

interests would be affected as regards the future prices of coal. The position has just been clearly put by a prominent coal owner in an interview with the London "Daily Telegraph." He points out that the Act provides for establishing a scheme in any district under which minimum prices may be fixed. In most districts competition has been so intense that prices have been forced down in some cases below cost. The Act will, he says, cause a rise in the price of some industrial coal, which had been bought in a weak market at less than an economic price. Indirectly, as, for instance, in the case of gas works, the consumer would be affected by any soaring in price, but on the other hand it is satisfactory to learn that by restoring the prices paid by these particular industries to an economic level it is hoped "to dispense with the necessity of further increases in the price of house coal." This is cheery news for "pater familias," having regard to his requirements for the winter months of 1930.

MEDICAL OFFICERSHIP OF HEALTH.

It is understood that the position of Superintendent Medical Officer of Health, rendered vacant by the lamented death of Dr M. S. McGrath, F.R.C.S.I. and D.P.H., will be filled by the Appointments Commissioners, but so far nothing has been done in the matter. At the last meeting of the Public Health Committee a letter was read from the Local Government Department, suggesting that Dr Moran, Tuberculosis and Schools Medical Officer, should discharge the duties of Superintendent Medical Officer of Health during the illness of Dr McGrath. It now appears to be the opinion of the Corporation that Dr Moran will be called upon to undertake the duties of the late Dr McGrath in addition to his own.

THE RUGBY SENIOR LEAGUE.

No definite decision has yet been made by the Munster Branch of the Rugby Union on the question of playing the Senior League Competition in the forthcoming season. There appears to be reluctance on the part

The party of thirteen German Boy Scouts who have been touring Ireland reached the city this morning from Fenit. Carrying full equipment, they travelled from the North Kerry harbour in the Limerick Steamship Company's steamers "Foynes" and "Luinneach," which were placed at their disposal by the Company. They thoroughly enjoyed the voyage, and were exceedingly grateful for the courtesy extended them by the officers of the vessels. The Chief Scout, who speaks English fluently, in the course of a conversation said so far they were greatly pleased with their Irish tour, and were struck with the beauty of the scenery, particularly at Killarney. To-day the party set out for Ardnacrusha, and made a tour of the Shannon Power Development Scheme, with which they were much impressed, before resuming their walking itinerary through the West of Ireland. The Scouts are a smart looking, well set and sturdy lot, with an intelligent conception of this country's industrial possibilities.

DEATH OF MRS B. RUSSELL.

We regret to announce the death, which occurred yesterday, at her residence, Broadstreet, of Mrs Bridget Russell, relict of Mr George Russell, and mother of Mr M. J. Russell, Harbour Commissioner. The deceased lady, who had reached an advanced age, was of a very kindly and charitable disposition, and held in high regard and esteem by a wide circle of friends in Limerick and elsewhere, whose sympathies go out to her family in their bereavement. Requiem Mass was celebrated this morning at 10 o'clock in St. John's Cathedral, and the funeral, which was private, took place at 11 o'clock.

At a meeting of the Corporation last night, a vote of condolence with the family of the deceased lady was passed, on the motion of Alderman O'Flynn.

A BI-LINGUAL GARDA.

The authorities have issued an instruction making it compulsory on all members of the Civic Guards to become proficient in the Irish language. With that object in view a native speaker of the language has been assigned to the principal stations whose duty it is to conduct classes so that, eventually, every member of the force will have a bi-lingual training. At the moment such classes are being held in the city where the percentage of guards with a knowledge of Irish is most satisfactory.

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