

the returns mentioned by Mr. Quaide. Clerk—Get the Relieving Officers to bring in their books, and you can get the returns from them.

Mr. Fitzgibbon, R.O., said the books of the Relieving Officers would be no guide at all, because the nurse might attend several cases that would not be on the books. Where a nurse would get paid a half-crown for her visit or attendance she would get no ticket. The books were no guide as to the work of the midwife.

Mr. Quaide—As long as the midwife gets paid for attending cases there is no necessity for the Guardians appointing one.

A Member—I know poor people that paid the midwife five shillings.

Father O'Dea said no nurse could live at a salary of £25 a year. She could not do so in Athea or Ardagh anyway, because she would get 50 or 60 cases in the year. She was residing in Athea, and if she got a call in Ardagh she would have a long distance to travel, and surely it would cost 10s for car hire. In fact her whole salary was gone in car hire.

A Member—And she may get £1 for attending some cases.

Father O'Dea—Not in my district.

Chairman—Do you move your motion, Mr. O'Brien?

Mr. O'Brien—I do.

Mr. Kelly seconded.

Mr. Kelly proposed and Mr. O'Connell seconded, that the appointment made at the last meeting be not rescinded.

A poll was then taken, when there voted—For Mr. O'Brien's motion—Messrs B Cotter, J Ambrose, D Curtin, T Tracey, D Condon, Jeremiah O'Brien, J P; J O'Brien, J Quaide, P Kennedy, Michael Flynn, T Mulcahy, D Corbett—12.

Against—Captain Curling, Messrs D Cremin, T Liston, T Bresnihan, J Sheehan, J D O'Brien, D Drew, T Neligan, M Geary, J O'Mahony, J C Curtin, J Kelly, E O'Connell, J Lenihan, J M'Carthy, M Cussen, D Leahy, J Dalton, J L Curtin, Michael Sweeney—20.

Not voting—Messrs J R Collins, T White, M O'Callaghan and P Magner—1.

The motion of Mr Drew to appoint a second midwife for the Ardagh district was then taken up.

Father O'Dea said the Guardians might remember that a short time ago a similar resolution was before the Board, but it was withdrawn in favour of another one, as it was then thought to make the charge a dispensary one, but they were all aware that the L. G. Board would not allow that. Subsequently, they decided in getting a second nurse for

Ardagh and make it a whole union charge. He (Father O'Dea) would like to mention that a great many of the Guardians had no idea at all of the Ardagh district, and it was people like him who had to travel the hills and villages and back-lanes that were fully cognisant of the great necessity for a second nurse for Ardagh. If they went in and examined the schools they could get sufficient proof of that.

For the Ardagh parish alone they had on the rolls 200 children. In Carrickerry they had 140 children—that is 70 boys and 70 girls—and in Ballyloughane they had 100 even, in all about 400 children. That went to prove in itself the great necessity for the second nurse. As far as the nurse in Athea was concerned, she was absolutely useless for Ardagh—downright, absolutely useless—as no respectable woman could be asked to cover such an area for the salary she was getting. Ardagh was eleven miles from Athea, and, of course, in winter she could not be expected to travel that distance without hiring a car. She could not be expected to do the journey on a bicycle. It was a matter for the Guardians to cater for the people of the locality, and if they did not there was no doubt about it but some valuable lives would be lost. There was no duty more binding on a Guardian than to preserve the lives of a poor woman and her infant, and it was the duty of the members to make some little sacrifice to help women in a critical position of life. Ardagh was singularly situated, and it was a singular district altogether. All he asked was that the guardians should give £20 for a nurse for Ardagh. Of that £20 the guardians would be recouped £10 by the L. G. Board. Therefore, all the rates would be asked to contribute would be £10. In Ardagh they had a domestic society for the preservation of the health of the people, and

compel him to resign, leaving an empty house in a district where there was no possibility of letting. Other members instanced the County Infirmary, in the centre of the principal town of the county, where the medical officer was not only salaried, but provided with a free house. Why should it be, therefore, that the ratepayers' money should be put to the purposes of usury in one instance, while in other instances a fair consideration was extended? It was not suggested here that the medical officer was fully remunerated for his services, for they (the medical officers) were all under-paid, but "some would not be allowed to live were it not for the intervention of the Local Government Board. The doctor, therefore, trusted that the Local Government Board, in accordance with their usual discrimination, would see that justice was done to the ratepayers and medical officer, and a rent imposed with due regard to the salary and the resources of the district."

A sharp discussion followed the reading of the letter, and the chairman proposed the following resolution—"That, inasmuch as we have before us the letter from the L. G. Board, written by Dr Hayes; we are of opinion that the rent is reasonable; and in the event of Dr Hayes not being satisfied, let him immediately send in his resignation."

Mr. Quin seconded the resolution which was adopted by 4 votes to 2.

Death of a Magistrate

The death took place suddenly on Thursday at his residence at Spanish Point, Miltownmalbay, of Mr. Henry Bradshaw Harris, J.P. Mr Harris was a member of a widely known and very popular County Limerick family, and entering commercial life, came to Ennis at an early age to fill a position in the offices of Messrs Bannatyne. He was ever of a remarkably energetic disposition, and his keen business aptitude manifested itself in various directions, and was so appreciated by the firm that in the course of time he became its trusted representative for Clare and the whole district lying north of it. The remains arrived at Ennis Railway Station by the 11 o'clock train on Saturday morning, and were conveyed thence by the 11.55 train to family vault at Knockaney, Co. Limerick.

wished to protest against those observations. He was not backing anything scandalous, but was backing up a most charitable object. He appealed to the members to support Mr. Drew's motion.

Several members denied that any such observations as mentioned by Father O'Dea had been made.

Father O'Dea said he saw the remarks in the Press.

Mr. Drew then proposed his motion, that the second nurse be appointed for the Ardagh district.

Mr Mahoney seconded.

Mr. Quaide proposed and Mr Sheehan seconded, that she be not appointed.

A poll was then taken for or against the appointment, when there voted—

For—Captain Curling, Messrs J Ambrose, D Drew, D Cremin, T Neligan, M Geary, J Mahoney, J C Curtin, P Downey, E O'Connell, J Lenihan, R Woulfe, J Dalton, J Barrett, J L Gartin, P Magner—16.

Against—Messrs B Cotter, D L Curtin, T Liston, J Bresnihan, J Sheehan, Jeremiah O'Brien, P O'Mahony, T Tracey, D Connor, M Sweeney, J O'Brien, J P; J O'Brien, J O'Neill, P Kennedy, D Corbett, Michael Flynn, Martin Cussen, D Leahy—18.

Not voting—Messrs J R Collins, T Mulcahy, J M'Carthy, T White, M O'Callaghan—5.

Mr. Woulfe said on the last day a number of the Guardians voted for a second nurse for Abbeyfeale—that was at Tournafulla—and he did not see why these gentlemen should turn round now and oppose the appointment of a second nurse for Ardagh.

Mr. Drew—I cannot understand it, either.

Mr. Woulfe then handed in a motion to rescind the appointment of a second nurse for Tournafulla and Mountcollins.

Mr. Dalton handed in a motion to rescind the order arrived at refusing to appoint a second nurse for Ardagh.

The circular letter from the Local Government Board regarding the fixing of superan-

We are all engaged either in drawing raw materials from the earth or in working up these raw materials into desirable forms; in trading the finished articles or in transporting them to where they will find purchasers. The come the professional classes, such as doctors, authors, bankers, musicians, et who minister to the wants of the earth workers. But the beginning of all—the pro of all—is the man engaged directly on the soil. When he is thrown idle the ev effects are immediately felt all along the line. Lord Penryhn shuts down his slate quarries in Wales and the men engaged on the slate lands are deprived of the opportunity to produce, and consequently their purchasing power disappears. Shopkeepers in the vicinity go bankrupt, and professional men complain of "nothing doing." Scottish coal miners strike for better conditions, and industry all over is paralysed; railway wagons lie idle and empty, and clerks and bookkeepers are discharged. In Ireland, arable land around gentlemen's mansions is kept out of cultivation for purposes of sport or pleasure, and building sites in and around our cities and towns are wilfully kept vacant, waiting for a rise in value. The congestion of population in the towns leads to high rents and rates (a prominent cause of the poverty of the working classes). On examination you will find that these high rents are composed of inflated ground values, and not due to the increased value of the buildings. A house, shop, or a factory can be erected as cheaply in Limerick city as in Connemara, but because the Limerick building is situated in a busy centre, city landowners can demand at the rate of, perhaps, £150 an acre per year for precisely the same quality of land which is only fetching £10 an acre per year in the country district. Thus, builders have to "take it out of" the people who occupy the houses, and factory owners have to "get their own back" by reducing the wages of their workmen, and by raising the price of the commodity they are manufacturing. It will come as a surprise to many people to hear that the receivers of these immense ground rents in towns and cities do not, as such, contribute a penny towards borough or poor rates. Yet is the expenditure of the rates that create and maintain the high value of their land. It is by the crowd concentrating on city land, and by the public expenditure, that these men are enabled to reap where they have not sown. The landowner sleeps but thrives. There is a political proposal which is in practice in New Zealand, in Vancouver and other Colonies, and is on the verge of acceptance in Great Britain. I refer to the taxation of land values. This simple but far-reaching reform requires that all land should be valued separately from every other form of property which may be on it, and that a tax or rate be levied on the true value of the land, whether it is used or kept out of the market for ulterior motives. The swollen ground rents of cities would thus tend to be gradually diverted into the public treasury there to be used for the common good, and other rates and taxes gradually abolished. The great burden of rates would be lifted off the working people's shoulders, and there would be only a small part of the benefit, for the tax, being applied to those "held-up" acres in and around cities, would compel landowners to put them to use, or put them to use. They could not possibly afford to keep land idle, and bring in no revenue. With this land values tax on their heads, landowners would compete with each other for occupiers, ground would become cheap, the supply of houses would increase, and house rents would come down with a bang. And consider what this forcing of all kinds of land into use everywhere would mean to the working classes! Labour would be in demand and wages would assuredly rise. Town sites would become accessible, building would proceed, and many trades would receive an impetus. Mines and quarries would be opened and agricultural land could be got on better terms. The dawn of freedom would begin. Colonies where the tax is in operation have had no trouble previously was to find work for men, the difficulty now is to find men for work.—Yours truly,
Limerick.