

Donnellan added that these were paying their way and led to some little comfort. Nothing should be done to improve conditions in that long, dis-hall.

THE RECREATION HALL.
The **Manager** said the hall referred to was not the recreation hall. It was only the entrance to the building.

The **Mayor** said that **Dean Swain** did not understand that there was a proper recreation hall there. The hall was equipped with a wireless set.

Mr. Casey—And cards and darts.
Donnellan—**Dean Swain** might be aware of that. I will let him know. It is strange that the men are allowed in this other hall, where they can only give visitors an unfavourable impression of conditions in the institution.

Mr. McGuire said he had received a complaint about the insufficiency of water bottles and bed clothes in that wards were not adequately heated. He asked the **Manager** to investigate these complaints, as he would all feel very keenly if there was any justifiable grounds for them. They appreciated the difficulties existing at the present time but even at increased expense did not think the ratepayers would begrudge the patients their comforts.

QUESTION OF VISITING COMMITTEE.

At a later stage in the proceedings the Council took up the consideration of its powers to appoint a Visiting Committee to the City and Hospital.

The **Law Agent**, in the course of his report on the matter, said that the Council had no powers which could be delegated to such a committee, which also would not have powers under the Public Assistance Act.

Proposing that the Visiting Committee be appointed, **Ald. Reidy** said that such a body, despite its limited powers, might by slow infiltration get back something which they had lost. They would at least have the opportunity of visiting the institution and seeing things for themselves.

Mr. Russell seconded.
Mr. Keyes moved a direct nega-tive saying their protest should not be in the form of trying to get the members back from a table which had been told was not fit to sit on. Other means and methods should be adopted to force the Government to amend the Act and give back to the elected representatives of the people some measure of the powers to which they were entitled.

Mr. Dundon, **Law Agent**, said his opinion was that the Council had no powers to appoint the committee.

SHOULD KNOW WHERE MONEY WAS GOING.

and awarding him an Honorary Certificate, framed in oak, together with a sum of £15.

"It gives me very much pleasure, indeed, to present the certificate and cheque to **Mr. Wallace**, and to express my admiration of and to congratulate him on his courage, which is all the more meritorious when we remember that he has reached the age of 70 years."

In returning thanks for the presentation, **Mr. Wallace** mentioned that this was his seventh rescue from drowning.

DEATH OF MRS. A. FITT, M.B.E.

With deep regret we announce the death which occurred yesterday, of **Mrs. Adelaide Fitt, M.B.E.**, relict of the late **Charles H. Fitt**, former Assistant Clerk of the Crown and Peace in Limerick. The deceased lady, who had reached an advanced age, was a member of an old Limerick family. She was sister of the late **Dr. Wm. Fogarty** and **Dr. George Fogarty**. For her work during the last war she was awarded the M.B.E. **Mrs. Fitt** was a noted worker in the cause of charity; she was one of the founders of the Penny Dinners in Limerick and took an active part in the foundation of the Children's Ward in **Barrington's Hospital**, on which she acted on the Board of Governors up to the time of her death. To her son, **Mr. Alma Fitt**, and the other bereaved relatives deep sympathy is extended.

JAIL BREAK INQUIRY ASKED FOR

A motion tabled by **Mr. J. W. Nixon (Ind. U.)** in the Six-County House of Commons asks for a public inquiry into the escape of members of an illegal organisation from **Belfast Prison** a year ago. Holding that the action "was a violation of the rights of free and loyal men," the motion alleges that six Protestant warders in the prison were dismissed by the Minister for Home Affairs without trial on a secret report.

which indicated that a Committee could be formed the **Law Agent's** opinion should be forwarded to the Department for comment.

"RUMOURS AND COMPLAINTS."

Ald. Reidy said that the Committee could be formed without it having powers.

Law Agent—That would be questioning the management.

Ald. Reidy—We have to pay the money and should be entitled to look at the place. There are so many rumours and complaints going around we should go in there and see things for ourselves.

In reply to **Mr. Donnellan**, the **Manager** said there was nothing to prevent members of the Council going to the institution at any time.

after the war and the Company is to bring it "completely up to date" the acquisition of the modern ocean-going tonnage available."

* * *

This country, said **Mr. Leydon**, should never again be left without a merchant fleet with sufficient capacity to import our essential requirements from abroad in case of emergency. The source of this remark will be obvious when we reflect on the enviable position we would have been in for the past few years for the existence of **Irish Shipping, Ltd.**, which proved such a valuable service. An Irish merchant marine will be a necessary matter how normal the conditions may become its absence was one of our greatest weaknesses in the past.

* * *

Mr. Leydon is Chairman of **Irish Shipping Ltd.** and is in a specially favourable position, therefore, to appreciate the wisdom of having a native-controlled merchant fleet. It is important, he rightly stresses, "that our ships should be not merely registered in the Irish Register, but should be Irish owned and subject to such control as would be effectively that they would be available for this country's service." This particular vice, he explained, should not adversely affect other shipping companies and expressed the opinion that there should be the maximum of co-operation between Irish companies.

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Irish Shipping, Ltd., founded its activities to insure against the risks starting in 1941 by covering the risks in connection with the transport of goods through