

that the General had been wounded in the shoulder by shrapnel. This report is unconfirmed and must be treated with reserve.

According to other Japanese claims a big number of American planes were shot down in the fighting for Manila.

General Sir Henry Pownall, the new British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, stated to-day, says a Singapore message, that every

feet, awaits the enemy's mercy, but the enemy is not touched by peacefulness.

The American Press and radio are (says a New York despatch) becoming increasingly reconciled to the probable loss of Manila, though commentators emphasise that the fall of the city would not be all-important, and point to heavy losses in men and materials the Japanese are suffering.

WINTER SWIMS

—oo—

OF OTHER DAYS

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Dear Sir,—Prominence has been given in a recent issue of your esteemed paper to the fact that a number of men had their first swim on Christmas morning last. Some years ago I happened to be secretary of a Swimming Club which had a very big membership and outside of a few of the members who were in the habit of taking a "dip" on Christmas morning I knew at least half a dozen young men who, when the thermometer was below freezing point, for a long number of years never missed a morning in winter without their plunge in the Shannon. On one occasion I made arrangements with a well-known photographer to have a picture taken of the hardy athletes who frequented the baths between 7 and 8 o'clock in the mornings and who could be seen disporting themselves in the river with all the zest and relish of veritable Neptunes, and quite oblivious of the rain, frost or snow that may at the moment be falling. The names of these were—Dr. Roberts (deceased), J. J. O'Callaghan (deceased), John Griffin (deceased), Henry Watson, Stephen Bourke, John Ryan and J. Keyes.—Yours faithfully,

JEROME McMAHON.

APPEAL FOR PRAYERS

After preaching in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, yesterday, His Eminence Cardinal McRory earnestly exhorted the people to pray for peace and that their beloved country might be spared the horrors of this terrible war.

GAEELIC LEAGUE

—oo—

IRISH CLASSES

The Limerick Gaelic League Irish classes resume on Wednesday, January 7th, at 8 p.m. These classes are suitable for all those who wish to study their native language also Intermediate students. The programme for classes includes conversation, debates, question time, drama, claisceadal. Students are prepared for Fainne examination. Scholarships to the Gaedealtacht will be awarded at the end of the session. These classes are free to members of the Gaelic League. Members annual subscriptions—Gentlemen, 10/-; ladies, 7/6; junior members between 14-16, 2/6.

HIGHLY ESTEEMED FIGURE

The death took place on the 28th of December of a highly esteemed citizen in the person of Mr. John McNamara, Walnutt House, Thomondgate. The deceased, who did an extensive business as painting contractor and decorator and also owned "The Vogue" drapery establishment, was a very popular figure and deservedly so. A man of many admirable traits and qualities, he enjoyed the fullest confidence and respect of all who knew him. Although of a very modest and unobtrusive disposition he took a keen and unselfish interest in the affairs of the city and the country and was ever ready to serve a good cause. His demise has caused genuine and widespread sorrow and the deepest sympathy, in which we fully join, is tendered to the bereaved relatives and friends.

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader")

Dear Sir—"Dan McGrath's" letter is overdue and represents the known opinions of hundreds of decent ex-I.R.A. men.

Much as I detest bluffers or cheap heroics, and without stooping to their loathsome tactics, I consider it the duty of those who can, to meet and expose the pension tactics of some of our city heroes.

The fighting men and those who were engaged in important activities have been let down and the dead impersonated, for rank. The Republican Plot must be a disturbance to the guilty consciences.

Surely those who were honourable all the way in the Black-and-Tan struggle have still the decency to stand solidly against the private meetings and demand a full Brigade Council meeting and also through the public Press—the people's safety valve—tell the Pensions Board what has happened and that the reams of Buffalo Bill records some produced were not got in the service of Dark Rosaleen—but in imagination.—Yours,

"ANTI-PERJURY."

THE TALBOT CLUB

—oo—

GOOD SUPPORT FROM PUBLIC

It is gratifying to record that the Talbot Club is receiving support from the public as the second list of subscriptions in cash and gifts, published in another column, testifies. Some months ago an anonymous donor in Dublin presented a handsome sum to be divided amongst clubs which would be conducted on the same lines as the Mount Street Club, Dublin, the amount to be allocated to each such club depending on the sum in cash locally subscribed. The Executive Committee hope that well-wishers who have not already subscribed will, by their generous response, enable the Talbot Club to obtain a substantial share of the money thus generously given.

SIX-COUNTY FINANCES

The Northern Ireland revenue for the nine months ended December 31 was £17,083,508, an increase of £1,055,234. The expenditure was £17,029,835, an increase of £1,046,084. There was a balance of £53,673 in the Exchequer.