

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents sending in letters or reports for insertion in Saturday's "Chronicle," and these should be brief, are requested to let us have them on Fridays, where at all possible. Otherwise insertion in Saturday's issue cannot, owing to measure of space, be guaranteed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers will kindly send in all substitutes or standing advertisements on Friday mornings. We cannot guarantee to insert in Saturday's issue any advertisement received after 2 p.m. on that day.

THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.

(ESTABLISHED 1766)

TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1923

BURDEN OF TAXATION.

The heavy burden of taxation, National and local, remains with us, and anything that can be done to lighten it would be gladly welcomed by the taxpayer. High taxes, such as we have, mean a handicap on business activities, while from another point of view they keep up the cost of living at a very high level. Better times are, according to expert opinion, in store for the country, and a turn of the tide has already set in. They would, however, be all the more assured if taxation were to come down, and, needless to say, the sooner the better. The Association of Chambers of Commerce of the Irish Free State at its annual general meeting in Dublin during the week-end had this important question under consideration, and pressed upon the Government and the country the urgent necessity for economies, and a resultant decrease in the taxpayer's bill. Of course essential State and public services have to be maintained, and while the cry of economy is insistent, yet people cannot for that reason expect too much immediately, as saving must come by easy stages. But it will be for the Government to see how further economies may be effected, and the views and the experience of captains of industry, as expressed at the Chambers of Commerce Association meeting, cannot but be of material help to them in their investigation of the subject. Apart from national taxation, there is the question of local expenditure, which also needs very substantial reduction. Mr G. Ryan instanced the position of Limerick, which is paying a rate of something like 22s in the £. The City Home costs £28,000, towards which the Government contributes a grant of £100 p.a. Thus, as has been shown again and again, this institution is a heavy burden financially on the city ratepayers. In short, he observed that the existing system

CITY DROWNING TRAGEDY.

Sensation at Matthew Bridge.

At half-past five o'clock last evening a remarkable drowning tragedy took place in the city, when a man got on to the parapet of Matthew Bridge and threw himself into the Abbey River. At the time the tide was on the flow, and the occurrence was witnessed by pedestrians in the locality. After falling into the water the man disappeared, and instantly there was a rush for the bridge by those who saw the tragic affair. The victim was apparently about thirty years of age, and well dressed.

A little later a number of boats were secured, and from them grappling hooks were used in a search for the body, which was recovered at seven o'clock quite close to the scene of the drowning. The remains were subsequently taken ashore, and conveyed to Barrington's Hospital morgue.

The body has been identified as that of Martin Sheedy, Aughboy, Clonlara, County Clare.

The Inquest.

Doctor T. Foley, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest to-day at Barrington's Hospital.

Timothy Moloney, Francis street, City, stated that at about 5:15 o'clock last evening he saw a man standing on the top of Matthew Bridge. The man raised his right hand; dived into the water; rose to the surface, and appeared to turn on his back. Witness called across to men in the boat-house. These men got a boat and came immediately to the scene, but the man had then disappeared. The man made an attempt to swim, and shouted three or four times, but witness did not know what he said.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said the tide was nearly fully in at the time, and where the man sank the body was found.

Doctor W P Dundon, House Surgeon, Barrington's Hospital, stated that the body was brought to the morgue at the institution at 7 p.m. On examination there were no marks of violence found, and in his opinion death was due to asphyxia, following immersion in the water.

Michael Sheedy, father of the deceased, identified the body as that of his son, Martin Sheedy, who was aged about 32 years. The deceased worked on the farm at Clonlara, and had been in America for some time. His son had been peculiar since he came home from America, and at times when questioned would pass away without answering. Witness saw him last alive at 2 o'clock on Monday, when he appeared to be in good health and spirits. The deceased then left for Limerick, and witness heard nothing of him until that morning, when he received a telegram of his death.

The Deputy Coroner returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased died from asphyxia following immersion, due to diving into the river at Matthew Bridge while temporarily insane.

SHANNON SCHEME LANDS.

District Justice and Non-Payment of Compensation.

At Limerick Civil Bill Court yesterday before District Justice Flood,

John Daly, Ardtaggle, was sued by the Land Commission, represented by Mr Lynch State Solicitor, Ennis, for the sum of 15s 4d stated to be due in respect of annuities.

The defendant said the debt went back very far, and the civil bill before the Court was the fourth process which he had been served with. He had not derived any benefit from the land involved since it was first acquired by the Shannon Scheme.

The Justice said it was very hard on the defendant that one Government Department should take over land without compensation, while another processed him for land annuities.

The defendant said that until his land was first taken over he had never previously been sued by the Land Commission, and recently he had been compelled to get other land in lieu of that taken over for the Shannon Scheme.

Mr Lynch said he had a notice from the Board of Works to the Land Commission in which they said that the case had been adjourned from the Civil Bill Court held in April.

The Justice said it was probably one of the cases which he had adjourned with a view to expediting the payment of compensation by the Government. It was not fair that one department should come along and take land, and that another should refuse to compensate the owner.

The defendant said they had promised to pay, but he had not heard anything further about it.

Justice—It is not at all fair, and after two or three years those people ought to get something. If it were a question of six months, or even a year, it would not be too bad, but when it goes beyond that—these men are kept out of their money for two or three years—it is too bad.

The defendant said that as a result of his land having been taken over he was cut off from his own water supply, and had since been compelled to get water elsewhere.

The Justice adjourned the case for three months with a view to having an arrangement come to as regards the matter of compensation.

In two cases of a similar nature, and in which the defendants were Margaret Tuttle, Ardnacrusa, and John Meara, Derrymeelick, adjournments were granted for the purpose of ascertaining whether the defendants resided in the Limerick Court area or not.

IRISH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

Encouraging Trade with Great Britain.

Yesterday's session of the Ports and Harbour Tribunal, sitting in Dublin, was occupied entirely with the evidence of Mr David Remy, general manager of the British