

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION
TO
MR. AND MRS. JUDGE
PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF THE
RETIRED TEACHERS' UNION
1943-44



Address and Presentation

to

Mr. & Mrs. Judge,

Portballintrae.

2nd September, 1944.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Judge,

The members of the Retired Teachers Union desire to place on record their high appreciation of the splendid work done by their President and Honorary Secretary in the struggle for the redress of teachers' grievances.

You, Mr. Judge,
have taken a prominent
part in educational matters
for very many years. You led
in an effort, from 1911 to 1913, to
abolish Paper Promotion — the
grievance was removed, and the teachers
received substantial benefits. As a
tribute to your work for the teachers
of Ireland, you were elected President
of the Irish National Teachers' Organ-
ization in 1918, and in that year you
also served on the Killanin Committee when
a scale of salaries (on which the present
scale is based) with annual increments
was recommended for the first time for
adoption by the Government.

After peaceful negotiations, also
in the same year, had failed
to secure for the teachers a War
Bonus on Civil Service lines, you
initiated the famous

"One-day-strike" and the teachers' claims were immediately granted in full.

After your retirement you continued your keen interest in teachers' affairs, and when it became evident in August, 1943, that little, if anything, would be done for the retired teachers, unless they fought their own battle, you convened a meeting of these teachers on 3rd September, 1943, when the Retired Teachers' Union was formed and an Executive appointed. A plan of campaign was afterwards drawn up and after five months of intensive effort, an honourable agreement was arrived at with the Government, whereby substantial benefits were secured for retired teachers and also for many now serving. This success was largely due to the clear and convincing statements you prepared and to your great organizing ability. In all this planning Mrs. Judge took a worthy part, in the actual routine and secretarial work she played a greater

part, and proved herself a grand
helpmate to you in the difficult task
which you undertook.

So now in gratitude, we wish
many years and every
happiness to the first President
and the first Secretary of the Retired
Teachers' Union, and we implement our
good wishes by our spontaneous gifts which
we ask you now to accept.

Signed by the Executive of the Retired Teachers' Union,

Annie Buckley.

John Crawford J. C.

J. J. Forsythe, M. A.

J. A. Fullerton, B.A., C.C.

W. Hutton.

Brice Moore B.A., LL.B.

James M. Caw, B.A., H.Dip.Ed.

J. Savage, B.A., J.P. Hon. Secy.

REPLY—

My dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is very difficult to reply adequately to the sentiments expressed in your address:

It has always been a pleasure to me to take a part in any struggle that had for its object the improvement of the wretched conditions under which the teaching profession worked for so very many years. The efforts you mention in which I took a leading part, when teaching, were successful simply because, they were heartily and courageously supported by the teachers, and also that the cause for which we fought was right and just.

With regard to our recent campaign you conferred a great honour on Mrs. Judge and myself when you elected us to positions of responsibility and trust. We considered it our duty to press forward with our Executive until the goal was reached. That goal could not have been attained

But for the loyal support of those retired teachers who could not remain neutral when a fight for fair play and justice was being waged on their behalf.

Ghe support given by our M.P.s both at Stormont and at Westminster, and the sympathetic consideration given to our case by the Minister of Finance, Major Maynard Sinclair, M.P. were also determining factors in the success achieved.

It will always be a source of pleasure to us that you so heartily approved of the part we took in this effort.

My wife and I sincerely thank you for your very kind words and your most generous gifts.

We conclude by wishing you all every blessing and comfort "right on to the end of the road."

Robert Judge

Kezia S. Judge