

In the course of the investigation that "about 250 samples were analysed, as one of the results, a sand in the vicinity of Coalisland, together with sand from Donegal, have been found to be used in the white glass bottle manufactured in Belfast. Sands suitable for the manufacture of black glass are at present being used in the vicinity of Dublin. The white glass bottle factories have been using imported sand from Belgium, and to the war these supplies have been cut off." There should, therefore, be no difficulty in the development of the glass industry in Ireland. It is added in the report that "there is another question as to the manufacture of glass in Ireland, the manufacture of sheet glass. Experiments carried out in the laboratories of the Royal College of Science indicated that there are deposits of various parts of this country which will be further investigated by the Department to test their suitability for the manufacture of sheet glass." The report gives a survey in detail of the crop up to the middle of July, with an additional note written at the end of the month pointing out how much the weather which set in after the middle of July modified and greatly improved the crop. On the whole the crop condition is better than was at one time expected, and the harvest, as far as can be ascertained at present, promises to be a good one. The fruit crop report to July gives an interesting summary of the state of these crops up to practically the end of the month. The reports received indicate a harsh nature of the spring was unfavourable to the fruit crop. All soft tree fruits are in consequence of the much lighter crops than usual. Bush fruits, on the other hand, have cropped very well, and yields of large, clean fruit have been obtained, or are anticipated. The annual report contains, in addition to the information alluded to, several other interesting statistics. There are also notes and tables, official documents, and a number of valuable statistical tables relating to various subjects, including fisheries, and the prices of crops, live stock, meat, and other commodities, at stated periods.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Registrar-Generals Report.

Births and deaths registered in the Dublin Metropolitan Area and in the eighteen principal Urban Districts of Ireland, with the rates per 1,000 of the population represented hereby, which, for the purposes of these tables, is estimated at 1,122,268, are given in the report of the Registrar-Generals. The rate represented 23.8 in the Dublin Metropolitan Area; Belfast, 22.2; Cork, 25.8; Limerick, 15.6; Limerick, 47.4; and Waterford, 47.4. The deaths from all causes are certain-

sons, are now in residence at Mount Coote, Kilmallock. Lady Greenall came over last week from France, where she has charge of a recreation hut and canteen for the soldiers under the Y.M.C.A.

As announced elsewhere, the Time (Ireland) Bill was on Thursday read a second time, passed through Committee, and read a third time in the House of Commons. This means that on October 1st next we shall find ourselves in Ireland setting our clocks by Greenwich time.

Mallow Petty Sessions, on the motion of Mr R. E. Longfield, D.L., seconded by Mr Coakley, J.P., and supported by Dr O'Meara, Mr F. J. Smith, D.L., and Mr Williamson, C.P.S., have passed a resolution of sympathy with Mrs Brasier on the death of Mr Brasier, J.P. The Court adjourned as a mark of respect.

FATAL BURNING ACCIDENT.

The injuries inflicted on Mrs Mary Moore, of Garryowen, on Thursday owing to her clothes accidentally taking fire, unfortunately proved fatal, as she died the same night in Barrington's Hospital. The deceased, who was a widow aged about fifty, had a small shop at Garryowen, and her dress appears to have come in contact with a gas stove alight under the shop counter, with the result that her clothing took fire. She went into the yard at the rear of her house in the effort to use the water tap to arrest the spread of the flames, but to no purpose, and it was not until, attracted by the poor woman's cries, a neighbour arrived and procured a blanket to extinguish the fire that some relief was given. By this time, however, Mrs Moore was in a pitiable condition, and on her admission to Barrington's Hospital it was seen that the case was one without hope, the injured woman lingering in much suffering until towards nine o'clock that night, when her death took place. The facts of the occurrence were communicated by the police to the Coroner, and on these the Coroner did not deem it necessary to hold an inquest.

DEATH OF MR JAMES HODKINSON.

We regret to record the death, which occurred at his residence, 54 Henry street, this afternoon, of Mr James Hodkinson, painter and decorator. The deceased, who had attained the fine old age of 91 years, had been but a short time ill, having been out quite recently. An Englishman by birth, he came over to Ireland 60 years ago, 40 years of which he was in business in Limerick, and was held in the highest esteem in commercial and private life. It is interesting to relate that Mr Hodkinson was the only surviving member of the founders of the Shannon Rowing Club. He was an enthusiastic rowing man in his day, and also a keen cricketer. The remains will be removed to St Michael's, R.C. Church to-morrow (Sunday), at 8 p.m. Funeral on Monday at 10 a.m., for Mount St Laurence.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' CENTENARY CARNIVAL.

The Pier promenade of the Shannon Rowing Club presented a picturesque appearance on Thursday night, when the members gave an "At Home" and Aquatic Carnival in aid of the Christian Brothers Centenary Fund. The favourable character of the weather, and the object for which the reunion was held, attracted a large

Major Cecil D Woodgate Umacke, 1st Artillery, wounded in action, is a member of the old South of Ireland military family. He is the son of Mr Robie Umacke, Gorsebruff, Halifax, Nova Scotia, and has served in the Horse Artillery since May, 1900, when he was appointed to the command of a battery after the outbreak of the war, and has since done a good deal of service.

Lieut R H Gregg.

Among those on whom the Military Cross has been conferred is Second-Lieut R H Gregg, attached to 22nd (Service) Batt Royal Irish Rifles, who is a member of a well-known Cork family, joined, with a number of other friends, the Sportsman's Battalion for Kitchener's Army soon after the outbreak of the war. On one occasion, when attacking a trench, his senior officer being wounded, Gregg took command, and reached the other side of the trench with his company, in spite of the opposition. Soon afterwards, finding his position unsupported, he was obliged to retire, but in doing so displayed a remarkable skill and coolness in withdrawing his men without losses from a fire-swept area.

Heavy Turkish Losses.

It is officially announced that in the recent operations in the Katia (Egypt) the Turks lost nearly 4,000 prisoners, and over 5,000 were killed. They also lost much war material.

Prohibition of Exports to Sweden.

The text of the Proclamation signed by the King in Council yesterday declaring the prohibition of the exportation of the following articles to all ports and destinations in Sweden, which are not by virtue of any special licence for the time being in force made by section 8 of the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, as amended by any Act or Order; the Explosives Act, as amended by any Act or Order; as amended by any Act or Order:—(1) empty bottles; (2) empty boxes; (3) worn clothing; (4) personal effects; (5) live animals, and (6) animals ordinarily used for human food. Another proclamation signed by the King in Council yesterday prohibits from and after August 21st the exportation into the United Kingdom of the following goods:—Chestnut extract; such lacquers as were expressly excepted from prohibition by section 8 of the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, as amended by any Act or Order; window and sheet plate glass and glass. This prohibition does not apply to such goods which are imported under licence given by or on behalf of the Board of Trade.

Government Purchase of Sugar.

The Committee on Public Accounts in their report that the payments in connection with the purchase of sugar at 31st March amounted to £18,600,000, and the value of sales was £11,494,000. The balance was represented by stocks of sugar of a greater value. The Committee are of opinion that the sugar in hand were now released would be worth something like £1,500,000.

A Long and Costly Service.

"If some of our calculators had had the same military correspondent of "