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up thousands of rubber dinges preparatory to making an attempt to cross the Rhine. A third Berlin broadcast states

that German emergency reserves have been rushed up to protect the Rhine bridge at Duisberg.

Other Allied reports state that the British, Canadian and American forces to-day captured a number of villages leading to the Rhine in face of strong, organised German resistance.

According to despatches received this afternoon the threat to Cologne is becoming more and more imminent.

The New York Radio stated this evening that Essen, the seat of one of the Krupp munition factor-ies, is now within reach of American artillery fire.

Reports from Moscow state that the two Russian armies advancing along the Baltic have joined up. The important port of Stargard, 20 miles east of Stettin, has been captured. Another important Baltic

port—Kolberg—is surrounded.

The British Air Ministry stated to-day that German pilot 'planes raided Southern England during the night, causing casualties and dam-age. Six of the raiders were shot down.

British Mosquitos again raided Berlin during the night. To-day American Fortresses bombed several German towns.

NOVEL POINT

CITY TENANCY ACTION

Limerick Civil Bill Court to-day, before Mr. J. M. Flood, B.L., D.J.,

Alice O'Brien, Derryknockane, Limerick, brought ejectment proceedings against John McMahon, 4 St. Joseph's Street, Limerick, representative of Mary McMahon (deceased), and a number of subtenants.

Mr. N. P. Shee, solr., appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. D. J.

O'Malley, solr., for the defendant, Plaintiff said that the defendant owed £26 rent for 1944. There was also an old arrear of £17 against the family. Witness recently visited the house and found the range gone out of the kitchen. Her house was being wrecked and she wanted to get possession of it. Defendant had

also sub-let the house.

To Mr. O'Malley, witness said that Mary McMahon died in December last. She was the tenant up to the time of her death.

Mr. O'Malley said there was no evidence to show that McMahon was the tenant. If McMahon had ever paid rent the position would be different but he had not and, a tnerefore. was not properlyconstituted tenant.

Mr. Shee said a member of a family was entitled to remain as tenant.

The Justice said he would agree with Mr. O'Malley that the tenancy was not properly constituted. The case was dismissed.

DIED IN AMERICA

It is with the most sincere regret (writes our Hospital correspondent) that the news of the death of Miss Mary Fitzgerald, late of Troy, New York, is announced. A native of Hospital, the deceased lady came of a highly esteemed and widely popular Co. Limerick family. She left her native land some twenty years ago, and, although she never afterwards returned to it, she kept in close touch with it through the medium of the post. Her only surviving relatives at present residing in this country are her brothers, Mr. Patrick Fitzgerald and Mr. Richard Fitzgerald, Emly Road. Hospital, to whom the deepest sympathy is extended in their sad bereavement.

CHRISTIAN BROTHER VATICAN COURIER

Rev. Brother E. Clancy, Superior, Irish Christian Brothers' College, Rome, who is now acting as Diplomatic Courier in the Vatican, has visited his native Clonmel, Rev. Brother Clancy, who has been 35 years in Rome was lov

1st April. This news will be welcomed by the thousands of housewives who are depending on gas for cooking. If they could be told now that a reduction in the price per therm would be given in the immediate future their joy would be unbounded. Gas costs in Limerick are the highest in Ireland, and the public have been wondering why this should be so. Re-cently a reduction of four pence per therm was given to consumers in Cork. Surely what has been possible in Cork should not be impossible in Limerick.

round-of-the-clock service as from

PIC-NICING.

Believe it or not, pic-nicing parties are already on the move. Yesterday groups of young people, carrying the necessary eatables cooking utensils, could and observed moving into the country, to spend the day in sylvan surroundings. The origin of the expression pic-nic seems to be unknown. It is suggested that in olden times subscribers to alfresco meals had the different items on the bill of fare numbered. Those taking part drew a number, which was then picked or nicked, and ultimately these outings came to be known as pic-nics.

* CITY BUILDERS.

At a recent meeting of the City Council a member, during a discussion on housing costs, expressed the view that there seemed to be a "ring" amongst Limerick builders having regard to high estimates received for a particular scheme. The allegation with regard to the existence of a combine for the purpose of keeping up costs was made on the spur of the moment, and without full knowledge of the facts. At a subsequent meeting the Corporator concerned, on his "clition, withdrew the charge i. had made against the builders as he had satisfied himself that there was no justification for it. It is only fair that this withdrawal should get ample publicity.

PLASSY BRIDGE.

At long last, largely due to the exertions of the County Manager (Mr. P. J. Meghen, B.E.), steps are about to be taken to carry out repairs to Plassy Bridge. Meghen has been in consultation with the Department, the Acting City Manager (Mr. M. F. Donne.lan) and the Clare Commissioner (Mr. D. O'Keeffe) with a view to securing joint action. His efforts in this direction have met with a large measure of success hopes are now entertained that a Government grant to cover approximately seventy-five per cent. of the cost will be made available. The danger of this fine span being allowed to collapse for want of attention is now past.

THE RED CROSS.

The President of the High Court (Mr. Justice Conor Maguire) in his capacity as Chairman of the Irish Red Cross Society will address a public meeting in Cruise's Hotel on Thursday evening next under the auspices of the Limerick Branch. Mr. Justice Maguire, who has a family link with Limerick, has guided with remarkable skill and ability the destinies of the Irish Red Cross since it was founded. For that reason, if for no other, his forthcoming address should be one of absorbing interest. It is scarcely necessary to say that the Red Cross is one of the greatest of the public services that have come into existence arising out of the emergency, and no effort should be spared to maintain it at a high standard of efficiency.

STREET ACCIDENTS

When proceeding along O'Convolt