



Moore Street, Cappamore

2

A Portrait
of Limerick in 1916

This portrait of Limerick sets the scene for Limerick's role in the Irish Revolution. In 1916 Limerick was a semi-industrial city. Some major industries provided work for generations of families, but there was also a lot of unemployment and under-employment. Social welfare was limited to outdoor relief under the hated Poor Law system and a lack of employment brought families close to poverty quickly.¹

DISEASE AND DEATHS IN UNSANITARY STREETS

One third of people in Limerick city lived in dirty and overcrowded conditions - mainly in the Englishtown, Irishtown and Carey's Road area of the city. Most of these lived in dwellings with no running water or sewerage systems.



Michael S McGrath, Medical Superintendent Officer of Health reported that 'Limerick was very much behind the times as regards the provision of sanitary accommodation'. He was very concerned about the resulting spread of diseases from human waste deposited on the streets and lanes warning that, until the problem was eradicated:

'it will be utterly impossible to have a healthy city.'

In 1915, there were three cases of diphtheria, twenty-three of scarlatina, fourteen of typhoid and four of continued fever in Limerick. Tuberculosis was a major killer, with 119 fatalities in 1915.² McGrath described how experiments in disposing of human waste using buckets first and then night carts was unsuccessful and 'another trial is about to be given to the use of the bins.'

In 1916, Limerick city had a high rate of infant mortality, with 100 children under the age of one year dying the previous year.³ Better diet had increased people's resistance to illness however and by 1910 those who survived childhood and reached the age of fifteen could expect to live until the age of sixty-four.⁴ The standard of living was also improving and the average Irish person was one and a half times better off in 1913 than they had been in 1870. In 1916, Irish people were better off than Spaniards, Portuguese and Greeks and had roughly the same standard of living as Italians and Norwegians.⁵

Limerick was far more rural in 1916 than nowadays, as 75 per cent of the population lived in country areas (in 2016 it was 50 per cent).⁶ Agriculture was the biggest industry employing nearly 60 per cent of the workforce while 75 per cent of farmers had farms of less than fifty acres.⁷



A TALE OF TWO CITIES

In 1916, housing played a major role in the the quality of Limerick citizens' lives.⁸ Limerick was a tale of two cities and by 1916 many upper and middle class people had moved out of the city centre to fine houses on the North Circular Road, South Circular Road, O'Connell Avenue, Corbally and Ennis Road. While many business people continued to live over the shop in the city centre, some of the Georgian houses near Arthur's Quay and Irishtown had become tenements.⁹

Conditions in the poorer areas of Limerick city, where the average number of children per family was seven, were grim.¹⁰ In some homes, the same pot was often used to cook and wash clothes.¹¹ In 1911, it was claimed that there was nowhere in Ireland 'with worse slum dwellings than Limerick or where proper houses for the poor are more necessary.'¹² In 1913, 20 per cent of the city's housing stock consisted of 1,050 tenement houses, and another 15 per cent were one-room flats.¹³

In 1885, former Mayor William Spillane had stated that 'scarcely any of the tenement houses have back yards... a great many are without closets [toilets].. they throw the refuse out of doors... the floors are very bad... earthen floors; all the basements are full of holes, nothing could be worse; roofs also are often broken. He described how he had seen 'two families living in a cellar with eight people living in it' and instances of where 'there was no furniture at all and people sleep on the floor.' Concerning Limerick city's high death rate, Spillane maintained that 'the want of

water and the filthy houses must contribute largely to it' and that 'the houses there are to be seen in a state of **squalor** and filth such as you would scarcely believe.'¹⁴

Nevertheless by 1916 the position in the city was slowly improving. The number of families living in tenements and one-room flats had dropped from 60 per cent in 1871 to 33 per cent in 1911.¹⁵

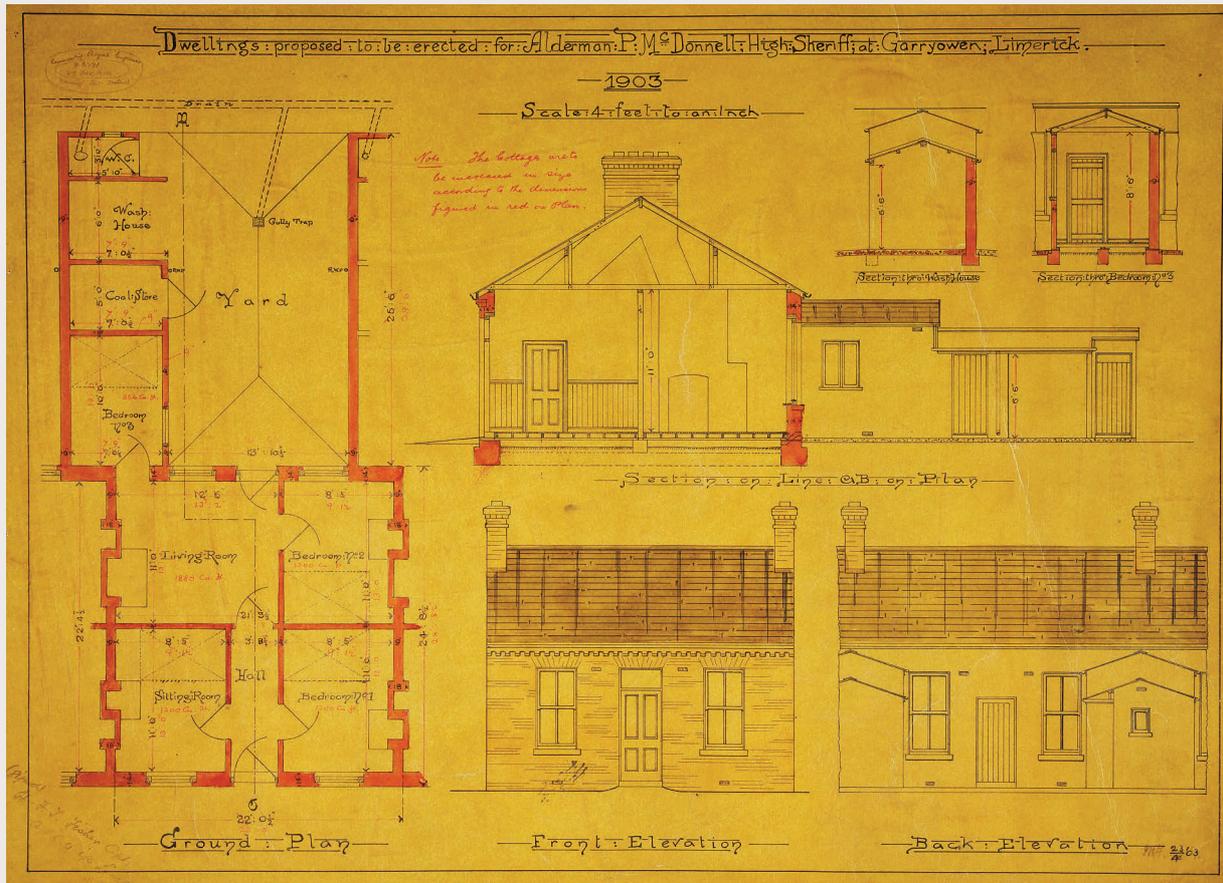
By 1914 Limerick Corporation and private charitable companies had built 253 fine artisans dwellings, but this was too little to supply the major demand. These houses were not available to the poorest families as rents were relatively high.



Housing in County Limerick

Conditions were also slowly improving in the county, though at a faster rate than in the city. In the thirty years prior to 1916 hundreds of good





quality labourers' cottages had been built by the Boards of Guardians under the Labourers' Acts. In 1885, the Coll family of Bruree moved from a one-roomed thatched cottage to a 'new slate-roofed three-roomed labourers' cottage nearby.' The family consisted of Mrs Coll, her two adult sons and adult daughter, plus a

three-year old grandson 'Eddie' (later Eamon) de Valera.¹⁶

The number of people living in one-room mud cabins in Limerick city and county dropped from one in three families in 1871 to one in twenty families in 1911. Between 1871 and 1911, the number of Limerick families

whose accommodation consisted of ten or more rooms doubled.¹⁷

Nevertheless, housing in County Limerick was still poor. In 1910, the *Limerick Leader* described a house in Rathkeale as being 'situated in filthy surroundings' and as being 'a specimen of the wretched

hovels that are to be found in some of the congested areas.' It was fifteen or sixteen feet long and ten feet high, with a door that 'the average sized person would find difficult to enter without stooping.' The roof 'was thatched and in a state of decay.'¹⁸ In 1913, the *Leader* carried another report, referring to 'deserving poor people' in rural areas living in 'hovels that... a respectable pig would not live in.'¹⁹ The Irish Land and Labourers Association was set up in 1894 to fight for the rights of small farmers and agricultural labourers. One of its main policy aims was to provide more cottages for labourers.²⁰

Few houses had bathrooms, so people washed in large tin baths in the bedroom or in wash hand basins. Mass-produced bars of soap were widely available. Toothpaste had become popular since its introduction almost sixteen years previously. Toothbrushes were usually made of bristles taken from pigs' necks.

A SEMI INDUSTRIAL CITY

Limerick had four bacon factories which were world famous for their bacon and used the most advanced technology of the time: Matterson's, Shaw's, O'Mara's and Denny's. It was the proud boast of the Limerick bacon industry that when pigs entered the production line, 'nothing was wasted except the squeal.'²¹ In 1892, Shaws had an advanced telephone system (only sixteen years after the telephone was invented), with lifts to every floor.²²

The Limerick Clothing Factory at Lord Edward Street was working at full capacity during 1916, making military uniforms for the British Army and commercial suits. In 1915 the workers received a war bonus as they were doing so much overtime. Set up in 1850 by Sir Peter Tait, it was a pioneer of

the assembly line system and was the largest clothing factory in Ireland.²³

The flour milling industry was flourishing in 1916 supplying flour for the war in Europe. Milling was one of Limerick's oldest industries. By 1916 Goodbodys were the leading millers, having taken over Bannatyne's Mills and Russell's Mills. The Harris family had a mill on Henry Street while the Maguire family ran a mill on Francis Street as well as Curraghower Mill in Croom. Many young boys followed their fathers or uncles into the mills at fourteen years of age. These were often paid low wages as 'boys' for many years into adulthood.²⁴

In 1916, Cleaves Condensed Milk Company was thriving with over 3,000 employed in nineteen factories throughout Munster. These produced butter, condensed milk, toffee, cocoa, milk and sweets.



A poster showing the wide range of produce available from Matterson's Bacon Factory (Limerick Museum).



Limerick dockworkers made a difficult living and were typical of the under-employment and casual labour of the time.²⁵ Dock labourers had no contracts and were employed as needed when a ship docked. They worked outdoors unloading and loading ships at all hours in all sorts of weather, carrying enormous loads and handling hazardous materials such as fertilisers, chemicals and oil. In 1863, the Limerick Dock Labourers Union was formed to fight for dockers' rights. To join, 'a man had to have a close relative, most often his father, who was a member of the Society.'²⁶

WOMEN AT WORK

According to the 1911 census, the female proportion of the workforce was 29 per cent in Limerick city and 20 per cent in County Limerick.²⁷ However, the number of women in the workforce was underestimated as women working

at home were often not included. Many women were badly paid. Their wages were only half those of a male wage labourer and only around one-sixth of a skilled male worker. By far the biggest category of working women were domestic servants. Without electricity, running water and modern appliances, housework took a great deal of time and effort and many ordinary farms and households had domestic servants.²⁸

In 1916 some Limerick women were very successful business people. Madge Daly managed the Daly family bakery for many years and also built up a large property portfolio all over Limerick. Florence Vere O'Brien and Maude Kearney ran thriving Limerick lace making enterprises. Women in the religious life were also powerful and influential, as school principals, hospital matrons and philanthropists. Limerick-born Sister Paul Quinlan the founding principal

of Mary Immaculate College, had established the college in 1898 and was still running it in 1916.²⁹

THE RISE OF LITERACY

In 1916, the national school system had been providing free education to all primary school children since 1831 and had an impressive record.³⁰ National literacy levels rose from 33 percent in 1851 to 84 per cent in 1911.³¹ In 1911 93 per cent of Limerick people could read and write.³² An increasingly confident and educated population became involved in nationalist organisations such as the GAA, Gaelic League, Irish Volunteers and Cumann na mBan.





PRIMARY SCHOOLS

In 1916, there were 276 primary schools in Limerick with 104 boys' schools, 75 girls' schools and 97 mixed. Mixed schools usually had separate playgrounds, one each for boys and girls.³³ Ned Daly attended Leamy's on Hartstonge street where he learned book-keeping. The school had an enrolment figure of 520, but attendance was poor as an average of 410 were generally present on a daily basis.³⁴

Teachers were poorly paid and in winter, schools were often cold, with large rooms heated by an open fire near the teacher's desk. Toilets were outdoors, discipline was strict and corporal punishment was common.

Subjects taught included English, History, Geography and



Ballyorgan Boys School, eight miles from Kilmallock, County Limerick (Limerick Museum).

**IN 1911, 93 PER CENT OF
LIMERICK PEOPLE COULD
READ AND WRITE.**





A boys primary school c. 1910 (Limerick Museum).



Mungret's best hurling team 1917-18. Fitzgerald, Quigley, Delany, Lawless, Ryan, Wynne, English, Hayes, FitzPatrick, Murphy, Hogan, O'Connell, Lawless, Ryan, Po

Science. Irish had been recently added to the curriculum as a result of a campaign led by the Gaelic League.³⁵

In 1916, most Limerick children left school around the age of fourteen to get a job and support their families.

THE MURDER MACHINE

There were sixteen secondary schools in Limerick city and county. Only four of these had both male and female pupils, of which Villiers School, run by the Church of Ireland, was the largest.³⁶ The school curriculum was dominated by the annual state examinations as results determined the amount of grant aid paid to each school.³⁷ Greek, Latin, mathematics, history and geography were seen as the essential subjects for professional jobs, while science and technical

subjects were regarded as inferior. Padraig Pearse, an educationalist as well as a political activist, described Irish secondary education as 'the Murder Machine.' He said that it was

'a lifeless thing without
a soul'

which treated education like

'some sort of
manufacturing process.'³⁸

The Christian Brothers played a major role in promoting nationalism among their pupils. In Limerick city, Sexton Street CBS, which was both a national and secondary school, was the most popular school with as many as 2,000 students enrolled. Among its past pupils were John and Ned Daly while Con Colbert, Sean Heuston and Eamon de Valera all attended CBS Schools.³⁹ Other important secondary schools were Laurel Hill, run by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) nuns and Mungret

College run by the Jesuits.⁴⁰

Limerick was a pioneer in technical education as its Municipal Technical Institute was one of the oldest in the country, having opened in 1893. By 1916 it was housed in a magnificent red brick building on O'Connell Avenue. However, 'the Tech' was not popular with middle class families who avoided sending their children there.⁴¹ The Limerick School of Art and Design had been established in 1852 and since 1911 was housed in the Municipal Technical Institute.⁴²

Less than 5 per cent of children progressed to secondary education.⁴³ Nearly all secondary schools were fee paying. Eamon de Valera walked fifteen miles a day from Bruree to the CBS school in Charleville before winning a scholarship to the elite Blackrock College.⁴⁴





Limerick was one of the few urban areas in Ireland with third-level institutions. In 1898, Mary Immaculate College had been founded by the Sisters of Mercy as a teacher training college for girls. By 1916, it had around 100 students.⁴⁵

Ireland's expanding education system provided a large number of clerks for a growing bureaucracy. The executed 1916 leader Sean Heuston was a clerk with the Great

Southern and Western Railways and moved from his native Dublin to work in Limerick Railway Station. Ned Daly and Con Colbert both moved to Dublin where they worked as clerks, Daly with a builders providers and then a wholesale chemist and Colbert with a bakery.⁴⁶

A TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD

By 1916 the world had undergone a technological

revolution. Aeroplanes, railways, telephones, typewriters and electric light had all become cornerstones of modern society. The radio was invented in 1901 and the aeroplane in 1903. Huge advances had been made in medicine with the introduction of modern anaesthetics (1846), antiseptic surgery (1869), and x-rays (1895).⁴⁷

The First World War saw a rush of new inventions that made life at home and on the battlefield easier. The United States army put zip fasteners on their uniforms for the first time.⁴⁸ Wristwatches, which had been invented in 1868, had become very fashionable and were very useful on the battlefield to time attacks.



Golfing, Lahinch, Co. Clare.



MOTOR CAR

The first motor car was registered in Limerick in 1904. Trains, bicycles and cars all played a major role in the planning and implementation of the 1916 Rising.

Sport & Leisure

In 1916, people worked sixty hours a week with only Sunday off leaving very little free time. However, this was an improvement on the eighty hour week of previous decades, which meant that working class people had some limited time for leisure activities.⁴⁹ Golf, horse racing, athletics, hockey, bowling, Gaelic games, rugby and rowing were all popular activities in 1916. Despite the war, the music hall, theatre and cinemas were all booming.

THEATRE ROYAL,
LIMERICK.

THE LIMERICK OPERATIC SOCIETY
:: IN ::
GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S COMIC OPERA--

PATIENCE

Or, Bunthorne's Bride,

(BY PERMISSION OF R. DOYLY CARTE, ESQ., SAVOY THEATRE, LONDON).

(In aid of the Poor of the City and Lady Shaw's Fund for Comforts for the
Royal Munster Fusiliers),

UNDER DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE
WEEK COMMENCING

MONDAY, 24th JAN., 1916,
FOR SIX NIGHTS AT 8 P.M.,

MATINEE SATURDAY, JAN. 29th,
AT 3 P.M.



LADIES' HURLING MATCH AT NENAGH.
ON SUNDAY WEEK LAST.

(From photos specially taken for the "Weekly Examiner.")

(PRINTED AND ENGRAVED AT EXAMINER OFFICE)





This was a golden era for Limerick athletics with success in a series of Olympic games. In the 1908 Olympics held in London, Limerick athletes won two gold medals: Timothy Ahearne in the triple jump and John Flanagan in the hammer as well as one silver medal: Con Leahy in the high jump (Limerick Museum).



Three-year old Mary Ita Larkin from Reen's Pike, Ardagh, County Limerick, on holidays in Ballybunion c. 1918. Increasing leisure time enabled more people to enjoy vacations by the sea, though only the very rich could afford foreign holidays (Courtesy Healy family).



The Theatre Royal on Henry Street was one of the leading theatres in Ireland and could hold 1,300 people. 'The stage was spacious and the theatre was so constructed that no matter what part of the house one was in, the stage never appeared far away.' Charles Dickens, Harry Houdini, Limerick opera singer Joseph O'Mara and English opera star Dame Clara Butt all performed there.⁵⁰

In 1916 cinema was new and already popular. The first cinema in Ireland had opened in Dublin in 1909 and in 1910 'The Rink' opened in Limerick at Clontarf Place.⁵¹ By 1916 there were four cinemas in Limerick. Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks were the stars of the day.⁵² Films were still silent so they were accompanied by an orchestra or a piano.

Shortly after the Easter Rising, on 5 October 1916, Limerick Museum opened its doors to the public for the first time in Pery Square.⁵³



Limerick Museum opened in 1916 and soon began to attract visitors of all ages (Limerick Museum).

In 1916, Charlie Chaplin was already a household name for Limerick cinema-goers (Limerick Leader).

In 1916 Limerick had a large network of libraries. Limerick City Library was in Pery Square while Rathkeale, Ballyhahill, Ballysteen, Croagh, Kildimo, Kilcolman, Pallaskenry and Shanagolden all had libraries mainly funded by the famous philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.⁵⁴

RUGBY

Limerick was the only place in Ireland where rugby was played by all classes. In the 1890s, rugby's rise was assisted by the temporary

decline of the GAA, which was caused by the Parnell split, and quarrels between the Catholic clergy and the Fenians.⁵⁵

The middle classes had introduced rugby to the city and it later spread to the working classes in order to have sufficient numbers.⁵⁶ Limerick had a tradition of strong men who worked at hard physical manual labour in the milling, bacon and other industries and were drawn to rugby.⁵⁷ The first recorded rugby club in Limerick was founded in Rathkeale in 1874, followed by Limerick County

in 1876.⁵⁸ Garryowen and Shannon Clubs were both founded in 1884 and Young Munster was founded in 1895. Later, the city developed 'a culture of parish-based junior rugby.'⁵⁹

ROWING

Limerick's location on the longest river in Ireland meant that the Shannon played an important role in city life. In 1916 the city had five rowing clubs. Shannon had been founded in 1866 by clothing manufacturer Sir Peter Tait.





Limerick rugby derived its flourishing tradition and mass appeal to pioneering sportsmen such as William Lamb Stokes of Barrington Street and Charles Barrington of Glenstal Castle (Limerick Museum).

Limerick Rowing Club was set up in 1870, Athlunkard in 1898, St Michael's in 1901 and St John's, later Curraghower, in 1914.⁶⁰

Rowing and rugby fitted together very well into the social life of Limerick as many played rugby in the winter and rowed during the summer. In St Mary's Parish, men played rugby with Shannon and rowed with Athlunkard.⁶¹

John Daly, who though an IRB activist, was also a prosperous baker, was angry when his application to join Shannon Rowing Club was refused due to his Fenian background and prison record. As a respectable businessman, he regarded this as an unwarranted snub. Instead, the local nationalists presented him with his own rowing boat, which was handed over to him in a colourful ceremony.⁶²

Monster Houses

In Limerick city, large department stores known as 'monster houses' such as Todd's, McBirney's and Cannock's employed hundreds of people and many of the staff lived in-house under the strict supervision of their managers. Most shopkeepers had young apprentices who received on the job training for seven years and received a small annual wage of around £10.⁶³

Shopkeepers were the backbone of Limerick city and every town in the county. Many lived over their premises often with their staff and apprentices

On the eve of the Easter Rising in 1916 the centre of Limerick city and Limerick towns and villages looked very similar to

today. By 1850, the main streets of Adare, Rathkeale, Newcastlewest and Abbeyfeale had all taken on their current appearance.⁶⁴

MUD OR DUST

Street and road surfaces were poor as tarmacading was not to be introduced in Limerick until the 1920s.⁶⁵ The road surface used in 1916 was soft limestone chip which quickly turned to mud or dust, depending on the weather conditions. 'During the winter months, our city thoroughfares are practically rivers of slimy mud... while in summer they are in an almost equally objectionable state by reason of the blinding suffocating dust with which they were covered.'⁶⁶





Patrick and Rutland Streets, Limerick. In 1916, many business people lived over the shop, although the wealthiest merchants tended to live in the suburbs (Limerick Museum).



RISING HEMLINES

In 1916, hemlines were rising—the most radical change in women’s fashions for over 2,500 years. Because so many men had joined the armed forces, more women were working in factories, banks and post offices, as fire-fighters and as bus conductors and they needed to wear more practical clothes. Corsets were less restrictive and skirts were calf-length and narrow, often worn with a matching coat. Lace went completely out of fashion, with serious consequences for the Limerick lace industry. Hair was worn pinned up. Hats had shrunk from their Edwardian splendour.⁶⁷

Many older and less well-off women in both town and country still wore black shawls, particularly widows. By 1916 the shawl had become

deeply unfashionable and its wearers were sometimes called ‘shawlies.’ Young Ned Daly was so embarrassed at being brought to school by a maid wearing a shawl that he used to throw stones at her.⁶⁸

Men wore three-piece suits with shirts and ties. Moustaches were popular with young men while older men still wore the beards that had been fashionable in the late nineteenth century. All men wore boots and a hat or a cap when outdoors. Upper and middle class men wore either homburg or bowler hats for everyday wear, and top hats on formal occasions. Working class men and boys from all classes wore flat caps with large peaks on them.

Boys wore knee length trousers, long socks, short buttoned jackets, caps and boots. Girls wore smocks or pinafores over calf length dresses.⁶⁹



Women’s underwear had only recently become known as ‘lingerie.’ It usually comprised a pair of knickers that reached below the knees, a loose, shirt-like chemise and a petticoat or underskirt. Men’s underwear consisted of a one piece garment made up of a vest and close fitting ankle-length trousers, known as long johns.⁷⁰ Pyjamas, a fashion brought from India, became increasingly popular for sleepwear, but many continued to favour the old-fashioned night shirt.⁷¹

Spring Fashion Gives a Shapely Silhouette

Wonderful new possibilities for the correctly-corseted figure are revealed by the Spring style tendencies. The waist measurement is smaller, and the hips more rounded, giving a beautiful and essentially feminine silhouette. These important changes are seen to perfection in the superb new Royal Worcester Kidfitting Corsets, now showing in our Corset Department. Amongst them are the actual models now employed in Paris for fitting by the best couturiers.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE

ROYAL WORCESTER Kidfitting Corsets

MODEL 66 Price 13/11

MODEL 68 Price 8/11

GIBSON'S, Corset Specialists, 37, O'CONNELL-STREET, LIMERICK.

The advertisement features two illustrations of women in elegant, early 20th-century dresses. The woman on the left is shown in profile, wearing a long, flowing dress with a high collar and long sleeves. The woman on the right is shown from a three-quarter view, wearing a similar dress with a fitted bodice and a full skirt. The text is arranged in a vertical column between the two illustrations, with the brand name 'ROYAL WORCESTER' prominently displayed in a large, bold font.

Robertson

A CHARMING DINNER-FROCK FOR A GIRL.
 Made of desert-dawn pink taffeta, the chemisette and underskirt being of white tulle. A shaded pink rose is worn in front of the corsage.

CANNOCK & CO. LTD.
 Manufacturers & Warehousemen
LIMERICK

No. 61
 Ext. by

3rd Feb 1912
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Mr. J. J. O'Connell
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The Best House for General Drapery and House Dressmaking
 HIGH-CLASS TAILORING and DRESSMAKING

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JOHN M'BIRNEY & CO., LTD.
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Our Dressmaking Department
 Now under the Supervision of a
YOUNG LADY OF UNQUESTIONED TALENT.
 UP-TO-DATE AND DISTINCTIVE IDEAS.

ELEGANCE OF FIT GUARANTEED

R. CLUNE & CO.
 GENTS' HOSIERS AND OUTFITTERS.
SPECIAL VALUE
 IN
 Flannel Shirts, Underwear, Woollen Socks, Etc., Etc.
 43, O'CONNELL STREET, LIMERICK.

CLANCY & Co.
Grand Cheap Sale!
ALL NEW GOODS.
 A FINE RANGE OF SHIRTS ORDERED BEFORE THE ADVANCE.
 UNBEATABLE VALUE TO-DAY.
 VERY SPECIAL VALUE IN USEFUL HOUSE MATERIALS TO CLEAR.
 48, WILLIAM STREET, LIMERICK.

Dickins & Jones

**SMART and USEFUL
 SHIRTS and BLOUSES**

Blouses are playing a more important part in feminine attire than hitherto, and have become one of the special features of fashionable wear. We specialize in shirts and blouses suitable for all occasions.

First-class material
 elegant and correct
 attention.

BY 113. Charming French Blouse, of hand-embroidered Valenciennes, tastefully accented with small Tulle and Valenciennes. Queen Lace Collar of Fine Embroidered Muslin. 35/9

BY 114. Perfectly Cut Heavy Zap Shirt, from gathered front, Yoke, Plain Back, Full Collar, the Front Bands forming an effective finish. Size 11 to 15. 16/9

Ladies are specially invited to walk through our saloons, and view the Modesto displayed without being in the slightest way interrupted to buy.

Discontinued Continental Blouse finished and free on request.

Regent Street, LONDON, W.

A beautiful Washable Cotton, or Blouse, in 10 Min. Washable. 4 11

GLOVES

Our new soft and elegant fine knit gloves, made of pure wool, are the most comfortable and durable ever made. They are made from the finest materials and are guaranteed to last for years.

Jays
 GLOVES

No. 1. Superior quality of pure wool, made in the finest style. Price per pair 2/11

No. 2. Fine quality of pure wool, made in the finest style. Price per pair 2/6

No. 3. Fine quality of pure wool, made in the finest style. Price per pair 2/6

No. 4. Fine quality of pure wool, made in the finest style. Price per pair 2/6

No. 5. Fine quality of pure wool, made in the finest style. Price per pair 2/11

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ONE GUINEA THE PAIR.

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WARM UNDERCLOTHING.

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE AND QUALITY.

Ladies' Winter
Weight Combina-
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From 2/11

Cream Flan-
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dresses,
From 2 11

Wool Vests,
Spencers' K
Bodices,
AT LOWEST
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Sole Agent
"Princess Olga"
Corset.



Cream Flannel
and Nun's Veil-
ing, Night-
dresses; dainty
designs,
From 8/6

All Wool Dres-
sing Jackets,
From 4/11

All Wool Cash-
mere Hose,
From 1/11

NOTE ADDRESS :

CRESCENT EMPORIUM,
70, O'CONNELL STREET.

People rarely bought clothes ready-made in shops. Instead they chose their material and brought it to a tailor or dressmaker. Many women worked as dressmakers and lace makers. In 1911, there were 634 tailors, 985 milliners/dressmakers and 418 shirtmakers/seamstresses in Limerick city and county.⁷² Poorer people bought second-hand clothes, which were only discarded when they were

completely worn out. Clothes were valuable and often passed on to relatives. The dead were buried in shrouds made of cotton or linen as clothes were too valuable to discard.

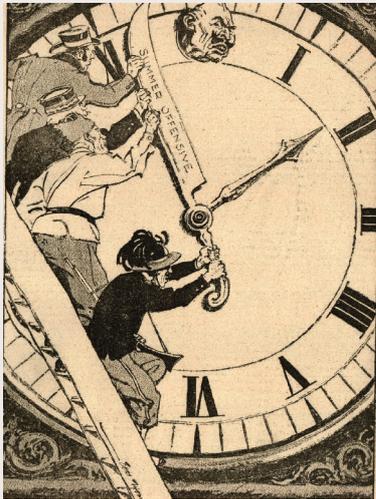
CHANGING TIMES

In 1916, Ireland made two changes to its time-keeping system: it adopted Daylight Saving Time (DST) on 21 May

and Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) on 1 October. Before 1916, Ireland had its own time keeping system known as Dublin Mean Time which was twenty-five minutes behind Britain's system of GMT as the sun rises and sets in Dublin just over twenty-five minutes later than it does in London. Much of the country followed local time and cities set their town clock by measuring the position of the sun.

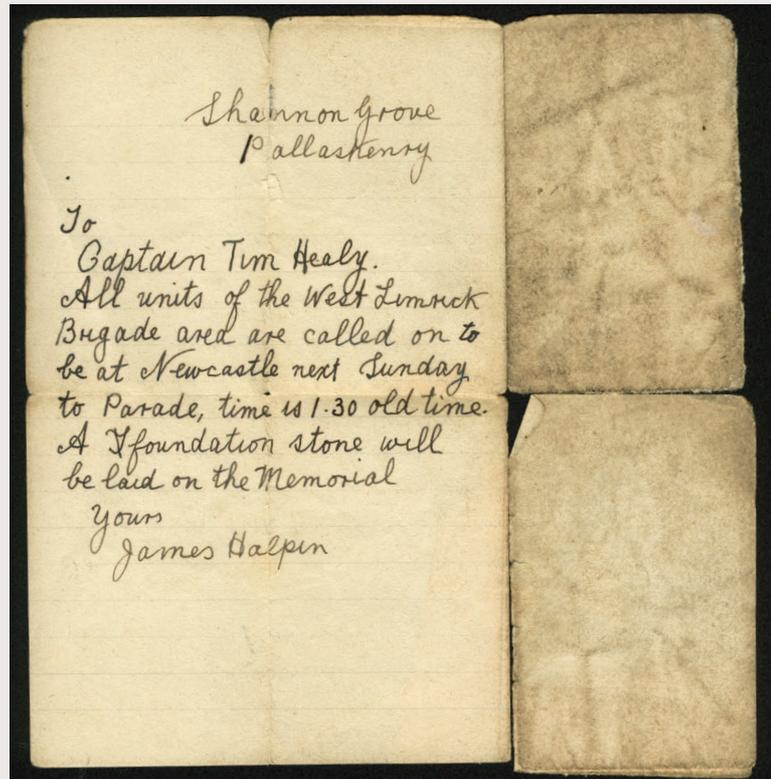


In 1916, DST, was introduced in Britain and Ireland under the Summer Time Act and clocks moved forward an hour from 21 May 1916.⁶³ Germany had already made the change to save costs and increase production as part of the war effort. In Ireland, farmers' groups raised concerns that the new system would interfere with early morning milking.⁷⁴ In October GMT was also introduced to bring Ireland and Great Britain in line for the first time, ironically only months after the Rising.



Mr. Knight, a well known nautical optician suggested the best way to make the alteration was that 'all pendulums should be stopped gently and remain so for 35 minutes. Striking clocks may be set right by moving the hands forward and striking hour by hour the full eleven hours, and stopping short 25 minutes of the full hours.'⁷⁵

Irish time-keeping retained its individuality. Ernie O'Malley, an IRA organiser during the War of Independence, wrote that 'there was a difficulty of three different times for councils and classes. Summer time was kept by cities, some towns and the railway; new time was an increase of 25 minutes on old Irish time to synchronise with English time; as yet punctual time had not come.'⁷⁶

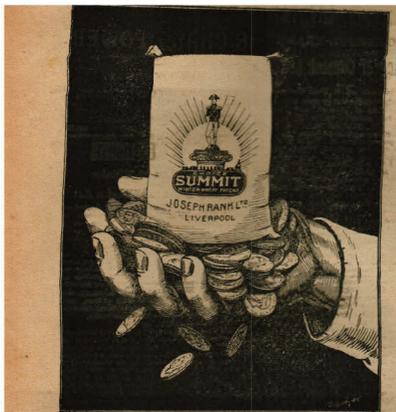


SUPPLIES FOR EASTER!!

EASTER NOVELTIES IN VARIETY,
 CHOCOLATE AND MARZAPAN EGGS, ETC.
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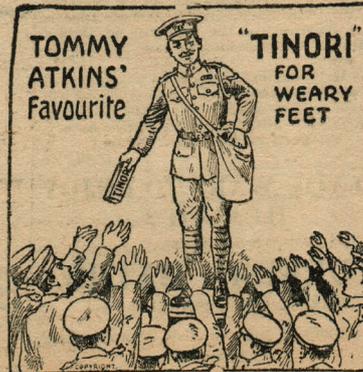
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