



GREEN PATCH

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DeValera Readies Historic Speech

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President Eamon de Valera is now engaged on the draft of a speech which should write itself into Irish history.

It will be an address to a joint assembly of the Irish parliament (Dail and Senate), scheduled for Jan. 21, the 50th anniversary of the assembly of the revolutionary house of representatives. It sanctioned the declaration of independence asserted by force of arms in the Easter uprising of 1916.

It will be the first address to a joint assembly by the president and last week he was fulfilling the constitutional preliminaries. He discussed the proposed speech and its scope with the Council of State, a presidential advisory board representing the various political parties and the judiciary.

The historic 1919 meeting of what is known as the First Dail was held in the Round Room of the Dublin mayoralty residence, the Mansion House, and if present plans work out, the jubilee assembly will also be held there in order to mark the link between that building and a formative date in Irish history.

Dev was a prisoner of the British when the Republican Dail first met. It was suppressed by order of the British but by means of underground activity set up successful departments of state in opposition to the British administration and won widespread allegiance.

YULE TURKEY

In Ireland the turkey ranks as a luxury dish limited almost exclusively to the celebration of the Christmas festival. And an annual battle of wits between suppliers and buyers of the fowl on the questions of marketing and price is often the great fun-maker of the Celtic Yule.

Turkey have been known to disappear into the black market, and to be found in battalion-size concentrations around the border separating Southern from Northern Ireland come Dec. 20.

In the immediate post World War II years, some of them exploded in British



EAMON DE VALERA

ovens — the English recipient of the plump gift not realizing in time that it had been "stuffed" with a bottle of Irish whiskey.

This year it seems that the battle between supply and demand was won by the consumer.

Rebelling against a supermarket price of 66 cents per pound, Dublin housewives held off purchases until a glut had accumulated. Then they went directly to the producers, or to rural markets, and made their purchases for less than half that price.

Now the producers are screaming that they have been robbed and the National Farmers' Assn. is trying to find a way out by popularizing turkey as a year-round dish.

The institution of an Irish equivalent to Thanksgiving Day would help.

Continued excavation of the Hill of Tara, associated with the launching of St. Patrick's Christian mission, has been given the go-ahead by the Dublin High Court. It denied an injunction sought by a private land owner to bar the taking by eminent domain of 57 acres of farm traversing the slope.

In doing so, the court ruled that Tara is an historic monument to be explored archaeologically by the state board of Public Works.

It heard evidence from an expert in this field, Prof. Rory de Valera, son of the president of Ireland, indicating occupation of the hill between 1400 and 2000 B.C.

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Ireland
De Valera Redies
Historic Speech
for Jan. 21-1969
The 50th Anniversary of the
Irish Republic