

nection with the building trade. The
 uring question is acute and pressing, and
 ould afford a wide field for employment in
 construction of dwellings that are so
 ently needed. There are, of course,
 iculties in the way, but in view of the
 vernment's proposals there is hope that
 as will be surmounted without much
 ay. Again, it would appear that high
 es are placed in the prospect of an Anglo-
 ssian trading agreement as a means of
 oning unemployment by bringing large
 lers for supplies from Russia to Great
 ain, and we hope to Ireland as well.
 our favours the opening up of what
 old, undoubtedly, be an extensive trade
 h Russia and thus help to mitigate the
 s of unemployment at home, a phase of
 al life which is not peculiar to this
 ntry just now, but rather is the experi-
 e of other nations as well. The efforts of
 Government to find a way out of the
 iculty will, it is hoped, be rewarded with
 success that they deserve, and that some
 h of effectively dealing with the un-
 employment question will be found and thus
 ng relief to those of the community
 o so urgently need it.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Telephone Charges.
 he report of the Select Committee on Telephone
 rges has now been issued, and it contains, as
 been forecasted, a recommendation that the
 rate inclusive charge shall be abolished and a
 tem of charging for every individual call sub-
 nted for it. This is a most unbusinesslike
 posal, writes a contemporary. It is contrary
 he economical principle of giving special terms
 rge customers. There is just as good a case
 the flat-rate charge as there is for the season-
 at on the railways. The suggested system
 mean the wasteful employment of a whole
 y of clerks both by the Post Office and by
 rate firms. If the charges are inadequate they
 ould be raised, and the necessary increases can
 ly be calculated by averaging calls and costs.

RAILWAY RESUMPTION.

**First Day at Limerick
 Terminus.**
 full service of trains marked the resumption
 ork on the railway at Limerick yesterday.

near Shanagolden on Tuesday evening by a party
 of constabulary, and, as alleged, attempted to
 escape. Refusing, as stated, to halt, he was
 fired at and fatally wounded.

CONSTABLE SHOT IN ENNIS.

An official report states that ex-Constable Kemp,
 R. I. C. was fired at on Tuesday night in Ennis, and
 received two bullet wounds. He was removed to
 hospital for treatment of his wounds, which are
 rather serious. His assailants escaped.
 An Ennis correspondent says a member of the
 police force, named Kemp, was shot in Mill street,
 Ennis, about six o'clock. He ran for shelter into
 a shop, and assistance was sent for. It was found
 on examination that Kemp had received three
 bullets, causing little more than flesh wounds, in
 either hip, and another in the back, which was
 not serious. He was removed to the County
 Infirmary, where he is doing well.

RECENT CORK FIRES.

Limerick Brigade Thanked.

The Town Clerk has received the following
 letter from Mr F. W. M'Carthy, Town Clerk,
 Cork:—
 "Town Clerk's Office, City Hall,
 "Cork, 20th December, 1920.
 "DEAR SIR—I am directed by the Corporation
 of Cork to return the sincere thanks of the Cor-
 poration and citizens of Cork for the invaluable
 services rendered by your Brigade during the
 recent conflagration in Cork. Please convey to
 the individual members of your Brigade our
 appreciation of their work.—Yours faithfully,
 "F. W. M'Carthy, Town Clerk.
 "W M Nolan, Esq, Town Clerk, Limerick."

**DEATH OF MR P. J. O'SHAUGHNESSY,
 EX-M.P.**

We regret to record the death of Mr Patrick J.
 O'Shaughnessy, Rathkeale, which took place
 yesterday morning at the Grosvenor Hotel,
 Dublin. The deceased had only been ailing for a
 few days, death being due to an attack of
 pneumopis, which developed rapidly. Mr
 O'Shaughnessy was eldest son of the late Mr
 David O'Shaughnessy, draper, Rathkeale, and
 was Nationalist Member of Parliament for West
 Limerick from 1900 to December, 1918, when he
 did not contest the seat. He was forty-eight
 years of age, and was educated in Rathkeale and
 at the French College, Blackrock. He took,
 during his Parliamentary career, a deep interest
 in every question affecting his constituents, by
 whom he was held in very high esteem and regard.
 With the members of his family the utmost
 sympathy will be felt in their bereavement.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.

Services for Close of the Year on Friday, 31st
 December, 1920, at 7.30 p.m.; Preacher, the
 Dean. Saturday—Feast of the Circumcision and
 New Year's Day—Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

**NORTH WALL AND HOLYHEAD
 CARGO SERVICES.**

The London and North-Western Railway Dis-
 trict Agent has received a wire from his Dublin
 Manager that the cargo services between North
 Wall and Holyhead will be resumed on and from
 31st instant.

satisfactory position when
 Government guarantee ceases
 It will be right, they add, t
 the period up to August, 192
 carefully watched to ascertain
 date, revenue and expenditure

THE LIVERPOOL

Insurance Companies

A Liverpool correspondent
 ance companies of the city
 decision with regard to resp
 recent incendiary fires, which
 mended as fair. Pending a l
 the responsibility of the o
 ground that the fires were due
 or riot, the companies will pay
 the responsibility be ultimate
 that of the community they
 Corporation for repayment of
 which is still reckoned at al
 merchandise destroyed, apart
 building. In coming to the
 companies have been actuated
 the financial inconvenience,
 which might be entailed upon
 fires through an indefinite p
 settlement of their claims. An
 for the non-liability of the co
 by counsel, whose opinion was
 fires resulted from "usurpation
 does not seem likely to be pres

DEATH OF MR JOHN C

We regret to learn from our H
 of the death of Mr John Cullin
 at his residence, Bludon street,
 at the age of 80. He was th
 known solicitor in Clare, and r
 the leading estates in the count
 of the late Captain R. Cullinan,
 member of the Munster Bar,
 Dardanelles. He was highly
 pected in Clare.

**FOOT-AND-MOUTH D
 BIRMINGHAM**

An extensive outbreak of foot
 has occurred in Birmingham.
 surrounding counties have be
 movement of cattle forbidden.

MADAME MARKIEVICZ

The Press Association say
 announced that the sentence o
 labour on Madame Markievic
 criminal conspiracy was promul
 Eve. Madame Markievicz, w
 age, had been prominent in the
 Irish politics for the past ten
 leading part in the Easter Rebe
 wards sentenced to death. J
 commuted to a term of penal
 was eventually liberated on the

GERMANY AND DIS

The German Government has
 the Allies protesting against
 the Commission of Control with
 disarmament of German fortres

U.S.A AND NAVAL EX