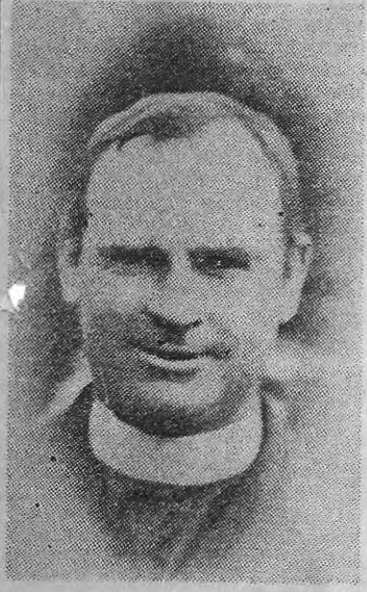




No Monument Marks the Grave of Fr. Richard O'Daly of Ballingeary



tongue was Gaelic, Ireland's language, and that of his own ancestral people.

'Gaelic League

CHARMED with its richness and flexibility, he decided to learn it at once. He joined a beginner's class at the London Gaelic League and in three days he had learned all that this class had to offer.

He went on from class to class until he had mastered all that such classes provide.

Then he decided to go to Ireland, where he thought he would hear the language spoken on every hand. Dr. O'Daly's first disappointment came at what was then Kingstown where he found them speaking nothing but English. Dublin was another disappointment. In despair, he made inquiries. Where, he demanded, could he hear Irish spoken in Ireland?

He was then told of the few surviving Irish-speaking districts hidden in pockets in a few places throughout the country, and so he travelled from one to the other until he had absorbed the Gaelic to his own satisfaction. Native speakers were amazed at the quickness with which he picked it up and the scholarly attitude he brought to bear on it.

Pathfinder

SOON he had earned the title of Gaelic's "Real Pathfinder" and became known as a writer, teacher and lecturer. Australia saw him no more. From that on Dr. O'Daly's whole life and energies were devoted to the spread and development of the language. His single-minded enthusiasm and valuable knowledge of phonetics were welcomed by that small band of pioneers who were struggling along in the early days of the Gaelic League.

It was during this period that

he met Father Edward Fitzgerald, brother of Dick, the great footballer, and it was Father Fitzgerald who more than anyone was the first to recognise his genius and to encourage him to persevere.

Ballingeary college

BOTH their names are now associated with the foundation of Ballingeary College. The idea of Ballingeary sprang from a Convention of Munster Gaels held in connection with Feis na Muman in 1903. At that Convention it was decided to form an Irish College in Munster and the lovely and congenial atmosphere of Ballingeary was chosen.

For its head, none other than Dr. O'Daly, one of the greatest linguists of the age, was appointed. He had found his life work and here Irish-Ireland was introduced to his method of exposition and treatment of Irish phonetics.

Money was scarce but great things can be done with little when the heart is there, and eventually the fame of Ballingeary spread far and the thousands of students who came to it not only from the rest of Ireland but from the Continent and the States was a tribute to this great authority who had made Irish phonetics into a linguistic science.

He used to attribute his extraordinary fine ear for differences in sound of the spoken word to his descent from the O'Daly's, who were so thoroughly and traditionally steeped in the bardic art.

Later years saw Dr. O'Daly worn out and in bad health again and he ended his days as a master at Fernferris College in Cork, where his younger pupils had the benefit of his great experience and learning.

No monuments

ALTHOUGH the Irish language owes so much to Dr. O'Daly no monument marks his grave in

says
**Anna
Kelly**

St. Joseph's Cemetery in Cork. At the Ballingeary Golden Jubilee celebrations held in the summer of 1954 some friends and past pupils decided to honour his memory with a Celtic Cross.

Funds are now being raised and subscriptions may be sent to Dr. O'Daly Memorial Fund at the Munster and Leinster Bank, South Mall, Cork.

Already the project has found much support. Irish speakers are being circularised and Michael O Foghluadha of Middle Abbey Street, Dublin, a great old Gael himself, is giving voluntary aid to this.

Miss Clara Flynn, Public Health Inspector, Dublin, a relative of Dr. O'Daly's, has contributed the photograph.

E.S.B. plans for island link-up

Linking up Arranmore Island with the mainland is presenting an unusual problem for E.S.B. engineers. They plan to span part of the distance with an overhead cable carried on a line of poles from the mainland, through a series of smaller islands, as far as Rutland Island.

The power will be brought from Rutland to Arranmore—a distance of about a mile—by submarine cable.

Already a cargo of poles for the island network is on its way. It is believed the island will have electricity in September.

IN the early days of this century a young Australian born priest who had come to Europe to recover his health was taken by a friend to a St. Patrick's Day banquet in London.

The young priest was Dr. Richard O'Daly of good old West Cork stock, whose parents had emigrated in the dark days of landlordism.

Dr. O'Daly was already known in Australia as a scholar of high intellectual power with a unique gift for languages. He was a fluent speaker of twelve and had a working knowledge of many more.

After completing his studies at Rome, he was ordained a priest and granted the degrees of Doctor of Divinity and Doctor of Philosophy. He had been head master of one of the principal colleges in Australia when his health broke down.

During his travels he visited London and sat at the banquet listening to the speeches. But although he thought he had heard every known language at the Propaganda College in Rome, there was one language spoken at this banquet that he had never heard before.

To his amazement, he learned that this strange