has been released from Germany, where he was interned since March last. He is at present in an hospital in England, being slightly indisposed.

Strabane Weekly News
28th December 1918

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Lance-Cpl R. Kerr, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, of Castlederg, who was a prisoner of war in Germany, has been released.

The official casualty lists contain the following:- Royal Innis. Fus: Wounded, 26288 T. Hamilton, Raphoe, Royal Irish Fusiliers: Killed, 27534 E. Ferguson, Cookstown;

Previously reported wounded, now reported killed:

41244 J. Deery, Castlederg;

Missing, 42343 A. Mc Aleer, Omagh.

Pte. Charles Crane, of the American Army was one of those who died during the last few days of the fighting in France. He was a nephew of Mr. James Mc Gorman, Hollow Road, Newtown Stewart, his mother before her marriage being Miss Isabella Mc Gorman, who emigrated about 35 years ago.

Strabane Weekly News
28th December 1918

MILITARY MEDALS FOR TYRONE VOLUNTEERS

The Military Medal has been awarded the undernoted N.C.O.s and men of the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers):-

14678 Lance-Sergeant J. Donald
18642 Corporal T. Cooper and 13536 Corporal R.W. Lloyd
42642 Lance-Corporal H. Simpson
29954 Lance-Corporal J. Gray and
30783 Lance-Corporal T. Ward
21753 Private D. Griffiths
22745 Private A. Hall
25510 Pte. J. T. Mc Elroy.

Strabane Chronicle
28th December 1918

WAR RELIEF MEETING

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening at which Mrs. McCrea (vice-president) presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the honorary secretary (Mrs. J.C. Herdman) and confirmed.

Mrs. Herdman read a letter which she had received from Captain Browne (Omagh) thanking the war Relief Committee for their kindness in giving a supply of paraffin oil for the use of the men in the camps who were guarding the railway lines.

Mrs. Feeny and Mrs. Lavery, on behalf of the Rest Club, reported that seven men had made use of the Club since last meeting.

Mrs. William King presented the monthly accounts in connection with the military hospital, which were considered satisfactory and passed for payment.

The meeting had under discussion the question of entertaining prisoners of war coming from Germany, and the matter was adjourned until a further meeting to await the arrival of further prisoners.

Strabane Chronicle
28th December 1918

STRABANE PETTY SESSIONS
ALLEGED RIOTOUS BEHAVIOUR
DISCHARGED SOLDIERS CONVICTED

Strabane Petty Sessions were held on Monday, before Captain Gosselin, R.M. presiding; Messrs. D. Gallagher, D.L., William McDevitt, John Harkin, Daniel McShane and Ernest P. Smyth.

SCENE AT STRABANE STATION

Joseph McHale, 122 Leckey Road, Derry; James McGhee, 23 William Street, Derry; and Patrick Harkin, 70 St. Columb's Wells, Derry, were the defendants in a prosecution by the Great Northern Railway Co. for alleged riotous and disorderly behavior on the 29th November last.

Mr. J.F.A. Simms (Messrs. Wilson and Simms) appeared for the Railway Company. George Roe Lavery, stationmaster, stated that the row was half over when he arrived at the scene about 7.30p.m. he saw the defendants fighting amongst themselves, and passengers on the platform had to fly for their lives out of the men's road. Witness saw the eye of a soldier on duty at the station cut. Head porter McAleer reported the matter to him, and both witness and the former had to clear out of the way of the men. For twenty minutes they were not able to get any work done at the station, owing to the defendants' conduct.

Head porter McAleer said that his attention was first drawn to the defendants by the booking clerk as they had refused to pay for their tickets. Witness went to them in the hall about the money, but he had to leave them owing to their attitude – they were going to put him out of the hall. They eventually paid for their tickets, the parcels clerk having got round them and got the money out of them.

George Staines, a soldier on duty at Strabane Railway Station, said that one of the defendants who had a wooden leg asked him for a cigarette, and he replied that he had none, whereupon the defendant struck him with his open hand across the face. Then the three defendants caught him, knocked him down on the platform, and punched him and blackened his eye. The men were in civilian dress.

Mr. Simms explained that the three defendants were discharged soldiers. He read a letter from Joseph McHale stating he had only been discharged from hospital, and with the excitement of peace having been

declared he did not know what he was doing on the occasion.in question. Mr. Simms said that they had every sympathy with the discharged soldiers but in this case they certainly exceeded their privileges. The Chairman said that the magistrates did not want to be very severe on these men who had served their country, but such conduct could not be tolerated. They were fined 10s 6d, with 16s 6d costs each.

1919

Strabane Weekly News

4th January 1919

A most successful concert was held on Tuesday 19th December in the Orange Hall, Donemana, in aid of St. Dunstan's Home for Blind Soldiers. A large and appreciative crowd attended and listened with much interest to the programme which was submitted. The first part was composed of solos, recitations and dances by the following performers: The Misses Longwell (Londonderry), G. Rees, L. Dunn, D. Buchanan, E. Cummings and L. Henderson and Messrs. Barton, Woods, J. McCay and H. Gregg (Londonderry). These items were followed by a dramatic sketch, entitled 'The Tow Brothers' composed by Miss Ethel Anderson. It was excellently performed by the following local amateurs: Miss J. Woods, 'Wanda' Indian Girl; Miss M. Browne, 'Mabel Hallam'; Miss D. Buchanan, 'Farmer's Wife'; Miss E. Anderson, 'Bridget'; Miss G.W. Rees, 'Bill Roberts'; Mrs. T. Arbuckle, 'Squire Gowerdene'; Mrs. M.J. Woods 'Jack Hallam'; Mr. J. Scott, 'Bob Hallam'; Mr. A. Mitchell, 'Mr. Hallam'; Mr. R.J. Hughey, 'Indian Chief'; Mr. T. Scott, 'Fleetfoot'; Mr. H. Allen, 'Farmer'; Mr. E. Woods, 'Pat'; Mr. J. Hughey, 'Card Sharper'; chorus girls and farm hands.

Strabane Weekly News

4th January 1919

His many friends in Strabane and district will be pleased to learn that Sergt. S. A. Gibson, late of North Irish Horse has been mentioned in dispatches for distinguished and gallant services and devotion to duty under General Allenby. Sergt. Gibson did good work in locating a number of Turks and brought back useful

information. At the time of his distinction he was serving with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. He enlisted in October 1914; took part in the Dardanelles campaign, and had been at the landing of Suvla Bay.

Strabane Weekly News

11th January 1919

A patriotic concert was held on Friday evening in the Orange Hall, Artigarvan, the proceeds being devoted to the British Red Cross Society. Mr. John Bailey acted as chairman and introduced the following programme: Part 1 Quarettette, Lanarkshire Yeomanry Song; song, Sapper Jones; song, Miss Hatfield; musical monologue, Sergeant Mullen; song, Miss M.W. Berry; dance, Pte. Fryer; song, Col. Rainie; recitation, Miss Bullock; song, Miss Blair; cornet solo, Pte. Black. The same talent participated in part 2 of the programme with a solo by Mrs. W.M. Berry and Sergeant M. Johnston. The accompaniments were played by Miss W.M. Berry and Miss Blair. Immediately after the concert followed a dance at which Mr. Robert Cummings officiated as MC. The happy proceedings terminated with the singing of the National anthem

Strabane Chronicle

18th January 1919

STRABANE WORKHOUSE THE GUARDIANS AND THE SITUATION LIVELY DISCUSSION ON COMMITTEE'S REPORT INSTITUTION TO BE REOPENED

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday, Mr. Robert Stevenson (deputy vice-chairman) presiding. There were also present – Messrs. James Arbuckle, John Arthur, Robert Bell, James Brolly, Chas. Boyle J.P., John Conway, David Craig, Henry T. Dalton, James Duffy, James Dunn, Samuel Dunn, Cuthbert Entrican, Joseph Farrell, J.P., Robert J. Fleming, Bernard Furey, Edward Gallagher, D.L., James Harte J.P., John Henderson, John Kelly, Patrick Lennon, Victor Love, Robert Lowry, William Lowry, Charles McAleer, David McCrea, Thomas McCrea, John Chas. McCrossan, Edward McCullow, J.P., Thomas Miller, Robert Murray, Hugh O'Donnell, J.P., David Rankin, Wm. Rankin, J.P., Wm. A. Sheldon, Oliver Stewart, Jas. Toorish, John Toorish, and John Perry.

Lively scenes occurred during the discussion of a committee's report re: the closing down of the workhouse.

The committee consisting of J.C. Herdman (chairman), Messrs. William Rankin, J.P., Edward Gallagher, D.L., John Toorish, Andrew Lowry, J.P., and R. Stevenson, recommended that the Guardians would take over the workhouse buildings as soon as the military authorities were in a position to vacate them. The committee were of the opinion that the workhouse when taken over again from the military authorities should only be re-opened as an infirmary and fever hospital.

Mr. Craig moved the rejection of the report, because he was certain it meant another increase to the rates by keeping them in Derry. Some of the inmates had been encouraged by the Guardians to board out in the town, who promised these poor people that they would be allowed the amount it would cost to maintain them in the workhouse weekly.

The Chairman – The Local Government Board would not allow it.

Mr. Craig – And why, sir, did you mislead the poor people?

The Chairman – We did not know.

Mr. Craig – What does the committee recommend to be done to the body of the workhouse?

Strabane Chronicle

25th January 1919

SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS ASSAULT NEAR ARDSTRAW CASE AT PETTY SESSIONS

At Newtownstewart Petty Sessions on Thursday of last week before Messrs. William Hood (presiding) and P. Roche.

D.I. Heggart, Strabane, summoned Andrew Baird, Breuckless, with assaulting Wm. John Funston, a sapper, of the Royal Engineers, Charles Vaughan, senior, Bruckless, and son Charles Vaughan, junior, Cornaskinney, were charged with assaulting J.M. Graham, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, on the 26th December last.

Dr. Burke, Castlederg, appeared for the defence.

Sergeant G.R. Graham said that he was on furlough on the date mentioned and was in the village of Ardstraw about 8.30p.m. He saw sapper W. J. Funston come out of Dixen's house partly drunk. Witness offered to take him home, and when they had proceeded some distance along the road they were

overtaken by the defendants. Laird came forward and knocked down his companion, and when witness attempted to save him he was pushed into the ditch by one of the Vaughans and his coat pulled open. Witness had £15 in his coat pocket. He had no drink taken. Witness subsequently met Funston and saw that his eyes were blackened as a result of the blows he got. His clothes were covered with mud. In reply to Dr. Burke, he said he could give no reason for the attack made on Funston and himself. Funston stated that he saw the defendants on the street in Ardstraw prior to leaving the village with Sergeant Graham. Witness had exchanged no words with them on the way home. Defendants came up to them, and Laird struck down witness, knocking him down, unconscious on the ground for some time. When he recovered he found himself in a field near the road.

A witness named Andrew Baird stated he was in company with Charles Vaughan, senior, when Funston came out of Craig's public house in Ardstraw and asked them had they seen his brother. They replied in the negative, and Funston got angry and used bad language. While proceeding in the direction of Kilstrule, later, they heard singing, and shouting on the road, by some persons some distance ahead, and Laird, the defendant, said to him: I wonder would Funston be as good a man as he was last time he was at home". When witness heard this he advised the defendant not to go any further. However, Laird ran over and witness turned back to the village.

Charles Vaughan, senior, said he had been a total abstainer all his life. Funston began to row by pushing Laird, the defendant, and then the latter knocked him down. Graham afterwards apologized for what happened.

Strabane Chronicle **25th January 1919**

PEACE CONFERENCE OPENED FRENCH PRESIDENT ON JUSTICE LEAGUE OF NATIONS PROJECT RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE

The most momentous Conference of history, and on which the future of the whole world depends, commenced in Paris on Saturday, representatives of all the Allied and associated nations being present. President Poincare presided, and in an address welcoming the delegates, reviewed the whole war situation, and said that the first question to be considered would be that of the League of Nations. Proceeding, he said, you will see nothing but justice – justice that has no favourites, justice in territorial problems, justice in financial problems, justice in economic problems. Justice is not inert, it does not submit to injustice. Justice also demands the punishment of the guilty and effective guarantees against an active return of the spirit by which they were attempted. Justice banishes the dream of conquest and Imperialism, contempt for national will, the arbitrary exchanges of provinces between States, as if people were but articles of furniture or pawns in a game. The time is no more when diplomatists could meet to redraw the map of the Empires on the corner of a table.

Turning to the rights of peoples and the proposed League of Nations, President Poincare said:-"If you are to make the map of the world, it is in the name of the peoples and on condition that you shall faithfully interpret their thoughts, and respect the rights of nations, small and great, to dispose of themselves, and to reconcile it with the right – equally sacred – of ethical and religious minorities – a formidable task, which science and history will contribute to illuminate and facilitate. You will strive to secure the material and moral means of substance for all those peoples who was constituted or reconstituted into states, for those who wish to unite themselves to their neighbours, for those who divide themselves into separate units, for those who reorganize themselves according to their regained conditions, and for all those whose freedom you have already sanctioned or are about to sanction. You will not call them into existence only to sentence them to death immediately.

Strabane Weekly News **25th January 1919**

Mr. John Wilson, Newtown Lane, Strabane, is anxious as to the whereabouts of his son, Bert Wilson, who has been a sailor, and served over seven years with the Royal Navy. Mr. Wilson has written his son, Bert, a letter, but same has been returned with a letter saying that his sailor boy has died whilst attending to his duty.

(J/15734 Able Seaman Andrew 'Bertie' Wilson died on 30 January 1918.)

Strabane Chronicle **1st March 1919**

WAR WORK IN STRABANE

The statements of accounts in connection with the Strabane Military Hospital War Relief Committee, and Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club, which we publish in this issue, testify in the most convincing manner to the great work which has been carried out by those associated with these undertakings, and shows in a marked degree that the general public of the town and district have signalized their appreciation of the efforts of the local committees in a generous and practical manner.

For the ten months ending the 1st December last the financial receipts of the Military Hospital totaled £1,149, after defraying all expenses a balance of £257-5s-2d remains to credit. This is decidedly satisfactory, as is also the statement in relation to the Relief Committee, which shows a balance on hand of £344-15s after then months excellent work. No less noteworthy and eminently satisfactory have been the exertions of the Committee of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club, and all concerned, but particularly the ladies connected with these very deserving institutions, may well be congratulated on the results of their efforts.

Strabane Chronicle
1st March 1919

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' REST CLUB.			
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS			
FROM 1st FEBRUARY, 1918, TO 31st DECEMBER, 1918.			
RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
To Balance in hands	£67 13 2	By Cash Mr. Lavery for Railway Tickets advanced	£1 0 10
„ Amount received from War Relief Committee	50 0 0	„ Fee preparing Accounts	1 1 0
„ Subscription, Mrs. Trimble	1 0 0	„ Refreshments for travelling Soldiers and Sailors	10 12 0
„ Interest	1 15 11	„ Printing and Advertising	0 15 9
		„ Stationery Account	0 6 9
		„ Cigarettes	0 1 8
		„ Balance	106 11 1
	£120 9 1		£120 9 1
RABY TONER,			
Hon. Treasurer.			
I have examined the Accounts of the Strabane Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club from 1st February, 1918, to 31st December, 1918, and have found them correct, all the necessary vouchers having been produced by the Hon. Treasurer.			
		A. F. LLOYD, Auditor.	
11th February, 1919.		c652	

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WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

FROM 1st FEBRUARY, 1918, TO 31st DECEMBER, 1918.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
To Balance	£144 13 6	By Fee preparing Accounts	£1 1 0
„ Daffodil Fete	266 3 6	„ Cheque Book	0 2 1
„ Show Day Collection	25 6 0	„ Death Account	0 7 10
„ Subscription, Mrs. Trimble	1 0 0	„ Wool	0 1 10
„ Interest	5 17 3	„ Packing Sheets for Com- forts	0 2 6
		„ Aid for discharged soldier	2 0 0
		„ Music for Daffodil Fete	2 15 0
		„ Fee paid Hall Porter	0 2 6
		„ Printing Account	3 4 3
		„ Cash paid for Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club	6 3 6
		„ Subscriptions to Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Club Account	50 0 0
		„ Advertising	7 9 9
		„ Miss Herdman for U.V.F. Prisoners	12 13 0
		„ Subscription Belgian Fund	7 2 0
		„ Grant to Mrs. Clarke, Clady (soldier's wife)	5 0 0
		„ Balance	344 15 0
	£443 0 3		£443 0 3

RABY TONER,
Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the Accounts of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee from 1st February, 1918, to 31st December, 1918, and have found them correct, all the necessary vouchers having been produced by the Hon. Treasurer.

A. F. LLOYD, Auditor.

11th February, 1919.

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Strabane Chronicle 15th March 1919

The military in the Strabane Workhouse are in the process of evacuating the institution, and the workhouse will shortly be opened again for the accommodation of destitute poor.

Strabane Chronicle 15th March 1919

Private James Boggs, Strabane, has been awarded the military medal for conspicuous bravery on the battlefield.

Strabane Chronicle 22nd March 1919

RELEASED PRISONERS ENTERTAINED FUNCTION IN STRABANE ENJOYABLE PROCEEDINGS

A supper and entertainment were given to the returned Republican prisoners – Messrs. Dan Doherty, president of the “Roger Casement” Sinn Fein Club, Strabane; Samuel O’Flaherty, B.A., president of the “Con Colbert” Sinn Fein Club, Castlefin; Eugene Gormley, vice-president of the “Roger Casement” Sinn Fein Club, Strabane; and Joseph Devine, president of the “Tom Clarke” Sinn Fein Club, Loughash; - in the Town Hall, Strabane on Sunday evening.

Messrs. Doherty and O'Flaherty were arrested and interned in connection with the bogus German plot. Messrs. Gormley and Devine were arrested and sentenced by court-martial to six months' imprisonment in Belfast jail for reading the Sinn Fein manifesto at public meetings at Strabane and Loughash, the former presiding at the Strabane meeting and the latter at Loughash.

There was a large and representative attendance at the entertainment. When the ex-prisoners came into the hall the whole gathering rose to their feet, the orchestra played a welcoming tune, and the crowd cheered.

Mr. Dan Connolly's full-string band was in attendance and added to the night's pleasure and entertainment by their selection of National airs.

Supper was partaken of by some three hundred people.

The hall was admirably decorated for the occasion and presented an attractive appearance.

Cumann na mBan members ably assisted at the tables.

Mr. Peadar McKenna presided, and in the course of an address said if anyone prophesied five years ago that Arthur Griffith, the father of Sinn Fein (loud cheers), would be their representative now, they would have been called lunatics. In 1904, when a Sinn Fein club was established in Strabane, there were about a dozen persons enrolled, and they had stuck to that policy ever since (loud cheers). These men were looked down upon, scorned and scoffed at, but they had the great consolation of finding that their views were now those of the vast number of people in Ireland.

Strabane Chronicle

22nd March 1919

All persons having accounts against the Military Hospital are requested to furnish same to the undersigned, on or before 31st Inst., as after that date the Institution will be closed.

Emilie King Qr.-Master

Main Street, Strabane

Strabane Weekly News

22nd March 1919

Private Edmund Purdon of Abercorn Square, Strabane, has been awarded with a certificate for devotion to duty and bravery displayed on the battlefield at Dadizeele on 30th September 1918. This gallant soldier who is a son of the late Mr. John Purdon of Lifford, enlisted in October 1914, with the Ulster Division (Tyrone Battalion) and has served 3 years and 4 months on the Western Front, coming through the campaign unhurt. The certificate is signed by the officer commanding the 36th (Ulster) Division and was presented by Miss Maud Herdman, Sion Mills, a lady interested in the performance of the gallant division, many of whom are from her native county.

Strabane Chronicle

29th March 1919

WAR RELIEF MEETING

A meeting of the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Miss McCrea (vice-president) occupied the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, after which letters of apology for non-attendance were from Mrs. Clarke (the Manse), and Mrs. E.C. Herdman (Carricklee)

Miss McCrea, on behalf of the Despatch Committee, reported that she had a large parcel of comforts ready for sending away.

Reporting for the Rest Club, Mrs. Feely announced that 11 men had passed through since last meeting and had accepted the hospitality extended to them.

The following letter was read by Mrs. J.C. Herdman received by her in connection with the subscription sent on behalf of the Blind Soldiers' Children Fund, being the result of the Christmas collection kindly organized by the Strabane Women's War Relief Committee, and for which amount I enclose an official receipt. I should be very glad if you would convey the expression of my gratitude to all who, in any way, contributed to the success of this collection., asking to take my thanks as coming from the blind men in my care, for whom the fund is being raised. With renewed thanks for your personal interest and sympathy.

Final arrangements were made for the Soldiers' party to be held in the Town Hall.

Strabane Chronicle

5th April 1919

WAR WORK IN STRABANE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' COMFORTS PRESENTATION TO PRISONERS OF WAR

A supper and concert were given in the Town Hall on Friday night on the occasion of a welcome home to the prisoners of war from Strabane and district. The function was arranged by the Strabane ladies' War Relief Committee and about 400 people sat down to tea. The Town Hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Mr. Edward Baillie presided. A high class vocal and musical programme was gone through, Mr. Dan Connolly's orchestra being in attendance.

At an interval in the proceedings, Mrs. J.C. Herdman (Hon. Secretary of the Strabane Ladies' War Relief Committee) read the following report:- Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, The War Relief Committee are now, more or less, winding up their work during the war, and thought that the closing of the hospital would be a suitable time to give a short report of the work accomplished, and to thank the many kind friends who have helped in various ways. The War Relief Committee was started on September 3rd 1914 at a large meeting in the Pallidrome, Monsignor O'Doherty being in the chair, and Mrs. Toner was appointed treasurer and myself honorary secretary, primarily to organize the making of comforts for the sailors and soldiers during the war. (applause) This work has been going on steadily ever since. First, under Mrs. Trimble, who had to resign, owing to work in connection with the hospital, and since February, 1915, under Miss McCrea, who has been untiring in her efforts, going round herself to the knitters, washing the socks to make them wear better, and later, packing and dispatching them. She herself has knitted 426 pairs of socks, which speaks for itself. Since December 1917, she has been one of our vice-presidents, and has never missed a meeting, except for illness, during the 4 years. (applause) She has been assisted in the dispatch work by Mrs. Feely and Miss Joyce, also by Miss Kitty Barry who has been largely responsible for giving out the wool and helping Miss McCrea in any way. Since Miss McCrea took charge in February 1915, there has been despatched to the Inniskillings Depot in Omagh, to the local Hospital, mine sweepers, and the Red Cross: 1257 pairs of socks, 459 mufflers, 171 mittens, 22 helmets, making 1909 articles in all. Before that an enormous quantity of comforts of all sorts were sent away, but the numbers are not available, owing to the absence of Mrs. Trimble, including many articles owing to the kindness of Rev. Mother at the Convent, at a work party organized by Mrs. David Hamilton, and children in the local schools. Also 42 New Year parcels of comforts for the individual local soldiers at the front, sent in January 1915. In return for these parcels the committee received the most delightful letters of thanks from the recipients, which were much appreciated by the committee. Perhaps some of the writers are present to hear what pleasure their letters and cards gave. Owing to the large number of men who joined up and went out before the next year, 1916, the committee were unable to keep up this idea, though they would much have liked to do so. The next scheme started was the V.A.D. Hospital, which was mooted in October 1914, by Mrs. Delap, the first commandant, and decided on. The late Dr. Trimble most generously offered the house, free of all rent, and he, and Mrs. Trimble took the greatest interest and worked tremendously hard with Mrs. Delap in preparing and equipping the hospital. Dr. Trimble acted as one of the medical officers until his death in January 1916, and his loss was irreparable. Mrs. Trimble was lady superintendent and the life and soul of the scheme, until she left to take up nursing duties in England in October 1916. She still takes the greatest interest in the men, and even since going to Salonika has sent back Xmas presents for them. The hospital was first opened on May 18th 1915 and has been running continuously ever since. 650 men exactly having been through our hands. In connection with the hospital I must mention first and foremost, our matron, Miss Magee. She has been, all through, principally responsible for our success, and I myself cannot say enough for her. Her extraordinary personality and tact have endeared her to all those who have worked with or under her, and I am quite sure that she will always live in the memory of her patients. I can only repeat what Colonel Browne, our late S.M.O.A, said of her: "She is one in a thousand". It was on his recommendation that she was awarded the Royal Red Cross, 2nd Class. This is an unusual honour for such a small hospital, and is in itself, a strong testimony to her worth and ability. (applause) Then I feel we can never repay our debt of gratitude to Dr. Stevenson, who has been our medical officer from the very beginning until now, and who worked without payment, of any sort until August 1917, though we all know what a tremendously busy person he is, coming in whenever required late at night, and never sparing himself in any way. (applause) I also wish to mention Dr. Boyd, who has been attached to us all through, as consultant, and Dr. McNicholl and Dr. Bannigan, who acted for some time. (applause) Then comes Mrs. King, our quartermaster. Mrs. King has never failed. She has done her work regularly and faithfully since the beginning, and it has been real troublesome work, ordering the supplies and trying to get the bills in time. In addition to this, she.....

Strabane Chronicle

5th April 1919

Strabane prisoners of war were presented with wristlet watches on Friday night at a supper and entertainment. Mr. James Toner, Clerk of the Crown and Peace, on behalf of the Ladies' War Relief committee, welcomed the men home.

Strabane Chronicle
5th April 1919

The Strabane Military Hospital ceased to exist as from the 31st March. The institution was carried on by voluntary workers.

Strabane Chronicle
5th April 1919

STRIKE SCENES IN DERRY
RAID FOR COAL AT QUAYS
POLICE AS SPECTATORS

An alarming and unprecedented affair occurred on Saturday in connection with the strike of carters and dock labourers in Derry, crowds of people raiding coal depots on the quay and carrying off many tons under the eyes of the police. The coal merchants having declined to supply the bellmen when the latter refused to do the work of the carters on strike the dockers came out as a protest. Representations were immediately made to the Coal Controller, through the Town Clerk and Councillor Meehan, that the poor of the city depending on the bellmen were unable to obtain supplies. Mr. Burgess at once sent a representative to Derry, and as a result of his investigations, the Controller by telegraph warned the merchants that unless supplies were given to the poor the stocks of coal would be commandeered.

Pitiful experiences due to the unfortunate deadlock were numerous. The principal of a large school in the city stated on Friday, as showing the hardships prevailing that a large number of the children came to school that morning without breakfast, there being no coal in the home to cook food. The situation assumed such a serious aspect owing to the prevalence of sickness that an appeal was made to the sympathy of medical practitioners, and on certificates granted by them coal was sold by the merchants. This, however, only afforded relief to a section of those without coal, and for hundreds of others the position was pitiable. For some reason or other the mandate of the Coal Controller was not carried out on Saturday morning, and in consequence, as already stated, crowds of men, women and children flocked at an early hour to the quay where, during the morning, a most remarkable spectacle was witnessed. In tow heaps there lying on the quay, about eighty tons of coal, discharged from a vessel for Messrs. McDevett and Donnell, coal merchants. The steamer from which this coal was taken had left the port partially unloaded, following the decision of the dockers to come out on strike. For a time the crowd eyed the coal from a distance, but soon some of the more venturesome produced bags and began to fill them. In less than half an hour there was a regular scramble, men, women and children, swarming upon the piles of coal like ants. Those returning with well-filled bags to their homes spread like wildfire the news of the raid, and gradually the crowd of raiders swelled, coming from the poorer quarters of the city. Bags, baskets, buckets and haversacks were requisitioned to hold the coal. During a heavy hailstorm these were quickly filled, and in an incredibly short space of time there appeared on the scene trucks, donkey-carts, barrows, a lorry, and even a hackney car, all of which were sent away well laden. For several hours this extra ordinary operation continued with the harbor constables and a number of Royal Irish Constabulary looking on and making no endeavor to interrupt it. Soldiers in uniform and silver badge men were among those who filled and carried away bags. Afternoon District Inspector Ryan arrived, and about twenty minutes later, when the police force was considerably augmented by men from the sub-stations, they took concerted action, and drove off the coal stealers, forming a ring around what remained of the two heaps. Many partially-filled bags were left behind by the crowd who were hustled off, some protesting angrily. At this stage a man backed in his cart to renew his load and when police interfered to stop him the crowd assumed a somewhat threatening attitude, and there were shouts of "Rush them! Rush them!" and beshawled women urged the men to throw the police into the river.

"You are not worth your salt if you don't", said a woman to the group of men.

One burly fellow, lighting his pipe declared he would like to take a hand in it, but the situation was tactfully dealt with by the police, and while hundreds remained in the vicinity there were no further attempts to remove any coal. By this time, it is estimated that fifty tons of coal had been taken away. Later Mr. William Donnell, J.P., of Messrs. McDevette and Donnell, arranged for the sale of the balance, by permit, at 3s6d a bag.

Strabane Chronicle
5th April 1919

IRELAND AND THE PEACE CONFERENCE
IRISH - AMERICAN DELEGATION TO PARIS
THE NATION'S CLAIM "MUST BE PRESENTED"
UNITED STATES PRESSURE

The demand of the Irish people for self-determination is to be forced on the attention of the Peace conference by an Irish-American delegation. The State Department has issued passports to:-

Mr. Frank P. Walsh, ex-Joint Chairman, with Mr. Taft of the War Labour Board.

Mr. Edward G. Dunne, ex-Governor of Illinois, formerly a judge and ex-Mayor of Chicago; and Mr. Michael K. Ryan, a former of the Pennsylvania Public Service commission, and at one time City Solicitor, a lawyer and a banker.

Two delegates to Paris to present Ireland's claim to self-determination to the Peace Conference, as the spokesmen of the Convention of the Irish race in America, which met at Philadelphia last month.

The New York correspondent of the "New York Chronicle" says that the letter asking for the passports stated that the purpose of the delegates was "To obtain for the delegates for the people of Ireland a hearing at the Peace Conference, and to place before the Conference if a hearing has not been given the case of Ireland, her insistence upon the right to self-determination and to international recognition of a Republican form of government established by her people". The delegates sailed from New York for Paris on Wednesday.

The special correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" at the Peace Conference discusses how Ireland's case may be raised. "It is", he says "expressly declared that the League is not to interfere within the domestic jurisdiction of a State. This apparently would be so interpreted as to make it impossible for Ireland or Egypt or any nationality or State in a similar position to appear before the League.it becomes more evident than ever that the case of Ireland must be presented to the Peace Conference. If no provision is made for such cases under the League the only way under the arrangements of the League in which such cases can be presented is by the representation of a Power as a member of the League to the effect that some circumstances within any other State is threatening the friendly relations of the world. This power is given in article II. Obviously, the pressure upon the United States to raise the question of Ireland in the League of Nations will be overwhelming. It is clearly much more dignified for Great Britain to support the application of Ireland for a hearing before the Peace Conference than for a question to be raised by a friendly Power on the ground that the incapacity of Great Britain to do justice to those principles for which the war has been fought makes it necessary for a neighbor to raise the question in the League of Nations".

Strabane Chronicle

5th April 1919

A meeting of the Women's War Relief Committee was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening, Miss McCrea, Vice President, occupied the chair. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read. Miss McCrea reported that she had a large parcel of comforts ready for sending away. Reporting for the Rest Club, Mrs. Feely announced that eleven men had passed through since the last meeting and had accepted the hospitality extended to them there. A letter was ready by Mrs. J.C. Herdman in connection with the subscription sent on behalf of the Blinded Soldiers' Children Fund.

Strabane Chronicle

5th April 1919

A grand concert and entertainment was held in the Sion Mills recreation Hall on Wednesday evening, March 19 under the auspices of the Comrades of the Great War (Sion Mills post). Captain J.C. Herdman presided and in a brief speech explained the 'Comrades' organization, Sion Mills Post was formed on February 7 last and now had 33 members, he said, on its roll with the Brigadier General A. Ricardo as president, who, during the absence in France, had appointed Mr. John Crosbie as his deputy. A new clubroom is being got ready for the members.

Strabane Chronicle

3rd May 1919

**TYRONE WAR MEMORIAL
A PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE GRAND JURY ROOMS
COURTHOUSE, OMAGH
ON WEDNESDAY 7TH INST. AT THREE O'CLOCK P.M.**

To consider what steps should be taken to erect a suitable Memorial to the Memory of those Officers and Men of the Royal Navy and Army from County Tyrone, who lost their lives in the late war.

It is expected that the project will meet with the hearty support of all classes in the county, as all have suffered equally, and a large and representative attendance of the people of the county is requested.

Abercorn H.M.L., Co. Tyrone,
J.R. McClintock, Colonel
H. Irvine, Colonel. Hon. Secs.
Thos. Johnston, Hon. Treas.

Strabane Chronicle
10th May 1919

CASTLEDERG PETTY SESSIONS
DISORDERLY SCENES
EX-SOLDIER FINED

Castlederg Petty Sessions were held on Saturday, before Captain Gasselin, R.M. (presiding), and Mr. Arthur McSorley.

Sergeant Carr summoned Joseph Matthews, Castlederg, with assault and with being drunk and disorderly. Complainant said that on the 19th April about 9.30.p.m. defendant was going down the town shouting and making use of very improper expressions. He followed him, and when he attempted to arrest him defendant resisted violently and assaulted him. Two constables came to the complainants' assistance, and they succeeded in getting him to the barracks. Defendant was a demobilized soldier and had since gone to Scotland. Complainant was not injured in the assault, and he did not want to be severe on him on account of his war service. The magistrate imposed a fine of 10s/6d for assaulting the police, and a fine of 5/s and costs for being drunk and disorderly.

The Chairman said the defendant was getting off lightly and he would have sent him to Derry Jail if he had not served his country.

Strabane Chronicle
24th May 1919

Mr. Thos. McCrossan, C.E., son of the late Mr. B. McCrossan, Strabane, has been mentioned in a dispatch for gallant conduct and distinguished service.

Strabane Chronicle
31st May 1919

STRABANE GUARDIANS
OUTDOOR RELIEF QUESTION
ALLOWANCES CURTAILED
MILITARY AND WORKHOUSE REPAIRS

A meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday. There were present – Messrs. John McDermott J.P. (presiding), Robert Bell, Charles Boyle, David Craig, Robert J. Fleming, Edward Gallagher, D.L., Wm. Glenn, James Harte, J.P., John Kelly, Andrew Lowry, J.P., Wm. Lowry, David McCrea, Bernard Murray, David Rankin, William Rankin, J.P., Wm. A. Sheldon, Robert Stevenson, James Toorish, John Perry and Robert Vance.

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Local Government Board refusing to sanction payments of the increase granted to the master and matron except as from 1st October 1918.

Mr. Gallagher recommended that the attention of the Local Government Board be drawn to the case of the doctors whose salaries had been sanctioned without demur, and that the Board should be asked to treat the master and matron similarly.

The Guardians decided to follow Mr. Gallagher's suggestion.

A claim for £36-10s-6d was received from Mr. H.T. Gallagher on behalf of Mr. Francis McMenamin, Strabane, for damages to a trap, harness and pony, caused by a collision with the Board's motor ambulance. The claim was referred to the insurance company.

A discussion relative to the condition of the motor ambulance arose out of a letter from Mr. J.W. Buchanan, claiming £197 as cost of the motor.

Mr. John Ashenhurst said the machinery of the ambulance was satisfactory enough, but the tyres and tubes were bad, and punctures frequently occurred. It was decided on Mr. Lowry's suggestion to pay Mr. Buchanan's account, and to purchase new tyres and tubes.

It was reported that the military had, as yet, taken no steps to repair the damages caused by their occupation of the workhouse. Mr. Toorish said he believed the military were only fooling the Board, and had no intention of fulfilling their obligations. The Board decided to obtain an estimate of the cost of repairs, and furnish their account to the military authorities.

Mr. Gallagher suggested that in future special notice be given to the Guardians of the revision of the outdoor relief list, which occurred every six months. He complained that, at the last meeting, the relief granted to the poor was curtailed by sixpence in 38 cases. That was neither a dignified nor honourable action on the part of the Board, particularly when everyone in connection with the union was receiving an advance.

The Chairman – "Don't you know that you must take it off someone if the others have to get it!?"

Mr. Gallagher said that he was surprised, to say the least, at the Board's action. As was stated by the best authority in the world, the poor we had always with us, and if that meant anything at all it surely implied we had a responsibility in regard to them. He was astonished that Strabane Board of Guardians descended to such a mean action.

Mr. Craig – It was the Donegal men that did it.

Mr. Gallagher – I do not know who did it but it was not a Donegal man who was in the chair, and the vice-chairman was not a Donegal man either.

The Chairman said in future the clerk would give a fortnight's notice of revisions of lists.

"The ratepayers", he said "are well enough able to pay increased salaries to all the officials, and it is queer if they cannot continue to pay a wee sixpence a week for the poor. However, we will say no more about it now."

Mr. Rankin proposed the co-option of Lieutenant W.B. Smyth in room of Mr. John S. Weir, who, he said, found it difficult to attend. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion, which was passed.

Strabane Chronicle

31st May 1919

Many are hoping that the Great Northern Railway Company will, now that the war is over, revert to the practice of cheap fares to popular seaside resorts.

Strabane Chronicle

31st May 1919

By an order published in the "London Gazette", the Minister of Munitions takes possession on behalf of the Board of Trade, as from July 1st1919 next, of all flax of the 1919 crop grown in Ireland as and when harvested.

Strabane Chronicle

7th June 1919

COMRADES OF THE GREAT WAR SION MILLS POST

Brig.-General A. St. Q. Ricardo, C.M.G., D.S.O., having returned from active service, has taken over the chairmanship of the above post, and needless to say, is taking a lively interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the discharged naval and military men. The post has now a membership of 56 and is in good working order. A very successful dance under its auspices was held in the Recreation Hall, Sion Mills, on Friday evening, 30th ult. Which was largely attended. Dancing commenced at 10.00 o'clock and continued to the early hours next morning. The music was all that could be desired, being supplied by Mr. D. Connolly's famous band, Comrade Robert Coyle excelled as M.C. Refreshments were provided and served by the Misses Minnie Hamilton, Daisy McConaghy, M.A. Hamilton, Lizzie McConaghy, S. Adair, and Lizzie Hamilton. The committee in charge of arrangements were:- Comrades W.J. Maxwell, Patrick Ward, Wm. Nelson, Joseph Ward, Stewart Hamilton, David Adair, Patrick Cairns, and Thomas Hamilton.

Strabane Chronicle

5th July 1919

COMRADES OF THE GREAT WAR FIRST ANNUAL SPORTS

The members of above will hold their First Annual Sports in The Recreation Park, Strabane, on Thursday, 10th July 1919, commencing at 1.30p.m.

PROGRAMME

No. 1 five-a-side Football Contest, confined to Strabane and District League Entry Fee 10s

2 – Marathon Race via Sion Mills, starting from Abercorn Square at 1.30p.m.

3 – 100 yards Flat Race, open

4 – Egg and Spoon Race, open

5 – Long bane Flag Derby Race, open

6 – Long Jump, open

7 – 120 yards hurdle, open

8 – Barrel race, open

9 – 440 Obstacle, open

10 – One mile, open

11 – Tug-of-war, 11 a-side; Entry Fee 5/-, open

12 – 100 yards for Boys under 14; Entry Free

13 – 100 yards for Girls under 14; Entry Free

The most valuable prizes ever offered
General Entry 5/-, Single Entry 1/-
Entries received up and on the day of the Event.
Full Military Band from Omagh Depot will be in attendance.
Refreshments can be had on Grounds
Admission – Sixpence and Threepence.
P. McLaughlin, Mourne Street
F. Quinn, Orchard Street,
Joint Secs.

Strabane Chronicle
5th July 1919

PEACE TREATY SIGNED
MR. WILSON AND RIGHTS OF NATIONS

Peace with Germany was signed on Saturday at Versailles. The Allied Powers signed first in the following order – United States, Britain, France and Italy. Then came Japan and the 24 Allies and Associates, and Germany last of all. As soon as the treaty has been ratified by the German National assembly and the Parliaments of any three of the Allies the war will be legally over. The Big four decided as almost their last act that the German prisoners are not to be sent home until the ratification by Germany has taken place. Immediately after the signing of the Treaty President Wilson sent a message to the American people advocating a full and sincere execution of its terms. The peace, he says, liberates great peoples who have never previously been able to find a way to freedom, and it recognizes the rights of all nationalities. Congressmen and others in America are now asking if he, in this, refers to Ireland. China did not sign the Treaty, presumably because that her claims in the Far East have not yet been settled.

Strabane Chronicle
12th July 1919

“PEACE” CELEBRATIONS IN STRABANE

In the monthly meeting of the Strabane Urban District Council, held on Monday, Mr. Charles Browne presiding.
Messrs. Wm. B. Smyth and John Buchanan appeared as a deputation in relation to peace day celebrations in Strabane on the 19th inst. Mr. Smyth said that some people were of the opinion that a demonstration of some kind or other would be a good thing on peace day in the town, and they came there to see if the Council would give them any assistance in organization of same by making arrangements and financially. The Comrades of the War were having sports on that day in the Recreation Park, and it was suggested to have a display of fireworks.
The Chairman – what would the fireworks cost?
Mr. Smyth – About £30.
Mr. Buchanan – Between £30 and £40.
The Chairman said that the Council could not guarantee £40.
Mr. White – It is only our duty to support this.
The Chairman said that he had no objection to it. The Council would discuss the matter and let the deputation know afterwards their decision.
Mr. Perry asked the deputation if, in the event of the Local Government Board refusing to sanction any grant the Council might make towards the celebrations they would hand back the money to the Council. Let it be understood he would not be a party to it if this was not clearly laid down.
There was no reply to Mr. Perry's question.
Mr. T.B. Feely (Town Clerk) said that £30 would go a short way to fireworks. For a load of tar the gas manager would charge him £30.
The deputation withdrew, and Council having transacted their other business, the meeting discussed the question of providing an allowance towards the cost of the celebrations.
Mr. Perry suggested that the Council grant them £20.
Mr. McCollum – Make it £30 and be decent to them.
Mr. Perry – Do you move that?
Mr. McCollum – I propose £30.
Mr. Perry – I second it.
Mr. Toorish said that he did not wish to propose an amendment, but he did not think it was right, or proper, to throw away money in this manner to provide fireworks. Seeing that the rates were increasing year after

year, were the Council justified in throwing this money away on fireworks? He did not think so, although he was just as glad to see this war finished as any other man.

Mr. Perry – You will never have to do this again.

Mr. White – It is not throwing it away. That idea is wrong.

The motion was passed unanimously.

REFUSAL TO SANCTION

The Local Government Board have wired the Strabane Urban District Council that they could not sanction the £30 voted for the peace celebrations.

THE GUARDIANS' ACTION

Regarding peace day celebrations, Mr. John Toorish, at the bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians, said that it would be only reasonable to allow their inmates something.

The Master said there were twenty three inmates in the hospital.

Mr. Gallagher suggested they increase their allowance to those in receipt of outdoor relief by five shillings on the week in which the celebrations would be held and give the same amount over their usual allowance to foster mothers.

Mr. John Toorish – Double the amount in each case.

Mr. Henderson thought this would be too much.

Captain Herdman – It only comes once in a generation. Give them an extra week's relief on this occasion.

Mr. Henderson demurred.

Mr. John Toorish – Never mind, we will get it somewhere. I propose that we double the amount on this week to the foster mothers and those in receipt of relief.

Mr. Dunn seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The inmates of the Workhouse Hospital were only ordered food extras on the 19th July.

Strabane Chronicle

26th July 1919

“THE DAY” IN STRABANE

“Peace Day” celebrations took place in Strabane in the morning there was a parade of the “Comrades” band, Glentirnon Orange band, and Strabane Orange band through the town on their way to the Recreation Park for the sports. All the Unionist business houses closed for the entire day. Allied flags were displayed in a few cases, the American flag was to be seen, but the Union Jack predominated. Nearly all the Nationalist business houses remained open, and there was no display of flags from them, but from the residents of a few so-called Nationalists Allied flags floated. In the Recreation Park a sports meeting was held, in which the *maffickers* took part.

Dancing took place on the green, Mr. Dan Connolly's band supplying the music.

There were some notable incidents in connection with the proceedings. In Bridge Street an arch of Union Jacks was pulled down, and the black flag hoisted. The only flag in Townsend Street was the black flag. Market Street and Butcher Street were entirely free from flags. Early on Sunday morning a Union Jack was hoisted by Unionists at the business premises of a well-known Strabane Catholic. When it was discovered it was pulled down.

Strabane Chronicle

30th August 1919

STRABANE GUARDIANS THE MILITARY AND THE WORKHOUSE

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday, Major E.C. Herdman, D.L., (chairman) presiding. The other members present were :- Messrs. Edward Gallagher, D.L., John McDermott, J.P., Joseph Farrill, J.P., James Toorish, John Kelly, Wm. A. Sheldon, Robert Bell, James Harte, J.P., (captain) J.C. Herdman, William Rankin, J.P., Robert Stevenson, John Toorish, James Brolly, David McCrea, C.R.V. Stoney, D.L., Andrew Lowry, J.P., John Conway, Andrew Lowry, J.P., Robert Moody, Charles Boyle, J.P., Hugh O'Donnell, J.P., John Henderson and Robert J. Fleming.

INMATES IN OTHER UNIONS

The clerk promised Mr. James Toorish that he would find out for him the number of Strabane inmates in other houses and their cost of maintenance per head.

SANCTIONED

The Local Government Board wrote sanctioning the increase of salary, from £3 to £5 per annum, to the caretaker of the Ballindrait dispensary.

MILITARY AND WORKHOUSE

Captain Herdman enquired from the Clerk if he had received any communications from the military in reference to the workhouse.

The Clerk – No, sir.

Captain Herdman – Has anything been done?

The Clerk – No, sir, except that the consumptive wards have been done.

Captain Herdman – Write them again.

Mr. Bell – Press the matter to a decision.

WORKHOUSE LANDS

The Local Government Board wrote stating that they would instruct their solicitors to take the necessary steps to carry out arrangements proposed by the Guardians in connection with certain parcels of land attached to the workhouse. The Guardians were, of course, aware that any conveyance of property which they might seek to acquire must be made to the Local Government Board, and that all expenditure incurred in the matter must be defrayed out of Union funds.

Strabane Chronicle

30th August 1919

STRABANE POSTMASTER RESIGNS AFTER 50 YEARS SERVICE

Mr. R.K. Malone, postmaster, Strabane, has resigned. He was an able and courteous official and had a unique record of serving fifty years. During that time he saw quite a revolution in post office work, notably the introduction of telegraphs in 1870, parcel post 1886, six penny telegrams, express delivery, post office telephones, and house-to-house delivery. He entered the service as a learner in December 1869, at Bury, Lancashire, and was appointed telegraphist on 29th June at Blackpool, and remained there until 7th December 1870, when he was transferred to Preston. On 3rd May 1872 he was transferred to Bury until 1887, when he was promoted to Workington, as supervising officer of telegraphs. In that town he rose to the position of clerk, Mr. Malone was subsequently promoted to postmaster of Ballinasloe, and in the western town he gained the respect of all creeds and classes. On his departure from that town he was presented by the inhabitants with an illuminated address, and the late Mrs. Malone was also presented with many mementoes. On 1st July 1903 he was promoted postmaster of Alnwick, and on 1st May 1910 he was appointed postmaster of Strabane. He always took a lively interest in sporting affairs and is extremely popular in Strabane and district. On his retirement he carries with him the best wishes of his many friends for a long, and well-earned rest.

Strabane Weekly News

11th September 1919

DEATH

Lavery – September 11, 1919, suddenly, at his father's residence, Railway House, Strabane, Sydney, late Sergeant, 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and Royal Engineers, younger son of Mr. G.R. Lavery. Funeral to Strabane New Cemetery at 12.30p.m. on Saturday.

On Saturday afternoon the funeral left Railway Road at 2.30 and was accompanied by a large and representative cortege. At Christ Church, the funeral service was conducted by Rev. Thomas Baird B.D. The line of route was densely thronged by hundreds of spectators, many of whom were visibly moved, and the blinds in all the houses were closely drawn whilst business people closed their shops as a mark of respect. First came the firing party, in charge of Sergeant Wheelan, with a contingent of the Inniskilling Fusiliers, with arms reversed, and followed by the band of the Dorset Regiment in charge of Sergeant Teversham, Next came the remains, the coffin, being covered with the Union Jack, and afterwards followed in processional order the railway officials, and a large turnout of the Strabane and District boy scout, in charge of Scoutmaster, Louis McGuinness. Brigadier-General Ricardo also attended the funeral in military uniform. On arrival at the church an impressive service was held. In his remarks Rev. Mr. Baird said:- "It has been a shock to all to learn of the sudden and very sad death of Sydney Lavery".

Mr. Rankin suggested the possibility of segregating outdoor relief so that the two rural districts and the urban district would each pay for its own poor. The recipients of relief resided mostly in Strabane town. The clerk said that before such an alteration could be made a change in the law would be necessary.

Strabane Chronicle

15th November 1919

WAR BONUSES TO R.O.'s OUTDOOR RELIEF

The bi-monthly meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday, Major E.C. Herdman, (chairman) presiding. There were also present:- Messrs. John Conway, John Kelly, David Craig, Wm.

Sheldon, Wm. Rankin, J.P., Robert Stevenson, Andrew Lowry, J.P., John Henderson, victor Love, Robert Moody and Andrew J. Campbell.

Mr. Ingram, clerk, said that by direction of the Board, he had written the Derry Union requesting the return of some of the clothing transferred to the institution when he sent their patients and inmates there. Mr. Perry, clerk of the Derry Union, replied that he could not return the clothing until they took their inmates back.

The Chairman said that they had not very many inmates in Derry.

Mr. Ingram said that there were twenty five patients who could return to the hospital whenever arrangements were made.

The matter was left adjourned pending the meeting of the committee appointed to make arrangements for the permanent closure of the Workhouse.

Rev. Samuel Connolly, P.P., Leckpatrick, wrote asking the use of the schoolroom to say Mass in for the inmates and the people living around the Workhouse on Sundays and holidays as heretofore.

The Board referred the application to the Committee appointed at last meeting to deal with the Workhouse closing.

The application of Relieving-Officers, John Ashenhurst, Ernest Alexander and Thomas Alexander for a war bonus came up for consideration on notice of motion by Mr. Lowry.

£10 each was unanimously granted.

Relieving officer John Ashenhurst submitted an application for outdoor relief on behalf of a couple who had left the Workhouse and got married.

The Board decided to grant 4s-6d weekly.

JERSEY BOYS IN WORLD WAR 1

When Alexander Nelis enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1917, he was following in his father's footsteps, but due to his peculiar family history, it's quite possible he never knew this. In 1890 when his parents, John and Ann Jane (Diver) Nelis, married in Strabane, County Tyrone, John was with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, a regiment of the British Army.



Alexander Nelis.

Within five years, the couple had three children – two daughters and Alexander, named according to custom after his paternal grandfather. Sadly, Alex's mother passed away in 1897 when he was only three years old, and this marked the beginning of the splintering of his family. One sister died and the other was tucked away in an industrial school. His father remarried to Elizabeth Toman, but soon took off, so the 1901 census finds eight-year-old Alex living with a household of near strangers, the family of his new stepmother. But life was to get lonelier still. Still married to his father, Alex's stepmother left for America in 1902, joining relatives in Harrison, New Jersey. Perhaps his remaining sister stepped in to take care of him during his tween years, but by the time of the 1911 census, he was boarding with a Bailie family in County Down where he made his living as a factory worker.

Despite her absence, Alex must have retained a bond with his stepmother as he finally joined her in America when he sailed from Londonderry to New York in June of 1912 and was still living with her at the time of his enlistment five years later. He was employed in Harrison as a grinder for the Hyatt Roller

Bearing Company, and apparently intended to stay put as he had taken the first steps in the naturalization process.

Alex served his first year with the Army in the U.S. and was sent to France on June 15, 1918 where he was killed in action on October 25th of the same year. His stepmother, as next of kin, made the decision to have him buried in France. Designated a Gold Star mother, she declined the opportunity to visit his grave overseas, but it can be seen today at the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery. Lonely in life, he is at least surrounded by his military comrades in death.

**They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.**



NEVER FORGET Sunrise at Tommy statue in Seaham, Co Durham, on Remembrance Day

Picture: ANDY COMMINS

**At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.**

Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)

