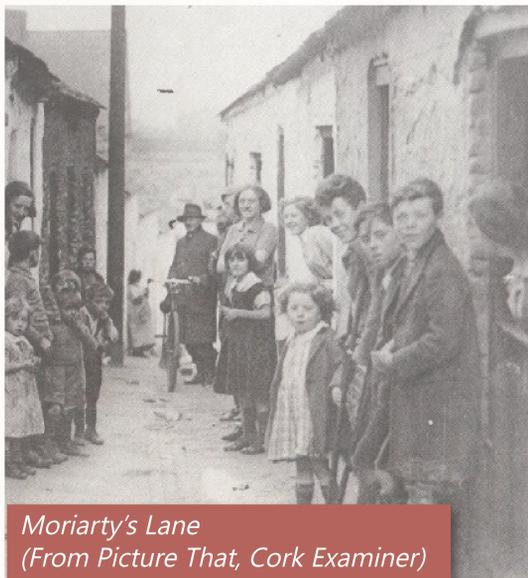


Ordinary Lives

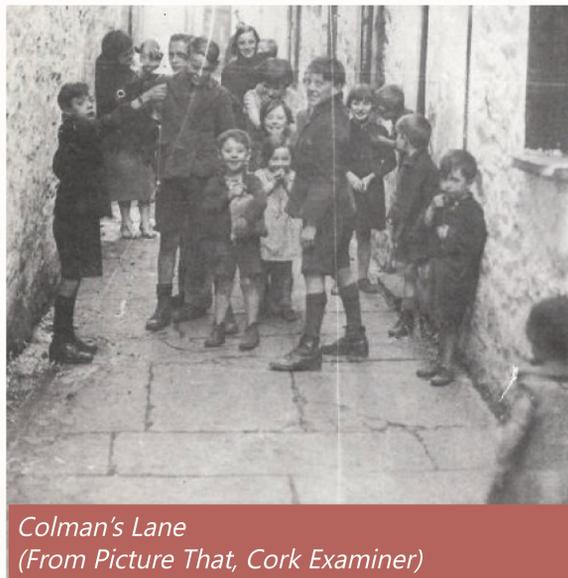
Cork 1922

Children

These images are a glimpse into a child's experience of the war years in Cork. As they bore witness to a battle unfolding, they continued to live, play, learn and instil a sense of hope for a new nation and a new future.



Moriarty's Lane
(From Picture That, Cork Examiner)



Colman's Lane
(From Picture That, Cork Examiner)

Childhood Laneways

A number of laneways in Cork city, at this time, gave shelter to up to 400 inhabitants (1). Overcrowding led to insanitary conditions, poor health and shortened lives in some cases (1). Although, the smiles on the children in these images, tell their own story.

The show must go on!

Much changed in education in the years to come. Numbers attending school declined nationally during this time (2). However it seems that for most the ethos was, the show must go on!



Pupils of the Christian Brother School North Monastery Cork performed 'Colmcille' in the Opera House, in aid of St Vincent de Paul.
(From The Cork Examiner, February 24th, 1922)



'Bohemian Girl' played by students of St Vincent's School. No hero needed in an all-girl cast.
(From The Cork Examiner 29th April, 1922)



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Children

Bearing Witness to War



An Army checkpoint in Rochestown, August 1922
(From *The Echo*, 11 August 2012)



Watching the troops arrive on the corner of Academy Street and Patrick Street, August 1922
(From *The Echo*, 11 August 2012)

Standing Tall



A particular favourite, the stance of this barefooted boy with his salvaged sword, carries a resilience and backbone to face a new nation and a new future, all with an expression of mirth and hope. (From the Hogan-Wilson Collection, National Library of Ireland)

Salvaging from the Ruins



Salvaging material from Victoria Barracks, after it had been destroyed by the Republicans. (From the Hogan-Wilson Collection, National Library of Ireland)



Salvaging the ruins of a once prosperous store in the city, after it was destroyed by the British. (From the Hogan-Wilson Collection, National Library of Ireland)

Sources:

1. Henry Ford & Son, Ltd. (n.d.) "Housing in Cork Photograph Album, circa 1920." *The Henry Ford*. Retrieved <https://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/artifact/355336>
2. O'Connell, Thomas (1922, November 17). "Compulsory Attendance in Primary Schools." *Ireland. Dáil Éireann*. 1(30). 3rd Dáil. <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/dail/1922-11-17/12/>

Images courtesy of:

- Coughlan, Stephen (1985). *Picture That, A Century of Cork Memories*. *Cork Examiner*.
- The Hogan-Wilson Collection, National Library of Ireland.
- The Cork Examiner & Evening Echo Archives



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Advertising

J.W. Dowden & Co. Ltd. Winter Sale Advert

A front-page advert for the post-Christmas 'Winter Sale' at J.W. Dowden & Co. Ltd., which was based on Patrick Street. Shoppers are encouraged in the advert to shop early to avail of the best bargains in the traditional clearance sale. Most of the items listed in the advert are geared towards women – all the models featured in the illustrations are women – with furs, skirts and hats among the products listed. However, there are some items of menswear included towards the bottom of the ad, including ties, socks, cardigans and gloves. Notice in the top right-hand and left-hand corners that there are smaller ads for tea and whiskey. The seller of these drinks was Woodford, Bourne and Co. Ltd.



(From The Cork Examiner, 4 January 1922)

Corset Advert

The front-page of The Cork Examiner on Monday 13 March 1922 boasted an advert aimed at the women of Cork. J.W. Dowden & Co. Ltd. on Patrick Street evidently prided themselves on being experts in the sale of corsets. The store was hosting a special event to promote the item of clothing, something which would have been an integral piece in a woman's wardrobe. An expert was in attendance daily over the period of a fortnight, providing her fashion services to local women via appointment. The 'Maxine Corset' was apparently the fashion item of spring, 1922.

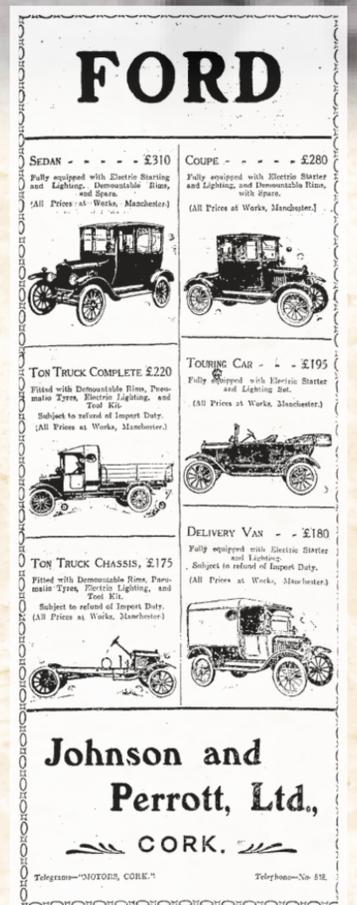


(From The Cork Examiner, 13 March 1922)

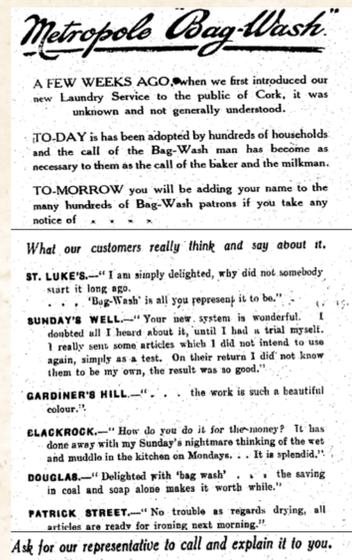
It provided style, comfort and durability. The brand of corset in question was deemed to be something every woman should have, and the product was 'unbreakable' according to the advert.

Ford Advert

Ford automobiles for sale at Johnson & Perrott Ltd., Cork, at the start of 1922. The Johnson & Perrott Motor Group was established over one hundred years earlier (in 1810) and still sells cars across its Cork premises today. In the advert, prices of cars, trucks and vans range from £175 to £310. Ford was a massive employer in Cork from the early part of the twentieth century up until 1984. The company opened its Cork plant in 1917 and produced the first Fordson tractor from its facility on the Marina in 1919. Ford would subsequently begin producing its renowned Model T, which first appeared in the US in 1908, from the Cork premises up until 1927. A stainless-steel replica of the car can be seen today at Ballinascarthy, in West Cork, the home of Henry's father, William.



(From The Cork Examiner, 9 January 1922)



(From The Cork Examiner, 2 December 1922)

Laundry Advert

The Metropole Laundry's Bag-Wash service was something of a novelty when introduced to the people of Cork in 1922. This Evening Echo ad contains info about the growth of this service in popularity over the winter months. There are also some very interesting testimonials included from people living in the city at the time. Much of the stress was taken out of day-to-day living by the bag-wash, at least in terms of household duties. The Metropole Laundry was established in 1898. In August of 1919, a fire broke out at the premises on Alfred Street, leaving the building completely 'gutted'. The business returned, however, and operated in the city centre up until the 1950s.

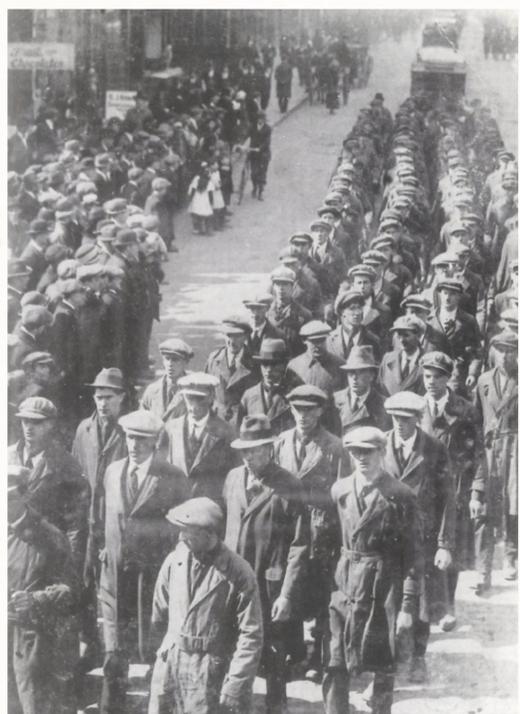
Sources
 The Cork Examiner
<http://kieranmccarthy.ie>
 Ballinascarthy The Henry Ford Connection | Cork Guide from cork-guide.ie
 'Ford is a Cork company; it just has a large American branch' from irishtimes.com

Ordinary Lives

Cork 1922

The Civic Guard – Policing Ireland - 1922

The Civic Guard was originally established as an armed police force by the Provisional Government in February 1922 to take over responsibility of policing the Irish Free State, replacing the Royal Irish Constabulary and the Irish Republican Police of 1919-22.



First public appearance of members of the Civic Guard, before the issue of the new police uniform, 19 April 1922 (from *The Garda Síochána: Policing Independent Ireland 1922-82*)

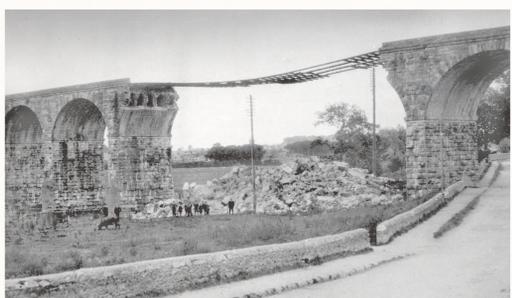
Candidates, at least 5 ft 9 in tall, unmarried and between the ages of 19 and 27, applied with a birth certificate and recommendations from the local IRA divisional commandant and from a minister of religion. Many of the new recruits came from the IRA, with more coming from the RIC.



Physical education class for Civic Guard recruits in Kildare Training Barracks, 1922 (from *A History of the Garda Síochána*)

The original Civic Guard was disbanded after a mutiny at Kildare Barracks in May 1922, when 1,200 of the first recruits raided the armoury and seized control of the barracks. A new Civic Guard was assembled by September, which was unarmed and took an oath not to join any political parties or secret societies.

The first contingent of the Civic Guard to arrive in Cork on 9th November 1922, travelled by the steamship, *Lady Carlow*. Train-travel was off-limits as the Mallow Viaduct had been blown up earlier in the year and the threat of ambush was a constant deterrent to road travel.



Mallow Bridge blown up by the IRA in 1922 (Courtesy of Irish Examiner Archives)

THE CIVIC GUARD Salaries Of Higher And Lower Officers.

Dublin, Monday.—At the Dail, today, the Minister of Home Affairs, in reply to Mr. Davin, said the strength of the Civic Guard was 1,500, and it was proposed that its full strength would be 4,300. The salary of the Chief Commissioner, General O'Duffy, was £1,300, with a lodging allowance of £120; Assistant Commissioner, Edward Coogan, salary £900; lodging allowance £80; Chief Superintendent, £650 per annum, rising by £20 per annum to £800; Superintendent, £400 per annum, rising by £20 to £500; Inspectors, £310 per annum, rising to £360; sergeants, £5 per week, rising to £5 15s per week by 2s per week per annum. The maximum pay of constables is £4 15s weekly.

Rates of pay for Civic Guard recruits (from *The Cork Examiner*, 22 September 1922)

CIVIC GUARD. PARTY ARRIVE IN CORK

For Duty in City and County.

A party of the Civic Guard, numbering about sixty men, arrived in Cork yesterday from Dublin to take up their police duties in the city and county. They are at present stationed in the School of Music, and their numbers will be strengthened in a day or two by the arrival of a further contingent.

It is intended to send some of the members of this party to Middleton, Youghal, Clonakilty, Bandon, and later on, others will be drafted into the remaining towns of the county.

The members of the force who arrived yesterday morning, are remaining at the School of Music until their departure for the country districts which will probably take place to-day. About 20 or 30 are to take up duty in the city, and these in a few days will take over a building as a police barracks in the city.

The arrival of the Civic Guard, it may here be mentioned, is welcomed greatly by the citizens.

from *The Cork Examiner*, 10 November 1922

ARRIVAL OF THE CIVIC GUARD IN CORK



from *The Cork Examiner*, 10 November 1922 (Courtesy of Irish Examiner Archives)

The Civic Guard was renamed An Garda Síochána na hÉireann on 8th August 1923.

Sources:

Allen, Gregory. *The Garda Síochána: Policing Independent Ireland 1922-1982*.

McCarthy, Brian. *The Civic Guard Mutiny*.

McNiffe, Liam. *A History of the Garda Síochána*.

The Cork Examiner



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Sport & Music

Sport

Due to the turbulent times through the War of Independence most sporting events were either cancelled or postponed. An example of this was the 1922 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship which began in May 1922 and ended on 9 September 1923. The championship was won by Kilkenny who secured the title following a 4-2 to 2-6 defeat of Tipperary in the final. The 1922 All-Ireland Senior Football Championship, match was held at Croke Park, Dublin, on 7 October 1923, between Dublin and Galway. Dublin won by 2 points. In soccer the 1921-1922 League of Ireland was won by St. James Gate. The match was marred by a pitch invasion and a standoff in the dressing room ended when Charlie Dowdall (St James) produced a gun. Notably Cork Cricket Club became more dependent on local leagues due to the shortage of players following the evacuation of the military stationed at Victoria Barracks.



1922 All Ireland Football Champions Dublin. (Courtesy of Danny O'Neill)



1922 All Ireland Hurling Champions Kilkenny. (Courtesy of Danny O'Neill)

Music

Many bands existed in the city but prior to independence audiences relied on the military bands which were very popular with the public. The Irish Volunteer Pipe band was the finest pipe band in the city winning first prize in Dublin in 1922. Its most notable pipe Major was Neilus Cronin a master at playing the war pipes.



1922 Cork Volunteer Pipe Band. (Courtesy of Michael Lenihan)

A set of war pipes can be viewed on display in the Rory Gallagher Music Library. The Butter Exchange and Barrack Street bands filled the void created with the departure of the military bands. The band stands located at the Mardyke, and the Marina were ideal venues to hear these wonderful local bands. Civic, cultural, religious, and sporting events were also catered for. The Cork Opera House and the Everyman Theatre were the main venues for entertainment. The Cork Sculptor Seamus Murphy recalled that during the 1920s when a Grand Opera Company performed all the men and apprentices went to the Saturday matinee. Gramophones were very fashionable, and the Standard House was the main supplier.

Contemporary advertisement for the latest gramophones. (Courtesy of Michael Lenihan)



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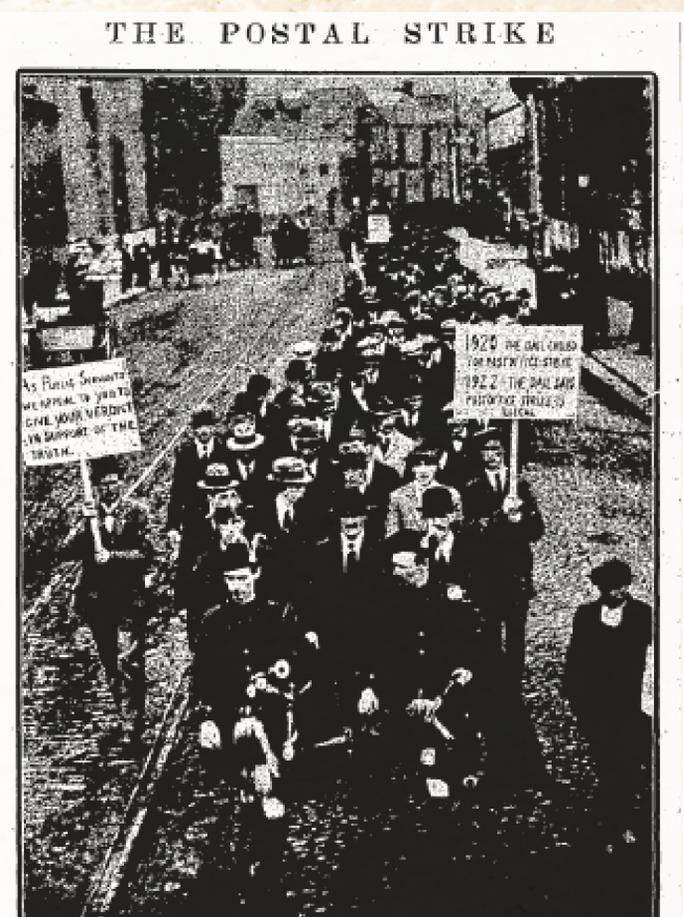
Political Meetings & Demonstrations

Mass political meetings were a feature of this turbulent era. Pro and anti-treaty rallies were held nationwide. Scuffles often broke out and revolvers were fired in the air, testament to the febrile atmosphere of political debate among ordinary citizens. Thousands turned up for De Valera's anti-treaty rally in Cork on 19 February 1922 and 50,000 gathered on Grand Parade for Michael Collins' pro-treaty speech on the 12 March 1922.

The plight of working people was a constant in this political upheaval. On 6 September 1922, a general strike notice was issued to postal workers due to an imbalance of pay with other sections of the Civil Service. The Free State Army acted as strike-breakers and one Miss Olive Flood was shot and wounded at close range in Dublin while on duty (1). Enduring great hardships, the postal workers were also subject to accusations of betraying the nationalist cause.



Mr. De Valera's Cork Visit – (From *The Cork Examiner* 13 March, 1922. Courtesy of Irish Examiner Archives)



The Postal Strike – (From *The Cork Examiner* 21 September, 1922. Courtesy of Irish Examiner Archives)



The Great Cork Pro-Treaty Meeting – (From *The Cork Examiner* 13 March, 1922. Courtesy of Irish Examiner Archives)

Sources:

The Cork Examiner

1. Guilbride, Alexis "A Scrapping of Every Principle of Individual Liberty - The Postal Strike of 1922", *History Ireland* Vol 8 No.4 Winter 2000 pp.35- 39



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Living Conditions

In 1916, nearly a quarter of the population of Cork City lived in unsatisfactory conditions (1). Reports from the Medical Officer indicated that there were 726 tenement houses occupied by some 2089 families and nearly 3000 overcrowded dwellings in the city (2). In the 1920s efforts had been made by the City Corporation of Cork to address this housing crisis through the Cork Housing Scheme. Contemporary newspapers are awash with calls for tenders for the building of new housing, and, in the Evening Echo in 1922 a Sean Nolan, TD wrote in praise of the Lord Mayor that "Never had an effort been made in Cork already to provide baths in the workers houses" (3). However, reports at the time continually described poor and unsanitary conditions for working class dwellings: "Mr. Horgan said they all know the housing conditions among the poorer people in Cork...were appalling and he did not know how they had escaped an epidemic" (4). Indeed, it was the 'working class dwellings' which were the focus of the Ford company's photographic report c.1920 (5), which highlights the poor conditions that many of the population of Cork lived in at the time. Their report states that "the case for housing in Cork needs no special pleading. The average of squalor speaks for itself" (6).



Interior of a house on Coley's Lane
(Courtesy of Ford Company: Housing in Cork Photograph Album)



Wrixon's Lane
(Courtesy of Ford Company: Housing in Cork Photograph Album)

Sources:

1. Louise Harrington (2016) 'The "City Hall Housing Scheme": An Administrator and an Architect Deliver Housing out of the Ashes of 1920s Cork', *Architectural Heritage*, Vol 26.
2. Ford Company (c.1922) *Housing in Cork Photograph Album, Excerpt from the Medical Officer's Report*
3. Sean Nolan (1922) 'Cork Housing Scheme', *Evening Echo*, 31 March, p. 3.
4. Anon (1922) 'Housing Conditions', *Irish Examiner*, 12 January, p. 7.
5. Ford Company (c.1922) *Housing in Cork Photograph Album*
6. *Ibid*

...the scheme. I then outlined a scheme which the Lord Mayor had presented to me already; in which he proposed to provide three bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen and a pantry with bath, for the working class. The Lord Mayor's idea being, and with which we agreed, that Cork should make a departure from the old housing system and provide decent houses with baths for the workers. That we had examples of how built by previous Corporations in which large families of six to ten were huddled together in two small rooms, which was bound to affect the health of the occupants. Never had an effort been made in Cork already to provide baths in the workers' houses; and this was essential in any progressive housing scheme; that the workers were sadly neglected in that respect everywhere; and that I was glad that the Lord Mayor was anxious to provide the workers with houses in which they could live with comfort and have bathing accommodation, which has been hitherto confined to the monied class.

(From Evening Echo, 31 March 1922)

Houses unfit for human habitation are divided into two classes—(1) Tenements; (2) Single Family Houses :—

(1) TENEMENTS.	
No. of houses unfit for habitation	525
„ families in same	2089
„ persons	6336
„ „ living in single room or part of room	3646
„ houses thus occupied	1511
(a) Overcrowding in Tenements.	
Tenement houses overcrowded	726
No. of families in same	2928
Average of room per family	1.8
Total No. of persons in tenements	8675
(2) SINGLE FAMILY HOUSES.	
Houses unfit for habitation	2383
Families in same	2383
No. of persons	9905
Average of persons per family	4.2
Cases of overcrowding	2265
Average of people in 2½-roomed house	7
TOTALS.	
Houses overcrowded	2991
„ unfit	3009
Occupied by 18580 persons.	
AVERAGE RENTS FOR TWO-ROOMED COTTAGES.	

(Courtesy of Ford Company: Housing in Cork Photograph Album)



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Entertainment

4

AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA HOUSE.

TO-NIGHT AT 8.
FRIDAY AT 8.
SATURDAY AT 2.15.
No Performance Saturday Evening.

"Bull-Dog Drummond,"
The Thrilling Play of Adventure by
SAPPER.
From Wyndham's Theatre, London,
Box Office—10.15 to 4 and 6 to 3. Tel. 22.
8017

(From Cork Examiner 6 April 1922)

Cork had a number of entertainment venues. The most popular were Cork Opera House and the Palace Theatre.

The original Cork Opera house building survived the Burning of Cork in 1920 (later destroyed by fire in 1955) and hosted regular productions.

The theatre adaptation of Sapper's (H. C. McNeile) *Bull-Dog Drummond* series, which follows the adventures of a First World War veteran turned adventurer came to Cork in April 1922.

A number of popular pantomimes also performed at the venue, including Ike and Will Scott's *The Babes in the Woods*- note the trains to Cobh (Queenstown) were delayed for patrons attending the shows in January 1922.

4

AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA HOUSE.

TO-NIGHT AT 8.
AND DURING THE WEEK.
Matinees Wednesday, Thursday and
Saturday at 2.15.
IKE & WILL SCOTT
Present their Gorgeous Pantomime:
"The Babes in the Wood"

Late Trains—The 8.45 Queenstown Train
will be delayed until 11.15 every evening
during this engagement.
Box Office 10.15 to 8. Tel. 22.

(From Cork Examiner, 7 January, 1922)

7

PAVILION CINEMA

MATINEES 3.

EILEEN PERCY IN
"Beware of the Bride."

COMEDY, TRAVEL, EDUCATIONAL.
TOPICAL, ETC.

THE PAVILION CAFE
Orchestral Music Daily under direction
of Mr Michael Kavanagh.

Pavilion Candy Store.
All the Latest Novelties of the Season.

(From Cork Examiner, 6 April, 1922)

PAVILION CINEMA
MONDAY, JULY 24th.

VITAGRAPH
Trumpet Island

THE STORY BY GUY DE MAUPASSANT
DIRECTED BY GEORGE MORRIS

CONFERENCE.
The House of Commons met at 11.15. Mr. McKenna moved for a resolution that the Government should take steps to prevent the export of arms to the United States. The House agreed to the motion.

MOTOR.
The House of Commons met at 11.15. Mr. McKenna moved for a resolution that the Government should take steps to prevent the export of arms to the United States. The House agreed to the motion.

(From Cork Examiner, July 22, 1922)

7

PAVILION CINEMA

MATINEES 3.

TO-DAY AT 3 O'CLOCK.
Grand Pantomime Picture Production:
"Jack and the Bean Stalk"

THIS EVENING AT 7 AND 9.
Great Canadian Super-Production:
"The Courage of Marge O'Doone."
(By James Oliver Curwood).
A Picture it will be hard to forget.

COMEDY, TOPICAL, EDUCATIONAL.

(From Cork Examiner, July 22, 1922)

WASHINGTON CORK'S
COSIEST CINEMA

Performances—3.15, 7 and 9.

TO-NIGHT:
WON BY A HEAD.
A POWERFUL RACING DRAMA,
FEATURING REX DAVIS.

MISS MARIE DE GROOT
IN COMPLETE CHANGE OF SONGS.

(From Cork Examiner, 6 April, 1922)

Cork was home to a number of popular cinemas during the 1920s. The Pavilion Cinema (1921-1989) on St. Patrick's Street showed a range of movies in 1922, such as the silent productions *Trumpet Island* and *The Courage of Marge O' Doone*.

It was the first cinema in Cork to host 'talkies' (a movie with sound), showing *The Singing Fool* in 1929. The smaller Washington Cinema on Washington Street (1920- 1939- when relaunched as The Ritz) showed popular silent films such as *Won By A Head* in 1922.

References:

The Cork Examiner

<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/39800>

<http://cinematreasures.org/theaters/57392>

<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/talkie>



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