

our losses as speedily as possible." sentiment, commonsense and opportunity is, must commend itself to the House of Commons, and to the country.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Registrar-General's Report.

Rates and deaths registered in the Dublin Registration 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 rates is estimated at 1,142,268, are given in Table II of the Registrar-General's report ending Saturday, March 1st. They are represented by 247 in the Dublin Registration Area, Belfast, 239; Cork, 163; Derry, 242; Limerick, 162; Waterford, 162. The deaths from all causes appertain to the undermentioned areas for last week and for the past four weeks, respectively were equal to the following annual rates per 1,000 of the population:—Nineteen Town Districts, 22.9 and 22.6; Dublin Registration Area, 24.0; Dublin City, 70.4 and 46.1; Belfast, 30.9 and 26.0; Cork, 59.8 and 40.4; Derry, 39.4 and 27.7; Limerick, 31.1 and 23.8; and Waterford, 17.1 and 23.8. The deaths from certain epidemic diseases registered in the 19 Urban Districts during last week were equal to an annual rate of 0.9 per 1,000. Among the 238 deaths from all causes for Belfast are one from whooping-cough, diphtheria, and enteric fever under 2 years. Of the 31 deaths from all causes for Londonderry four are from whooping-cough. Included in the 9 deaths from all causes for Waterford are one from measles, one from diarrhoea and enteritis of a child under 2 years, and the 7 deaths recorded for Dundalk include two caused by diarrhoea and enteritis in children under 2 years.

THE CIGARETTE FACTORY BURNED.

A fire broke out in Lord Duncaven's cigarette factory, Adare, this morning, and caused a considerable amount of damage. The outbreak was reported at half-past eight o'clock, just before the employees went to work, and with commendable promptitude an effort was made to save the building and plant before the conflagration had time to take a complete grip of the building. After working for a short time, the employees, who were aided by many willing helpers, succeeded in saving the stock of cigarettes on the premises, as well as the plant, but despite all their endeavours the building was completely gutted. Two lines of water were laid on, and by twelve o'clock what was once the cigarette factory was a mass of smouldering debris.

TRALEE TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

At the monthly meeting of the Tralee Technical Education Committee, the motion of the Chair presented the resolution excluding the military from the schools was carried by five votes to three. It transpired that the Urban Council were contributing £134 a year to the schools and department £2,190, and the supporters of the resolution said this grant may be stopped and the schools closed altogether if they excluded the military. Dean O'Leary pointed out that having excluded the military they would be liable to an order for expelling them.

womanhood of the country have been swept away, and the medical profession are as helpless to grapple with the disease to-day as they were in the early summer and autumn of last year.

We are told quite off hand that the "influenza" plague is at present "more contagious but less virulent" by eminent medical authorities. That should make the public realize what they are up against. Now, what do we find in the city? The picture houses and all places of amusement are commanding full houses; the schools are opened. Surely, if the infection is so contagious, is it not time for the public to wake up and call on the City Fathers to close these places?—Yours,

JOHN McMAHON,

Thomondgate, Limerick, March 3rd.

DEATH OF MR R W SWITZER.

We regret to have to announce the death which took place this morning, of Mr R W Switzer, a popular and well-known citizen, after a somewhat prolonged illness. The deceased, who had reached an advanced age, was for several years head of the outfitting establishment in George-street, of Kears, Switzer and Co, and which did an extensive business until the proprietors decided on retiring from trade. He was in his day a prominent member of the Protestant Young Men's Association, took an active part in its debates and literary work, and was a great favourite with a wide circle of friends, the majority of whom have pre-deceased him. Those who survive him will hear of his death with regret, linked as his memory will be with so many associations of a kindly and intellectual fellow-citizen.

Funeral takes place at 11 o'clock to-morrow for St. Munchin's.

NEW DEPUTY LIEUTENANT FOR COUNTY LIMERICK.

The Lord Lieutenant, on the recommendation of the Earl of Duncaven, K.P., His Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Limerick, has been pleased to appoint Mr John Joseph Ryan to be a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Limerick.

COMPLIMENTARY PRESENTATION.

On Friday night a presentation was made to Mr Joseph J McCarthy, Gaiety Theatre, on the eve of his departure from Limerick. Mr P J Molony, in a neat speech, made the presentation on behalf of the staff and some friends, and Mr McCarthy briefly responded. A pleasant reunion followed, songs having been contributed by Messrs Cooper, J O'Toole, H Wickham, H Spillane, P J Molony, and J Page. A recitation by Mr P McCarthy, Cecil street, was much appreciated, and Corporal Naylor, R W F, was very successful as an entertainer at the piano.

PRESIDENT LEAVES WASHINGTON.

A Reuter message says President Wilson and Mrs Wilson left for New York at 2 p.m. on Tuesday amid enthusiastic cheers from the crowds lining the streets from the White House to the station.

AMERICAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IRELAND.

By 216 votes against 41 the American House of Representatives on Tuesday—at the close of the Session—repeated its decision of February 9th in favour of self-determination for Ireland. The Senate took no action in the matter.

to the permanent increases put on it if the country was to continue to solve the problem.)

"We are heading straight for bankruptcy," said Sir Donald Maclean. So we shall be found out by the impact. We can deceive ourselves to a certain extent, but sooner or later, will overtake us. The credit of the nation continues in the face of estimates such as these situation which is not only casting over us, but has already got us into a very speedily bring us to an issue. In the event, we might have avoided it now? I do not think it is. The longer it takes the worse off we shall be. Can a committee be formed amongst members of the House within the next few days? Government and talk over the present situation as a matter of business? Can we get up commissions for dealing with this? We are in the middle of a disaster. Let us settle on some means for stopping the bleeding which has begun in our financial system.

THE FATHER MCCARTHY MEMORIAL FUND.

A largely attended meeting of the Father McCarthy Memorial Fund was held on last Sunday at Donoughmore, presided over by Mr O'Halloran, D.C., presiding—for the purpose of erecting a suitable memorial to their father. The Chairman in most feeling terms was no need for him to dwell on the merits of their late P.P. had on them all, and that each one, rich and poor alike, was duty bound on this occasion. Generous contributions were then handed in ranging from 10/- to 100/-. Full details will be published later on the success of the appeal it was deemed advisable to confine it to the united efforts of Mr J F Barry, J.P., Coroner, explained that he was aware several friends, including those who were not of the religion of the deceased, were anxious to join in any tribute to McCarthy's memory, and that some of the parishes would be glad to contribute on these suggestions it was deemed advisable to accept any person who contributed (but no personal application made) which may be sent to the Chairman, John Byrne, 32 Sexton street, Hon. Sec.

SNOW IN LOWER SHANNON.

A heavy snow storm took place on the morning of Tuesday morning in the Lower Shannon district. Intense cold prevailed, but the sun has since the fall of snow, given some relief. Owing to the severity of the weather for the few months farmers have been unable to carry out their operations. Fuel is extremely dear.

MR J J WALSH, M.P. ARRIVES.

Yesterday the Dublin police arrested Mr J J Walsh, Sinn Féin M.P. for Cork County, in connection with an alleged seditious speech in the County.

IRISH ESTIMATES.

The chief items in the Irish Estimates 20 disclosed by a White Paper issued yesterday are a sum of £3,091,886 for Education, with £2,555,532 for 1918-19. The total police charges are £2,191,200, and £2,185,223 for the R.I.C., with £1,442,422.