

CORRESPONDENTS.

Students sending in letters or reports for a Saturday's "Chronicle," and these are requested to let us have them brief, where at all possible. Otherwise a Saturday's issue cannot, owing to space, be guaranteed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Students will kindly send in all substitutes and advertisements on Friday mornings. We guarantee to insert in Saturday's issue received after 2 p.m. on that day.

LIMERICK CHRONICLE.

(ESTABLISHED 1766)

ESDAY, MARCH 22, 1927

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FREE STATE

Minister for Posts and Telegraphs has in the last two years shown a keen desire to improve the telephone, and his efforts have resulted in gratifying success. One of the chief of these is the reduced charges in long distance and residence lines, which have led to a greatly increased demand for calls, and the lesser rates have resulted in a considerable drop in the receipts, the loss is being amply made up. This is encouraging and would pave the way for further reduced rates at no distant date. There could, at the same time, be no better way of developing the telephone throughout the country, and the beginning which has been made in this direction is certainly an encouraging one of progress and appreciation. There has been a big expenditure of money in bringing the telephone system up to date. We read in a statement just issued that in the year the operators are prepared to handle nineteen million calls of all kinds, being divided up between Dublin, and "the rest of the country." These figures indicate the enlarged facilities made available to the public, and it is noted that there are now 483 exchanges in the country compared with 297 four years ago. The new exchanges are in the hands of the owners, thus bringing them into

take, and that is to have the whole question raised in the Oireachtas should the Minister persist in the attitude he has assumed.

DEATH OF MR THOMAS E. LLOYD.

We regret to record the death of an old and highly esteemed member of a County Limerick family, Mr Thomas Edward Lloyd, of Heathfield, which occurred at his residence on Sunday last at the ripe old age of 89 years. Up to quite recently he enjoyed good health, and was quite active for one of his advanced age. All through his life he farmed very extensively at Heathfield, and of a quiet and retiring disposition, he won the high esteem and regard of all who knew him, and whose sympathies go out to his bereaved family. The late Mr Lloyd was deeply interested in religious and philanthropic work, and was practically instrumental in founding the Convalescent Home, Kilkree. He was father of Mr E. L. Lloyd, County Councillor, well known in racing circles at both sides of the Channel, and of Mr Robert Lloyd, Agent of the Bank of Ireland, Wexford. A third son, Mr George Lloyd, of the Canadian forces, was killed in the European War. The late Mr Lloyd married a daughter of the late Mr Robert Hunt, of Inchirourke, Askeaton. This lady died in 1910.

The funeral will take place to-morrow (Wednesday) at 12 o'clock to Ballingarry.

A NATIONAL HALF-HOLIDAY.

Professor J. M. O'Sullivan, Minister for Education, wrote to the Killarney Urban Council acknowledging Council's resolution calling on the Government to introduce legislation providing for the observance of Saturday as the weekly half-holiday throughout the Saorstát, for the purpose of the Shops Act, and stating he was bringing the resolution to the notice of the Minister for L.G. and P.H. The Postmaster-General wrote acknowledging copy of the same resolution, and stated he was in entire agreement and sympathy with the resolution, as he thinks the present arrangement of a half-holiday on any day of the week, as the shopkeeper pleases, is detrimental to trade.

LATE MR S. O'MARA'S ESTATE.

The late Mr Stephen O'Mara, Strand House, Limerick, left £42,669, of which £22,669 is

ATHLUNKARD BOAT CLUB

Mr J. Keane presided at the general meeting of the members of the Athlunkard Boat Club on Sunday. There was a large attendance, and the Treasurer showed that considerable headway was made towards liquidating the debt on the building which is a handsome structure—a decided advantage to club affairs. Mr Morgan Costelloe was elected P. for the ensuing year; Mr Thomas Keane, Vice-President; Mr James Reidy, Hon. Treasurer; Mr John Healy, Secy; Mr John Griffin, Captain, and Mr J. Clancy, Vice-Captain.

Mr Bryan O'Connor, after holding captaincy for seventeen years, resigns that office, tribute being paid to his experience and abilities in the success the Club attained in rowing circles.

Mr Keane alluded to the fact that the Irish Rowing Union Cup would be contested for in Cork this year, and emphasized the necessity of crews going into training at an earlier date than usual. They hope to figure at several of the season's regattas if they were to be successful and hold their position, they should train early and systematically.

INFLUENZA IN ENNIS**Schools Closed.**

Owing to the prevalence of influenza in Ennis the Boys' National Schools and Protestant Schools have been closed by order of Dr Bugler, the medical officer of health. For the same reason the Most Rev. Fogarty has removed the fast and abstinence in regard to food during the season. Although the epidemic has visited the homes in the town, it is much milder than in former years, and so far very few deaths have been reported. This fortunate state of affairs is attributed to the precautions being taken by the medical profession and a respect for hygiene on the part of the population.

A FOUR-OUNCE DRESS**Ruined by Soup.**

A tragic-comic story of a lady's dress, which weighed four ounces, and was ruined by soup falling on it, was told in Manchester Co. Court yesterday.