

ordinary taxpayer. There is a persistent demand for reduction of official expenditure, and a more vigorous application of the pruning knife. How far this will come to pass must remain a matter of mere speculation for the present. It is, at all events, probable that economies will be effected in some of the national services under the Bill which will be introduced with that object, and there is evidence that the ten million pounds saving on this year's estimate, which the Government has set itself to achieve, will, notwithstanding doubts to the contrary, be made effective. The Cabinet, it appears, hopes to save public money as a result of certain proposals that are being considered, and which, it is hoped, will lead to a reduction of local taxation. A good deal of controversy is likely to arise in the House of Commons relative to the future of the Road Fund. Apparently, the Chancellor's plan is to make adequate provision for rural roads and general road maintenance, and to use what remains of the Fund for other purposes. But there is a motion tabled in the House to the effect that no money shall be spent out of the Fund except for road construction and maintenance. It appears, however, that the Chancellor has succeeded in calming the fears of the Agricultural Committee of the Commons on this point, and that in the end what is described as the "Road Fund riddle" will disappear. The question of new taxes is, naturally, what most concerns the man who pays the piper. It is stated that these will be of a character that will affect trade and industry as little as possible. This would not be surprising as Britain shares the experience of this country in trade depression, and manifestly the policy of the Government is to stimulate industry and diminish unemployment, and thus relieve taxation. It is hinted, too, that extended unemployment benefit will in certain cases come under the guillotine, which leads to the hope that trade will continue to improve and expand as time goes on. Then there is the all-important question of the Income-tax, which hits everyone, large and small. No reduction is, the Press Association's Political Correspondent says, to be expected, but, on the other hand, the possibility of an increase has, it is believed, been definitely removed. The question of the postal rates will, no doubt, figure conspicuously in the debates on the Budget, and it may be taken for granted that a stiff fight will be made for a return to the penny post, seeing that there is a very large surplus on the working of the Department, which it is considered should allow of a return to "old times" being arranged by the Postmaster-General. If lower postal charges should come in Britain, we may reasonably look to a reduction of these rates in the Free State. Our Postal Department is still probably a losing concern; but, on the other hand, a reduction of the letter and newspaper rates would eventually mean increased revenue to the Post Office, and a welcome relief to the commercial—in fact, to all sections of the

temperature as low as 32 degrees by C.O.2 system and brine circulation. The main deck is fitted for carriage of cattle, with ventilation by fans, and special accommodation for horses, and designed to the rules of the Ministry of Agriculture, Saorstát, and the new rules of the British Board of Agriculture. There are clear holds, free of all obstructions, and special derricks for heavy lifts.

DEATH OF MR AMBROSE HALL

We announce with regret the death of Mr Ambrose Hall, which took place at his residence, Wellington Terrace, yesterday morning, after an illness of several months duration. The deceased, who was in his sixty-fifth year, was a well-known and respected citizen, who took a deep interest in philanthropic work in Limerick. He was engaged in the business of house and commission agent for many years, and was also a property owner. The late Mr Hall was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Society, and of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, as well as other benevolent bodies. In all these he took a deep interest, and was ever ready to lend his aid in every movement for the benefit of his fellow-citizens. He was son of the late Mr Ambrose Hall, J.P., a former Mayor of the city, and in his day a prominent citizen, and brother of the late Mr W. J. Hall, Harbour Engineer. His death is deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends, and the sympathy of the public will be extended to his widow and family in their bereavement.

At the Harbour Board yesterday, Mr Ryan said the death had taken place that morning of Mr Ambrose Hall, a member of an old and respected family. The late Mr Hall was very prominently associated with charitable work in the city, more particularly with the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, of which he was a life-long member. He was also connected with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. His father was one of their most prominent citizens, having been connected with the various public boards, and was Mayor of the city. He proposed that the Board offer its deep sympathy to Mrs Hall and family in their sorrow.

Mr Fitzell seconded the proposition, which was passed in silence.

The funeral arrangements appear elsewhere in the obituary notice.

DEATH OF MR J. J. SHINE

We regret to record the death, which took place at Glenview, Limerick, of Mr J. J. Shine, a member of an old county family. He was son of the late Mr Roger Shine, J.P., of Camas Park, Cashel, and on his return from America, where he spent many years, he farmed extensively at High Park, County Limerick. He was highly esteemed by all classes, and deep sympathy is expressed with his widow, who is a daughter of the late Mr John Russell, Glenview, and her family in their bereavement. Mr Shine had not been in good health for some time past. The funeral is announced to be private.

LIMERICK MISSION.

As announced some weeks ago, a mission for the City of Limerick has been arranged by the Bishop, Right Rev. Dr. White, and the parochial clergy, for June 5 to 13, inclusive. The missionary will be the Rev. Frank Stone, Vicar of St. Peter's, Newton-le-Willows, in the diocese of Liverpool, who served as a chaplain during the war, and was awarded a Military Cross. Mr Stone is an experienced missionary in many fields, and conducted a mission last year in the

credit, and is in accordance with our traditional observance of the first day of Lent. If some of the advertisements do not contain this announcement I hope that this is an oversight and does not arise on the part of the proprietors concerned from such disregard of the serious and sacred associations of the day as would lead them to open on Ash-Wednesday! Should, however, this be the explanation of the omission, as one responsible for the spiritual interests of the largest of our city parishes let me express the hope that the people will not depart from the manner in which they have up to this observed Ash-Wednesday, and will remain away on that day from public entertainments of any kind. The money so spared might be well given to relieve the needs of those who, not to speak of amusement, are not always able to procure even the necessities of life. Those who follow this advice will find that this little exercise of Christian charity will leave behind it a feeling of consolation which the sums spent on the selfish pursuit of pleasure are powerless to give.—Yours faithfully,

J. CARROLL, Adm., St. Michael's.

IRISH HOCKEY XI.

Final Trial Game.

The final trial played at Park Avenue, Dublin, on Saturday afternoon, resulted in a draw of one goal each for Whites and Colours.

The following team has been selected to meet Wales next Saturday:—

Goal—E. M. Dillon (Hollywood).

Backs—W. Dick (Cliftonville), and W. Stockhill (Limerick P.Y.M.A.).

Half-backs—Lieut. Heard (Army and Royal Engineers), R. Malcolmson (Banbridge), and G. Gamble (Army and Lisnagarvey).

Forwards—W. Bailey (Lisnagarvey), C. Sully (Railway Union), G. G. MacGregor (Lisnagarvey), W. P. MacDonogh (East Antrim), and N. Coburn (Banbridge).

PRESENTATION TO EX-BRIGADIER GENERAL MURPHY.

An interesting function took place at St. Ita's House, Thomas Street, on Saturday night, when Mr T Murphy, ex-Brigadier-General, National Army, was entertained by a number of his friends and presented with a wallet of Treasury notes (£150) and a gold wristlet watch in recognition of his services to the city in 1922.

The Mayor (Councillor P. A. O'Brien) presided, and in making the presentation referred to ex-Brigadier-General Murphy's fine services to the city in July, 1922, the occasion of the irregular invasion. At that time, he said, when the situation demanded it their guest stepped into the breach and held the fort for the Government. He had thus during the Anglo-Irish conflict displayed outstanding courage and showed a fine sense of duty. He had great pleasure in making the presentation which was liberally subscribed to by the citizens.

Mr Murphy, in reply, said he was deeply indebted to the Mayor and citizens for this great act of kindness and recognition of duty done, and which he said he would repeat if ever the occasion demanded it. (Applause).

Mrs Murphy was also the recipient of a gold wristlet watch.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT SENTENCES.

Sentences passed at the Central Criminal Court, Dublin, on Saturday included the following:—

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