

Serious Position.

At the meeting of the Limerick County Council to-day, at which Mr D. J. Madden presided, the Secretary reported that £75,037 of the first moiety of the rate for the year ended the 31st March last had been collected, leaving £8,330 outstanding. Of the second moiety £6,581 had been collected leaving £62,199 uncollected. The Bank overdraft stood at £80,575. Some eleven collectors had not closed their warrants, although the Council made an order that they should do so on the 1st March. It was now for the Council to proceed against the sureties.

Mr Quinlan said some of the collectors were merely mocking the Council, and having failed to discharge their duty they should be dismissed the service.

Mr Hewson—When that was done on a former occasion they were reinstated.

Mr McCormack said that some of the collectors now in arrear had given the Council trouble before there was any depression in the country.

Mr Hewson—A collector told us here last year that the ratepayers could not pay out of revenue.

Mr McCormack—And that collector had closed his warrant.

The Secretary—The whole thing is a scandal. Where the collectors are doing their duty the money is being collected.

The Chairman said there was no use reiterating the depressed condition of the farmers. That exists, but it is equally evident that the collectors are not as active as they might be.

Mr Hewson—The Government have withheld grants from the Council amounting to £80,000, although they have not paid the annuities to Great Britain. That is a peculiar state of affairs.

In reply to Mr Hewson, the Secretary said no reply had been received from the sureties of collectors who had been communicated with on the subject of arrears in collection.

Mr Quinlan—How much of the present rate outstanding was brought forward from last year?

The Secretary—£15,000 as being temporarily irrecoverable.

Mr Quinlan—And I suppose it will be £20,000 for the current year.

The Secretary said the Department had sanctioned the continuance of the Council's overdraft of £90,000, and he had applied to the Bank for a continuance of the facilities. The subsidiary bodies were looking for money, but there was none to meet their demands.

The Chairman said as the defaulting collectors' sureties had ignored the resolution of the Council some action should be taken.

The Secretary—The next step is to get

bring the city rate to a figure within the ability of the ratepayers to pay without undue hardship being imposed on them. The Corporation are striving to attain this object in reducing the impost from 31s. 10d. to 28s. 1d., with the hope of bringing it down to 25s. At a meeting of the Council on Thursday night it was stated that means would be found to give the additional relief by funding a sum of £9,000 due to the Bank on an overdraft. Should the Bank Directors consent, the reduction in the current year's rate would be equivalent to a further 1s. 4d. in the £, which would leave the figure at 26s. 9d. There is the additional hope that the impost will be cut by another 1s. 7d., leaving the omnibus city rate at 25s. 2d. This would be a total reduction of 6s. 8d., which on the valuation of the Borough represents approximately a cut of £24,000 in expenditure.

LIMERICK MAN KILLED

In Blinding Snowstorm

Across Channel.

During a blinding snowstorm at Corby, Northants, yesterday, a goods train crashed into a motor car at a level crossing, and a passenger in the car, Mr Edward Thomas Tobin (37), electrical engineer, a native of Limerick, was killed.

Mr Tobin's relatives at one time carried on a licensed business in Upper William street, but have been out of Limerick for many years. The late Mr Tobin was educated in the Christian Brothers' Schools. He graduated in the National University of Ireland and the Royal College of Science (Ireland), taking his degree as B.E., R.C.Sc.I. He left Ireland for London in 1920, and since then had been with the English Electric Co. and the General Electric Co. His tragic fate has been heard of with deep regret in Limerick.

MR. McCANN'S THOUGHTFUL ACT.

At the conclusion of the hearing of a case against a husband for neglect of his wife and family at the Limerick District Court yesterday, Mr H. J. McCann, B.L., Acting District Justice, discussed the position with the wife and gave a contribution of £1 from his own pocket so that she could pay her rent. The husband was bound over and ordered to take the pledge for three years.

CHURCH SERVICES.

TRINITY CHURCH CENTENARY.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Derry will preach in Trinity Church at both Ser-

Approved by

At the meeting of L
on Thursday night,

A resolution was read
Trades and Labour Cou
Corporation to embody
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local labour be employe
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Mr P. Bourke said
was a reasonable one.

Ald. Reidy, T.D., a
spoke in support of t
was adopted unanimou

NEW GAS

Loan to b

At the meeting of
arising out of the
Committee,

The Mayor said the
losing about £1,000
defect in the gas hol
necessary to raise £8,
of a new cylinder.

Ald. Reidy propos
raise a loan from the
Bank, with the sancti
Local Government, f
installation of a new
vertical petards, and t
Clerk be empowered
application for sancti

This was unanimous

CLONMEL

Man Charged :

Thomas Shortiss, o
Co. Tipperary, who
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man's raid on the cc
Clonmel on Monday n
was stolen, was on T
having committed the
with a revolver.

Sergeant M. Murpl
of arrest, said that S
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The accused was r
Clonmel Court on M
later removed under
Prison.

The money has bee
hidden in a field near