

WORTHLESS CHEQUES CASE

before District Justice J. M. O'D., B.L., at Limerick City District Court to-day, an aged man named John Simms, of no fixed abode, was charged in custody with issuing worthless cheques.

Supt. Colleran said that there were eleven charges against the defendant and altogether about £100 was obtained by the defendant on false pretences.

The defendant, white-haired, well dressed, speaking with a reduced accent, told the Court that he was pleading guilty to the charges.

Supt. Colleran said that Simms had been convicted some forty times during the past forty years. His first conviction was in Wales in 1899. Simms was known by different names.

Justice—It is a pity to find a respectable looking old gentleman leading a life of crime.

Supt. Colleran—It would appear that he has no difficulty in cashing cheques. His appearance and manner are very disarming.

Defendant—That is my misfortune. Drink is the cause of my downfall.

Justice (to defendant)—Are you a Welshman? Your first conviction was in Wales.

Defendant—No, sir. I'm Irish and proud of it.

Justice—What age are you?—74, sir.

Justice—And you appear to have spent the greater part of your life in prison.

Defendant—No, sir. I was in foreign parts for years, but when I came back I took to drink again.

Justice—I'm sorry for you.

Defendant—Thank you, sir. It is every kind of you.

Justice—You will now go to jail for twelve months.

GAS SUPPLY

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WELCOME NEWS

At the meeting of Limerick Corporation last night, the Mayor presiding,

Mr. Quinlan asked what was the position at the gas works consequent on the use of turf.

Manager—It is quite satisfactory, but we are only in the initial stages of our experiments yet.

collapse of transport this year, the committee in charge have been asked to make provision for the fuel needs of the poor next winter, and to get the turf needed without delay.

CO-OPERATION, NEEDED.

"While we are agreeable to do this," says an appeal just issued, "it will not be possible to do so unless we receive the help and co-operation of the employers and employees who so generously helped this season, and also the small minority who did not give us the help we expected. It will mean the continuation of the penny in the £ scheme until next winter. We have put the position before the Chamber of Commerce, Employers' Federation and Trades' Council, and have received the complete approval of these bodies, with their assurance of their help and support."

FOUND DEAD

—oo—

ON HILLSIDE NEAR HIS HOME

Mr. Patrick Healy, a farmer, residing at Cappanahana, was found dead on last Sunday evening near his home on the hillside (writes our Newport correspondent). Dr. O'Neill, Cappamore, performed a post-mortem examination on the remains. Death was found to be due to exposure and weakness for want of nourishment. Deceased never received visitors. Quite recently he refused to consult with the old age pensions officer. He was of a most unusual disposition. Very quiet and inoffensive, he avoided conversation with everybody.

SACK OF FLOUR

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FALLS ON CYCLIST

In the High Court, Dublin, to-day a consent was made a rule of Court whereby £360, with a sum for costs, is to be paid to Michael Downey, 21 Doyle's Cottages, John Street, Limerick, for compensation for injuries received when a sack of flour, which toppled from a lorry belonging to Michael O'Gorman, Nenagh, fell on him in the Dock Road, Limerick, in October, 1940.

At the time of the accident Downey was cycling along the Dock Road.

DEATH OF CIVIC GUARD.

greater part of the year.

Mental Hospital.—As you are already aware from the Press, the demand for the Mental Hospital Committee is increased to £1,314—equivalent to practically the same in the £.

Unemployment Assistance.—I have only provided for the payment of £8,398 for 1941-2 and 1942-3, although the demand for 1941-2 was £9,733. This difference of £1,335 and is due by different interpretations of Unemployment Assistance Act. I am informed that eminent counsel has advised that as the Act in my interpretation is correct.

Public Health — School Child Welfare.—Schools were over-expended by £628. Child Welfare by £428. The increases were necessitated by exceptional conditions existing in the city and unless the Social Services were to be curtailed could not be avoided.

AIR RAID SHELTERS

Air Raid Precautions.—Expenditure was exceeded by £200, and a further £700 over and above last year included in this year's estimate. When air raid shelters are provided in the city, I propose to seek to borrow the Corporation's money of the expenditure.

Public Lighting.—Was done for £1,200 due to the curtailed lighting and this is another feature of war conditions existing throughout the world.

Sewers.—Owing to the extra repairs required on underground sewers, this service was overruled by £384.

Waterworks.—Owing to the condition of the reservoir at Road, it was imperative to lay a new concrete floor at a cost of £384. Alumina and chlorine purification of the water cost more than the estimate. The price of this commodity—even when possible to procure—has risen from £11 6s per ton pre-war to £11 6s at this date. Owing to the additional cost of materials for water supply services, mains, metering, I have decided to recommend you that the charge for extra principal water supply shall be increased by 1/- in the £ on all valuations, and that meter services outside the Borough be increased proportionately.

PROSPECT HOUSING

Housing.—There was a saving in this service of £1,607. The principal interest saved by reason of the fact that the local Prospect Housing Scheme was taken up as quickly as anticipated. As you are aware, there was a delay in the commencement of the scheme due to causes over which the Corporation had no control.