

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 Friday, where at all possible. Otherwise insertion in Saturday's issue cannot, owing to pressure of space, be guaranteed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers will kindly send in all substitutes for 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, NOVEMBER 20, 1923

DOCK AND RAIL SCHEMES.

The first meeting of the newly-elected Harbour Commissioners yesterday threw fresh light on the dock extension and railway schemes, which for the past two years have been debated at the Board. To give even a resume of this prolonged controversy, in which the dock scheme was vigorously opposed by a section of the members who held that the railway was the more urgent work, would be only to repeat what is well within the recollection of the public. Suffice it to say that the Ports and Harbour Tribunal held sittings in the months of February and March of this year, and the result, in effect, was that the resources of the Board were, by the Minister, declared insufficient to finance both schemes. A dead lock has therefore arisen, for not only one, but the two projects are held up. How to get over the impasse is the problem to be solved. Accordingly, it was refreshing, and indeed a relief, to hear the pronouncement yesterday from the Mayor (Mr M. J. Keyes), who, since he assumed the civic office, has devoted sincere and earnest attention to this vexed question. He realises, as all sides realise, that the present situation is highly unsatisfactory, as it bars the progress of the port, and with it the development of our trade and commerce. Such a position of affairs cannot, as the Mayor says, continue indefinitely, and so he briefly outlines a proposal, or scheme, the success of which he is sanguine of, he having had the advantage of expert opinion. He holds that the dock extension and railway can be proceeded with conjointly out of the resources of the Commissioners, and without asking the Ministry for Industry and Commerce for any financial aid. If that can be shown—and this is the kernel of the situation—it will visualise a new and hopeful outlook for the carrying out of the two schemes. Mr Ryan reiterated what has been emphasised at the Board again and again that he and those associated with him in connection with the dock extension are wholeheartedly in favour of the railway scheme also. Both are essential for the well-being and prosperity of the port of Limerick and the city. And Mr Ryan observed that if the members work wholeheartedly and harmoniously, they might see these two projects constructed in two years to come. What that would mean for employment and the ultimate expansion of our mercantile activities, needs no argument, but it would be a great thing for Limerick if, at long last, a practical start were made in the actual construction of these two works. So far, Alderman McInerney so well put it, there has been "a lot of tattle but no work." The Mayor did not go into the details of his scheme, wisely preferring to leave these to a committee for consideration. But it will be noted that he puts forward a railway route via the quays and Mallow-street to the Great Southern system, and thus the distance would be far shorter than the Roshrin route. The public will await with keen interest further development of the Mayor's proposals. We think Alderman Wallace acted judiciously in, at the close of yesterday's discussion, withdrawing his motion instructing the Harbour Engineer to prepare plans for the railway, till at all events the committee has had an opportunity of discussing the Mayor's proposals. The public of every class will highly appreciate the Mayor's keen interest and activity in both projects, which so vitally concern the interests of the port and the city as a whole.

SHANNON POWER MACHINERY

Heaviest Import Yet.

The largest and heaviest machinery for the Shannon power development scheme imported from Germany up to the present reached port yesterday on board the steamer "Ambria." The work of unloading was a big task, some of the parts weighing upwards of thirty-five tons. They included portions of the huge turbines that are to generate electricity for the Staorstat. They were taken out to Ardacrusha on specially built lorries, and owing to their weight a new route had to be taken through the city to avoid any weak spots in the streets, and which would not be able to carry them without risk.

Shannon Scheme Tragedy.

Three Workmen Killed.

The most disastrous accident that has taken place on the Shannon electrification scheme since its inauguration, three years ago, occurred on Saturday night when three labourers lost their lives. Their names are—Daniel Healy (25), Kilmnane; Patrick Polan (17), Lettermore, Co. Galway, and Daniel O'Brien (41), No. 54 Clare street, Limerick. They were on the nightshift, and employed in the Newtown, Clonlara, section of the scheme.

Some time after eleven o'clock they were engaged in making an embankment on the railway line and at the time of the fatality were unloading earth from one of the heavy steel bogey waggons. They had it just in position to tilt over, when it suddenly swung back, struck the three men and pinned them underneath. When extricated—they had practically to be dug out of the ground—they were beyond human aid and were dead when a priest and Doctor Myles McSwiney, resident surgeon, arrived on the scene.

The bodies were removed to a hutment nearby pending an inquest to be opened yesterday at one o'clock, by Mr P. Culloo, Coroner for the district.

Healy and Polan were unmarried. O'Brien leaves a wife and five children to mourn his loss.

Inquest Opened.

Proceedings Adjourned.

An inquest was opened at Newtown, Clonlara, yesterday, by Mr P. Culloo, Coroner, East Clare, on the bodies of the three men, Daniel O'Brien, Clare street, Limerick; Daniel Healy, Kilmnane, Co. Limerick; Patrick Polan, Lettermore, Co. Galway, who were killed while working on the Shannon Power Development Scheme at Clonlara bridge on Saturday night.

The following were empanelled on the jury—Thomas McCormack, Peter Mulqueen, John Hamilton, John Sheedy, Patrick Naughton, Arthur Stritch, John Hynes, and Edward Murphy.

Superintendent Mooney, Killaloe, conducted the inquiry on behalf of the Authorities; Mr J. Dodds, solr., appeared for Messrs Siemens-Bauunion.

A pathetic figure, at the enquiry was Ellen O'Brien, widow of Daniel O'Brien, who stated her husband was a worker employed on the Shannon Power Scheme. She last saw him alive at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday night when he was in his usual good health. He was forty-one years of age, and was the sole support of herself and five children.

Patrick O'Brien, brother of the deceased, Daniel O'Brien, gave evidence of identification. His brother lived at 54 Clare street, Limerick, and was a labourer on the scheme.

James Polan stated he was employed on the Shannon Power Scheme, and was uncle of the deceased, Patrick Polan, who was a native of Lettermore, Co. Galway. Deceased was about seventeen years of age, and worked as a labourer on the scheme. He last saw his nephew alive at seven o'clock on Saturday night, and identified his remains. Deceased was unmarried.

Evidence of identification in the case of the third victim, Daniel Healy, was given by his father, Patrick Healy, Ballinana, Kilmallock. His son was employed as a labourer on the Shannon Power Scheme; he was twenty-five years of age and unmarried. Witness did not see him since last May, but frequently heard from him by letter. Deceased frequently contributed money towards the support of himself and his daughter.

Dr Joseph Humphreys stated he examined the body of the deceased Daniel Healy, and found that death was due to fracture of the skull and suffocation. In the case of Patrick Polan death was due to suffocation. He found in O'Brien's case that death was due to fracture of the skull and suffocation.

Superintendent Mooney—How did the suffocation occur?

Witness—Probably through being buried beneath the earth.

The Superintendent—The fracture of the skull could be due to a fall from the wagon?

The Witness—Yes. The earth and wagon fell on top of them.

The Coroner announced that they could not proceed further with the evidence that day. He had a wire from the Ministry for Industry and Commerce asking for an adjournment of the enquiry for the attendance of a representative of the Ministry. An adjournment to Wednesday next was suggested if suitable to the jury.

The Foreman—Is it necessary that the Ministry should be represented at the inquest?

The Coroner—Yes. It is quite essential that he should be here. He is bound to get twenty-four hours' notice of an accident.

The Foreman said an adjournment to Wednesday would not suit the jury.

The Coroner—Would Thursday suit?

The Foreman—Yes.

The Coroner—Well, the enquiry is adjourned until Thursday. Are there many more witnesses?

Superintendent Mooney—Four or five. A juror asked if there was any necessity for the jury to see the place where the accident occurred.

The father of the deceased man Healy said he would be glad if the jury saw the place.

The enquiry was adjourned until one o'clock on Thursday.

The remains of Daniel Healy and Daniel O'Brien were removed last evening for interment, and those of Patrick Polan were taken by road today to Lettermore, Co. Galway.

DEATH OF MR. IRREMIAN DVAN

P.Y.M.A. LITERARY CLASS.

Lecture by Rev. W. Corrigan.

On Friday evening last Rev. W. Corrigan delivered a most enjoyable lecture, entitled "Some 'Might-Have-Beens' of Modern History." Mr Corrigan possesses a wonderful gift in the manner in which he presents his subject. He is clear, concise, and at times humorous. His lecture on this occasion was voted by many to be the best he has ever delivered to this Class. Among the many "Might-Have-Beens" he mentioned the leader of the present Opposition in the Dail. What would have been the position of Ireland now, if Mr De Valera had signed the Treaty and abided by it? What would have been the consequence if there had not been that petty jealousy between Chamberlain and Gladstone in 1886 over the Home Rule Bill.

Had Bismarck and his two companions not changed the wording of that famous telegram that was despatched to Paris in 1870.

The next alluded to was the late President Wilson and his "14 points." If Wilson had had the proper authority or backing from his country, Europe certainly would be different, and peace would be more certain, when that great country, the U.S.A., would be foremost in the League of Nations.

Had the Dardanelles been forced would Russia be in her present plight? These are a few of the personalities the rev. lecturer dealt with, and at the conclusion he received enthusiastic applause from the large audience present.

Rev Chancellor Swain, M.A. proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was seconded by Mr A. H. King, and supported by Mr E. H. Bennis.

The President of the Class, Mr Bakins, in conveying the vote of thanks to Mr Corrigan, thanked him for his able lecture, and also for what he had done for the Class in the past.

The programme for next Friday evening is the reading of essays for the President's prize. There is a choice of two subjects—(a) Character; (b) Professional v Business Career. The Secretary has received promises from several members who are qualified to treat either subject in an intelligent manner.

LYRIC THEATRE.

"The Girl Next Door."

Crowded audiences were present at the Lyric Theatre last night for the performances of the musical comedy "The Girl Next Door," presented by the Nihil Preaus Enterprises. A bright, entertaining, and engaging play in every respect, "The Girl Next Door" is also studded with humour, and never flags during its progress. A particularly capable cast was responsible for last night's production, and the six scenes which it embraces are colourful and attractive. Mr Bobbie Graham gives a bright touch to the role "Bill Brown," the gardener, and is ably supported by Miss Madeline Adaire, and Miss Olive Aubrey, who contribute musical numbers. Another attractive item is the clever and sensational dancing of Leon and Lucette, while Miss Vera Bertie sings with sweetness and freshness a pretty number entitled "Waters of the Nile." Mr Alan Martin plays the part of the Maharajah with dignity, and with the Yearson Girls sings "Desert Caravan." Another engaging feature was "An Offering" by Mr Max Mason, while the speciality dancing of the eight Yearson Girls was greatly appreciated. The comedy will be presented at 7 and 9 each evening during the week, and should not be missed by all in search of an entertaining play.

CLEVER ACTING BY COLLEGE PLAYERS.

The College Players gave an exhilarating performance of the delectable comedy, "Mr Pim Passes By," at the Little Theatre last night. It was quite a talented production, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed every moment of it, and displayed their appreciation in frequent applause. "Mr Pim Passes By" is a three-act comedy by Mr A. A. Milne, and was produced on this occasion under the direction of Mr J. J. Hayes, Dublin, who has done much for the dramatic movement in the country. While it would be perhaps invidious to single out any particular member of the casts for special mention in a performance in which all did so well, it is only paying due merit to Miss L. McNeice to say that she gave a highly creditable rendering of the part of "Olivia," the wife of "George Marden, J.P.," excellently enacted by Mr J. J. Hayes. In the role of "Dinah," Miss Mona Graham added to her reputation as a skilful exponent of comedy parts, while Miss Monica Whelan was clever and convincing in the role of "Lady Marden." Mr J. B. O'Dwyer as "Brian Strange," Mr M. J. Lawlor as "Carraway Pim," and Miss Irene Lawlor as "Anne" were helpful factors in a bright production. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. Scallan, played a pleasing selection. The comedy will be produced every evening during the week, and should receive liberal support from the public.

SURVEYOR'S WARNING.

Trimming and Widening of Roads in Clare.

In recommending that a sum of £5,455 be paid to road contractors, and that £8,253 be deferred, Mr F. Dowling, County Surveyor for Clare, informed the County Council that if he were to adhere rigidly to the terms of the specifications very few contractors would be entitled to payment. Many contractors made a pretence of doing some work at the approach of inspections by the Assistant County Surveyors, but during the remainder of the year they are satisfied to let the roads take care of themselves. As a result the roads in many centres were far short of their supplies of road material. The contractors' attempts at trimming and widening the roads are a mockery, and they tried to improve

THE BAN ON "BIDDY"

ACTION AGAINST A DUBLIN THEATRE

In London Court.

Sequel to Scene at Production in Limerick.

London, Monday. In the King's Bench Division, London, today, before Mr Justice Mackinnon, Union Jack Photoplays, of London, sued the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Ltd., for damages for alleged breach of contract to produce a farce entitled "Biddy" at defendants' theatre in Dublin. The defendants denied any breach, and alleged in defence that a condition in the agreement, that the play should not be objectionable to Irish people, was not observed.

Sergeant Sullivan, K.C. for the plaintiffs, said that under the contract "Biddy" was to be produced in Dublin on December 12, 1922, with certain alterations in the play, but after events in Limerick the previous week the plaintiffs were not allowed by the defendants to give any Dublin performance. "Biddy" was a farce by Laurence Cowen, and was performed successfully all over England and part of Scotland. For the purpose of the Irish tour the plaintiffs had agreed not to use their title, as it involved reference to the Union Jack, and lemonade was to be substituted for whiskey in a scene in which a character called "Father O'Flaherty" appeared.

The play was well received in Derry and Belfast, but on the second night at Limerick, on December 6th, an organised gang broke up the performance. Circulars had been issued which contained an abuse of the play, and people were dissuaded from attending the play. So alarmed were the defendants of what happened at Limerick that they refused to allow the plaintiffs to perform "Biddy" in Dublin, and the plaintiffs now claimed £300 damages, which were provided for in the agreement.

Mr Harry Tilbury, an actor who played the part of "Father O'Flaherty" in Derry and Limerick, said that the performances in Derry and Belfast were successful, but on the second night in Limerick there was great opposition from part of the audience, and the play was stopped. In English performances the witness accepted whiskey on the stage, but lemonade or water was substituted for this in Ireland. He admitted that as soon as he came on to the stage he indicated his thirst by mopping his face with a red handkerchief.

Mr Doughty, K.C. (cross-examining)—Is that typical of Irishmen?

Witness—I do not know. I am not here to vindicate or vilify the Irish.

The witness said that he was an Irishman, and that in the course of the play he rebuked the butler for drinking.

Mr George Fry, manager of the "Biddy" Company in Ireland, said that the play as produced in Ireland was the author's revised Irish version, with the elimination of the words "absolution" and "dispensation," to which exception had been taken.

Mr Doughty, K.C., said that there would have been rioting in Dublin if the play had been produced, as things had been left in the Irish version which were objectionable to reasonable Irish people. The theatre had a patent that clergy were not to be represented on the stage except in sympathetic parts.

Mr Hugh Hyland, the defendants' manager, said that after he saw "Biddy" performed at Limerick on December 5th he decided not to put the play on at Dublin, because it was not suitable. People representing various bodies, like the Irish Vigilance Society, called on him urging him not to produce "Biddy" in Dublin, and the witness attached great weight to their representations. Feeling against the play ran high in Dublin, and it would have been impossible to obtain a peaceful performance of the play in Dublin. He made up his mind to cancel the production in Dublin on seeing a newspaper placard, "Wild Scene in Irish Theatre," as he feared that his theatre would have been wrecked if the play were put on.

Cross-examined, the witness said that after seeing the play, he suggested alterations, but did not decide, subject to these alterations being made, to produce the play in Dublin. The witness agreed that the police warned him that if he put on the play there was a section in Dublin, not members of his ordinary audience, bent on wrecking the theatre.

Canon Howlett, of Westminster Cathedral, said that the character in the play "Father O'Flaherty," was certainly offensive to ordinary-minded Catholics, as it was an attempt to degrade the Catholic priesthood. The witness particularly objected to the character being put forward as typical of the Irish race.

Serjt. Sullivan (cross-examining)—Would you approve of Scotch people wrecking a theatre because they thought that Harry Lauder in his representations was not typical of the true Scot?

Witness—I would seriously object to any representation of a Roman Catholic priest as being a man who, complaining constantly of his insatiable thirst, was dosed with generous portions of whiskey.

Police evidence was to the effect that, if the play had been put on in Dublin, the theatre would have been wrecked.

Father Rouan, Catholic curate, who attended the private performance of "Biddy" in Dublin on December 16th, said that "Father O'Flaherty" was an uneducated, uncouth character.

The hearing was adjourned.

This Day.

JUDGMENT FOR PLAINTIFFS.

£300 Agreed Damages.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM).

COURSING

Irish Cup Draw

The draw for the Irish Cup took place at Geary's Hotel this afternoon. Dr Griffin's Pealo Wave agst Mr T D O'Sullivan's Some Show. Mr J Fitzgibbon's Myra's Fancy agst Mr J McElhistrin's Stratum. Mr P J Carr's Harlesden agst Mr J Gosgrave's Beaded Outcast. Mr J V Rank's Borderline agst Mr J Hoare's Tasty Bit. Mr F J Rice's Willigut agst Mr M Dunne's Black Jester. Mr P J O'Loughlin's Oh Call Boy agst Dr J Roberts' Open Fire. Mr W Mahon's High Extract agst Dr J Trant's Fearful Fidget. Mr J Finn's The Lamb agst Mr R Cussen's Sidelight. Mr P J McNamara's Portside agst Mr A Costello's Marden. Mr M O'Bierne's The Goshawk agst Mr R V Eyan's Cure Me Quick. Mr E Leahy's Wise Widow agst Mr J Costelloe's False Favourite. Mr P J Kelly's Parleon agst Mr H McAlinden's Mascarrow. Mr T H Taylor's Windgap agst Dr C Molan's Shawn O'Flynn. Mr T Lawlor's Shaker agst Mr P J Frost's Comrade Kiwi. Mr P J Mulligan's Ishabraun agst Mr D J Gerty's Girl Graduate. Mr T O'Sullivan's Tagaline agst Mr P O'Brien's Jack Johnson. Mr M F Kelly's Beaded Lug agst Mr P O'Flynn's Figaro. Mr J Cigne's Duchess agst Mr T O'Brien's Go Ballinode. Mr H Mussen's Magadha agst Mr P J Meehan's Khamseen. Dr D C Pearson's Prince of Burien agst Mr P J Graham's Battle Island. Mr W Duffy's Wheel-Her-Out agst Mr C Smith's Swift Service. Miss A Hope-Johnson's Real Rustic agst Mr J Stack's Shanvalla. Mr J J Morrisroe's Mirthful Pal agst Mr W O'Sullivan's Flail. Mr T Wade's Miss Elwy agst Mr M J Mulhall's Oonthak. Mr T Harte's Hidden Maid agst Mr J M Collins's Montseveril. Mr P R Considine's Humorous Grip agst Mr J Shaw's Shake Your Feet. Mr J Clarke's Uncle Bill agst Mr T A Morris's Main Guard. Mr F Murphy's McIntosh agst Mr S G Matthews's Mettlesome Meg. Mr M O'Halloran's Alien Prince agst Mr R Moore's Never Fear. Mr P J O'Reilly's Joyful Laddie agst Mr J Griffin's Flight Commander. Mr M Kennedy's Knock Hill agst Mr T F Ryan's Mike Crotty. Mr J McDonald's Sizar agst Mr J Bailey's Wane o' Day.

excuse for an undoubted breach, and there would be judgment for plaintiffs for £300 agreed damages and costs.

Claim Against Messrs Lawrence and Parsons.

Judgment for Defendants.

The Judge then heard the claim by the Union Jack Photo Plays against J Lawrence and S. H. Parsons, lessees of the Lyric Theatre, Limerick, for damages for alleged breach of contract by defendants to provide their theatre for performances of "Biddy" during the week commencing December 5th, 1922.

The defence was that plaintiffs agreed, after the second night's disturbance, not to proceed further with the production.

George Fry, plaintiffs' manager in Ireland, said with proper police protection the company could have performed again. Part of the audience on the second night was sympathetic, but the rest were noisy when witness tried to address them. Plaintiffs were always willing to carry out their contract, but were told they could not go on with "Biddy."

Cross-examined—Witness agreed that the disturbance was serious. He was told if the company appeared again they stood the risk of having their property wrecked. He denied none of the company was at the theatre on December 7, because he told them the play was off.

For the defence, Sidney Harry Parsons, defendant, said Lawrence was his brother. There was a small house the first night. On the second night handbills were distributed outside the theatre, and a disturbance occurred. After the play had been going on ten minutes an actor drew the curtain. The company were not prepared to put on the play the third night.

Plaintiffs and defendants, through their representatives, mutually agreed to rescind the contract, as they realised it would be hopeless to go on with "Biddy" in Limerick. There would be judgment for defendants with costs.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.

COUNTY LIMERICK FOXHOUNDS. County Limerick Foxhounds will meet as under:— NOVEMBER. Monday, 19th—Clarin. Wednesday, 21st—Liskennet. Friday, 23rd—Kathfrida.

STOP

SERIES

Three m working or Parthen, A Two of, and Treac dangerous! hope for th They we a bridge they fell a Boulev. Jack V Lost D Also re Gentle Ze Betting Lost Dy 100 to 8 Wor. b Cerpor Ruby's Laird Also re mon, Eng Pommadi Alechems Tramond down. Bettin Pomman Chang, 1 100 to 8 Aunt Me Won t Cross Grace Consis Alson Tenth W Bettin Cross Ke Incr, 20 Won t Servus Claspe Rum s Also r Fair Cha Bettin Gifted, ( lotte and 12 Rum Won t Budaj; Maslen Bellar Also r Leadet. Time Tr Miss Gu rock, B.J Brook. F Bettin 8 to 2 1 Rafter centers.