

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 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)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1932.

MUNICIPAL PENSIONS.

A pension scheme for employes of Municipal and Urban Councils was advocated in a paper read at the Association of Municipal Authorities Conference, held in Drogheda this week. This is, we believe, the first time since its inception that the Association has touched a subject which many people contend is for the present outside the purview of practical accomplishment, having regard to the existing economic conditions in the country. Mr L. Rafter, treasurer of Waterford Corporation, who submitted the paper, suggested that as a working basis for any legislation dealing with superannuation that permanent workmen of Councils not at present entitled to pensions should contribute to a pension scheme. He considered that the age at which a workman should be retired be fixed at sixty-five years, and tentatively that his superannuation be twenty shillings as a maximum. On paper the scheme looks quite attractive, but the difficulty lies in giving it practical effect. It is easy to formulate a proposal of this nature, but in working it out divers questions have to be considered. For instance, the ability of the worker to contribute from his earnings, and the extent to which the ratepayers can afford to meet the fresh burdens imposed on them. The preferential treatment meted out to the employes of public bodies places them in an advantageous position compared to those engaged in ordinary employment. It is held that those who work for public bodies are in what is called sheltered occupation, because it gives them fixity of tenure and concessions that do not ordinarily fall to the lot of the casual worker or the man who may be disturbed by the fluctuations of trade in industrial pursuits. These are factors that cannot be ignored, and while everyone would like to think that an employe of a municipal or urban council should after long service be entitled to a pension, it is not easy to reconcile his position with the worker who is not so well circumstanced. At the moment a sub-committee of Limerick Corporation are engaged in looking into the question of a pension scheme for their employes. It is urged that the matter is difficult and complex, and that being so sometime must elapse before the Committee will have completed their enquiries. In the first instance before anything can be done a Bill must be promoted in the Oireachtas with the sanction of the Minister for Local Government. Whether he will be agreeable to extend this facility to Limerick is a matter for conjecture, but then he has the precedent of the Dublin Corporation where an employe's

SHOCKING MOTOR FATALITY

At Annacotty.

One Man Killed.

Another Injured.

A shocking motoring fatality, involving the death of one man and injuries to another, occurred at Annacotty late last night.

It appears that Cornelius McNamara and Matthew Rainsford were walking along the road when suddenly, as they were approaching a bend, a motor car travelling at a high speed shot into them and continued its journey, it is stated, citywards. In the impact McNamara, a young man, was killed instantaneously, and his companion, who was seriously injured, was hurled over a ditch into a field. When he recovered from the shock he managed to crawl back to the roadway and hailed a passing motor cyclist to whom he gave a rather disconnected account of the occurrence. The cyclist immediately got into telephonic communication with the City Fire Station, from where the ambulance was despatched. The body of McNamara was conveyed to the County Infirmary, whither Rainsford was also removed. He was suffering from injuries to the head and legs, while McNamara was found to have received terrible injuries.

To-day Civic Guards were actively engaged in prosecuting enquiries into the matter, and it is believed they will be able to establish the identity of the motor driver.

On enquiry it was stated that the condition of Rainsford is not as serious as was first anticipated, and that he is improving.

The Inquest.

Dr M. R. Clery, County Coroner, sitting with a jury, held an inquest to-day into the circumstances connected with the death of Cornelius McNamara.

Supt. Hayden, Newpallas, conducted the inquiry.

Michael McNamara, Annacotty, father of the deceased, gave evidence of identification. His son was twenty years of age, and worked as a labourer. He last saw him alive at 8.30 p.m. last night, when he went for a walk. Subsequently he heard that his son was knocked down by a motor car at a place called Rivers. He went to the place and saw the body, which he identified as that of his son. Rivers is only about three hundred yards from his house.

Dr. McPolin, County Medical Officer, stated that at about 11.30 last night he got a message to go to the scene of the occurrence. The deceased was lying on the grass, and on examination he found him to be dead. His neck was broken, and death was due to shock, following separation of the vertebrae.

In reply to a juror, the doctor said there was no footpath at the place.

The Coroner said all that would be gone into if there were criminal proceedings. It would appear that the authorities had got some clue which might lead to the apprehension of the driver.

Dr. Wallace, County Infirmary, stated that she made a post-mortem examination on the deceased. The neck was broken and there were several scratches on the body. In her opinion death was due to fracture of the neck, caused by violence.

Superintendent Hayden said that he did not propose to produce any more evidence at this stage. The principal witness was in hospital in a serious condition, and there was the possibility of criminal proceedings. He accordingly asked for an adjournment.

The Coroner said there was no necessity to adjourn the inquest. He directed the jury to return a verdict that death was due to fracture of the neck, caused by a person or persons unknown, and that such a verdict would not interfere with any criminal proceedings that might be instituted.

A verdict accordingly was returned.

MENTAL HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

The Harmless Insane.

Mr J. McCormack, Co.C., Chairman, presided at the meeting of the Management Committee of the Limerick Mental Hospital yesterday. There were also present—Very Rev. Canon O'Dwyer, P.P., V.F., St. Munchin's; Alderman J. Reidy, T.D.; Messrs J. Hartnett, Co.C.; D. Fahy, Co.C.; J. O'Shaughnessy, Co.C.; P. Bourke, B.C.; M. J. Curtin, Co.C.; P. McCormack, Co.C., and M. Colbert, Co.C.

The officials present were—Dr C. Moloney, Assistant Resident Medical Superintendent, and Mr W. O'Shaughnessy, Clerk

MONTHLY REPORT.

Dr. Molony, in his monthly report, stated that since last meeting 11 patients had been admitted, and there was only one death. There were in the hospital that day 674 patients, being an increase of 23 on last year. There were for discharge that day 12 patients. At the moment there were only 5 vacancies at the male side and 5 at the female side. The sooner, therefore, the Committee took advantage of the increased accommodation to be provided by the Roxboro' Schools the better. The annual sports meeting, held on Thursday, August 18th, was an outstanding success.

The report was approved.

CONTRACTS.

The following tenders were accepted—Beef and mutton at 49s per cwt., Joseph Barry, Upper William street; new milk at 11½d per gallon, Michael O'Connell, Mungret; Irish creamery butter at 129s 0d per cwt., the Drinagh Co-operative Creamery Society; Irish firkin butter at 9d per lb., Messrs James Newton, Thomas street; eggs at 14s per 120, M. Fitzgibbon, Catherine street; coffee at £6 2s per cwt., B. McGrath, William street; sugar at 22s 3d per cwt., E. G. Fitt, O'Connell street; flour at £11 2s 8d per ton, Messrs J. Bannatyne & Sons; oatmeal, £17 per ton, pollard 6s 9d per cwt., bran, 6s 9d per cwt., cotton cake, 8s. 3d. per cwt., and cotton meal, 8s. 9d. per cwt., Messrs Martin McGuire and Sons; Indian meal (coarse or middle cut), £6 6s. per ton, fine £6 10s. per ton, and barley meal £8 5s. per ton, J. H. Roche, William street.

It was decided, on the motion of Alderman Reidy, to advertise for tea and other commodities in order to give local traders an opportunity of tendering.

Mr Coffey, storekeeper, said that in the case of tea, samples were got which were not considered as good as what he was presently getting.

With regard to bacon, it was decided to call in an expert to get his views on the killing and curing of pigs in the Institution.

QUESTION OF COOKING.

Canon O'Dwyer called attention to the quality of the meat supplied to the institution. He said he had received complaints on the subject.

Dr. C. Molony, the Assistant Resident Medical Superintendent, said the meat supplied was good, but the cooking was very bad.

Canon O'Dwyer enquired if the cook was competent.

Dr Molony said he was afraid that she had grown somewhat indifferent.

Ald. Reidy, T.D., suggested that a competent person be appointed to supervise the cooking.

In reply to the Chairman, Dr Moloney said if the cook was placed on the nursing staff no wrong would be inflicted on her. He suggested that they write to Dr Nolan, Resident Medical Superintendent Downpatrick Mental Hospital, and ask him for particulars of the system in operation there, and which was very thorough.

This was agreed to.

HARMLESS INSANE AND MENTAL HOSPITAL.

Limerick County Health Board wrote stating that they had adhered to their resolution refusing to transfer the harmless insane in the County Home, Newcastle West, to the Mental Hospital.

LABOUR LEADER LIMERICK.

GOVERNMENT POLICY APPROVED.

Demonstration at O'Connell Monument.

Under the auspices of the Labour Party, a public meeting of proportions was held at the O'Connell Monument last night, when addresses were delivered by Mr Wm. Norton, Leader in the Dail, and Senator M. J. Keyes, B.C., Chairman of the Labour Party. They arrived by the 8.35 p.m. train from Dublin, and were met at the monument by the officials and Committee of the Party.

Mr M. J. Keyes, B.C., Chairman of the Labour Party, presided at the meeting. He said Labour had been accused of being a materialistic party, but the attitude had adopted in the present crisis was behind the plain people and the country.

Mr Norton, who was very heartily received, said the Labour Party were in the present Government because they had succeeded in getting the Government to adopt a substantial portion of the economic programme of the Labour Party, and so long as the Government continued to give evidence of its intention to put the programme into operation the Labour Party would continue to support the Government. (Cheers.)

Already they had secured the passage of the Housing Bill, which was an improvement on anything the Cumann na nGaedheal Government had produced, notwithstanding the difficult times which they were passing. An Old Age Pension Bill had also been passed which provided an additional half a million for old age pensioners.

When they remembered that the Cumann na nGaedheal Government cut the pensions in order to give relief to taxpayers, they could realise the change which had taken place as a result of the attitude of the new Government towards social legislation.

THE TARIFF WAR.

Referring to the tariff war, Mr Norton said that those who were now advising the Government to seek a settlement had overlooked the fact that the tariff war had not been caused by the Free Government, but by Britain's policy in imposing punitive tariffs. The question of arbitration was under consideration. Cumann na nGaedheal spokesmen were criticising the Labour Party. Fianna Fail had not yet publicly uttered a word of condemnation against them on the part of the British Government. The Labour Party would use the weapon of economic warfare against the Irish nation.

The Labour Party believed that the ultimate financial settlement would be negotiated by the British and Free Governments was a disastrous one. So far as the Free State was concerned it was unthinkable that the British Government under existing circumstances should continue to pay to a wealthy nation in Britain the sum of five and a half million pounds, which represented 20 per cent of the revenue of the State.

If, as was suggested by British and British newspapers, British trade to America were a burden on the people, then this impossible burden on the Irish Free State of continuing to pay five and a half million pounds of its revenue such that no State could withstand (plause).

THE LABOUR PROPOSALS.

The Labour Party, Mr Norton said, had done everything possible to bring about a peaceful and honourable settlement of the matter in dispute, and he believed