

THE BACON TRADE.

The shortage in the supply of bacon, hams, and pig products continues, and apparently little progress has been made so far in restoring the number of pigs to the level of four or five years ago. No doubt the cost of offals and other foods is still high, and the restrictions imposed by the Board of Agriculture have been so effective that they have produced a disinclination on the part of farmers to rear pigs at all. These causes would to a certain extent, explain the shortage. The ruling prices for both pigs and pig products are, however, so tempting at the moment, says a correspondent of the *Scotman*, that they call for special comment. The prices of Wiltshire bacon range between 70s. and 80s. per cwt, which are above the normal. In ordinary times these prices would be about 56s. to 65s., and in sympathy with these the price of pigs would be about 46s. per cwt. or about 5d. per lb. For about a year now the price of pigs for bacon purposes has been about 7d. per lb. and there is little hope of this being reduced in the present state of affairs. At all the pig markets throughout the United Kingdom from which reports are available there is the same news—namely, that bacon pigs are scarce, and store pigs are dear. According to the latest available returns, the quantity of pig meats reaching this country from abroad continues to decline, the greatest shortage being in the supplies from the United States, and these have fallen from a steady supply of 25,000 to 30,000 boxes per annum twelve years ago, to about 3,000 boxes per annum at the present time. It is possible to account for this on the assumption that the population of America is increasing so rapidly that the pig products are required at home. It is difficult, however, to account for shortage in other countries, except they are due to the increase in the cost of feed. In the United Kingdom the shortage in 1909 as compared with the previous year, was 15.7 per cent, and to judge from the depressing market reports it would seem that even a greater shortage will be recorded for the present year. The situation is being met from abroad by increased activity in pig breeding, and the construction of bacon factories for the manufacture of bacon to be exported to British markets, and this is particularly the case with regard to Russia, where there is a vast pig population available, and which has hitherto not been regarded as of much value. The increased prices in this country have become known there, as also in Serbia, Hungary, and other European countries, where pigs are plentiful and have produced an activity in agricultural circles which might be emulated with advantage at home. Meantime, the grocer, who is the purveyor of pig products to the consumer, is not satisfied. The large prices have not benefited him, and in Manchester and Leeds the associations are discussing the question of raising the price of bacon 2d. per lb. all round. As the finest cuts are selling at 1s. 4d. per lb. at present that will bring the price up to 1s. 6d. per lb., and will effectively doom the bacon trade in this country. Such famine prices can only force housewives with a limited amount to spend into purchasing other substitutes for the breakfast bacon, and the whole industry will suffer. It is a pity, therefore, that the farmers of the United Kingdom have not yet been persuaded to devote more attention to the matter, as it seems quite certain that at the present time there is every evidence that pig breeding is a much more profitable business than any other in connection with agriculture.

IRISH LANDOWNERS' CONVENTION.

A meeting of the newly-elected Executive Committee of the Irish Landowners' Convention was held at Dublin, on Saturday last. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. de F. Montgomery, D.L. The report of the scrutineers of the voting papers at the Convention on Friday last was submitted as follows—

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1910-11.

The scrutineers appointed by the Convention on 26th August, 1910, to examine the voting papers handed in for the election of officers and elected members of the Executive Committee reported that the election has resulted as follows—

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

FUNERAL OF MRS. MARION BALDWIN.

The remains of the late Mrs. Marion Baldwin were interred on Sunday morning in St. John's Cemetery. At half-past nine the funeral left the residence of the deceased lady, North Strand, and was largely attended.

The chief mourners were—Messrs. J. A. Baldwin, G. Baldwin, A. H. Baldwin, B. Baldwin, and C. W. Baldwin (sons); R. C. Williams, Cork (son-in-law).

The general public included:—Messrs. F. C. Cleve, D.L., S. E. Lee, J.P., R. Evans, senr., R. Evans, junr., E. Kidd, E. C. Winter, V.S., A. J. Eakin, J.P., W. Widdis, P. J. O'Sullivan, solr., M. McInerney, B.C., M. Leaby, B.C., M. Deoley, B.C., G. O'Dea, E. O'Connell, C. Nolan, J. Enright, J. Browne, D. Enright, M. H. Cashin, C. G. O'Rielly, E. Wickham, P. Dillon, P.L.G., W. S. Bourke, C. O'Sullivan, E. B. Duggan, W. Reeves, P. B. Malone, E. McInerney, P. J. Rea, J. M. Guinane, J. O'Sullivan, S. E. O'Rielly, J. Caron, H. Watson, F. Copeland, J. Adams, C. Hill, R. Lee, G. Belshaw, H. Gale, M. Riordan, J. Scallan, W. Thompson, T. Reid, P. J. Lawlor, J. O'Halloran, J. F. Bennis, J. Ryan, J. P. Rahilly, D.C., M. O'Reilly, T. O'Halloran, J. Cleary, P. O'Halloran, F. J. Corbett, E. J. Mullins, B. Bonhill, P. Hayes, J. Miller, F. Quilty, W. Ormiston, J. McMahon, A. Moorhead, J. Christy, J. Gleeson, J. McNamara, D.C.; T. O'Mahony, M. Ryan, J. McNamara, M. O'Halloran, J. A. Quirke, H. Christy, J. Cable, M. S. O'Sullivan, P. Cusack, J. Murray, J. J. Ryan, W. R. Dixon, M. Dault, P. O'Dwyer, T. Gale, J. Carroll, T. Carroll, J. J. O'Callaghan, G. Ruttle, M. Moloney, A. Hollinshead, H. Anderson, P. Pennell, S. Bourke, P. T. Lavery, J. Costelloe, E. Redding, — Ware (Russell's), — Piper (do.), J. Quillinan, S. Jordan, Sergeant Keating, Constable Forde, — Punch (Cannock's), Denis O'Donovan (Lady's Well Brewery), M. Caffrey, senr., T. Murray, J. H. Todd, Alderman McNeice, J. Clune, R. G. Fitt, S. F. Ebrill, M. Hogan, J. Glazer, M. F. Carey, M. J. Guerin, M. Forde, W. Mitchell, T. Tuile, T. Johnston, J. Hannan, W. Tierney, M. Freeman, R. Toomey, J. Hewson, W. Cole, J. F. Smyth, T. Cuddy, W. McNamara, W. J. Sullivan, P. B. Irwin, J. Rowe, E. Meenaghan, P. Cooke, P. Jackman, P. Madigan, P. McCarthy, J. Lynch, J. Dwyer, D. Gleeson, W. A. Forsythe, R. W. McGarry, J. Hucley, D. L. Roche, J.P.; J. Vaughan, James Joynt, J. O'Connell, J. Holland, J. McInerney, J. Scott, J. Enright, J. Ryan, E. C. Ryan, S. Hollinshead, D. Hogan, P. O'Dea, M. McCabe, P. J. Gleeson, J. Manning, B. Reardon, M. Ryan, A. E. Enright, E. J. Reddan, W. McDonagh.

The Rev. Precentor Adderley, M.A., officiated

FUNERAL OF MR JOHN H. RYAN,

J.P.

On Sunday the remains of the late Mr. John H. Ryan, J.P., were interred in the family burial place at Cahercorney. At one o'clock the funeral left Knockatane, the residence of the deceased, and was of enormous proportions. From every part of the county mourners attended to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased, while from the city there was a large representation. In Cahercorney, where the late Mr. Ryan was well known, and which he represented in the Limerick No. 1 District Council for many years, the greatest respect was shown his memory. All the houses in the village were closed while the funeral passed, as indeed was the case all along the line of route to Cahercorney, a distance of four miles from Knockatane.

The chief mourners were:—Mrs. Ryan (wife), Margaret, Kathleen, Ettie, and Maryanne Ryan (daughters); Thomas Ryan (brother), Michael Ryan, Ballinagarde; Thomas Bourke, Knockatane; Edward Hynes, Creora; James Costello, Dunkip (uncles); John Treacy, Kiltely (brother-in-law); Mrs. O'Dwyer, Ballybricken; Mrs. Costello, Dunkip; and Mrs. Ryan, Ballinagarde (aunts); Thomas, James, Michael and Thomas Ryan (junr), nephews; and Josephine, Madge, and Mollie Ryan nieces; as well as several

TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. P. Bourke, B.C., presided at the meeting of the City Technical Education Committee last evening. The other members present were—Rev. A. Murphy, Adm., Rev. Precentor Adderley, M.A., Messrs. J. G. O'Brien, B.C., J. Cronin, J. White, M. Murphy, J. Buokner, and J. Hennessy, with Messrs. J. Comerton (Secretary) and F. McNamara (Assistant Secretary).

WORK FOR THE COMING SESSION.

The Secretary read the minutes of the Educational Sub-Committee with reference to the work for the coming session. The minutes included recommendations concerning the Tailoring, Painters, Plumbers, Lace Design, Gaelic League, and Shorthand and Typewriting Classes.

The Committee went through the recommendations seriatim.

It was unanimously decided to form classes in Lace Design and to establish a Day Art Class for a limited number of pupils attending the Primary Schools, also an evening class on the same subject for pupils going on for King's Scholarships.

As to the Painters' Class, the Committee agreed to ask the Department to continue the services of the teacher for next session.

Mr. Murphy wanted to know what conditions the Department required for continuing the Tailoring Class.

The Secretary replied that under the regulations two subjects were required.

Mr. Murphy said he would like to see two subjects taught in the class, but there was one subject that the boys would not take and that was sewing.

The Chairman—What do you suggest. What do you think should be taught in addition to cutting?

Mr. Murphy said he had no suggestion to offer, as he had not yet seen any members of the Guild.

It was eventually decided to let the question stand until the Guild was acquainted with the circumstances.

PLUMBERS' CLASS.

The Secretary said with regard to the Plumbers' Class, nothing had developed since concerning that class. As instructed he had written to Cork, relative to both Cork and Limerick employing the one teacher and had no reply. He had also written to the local guild, but they had not sent an answer yet.

The recommendations of the sub-Committee with reference to the Gaelic League, Shorthand and Typewriting Classes were also adopted.

THE NEW INSTITUTE.

The Secretary submitted details relative to certain resolutions passed in connection with the erection of the Technical Institute as follows:—Advertisement for tenders issued on October 5th, 1909; deputation from carpenters waited on Committee, and resolution that all joinery work be done in Limerick, adopted October 11th, 1909; resolution re joinery forwarded to Architect, October 13th, 1909; reply from Mr. W. P. Ryan, advising that the resolution be forwarded to the contractors who had applied for bill of quantities October 15th, 1909; resolution forwarded to local contractors October 18th, 1909; tenders submitted to meeting, and opened November 2nd, 1909, and resolution re "local labour" proposed and adopted November 2nd, 1909.

Mr. Comerton said that arising out of the minutes of August 8, from which it appeared that a statement had been publicly made that preferential treatment had been given to carpenters and joiners, inasmuch as the resolution providing that all the joinery work in connection with the new building should be done in Limerick, was embodied in the contract, whereas, it had been alleged, a resolution relating to local labour had been passed at the same meeting which dealt with the joinery clause, and this resolution was not included in the conditions of the bond, the Secretary reported that, in accordance with the instructions given at the last meeting, he had examined the official records, and he found that the resolution relating to the joinery work was received in sufficient time to admit of its inclusion in the contract, whereas the resolution re local labour was passed after the tenders had been opened. The exact dates were detailed in the foregoing.

The Committee regarded the details as satisfactory, and after disposing of some routine business, the meeting adjourned.