

CURRENT COMMENT.

Unemployment Statistics.

A return issued by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce states that at the 15th January the number of people registered at Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment offices in the Irish Free State for employment was 37,524, compared with 37,168 on the 8th January, showing an increase of 356. In Limerick the unemployment figures for week ending 15th inst were 1,476, previous week 1,384; corresponding week last year, 2,849. The total number of claims in the Free State current on 15th January instant in connection with Unemployment Insurance Benefit (total unemployment) was 34,821—viz, men, 29,026; women, 5,303; boys, 214, and girls 278.

TRAIN WRECKED.

Bridge Mined.

Dublin, Monday.—This morning the Midland Great Western line near Kiltoom was the scene of a further incident, an under bridge being mined, and the 7.10 limited mail from Broadstone for the West partly, if not wholly wrecked.

It appears that in the early morning a party of armed men put a mine under the bridge and blew up portion of it, rendering the structure impassable. They then held up the limited mail on its arrival and ordered the passengers and the company's officials to leave the train. The empty train was then sent at full steam on to the bridge, where it was derailed, and the passenger coaches, etc., wrecked.

The company have not yet received full particulars of the occurrence, but they issued a Press representative that no person had been injured, and that the passengers were transferred to another train and proceeded on their journey. (The line is not likely to be cleared for a couple of days, but the company will continue to run their usual service and transfer from one train to another at the damaged and obstructed portion of the line.)

Live stock traffic will be suspended until the line has been repaired. 70 waggons of cattle from Balla fair were held up by the occurrence.

DEATH OF MRS H HINTON.

Mr S H Hinton, Chief Cashier of the Bank of Ireland, who was shot in the head on Thursday night while driving to his home in Dublin in a motor car, has succumbed in the Fitzwilliam Nursing Home. Apparently the driver of the car did not hear the challenge of soldiers to halt, and fire was opened.

G.S. & W.R. SERVICES.

On inquiry at the offices of the Kingsbridge yesterday it was ascertained that the service with Cork was maintained unimpaired.

There was no traffic in North Kerry beyond Listowel, and the damage between Bagnalstown and Gowran has not yet been completely repaired. There has been a break on the Birr branch,

months.

FREEDOM OF LIMERICK.

A Repudiation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to the paragraph in yesterday's "Freeman" headed "Freedom of Limerick," I desire to say it was not sent by

Yours faithfully,

"FREEMAN" CORRESPONDENT.

Limerick, January 23rd, 1923.

NEW PROVISION STORES.

It will be seen by advertisement that Messrs Fitzgerald and Co., wholesale and retail provision merchants, will open a retail store at 64 Parnell street (Roche's-street end) on Friday next. The proprietor, Mr W J Fitzgerald, has had a long experience of the trade, and is well and popularly known in Limerick and adjoining centres. All the necessities of the business will be provided in his establishment, and customers may rely on entire satisfaction both as regards quality and price.

FUNERAL OF VOLUNTEER SMITH.

On Sunday the remains of the late Volunteer Christopher Smith, National Army, who succumbed to wounds received in a fight with irregulars at Dromina, Charleville, on Wednesday, were interred in St Patrick's Cemetery. On Saturday evening the coffin, which was covered with the tri-colour, was removed from St John's Hospital to St John's Cathedral. The funeral took place at 4 o'clock, full military honours being paid to the deceased. There was a large concourse of people present, and at the cemetery, at the conclusion of the burial service, the firing party fired volleys over the grave, after which the "Last Post" was sounded.

ELEVEN EXECUTED.

At Athlone, Tralee, and Limerick.

It was officially announced in Dublin on Saturday that eleven men had been executed that day. Five suffered the death penalty at Athlone, four at Tralee, and two at Limerick.

LISTOWEL MARKET.

Hay, of which there was a but a small quantity in market, 2s to 3. 6s per cwt; potatoes, 6d and 7d per stone according to quality; oats, 1s 2d to 1s 4d per stone; straw, 3s to 3s 6d per cwt; butter, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s per cwt.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

Soldier Shot in Clare.

A soldier named Joe Tubridy, Clohanbeg, Cree, County Clare, was shot dead at K. l. kee on Wednesday night by the accidental discharge of a comrade's revolver.

guage in the engine. T and all passengers were or by the irregulars, who unhook the engine with sending it amok along the unquestionably have done that there was a large n children on the train, and the irregulars to allow the journey. After a time t drew, and the passenger r train continued its course further mishap.

Later as the 3 o'clock t passing the same place h but no attempt was made this train had passed a lifted on the line, with the service beyond Banaha to c

BATHKEALE QUAL.

His Honor County Cour the business of the Hilary morning for the Division o

The Court sat for a shor in the hearing of undefend finished these rose, the b being con l. del.

TELEGRAPH WIRE.

Telegraph wires in Co were out during the week Postal services are again n

PRETTY W.

A pretty wedding too Church on Wednesday, tween Mr Ivor Gillespie, vice, youngest son of the Reta Mitchellson, grand- Francis Saddleir Woodwa The church was tastef officiating clergy were th bridegroom, assisted by B of the parish, and Rev H G bridegroom. A reception House by the Misses Wo bride. The bride and the afternoon to spend their before sailing for East Afr holds a Government post. Great War and was badly

LORD GLENAV.

The "Daily News" wiring from Dublin says: that the principal line of Gledavv had in mind goes Ask Ulster to abandon the l Offer her complete control c vial if necessary, on condit her representatives from W them instead to the Free i that Parliament let her ha veto over all matters which