

on Act was a nefarious measure. It was a deliberate attempt on the part of the Government to strangle the trade union movement. The Government pretended that the Act was intended to assist the trade unions but the fact was that the purpose of it was to nullify the unions and make them useless instruments for the protection of organised workers. The Government had waged war on the unions, a challenge that would be accepted if the workers would never quiesce in the Act, which would be repealed at the first opportunity. The small Irish unions would suffer most, but that did not concern Mr. McEntee, who appeared to be preoccupied with hostility to organised labour. Mr. McEntee wanted big unions or balloon unions, things that would burst at a prick from a pin. Friday, 1st December, had been fixed as appointed day for the coming into operation of the Act. That was traditional on Labour Day and Irish workers would make it a black Friday for Messrs. McEntee and Lemass. Having referred to Emergency Powers Order 83, Mr. Norton said the Government was not satisfied with reducing the standard of living of the workers, they wanted to handcuff them by the Trade Union Act. Ministers spoke of a vicious circle and said that their object was to stop in all directions. If that were so why was every racketeer in the country allowed to make huge profits. If you were a miller you got a subsidy of £2,000,000, if you were a banker you got what extra fees you asked, and if you were a bacon curer ministers were most prepared to genuflect before you. The Government in face of national danger should stop their political and economic clowning and face realities, such as the unemployment problem, emigration, scarcity of essential supplies and rising prices. They had been told that the need of the country was unity. He agreed wholeheartedly that that was so. But how could they have unity when the Government without any mandate set out deliberately to make war on the masses of the people. If the Government wanted the maximum measure of unity they would withdraw the Trade Union Bill. In a time of grave national concern it was criminal to create disunity and discord by legislation that struck at the very foundations of trade unionism.

IN GRAVE JEOPARDY.

The Chairman said that the workers of Limerick should harken to the appeals made to them by the speakers. The future of the Trade Union Movement was in grave

appeared the concrete wall was visited several nights by the defendants, who discovered a "shake" in the wall, and mischievously helped the "shake" until the wall collapsed.

Mr. Quirke said the youths (between 12 and 18 years) belonged to decent parents, and he did not claim any compensation.

Supt. Mulcahy said there was not much in the case, but some cases of annoyance were happening in Mountcollins occasionally.

Mr. Kenny applied the P.A., and said this interference with people's property must cease, otherwise he would have to deal severely in future.

In two charges of serious offences two defendants were remanded on bail.

SLIPPED IN FROST

—oo—

RAIL WORKER FATALLY INJURED

With a jury at Barrington's Hospital, Limerick, Mr. J. S. MacNeice, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest into the circumstances of the death of Patrick Maher, 5 St. John's Terrace, Limerick, a railway employee, as the result of an accident at Boher on November 28th.

Evidence was given that deceased was engaged in coupling wagons to a train when he slipped in the frost and one of the wagons crushed his left foot. He was removed to Barrington's Hospital, where an amputation was performed, and he died on 6th Dec.

Dr. Joseph Tynan, house surgeon, Barrington's Hospital, said that he performed a post mortem examination on the body and found signs of gas gangrene infection. Death was due to toxæmia from gas gangrene, contracted as a result of his injuries.

The jury brought in a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, and added that no blame attached to anyone.

CIRCUIT COURT

—oo—

JUDGE THANKED

At the conclusion of the Michaelmas sittings of the Limerick Circuit Court on Friday evening, Mr. W. Binchy, B.L., on behalf of his colleagues of the Bar, said that he wished to thank his Lordship

lecture will appear in a future issue.)

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SPECIAL MEETING.

A special meeting of the Council will be held to-morrow evening to deal with two important matters—the provision of raid shelters and food and clothing centres. At the last meeting Corporation attention was drawn to these questions by Councillor Hartney and Councillor Quinn and it was decided, having regard to the vital necessity to make a forward move in these matters, to summon a special meeting. It must be admitted, however, that it is backward in so far as air raid shelters are concerned. The Corporation, it would seem, is altogether responsible for the state of affairs, as the scheme prepared could not be put into operation in the absence of approval from the Department of Defence.

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THE RED CROSS.

It was stated at the meeting of the County Committee of the Red Cross in the Town Hall on Friday that, in the event of an emergency, the citizens would be without the services of a First Aid Division. It was explained that there were three Voluntary Aid Divisions attached to the County Council, but these units would function only if the Army and L.D.F. should not be invaded. It was therefore, if the citizens are to have the services of a First Aid Division volunteers must come forward. A division consists of about eighty members, and, needless to say, both sexes are eligible. Limerick will not be found wanting in such a vitally important matter.

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A LIMERICK "SOVIET."

Mr. Cathal O'Shannon, a veteran in the Labour Movement, at the course of his speech at a meeting in the Mechanics' Institute yesterday, reported in another issue of this paper, recalled the fact that Limerick had a "Soviet" of industry in 1919. Virtual control of the industry was taken over by the local Unions as a result of the