

BREAKS OF FIRE IN THE CITY.

Yesterday evening the City Fire Brigade responded to an outbreak of fire in a house in Mungret-street, occupied by the named Lynch and Rockett. The brigade, under Captain Hogan, on the roof was blazing fiercely, and working strenuously for over an hour, but the flames were subdued, the damage being minimal.

Yesterday morning the brigade were called to a fire at No. 50 Wolfe Tone street, inhabited by Mrs Cooney, and succeeded in extinguishing it before any serious damage was done.

THE CITY RATES.

At a meeting of the Estimates Committee held last night, the Mayor (Councillor P. A. O'Connell) presiding, the rates to serve the needs of administration for the ensuing year are under consideration. The Committee decided to reduce the impost for the maintenance and upkeep of the City Home Hospital by sixpence in the pound, bringing the figure down to 7s. instead of 7s. 6d. which has been levied for the past several years. The reduction of sixpence is equivalent to approximately £1,900. The Committee had not concluded its investigation and will again meet to-night, when it is expected that further reductions will take place and thus bring the omnibus rate below the present figure of 22s. 6d. in the £.

EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGE.

William Hollings, aged 35 years, and known to be an Englishman, was arrested yesterday morning by Superintendent O'Connell, on a charge of embezzlement. The offence was effected in a lodging-house in Park street, from a description supplied by the Scotch and English police. He was taken over to an escort from Dublin, and is believed for sometime past in Limerick under the name of Barron, as a welder.

LIBRARIAN FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

The following members attended the monthly meeting of the above—Mr Sean O'Connell (presiding), Miss Josephine O'Brien, Mr J. Tucker, with the Director. A large amount of routine and departmental business was transacted, and the Committee thankfully acknowledged the following presentations:—Library—Mr J. Tucker's Irish Directory, 1926, from the Librarian, Mr. J. Tucker.

support of this plea. The prisoner was also examined, and stated that he was in bed at about 10 o'clock. He denied that he went to Denis Rabbitt to borrow his gun.

Cross-examined he admitted making a series of false statements to the Civic Guards.

DEATH OF MR. GERARD KEANE

We announce with regret the death of Mr. Gerard Keane, which took place at his residence Wickham Street, yesterday morning. The deceased was a reputable and prominent athlete, being a member of the Garryowen and Shannon Football Clubs, and played with conspicuous success in many of their fixtures. He was also a skilled oarsman and rowed bow for Athlunkard B.C. when they won the Irish Union rowing cup some few years ago. He was youngest son of the late Mr. P. Keane, baker, Wickham st, and brother of Mr Jas. Keane, President of Athlunkard Boat Club, to whom, and the other members of his family sincere sympathy is offered in their bereavement.

The Requiem Mass for the deceased will take place at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning in St. Michael's Church, and not at 10.30 as announced, and the funeral will leave at 3 o'clock for Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery.

DEATH OF MR. RICHARD MCCARTHY.

The death which we announce with regret took place at his residence O'Connell Avenue, last night, of Mr. Richard McCarthy, a well-known and respected citizen, after a brief illness. The deceased was extensively engaged in the wool and hide trade and his business brought him into contact with dealers in almost every part of the country and cross channel. He was of a very affable and courteous disposition, kindly and charitable. His death has been learned with keen regret and the sympathy of the public is extended to his widow and family in their sorrow.

The funeral arrangements appear in the obituary notice.

THE LATE REV. P. O'SHAUGHNESSY, BRUFF.

A Solemn Requiem Mass was sung at Plymouth Cathedral for the repose of the soul of Rev. P. O'Shaughnessy, who died at Bruff, Co. Limerick. Father O'Shaughnessy was ordained for the diocese of Plymouth some three years ago, and until his serious breakdown last year was attached as chaplain to the Ursuline Convent, Beaconfield.

JURY AWARDED

In the action by Mr. J. Ca Fermoy, against six defendants, conspiracy, false imprisonment, and conversion of £550, the jury on Tuesday were—£3,700 against the defendants (except Thomas Anne Donovan, his wife), in conspiracy, kidnapping, and £500 against all the defendants including Thos. Donovan and Anne Donovan, in respect of the im-

This is as important a case as has ever been tried in these Courts in recent years, said Mr. Justice Hanna in his address to the jury. In regard to Mrs. Donovan, she stated it was the Republic which was concerned with the acts complained of in the case; but, he said, the Republic had gone out of it. The Republic would be thought of as the scapegoat for the violence and intimidation.

The sole motive for the collection of land annuity was put an end to.

THE DEMAND FOR ECONOMY

Minister Says Big "Cuts" Made.

Two important facts emerged from the debate in the Dail on Tuesday. The Minister for Finance asked for £28,685,048 on account of public works.

The first fact is that, in the Government's view, a "Geddes Committee" is necessary for a useful purpose in the Free State. The Minister for Finance, however, can be effected only by the extension of valuable public services or by an increase in production.

The second fact is that the Government and the Judiciary are at loggerheads concerning the control of the Supreme Court, the High Court, and the Circuit Courts. The judges of the Circuit Officers' Bill as it stands are mentally at variance with the Constitution, and that, if they are not reformed, they will endanger their independence.

Mr O'Higgins announced that he will stand by the principle of the independence of the court officers, unlike the judge who would be elevated above the plane of public criticism, but should be under the control of a Minister. He stated, however, that on questions of detail he was prepared to introduce amendments to meet public views.

FLOWER AND PRODUCE

The annual Flower and Produce Fair will be held on behalf of the funds of the Lim