

admitted making a complete nuisance of himself, and an emotional upset was no excuse.

Owing to the medical evidence, however, he would not send him to jail. He fined him a total of thirty pounds and ordered him to pay nineteen pounds five shillings compensation.

The district justice said that Behan should take the advice of Sergeant McCarthy, who had said, 'I would respect him as a citizen if he would conduct himself. He is a man who should never drink.'

NOTES

1. Auxiliaries supplied by the British in 1920 during the Anglo-Irish conflict.
2. For a note on Gael Linn see p. 113.
3. *Lá Breá san Roilg* ('A Fine Day in the Graveyard'), a one-act Irish version of *Richard's Cork Leg*. For the origins of this play see Ulick O'Connor, *Brendan Behan* (London: Hamish Hamilton, 1970) p. 270; and Rae Jeffs, *Brendan Behan: Man and Showman* (London: Hutchinson, 1966) p. 148.
4. See Dr Roderick Childers's recollections of Behan, p. 96.

Behan in Jersey City*

A jovial, beaming Brendan Behan was the St Patrick's Day guest of this city today.

Banned from the New York parade by Special Seasons Justice James J. Comerford, a parade official, who called Mr Behan a 'common drunk' and 'disorderly person', the Irish playwright cheerfully accepted the invitation of this city's Irish-American Committee of 100 to the celebration.

At City Hall Mayor Charles S. Witkowski was waiting on the steps with the key to the city to greet Mr Behan and his wife Beatrice. The playwright, resplendent in a deep blue shirt and bright green tie, accepted the key and presented to the Major a hundred-year-old Blackthorn shillelagh.

At a luncheon in the Casino-in-the-Park, Mr Behan sang Irish folksongs and then he and his wife returned to New York.

'This is the best St Patrick's Day ever for me', Mr Behan said as he left. 'Maybe I should send a note of thanks to those in New York for not letting me wear myself out marching so I could be over here enjoying myself.'

* *New York Times*, 18 Mar 1961, p. 46.