

URBAN HOUSING.

Limerick County Board of Health are to embark on a project with a view to making a decided and commendable contribution to the housing shortage in the county. This will be applicable to the towns, where housing has been neglected for such a long time in this country. One has only to look around and see the conditions applying to what may be described as urban working-class dwellings; they are not, to say the least, creditable, and compared with the rural worker, much is to be desired before there can be any decent comparison. It was stated some time ago, for instance, that in the town of Bruff housing conditions were, as far as the worker was concerned, very primitive, and the number fell far short of medical requirements. Indeed, the same thing applies generally, not only in this county, but to very many in the Free State, and it is commendable on the part of the Limerick County Board of Health to make a start in the provision of good houses for a class whose interests have been overlooked up to the present. The Board are to spend £400,000 in this respect, and at the meeting last Friday the Engineer submitted a report for the erection of houses in a number of the county towns. These houses, which will be built in Cappanore, Rathkeale, Bruff, and Bruree, will contribute a first instalment towards the solution of a long-standing problem. Having approved of the plans and sites, the Board decided to acquire sites in a number of other centres. Heretofore, the common experience has been where public bodies are concerned, to make undue demands on them with regard to the price of building ground. That is far from being a public spirited method of co-operating with the authorities charged with an essential public duty—the housing of the people. Consequently, it is to be hoped that in the large scheme of building which the Board of Health have undertaken they will be met in a reasonable manner by the owners of sites throughout the county. In the course of the discussion at the meeting of the Board, Mr. J. McCormack asserted that a Department official in Dublin had charged the County Boards of Health with non-co-operation in the promotion of housing. That may be the inference in some counties, but it certainly does not apply to Limerick, where the authority is more than energetic in its solitude for the welfare of the people requiring houses, and they have clearly demonstrated this since better Governmental

FATE OF CITY WORKER.

Explosion of Spirit Stove.

Sad Inquest Story.

Mr. J. S. McNeice, City Coroner, held an inquest at Barrington's Hospital this afternoon touching the death of Patrick McCarthy, Strand Barracks, who died this morning following burns received when a spirit lamp exploded on the 9th inst. in his apartments.

Sergeant O'Mahony, Mary Street, conducted the enquiry.

LAMP FLARED UP.

Frank McNamara, motor driver, residing at the Strand Barracks, stated he saw the body in the morgue attached to the hospital, and identified it as that of Paddy McCarthy, Strand Barracks. Deceased was 24 years of age, and unmarried. He was a labourer by occupation. Witness last saw the deceased on Sunday last in the hospital. On the morning of November 9th witness rose at 6.45. He lit a spirit lamp and placed it on a chair. The deceased at the time was asleep in bed. When witness did not see the flame from the lamp diminishing he called the deceased's brother Christy, who slept in another room. Witness then returned and saw that the chair on which the lamp stood had taken fire.

Coroner—What happened then?

Witness—I went back into the room where deceased's brother Christy was. We ran out, and the deceased jumped up and ran to where the lamp was. Deceased was only partially clothed.

EXPLODED IMMEDIATELY.

Coroner—What did he do then?—He got a cloth and hit the lamp, which exploded immediately. I heard Paddy McCarthy say he was burned, and he ran out into the yard. His brother ran out after him and brought him in.

Coroner—Had he a shirt on him when he went to the lamp?—No, sir, only a trousers.

Continuing, the witness said that he afterwards noticed the deceased's hair singed. Christy McCarthy brought the deceased to Barrington's Hospital on the bar of his bicycle.

Sergeant—Were you in the habit of lighting the stove?—Yes.

How long had you it?—Six months.

Coroner—I have often seen them flare up.

The witness said he unscrewed the cap of the stove, but it did not go out.

DOCTOR'S EVIDENCE.

Dr. S. McDonagh, House Surgeon, Barrington's Hospital, stated the deceased was admitted on the 9th inst., suffering from burns, involving the face, neck, chest, and back. He died on the 17th inst., and death, in his opinion, was due to septic toxemia and cardiac failure, following burns.

Coroner—The only verdict I can come to is in accordance with the medical evidence, that the deceased died from toxemia and cardiac failure, following burns accidentally received.

The Coroner expressed sympathy with the family of the deceased, in which Sergeant O'Mahony joined.

IRISH CHRISTIAN FRONT.

Big Meeting in Limerick.

Denial of Political Intentions

An official denial of the rumour that the Irish Christian Front contemplated entering the political field was made by the Mayor of Limerick (Alderman D. Bourke, T.D.) who presided at a very large meeting of the I.C.F. held on Sunday in Baker Place.

The members of the Corporation in their robes attended the demonstration, the purpose of which was the organisation of branches of the I.C.F. in Limerick City and County. Several bands attended.

A very ugly rumour had got afloat, said the Mayor, that the I.C.F. was to become political. "I am authorised to deny that rumour. There is no truth whatever in it. Communism, he said, would not be permitted in this country. Thank God, they had a Christian Government that would never allow Communism or Atheism to get a footing here.

Mr. D. Bell, General Secretary, I.C.F., said they had been accused, among other things of being political, and of having intentions of starting a new political party. That was a deliberate lie, and those who hated it were misguided by a hatred of anything that seemed likely to unite Irishmen on the same side. Was it political to organise a united Irish Front of all those who refused to allow their religious and economic independence to be filched from them by Communism and its allies in Ireland, or was that a cause in which all Irishmen could stand united? They wanted to give a platform on which all shades of politics could unite. They were not going to have Communism in Ireland. The Irish people had always been proud of their religion and nationality, and were going to continue to be proud of it. The third object of the I.C.F. was to establish in the goodwill and intelligence of the people the creation in Ireland of a social order worthy of their Christian principles.

Mr. T. W. Westropp-Bennett, ex-Chairman of the Senate, said Communism aimed at the overthrow of Christianity. Catholic patriotism was the true enemy of Communism, and as far as Irishmen could prevent it, Communism would never succeed.

AN IRISH LEGION.

Very Rev. Canon O'Dwyer P.P., V.P., St. Munchin's recalled the earlier attempts to overthrow Christianity, and the close associations that existed between Spain and Ireland. He also reviewed Limerick's stand against the enemies of this country and said now they were once more going to aid their cousins, the Spaniards, in their struggle to maintain the Catholic Faith. "I foresee the day," said the Canon, "when an Irish Legion will lead Spanish soldiers into the city of Barcelona."

Mr. D. J. Madden, M.C.C., proposed a resolution declaring their determination to combat in their own country the war against religion by Communism and other anti-Christian forces, and affirming their loyalty to the cause of Christ the King, realising that to support or sympathise