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necessary trouble. I have often stood at a counter waiting to be served, and witnessed the unfortunate assistant trying to make a sale to one of these females, and was amazed at his reserve of patience. I know what would happen were I the salesman—I would be sacked.



### HOUSING THRUST.

The new year is to witness another housing thrust—one, we are told, on an unprecedented scale. It is the intention of the City Council to extirpate Carey's Road slum houses before 1940, and to replace them by comfortable dwellings. That will be a blessing for the tenants of the noisome shacks huddled in the reticule of lanes in the area, and work of the highest social character. There is a very big population in the locality, and the wonder is disease is not more prevalent, but the fact is it is as free of epidemics as less congested districts. That may be, and probably is, due to the proximity of the Park, where the children take recreation and plenty fresh air—the best antidote for human ills. At least that is the medical view.



### EYEWASH.

The suggestion is made by the Farmers' Association that the £10 a month extra voted to Deputies should be handed over to the Party fund by the farmer Deputies. Mr. P. T. Burke, Clare, has agreed to abide by the suggestion, which looks a bit far-fetched. All along farmers have been telling the people the country cannot afford any increase in taxation, and if that is so, would it not be better to return the extra tenner to the Finance Minister as conscience money. That would be a nice gesture, and the Minister would be able to find some deserving cause or institution to divert it to. The Party fund sounds hollow for acceptance; it is mere eyewash—bunkum.

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs reminds the public that a service of Christmas and New Year Greetings Telegrams is available at reduced rates to foreign countries during the period 14th December to 6th January, inclusive. The telegrams must consist solely of conventional words of greeting.

Particulars of charges, of the countries to which the service is available, and of the conditions of acceptance may be obtained at any Post Office.

and never were exorbitant, not even during the war period. The Minister's "perpetual difficulties" must be traced to some other source. He is ostensibly not very happy over the future of his industrial policy which is beginning to sag and sway. Mr Lemass need have no restless moments in connection with the financial position of the port of Limerick which withstood more violent shocks than official criticism, in no way justified by the facts. The Board according to official opinion "should not be charging more dues than sufficient to run the affairs of the harbour." We have heard of no complaints of overcharging, which is a figment existing in the minds of a few disgruntled people who are never content only when fault finding. Were the Board to comply with the dictum of earning no profits there would be no dock extension, and we should continue to have complaints of inadequate berthage accommodation and possible diversion of shipping. At all events the Secretary, Mr. D. MacNeice, clarified the position sufficiently to show how baseless is the overcharging indictment. He stated the Department had assented to the schedule of dues in operation and which compared favourably with that of other ports. That should suffice to clinch the unwarranted assertion of those whose solicitude for Limerick harbour ratepayers is measured by the help they did not give to bring the port up to modern requirements.

### DEATH.

O'NEILL—December 13, 1938, at his residence, 7 Emmet Place, Hugh H. O'Neill, after a brief illness, to the inexpressible grief of his wife and daughter. R.I.P. Remains will be removed to St. Michael's Church this (Tuesday) evening at 8 o'clock. Requiem Mass at 10.30 a.m. to-morrow (Wednesday). Funeral at 3.45 p.m. to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery. (American papers please copy.)

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