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**TOMÁS BAIRÉAD PAPERS**

**GP2/107**

**Galway County Council Archives**

GP2107(4)  
CAPT. F. HYNES

Captain Frank Hynes, Cross Street, Athery, whose death has occurred at the age of 85, took a distinguished part in the fight for freedom. Having joined the Volunteers as a young man he helped Liam Mellowes to organise and train the Galway Volunteers for the 1916 Rising. After the disbandment of the men at Moyode Castle he refused to leave Mellowes; joined by the late Alf Monaghan the three of them went "on the run" for six months. Mellowes wanted Captain Hynes to go to the U.S.A. in his stead but he refused and helped to disguise Liam for the trip.

Afterwards Captain Hynes was Lieutenant-Commandant of the first Cork Brigade, taking an active part in the war against the Black and Tans. He became a close friend of Terence McSweeney and Thomas MacCurtain, the two murdered Lord Mayors of Cork. He was interned in Belfast Jail and later was transferred to Wormwood Scrubs where he was on hunger strike for 14 days.

Captain Hynes was a cultured and literary man in the finest Irish tradition. Prior to 1916 he devoted much of his time to promoting Gaelic League classes where he taught Irish dancing and the Irish language. In the early 30's he founded a Boys' Club in Athery. He wrote poems in Irish and English and he wrote many plays which his Club staged. Many of the boys of the Club subsequently became priests; others became prominent in other walks of life. All remember him with affection and gratitude for his deep religious influence on their lives and his Irish ideals on their minds.

The funeral was attended by a large crowd, with a firing squad from "Dun Uí Mhaoliosa". The attendance included Rt. Rev. Monsignor T. Fahy, Canon Heaney, Fr. Langan, Fr. Gleason, Fr. Mulvany, O'Shea, Feighery, all O.M.I.'s, Bro. Conroy, O.M.I.  
Requiem Mass was concelebrated by his sons, Fr. Francis and Fr. Terry, O.M.I.

GP2/107 (1)

Rose St.,  
Atherton,  
Co. Galway  
April 1970

Dear Sir,

Your kind letter of

sympathy and sincere tribute  
to my father - great comfort  
to the family, and we are  
deeply grateful for the Mass  
which you had offered for him.

- My father had been ill since  
Oct, but survived two bad  
 bouts of pneumonia due to  
my sister Una's loving care  
and attention. She is the only  
one at home. My father had  
the great happiness of having

met the family with him  
at Christmas, my two sisters  
who are nuns in America, also  
my brother who is a priest in  
Dublin. I said Mass in my  
father's room on that occasion.  
He got his third dose of  
pneumonia last year and  
didn't respond to treatment.  
My three brothers and I came  
home. During the fortnight  
before he died my father had  
great peace and happiness. He  
always had a happy smile  
on his face, and when asked  
'how are you dad' the invariable  
answer was "Happy, very happy".  
One day he said to me  
"Thank God is very good to me."

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on a visit to one of my brothers  
in England, and trust in God  
for his future.

I have been ill for the  
past few weeks but hope  
to return to my community  
very soon.

Once again to my sincere  
gratitude to the entire family  
God bless you & yours.

V. Sincerely  
Frank Hynes, O.M.I.

in fact He couldnt be better if He  
 tried. One day he asked quite  
 a lot - all in Irish. He spoke  
 in Irish quite frequently in those  
 last days. My father had  
 great love in life was  
 his Religion, his Country and his  
 family, and he served all  
 these with his utmost devotion.  
 He died as he had lived  
 with great dignity, in peace  
 and resignation. I am certain  
 that he is now enjoying a  
 well earned reward in Heaven.  
 He died a poor man, but he  
 always said that his Rime  
 was beyond price.

My Sister Una doesnt go

G12/159 (5)

*The family and relatives of the late  
Frank Hynes (Captain old I. R. A.)  
thank you most sincerely for your kind expression of  
sympathy in their recent bereavement.  
The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered  
for your intentions.*

CROSS ST., ATHENRY, CO. GALWAY.