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29, 1942.

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A FINE TRIBUTE

To Limerick L.D.F.

**ANONYMOUS DONOR OF
FREE ENTERTAINMENT**

Approximately 500 members of Limerick L.D.F. availed of the free entertainment given in the Savoy Cinema on Friday night last. The entertainment, which included a number of variety turns and full length picture, proved to be most enjoyable and the men were loud in their praise of the action of the Limerick citizen who sponsored and paid for the show, but who wishes to remain anonymous.

It was the first time since the formation of the Force in Limerick that such an entertainment was given to its members, and the sponsor is indeed deserving of the thanks of the L.D.F. as well as the citizens on his very public spirited action.

MUCH SELF-SACRIFICE.

The L.D.F., individually and collectively, sacrifice much of their time in preparing themselves for the defence of their country should the necessity arise; they carry out the duties allotted them without hope of reward and in general conduct themselves as patriotic young Irishmen should. It must, therefore, afford them very keen pleasure to know that their work and sacrifices are appreciated, and the action of the donor of Friday night's entertainment provides in itself ample evidence of this. Apart altogether from the patriotic outlook of the men of the L.D.F., such thoughtful gestures should prove very helpful to them in their work and should spur them on to greater effort.

O.C. RETURNS THANKS.

During the programme, Comdt. O'Farrell, O.C., 49th Battalion, in the course of a brief speech, returned thanks to the Limerick citizen who so kindly paid for the entertainment. His generous action was his tribute to the work and services of the L.D.F., who deeply appreciated his generosity.

Proceeding, Comdt. O'Farrell said he would like to thank the employers of Limerick who were co-operating with them in connection with the L.D.F. training camps at Lahinch next month.

PAYING THEIR EMPLOYEES.

He would like to thank in a special way employers who would pay employees during their absence on training. "It is things like these that make us realise that the good work of the L.D.F. is appreciated and that your sacrifices for your country are not going unnoticed," concluded Comdt. O'Farrell, amidst applause.

TOWN ESTIMATE

**RATE FOR NEWCASTLE
WEST**

At a meeting of Limerick County Board of Health on Friday, Mr. M. Ryan, Co.C., Chairman, presiding. The Secretary submitted his annual estimate and demand in respect of Newcastle West Town Commissioners area for the financial year 1942-43. Total receipts were estimated at £2,006 0s. 6d. and expenditure at £2,277 14s. 5d., leaving a deficit of £271 13s. 11d. to be levied on the rates. To meet this deficit a town rate of 1/4 would be required.

The Secretary added that in the new estimate he had made provision for an increase of £355 11s. 9d. in expenditure as compared with last year. This would be necessary

SHOT DEAD

Distressing Tragedy

**LIMERICK DEFENCE FORCE
OPERATIONS**

A distressing tragedy occurred during manoeuvres in Glenstal district yesterday when Mr. John Joseph Ryan, youngest son of Dr. and Mrs. T. Ryan, Blarney, was accidentally shot and died in a short time.

Mr. Ryan, who was attached to the L.D.F., had been out on manoeuvres with his company adjacent to Glenstal Abbey and it appears that when the accident occurred he and his fellow members of the L.D.F. were carrying out operations.

As a result of the accidental discharge of a firearm, Mr. Ryan received a bullet wound just above the heart and collapsed.

Mr. Ryan, who was held in high esteem in Limerick, was attached to the William Street branch of the Munster and Leinster Bank. He was only 21 years of age and most of his brief career in the bank had been spent in Limerick.

INTERESTED IN ATHLETICS.

He was keenly interested in athletics and his prowess showed much promise. In particular he was a splendid performer over the 120 yards hurdles and was regarded as a runner of outstanding ability.

The news of the tragic occurrence was received with deep and widespread regret in the city, where his genial disposition had made for him a host of friends. General condolence is felt with his bereaved parents and family on their great loss.

FUNERAL CORTEGE.

The remains of the late Mr. Ryan were removed from the city this evening to Blarney, Co. Cork. The funeral procession from Barrington's Hospital to the outskirts of the city was in itself a striking manifestation of the deep sorrow and gloom created by the tragedy, which has deprived the L.D.F. of a very capable and popular member. As the funeral passed through the streets of the city in the blazing sun thousands of people with heads bowed lined the sidewalks and blinds were drawn in all shops and offices. The procession was headed by Limerick L.D.F. Band, which rendered the Dead March in Saul, while the other voluntary organisations largely represented in full uniform were the L.D.F., L.S.F., A.F.S. and Red Cross Society. There was also a big representation of the Army. The staffs of all the city banks were also present. The Mayor of Limerick (Mr. D. J. O'Malley, solr.), the City Manager (Mr. J. J. Berkery) and public representatives also marched in the cortege.

VOTE OF SYMPATHY.

Presiding at a meeting of Limerick Harbour Board to-day, Mr. M. J. Keyes, T.D., referred to the sad accident at Murroe on yesterday, which resulted in the death of Mr. Jack Ryan, while on L.D.F. manoeuvres, and said he desired to propose a vote of sympathy with the parents of the deceased.

Ald. Reidy, T.D., seconded the proposition, which was passed unanimously.

MARKSMANSHIP

WEST LIMERICK RESULTS

The following is a list of members in the various groups of the L.D.F. in Newcastle West district who obtained highest marks in re-

ANOTHER VICTORY

Claimed By Axis

FATE OF MERSA MATRUH

Mersa Matruh, a strongly defended fortified position in Egypt, has been captured, according to official despatches from Berlin and Rome.

No confirmation, official or otherwise, has come to hand from London for this claim.

To-day's Italian communique states that Mersa Matruh was captured early this morning, when the armoured forces of the enemy were overcome. It is claimed that 6,000 prisoners, 36 tanks and huge quantities of other armaments were captured or destroyed.

In a special communique from Herr Hitler's headquarters it was stated that Mersa Matruh fell this morning after the place had been stormed. The capture of 5,000 prisoners is claimed.

The Ninth German Division, the communique added, distinguished itself in the capture of the fortification.

It was also reported from Berlin that steady progress is being made at Sebastopol and Kursk.

The Russian communique states that German offensives at Kursk and Sebastopol were beaten off. Nothing of importance took place during the night.

The British Air Ministry stated to-day that during the night German planes dropped bombs on a South-East Coast town. Some fires were started but these were got under control quickly. One person was killed.

British planes bombed St. Nazaire.

THE CYCLIST

AND A DANGER

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader")

Dear Sir—Now that there has been a considerable increase on the roads of a number of cyclists, there is undoubtedly an element of danger to any of those who may be tempted to act carelessly, or who may ignore the rules that a prosecution can arise if more than three cycle abreast of each other.

Yesterday (Sunday) on the way to Doonass, that popular rendezvous, hundreds of cyclists, boys and girls, could be met with, all out for a day's enjoyment and good luck to them.

The object of this letter is to draw public attention to the number of dogs that are allowed to wander aimlessly about the roads, all of which are a great danger to cyclists. Yesterday what might have been a serious accident was the fact that a prepossessing young lady was knocked off her bicycle by one of these mongrels. Again, some cyclists have no hesitation in allowing one or two of their own dogs following them without a lead. These I say, without hesitation, constitute a danger to cyclists who may be coming behind the owner of the dogs.

Yesterday, too, it could be witnessed in Corbally a gentleman calling for his setter which had lagged behind, and this lovely animal, in response to the call, careered for all he was worth to the owner, quite oblivious, of course, to the danger of a cyclist coming in contact with him.

I was informed to-day of a man who for 40 years has cycled to his job (9 miles) in town, but last week a dog knocked him off his bicycle, breaking two ribs and giv-

HARBOUR BOARD

New Port Dues

ATTITUDE OF MINISTERS

Mr. M. J. Keyes, T.D., presided at a meeting of Limerick Harbour Commissioners to-day.

The other members present were Ald. J. Reidy, T.D.; Ald. Goodwin, Messrs. S. J. K. R. Morgan McMahon and T. J. Reidy.

The officials present were Mr. D. McNeice, Secretary; T. F. O'Sullivan, B.E., Harbour Engineer; and Capt. C. J. Harbottle, Harbour Master.

A letter was read from the Secretary, Department of Industry and Commerce, requesting an reply to the recent communication on the subject of increased rates at Limerick harbour.

The Secretary said that on 14th a letter was received from the Department referring to the increase of Limerick harbour rates. The Minister had pointed out that the schedule should be brought up to date and items could be excised and others not now included could be added to the list, which should be submitted to the Minister for consideration. The Minister agreed to authorise the Board to increase the rates on all imports and exports by 100 per cent. The rate was laid down in the schedule of certain imports it would be necessary for the Board when considering the schedule to include articles, and also, if they fit, to exclude certain goods which did not now pass through the port.

FORMIDABLE DOCUMENT

Mr. McMahon said the Board had a formidable document and he suggested a committee should be set up to examine it, with a view to making the necessary alterations. He did not agree, however, that any items should be excised, because of the peculiar circumstances of the case. These articles might again be reported.

The Chairman said the Board was one that should be dealt with by a Committee of the House, because the revision of the schedule was no easy task.

The Secretary pointed out that the increasing of the dues per cent., as had been proposed upon, did not necessarily mean the increase would be automatically imposed. It only meant that the Board had power to do so if considered necessary.

It was unanimously decided to refer the entire matter to the Whole House Committee.

NEW CHAIRMAN

LIMERICK CO. COUNCIL

At the annual meeting of Limerick County Council on Friday, Mr. J. W. Cauty (F.F.) was elected chairman by 19 votes to 17 for the outgoing chairman, John McCormack (F.F.). Cleary (F.G.) was unanimously elected vice-chairman, the outgoing vice-chairman, Mr. M. O'Sullivan, declining to go forward.

A full report of the meeting will appear in our week-end edition.

SOLDIER DROWNED

While bathing with some companions at the Ferry, Castlebar, yesterday evening, Volunteer Meehan, aged 20 years, and of Ennis, got into difficulties and sank.

One of his fellow bathers immediately went to his rescue, though he dived repeatedly