

dition.

EL BRIDGE.

question will come up the special meeting of next Thursday evening. is to be proposed to noted by the Harbour he erection of a fixed we venture to suggest why the Corporation. g such a drastic step. opposition before the nittee would not alone lerable expense to the it would also increase rbour Board of getting Then, either the Bill pass at an extra and t. or, if it is defeated, the structure may be left for sent dilapidated and —a block to the trade the city, and an incon- lie. The crux of the we pointed out recently, a fixed or a swing bridge. d favour the erection of a e reason that the use of rivel bridge has for apparently so limited erence in cost as between elbridge is, naturally, a nsideration to the Board, ave got to provide the tion of a new structure. tween the cost of a fixed ge is somewhere about s inconceivable that the egard to all the circum-; should be asked to incur tra expenditure. Be that is one important point ation should take note of their minds to oppose is this: If our memory when the last deputation ir Board waited on the they stated on their return of a Bill being lodged by amissioners, the Board of ed to hold a sworn inquiry question in Limerick. bunal all arguments as to bridge or a fixed structure the public interest, can be and on oath, and those erests in connection with also have full opportunity presenting their case. On a , of the entire matter, it hat the most logical and for the Corporation to o defer opposition to the he inquiry. Thus a con- of expense to the rates and very probably the ury would be to clear the he views of all interests

NT COMMENT.

ries in 1912.

er from a meteorologist's point up its character almost to the months which end to-night us for persistent rain, and ther Christmas arrived, not ntle of snow, but dripping a. Wild weather has caused s by land and sea, while the sea has been more suggestive a mid-winter. The year has a long period, and now that retrieving its shortcomings is unhappy interest in looking

OUT AND ABOUT.

A Watch Night Service will be held to-night, New Year's Eve, in St. Munchin's Church, commencing at seven o'clock. Preacher, Rev. Canon Robertson.

It will be seen by advertisement that the usual monthly meeting of the County Limerick Farmers' Association will be held in the George Hotel at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

It is not proposed to build an agricultural college at Athenry. No decision has yet been arrived at as regards the date on which the work in connection with the contemplated alterations of the existing buildings will be begun.

The Knight of Glin and his son and heir Master Desmond Fitzgerald, have left Olin Castle for Carrigrohane, where the Marchioness of Waterford is entertaining a party of guests for the New Year.

Lieutenant Col. Cowden will shortly complete his four years' service in command of the 1st Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers. He will vacate the command, and will be placed on half-pay. It is anticipated that he will be succeeded as commanding officer by Major Tizard, second in command of the Battalion.

A meeting of the Limerick Harbour Commissioners has been convened for to-morrow at 12 o'clock. Besides the usual routine business, the following will be considered:—To elect auditors, and to consider Mr. Glynn's notice of motion to blockpave a part of the north side of the dock.

The annual election of four members of the Kilrush Urban Council will take place in January, the 6th being the date fixed for nomination. The outgoing members are Messrs. B. Culligan, J.P.; W. Glynn, J.P.; J. J. Keatinge, and M. O'Meara. During their term of office they have been most popular with the electors, and it is rumoured that they will not be opposed.

THE CHURCH.

New Year's Eve Services.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.—New Year's Eve.—Service at 11 p.m.; Opening Hymn, 90 (2nd version); Hymn Before Sermon, 92; Anthem, "The Heavens are telling"; Hymn after Sermon, 506; Preacher, the Dean; Recessional Hymn, 38.

ST. MUNCHIN'S CHURCH.—Services at 11 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Canon Robertson.

METHODIST CHURCH (George Street).—Watch-Night Service, 10.45 p.m.; preacher, Rev. W. Young Northridge. Everybody welcome.

New Year's Day Services.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, 11.30 a.m.

TRINITY CHURCH.—Circumcision and New Year's Day.—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion at 11.30. Preacher, Rev. W. R. Keillor, M.A.

DEATH OF A CITY JOURNALIST.

It is with a feeling of deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Joseph M. O'Connell, which took place on Sunday evening at Wellealey Place. Mr. O'Connell had been in somewhat indifferent health for a considerable time, and less than three weeks ago he was obliged to take to his bed. Since that time his condition grew worse, and he passed away as stated, on Sunday evening in his thirty-eighth year. He was for the last sixteen years connected with the Limerick Press, commencing his career on the Munster News, and afterwards going to the Limerick Echo. In the pursuit of his profession he combined a distinct literary taste with nature judgment and his work always bore the stamp of originality. He was an able journalist, popular with his colleagues, and extremely well liked by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Some twelve years ago he was appointed teacher of shorthand at the Technical Institute, a position which he filled with conspicuous ability. The deceased was the only child of a widowed mother, and in this hour of her affliction the sympathy of the public will be extended to her in the irreparable loss she has sustained. The remains were removed from Wellealey Place at 8 o'clock last night for St. Michael's Church, and were followed by a large concourse of mourners, including his colleagues on the Press.

At 3 o'clock to-day the funeral left for Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery, where the interment took place. The cortege was of considerable dimensions, and was a fitting tribute to the popularity of the deceased.

The chief mourners were—Messrs. John Duggan, Frank, and J. Duggan (uncles).

The clergy present were—Rev. Fr. O'Carroll, C.C., and Rev. Fr. Devane, C.C., St. Michael's.

Amongst the general public were—His Worship the Mayor, Messrs P. J. O'Sullivan, solicitor; M. Leahy, J.P.; J. McNamara, D.C.; W. G. Peacocke, J. Comerford, B.A.; Dr. Atkinson, C. O'Sullivan, Limerick Echo; F. J. Lawlor, J. Mulqueen, S. Bourke, W. Thompson, C. Carey, J. A. Quirk; P. Hurley, J. O'Donovan, A. J. Saxon, W. Holohan, F. Corbett, T. Daly, T. Gale, J. A. Baldwin, "Limerick Chronicle"; W. Reeves, M. H. Cashin, W. Duggan, Walter Bourke, M. Hayes, P. O'Flynn, B.C.; J. Dalton, B.C.; P. Kavanagh, M. Fehemy, W. S. Burke, "Munster News"; J. Quigley, J. Gleeson, J. Whelan, C. O'Ryan, (Limerick Leader), B. Wallace, J. Carson, E. B. Duggan, J. M. Ginnane, J. Scallan, M. Larkin, J. B. Duggan, W. J. South, J. McGuire, T. G. O'Rielly, R. Fitzgibbon, R. T. Cashin, H. O'Neill, J. Prendergast, M. Linnane, R. T. Hartigan, T. S. Lalor, S. E. O'Reilly, P. J. Rea, J. White, J. Gilligan, B.C.; J. Leyden, M. Ryan, D.C.; Alderman McNeill, E. McInerney, A. Killeen, M. O'Brien, B.C.; P. Bourke, D. Hannan, B.C.; M. O'T. Hartigan, Sergeant Kelly, Sergeant Doran, etc.

Father Devane officiated at the graveside.

COMPLIMENT TO CO. COUNCILLOR.

SERIOUS CITY FIRE.

Crowded Tenement Ablaze

One Death.

A serious fire broke out in a three-storied tenement in Nelson street, early this morning involving the death of one of the twenty-six occupants, comprised of men, women, and children. Sometime about two o'clock while passing through the thoroughfare, which is in the midst of a congerie of lanes, all thickly populated, Night Constable Conway observed smoke issuing from a building situated midway in the street. Knowing the house to be a tenement containing several families, he immediately saw the danger, and gave the alarm, at the same time sending word to the Fire Station close by in Roche's Street. In the course of a couple of minutes Captain Sheehan and his men were at the scene of the burning building, provided with the escape and hose tender. When they reached the place everything was commotion, men, women, and children, in night attire, stood screaming at the windows awaiting succour. As quickly as possible the escape ladders were run up, and the Brigade proceeded to the work of rescue which was accomplished without a hitch so far as twenty-five of the occupants were concerned. Jumping sheets were also utilised, and in this respect the Night Constables, attended by some civilians, gave every assistance. The Brigade having then, as they thought, secured the safety of the inhabitants turned their attention to subduing the flames when word was conveyed to Captain Sheehan that there was still one unaccounted for. He had the task of coping with the fire dropped, and directed a search of the building for the missing occupant, who was taken out in an unconscious state, suffering from shock and burns. The victim, Elizabeth Carroll, aged seven years, was taken in the Fire Brigade ambulance to Barrington's Hospital, where she died at half past eight. About six o'clock the Brigade, which worked heroically, had the fire under control. The damage to the building was confined to four sleeping apartments, which were completely gutted, and the contents, the property of the tenants, completely destroyed. The tenement was the property of Mr. J. O'Brien.

The Inquest.

Mr. J. F. Barry, J.P., City Coroner, held an inquest this afternoon at Barrington's Hospital into the circumstances connected with the death of the little girl, Lizzie Carroll, who was admitted to the institution at an early hour this morning.

Head Constable McKernan conducted the inquiry. A jury, of which Mr. Michael Cahill was foreman, were sworn.

Patrick Sheehan, 13 Nelson street, was the first witness examined, and stated that he occupied the ground floor of the house. On the night before he went to bed about 11 o'clock. The fire had not been extinguished when he went to bed, but it had almost died out. Subsequently witness awoke, and saw a glare of light; he immediately got out of bed and roused up the other occupants of the house after which he reported the matter at the fire station.

Emily Carroll, mother of the deceased child, was next examined, and deposed to the main facts of the case. Witness went to bed about 11, and the deceased child before that, sleeping with her two sisters. Witness said she heard a man on the stairs, about twenty minutes after ten, saying he would "do" for Mr. Sheehan, the last witness, before the night was out.

Head-Constable McKernan—Who was he?

The witness—I don't know. Witness noticed the fire underneath her room about half-past one in the morning. She did not miss the deceased until after seven of her children were removed, when she missed Lizzy. Witness did not see the child until it was dead in the hospital.

The Coroner—Was there any row in the house?

The witness—No, sir.

The Coroner—Was there a row on Sunday night?

The witness—Yes, between a husband and wife.

The Coroner—Oh, John Reddin said he was a carpenter and lived in Nelson-street. Witness assisted at the fire and heard the mother complain of a child being missing. Witness said if there was a child alive inside the house he would bring it out, and he did so. The child was on the floor, prone, and under a table near the cot it occupied. The child's hands he found tender, so he put his arms round her and brought her down stairs. Witness got buried.

Constable Cassidy, deposed to proceeding with some other Constables at 2.20 this morning from William street police station to the scene of the fire; witness saw the last witness, Reddin bring the child from the house, and take her to Barrington's hospital, witness also assisted in searching the house, and he directed the child's removal to the hospital. Witness mentioned the kindness shown to the children by some of the residents in the district. The Fire Brigade worked well, and Reddin acted well.

The Coroner—Oh, I believe he acted very pluckily, from all I heard.

The witness—Very pluckily indeed.

The Foreman—I think Reddin's action ought to be brought under the notice of the Royal Humane Society.

The Coroner—I will have it done, sir.

Dr. Holmes said that death was the result of shock and bruises.

The jury found in accordance with the medical testimony, adding a rider that the Coroner be requested to bring the plucky action of John Reddin under the notice of the Royal Humane Society.

TUBERCULOSIS (IRELAND) BILL.

The main object of Mr. Birrell's Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Bill, the text of which was issued on Saturday, is to amend the law under which provision is made by local authorities for the treatment of the disease.

THE CATTLE TRADE

RESTRICTIONS.

Considerable Modifications Proposed.

Protest Against New Regulations.

Mr. Runciman, replying to Captain Murray in the House of Commons yesterday, said that considerable modifications are to be made almost immediately in the restrictions on the importation of Irish cattle into English ports.

Mr. T. W. Russell, replying to a further question, said that as the result of a conference between himself and Mr. Runciman it had been agreed to remove the cattle restrictions from the whole of Ireland, with certain exceptions, as soon as the order could be prepared. This would apply to the whole of Ulster except South Donegal, South Fermanagh, and Mid-Armagh. Mr. Russell added that there were now no case of foot-and-mouth disease in the country.

On the motion for the adjournment, Captain Craig protested against the proposed new regulations of the English Board of Agriculture to insist upon all Irish cattle being compelled to remain for about twelve hours in English lairages for examination before being allowed to be sent into the country.

Mr. Runciman, in reply, said that it had been definitely decided that there must be an inspection of Irish cattle on the English side. This step had been taken in order that the confidence of the country in the Irish cattle trade might be restored, and since the beasts would be rested by the twelve hours' delay there would be a gain to everyone.

At a meeting of the Meath County Council yesterday, which was called to consider the position of the county with regard to the foot-and-mouth disease orders, a strong resolution was passed calling for the removal of the restrictions, and several of the speakers supported the suggestion that the Nationalist Party should demand from Mr. Asquith the removal of Mr. Runciman to another office under the Government.

Only Three Districts Now Scheduled.

In concurrence with the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland have arranged to issue to-day, Orders to come into force the following day (Wednesday, 1st January), which will remove the present restrictions from the Counties of Londonderry, Tyrone, Monaghan, Fermanagh (except the Parliamentary Division of North Fermanagh), and Armagh (except the Parliamentary Division of Mid-Armagh), and which will permit of the shipment of animals from these districts to British ports on the same conditions as at present apply to the unscheduled parts of Ireland.

In the case of the County Meath the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have arranged to receive animals for slaughter at the approved landing places in Great Britain on licence. These licences will be issued under the authority of the Department at any police station in the county. The animals thus licensed must be moved direct from the county to the port of shipment, and cannot be brought to a market outside the county. The Department's Order dealing with Meath will also take effect from to-morrow. The only districts of Ireland that will remain under existing restrictions after to-morrow will be North Fermanagh, Mid-Armagh, County Westmeath, and the portion of County Donegal south of the railway line from Lifford via Stranorlar to the town of Donegal.

HILARY QUARTER SESSIONS.

The Hilary Quarter Sessions for the city will be opened by his Honor County Court Judge Law-Smith at 11 o'clock on Thursday morning, and at the same hour on the following day for the eastern division of the county. There is one criminal case from the city, and one from the county. The civil side of the court comprises 17 ejectments, 4 of which are defended; 178 county civil bills, 48 of which are defended; 90 civil bill entries from the city, 29 of which are defended; one remitted action, 20 workmen's compensation claims, 90 malicious injury claims (78 being from the city), 8 new equity suits, 2 town tenants' cases, and one land case.

FIFTEEN LIVES LOST.

Survivors' Awful Experience.

News has now come to hand of the foundering of the Danish steamer Volmar off the Lizard on Christmas Day, with the loss of 15 lives. The Volmar left Swansea on December 23 with coals for Nicos. Off the Scillies tremendous seas swept the ship, smashing in the hatches of three holds. The vessel then began to make water.

The captain decided to run before the gale, and tried to repair the damage, but failed. As the vessel was going down, he decided to abandon her. The first lifeboat, which was launched with eight men, was smashed by the seas and the men drowned. The second lifeboat capsized with seven hands, the donkeyman having jumped overboard, in a fit of madness. The remainder clung to the up-turned boat.

The captain, who had remained aboard the steamer, then jumped overboard, and swam to the upturned boat, which they righted and clambered into. This was the afternoon of Christmas Day. During the night the chief engineer died, and his body was thrown overboard. The chief officer went mad, and tried to throttle the captain. He (the chief officer) died soon after, as well as the remainder of the crew, except the captain and a seaman.

The survivors were unable to obtain the little food that was in the boat on account of the seas, and quenched their thirst by catching rain in the palms of their hands. On Saturday evening they were picked up by an Ostend trawler 15 miles off the Lizard, and landed at Newlyn. They were in a very exhausted condition, but are now progressing favourably.

UNIONIST POLICY.

Opposition Leaders Confer.

Solid as to Food Taxes.

An important conference of Opposition leaders was held at the House of Commons yesterday, says the Press Association, to consider, it is understood, the discussions within the Unionist Party which have followed Mr. Bonar Law's pronouncement at Ashton-under-Lyne. The Press Association is informed that no modification of the policy with regard to food taxes than laid down is to be anticipated. Those proposals were put forward after full consideration, and they are still regarded as likely to secure the largest amount of support among Unionists. Differences of opinion there must be, in any case, just a difference of opinion exist on many subjects among supporters of the Government. Some of the suggestions urged upon the Unionist leaders would, however, in their opinion, lead, if adopted to a definite and disastrous split. It may be added that the Unionist leaders are all full of confidence and that no question whatever of personal rival enters into the matter. There is no likelihood of the calling of a party meeting, at all events, at the present.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Theatre Royal.

A crowded house enjoyed the bill of fa furnished at the Theatre Royal last night. The principal attraction and turn were the Brothe O'Brien, in what was described as a new come far act. As trapezists it would be no easy matter to find the comers of this exceedingly clever pair. Their performances displayed wonderful ease and agility, and included twisting round standards of horizontal treble bars, doul somersaults over two bars, a grand circle, a ether evolutions, all of which were follow with great interest and heartily applause. It is sufficient to say of the turn that it is d tinctly novel; and devotees of the "Gym" wo do well to pay a visit to the Royal this ve. The picture programme was, as usual, entertaini a most attractive film being entitled "A I in the New Zealand Bush," and there were sever comic pieces.

The Gaiety.

The Gaiety Theatre continues to attract la houses, and this is only as it should be, hav regard to the excellence of the programme mitted nightly by the enterprising management. This week's programme is confined to a pict programme, and provides the public with a hours genuine and healthy amusement. The of fare is nothing if not novel and attractive. embraces some very select and classical vie all delightfully refreshing, and well up to standard laid down since the Gaiety was open. Included in the bill is a pre-eminently instruo film designated "The Girl and the Gr depicting some exciting episodes. The o subjects are beautiful specimens of cinematog colouring, and the comedy pictures are g. There are continuous matinees on Thursdays f 3 to 6, and on Saturdays from 2 to 6 o'el. To-night there will be a complete change pictures.

The Athenaeum.

The two house idea at the Athenaeum w appear to lose nothing in popularity, on the trary there seems to be a desire for a du performance in the city. Last night there w good attendance at the first house, while at second, from nine to eleven o'clock, the buil was crowded. The series of pictures: proce ware, as is the wont, delightful specimens o camera. They were all highly entertaining, a richly tinted, and depicted life and adventu various forms. The management certain doing its best to cater for the tastes of pat who show their appreciation in the measur support meted out the picturedrome nightly.

The Rink.

The Rink was devoted to skating du Christmas, and this exhilarating pastime enjoyed by large numbers from city and cou. There will also be skating each evening thi except Saturday night, when the building wi re-opened for pictures. As usual a varied up-to-date series of splendid films will be sh

RAILWAY BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Irish Branch.

The annual collection, under the auspices o Railway Benevolent Institution (Irish Bra in aid of the Casualty Fund will be taken u New Year's Day at the various railway sta throughout Ireland. The main object of Institution, viz., the relief of necessitous an officers and servants who are incapacit through old age or infirmity, and their wi and orphans, when in distressed circumstan already familiar to the Irish public. This s subsidary fund is to provide timely reli cases of accident in the discharge of July, give grants to widows of those who die o killed. In order to participate in the s fund it is necessary that railwaymen them should subscribe at least 1s. per as during the year now drawing a close 123,746 of the re servants in the United Kingdom; so subse and relief was given in 6,817 cases—viz. killed by accident, 6,130 injured, and 456 from illness. With the general public Casualty Fund affords one of the best ch whereby appreciation of railwaymen's co to the travelling community may be expre. As with the General Fund, the moneys sub for "casualty" purposes are administered Board consisting of the principal railway o of the country, of which Mr. Charles H. General Manager of the Great Southern Western Railway, is the present chai. Should be it be inconvenient to subscrib sionally at a railway station, contributions