

... was a balance against the local Society of £37. This is not as it should be, and we feel assured that realising the value of this excellent Society the citizens will not allow the committee to be hampered in the future by lack of funds. The expenditure is, undoubtedly, very moderate, and should easily be provided for by local subscriptions. The appeal which the committee at yesterday's meeting made for further financial aid, will therefore, we feel certain, not be made in vain.

## CURRENT COMMENT.

### Courts for Children.

The circular just issued by the Home Office, calling attention to the Children's Act which comes into force next month, deals with an object often warmly supported in these columns (says the "Evening Standard.") The problems of juvenile misdemeanour, and the best means of prevention and cure, have been too long neglected, and we welcome the two or three important reforms about to be effected. In the first place, juvenile cases are, if possible, to be heard in a separate room or building; if this cannot be done a separate time shall be set apart for them in the ordinary court, all superfluous spectators being excluded. Where the cases and magistrates are sufficiently numerous it is intended to appoint a special rota of Justices who are or will soon become cognisant of the aims of the new code. As regards the children themselves, they can only benefit by being spared the sordid sights of the police-court, and by the decision that in future no child shall be sent to prison. Improvement rather than punishment is to be the dominant note. The great body of lay workers, too, will find their labours simplified by this codification of twenty-two previous statutes, whose disconnected influences have hitherto only been visible to a trained legal mind. In short, we heartily commend this honest measure. The extra trouble which, possibly, may be involved should find ample compensation in results which will be far-reaching.

### Registrar General's Report.

The average annual death-rate represented by the deaths registered last week in the Dublin Registration Area and the twenty-one principal provincial Urban Districts of Ireland was 26.1 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which, for the purposes of these returns, is estimated at 1,142,308. The deaths registered in each of the past four weeks, and during the whole of that period, in the several districts alphabetically arranged, corresponded to the following annual rates per 1,000. In some instances, owing to deaths not having been registered within the week in which they occurred, the rates do not fairly represent the weekly mortality—Armagh, 20.6, Ballymena 33.3, Belfast 21.0, Clonmel 40.2, Cork 31.5, Drogheda 12.3, Dublin Reg. Area 29.3, Dundalk 23.9, Galway 15.5, Kilkenny 29.5, Limerick 17.8, Lisburn 36.4, Londonderry 30.2, Lurgan 26.6, Newry 25.2, Newtownards 22.9, Portadown 31.0, Queenstown 46.1, Sligo 24.0, Tralee 15.9, Waterford 33.1, Wexford 28.0. The deaths from certain epidemic diseases registered in the twenty-two districts during last week were equal to an annual rate of 1.3 per 1,000, the rates varying from 0.0 in 15 of the districts to 9.6 in Ballymena, the 8 deaths from all causes registered in that district including two from measles. Among the 156 deaths from all causes registered in Belfast are four from whooping-cough, 3 from diarrhoeal diseases, and one from cerebro-spinal fever. Included in the 46 deaths from all causes registered in Cork are two from whooping cough and one from enteric fever. Of the 13 deaths from all causes registered in

emigrated was 23,295, of whom 10,480 were males and 12,815 females. This was the lowest number for any year since 1851, being at the rate of 5.3 per 1,000 of the population estimated to the middle of the year 1908, the lowest rate recorded. The emigrants of 1907 exceeded those of 1908 by 15,787.

### DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM LUNDON, M.P.

The London correspondent of the "Freeman's Journal," says:—"I deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. William Lundon, the veteran representative for East Limerick, which occurred with painful suddenness in London yesterday. Mr. Lundon has been suffering from the effects of a severe cold for some weeks—in fact, ever since the opening of the session, but with characteristic devotion to duty, he remained in close attendance at the House of Commons until a few days ago, when it was found that one of his lungs had become affected. Since then he has been confined to his residence, but little improvement was manifested. Early yesterday Captain Donelan, the Chief Whip of the Party, as well as others, called to see him, and finding him no better, it was suggested that he should enter an hospital. On his arrival at the House of Commons Captain Donelan made the necessary arrangements with Sir Wm. Collins, the well-known Liberal member, who is one of the leading physicians at the London Temperance Hospital, and Messrs. Joyce and Meagher, two of Mr. Lundon's most intimate friends, proceeded to his residence to accompany him. As he was completing his arrangements for the journey, however, Mr. Lundon suddenly collapsed, and before his local medical adviser, who was summoned by Mr. Meagher, could arrive, he passed away in the arms of Mr. Joyce.

The receipt of the tragic news at the House of Commons created a profound shock among members of all parties, by whom the deceased gentleman was greatly respected for his sterling integrity and singleness of purpose, as well as for his kindly and unassuming disposition. "It is understood that the body will be removed to Ireland for burial, but no arrangements have been made pending communications from Mr. Lundon's family in Co. Limerick."

The report further alludes to Mr. Lundon's very successful career as a teacher of classics, also his connection with political life, in which he took a prominent part from his earlier years. Mr. Lundon was an accomplished linguist. The news of Mr. Lundon's demise has been received with much surprise and regret in Limerick, where he was a familiar personality. The deceased gentleman, who was born in 1839, was elected representative for East Limerick in 1900, in succession to the late Mr. John Finucane, and has since then uninterruptedly represented that division.

### FUNERAL OF MR. JAMES DOYLE.

The funeral of Mr. James Doyle, whose death after a protracted illness, and at a comparatively early age, occurred at his mother's residence, Thomondgate, on Monday, took place yesterday. The remains were conveyed to St. Munchin's R.C. church on Tuesday evening, and at 3 o'clock yesterday the funeral left for Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery. The cortege, which was of very large proportions, embraced citizens of every class, as the deceased was most popular in every circle. He was a member of the Garryowen Football Club in its early days, and up to the time of his indisposition took a deep interest in the fortunes of the club.

The chief mourners were—Peter Doyle, and Richard Doyle (brothers); Mariin Hassett (brother-in-law); Peter McMahon, John Shaanon, Michael Doyle, Patrick Doyle, James Hassett, B.C., P. O'Connor.

The clergy present were—Very Rev. Dean Shanahan, P.P., V.G.; Rev. P. Moloney, C.C.; Rev. M. Hayes, C.C.; Rev. Fr. Bonaventure, O.S.F.; Rev. Fr. Anthony, O.S.F.; Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald, P.P., Mangret; Rev. Fr. Bresnahan, C.C.

The general public was largely represented, and several beautiful floral tributes were sent by the family and sorrowing friends.

The Deau officiated at the graveside.

### POST OFFICE CANDIDATES AND VACCINATION.

The Postmaster-General has decided that in future candidates for Post Office employment who have a conscientious objection to revaccination may be allowed exemption therefrom on making a statutory declaration to the effect

Mr. Joyce, who has been very ill during the past few weeks, having been obliged to place himself under the care of a specialist, has resumed his Parliamentary duties quite recovered. He received a very warm welcome from his colleagues at the meeting of the Irish Party on Tuesday, writes the "Independent" correspondent.

### LADY DAY.

Lady Day was observed in the city to day in the accustomed way, religious services being held as on Sundays. The morning being somewhat humid—intermittent showers and sunshine prevailing—there was not that influx of country folk which is usually associated with the day. All the same many were about and business pretty brisk.

### REVENUE OF DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES.

The Treasury statement of the estimates for 1909-10 gives the estimates for the Revenue departments as £22,350,730 net, an increase of £705,099 compared with last year's grants. For the Customs and Excise branches the gross estimate is £2,195,500, towards which there are appropriations in aid amounting to £62,900, so that the net estimate works out at £2,129,000, in comparison with £2,132,981 last year. For the Inland Revenue branch the gross estimate is £1,253,200, but appropriations in aid reduce this amount to £1,243,200, as against £1,191,119 in 1908-9. The Post Office estimates amount to £19,268,725, towards which there is £410,705 in appropriation in aid. The net estimate of the preceding year was £18,321,531.

### INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

The "London Gazette" announces the appointment by the King of a Commission for dealing with the British representation at the forthcoming International Exhibition in Brussels, Rome, and Turin. The Commission is of a most representative character, the Prince of Wales being President; Earl of Lytton, Chairman, and Sir Swire Smith, Vice-Chairman. Mr. Ulrik Fitzgerald Wintour, Secretary to the Commission, is appointed Commissioner-General at the Brussels and Turin Exhibitions, and Sir Isidore Spielmann, Commissioner-General at the Exhibition at Rome.

### ZENANA MISSION.

#### Sale of Work.

A Sale of Work in connection with the Zenana Mission of the Presbyterian Church will be held in the Lecture Hall of the Church, Lower Mallow Street, on Saturday next between 2 and 6 o'clock, and from 7 o'clock in the evening. The stalls will include—Plain and fancy work, plants and flowers, cakes, sweets, tea table etc.

### THE GAS COMMITTEE.

Some typographical errors occurred in our report of the proceedings of the Gas Committee on Tuesday evening, which we desire to correct. In the report of the deputation which visited Belfast, Dublin, and Kingstown, with the object of inspecting the carburetted water gas plants in those centres, it was stated that Belfast was "the first place in Great Britain to instal a carburetted water gas plant. This paragraph should have read "almost the first place." "Two and a quarter gallons of oil was stated to make 1,000 cubic feet of gas, should have read "two and a half gallons, and £40,000 should appear as representing the outlay in new coal gas plant in Belfast, instead of £400,000. In the engineer's report on the working of the local works, incandescent burners £400 should have read "400 incandescent burners public lamps" repairing and re-setting No. 3 gas-holder, £537—the word "re-sheebing" should have been used for "re-setting"; the figures in connection with gas made in 1906 and 1908 were slightly mixed up, while the statement made about the wages paid to coal wheelers in Cork, and the coal carbonised there was infinitesimally wrong. In dealing with the auxiliary plant at the Limerick concern, the statement appeared that the number of public lamps erected within five years was increased "to" 42, and this should have read "by" 42. Referring to the cost of sulphate of ammonia plant, Mr. Hawkins observed that in this department I found when taking over office that the ammoniacal liquor was allowed to run waste into the sewers, which was not only a source of nuisance to the neighbour, hood but a loss to revenue, for since its installa-

"I have always the working of our its excellence, is have heard, but a "I say with pr as one among the in this city, and y gratification, that fastly carried out the young and hel it has also by leniency, and co surely the confi community.

"Among [the] misery abound, t am told, is no avenger—but he power that can t the most friendl "While among in the city and ec many influential gradually to the merit.

"That neglect exist, I regret and I believe the agency of the Society that we can temperance inflicts by this society the drunkard from sq that we can compe for the being of responsibilities of

"I believe I am under which we h tempered with mer philanthropy; and by year the prospe society will increa if ever that time r the Prevention of no more work to do "Yo

"Vice Pre The Mayor said have the honour of important meeting was doing incalcu court during the cases dealing wi parents had come certainly say that cations, was doing and there was a those who were Several mothers wi brought up for b drink and neglecti had been meted out dition that they w these women were through the work o good work for the venting suffering to the Society would r and support from t

The Secretary, M annual report, whi beg to present thei 30th June, 1908, Society's operation district branch area were investigated fewer than in the p cases the complain child-sufferers in th needing the help an The following show the supervision visit "Limerick and affected—boys, 218 supervision visits, 1 "Nenagh and o affected—boys, 38 : vision visits, 330.

"The following i —Neglect, 146; ill abandonment, 2; cat total, 162 The cases cuted and convicted after investigation, "Prosecuted Cases it was found necess court proceedings; compared with 12 in prosecutions, howe the offenders had be of improving their failed to do so. "I justified will be ev every case prosecute

The report then prosecuted cases a warning had proved "The inspector paid during the year. E officer is kept in clo under observation, a of the benefits accru cases have been deal vigilance. The recal